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**Morley IRS  
School Narrative  
November 2004**

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

**NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS**

1922 - 1926 A temporary semi-boarding school opened at Morley, Alberta, which was commonly known by the following names:

- **Morley Indian Day School** [04761]
- **Morley Indian School** [04767]
- **Morley (Stony) Indian Day School** [04758]
- **Stony Indian School** [04773]
- **Stony Agency School** [04760].

1926-1969 The official name of the permanent residential school was:

- **Morley Indian Residential School** [01028A; 00266] or **Morley Residential School** [00388]

Because of the residential school's location on the Stony Indian Reserve, it was sometimes called:

- **Stony Indian Residential School** [01030A]

At the time the David Bearspaw Indian Day School was operating in conjunction with the residential school (1951-1954), it was sometimes referred to as:

- **Morley Residential and David Bearspaw Day School(s)** [00386]

After the David Bearspaw Indian Day School was amalgamated into the Morley IRS, the facility was sometimes referred to as **Bearspaw Indian Residential School** [00775A].

Between 1953-1955, when the church was used as a classroom, it was sometimes referred to as:

- **Morley Church Day School** [02846D]

Day and/or residential pupils received instruction in classrooms associated with Morley IRS at various times from its opening in 1926 until its closure in 1969.

Documents through the life of the residential school not only make references as indicated above, but also make reference to:

- **Morley Indian Day School/Morley Day School** [00675; 00228]
- **Morley IRS and Day School** [01106]
- **Morley School** [00225]

Two Quarterly Returns in 1968 refer to the:

- **Morley Student Residence** [00221A; 00223A]

## CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- 1922- 1926 In October 1922, a temporary semi-boarding school was set up by the Methodist Church, with Governmental approval [04745], until funds could be found for a permanent boarding school [04741; 04748]. The school was comprised of a residence located in the old hospital building on the reserve [04925], and a classroom located in the Methodist church [04744; 02865A]. This school provided accommodation for teachers and for 12-15 pupils in residence [04782]. Children living near the school also attended as day pupils [04751A]. A teacher arrived in January 1923, and presumably classes began around that time [04752]. Until its closure in 1926, it was commonly referred to as the Morley Indian Day School [04761; 05730] or the Morley Indian School [04767].
- 1926 The Morley Indian Residential School was built by the Government [04800A] and managed by the United Church of Canada, formerly the Methodist Church [00841]. The children moved from the Morley Indian Day school into the new residence, which opened in August of 1926 [04797] with the formal opening on November 11, 1926 [04802; 04800A]. The new facility was a residence for approximately 60 pupils [04797] and classes continued to be held in the church [02869A] because there were no classrooms in the new facility [02865; 04814].
- 1929 A 2-classroom block was opened early in 1929 [05455; 02872A; 04235]. Grades 1 to 4 were held with two teachers for both residential pupils and day pupils [02873A; 05226].
- 1950 By 1950 due to an increased need for classroom space, a day school was proposed [02354; 05317]. It was suggested that the old Stony Agency office could be converted for this purpose [05320; 05337; 05339B]. The Government agreed to this conversion [05335] and was requested to approve the expenditure [05341].
- 1951 In September of 1951, the Morley Indian Day School was opened [02330; 02329; 02328]. By March of 1952 the name of the school was known as the David Bearspaw Indian Day School [05362; 02318]. The clerk's residence was converted into a teacherage for the day school [05362A].
- 1954 In 1954 the David Bearspaw Indian Day School amalgamated with the Morley Indian Residential School [02290]. On Principal's Monthly Returns it was then referred to as the Morley Indian Residential School [00365] or Morley Indian School [00376; 00777] with both residential and day pupils.
- 1954 - 1955 The church again was used as a classroom for Grade 1 [02318; UC 81263]. Documents indicate the Government paid rent to the United Church for the use of the church as a classroom on a regular monthly basis for the months January 1954

to June 1955 [01734; 01794].

A four-room classroom block with teachers' quarters was built [04050B; 02427], which would replace the David Bears paw Indian Day School building and the church [02299A]. By June 1955, it was in operation at the Morley IRS [02919].

1957 - 1959 Seven students attended Grade 9 and 10 at Cochrane High School [00168; 00335; 00336] and were bussed into Cochrane [UC 81313].

1958 Kindergarten pupils appear for the first time on the May 1958 PMR [01557].

Terminal classes, "for older pupils that were not making a successful academic program" [UC 81313], appear to be in place by May 1958 [01557; 02400].

1960 As of 1960, the Government entered into a "group agreement" with the Cochrane School District. The School District would accept all Grade 9 students and a limited amount of elementary school children [05794].

1961 For the 1961-62 school year, some Morley Reserve pupils were "integrated" into the Exshaw school [05153A]. Nine students appear to have attended because they were closer to Exshaw than Morley IRS.

Some high school students attended school in Calgary under a "boarding home plan" [00986].

