

This narrative history of a Residential School was researched and produced by the Government of Canada as part of its response to litigation and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has not verified the content of this document. It is provided here for reference purposes only. Documented incidents of sexual and physical abuse are based on the documentary record and do not take into account survivor testimony.



You are welcome to contact the NCTR if you wish to add, comment on, or challenge any versions of the history presented herein.

**Fort Frances Indian Residential School
IAP School Narrative**

NAME IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (Schedule E/F)

Fort Frances (St. Margaret's)

OTHER NAMES KNOWN AS (AKAs)

1906 to 1922	Fort Frances (Indian) Boarding School [FFR-060061; FFR-001523, pg. 1; FFR-002826, pg. 3]
1925	Cootchiching Indian Boarding School [FFR-000186-0001]
1923 to 1968	Fort Frances (Indian) Residential School [FFR-002827, pg. 3; FFR-002937; FFR-000031, pg. 2]
1957	St. Margaret's Indian Residential School [FFR-001475]
1968 to 1974	Fort Frances Student Residence [FFR-001983-0000, pg. 1; FFR-002773, pg. 1]

LOCATION

The Fort Frances IRS was located on the Couchiching Reserve on the southwest shore of Rainy Lake, and northeast of the outskirts of Fort Frances, Ontario [FFR-000107; FFR-002810, pg. 17-18; FFR-002816, pg. 11-12; FFR-002997-0002; FFR-004245-0002, pg. 11].

PROVINCE/TERRITORY

Ontario

OPERATING DATES AS AN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

These dates represent the time during which the Government of Canada was responsible for the operation of the Indian Residential School, excluding any periods of closure.

April 1, 1906 to September 30, 1974

OPERATING DATES CONTEXT

The Fort Frances IRS opened and received federal government support as of April 1, 1906 [FFR-002810, pg. 4, 9, 20, 28; FFR-004340]. On April 1, 1969, responsibility for the operation of the Fort Frances IRS was transferred to the federal government [FFR-000745-0002; FFR-000750-0000; FFR-000750-0002]. No pupils returned for the 1974/75 school year and the IRS closed on September 30, 1974 [FFR-003875-0001; FFR-002027].

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Roman Catholic Church

1906 to 1969 The Oblate Fathers of Mary Immaculate, and later the Oblate Indian and Eskimo Commission (INDIANESCOM) [GNB-000262;

Last updated February 7, 2013

FFR-000444-0000; FFR-000443; FFR-000736; FFR-000745-0000; FFR-000750-0000; FFR-000750-0002; FFR-000763-0000; FFR-000763-0001].

1906 to 1974 Sisters of the Charity, also known as the Grey Nuns [GNB-000262; GNB-000606, pg. 1-2, 274].

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Date	Event	Document Reference
April 1, 1906	The construction of the Fort Frances IRS buildings began in 1905 and the IRS opened on April 1, 1906.	FFR-002809, pg. 4 FFR-002810, pg. 4
April 14, 1906	An agreement was signed between the Sisters of the Charity, also known as the Grey Nuns, and the Diocese of St. Boniface, represented by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, for the Sisters to manage the Fort Frances IRS on behalf of the Diocese. Under the direction of the Oblate Father Principal, the Sisters agreed to provide classroom instruction to boys and girls, and to train and supervise the girls. The Oblate Fathers would supervise boys outside of the classrooms. Two classrooms operated in the main IRS building.	GNB-000262 FFR-002814, pg. 13
March 1911	The Grey Nuns managed the IRS under the supervision of an Oblate Father Principal.	FFR-002815, pg. 18
March 14, 1911	An agreement was signed between the federal government and the Oblate Archdiocese of St. Boniface for the operation of the IRS.	FFR-001523
October 1950	The Oblate Fathers of Manitoba and the Grey Nuns of Montreal signed a contract for the provision of educational and administrative services at the Fort Frances IRS.	GNB-000565-0000 GNB-000565-0001 GNB-000565-0002
1955	Three classrooms operated at the IRS.	FFR-004473
September 1962	A new dormitory building and a three classroom block opened. The two buildings were connected by a long corridor.	FFR-003182-0000 FFR-003182-0001 FFR-003182-0002 FFR-002311-0000
September 25, 1962	An agreement was signed between the federal government and the Oblate Indian Eskimo Commission (INDIANESCOM) for the operation of the IRS.	FFR-000444-0000
1963 to 1965	In May 1963, the federal government and the Board of Trustees of the Roman Catholic Separate School Board in Fort Frances signed an agreement for the Board to accept the admission of twenty Grade 7 and 8 pupils living at the IRS to attend the Provincial Separate School. In the summer of 1963, the federal government granted permission for the IRS to be used as a hostel for Grade 9 students attending a separate school in Fort Frances. During the 1963/64 school year, students in Grades 5 and 7 to 10 were residing at the IRS and attending schools in the town of Fort Frances.	FFR-060129 FFR-000456 FFR-003808-0000 FFR-003809 FFR-000462 FFR-002605 FFR-002606 FFR-002611 FFR-002612 FFR-002613 FFR-002616 FFR-002617 FFR-002620

