

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.



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**Kuper Island IRS  
School Narrative  
May 4, 2004**

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

**All circa dated documents are listed as undated in the index of documents.**

**NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS**

- Industrial School on Kuper Island [# 04074] 1890 - 1924  
Industrial School at Kuper Island [# 04056]  
Indian Industrial School of Kuper Island B.C. [# 00860]  
Indian Industrial School, Kuper Island, B.C. [# 04264]  
Indian Industrial School, Cowichan Agency [# 04280]  
The Indian School at Kuper Island [# 70235]  
Kuper Island Industrial School [# 04252]  
Kuper Island Indian Industrial School [# 00881]  
Kuper Island Industrial [# 05390]  
Kuper Island School [# 50398]  
Kuper Island Indian School [# 70226]
  
- New Kuper Island School [# 70226] 1915
- Residential School, Kuper Island [# 04241] 1916
  
- Kuper Island Indian Residential School [# 18061] 1924 - 1968  
Kuper Island School, Cowichan Agency [# 04101]  
Kuper Island Residential School [# 05710]  
Kuper Island School [# 07033]  
Indian Residential School, Kuper Island, B.C. [# 50378]  
Kuper Island (R.C.) Indian Residential School [# 05550C]  
Indian Residential School at Kuper Island [# 03223]  
Kuper Residential School [# 50283]  
Kuper Island Indian School [# 01170]
  
- Kuper Island Student Residence [# 07607B] 1968, August 1 -  
Kuper Student Residence [# 01158] 1975, June 30  
Kuper Island Residence [# 07182]

## CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- 1888, July Members of the “council formed among the Indians of the Cowichan Agency” petition the government to establish a Catholic Industrial School. [# 05484]
- 1889, November Government completes the construction of buildings on Kuper Island for an Industrial School. [# 05613]
- 1890, June Catholic Church requests that the Kuper Island Industrial School be placed under its control. [# 00860]
- 1890, July Opening of the Industrial School on Kuper Island. [# 00866, # 00870, # 70226]
- 1891, October Girls are enrolled in the Industrial School. [# 22000]
- 1892 Plans are made to enlarge the school to accommodate up to fifty students. Construction is delayed until 1895 but a new laundry and drying room is built in 1892. [# 91280, # 04045, # 04049, # 22020, # 04054, # 05489]
- 1895, November 15 Fire in the Boys’ building causes light damage. Arson is suspected as the next day an attempted burning of a building is discovered. Several students from the Industrial School are arrested. [# 04056, # 04058, # 04063]
- 1916, June Official opening of the new Kuper Island Industrial School building. [# 00881, # 70226]
- 1924 The older boys and girls are taught in the same classroom for the first time at the Kuper Island Industrial School. [# 18016A]
- 1929, October Manual training classes are begun at the school. [# 07061]
- 1955, November Three classroom Day School is built at the Kuper Island Indian Residential School to accommodate increased day pupil enrollment. [# 03283, # 03902, # 00644]
- 1965 On-the-job engineering training begins for three individuals from Kuper Island village. [# 06385, # 06372]
- 1967, September Grade 8 students from Kuper Island IRS admitted to Chemainus Secondary School. [# 01194, # 01192, # 01185]
- 1968, August The residence is put under the administration of one person known as the Administrator, and the administration of classroom activities is put under one person known as the Principal. [# 07607, # 07607A, # 07606]

- 1968, September      Grade 6 and 7 students from Kuper Island Student Residence admitted to Chemainus Elementary School and St. Joseph's School. [# 01185, # 01178, # 01170]
- 1975, June 30        Kuper Island Student Residence is closed, buildings and land transferred to the Penelakut Band. [# 03179, # 03245]