1962 By March of 1962, approximately 20-30 Morley children attended the Cochrane and Exshaw Public Schools, and the high schools in Calgary [00976].

1964-1965 The United Church proposed changes in the administration of the school by appointing a "Residence Superintendent", who would be "responsible for administration in the residence" [00927]. This change was approved by the Government [00922]. The name of this position was changed to "Administrator" [00918]. The former principal was responsible only for the educational program as Senior Teacher [00923A]. (See also section: **Management of School**).

The residence was now used chiefly for high school students, who were bussed to local high schools [00927; 00923C].

13-27 residential pupils were bussed to Bowness High School and 13 students were bussed to Exshaw [02839; 00902].

1966 Pupils from Morley IRS were bussed to "Cochrane Public Schools" [04110B].

- 1967 In November 1967, a special program of Language Arts Instruction was introduced for kindergarten through level three [02793].
- 1969 The residence closed sometime between July [02784] and October of 1969 [04176].
- 1969-1986 After the residence closed, the classrooms kept operating [00782] and the school was known as "Morley Indian Day School" [02999A] or "Morley School [BSSD 03358A; BSSD 03608]. The school continued at least until 1986, when the Stony Band planned to operate its own school and education program [BSSD 03236A].
- 1977 By June 1977, the residence was demolished [AEDC 175522; AEDC 175522A].

**MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL**

**Church**

- 1922 - 1926 Morley Indian Day School, the temporary semi-boarding school, was managed under the auspices of the Methodist Church with support from the government [04782].
- 1926 - 1969 The Morley Indian Residential School was managed by the Board of Home Missions for the United Church of Canada, formerly the Methodist Church [00841; 02427] until March 31, 1969 [05197; UC 80252].

**Government**

- 1969 The Morley Indian Residential School came under the control of the Federal Government on April 1, 1969 [04163; 05197] but the residence closed sometime between July 1969 [02784] and October 1969 [04176].
- 1969 -1980s After the residence closed, the classrooms continued and were operated by the Federal Government [00782; 00697A]. The school appears to have been called the "Morley Indian Day School" [02999A] or "Morley School" [BSSD 03358A; BSSD 03608].

**Band Involvement**

- 1986 The Morley School continued at least until 1986, when the Stony Band planned to operate their own school and education program with Governmental approval [BSSD 03236A].

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- 1922 The Methodist Church, with the assistance of the Government [04742; 04747], opened up a temporary semi-boarding school in the former hospital building south of the Bow River [04925] and used the Methodist church<sup>1</sup> as a classroom [04744; 02865A]. The church and parsonage were located on 2 acres of land on the south side of the Bow River on the Stony Reserve “near the point where the public trail crosses the River, and approximately a quarter of a mile west of the Agency buildings.” [03027]
- 1926 The Government constructed the new Morley Indian Residential School [04800A]. Construction appears to have been completed by April 1926 [05732; 05731B]. The site of the new school was south-west of the old hospital on the Stony Reserve [04925]. It was opened in August 1926 [04797] with a formal opening on November 11, 1926 [04802; 04800A]. The new facility was a residence for approximately 60 pupils [04797] and classes continued to be held in the church [2869A] because there were no classrooms in the new facility [02865]. The church was located east of the main school building [01055, p.6].
- Many outbuildings were erected on this site including a pumphouse [05394], a barn, a henhouse, an implement shed, and a pig pen [05707]. Two outdoor closets, a combined ice house and cold storage facility, and a shed for young stock were also added [05721; 05414B].
- In February 1926, an agreement was signed between the Government of Indian Affairs and the Calgary Power Company to supply electricity to the School [05745].
- 1927 A root cellar and a utility building for carpentry and storage purposes were erected [C29.3377 - 05757; C29.3392 - 05427].
- 1928 - 1929 In May 1928, the Government authorized the construction of a building comprising two classrooms [05455; 05460], which was opened in early 1929 [04235]. This building was 100 yards from the residence [01084A].
- 1929 A stock-shed was destroyed by a gale and the Government aided in rebuilding it [05506; 05686].
- 1930 - 1931 An addition to the barn/cow stable was built [05520; 05607A].

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<sup>1</sup> The church appears on a map in a later document slightly to the east of the School [01425].

1934 - 1935 In July 1934, authority was granted for an addition to the original residence at the Morley Indian Residential School [04370; 04377; 05932], which opened in 1935 [04445].

Under the same construction authority, a hospital was also built [04370; 04377; 04445]. From the documents it is unclear whether the hospital was built for the school or the reserve, however, on a document from 1956, a hospital appears south-east of the school buildings near teacherages [02552].

1937 A new pumping unit was installed to increase water supply to Morley IRS because demand on the water supply increased after the addition was built [04508; 05074].

The old root cellar was replaced [05077].