	During the 1964/65 school year, a smaller number of IRS students in Grades 6 to 11 continued to attend schools in the town of Fort Frances.	
September 1964	A "special class" was established in the basement of the main IRS building for students who were unable to meet the Grade 9 standard required in the Fort Frances High School.	FFR-003722 FFR-002117
March 1965	After a fire destroyed the McIntosh IRS in March 1965, Grades 4 and 5 pupils from the McIntosh IRS stayed at the Fort Frances IRS for the remainder of the 1964/65 school year.	MCI-006376-0001 MCI-006378 FFR-004123-0000 FFR-001140-0003, pg. 4, 8 FFR-001142-0001, pg. 4, 8
September 1968 to April 1, 1969	The IRS residence and classroom buildings were joined by a long corridor. The administration of the residence and classroom portions of the IRS was slated to be separated in September 1968. The IRS Principal objected to the proposed separation, and the federal government did not proceed at the time due to upcoming "major developments". The federal government assumed responsibility for the direct operation of the Fort Frances IRS on April 1, 1969.	FFR-000585-0000 FFR-000585-0001 FFR-000585-0002 FFR-000745-0002 FFR-000750-0000 FFR-000750-0002
1971 to 1974	Three classrooms operated at the IRS during the 1971/72 to 1973/74 school years.	FFR-002636 FFR-002646 FFR-002655
March 11, 1974	The federal government decided to close the IRS due to declining enrolment. Upon closure, students were to be transferred to the Cecilia Jeffrey IRS in Kenora or placed in boarding homes.	FFR-001987-0000 FFR-001987-0001
September 30, 1974	The IRS was closed. No pupils returned for the September 1974 term.	FFR-003875-0000 FFR-002027

EDUCATION OF STUDENTS

Grades Taught at the Indian Residential School

School Years	Grades Offered	Document Reference
1905/06 to 1912/13	1 to 4	FFR-002811, pg. 22 FFR-002813, pg. 14 FFR-002817, pg. 12
1913/14 to 1920/21	1 to 5	FFR-002818, pg. 3 FFR-002820, pg. 3 FFR-002823, pg. 3 FFR-002825, pg. 3
1921/22 to 1930/31	1 to 6	FFR-002826, pg. 3 FFR-002829, pg. 3 FFR-002832, pg. 3 FFR-002835, pg. 3
1931/32	1 to 7	FFR-002836, pg. 3
1932/33 to 1936/37	1 to 8	FFR-002837, pg. 3 FFR-002839, pg. 3 FFR-002841