## **MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL**

### **Dates managed by Church**

- 1890, June            Catholic Church requests that the Kuper Island Industrial School be placed under its control. [# 00860]
- 1890, July            Government requests and receives the resignation of the lay principal and Rev. G. Donckele is appointed as acting principal. [# 00866]
- 1891, February      The Sisters of St. Ann (S.S.A.) accept a request made by the Rev. Donckele to assume the Matronship of Kuper Island Industrial School. [# 05599]
- 1906, December    The Society of Mary Montfort (S.M.M.) begin providing administrators to manage the school. [# 03224, # 70270]
- 1910, December    Agreement between the Bishop of Victoria, B.C., and the Company of Mary (S.M.M.) to give the Company charge of the Indian School at Kuper Island and any other school of the same description. [# 70235]
- October 1957        The Society of Mary Montfort (S.M.M.) depart Kuper Island, and the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (O.M.I.) take over the administration of Kuper Island Indian Residential School. [# 03224, # 03223, # 50006, # 70278]
- 1962                 Agreement for the Operation of Kuper Island Indian Residential School, between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada and INDIANESCOM. September 25, 1962. [# 00724A]

The name INDIANESCOM is short for the "Oblate Indian and Eskimo Council".

### **Dates managed by Government**

From April 1, 1969 until its closure in June 1975, the school was administered by the government.

## **SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

- 1889, November    Government completes the construction of buildings on Kuper Island for an Industrial School. [# 05613]

- 1890, July Opening of the Industrial School on Kuper Island.  
[# 00866, # 00870, # 70226]
- 1891, August Provincial government decides to build the Kuper Island wharf at the school. [# 04253]
- 1892 Plans are made to enlarge the school to accommodate up to fifty students. Construction is delayed until 1895 but a new laundry and drying room is built in 1892. [# 91280, # 04045, # 04049, # 22020, # 04054, # 05489]
- 1895, November 15 Fire in the Boys' building causes light damage. Arson is suspected as the next day an attempted burning of a building is discovered. Several students from the Industrial School are arrested. [# 04056, # 04058, # 04063]
- 1907, November The medical officer to the Kuper Island Industrial School endorses the superintendent's application for new buildings as the buildings in use are both unsanitary and unhygienic. [# 04229]
- 1908, December The principal, Rev. P. Claessen, renews his application to the government for better buildings as those in use are unsanitary and in a ruinous state. [# 04234]
- 1910, April A report from the Rev. P. Claessen to the government notes that there are a total of twenty buildings scattered about in a disorderly way on the southern corner of the school property. There are four main buildings used for the housing and education of pupils. [# 22241]
- 1911, April A new barn and stables is erected at Kuper Island Industrial School by the carpenter and his apprentices. The outbuildings at the school are comprised of a chapel, gymnasium, blacksmith shop, carpenter and shoemaker shops, bakery, laundry with dry-room barn and stables, chicken ranch and an abandoned cottage. [# 22254]
- 1912, January An inspector's report records that a new bathroom building has been constructed and new piping installed for the girls' bathroom. It is noted that "...a new and larger school should be built on higher ground, as, no matter how much repairs were put into these old buildings, they would still be out of date." [# 05623]
- 1914, November The beginning of construction for a new Kuper Island Industrial School on the original Kuper Island Industrial School site. [# 04238, # 70237, # 70239]
- 1915, January The newly constructed school building begins being used.  
[# 18012, # 70226]
- 1916, June Official opening of the new Kuper Island Industrial School building.  
[# 00881, # 00882]

1918, March Construction of a new gymnasium for boys is completed. [# 03966, # 22323]

1922, November There is a barn, stables, hennerly, piggery, laundry equipment and bakery in operation at the school. [# 03836A, # 18012]

1924 A boat house is constructed. [# 18017]

1927, February Lighting plant installed at Kuper Island Indian Residential School. [# 04485]

1931 Repairs are made to the septic tank and drainage pipes as there is overflow of sewage onto school land and into the sea. [# 04101, # 00289B]

1933, December 20 A storm completely destroys Kuper Island Indian Residential School's water supply. [# 04126]

1947, April New lavatories installed. [# 14001]

1954, September Two room addition to the staff residences. [# 04728]

1955, November Three classroom Day School is built at the Kuper Island Indian Residential School to accommodate increased day school pupil enrollment. [# 03283, # 03902, # 00644]

1957, December Dimensions of the dormitories at Kuper Island Indian Residential School. [# 00635A]