1939 A building for housing mink was built for the school's mink farm [01058, p.3].

1951 In September of 1951, the Morley Indian Day School was initially opened in temporary quarters until the Stony Agency building was renovated [02330; 02329; 02328]. The nature of these temporary quarters is not known. We have not located documents stating when the day school moved into the converted Agency building, however, it was sometime before March of 1952 [05362A]. By March of 1952 the name of the school was known as the David Bearspaw Indian Day School [02318; 05362]. The clerk's residence was converted into a teacherage for the day school [05362A].

1952 A natural gas service was installed by the Canadian Western Natural Gas Company to the Morley IRS, classroom, David Bearspaw Indian Day School and teacher's residence [05857].

1953 A Principal's Residence was built and completed in September 1953 [05874; 05881].

1954 -1955 Between January 1954 and June 1955 the Government paid rent to the United Church on a regular monthly basis for the use of the church as a classroom [01734; UC 81263; 01794].

A four-room classroom block with teachers' quarters was built [04050B; 02427], which would replace the David Bearspaw Indian Day School building and the church [02299A]. By June 1955, it was in operation at the Morley IRS [02919].

The Agency office, a former RCMP residence, was converted into a teacherage [02296; 02296A; 01761].

- 1958 In 1958 a temporary classroom was set up in the girls' playroom in the basement of the Residence [02083D; 01117A]. In 1960, a second classroom in the basement of the Residence was proposed [01596], and appears to be in use by 1962 [00986]. By 1963, neither classroom appears to be in operation [02235A], however, in 1965 one classroom appears in use again [UC 80952]. One basement classroom in the Residence appears in use in 1966 [02960], 1967 [04186], and 1968 [00747; 02835]. In 1969 a Fire Inspection Report refers to the basement classroom, however, it is not clear if it is in use [02787B].
- 1959 A prefabricated two classroom unit was constructed [02103; 02148].
- 1965 The Band requested that a surplus teacherage be released to them [02683; 026383A]. The teacherage was the one converted from the Agency office in 1954 [02296A]. This was carried out [02681A].
- 1966-1967 A four-classroom addition to the existing four-room classroom block was constructed [02056; 02773; 02780], creating an eight-classroom block [04197].
- 1967 A three-bedroom pre-fabricated teacherage was constructed [02659; 05009; 05012].
- 1969-1970s Although the residence at Morley IRS was closed in 1969, the residence building continued to be used until the mid-1970s. Documents indicate uses included:
- serving hot lunches to pupils from 1969 [04176] until, at least, October 1973 [04195].
  - showers facilities for pupils in 1969 [04176].
  - adult classes in Home Economics in 1969 [04176]
  - Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Studies in 1971 [05035; 05035A]
  - Stoney Cultural Education Program (SPEC) in 1973 until at least 1975 [04195; 04194; 04520]
  - Band offices for Economic Development in 1973 until at least 1975 [04195; 04194; 04520].
- 1977 By June 1977, the residence was demolished [AEDC 175522; AEDC 175522A].
- 1986 The Morley School continued [BSSD 03358A] at least until 1986, when the Stony Band planned to operate their own school and education program with Governmental approval [03236A].

### **Ownership**

The Morley Indian Residential School, which was comprised of the residence and classroom blocks, was owned by the government at all times. The exception is the church, when it was



used periodically as a classroom, however, the Government did pay rent to the United Church for its use in the 1950's.

### **Associated Day Schools**

- Day and residential pupils were both present at the Morley Indian Day School (1922-1926). The Morley Indian Residential School (1926-1969) had day pupils at various times. When the Morley IRS was opened there initially were no day pupils [04813]. After a separate classroom block was built and opened in 1929, day pupils were again documented [05227]. Documents continued to show day pupils up until 1938 [01238]. At this time we have not located any evidence of day pupils between 1939 and 1950. In 1951 the David Bearspaw Indian Day School opened and in 1954 it amalgamated with Morley IRS. From this time day pupils were always in attendance, either at David Bearspaw school or Morley IRS, after David Bearspaw School merged with it. (See also sections: **Opening Dates** and **Buildings** for more information on David Bearspaw Indian Day School and section **Enrollment Statistics** for documents referring to attendance of day pupils).
- Except for the period during which the David Bearspaw Indian Day School was in operation (1951-1954), the official name of the facility, which encompassed the residence and classrooms, was Morley Indian Residential School or Morley Indian School. (See also section: **Name of School and Variants**).
- After the residence closed in 1969, the classrooms continued to operate and the school was known as the Morley Indian Day School [02999A] or Morley School [BSSD 03358A; BSSD 03608]. The school number for this school ("725") was different from that assigned to Morley IRS ("757").

