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 Vermilion IRS School Narrative April 24, 2006

This School Narrative summarizes documents that provide an over-view of the history and administration of the school.

NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS

No documents in the collection indicate the exact date when St. Henry's School became Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School. The variants in spelling for both St. Henry's Mission school and Fort Vermilion are listed below:

•	April 20, 1899	St. Henry, Vermilion [Item No. 00690]
•	April 22, 1899	St. Henri [Item No. 00691]
•	January 17, 1931	St. Henry's Mission [Item No. 05105A]
•	April 20, 1934	St. Henry's Residential [Item No. 06000D]
•	October 8, 1943	Vermilion Residential School [Item No. 04573]

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- **1863** A Mission at Fort Vermilion is started in 1863. [Item No. 00136].
- 1899 The first school is built it is unclear whether this was a residential school or a day school. [Item No. 00136]
- 1899 A. Husson, O.M.I., Procurator for the R.C. Missions of Athabaska and McKenzie asks the Indian Commissioner to pay the grant for Fort Vermilion because no provision was made for it in the current fiscal year. [Item No. 00690]
- The Mission at Fort Vermilion is inspected by a Government official and the buildings are deemed substantial and are well-adapted for use as a boarding school. [Item No. 00705]. The Government assures the bishop that his application for a grant for 15 pupils will be well received. [Item No. 00706]

- 1910 A doctor informs the Government that the children at the Mission are sick and that one child has died. The school should be inspected by a doctor at least once a month. [Item No. 05140]
- 1911 Note signed with illegible initials reads "Contract for this school forwarded to Rt. Rev. Emile Grouard, O.M.I., on March 4th, 1911 for signature. [Item No. 05141]
- 1914 Fire destroys the school, church, and convent on March 16; but the new building is supposed to be ready in the spring. The sisters, the infirm and the students move into the priests' house. The priests move to the laundry. Two weeks after the fire, students return to school. [Item Nos. 00004, 00012,
- 1915 The government decides to supply school desks, beds and other items to furnish the new school. [Item No. 00005].
- 1917 The church rebuilds the school. [Item No. 00136.]
- 1925 The Fort Vermilion School Board reports that the principal of Fort Vermilion IRS is allowing white protestant children to attend his school although there is a school in Fort Vermilion for that purpose. [Item Nos. 05114 and 05117]. A letter from the Indian agent explains that the children attending the school did so because until the previous year no school was available in Fort Vermilion. The principal, Father Habay reports that the only white children now attending are one child whose father is 50 miles away, and outside the district and another child who returns to Grande Prairie each spring. [Item No. 05113]

Another document states that the girls' building was destroyed by fire on October 7, 1932. In a 1933 memorandum the bishop requests a contribution of \$3500 from the government to help cover rebuilding costs. [Item No. 00145]

1933 A new school is under construction. [Item No. 00132] and is completed in the summer. [Item No 00136]

In September the Bishop asks the government for \$1500.0 to cover repair costs.[Item No. 00146]

1940 A doctor writes that students are coming to the residential school because some parents will lose pension rights if they do not send their children to school and the dormitory is overcrowded – there were eighty-eight children present on December 31 and the quota is 65. A letter from the government Inspector of Indian agencies outlines some possible solutions. [Item Nos. 05478, 05479]

- Floor space in the school previously occupied by a small hospital is turned over to housing Indian children. [Item No. 05482]
- 1948 The "Whites" and "Métis" have two rooms in a separate building and are administered by the Separate School District and supervised by the provincial government. [Item No. 05095]
- **1949** A new lighting plant is installed. [Item No. 00809A]
- 1955 A four classroom block is constructed a Recreation Room, a Domestic Science Room, and a Manual Training room in the basement. There are plans to convert the classrooms in the old school building into improved dining room, recreation, and dormitory facilities. [Item No. 05052]
- 1956 Effective April 1, 1956 the Government acquires the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School from the Episcopal Corporation of Grouard. [Item No. 05053]
- 1964 The Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School is to be operated, not as a school, but as a Hostel. [Item No. 05143] Separate School District # 26 is to provide integrated education for Indian children in the schools under its administration. [Item Nos. 05306, 05145]
- 1965 After September 1964, the Government continues to administer the Hostel for students in attendance at the Separate School who live in the Hostel. [Item 04802]
- 1967 While it bears the name of a Residential School, it operates as a Hostel and there is complete integration between the Indian and non-Indian pupils who attend the Roman Catholic Separate School. [Item No.04977]
- 1968 Hostel closes August 28, 1968. [Item No. 00728] Talks to erect cottage style residences supervised by Indian house parents do not materialize. [Item No. 06720]
 - Residential accommodation is to be limited to regular residents of the Fort Vermilion agency due to "obsolescence" of the residence. Item No. 00672]
- 1969 In July, the Sisters of Providence leave the building they in which they reside. [Item No. 00725]

MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL

Dates managed by Church

- 1939 A letter from the Superintendent of Welfare and Training mentions that Fort Vermilion IRS is a church owned school. [Item No 00950]
- **1948** Bishop Routhier is responsible for hiring teachers. [Item No. 05095]

- 1934 A government memorandum lists Fort Vermilion IRS as one of the residential schools in which the government pays a per capita grant. The government did not build the schools and does not exercise rights of ownership. In the past, the government has undertaken to provide financial assistance like paying grants for additions repairs and maintenance [Item No. 05099]
- The government grants authority to spend \$1000 towards the cost of the new school building built to replace the one destroyed by fire in 1932. [Item No. 00153]
- 1956 Effective April 1, 1956 the Government acquires the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School from the Episcopal Corporation of Grouard. [Item No. 05053] No definite plans are made to change the employment status of teachers but it is estimated the change will be effective September 1956. [Item No. 05061]

As part of the national policy, beginning on September 1, 1954, teachers at Residential Schools in Canada were paid directly by the government. No documents have been located within Fort Vermilion document collections that indicate the nature of the internal organization of the school, or confirm whether Fort Vermilion IRS conformed to national policy with respect to teaching staff on that date. In fact, the date that government ownership takes place is unclear. Item No. 05050 states that Fort Vermilion IRS will become government owned on April 1, 1956. However, a Memorandum for File states that effective September 1, 1956 Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School will become a government owned Indian Residential School and the government will assume responsibility for employment and remuneration of teaching staff on that date. [Item No.05253]

Regarding government responsibility for non-teaching staff at Fort Vermilion IRS, no documents deal directly with this issue. The government, in assuming ownership of Fort Vermilion IRS states that it will assume responsibility for maintenance of school buildings and for janitor services. [Item No.05050] A 1968 Audit Report states that Employees are not covered by Unemployment Insurance because the majority of employees do not remain employed long enough to benefit from coverage. This may suggest that non-teaching employees were not paid by the government. [Item No. 00740]

- 1961 A government memorandum regarding the water supply states that Fort Vermilion IRS is owned and operated by the government. [Item No. 00237]
- 1964 The Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School is to be operated not as a school but as a Hostel. [Item Nos. 04986, 05143]
- 1965 After September 1964, the Government continues to administer the Hostel for students in attendance at the Separate School who live in the Hostel. [Item 04802]

While it bears the name of a Residential School, it operates as a Hostel and there is complete integration between the Indian and non-Indian pupils who attend the Roman Catholic Separate School. [Item No.04977]

1917 The church rebuilds the school. [Item No. 00136.] 1932 Another document states that the girls' building was destroyed by fire on October 7, 1932. In a 1933 memorandum the bishop requests a contribution of 3500.00 in the form of a government grant. [Item No. 00145] 1933 A new school is completed in the summer of 1933. [Item No. 00132]

In the same photograph, the author describes the square building in the centre, between the church and the "long building" as the school built whilst the author was there during the previous summer. The long building was where the children were housed while the school was being built. [Item No. 00144]. In another document the new building is described as being 34' x 46', three storeys high, providing housing for 35 girls and the Sisters on staff. [Item No. 00154]

- **1938** Electricity is installed. [Item Nos. 00890]
- 1939 The mission buildings have no plumbing or baths and toilets are dry and outside. There are plans to install indoor water and plumbing and the new well and pump house will accommodate a plumbing system in the future. [Item Nos. 00917, 00917A]. Work is completed but the well has to be deeper than planned because of a problem with dirty water at the proposed level. [Item Nos. 00942, 00950, 06019]