1959, May Major renovations at school completed. AC power installed. [# 03947]

1959, December Explosion in the furnace room causes minor damage. [# 13212A]

1960, November Old barn converted to a gymnasium. [# 00246]

1966, June Description of the buildings that comprise the Kuper Island Indian Residential School. [# 05377C]

1967, December Installation of fire sprinkler system throughout school buildings. [# 00579]

1970, November Four unit staff residence constructed. [# 91102]

1973, September The Penelakut Band occupies an apartment on the site of Kuper Island Student Residence and uses it as a band office. [# 05632A, # 05653]

1975, June 30 Kuper Island Student Residence is closed, buildings and land transferred to the Penelakut Band. [# 03179, # 03245]

1985 The Penelakut Band has the buildings of the former Kuper Island Student Residence demolished. [# 95885, # 03938]

## **LAND**

1888, April Government officials search for the ideal location for an Industrial School. The locations of Cowichan, Saanich and Kuper Island are considered. [# 91344, # 05291, # 05290, # 05288]

1891, November Kuper Island Industrial School is comprised of 30 acres, a small section of which has been cleared by the boys of the school and has a garden patch under cultivation. [# 00872]

1899, June The principal purchases for \$100 a plot of land 630 yards in length by 170 yards in length that borders the school property. [# 05684, # 05685]

1905, July Kuper Island Industrial School is comprised of 70 acres that are recorded by the Principal as having been surrendered by the Penelakut Band. Several fields have been cleared for cultivation. [# 22157]

1916, March The 70 acres of fields are mostly under cultivation as a garden, field and pasture. Farming, milking and butter making are being taught at the school. [# 22292]

1920, March An additional 10 acres is cleared for cultivation creating an area of 60 acres for cultivation at the school. The school grounds are recorded as comprising 75 acres in total. [# 22364]

1922, March The Penelakut Band claim that they have never received a promised compensation from the Government for the 70 acres they surrendered to the Kuper Island Industrial School. [# 05774]

1937, April The Penelakut Band renews its claim for promised compensation from the Government for land surrendered to the Kuper Island Industrial School. [# 05717]

1954 An irrigation system is purchased for the school that allows for two rotations of crops a year. [# 03400]

1963, September The septic tank does not work properly resulting in garbage and swill being dumped in the sea directly in front of the school. [# 04860]

1971 The Penelakut band cannot recall ever deeding the land on which Kuper Island Student Residence is located. A certificate of title in the Church's name cannot be located at the Provincial Land Registry. [# 05693, # 05691, # 05681]

- 1972, September      The Penelakut Band claims \$47, 900 as a rental payment for the unauthorized use of 100 acres of the Kuper Island Indian Reserve No. 7 for school purposes since 1896. They further request that the Government pay a yearly rental if it continues to use the school site. [# 05677A, # 05671A, # 05671]
- 1973, September      The Penelakut Band occupies an apartment on the site of Kuper Island Student Residence and uses it as a band office. [# 05632A, # 05653]
- 1973                      Government pays a back rental compensation of \$47, 900 to the Penelakut Band for the use of the Kuper Island school lands. [# 13168]
- 1975, June 30          Kuper Island Student Residence is closed, buildings and land transferred to the Penelakut Band. [# 03179, # 03245]

### **PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA**

- # 04778      00/00/0000      Photograph of a Kuper Island school building.
- # 04778A      00/00/0000      Photograph of a Kuper Island school building.
- # 04778B      00/00/0000      Photograph of a Kuper Island school building.
- # 04778C      00/00/0000      Photograph of a Kuper Island school building.
- # 04778D      00/00/0000      Photograph of Kuper Island school buildings.
- # 04778E      00/00/0000      Photograph of Kuper Island school buildings.
- # 04778F      00/00/0000      Photograph of Kuper Island school buildings.
- # 04926      00/00/0000      Photographs of the front, rear and side of Kuper Island Industrial School.
- # 05508      00/00/0000      Map of Kuper Island Indian Reserve No. 7 that delineates the boundaries of the Kuper Island Indian Residential School Ground.
- # 18009      00/00/0000      Plan of the second floor of Kuper Island School.
- # 50346      00/00/0000      Simple map indicating the Kuper Island Residential School grounds and surrounding lands allegedly purchased by school.
- # 70226      00/00/1890      Photographs of the “Kuper Island Indian School” and of the “New Kuper Island School” in 1914-1915.
- # 04045A      00/00/1892      Plan of the contemplated new girls’ home. (circa dated)