### **LAND**

#### **Location**

The Morley Indian Residential School was located within the Treaty 7 area near the town of Morley, approximately 40 miles west of Calgary [04513]. Morley is situated south of the Bow River on the Stony Indian Reserve, between Calgary and Banff [00976] and 20 miles west of Cochrane [01383]. The Morley Indian Residential School was built 4 miles west of the old McDougall Orphanage on the Stony Indian Reserve, south of the Bow River [04925; 02862; 04064; 01425]. A later document states, "The school is situated approximately three-quarters of a mile North of the Canadian Pacific Railway station at Morley... The school site is one-half mile square, and the school is located in the center North and South, and about 1000' from the East border." [04513] (See section **Additional Information** for the history of the McDougall Orphanage),

## Ownership

### Church

1921 - 1969 The Methodist Church was given use of 2 acres of land for the site of the new church and parsonage on the Stony Indian Reserve on the south side of the Bow River “near the point where the public trail crosses the River, and approximately a quarter of a mile west of the Agency buildings.” [03027; 03028; 03030]. The Church had use of this land as long as it was used for Church purposes [03010A; 03030]. We have not located documents discussing the disposition of the church and parsonage, however, there are documents suggesting the Church still had use of these 2 acres as of 1973 [02444].

Audit Reports indicate 150 acres of Church land was used for farming by Morley IRS, but this land was not described [01248; 01249; 01250]. Although the Church also had title to other land in the area, at this time We have not located documents that indicate the other land was related to Morley IRS.

### Government

1926 The Morley Indian Residential School was built by the Government. We have not located documents at this time showing the Band granting this land to the Government. However, the procedure for the Band setting aside reserve land for Indian School purposes was discussed in a Memorandum regarding extra land needed for gardening purposes [01453].

1936 - 1937 The Department of Indian Affairs applied to have Lot 8 and part of Lot 7<sup>2</sup> transferred back from the Department of Lands, Parks and Forests (formerly the Department of the Interior), once the land became free of its lease [01459; 01461; 01463]. The land was needed for pasture for the farm for Morley IRS [01460; 01464]. In June 1937 the lease was cancelled and this land was reserved for the Department of Indian Affairs [01488] for the use of the Morley IRS.

1961 Morley IRS disposed of Lot 8 and part of Lot 7. An Order-in-Council set aside Lot 8 and part of lot 7 for the use and benefit of the Stony Band as an addition to the Stony Reserve [03026; 02444].

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<sup>2</sup> On November 18, 1894 Letters of Patent were given to the Methodist Church for the parcel of land composed of Lot 8 in the Morleyville Settlement, north of the Bow River [04562A; 04552]. On April 1, 1921 the Methodist Church transferred this land back to the Department of the Interior [ 04531]. On November 7, 1902 the Department of Indian Affairs received Certificate of Title to northern part of Lot 7, adjacent to Lot 8 and north of the Bow River [04902A; 04903]. The Department of Indian Affairs relinquished this land back to the Department of the Interior by Order-in-Council on January 14, 1920 [04568; 04533]

1969 on

We have not located any documents showing the disposition of the land on which the Morley Indian Residential School (residence and classrooms) was built.

**PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA**

Revitem#	Date	Description
02550	Undated	Sketch Map of the Mission Lots at Morley belonging to the United Church of Canada
04552	February 6, 1886	Plan of Morleyville Settlement demonstrating Lots 7 & 8
04925	June 12, 1914	Plans for water source for potential Industrial School. Demonstrates where the old hospital existed, which became the temporary semi-boarding school.
02862	February 7, 1918	Plan of Stony Reserve with possible site for the Industrial School.
04119	July 19, 1948	Plan of Morley IRS, including the residence, classrooms, outbuildings, and milk farm.
02351	April 27, 1950	Plans of Residence with proposed additions.
05306	February 14, 1951	Plans of laundry at Morley IRS with proposed new water heater equipment.
02552	Undated - circa 1956	Sketch of dormitory, classrooms, church, manse, hospital, staff residences, David Bearspaw IDS.
01177 C29.1465	February 12, 1957	Sketch of buildings, farm, and land at Morley IRS.
01664	May 23, 1957	Blueprint sketches of East Classroom and West Classroom, Morley IRS.
01668	July 8, 1957	Sketch showing proposed alterations to Girls' Recreation Room, Morley IRS
01425	June 13, 1958	Plan of Morley IRS - land and buildings.
02620	July 22 [Illegible] - circa 1958	Sketch of proposed roadway at Morley IRS.

02235A	September 21, 1963	Fire Protection Engineering Survey. Photos of school building and teacherages. Plan of Residence, West School, Prefab School, and 4-Classroom Block.
02236A	October 18, 1963	Residential School Environmental Report with sketches of East School Block and West School Block.
02056	January 7, 1966	Sketch of suggested changes to existing 4-Classroom Block.
02759	August 9, 1966	Photos of 4-Classroom addition to existing 4-Classroom Block.
02767	September 7, 1966	Photos of 4-Classroom addition to existing 4-Classroom Block.
02773	November 9, 1966	Panoramic photo of Morley IRS showing the Residence and all classroom blocks. Close up photo of 4-Classroom addition.
04197	February 22, 1967	Plans of Morley IRS showing West School, Prefab School, Dormitory, and 8-Classroom School.
02780	August 14, 1967	Photos of 4-Classroom addition.

### GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

This section provides an overview of enrollment information and is not an exhaustive list of every document that might contain enrollment numbers. It does indicate the general numbers enrolled and gives information known to date on residential and day pupils.

#### Morley Indian Day School, temporary semi-boarding school

1923                      13 in residence, 3 - 4 day pupils. **Note:** 12 present but 37 enrolled  
1924                      15 in residence, approximately 25 attended irregularly as day pupils  
1925                      21 enrolled, 14 present

#### Morley Indian Residential School

1926                      56 - 61 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)  
1927                      62 residential  
1928                      63 residential  
1929                      63 - 66 residential; 10 day  
1930                      61 - 76 residential; 5 day  
1931                      70 residential; 3 day  
1932                      67 residential; 11 day  
1933                      70 - 71 residential; 1 day

1934	70 - 74 residential; 5 day
1935	73 - 76 residential; one document refers to "day school" pupil
1936	69 - 74 residential; 6 day
1937	82 residential (no mention of day pupils)
1938	81 residential; 7 part-time; 3 day
1939	92 - 96 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1940	95 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1941	94 residential (no mention of day pupils)
1942	93 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1943	81 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1944	77 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1945	87 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1946	90 - 93 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1947	88 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1948	88 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1949	72 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1950	85 enrolled (no mention of day pupils)
1951	82 - 89 enrolled. Day school opened September, 1951, but there have been no separate enrollment statistics located to date.
1952	83 residential. Day school open but there have been no separate enrollment statistics located to date.
1953 (up to June)	85 residential. Day school open but there have been no separate enrollment statistics located to date.
1953 (Sept - Dec)	79 - 83 residential; 51 - 54 day <sup>3</sup>
1954	83 - 89 residential; 55 - 69 day
1955	80 - 89 residential; 65 - 72 day
1956	83 - 86 residential; 69 - 78 day
1957	70 - 86 residential; 79 - 107 day
1958	69 - 85 residential; 102 - 139 day
1959	40 - 79 residential; 133 - 176 day
1960	38 - 51 residential; 172 - 199 day
1961	35 - 54 residential; 198 - 185 day
1962	36 - 63 residential; 182 - 190 day
1963 (up to June)	44 - 56 residential; 187 - 212 day
1963 (Sept - Dec)	268 - 272 all entered as day pupils. <b>Note:</b> although residential pupils are not noted on PMRs during this time, Quarterly Returns covering September to December 1963 indicate 43 - 53 enrolled.
1964 (Jan - Sept)	275 - 276 all entered as day pupils. <b>Note:</b> although residential pupils are not noted on PMRs during this time, Quarterly Returns covering January to September 1964 indicate 42 - 54 enrolled.

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<sup>3</sup> The highest and lowest numbers for the school year are cited, as well as the breakdown between residential students and day students as cited on Principal's Monthly Reports (PMRs).

1964 (Oct - Dec)	16 - 17 residential (enrolled in non-Indian schools); 276 - 277 day
1965 (Jan - June)	27 residential (enrolled in non-Indian schools); 293 - 305 day
1965 (Sept)-1966 (June)	7 - 13 residential (enrolled in Indian and non-Indian schools); 253 - 269 day
1966 (Oct - Dec)	277 - 284 day. <b>Note:</b> although residential pupils are not noted on PMRs during this time, Quarterly Returns covering October to December 1966 indicate 28 enrolled.
1967	27 - 29 residential; 246 - 291 day.
1968	275 - 295 day; 13 in residence and up to 35 during winter weather. <b>Note:</b> Quarterly Returns covering January to December of 1968 indicate 22 - 41 enrolled.
1969 (Sept)	We have no enrollment statistics for January to June of 1969. Although the residence closed sometime between July and October of 1969, the day classrooms continued with a projected enrollment of 275 for September.

**Note:** From September of 1954 [00376] until June of 1966 [00247], non-Indian day pupils were recorded on PMRs found in the Morley IRS Document Collection. The non-Indian pupil numbers are not included in the above statistics. After June, 1966, PMRs in the Morley IRS Document Collection no longer contain a section in which to record the number of non-Indian day pupils.

### **STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES**

Because the Morley IRS was located on the Stony reserve, generally the pupils came from the three Bands on that Reserve - Wesley, Chiniquay, and Bears paw [00976].

In 1960-1961, children from the Crooked Lake Agency and Qu'Appelle Agency in Saskatchewan attended Morley IRS [00663].

Between 1963 - 1968, one to five children from the Sunchild and Sarcee Bands attended Morley IRS [00191A; 00209A; 00211A; 00221A; 00223A].

### **RELIGIOUS GROUPS**

- Methodist Church [04746]
  - Missionary Society of the Methodist Church [04747]
- United Church of Canada [00841]
  - Board of Home Missions for the United Church [00841]
  - Calgary Presbytery [04445; 00927]

## WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

1962            1962 Agreement between Her Majesty the Queen and the United Church of Canada [00618A].

## DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

### **Convictions**

At this time, to the best of our knowledge, there is one known conviction for abuse at Morley IRS.

Robert George Pooley, a teacher at Morley IRS from 1962 to 1963, “[193] was charged and convicted for ‘homosexual offences against Indian pupils’” [*Blackwater v. Plint*, 2001 BCSC 997, July 10, 2001]. Pooley was charged with 3 counts of Indecent Assault on a Male and 2 counts of Gross Indecency. He was found guilty on one count of Indecent Assault on a Male on Sept. 25, 1963 [Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta #3834, Sept. 25, 1963].

### **Incidents (Sexual)**

1944            A local couple complained some Indians were not allowing their young girls to attend the school “because there are cases of liberties taken with these girls” [02821A] that involved the principal [02820A]. A report by the Inspector of Indian Agencies indicated no evidence of molestation [02821], while a later report suggested that Indians made up allegations when they disliked a residential school principal [02820]. The RCMP were contacted and agreed to investigate if the couple would name the girl(s) or the parents who alleged the abuse, which apparently occurred three years before [02820; 02818; 02819]. We have not located any further documentation on this matter in the Morley IRS document collection.

1945            A former student, who worked as a Laundress/Matron’s Assistant at Morley IRS, was accused of abusing younger students and, during the investigation at the school, the Matron “stated that she had tried to find out when certain pupils had been told to take off their clothes, but could not get any information from the pupils” [04315]. The laundress left the school on April 15, 1945 [04325] It appears the complaints were not seriously considered, especially by the Principal, and that there was no follow up to the complaints other than her dismissal.

1950            The Principal reported that several of the boys had been molesting girls of similar

age and that “one girl had been pulled into the girls basement and there under the staircase, four boys had molested the one girl.” The boys and girls involved were warned of the consequences of “further trouble of this kind...” [02356]. A doctor’s examination of the molested girl concluded sexual intercourse had not occurred, and therefore no further action would be taken against the boys concerned [02353; 02353A; 02352].

1957 - 1958 A male student who was “incorrigible...an habitual drunkard”...” broke into the high school girls room...while the girls were in bed” [01862; 01862A; 01862B]. The Principal asked for his expulsion [01862B], which was approved by the Superintendent of Education [01863].

1958 A pregnant girl was discharged in October, 1958 [00173].

1963 A former staff member wrote a letter of complaint claiming that poor disciplinary measures were being practised at the school, especially by the Principal [00934; 00934A]. He described a number of incidents, including “Catching residential staff girls with older boys in dark basement of school. Nothing done about it.” [00934].

### **Incidents (Physical)**

1935 A number of boys set fire to the school but did little damage. The Government approved the principal’s suggestion to discipline them by giving them “a severe strapping” and keeping them at the school instead of sending them to reform school [04447; 04449; 04448; 04448A; 04448B; 04448C; 04448D; 04500]. We have not located documents in the Morley IRS document collection to indicate if this strapping was or was not carried out.

1944 - 1945 In 1944, Indians complained about the treatment of students by the Laundress/Matron’s Assistant and requested her removal from Morley IRS. She was accused of “abusing the younger girl pupils, by corporal punishment or otherwise” [04315]. She left the school on April 15, 1945 [04325]. [Other related documents: 04310; 04311; 04312; 04313; 04314; 04315; 04316; 04317; 04318; 04319; 04320; 05831; 04321; 04322; 04323; 04324; 04325; 02334]. (See also section: **Abuse - Sexual**).

A female student claimed a male teacher “grabbed [her] by [her] dress near [her] shoulders”...slapped [her] face with his flat hand and threw [her] down to the floor near the basement steps.” The complaint appears to have been made a year after the incident occurred. She further stated that she “hurt [her] right hips on the steps,” and suffered a “bruised” hip [41111; 05527]. She was examined by a doctor, who found no physical evidence to substantiate the claim [41113; 41112;



05526]. When the teacher was informed of the claim, he denied any recollection of the event and stated, "I believe the story to be just another lie coming from the same pack of liars, who...have sought to embarrass and discredit all the work of the school during the past year or two" [41112; 05524] A letter from the Acting Indian Agent reports that after having the student examined by the doctor and x-rayed by the Calgary Associate Clinic, and following his interview of the teacher, he was "inclined to think that the whole thing is untrue, or, to say the least, so grossly exaggerated that there is no truth in the statements..." [41112].

1946 In 1946, a female student complained that she was told by the Matron she was "no use" around the school and was told to leave. The student further complained that upon returning to the school she was "whipped" by the Matron "over the body and shoulders and over the head." The Matron denied strapping her on the head and shoulders [00798; 00798A; 00802; 00800].

An Indian reported a female student had told him the reason children are running away from the school is "the matron is mean with them" [00795; 00797].