1937/38 to 1938/39	1 to 7	FFR-002842 FFR-002843
1939/40	No information found	
1940/41 to 1942/43	1 to 8	FFR-002667, pg. 8 FFR-002675, pg. 5
1943/44	1 to 7	FFR-002679, pg. 5
1944/45 to 1951/52	1 to 8	FFR-002683, pg. 6 FFR-002711
1952/53 to 1955/56	Kindergarten, 1 to 8	FFR-002502-0001 FFR-002512 FFR-002522 FFR-002532
1956/57 to 1958/59	1 to 8	FFR-002542 FFR-002559 FFR-002549
1959/60 to 1961/62	Kindergarten/Beginners, 1 to 8	FFR-002572 FFR-002582 FFR-002591
1962/63 to 1963/64	Kindergarten/Beginners, 1 to 4, 6	FFR-002601 FFR-002611
1964/65	Kindergarten/Beginners, 1 to 5, 9	FFR-002620
1965/66	Kindergarten/Beginners, 1 to 7	FFR-002630
1966/67	1 to 7	FFR-000058
1967/68	1 to 8	FFR-000067
1968/69 to 1969/70	No information found	
1970/71	1 to 3	FFR-002631
1971/72 to 1973/74	No information was found regarding specific grades taught; three classrooms were in use at the IRS.	FFR-002636 FFR-002646 FFR-002655

Other Schools Attended by Residents

School Years	Name of School	Location	Administration	Grades	Document
1962	St. Mary's and St. Francis	Fort Frances	Not specified	5, 7 and 8	FFR-001710-0001 FFR-003713-0000 FFR-003713-0001, pg. 1, 3
1962/63	Fort Frances Separate School	Fort Frances	Roman Catholic Separate School Board in Fort Frances	7 and 8	FFR-060129 FFR-000456
1963/64	Fort Frances High School and unspecified non-Indian schools in Fort Frances	Fort Frances	Not specified	5, 7-10	FFR-003808-0000 FFR-003809 FFR-000462 FFR-002605 FFR-002606 FFR-002611
1965/66 to 1967/68	IRS pupils enrolled at unspecified non-Indian schools	Fort Frances	Not specified	4-8	FFR-002621 FFR-002623 FFR-002630 FFR-000050 FFR-000058 FFR-000059 FFR-000068

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

School Years	Number of Residents	If applicable, day scholars	Document Reference
1905/06	33	No information found	FFR-002810, pg. 4
1906/07	46	No information found	FFR-002811, pg. 22
1907/08	49	No information found	FFR-002812, pg. 20
1908/09	45	No information found	FFR-002813, pg. 14
1909/10	45	No information found	FFR-002814, pg. 10
1910/11	45	No information found	FFR-002815, pg. 12
1911/12	55	No information found	FFR-002816, pg. 14
1912/13	52	No information found	FFR-002817, pg. 12
1913/14	53	No information found	FFR-002818, pg. 3
1914/15	65	No information found	FFR-002819, pg. 3
1915/16	61	No information found	FFR-002820, pg. 3
1916/17	66	No information found	FFR-002821, pg. 3
1917/18	66	No information found	FFR-002822, pg. 3
1918/19	63	No information found	FFR-002823, pg. 3
1919/20	68	No information found	FFR-002824, pg. 3
1920/21	75	No information found	FFR-002825, pg. 3
1921/22	80	No information found	FFR-002826, pg. 3
1922/23	86	No information found	FFR-002827, pg. 3
1923/24	84	No information found	FFR-002828, pg. 3
1924/25	86	No information found	FFR-002829, pg. 3
1925/26	90	No information found	FFR-002830, pg. 3
1926/27	93	No information found	FFR-002831, pg. 3
1927/28	94	No information found	FFR-002832, pg. 3
1928/29	97	No information found	FFR-002833, pg. 3
1929/30	97	No information found	FFR-002834, pg. 3
1930/31	102	No information found	FFR-002835, pg. 3
1931/32	105	No information found	FFR-002836, pg. 3
1932/33	101	No information found	FFR-002837, pg. 3
1933/34	101	No information found	FFR-002838, pg. 3
1934/35	93	No information found	FFR-002839, pg. 3
1935/36	93	No information found	FFR-002840, pg. 3
1936/37	94	No information found	FFR-002841
1937/38	99	No information found	FFR-002842
1938/39	97	No information found	FFR-002843
1939/40	No information found	No information found	
1940/41	103	No information found	FFR-002667, pg. 8
1941/42	87	No information found	FFR-002671, pg. 8
1942/43	89	No information found	FFR-002675, pg. 5
1943/44	87	No information found	FFR-002679, pg. 5
1944/45	94	No information found	FFR-002683, pg. 6
1945/46	93	No information found	FFR-002687, pg. 4
1946/47	92	No information found	FFR-002691, pg. 4
1947/48	91	No information found	FFR-002695, pg. 4