# 04045B	00/00/1892	Plan of the contemplated enlargement to the boys' ground floor area. (circa dated)
# 04045C	00/00/1892	Plan of the contemplated enlargement of the boys' 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor area. (circa dated)
# 04045D	00/00/1892	Plan of the contemplated extension of the kitchen. (circa dated)
# 04045E	00/00/1892	Plan of the contemplated girls' home. (circa dated)
# 05684	06/15/1899	Description and rough plan of land bordering school grounds that was purchased for \$100.00 by the principal Father Donckele. [see also # 05685]
# 22281	00/00/1914	Photograph of the Kuper Island Industrial School.
# 14098B	00/00/1941	Photograph of Kuper Island IRS. (circa dated)
# 07087A	00/00/1948	Map of the school lands. (circa dated)
# 95850	07/07/1948	Plan of Kuper Island Indian Residential School Recreation Room.
# 03285	06/00/1951	Plans of a General Purpose Barn.
# 07627	08/13/1953	Proposed Boiler Renovation for Kuper Island Indian Residential School.
# 15514	07/19/1954	Proposed powerhouse and water supply alteration at Kuper Island Indian Residential School.
# 12520	02/00/1957	Plan of Kuper Island Indian Residential School's basement level boilers and connections.
# 15519	06/00/1958	Site Plan of the Proposed Electrical system for Kuper Island IRS.
# 15518	07/19/1959	Proposed electrical system for Kuper Island Indian Residential School.
# 15520	07/19/1959	Proposed power house and water supply for Kuper Island Indian Residential School.
# 00627D	00/00/1961	Plan of the kitchen and dining rooms at Kuper Island IRS. (circa dated)
# 15510	05/23/1962	Plan of the water supply replacement for the first and second floor.
# 15511	06/23/1962	Kuper Island IRS water supply replacement basement plan.

- # 15512      05/23/1962      Kuper Island IRS ground floor water supply replacement plan.  
(circa dated)
- # 91251      00/00/1963      Plan for floor tile installation of the basement, ground floor, first  
floor and second floor of Kuper Island Indian Residential School
- # 50283      10/11/1963      Plan of the Engineer's house.
- # 03911      00/00/1972      Series of maps of Kuper Island and surrounding area.

**GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME**

1890	16 Children in Residence	1933	98 Children in Residence
1891	25 Children in Residence	1938	80 Children in Residence
1896	49 Children in Residence	1943	100 Children in Residence
1899	64 Children in Residence	1948	100 Children in Residence
1905	59 Children in Residence	1953	119 Children in Residence
1910	75 Children in Residence	1957	104 Children in Residence
1912	66 Children in Residence	1961	115 Children in Residence
1916	68 Children in Residence	1965	115 Children in Residence
1919	78 Children in Residence	1970	99 Children in Residence
1922	93 Children in Residence	1974	65 Children in Residence
1929	95 Children in Residence	1975	39 Children in Residence

**STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES**

Students from, at least, the following Bands or Reserves attended Kuper Island IRS:

Beacher Bay [Beecher Bay], Burrard, Campbell River, Cape Mudge, Chehalis, Chemainus [Chamainus], Chilliwack, Church House, Clemclem, Cole Bay, Comeakan, Comox, Cowichan, Esquimalt, Ghenipsen [Khenipsen], Halalt [Helalt] [Halait], Katzie [Karzie], Kilpaulus, Koksilah, Kuleets, Kwakewlth, Ladysmith, Langley, Lyaksen [Luaksen] [Luaken] [Lyacksen] [Lyachson] [Lyackson], Malahat, Malalt, Musquiam [Musqueam], Nanaimo, Nanoose, Nitinaht, Pacheenant [Pacheenaht], Patricia B., Paukitsen, Pauquachin [Payquachin], Penalekuts [Penelakut], Qualicum, Quamichan, Saanich, Sakemaay, Sakemaay-Yorkton, Scowlipz [Scowlips], Sicameen [Siccameen] [Siccamen], Skaway, Skawollook [Skawahlook], Skwah [Skah], Sohhee, Somenos, Songhees [Songhee], Sooke, Squamish, Tsartlip [Tzarlip] [Tsarlip], Tsawout [Twasout] [Tsawoit] [Tawout], Tseycum [Tseyeum], Valdez, Westholme, Yaksem