- 1940 Floor space in the school previously occupied by a small hospital is turned over to housing Indian children. [Item No. 05482]
- 1948 There are two classrooms in the residential school and the "Whites and Métis" have two classrooms in a separate building and are administered by the Separate School Board and supervised by the Government of Education of Alberta. [Item No. 05095]
- 1949 The dimensions of the boys' dormitory are 100' x 28' x 9' but because the ceilings on the sides are low there is a loss of space. There are 22, 625 cubic feet. The girls' dormitory is 75' x 33' x 9', or 22,275 cubic feet. [Item No. 05091]
- 1955 A four classroom block is constructed a Recreation Room, a Domestic Science Room, and a Manual Training Shop in the basement. Classrooms in the old building are to be converted into an improved dining room, recreation and dormitory facilities. [Item No. 05052]

A letter dated April 6, 1960 states that with regard to Lot 2, Plan 3279KS, the Government an agreement was reached in 1955 whereby the Episcopal Corporation of Grouard would transfer the lot to them with the agreement that they would construct a four classroom block on it. The building was completed and the land under Government administration for some time. [Item No. 06374]

- According to the fire inspector, the building has highly combustible interior and open stairways and is in a generally hazardous condition. The number of students in the residence must be reduced from seventy to fifty. [Item No. 00543] However, it appears that the decision is later revoked and enrolment is allowed to remain at seventy. [Item No. 06240]
- 1972 For some time, the boys' residence building has been deemed beyond repair and has been slated for demolition. [Item No. 06694]

LAND

Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School was located in the area of Treaty 8. Description of Land: Lot 2, in Lot 7, Range 2, Fort Vermilion Settlement in the Province of Alberta.

Reserves surrounding the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School included Bands of the Tallcree First Nation, Fort Vermilion Beaver Ranch, Boyer River, Upper Hay, Fox Lake [Item No.04579]; from the Eleskie (Child Lake) and Bulldog Reserves [Item No. 06993A]; Boyer River Reserve, Hay Lake [Item No. 06034]

- INDIANESCOM owns 280 acres of land at Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School. INDIANESCOM was the incorporated body created in 1961 to be the only corporate entity to sign all the contracts concerning schools administered by the Oblate Fathers. Formerly, this body was known as the Oblate Fathers Indian and Eskimo Welfare Commission which was created in 1936. [Item No. 00132]
- 1938 In a report of the Fort Vermilion water supply the Mission is described. [Item No. 06005A]
- A letter dated April 6, 1960 states that with regard to Lot 2, Plan 3279KS, the Government an agreement was reached in 1955 whereby the Episcopal Corporation of Grouard would transfer the lot to them with the agreement that they would construct a four classroom block on it. The building was completed and the land under Government administration for some time. [Item No. 06374]
- 1956 The Government acquires from The Episcopal Corporation of Grouard the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School [Item No. 06374]
- 1960 The Government is now owner of an "estate in fee simple Lot Two (2) containing four and seventy three hundredths (4.75) acres more or less Plan 3279 K.S. (Lot 7 Rge. 2 Ft. Vermilion Sett.)" [Item No. 06180]
- 1973 The Church reverses a request to have Student Residence land and buildings returned to them. The Government is free to proceed with any other leases or arrangements. [Item Nos. 06667 and 06667A]

Request from the Director, Edmonton Regional Office for material relating to the title of Fort Vermilion School/Dormitory and Land [Item No. 06449]

Reply enclosing correspondence from May 13 to June 3, 1970, indicating property was purchased by the Government of Indian Affairs. [Item No. 06449]. No reference to reasons for concern over ownership of the land has been found [Item No. 06180]

The Director, Edmonton Regional Office submits an urgent request for confirmation that the Minister has authority to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of the lands referred to in the subject line. [Item No. 06905]. Response is received confirming that the control and administration of Lot 2, Plan 3279 K.S. Fort Vermilion Settlement is under the authority of the Government. [Item No. 06904]

PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA

Item #	Date	Description
00483	Undated	Diagram of Residence
00484	Undated	Diagram of Girls' Residence
00520	Undated	Diagram showing Residence in Relation to the Peace River
00586	Undated	Sketch of Classrooms
00915	02/09/1939	Diagram showing Fort Vermilion Mission
06005, B to G	02/18/1939	Photographs of Fort Vermilion IRS
06370A	04/13/1956	Diagram of proposed Fort Vermilion IRS
06194	03/18/1957	Subdivision Plan
00474D	01/03/1958	Diagram showing Fort Vermilion Mission
00825	04/13/1959	Diagrams of the Mission and water system
06180A	05/05/1960	Diagram of Sewage Disposal Field showing the layout of the Mission
06930	05/05/1960	As above
06933	05/05/1960	As above
00619A	08/08/1962	Diagram of Girls' Dormitory
00641 and 00641A	07/08/1963	Written description of the boys dormitory to accompany the Basement Floor Plan
06781A	04/15/1964	Diagram of 2 nd Floor – Boys' Dormitory
06781B	04/15/1964	Diagram of Girls' Dormitory
06781C	04/15/1964	Diagram of 2 nd Floor
06958G	05/03/1972	Diagram of Fort Vermilion Mission
06694A	10/24/1972	Diagram of Fort Vermilion Mission
06415A	04/12/1973	Diagram of Fort Vermilion Mission