1947 The same student who was whipped by the Matron in 1946 complained she had "been whipped by the matron on several occasions six times a week." She also complained she had been whipped twice by the Principal. A further complaint was made that the Principal had assaulted the student's father when he was at the school [05538; 05538B; 41114]. Other related documents: 41116; 41392; 41118; 05540; 05541; 05542; 05543; 06110; 06111.

Complaints about the Matron allege she "had not only strapped on the hands, but beat pupils on the head" [41114].

1951 Complaints concerning nine girls who ran away from school due to poor relations with the Matron and other staff members. The Matron is described as "cranky" and "too cruel." A government official says of both the Matron and Principal, "they lack that human touch which is so necessary. They apparently rule with a rod of iron..." [02339; 02339A; 02339B; 02337; 02334; 02332].

1953 The "Principal's Monthly Report" for May 1953 [00388] states "All 32 boys in the school were truant... following disciplinary action by the Matron." The type of disciplinary action is not stated.

1956 At a Stony Reserve Council meeting, complaints about the Assistant Matron included children being struck with a "closed fist," hitting a girl on the back, striking a girl and dislocating her nose and pulling on a girl's head scarf and damaging her "wind cord"[BSSD 01243]. Another meeting was held to investigate complaints the Assistant Matron had struck a pupil in the face or

struck pupils on their shoulders and backs with a “clenched fist.” The complaints could not be substantiated and the Indians’ request for the dismissal of the Assistant Matron was not supported [02249]. However, the Regional Supervisor stated that disciplinary measures would be watched at the school and, if there were further complaints about the Assistant Matron, the Government would ask for her removal [02248].

The same Stony Reserve Council meeting includes complaints about the Matron the Principal. She was asked to resign for undermining disciplinary measures taken by staff members [BSSD 01243]. The Matron resigned “for reasons of failing to uphold disciplinary action taken by other members of the staff”[02249]. She was liked by the students but the Principal said that “he had seen [the Matron] punish small children”.

### **Incidents (Student to Student)**

- 1946 A female student said she ran away from school because she had been “picked on by the other girls” [04077; 04077A].
- 1947 A 14-year old female student was truant from school and complained “she had been abused by the older pupils.” Her father reportedly said she was bruised when she arrived home. [00804; 00805].
- 1967 A female student was absent because of a “fight with another girl” [00241].

### **Other**

- 1927 A male pupil set fire to the school but caused little damage [05523; 04818]. Although the Indian Agent “ordered” the principal to punish the boy by giving him 12 straps, (6 on each hand), and sending him to Edmonton IRS, the principal only sent him to Edmonton IRS [04223; 04223A; 04818]. Four other boys, who knew about the fire and supplied matches, were “severely punished” by the Principal, although the nature of the punishment was not described [05523].
- 1930 A female student was sent home. Documents do not state why, but an unidentified man was involved [01138; 01139].

### **Corporal Punishment**

- 1953 - 1963 From May 1953 [00388] to February 1963 [00282], the Principal’s Monthly Reports contained a section with the heading, “Cases of Corporal Punishment.” Generally only 2 or 3 cases were reported, however, some show an increased

number:

- 11-20 cases reported [00360; 00347; 00338; 00337; 00334; 00331; 00323; 00322]
- 20-29 [00297]
- over 30 [00358]

By March 1963 [00281], the section "Cases of Corporal Punishment" was no longer on the PMR form.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Predecessor**

1880 -1908 The Methodist Church operated an orphanage and school in the vicinity before Morley IRS was established. McDougall Orphanage was located approximately four miles east of the later site of Morley IRS [02550; 04714; 04064]. It closed in 1908 [04714]. (See also section: **Land - Location**).

The McDougall Orphanage was situated on Lot 8 and the north part of Lot 7 on the Morleyville Settlement, north of the Bow River, which was not part of the Stony Reserve [04552; 01497; 04066A]. The government funded the building of an Industrial School at the McDougall Orphanage [04660; 04558].

1912 - 1922 After the McDougall Orphanage closed in 1908, children on the Stony Reserve went without schooling [04740]. Between 1912-1922, the Government and the Methodist Church, discussed erecting a boarding school [04716; 04719; 04722; 04917]. These plans were delayed because of the First World War [04747].

### **Health**

1920s Signs of pulmonary tuberculosis were found in a number of pupils [1923 - 04767].

Epidemics of note:

- chicken pox [1926 - 04810; 04811].
- flu, which appeared to be a mild form, although one student died [1928 - 04226].

1930s Wash basins were installed for the use of pupils who had trachoma [1931 - 02875; 05618].

Epidemics of note:

- Scarlet fever [1935 - 01449]; flu [1935 - 01052]

- Rubella [1936 - 01053].
- The opening of the school term was postponed until October 1 because of an epidemic of black measles [1937 - 04286].

3 cases of active tuberculosis [1935 - 01050; 01052] were discharged to protect the health of other pupils [01144; 01145; 01146]. Some of the pupils with tuberculosis died [00856; 00855]

More cases of tuberculosis, including deaths [1938/1939 - 00854; 00852; 01055, p.1; 01057].