1948/49	98	No information found	FFR-002699, pg. 4
1949/50	102	No information found	FFR-002703, pg. 4
1950/51	108	No information found	FFR-002707, pg. 4
1951/52	108	No information found	FFR-002711
1952/53	106	No information found	FFR-002502-0001
1953/54	108	2	FFR-002512
1954/55	111	1	FFR-002521
1955/56	113	1	FFR-002532
1956/57	110	No information found	FFR-002542
1957/58	97	No information found	FFR-002559
1958/59	94	No information found	FFR-002714
1959/60	96	No information found	FFR-002718-0001, pg. 1
1960/61	89	No information found	FFR-002722, pg. 1
1961/62	90	No information found	FFR-002725, pg. 1
1962/63	109	No information found	FFR-002729, pg. 1
1963/64	101	No information found	FFR-002736, pg. 1
1964/65	152	No information found	FFR-001142-0001, pg. 1
1965/66	124	No information found	FFR-000042, pg. 1
1966/67	120	No information found	FFR-000026, pg. 1
1967/68	114	No information found	FFR-000031, pg. 1
1968/69	106	3	FFR-000036-0001, pg. 1 FFR-000068
1969/70	93	No information found	FFR-002746-0001, pg. 5
1970/71	107	No information found	FFR-002757, pg. 1
1971/72	105	No information found	FFR-002762, pg. 1
1972/73	103	No information found	FFR-002768-0001, pg. 1
1973/74	89	No information found	FFR-002772, pg. 1

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

School Years	Special Programs Offered	Document Reference
1930	Boys skated and played hockey on an outdoor rink at the IRS. The Principal requested funding to help build a toboggan slide to get the girls more involved in outdoor activities. A junior Red Cross organization was established at the IRS.	FFR-001829 FFR-001831 FFR-000220
1945	A Cadet Corps of 28 boys was formed at the IRS.	FFR-001834
1947	Softballs, footballs, basketballs and volleyballs were supplied to the IRS for extra-curricular activities.	FFR-001839 FFR-001840 FFR-001841
1949	The Principal requested hockey equipment, skates and toboggans with the federal funding available for sporting goods and equipment.	FFR-001843
1950	The IRS boys won the Bantam hockey league championship competing in the Fort Frances and Kenora District Bantam League.	FFR-001844

1951	The IRS had two hockey teams: a Bantam team for boys 14 years of age and younger, and a Pee Wee team for boys 12 years of age and younger. Three older boys who resided at the IRS played hockey with the J.A. Mathieu Midget Team from the community.	FFR-001848
1954	The IRS had an outdoor rink that was equipped with electric lights and several teams from the IRS were entered in the town's minor hockey league.	FFR-001680, pg. 4
1954	The IRS rented the Fort Frances Memorial Arena for an Indian Residential School Hockey Tournament.	FFR-001852
1955	The IRS had five teams entered in the local hockey league.	FFR-001681
1955	Teams from five Indian Residential Schools in Northwestern Ontario, including the Fort Frances IRS, competed in the annual hockey tournament held in Fort Frances.	FFR-001681
1958, 1959	Cubs and Scouts organizations were active at the IRS. The Boy Scouts held twice monthly meetings in the Parish Hall at the IRS.	FFR-001486 FFR-000387-0000 FFR-000387-0001
1963	Extra-curricular activities at the IRS included hockey, skating, camping, magazines, watching films, television, photography, listening to music, and using tape recording equipment.	FFR-002803-0010
1964	Extra-curricular activities at the IRS included hockey, skating, tobogganing, magazines, watching films, television, photography, playing guitar and accordion, and listening to the radio.	FFR-002806-0007
1965	Extra-curricular activities at the IRS included hockey, skating, swimming, field day, watching films and television, and listening to the records and the radio.	FFR-002807-0008
1967	Extra-curricular activities at the IRS included hockey, skating, tobogganing, badminton, bicycling, reading books and magazines, watching movies, listening to music, playing piano, and pool/billiards.	FFR-000708-0009
1968	Extra-curricular activities at the IRS included skating, basketball, reading magazines, watching movies, and listening to music.	FFR-000719 FFR-000751-0008