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

Year	Number of Students
ca. 1901	23 internal, 11 external
July 1902 to July 1903	17 internal, 15 external
July 1904 to July 1905	19 internal, 13 external
July 1905 to July 1906	25 internal, 11 external
July 1906 to July 1907	41 internal, 15 external
July 1907 to July 1908	50 internal, 18 external
July 1908 to July 1909	54 internal, 15 external
July 1909 to July	76 internal, 6 external
1910	
July 1912 to July 1913	39 Métis students in residence, 20

	Indian students, 6 orphans, 6 external
July 1913 to July 1914	60 students in residence, 49 students at the end of classes; 20 external students, 17 at the end of classes
July 1914 to July 1915	37 Indian students admitted to residence; 44 students at the end of classes; 14 external students; 17 at the end of classes
July 1916 to July 1917	46 Indian students; 41 admitted to residence; 38 present at the end of the year; 10 external students
July 1917 to July 1918	55 students in residence; 45 present at the end of classes
July 1919 to July 1920	32 students admitted to the residence during the year; 67students at the end of classes; 17 external students
July 1920 to July 1921	5 Indian students admitted to the residence during the year; 45 students present at the end of classes;
1922	52 students admitted during the year; 48 present December 31; 6 external students
1923	73 students admitted during the year; 12 external students
1924	68 students admitted during the year; 54 present December 31; 7 external students
1925	37 Indian students; 12 external students
1926	65 students admitted to the residential school; 64 present December 31; 4 external students
December 31 1927	65 students admitted to the residence during the year; 64 present at the end of the year; 4 external students
December 31, 1928	44 students admitted to the residence during the year; 43 present December 31; 5 external students
1929	39 students admitted to the residence; 89 present December 31; 4 external students
June 1930	84 students present December 31
December 31, 1931	47 Indian students present

1932	103 students admitted to the residential school; 88 present December 31; 10 external students	
1933	113 students admitted to the residence during the year; 91 present December 31; 11 external students	
1934	67 Indian students	
1935	96 students in residence; 21 external students	
1936	90 students in residence, 14 external students	
1937	101 Indian students; 18 external students	
1938	101 Indian students; 18 external students	
1939	109 Indian students; 31 external students	
1940	91 Indian students; 44 external students	
1941	89 Indian students; 48 students in the Separate School	
June 30, 1942	Average attendance of students – 68	
June 30, 1943	Average attendance of students – 68.32	
June 30, 1944	Average attendance of students – 59.64	
June 30, 1945	Average attendance of students – 61.00	
June 30, 1946	Average attendance of students – 74.00	
June 30, 1947	Average attendance of students – 79.86	
June 30, 1948	Average attendance of students – 80.64	
1949	87 Indian students; 37 Separate School students	
1950	78 students; 39 Separate School students	
1951	91 Indian students; 24 external students	
1952	103 students and 45 external students	
1953	103.5 resident and day pupils	

1954	107 resident and day pupils
June 30, 1955	110.35 students
June 30, 1956	112 students
December 31, 1957	Average attendance – 108.35 students
June 30, 1958	130 students
June 30, 1959	68 students
June 30, 1960	69 students
June 30, 1961	70 students
June 30, 1962	70 students
June 30, 1963	70 students
June 30, 1964	70 students
June 30, 1965	45 students
July 11, 1966	54 students
June 30, 1967	51 students
August 6, 1968	45 students

STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES

Students from, at least the following bands, attended Fort Vermilion IRS:

Reserves surrounding the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School included Bands of the Tallcree First Nation, Fort Vermilion Beaver Ranch, Boyer River, Upper Hay, Fox Lake [Item No.04579]; from the Eleskie (Child Lake) and Bulldog Reserves [Item No. 06993A]; Boyer River Reserve, Hay Lake [Item No. 06034]

1951 Thirty-two students are brought to the school from "Big Slough", a distance of 130 miles. [Item No. 05537]

There may be alternate ways of spelling these band names.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

- **1899 1968** Correspondence from 1899 is signed by representatives of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. [Item No. 00689]
- An undated, initialed, note [illegible]: "contract for this school forward to Rt. Rev. Emile Grouard, O.M.I. on March 4th, 1911 for signature" [Item No. 05141]. The Oblates continue their involvement with Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School until the closure of the Fort Vermilion Student Residence (the Hostel) September, 1968. [Item No. 00730]

WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

1911 Agreement

Church management of the school provided teaching staff and non-teaching personnel, including administrative staff. The Government approved the hiring and transfer of principals chosen by the Church. [Item No. 05141]

- A letter dated April 6, 1960 states that with regard to Lot 2, Plan 3279KS, the Government an agreement was reached in 1955 whereby the Episcopal Corporation of Grouard would transfer the lot to them with the agreement that they would construct a four classroom block on it. The building was completed and the land under Government administration for some time. [Item No. 06374]
- 1962 Memorandum of Agreement, regarding the management of certain Indian Residential Schools, between Government of Citizenship and Immigration, Indian Affairs Branch and INDIANESCOM (the Management). In it, the Management agrees to manage and operate Fort Vermilion IRS for children of Indian status in accordance with the terms of the agreement. [Item No. 04706A]
- 1963 Memorandum of Agreement which states that the Government constructed a water supply system which also serves St. Theresa's hospital, and the Mission building operated by the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Grouard and the Roman Catholic Separate School District No.26. The Episcopal Corporation is to pay \$18,250.57 and the Separate School Board is to pay \$5, 436.34 as their shares of the capital cost of the water supply system. [Item Nos. 00216 and 00216A]
- Memorandum to Education Division Staff: Administration of Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School #766 is transferred to the Fort Vermilion Separate School District No. 26 effective September 1, 1964. The Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School will no longer be operated effective September 1, 1964. Please note that an unsigned Treasury board request dated February 5, 1964 indicates that on September 1, 1963 the Government entered into an agreement with the "Fort Vermilion Separate School District No. 26, in the Province of Alberta, which provides for the integrated education of Indian children in the schools under the administration of the Fort Vermilion Separate School District throughout Northern Alberta." The agreement itself has not been located. There is a request to the Treasury Board to grant authority for leasing the Residential School building to the Fort Vermilion Separate School District. The change of administration was requested to go into effect on July 1, 1964. [Item No. 05306]
- 1974 Agreement between the Government and Fort Vermilion General Hospital District No. 102 (St. Theresa General Hospital) in which the hospital is granted a permit to use the Girls' Dormitory in order to expand and improve health and social services to the settlement. [Item No. 06397]

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Fort Vermilion 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.

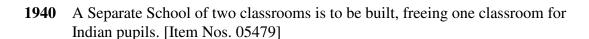
<u>Incidents (Sexual)</u> No documents have been located that include information about incidents related to physical abuse at the school.

<u>Incidents (Physical)</u> – No documents have been located that include information about incidents related to physical abuse at the school.

<u>Incidents (Student on Student)</u> – No documents have been located that include information about incidents related to physical abuse at the school.

SEPARATE SCHOOL

St. Mary's Separate School, located on the grounds of St. Henry's Mission, was closely related to Fort Vermilion IRS from 1940. From time to time, Fort Vermilion IRS, St. Mary's Separate School and St. Theresa's hospital shared space in the same building, and often shared the same administrator. [Item Nos. 00216, 00216A, 00669A] An ongoing issue for the government was the confusion caused by all three institutions sharing the same bank account. Therefore, it is important that a brief history of St. Mary's Separate School be included in this narrative.



School established on land donated by the Sisters of Providence to the school district in 1940. [Item Nos. 00683]

- 1948 White and Métis students have two classrooms in a separate building operated by the Separate School District, under the Government of Education of Alberta.