There may be alternate ways of spelling these band names.

**RELIGIOUS GROUPS**

**Roman Catholic Church**

[# 00866, # 00870]

### **Society of Mary Montfort**

December 1906 - October 1957

[# 03224, # 03223, # 70235, # 70270, # 70287, # 50006, # 70278]

### **Oblates of Mary Immaculate**

October 1957 - December 1973

[# 03224, # 03223, # 70285, # 70287, # 50006, # 95050, #06353, # 70278]

### **Sisters of St. Ann**

February 1891 - 1973 (circa dated)

[# 05599, # 12452]

## **WRITTEN AGREEMENTS**

- 1910 Agreement between the Bishop of Victoria, B.C., and the Company of Mary (S.M.M.) to give the Company charge of the Indian School at Kuper Island and any other school of the same description. December, 1910  
[# 70235]
- 1927 (circa dated) Agreement for services between the Reverend Marist Fathers of the Industrial School (S.M.M.), Kuper Island, B.C. and the Sisters of St. Ann (S.S.A.), of the City of Victoria, British Columbia, a body incorporate. (unsigned) [# 50091]
- 1929 Agreement for services between the Reverend Marist Fathers of Vancouver Island (S.M.M.) and the Sisters of St. Ann (S.S.A.), Victoria, B.C. with headquarters at Lachine, P.Q. (unsigned) July 1, 1929 [# 50089]
- 1962 Agreement for the Operation of Kuper Island Indian Residential School, between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada and INDIANESCOM. September 25, 1962 [# 00724A]

The name INDIANESCOM is short for the “Oblate Indian and Eskimo Council”.

- 1975 Agreement for chaplaincy services for Kuper Island Student Residence, between the St. Joseph’s Parish and Government. September 4, 1975  
[# 06356]

## **DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS**

We are aware of the following convictions for abuse at Kuper Island IRS:

Glen William Doughty, a former religious brother with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate who was at Kuper Island IRS in the capacity of a child care worker between approximately 1967 and 1969 and in 1972, pleaded guilty, in October 2002, to eleven counts of indecent assault and one count of buggery of children at Kuper Island IRS and Williams Lake IRS. [# 96000]

**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)**

A series of correspondence, dated 1939, pertains to six students who ran away from the school and reported to police that a religious official was sexually abusing students. In an ensuing investigation, several students also alleged that a lay worker at the school was sexually abusive. Student and former student statements included allegations of sexual and physical assault against religious officials who worked at the school and an allegation that a student sexually abused another student. There were multiple complaints from students about the sufficiency and quality of food, the amount of physical labor demanded of them and a lack of medical attention. Unsafe housing and boating conditions at the school were reported by inspectors. The investigation resulted in a decision by the Bishop and the Superior of the S.M.M. to remove out of the Province of British Columbia a religious official accused of sexually abusing students. The lay staff member who was implicated in police reports was removed from the school and a change in the principalship of Kuper Island IRS occurred.

[# 05550C, # 04515, # 40001, # 40002, # 40003, # 40022, # 40027, # 40035]

A newspaper article entitled “Good memories of residential schools”, dated June 25, 1995, notes that a former religious official who worked at Kuper Island IRS was convicted on indecency charges. [# 03219]

### **Incidents (Physical)**

Two “Conduct Books”, dated 1895 and 1907 respectively, record punishments that were administered to students at Kuper Island Industrial School. [# 05147, # 05146]

A letter, dated December 29, 1896, records that two students received several lashes in the presence of the pupils. [# 04264]

A letter, dated October 28, 1912, and an inspector’s report, dated October 31, 1912, record that several students were caught together in the barn. Two of these students were subsequently prosecuted on charges of seduction, and the other students were severely reprimanded and punished. [# 91283, # 05601]

A series of correspondence in October to December 1919 concerns complaints from a father of a student that he was not allowed to see his child when he visited Kuper Island Industrial School, that his child was sick for three weeks and no doctor had come to the school, and, that the students at the school are not well treated or taught.