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Date	Event	Document Reference
April 1, 1906	The Oblate Fathers of St. Boniface began constructing the IRS buildings in 1905. The IRS opened on April 1, 1906.	FFR-000110-0000 FFR-000110-0001 FFR-002809, pg. 4 FFR-002810, pg. 4
1910	The main IRS building was a three-storey, 40' x 70' structure. The dining rooms for the staff and pupils, kitchen, pantry, dairy-room and vegetable-room were located in the basement. Two classrooms and recreation rooms for girls and boys were located on the first floor. On the third floor were two large dormitories measuring 34' x 38'. In addition to the main building there was an 18' x 30'	FFR-002814, pg. 13

	detached building that housed the office and sleeping apartment of the Principal, the workshop, and the engine and gas plant room. At the IRS site there was a large ice-house, some small outbuildings, a stable, and a barn.	
1913	An annex to the IRS building containing a classroom and covered passageway was completed in 1913.	FFR-003007 FFR-005348 FFR-005349 FFR-005350 FFR-000134 FFR-002818, pg. 16
1927	Repairs to the IRS building and barn were undertaken.	FFR-000200-0000 FFR-000200-0001 FFR-002213-0000 FFR-002213-0001 FFR-002214
1939	Seats or pews were added to the chapel located inside the main IRS building.	FFR-000261 FFR-001621
1944 to 1947	Problems with the water supply at the IRS were on-going. In September 1947, the IRS was connected to Fort Frances' main water system.	FFR-003599-0000 FFR-003598-0000 FFR-003598-0001 FFR-003605-0000 FFR-003605-0001 FFR-003608 FFR-003617-0000 FFR-003617-0001 FFR-003617-0002 FFR-003627 FFR-003629-0000 FFR-003629-0001 FFR-003636
1948	The IRS site was comprised of 150 acres. Two recreation rooms, one for boys and one for girls, were located in the basement of the main building. Fire escapes were situated on the south and north side of the building. The IRS also owned cows, cattle, pigs and chickens. An eight room single storey residence for priests was also located on the IRS site.	FFR-003644-0002 FFR-003644-0005
1950 to 1951	The IRS Principal planned to convert a portion of the chapel within the IRS building into a third classroom. A third classroom was added during the 1950/51 school year.	FFR-000306-0001 FFR-000309-0000 FFR-001415
1955	The three classrooms at the IRS were described as poorly designed and oddly sized. There were two basement playrooms at the IRS, one each for boys and girls. The laundry, kitchen, lunchroom, and dormitories were all described as small.	FFR-004473
1955 to 1957	The IRS began using the Parish Hall in the Church basement for physical recreation classes, and as a recreation hall for students during periods when outdoor play was not possible. In 1957, the federal government agreed to pay the Church rent for the continued use of the Parish Hall for physical training instruction and recreation. The Church building was located approximately 200 yards north of the IRS, "on the mission."	FFR-000352-0000 FFR-000352-0001 FFR-001627 FFR-001629
1959, 1961	There was an outdoor ice skating rink at the IRS.	FFR-001444 FFR-001460
1960	The chapel in the IRS was being used as a classroom, pending the construction of new dormitory and classroom	FFR-001448

	block buildings.	
1962	A new dormitory building and three classroom block with gymnasium connected by a long corridor were constructed and opened at the IRS in September 1962. The old dormitory at the IRS was vacant and no longer in use after the opening of the new buildings, and was recommended for disposal.	FFR-003157 FFR-003158-0001 FFR-003182-0001 FFR-003182-0002 FFR-002311-0000 FFR-004104-0000
1962	Rather than connecting the new IRS buildings to the Fort Frances sewage system, a sewage lagoon system was constructed.	FFR-003661 FFR-003664 FFR-003669
1963	When the discharge pump in the sewage system at the IRS quit in February, the sewage backed up to the basement floors in the dormitory building but it did not run over. It was decided that a concrete spillway should be constructed on the lagoon and the sewage effluent would be chlorinated if necessary.	FFR-003670-0000 FFR-003670-0001 FFR-003670-0002 FFR-003671 FFR-003672-0000 FFR-003672-0001
April 1965	A temporary classroom for the McIntosh IRS students displaced by a fire and staying at the Fort Frances IRS was established in the manual training workshop in the barn.	FFR-004123-0000 FFR-004123-0002
June 1974	Classrooms continued to operate at the IRS until the end of the 1973/74 school year. The IRS closed on September 30, 1974.	FFR-002636 FFR-002646 FFR-002655 FFR-003875-0001 FFR-002027

PHOTOS, PLANS AND LAYOUT

Date	Description	Document Reference
Undated	Ground floor and basement plan of the IRS, including classroom plan.	FFR-004598
Undated	Plan of classroom addition to the IRS.	FFR-004599
Undated	Plan T 808 of IRS lands on Indian Reserve No. 1 Rainy River District.	FFR-004093
November 1908	Map showing the IRS land.	FFR-004094-0001
March 1909	Diagram of the location of the IRS.	FFR-004341-0001
1911	Rough sketch showing IRS land, acres, and nearby hotel.	FFR-004304-0001
April 1911	Plan of Indian Reserve No. 1, showing the IRS and surrounding lands.	FFR-004305-0001
May 1911	Ground floor plan of the classroom addition at the IRS.	FFR-005350
May 1911	Basement plan of the classroom addition at the IRS.	FFR-005349
May 1911	Front elevation plan of the classroom addition at the IRS.	FFR-005348
February 1912	Plan of Indian Agency Reserve No. 1, showing IRS land.	FFR-004310-0001
September 1913	Map showing Indian Agency Reserve No. 1, showing the IRS land.	FFR-004314-0001
October 1916	Plan of subdivision of part of Indian Reserve No. 1, Rainy Lake, District of Rainy River, showing IRS land.	FFR-004095
November 1916	Plan of Indian Reserve No. 1 showing IRS addition and golf course.	FFR-000518-0002
July 1917	Plan of part of Indian Reserve No. 16 A, Rainy River District, showing IRS location and Frog Creek Road.	FFR-060012
1920	Map showing the shoreline of Rainy Lake, with land to be leased to the IRS.	FFR-004199-0000 FFR-004199-0001
July 1923	Floor plan for proposed cow stable at the IRS.	FFR-003034-0003
August 1924	Floor plan of the horse barn at the IRS.	FFR-000170-0003
March 1926	Diagrams of the location of the IRS.	FFR-001618-0002 FFR-001618-0003 FFR-001618-0004

1935	Plan of proposed sewage disposal systems at the IRS showing IRS buildings, vegetable garden, Church, playgrounds, etc.	FFR-003508-0003
July 1936	Plan of sewage disposal system at the IRS, showing girls' playground.	FFR-003519-0002
July 1936	Septic tank system at the IRS.	FFR-003519-0004
July 1941	Rough sketch related to sewage system at the IRS, showing the proximity of the laundry building to the IRS building.	FFR-003592-0001
November 1944	Proposed water line to the IRS.	FFR-003599-0001
August 1945	Sketch of Agency Reserve No. 1 showing IRS property, private property, Reserve, etc.	FFR-004271-0002 FFR-060076-0002
1947	Plan of proposed water main for the town of Fort Frances showing IRS property and IRS addition.	FFR-003635-0002
September 1948	Exterior photographs of the IRS dormitory and other buildings associated with the IRS.	FFR-003644-0003 FFR-003644-0004
September 1948	Diagram of the placement of IRS buildings.	FFR-003644-0005
January 1949	Exterior photographs of the Fort Frances IRS.	FFR-003644-0010
February 1949	Plans showing alterations to be made to the IRS building.	FFR-004373-0001
July 1950	Map showing parts of Indian Reserve No. 1, including the shoreline and the IRS site.	FFR-004278-0002
June 1951	Sketch of proposed construction of fire escapes at the IRS.	FFR-002288-0003
July 1958	Plan of heating and laundry boilers at the IRS, showing layout of some of the rooms in the IRS.	FFR-004099
August 1958	Map showing the IRS property, building locations, and lands leased.	FFR-004238
October 1958	Exterior photographs of the IRS building.	FFR-003656-0002
December 1958	Site plan of the IRS.	FFR-002997-0003
March 1960	Floor plan of the new IRS dormitory, classroom block, and chapel.	FFR-004096 FFR-004097
March 1960	Site plan showing the new IRS dormitory and classroom block, and IRS grounds.	FFR-004098
December 1960	Plan of sewer extension for the town of Fort Frances showing location of IRS to other areas in the town.	FFR-003659-0005
January 1961	Plan regarding town of Fort Francis east sewer extension showing golf course, IRS land, Reserve No. 1, and town area.	FFR-003660-0002
March 1961	Hand drawn diagram of the new the IRS dormitory and classroom block, showing the tunnel connecting the buildings.	FFR-003158-0001
April 1961	Plan of Indian Reserve No. 16 A showing IRS land acreage, roads and surrendered lots.	FFR-060015-0001
June 1961	Sewage lagoon system at the IRS, showing layout of IRS buildings.	FFR-005347
November 1961	Site plan of the IRS buildings.	FFR-002307-0004
September 1962	Site plan of new and old buildings at the IRS.	FFR-003182-0002
September 1962	Map showing the IRS buildings and water supply lines.	FFR-003667-0001
October 1963	Sketch of caretaker's cottage and floor plan of house at the IRS.	FFR-002141-0002
June 1964	Plan of first floor of the IRS, related to heating system alterations.	FFR-005345
August 1964	Site plan of the IRS showing all buildings.	FFR-004113-0001
September 1964	Second floor plan of the main IRS building.	FFR-005346
September 1964	Basement floor plan of the main IRS building.	FFR-005344
December 1964	Plan of IRS building layout.	FFR-004121-0001
June 1965	Classroom block plan showing classrooms, gym and boiler room.	FFR-004126-0001
June 1965	Basic plan of IRS main building showing its proximity to	FFR-004126-0002

	the chapel building.	
April 1968	Proposed extension to distribution line at the IRS showing IRS buildings layout and road.	FFR-000575-0001 FFR-000576-0001
January 1972	Rough sketches of IRS elevations associated with decorative concrete slabs at the IRS.	FFR-004136-0003 FFR-004136-0004 FFR-004136-0005
July 1974	Sketch showing location of natural gas pipeline within Agency Indian Reserve No. 1 showing IRS and private road.	FFR-004321-0001
May 1975	Appraisal of the former IRS property, including photographs and analysis of the property.	FFR-004245-0002, pg. 3-7, 25
May 1975	Addendum to Appraisal of the former IRS property showing diagrams, maps, and descriptions of the IRS buildings.	FFR-004245-0003, pg. 2-8

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at the Fort Frances IRS or of any convicted abusers present at the school.

The following suggestions of abuse, listed chronologically, comprise all known identifiable complaints and/or allegations received by government officials and all available information regarding the follow-up and outcome.

Incidents (Sexual)

1920 An R.C.M.P. report indicated that on more than one occasion the Principal had made indecent proposals to pupils. As a result, the Principal was relieved of his religious duties, but remained as Principal of the IRS [FFR-000148-0000; FFR-000148-0001].

Incidents (Physical)

No information found.

Incidents (Student on Student)

No information found.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IRS pupils were largely from the following Bands: Couchiching, Seine River, Black River, Manitou, Standjicomung (Stangecoming), Red Cut, Assabaska, Whitefish Bay, Naicathcewenin, Whitesand, Sabaskong, and Lac Seul [FFR-002668; FFR-002679; FFR-002711; FFR-002721; FFR-000042; FFR-002754].

1912 A male IRS pupil died of consumption [FFR-002816, pg. 17].

1913 Two siblings enrolled at the IRS died at their home as a result of tuberculosis [FFR-002817, pg. 19].

1932 The Principal terminated the employment of the IRS night watchman due to "misconduct and carelessness" [FFR-000234-0000; FFR-000234-0001].

1951 A hockey tournament took place in Kenora and involved teams from the following Indian Residential Schools: Fort Frances, Cecilia Jeffrey, McIntosh, Kenora (St. Mary's), and Sioux Lookout (Pelican Lake) [FFR-001848].

1953 A Fort Frances IRS student was admitted to a hospital and died. The cause of death was not provided [FFR-001796].

Last updated February 7, 2013

1958 to 1963 When necessary, the IRS Principal placed students in private homes for the summer, rather than keep them at the IRS. The room and board expenses related to the summer placements of students were an operating cost of the IRS [FFR-000369; FFR-000427; FFR-000429; FFR-000467-0000; FFR-000467-0001].

May 1963 The Children's Aid Society learned from the IRS Principal that runaway incidents from the IRS had reached "serious proportions" in the last year. The federal government investigated the matter and reported in August 1963 that the IRS had occasional runaways. The Principal noted that running away had become popular amongst students, and those who did not participate were ridiculed [FFR-000461-0001; FFR-01547; FFR-000460; FFR-000464].

1965 In September, the federal government requested that the R.C.M.P. investigate a former IRS Principal regarding allegations that he had committed fraud in relation to payments received from the IRS' fuel supply company. In March, the federal government decided not to pursue the allegations [FFR-000633-0000; FFR-000633-0001; FFR-000634; FFR-000635-0000; FFR-000635-0001; FFR-000637; FFR-000638-0002; FFR-000664-0000; FFR-000664-0001; FFR-000649-0002].

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Reverend Father H. M. Brassard, O.M.I.	Principal	July 1906 to April 1909
Reverend Father M. Kalmes, O.M.I.	Principal	April 1909 to September 1911
Reverend Father Ph. Vales, O.M.I.	Principal	September 1911 to June 1918
Reverend Father H.M. Brassard O.M.I.	Principal	June 1918 to March 1925
Reverend Father Perrault	Principal	Summer 1919
Reverend Father Simeon Perrault, O.M.I.	Principal	March 1925 to February 1929
Reverend Father H.M. Brassard, O.M.I.	Principal	February 1929 to June 1932
Reverend Father P. Bousquet, O.M.I.	Principal	June 1932 to July 1934
Reverend Father Maurice de Bretagne, O.M.I.	Principal	July 1934 to June 1936
Reverend V. de Varennes, O.M.I.	Principal	June 1936 to December 1938
Reverend Father P. Chatelain, O.M.I.	Principal	December 1938 to November 1947
Reverend Father Vincent de Varennes, O.M.I.	Principal	November 1947 to August 1957
Father Belanger	Acting Principal	Summer 1953, Summer 1955
Assistant to Reverend Father V. de Varennes	Acting Principal	Summer 1954
Reverend Father Andre Florentin, O.M.I.	Principal	August 1957 to August 1961
Reverend Fernand Delaye, O.M.I.	Principal	August 1961 to March 1962
Reverend Royal Carriere, O.M.I.	Principal	March 1962 to August 1965
Reverend Father Raymond Dion, O.M.I.	Principal	August 1965 to October 1967
Reverend Father Aimee Lizée, O.M.I.	Principal, Administrator	October 1967 to March 1969, April 1969 to July 1971
Reverend Arthur Massé, O.M.I.	Administrator	July 1971 to September 30, 1974
Gordon Bruyere	Administrator	April 1974

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Narrative Updated: February 7, 2013

The original school narrative document produced by Canada also contains a number of records that have been separated pending review.