 [Item No. 05095]
- 1949 1957 The Government of Indian Affairs requests that separate bank accounts be maintained for the Fort Vermilion Indian Residential School, Fort Vermilion Separate School District (of which the Principal is secretary), St. Therese Hospital and Mission St. Henri. [Item No. 05075]. Separate accounts never occur [Item No. 04822] [Item Nos. 04818, 04848]

- **1958 1960** A Physical Education teacher from the Separate School teaches part time at the Indian Residential School as well. [Item No. 05193]
- 1960 111 pupils attend the Separate School in 1960 and the school requires more space. A Memorandum for File by the Deputy Minister indicates that a reciprocal agreement has been made between the Government of Indian Affairs and the Fort Vermilion Separate School District No 26 whereby the two schools are to be integrated. Each school is to cover its own operating costs. [Item No. 00508]
- 1961 Government of Indian affairs to pay a tuition fee for those children who receive children educated at the IRS, through a separate agreement in the same manner. [Item No 05167]
- 1961 Due to the reversal of the reciprocal agreement Fort Vermilion IRS reduces its teaching staff and operates only three classrooms, a fourth classroom is rented by the Separate School Board and it appears the Board provides its own teacher. [Item No 05165]
 - Questions again about connections between the various institutions at Fort Vermilion. Auditors claim it is difficult to determine whether the janitor is drawing a salary from the Separate School to supplement that earned the Government of Indian Affairs. [Item No. 04880] [Item No. 04885]
- 1964 1965 Government of Indian Affairs enters into an agreement with the Fort Vermilion Separate School District No. 26 which provides for the integrated education of Indian children in the schools under the administration of the Fort Vermilion School District throughout Northern Alberta. Provision concerning the lease and maintenance of the Residential School building to the Separate School District is included as is the provision that the Government pay tuition fees based on the costs of operation. This agreement has not been located, however, an unsigned Treasury Board request [Item No. 05306] lists details of this agreement.
- 1964 The Fort Vermilion Indian Residential school to be operated not as a school but as a Hostel. [Item No. 05143]
- 1965 After September 1964, the Government continues to administer the Hostel for students in attendance at the Separate School who live in the Hostel. [Item 04802]
- 1967 While it bears the name of a Residential School, operates as a Hostel and there is complete integration between the Indian and non-Indian pupils who attend the Roman Catholic Separate School. [Item No.04977]
- 1968 Hostel closes August 28, 1968. [Item No. 00728] Talks to erect cottage style residences supervised by Indian house parents do not materialize. [Item No. 06720]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1938 Discussion regarding the attendance of students from distant reserves. [Item Nos. 05462A and 05462B, 05465, 05466]
- **1939** Report on truant students. [Item Nos. 05475, 05503]
- More students are coming to the residential school because some parents will lose pension rights if they do not send their children to school. [Item No. 05478]
- 1942 Details of an ongoing discussion regarding the transportation of children from distant reserves. [Item Nos.05504]

Fire

Fort Vermilion IRS had two major fires in its history. Attendance at school was interrupted only briefly.

1914 Fire destroys the school, church, and convent on March 16; but the new building is supposed to be ready in the spring. The sisters, the infirm and the students move into the priests' house. The priests move to the laundry. Two weeks after the fire, students return to school. [Item Nos. 00004, 00012,

1932	
	Another document states that the girls'
	building was destroyed by fire on October 7, 1932. In a 1933 memorandum the bishop
	requests a contribution of \$3500 from the government to help cover rebuilding costs.
	[Item No. 00145]

1933 A new school is under construction. [Item No. 00132] and is completed in the summer. [Item No 00136]

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Father Celestin Henri Joussard	Superior of the Mission	1900 to July 1902
Father Lecorre	Director of the Mission	July 1902 to June 1903
Father Celestin Henri Joussard	Director of the Mission	June 1903 to June 1909
Father LeTreste	Superior of the Mission	August 1909 to?
Father Rault	Superior of the Mission	May 1914 to July 1914
Father Bourquene	Superior of the Mission	July 1914 to June 1915
Father J. V. LeTreste	Superior of the Mission	November 1916 to July 1917

Father J. Habay	Superior of the Mission	August 1917 to July 1926
Father LeTreste	Superior of the Mission	July 1926 to July 1927
Father J. Habay	Superior of the Mission	July 1927 to 1938
Father J. Huguerre	Principal	1938 to 1942 [absent for six months in 1938]
Father Joseph Angin	Principal	1938
Father J. Quemeneur	Reverend Father Superior	1938 to 1939
Father Bernard Rainville	Principal	1942 to 1949
Father Paul Serrand	Principal	1949 to 1957
Sister Denise Helene	Signs as Principal or Senior Teacher	1958 to 1961
Father G. Tessier	Principal	1957 to 1964
Father Benoit Guimont	Principal	1963/64 to 1968

Narrative Completed: April 19, 2006 Narrative Updated: mmmm dd, yyyy

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