[# 03829, # 03831, # 03833]

See sexual abuse section, 1939 investigation.

A series of correspondence in August 1964 concern a father’s complaint that his children had been hit on the head and knocked to the ground by one of the religious officials at Kuper Island IRS. [# 04814, # 04815, # 04816]

In 1965, a student at Kuper Island IRS wrote letters complaining about the conditions at the school. [# 01609, # 01606]

A series of correspondence in 1966 concerns reports that students at Kuper Island IRS were being strapped without sufficient reason. One alleged strapping is discussed throughout the correspondence. [# 03199, # 01201, # 01199, # 95072]

A memorandum, dated March 30, 1967, notes that the mother of a student at Kuper Island IRS had complained that her child's ear had been pulled by a teacher at the school. [# 01196]

A letter dated October 10, 1967 contains an allegation by the mother of a student at St. Catherine's Indian Day School that many Cowichan parents were not happy about the way children were manhandled by a "certain school employee of Kuper Island Indian Residential School", nor how the allegations against this employee were dealt with by the government. This mother's allegations were addressed by the government in a letter dated October 14, 1967. [# 04736, # 04735]

Two letters, dated October 28, 1968 and November 12, 1968, detail allegations by the mother of a student at Kuper Island IRS that there were unsatisfactory living conditions at the school. When the mother visited the school, she noticed the pungent odor of bed-wetting and that her child's face and feet had sores that had not yet received any attention. It is noted in this correspondence that the mothers of other children complained of nits. [# 01167, # 07195]

### **Incidents (Student on Student)**

In a letter dated August 16, a student alleges cruel and rude treatment by the other students at the school. [# 95007]

See sexual abuse section, 1939 investigation.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

From 1885 to 1893, a group called the "New England Company", who were endorsed by the Anglican Bishop of B.C., discussed with the government the possibility of managing either the Kuper Island Industrial School or erecting their own establishment on the island. [# 05482, # 04070, # 04071, # 04077]

In October 1925, a chief sent a letter to an Indian agent about truant children taking dangerous risks when they ran away from Kuper Island School. The letter outlined concerns about the education and living conditions at the school. [# 50398]

A truant student and her family alleged to police in February 1946 that students at Kuper Island IRS were being given insufficient clothing, spoiled meat was being served, and punishment for misdemeanors was a diet of bread and water. [# 01123A, # 01123B]

In at least the 1960's and 1970's, advisory boards appear to have been involved with certain aspects of policy and decision making for Kuper Island Student Residence. [# 00651, # 07182, # 07108, # 12452]

There was a band at the school in at least the years 1894, 1922, 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1971. [# 05485, # 18012, # 00750B, # 13188]

In October 1946 and November 1972, parents of students at Kuper Island IRS complained that insufficient clothing was supplied for students at the school. [# 01555, # 04890]

In February and April 1968, students and staff of Kuper Island IRS composed a school newspaper entitled "Our Own Newspaper Kuper Island School". [# 01220, # 95013]

A post-1985 (circa dated) newspaper article entitled "A New Beginning" reports that a new six classroom school for First Nations of Kuper Island will be opened on the former site of Kuper Island IRS. [# 05598]

### **Health at the School**

Throughout the history of the school, there are recorded occurrences of students suffering from mumps, measles, whooping cough, smallpox, chicken pox, paratyphoid B infection, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, skin disease, lice, impetigo, jaundice and dysentery (shigellosis). [# 22111, # 22303, # 50394, # 04419, # 01948, # 22307, # 04249, # 04411, # 04569, # 04558, # 01240, # 01147, # 00332B, # 01580, # 01471, 01113, # 01158]