1950s The school was in quarantine for chicken pox [1950 - 02341].

Epidemics of note:

- Mumps epidemic [1951 - 01082; 02332].
- School did not open until September 22, 1952 due to a polio epidemic [01835], which continued into 1953 [00151].
- An epidemic of chicken pox began in February 1955 and continued into March and was followed by the flu [00370].

Impetigo was common among children and was blamed on washing in a common trough [1954 - 01772B].

1956 - 1968 On Principal's Monthly Reports, cases of absence due to illness were recorded and included: measles, flu, stomach flu, diphtheria, jaundice, scabies sores, impetigo, mumps, chicken pox, pneumonia, whooping cough and general illness.

Outbreaks or epidemics of note:

- 1956 6 week measles epidemic [00354].
- 1956/57 Outbreak of measles, almost epidemic [00349].
- 1961 Outbreak of stomach flu [00295].
- 1963 Epidemic of measles and flu [00283].

1966 A dentist working for DIA at Morley was quoted saying, "he has never seen children's teeth in as bad shape." [00897; 00897A]

### **Fires**

1927 A male pupil set fire to the school without causing a lot of damage [05523; 04818]. (For details of incident see section: **Suggestions of Abuse - Physical - Other**)

1935 A similar attempt of setting the school on fire occurred [04447; 04449; 04448; 04448D]. Again, very little damage was done. (For details of incident see

section: **Suggestions of Abuse - Physical)**

1938 Stable buildings on the farm caught fire and spread to manure piles, which burned for some time. It was possibly caused by a "carelessly thrown down match or cigarette stub" by men haying on the farm [04509A; 04509B]. The buildings were not replaced [04509A].

**Farm**

1926 A small amount of farming took place, mainly to provide food for the school. Livestock comprised of milk cows, horses, sows and chickens [04974; 04975; 05707].

1958 The school's farm closed in November 1958 [01269A].

**Mink Farm**

1939 - 1952 Mink farming was started in the spring of 1939 [01055, p.9; 01058, pp.3 & 7]. The latest reference we have located to date regarding mink is on the Audit Report covering 1952-1953 [01251], which has an entry titled "Sale of Mink" for the year ending March 31, 1952. There are no entries for mink entered in the other months covered by the Audit Report. This appears to be the last reference to mink at Morley IRS.

**Manual Training and Native Crafts**

1935 Manual training, in the form of cooking and sewing for girls and carpentry and blacksmithing for boys, was given [01052]. This continued over time [01055, p.2 ; 01058, pp.2-3; 02895B]. In 1946 the boys were not receiving any manual training because the school was unable to get an instructor [00798].

1939 - 1946 Native Crafts were taught at Morley IRS [01055, p.4; 01242 ; 01243;01244; 01245].

1954 In 1954 a Manual Training instructor was hired and manual training continued [01337; 01337A; 01340].

1968 Native Crafts were reintroduced into the curriculum [00801A; 00702A].

**Pupils from Saskatchewan**

1960 - 1961 When the United Church closed its Residential Schools in Saskatchewan, some members of the United Church, including Mr. Campbell, the Principal of Morley

IRS, felt it was better to move these students to Morley IRS in Alberta, rather than having them go to Roman Catholic Schools in Saskatchewan. As a result, Mr. Campbell admitted these students to Morley IRS without Governmental approval thus creating conflict with the Government, which had been considering closing the Morley Residence. Although the Government continued to request Mr. Campbell stop admitting pupils from Saskatchewan, he continued to do so until June 1961, when all admission forms for Saskatchewan pupils were cancelled by the Government [01165; 00666; 00963; 02239; 002239B; 02239C; 02240; 02856].

### PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

#### Morley Indian Day School (Temporary semi-boarding school)

1922 - 1926            Rev. Edgar J. Staley, Principal

#### Morley Indian Residential School

1926 - 1946            Rev. Edgar J. Staley, Principal

1946 - 1953            Rev. G. Roy Inglis, Principal

1953 - 1955            Rev. Hugh MacPhail, Principal

1955 - 1957            Mr. Fraser Shaw, Principal

1957 - 1960            Mr. F. Edwin Kempling, Principal  
**Note:** Kempling's Crown Personnel File gives his name as Edwin Francis Kempling.

1960 - 1966            Mr. Ron Campbell, Principal  
**Note:** In August of 1964, the administration of Morley IRS was separated and the Principal was no longer in charge of the Residence. Mr Campbell became in charge of the Educational program only. (See also section: **Management of School**). Mr. Campbell resigned from Morley in June of 1966.

1964 - 1965            Mr. Jack Lucas, Administrator

1965 - 1969            Mr. Charles Greaves, Administrator

1966 - 1969            Mrs. Sue Sollner, Principal

**Note:** After the Morley IRS closed in 1969, classrooms continued to be used at least until the 1980s and the school was known as “Morley Indian Day School” or “Morley School”.

Narrative Completed: November 5, 2004

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



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