In December 1898, a child died at Kuper Island IRS, the cause of death was found to be drowning. [# 05086]

Inspector's reports in the years 1922, 1931, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1938 remark that the children at Kuper Island IRS need better food. [# 18012, # 00267B, # 00261B, # 40035]

In October 1939, a dentist who visited Kuper Island IRS reported that he found eighty-four children who were in dire need of dental attention. [# 00345]

In January 1959, two children drowned while attempting to run away from Kuper Island IRS. [# 00628B, # 00628C]

In June 1966, a child died at Kuper Island IRS, the cause of death was found to be suicide by hanging. [# 04731]

A newspaper article dated September 8, 1968 and entitled "Hearing Ills Affect Indian Youth" notes that 22.6 percent of students at Kuper Island IRS had hearing loss. [# 13176]

### **Farming Operations**

From as early as 1891, it appears that a farm was in operation at Kuper Island IRS, and that children were being trained in farming. [# 00872]

It appears that by 1949, except for assisting in the gathering of crops in the fall, the farm operations were under the direction of a religious brother and were no longer being taught to students. [# 00254A]

An audit report dated June 21, 1957 notes that in 1954 an irrigation system was purchased that allowed for two rotations of crops a year and that all the food produced on the school farm and garden was used by the school or fed to the cattle. [# 03400]

The latest audit report to note farm related information is dated June 27, 1969. In this report, it is recorded that a tractor at the school was used for approximately 35 hours in the March 1969 quarter. [# 05225]

## **PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS**

Mr. M. McKinnon	Principal	July 1890
Rev. G. Donckele	Acting Principal/ Principal	July 1890 - January 1907
Rev. Father Van Nevel	Acting Principal	October 1891
Rev. Father Van Goethem	Acting Principal	July 1896 - December 1896
Rev. Peter Claessen, S.M.M.	Principal	January 1907 - May 1912 (circa dated)
Rev. Lemmens, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	December 1907 - January 1907
Rev. August Urlings, S.M.M.	Acting Principal Principal	April 1909 - June 1909 May 1912 (circa dated) - September 1913
Rev. Lemmens, S.M.M.	Principal	September 1913 - April 1918
Rev. F.G. Murphy, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	August 1917 - September 1917
Rev. Joseph Geurts, S.M.M.	Principal	April 1918 - December 1922
Rev. A. Murphy, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	April 1922 - June 1922 (circa dated)
Rev. A. Murphy, S.M.M.	Principal	December 1922 - January 1927
Rev. Joseph Geurts, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	July 1926
Rev. Joseph Geurts, S.M.M.	Principal	January 1927 - January 1939
Rev. Xyste Lauzon	Vice-Principal	1935
Rev. David Williamson, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	July 1927
	Acting Principal	July 1930
	Acting Principal	May 1932 - August 1932
Rev. Xyste Lauzon, S.M.M.	Temporary Principal	January 1939
Rev. Jean Camirand, S.M.M.	Principal	February 1939 - December 1951
Rev. Ernest Martin, S.M.M.	Acting Principal	July 1951 - September 1951
Rev. Lucien LeClair, S.M.M.	Principal	December 1951 - November 1956
Rev. Maurice Lariviere, S.M.M.	Principal	November 1956 - October 1957
Rev. Herbert Dunlop, O.M.I.	Principal	October 1957 - July 1963
Rev. J. Mackay, O.M.I.	Vice-Principal	1957
Rev. T. Lobsinger, O.M.I.	Principal	July 1963 - August 1966
Rev. Patrick Collins, O.M.I.	Principal	August 1966 - July 1967
Rev. John Massel, O.M.I.	Principal/ Administrator (as of September 1, 1968)	July 1967 - January 1969
Rev. James MacDonell, O.M.I.	Administrator	January 1969 - July 1971
Rev. L. Mackey, O.M.I.	Administrator	July 1971 - January 1974
Irene MacAdams	Administrator	January 1974 - June 1975

Narrative completed: May 4, 2004

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



National Centre for  
Truth and Reconciliation  

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UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA