

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.

**St. Mary's (Kenora) Indian Residential School
IAP School Narrative**

NAME IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (Schedule E/F)

St. Mary's (Kenora, St. Anthony's)

OTHER NAMES KNOWN AS (AKAs)

1897 to 1905	Rat Portage Boarding School [KNR-001319; KNR-000919; KNR-000920; KNR-000921]
1906 to 1923	Kenora Boarding School / Kenora Indian Industrial School [KNR-000921; KNR-000782; KNR-000672; KNR-000673]
1924 to 1964	Kenora Indian Residential School / Kenora Roman Catholic Indian Residential School [KNR-000802; KNR-000327; KNR-000362]
1931 to 1933	St. Anthony's Roman Catholic School [KNR-000846; KNR-000738]
1937 to 1978	St. Mary's Indian Residential School [KNR-000711-0001; KNR-000370-0000]
1938	St. Mary's Industrial School / St. Mary's Indian School [KNR-000714]
1968 to 1972	St. Mary's Student Residence [KNR-000234; KNR-001437-0000]

Please note that while several documents refer to St. Mary's IRS, the residential school's official name was the Kenora IRS. The name St. Mary's was often used by the federal government and IRS staff to avoid confusion with Cecilia Jeffrey IRS, which was also located in Kenora, Ontario [KNR-000329; KNR-000328; KNR-000327; KNR-001075-0001].

LOCATION

St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS was located on 50 acres of Roman Catholic Mission land, known as subdivision (Mining Location) 1-8, Township of Jaffray, two miles south of the town of Rat Portage on the shore of the Lake of the Woods. The land was adjoining the Kenora Indian Reserve 38B [KNR-000617, pg. 1; KNR-001323, pg. 2; KNR-001329, pg. 2; KNR-001337, pg. 2, 4, 6; KNR-000169]. The western portion of IRS land, containing 5.34 acres, was sold in 1913. In 1916, the Oblates purchased for the IRS 118.8 acres of land surrendered from the Kenora Indian Reserve 38B. This land was purchased for agricultural purposes [KNR-000771; KNR-000169].

PROVINCE/TERRITORY

Ontario

OPERATING DATES AS AN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

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

September 1, 1897 to June 30, 1972

Effective September 1, 1968, the administration of the residence and the classrooms at the IRS was separated, and the residence was managed by the Administrator [BAX-000911-0000; BAX-000911-0001]. The IRS became St. Mary's (Kenora) Student Residence [KNR-000234; KNR-001437-0000]

OPERATING DATES CONTEXT

The IRS, then known as the Rat Portage Boarding School, opened for boarders in the fall of 1897 [KNR-001320; KNR-000617]. Effective September 1, 1968, the administration of the residence and the classrooms at the IRS was separated, and the residence was managed by the Administrator while the classroom block was managed by the Principal [BAX-000911-0000; BAX-000911-0001]. The IRS became St. Mary's (Kenora) Student Residence [KNR-000234; KNR-001437-0000]. Due to the decreasing number of students and an outdated structure, the IRS closed on June 30, 1972 [KNR-000232; KNR-00229; KNR-000169].

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Roman Catholic Church

- 1897 to 1969 Oblates of Mary Immaculate and later the Oblate Indian and Eskimo Commission (INDIANESCOM) [KNR-001320; KNR-001507; KNR-000169; KNR-001421; KNR-001075-0001; KNR-000222-0001]
- 1898 to 1930 Grey Nuns [KNR-001321, pg. 3; KNR-000149-0002]
- 1930 to 1972 Sisters of St. Joseph [KNR-000149-0002; KNR-002577-0000, pg. 156]
- 1969 to 1970 Roman Catholic Parish of Notre-Dame du Portage provided chaplaincy services [KNR-000811-0001]

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

Date	Event	Document Reference
1897	The IRS, then known as Rat Portage Boarding School, opened for boarders in the fall of 1897.	KNR-001320 KNR-000617
November 2, 1898	The Grey Nuns from St. Boniface arrived at the IRS.	KNR-001321, pg. 3
January 1906	The name of the IRS was changed from the Rat Portage Boarding School to the Kenora Boarding School.	KNR-000920 KNR-000919 KNR-000921
March 14, 1911	The federal government and the Oblates of Mary Immaculate entered into an agreement for the operation of the IRS.	KNR-001507
November 13, 1911	The Oblates increased the size of the main IRS building in order to accommodate more students.	KNR-000632
June 1, 1913	The IRS land, adjoining the Kenora Indian Reserve 38B, contained 51 acres and was identified as Mining Location I-8. The western portion of the land, containing 5.34 acres, was sold by the Oblates to a private individual on June 1, 1913.	KNR-000771 KNR-000169
September 1916	The Oblates purchased for the IRS 118.8 acres of land surrendered from the Kenora Indian Reserve 38B for IRS agricultural purposes	KNR-001256 KNR-000169

1923	The federal government purchased the IRS from the Oblate Fathers. The purchase included the land, the buildings, the livestock, and chattels.	KNR-000782 KNR-001345
October 18, 1945	The federal government confirmed that while the IRS was frequently referred to as St. Mary's, even by the IRS Principal, its official name was the Kenora Roman Catholic Indian Residential School.	KNR-000327
May 1953	Permission was granted by the federal government for the IRS to teach grade 10 classes. Grade 10 classroom instruction became available at the IRS as of the 1953/54 school year.	KNR-001006 KNR-001232-0001
1954	The federal government built a new four classroom block, at the IRS.	KNR-000682 KNR-001535 KNR-000689 KNR-000417 KNR-000766-0001, pg. 2 KNR-000373
September 25, 1962	The federal government and the Oblate Indian and Eskimo Commission (INDIANESCOM) signed an agreement for the operation of the IRS.	KNR-001075-0001
March 1965	There was a fire at the McIntosh IRS on March 19, and 27 of its residents in grade 3 were sent to St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS for the remainder of the 1964/65 school year.	MCI-006378 KNR-000090, pg. 4 KNR-000091, pg. 4
September 1968	Effective September 1, 1968, the administration of the residence and the classrooms at the IRS was separated. As of that date, the residence was managed by the Administrator, and the Senior Teacher became the Principal of the classroom section. The IRS was henceforth known as St. Mary's (Kenora) Student Residence. At the time of the administrative separation, classroom instruction was held in buildings separate from the main residence building. No information was found concerning classrooms operating in the main residence building in September 1968.	BAX-000911-0000 BAX-000911-0001 CJC-000611-0000 CJC-000611-0001 KNR-000105
April 1, 1969	The federal government assumed full responsibility for the operation of the IRS.	KNR-000222-0001 KNR-000149-0002, pg. 2
September 1, 1969	The federal government and the Roman Catholic Parish of Notre Dame du Portage signed a contract for chaplaincy services for the IRS during the 1969/70 school year.	KNR-000811-0001
February 1972	Classroom instruction for residents in grades 1 to 3 was still provided at the IRS; residents in other grades attended either Catholic elementary schools or public high schools in Kenora.	KNR-000222-0001
June 1972	Due to the decreasing number of students and an outdated building, the IRS closed on June 30.	KNR-000232 KNR-000229 KNR-000169

EDUCATION OF STUDENTS

Grades taught at the Indian residential school

School Years	Grades offered	Document Reference
1897/98 to 1900/01	1 to 3	KNR-001320, pg. 4-5 KNR-001321, pg. 5-6

		KNR-001322, pg. 5-6 KNR-001323, pg. 6-7
1901/02	1 to 4	KNR-001324, pg. 8-9
1902/03 to 1904/05	1 to 3	KNR-001325, pg. 5-6 KNR-001326, pg. 5-6 KNR-001327, pg. 5-6
1905/06	1 to 4	KNR-001328, pg. 5-6
1906/07 to 1912/13	1 to 5	KNR-001329, pg. 5-6 KNR-001330, pg. 5-6 KNR-001331, pg. 4-5 KNR-001332, pg. 2-3 KNR-001333, pg. 3-4 KNR-001334, pg. 3-4 KNR-001335, pg. 5-6
1913/14	1 to 2, 4 to 5	KNR-001336, pg. 2-3
1914/15 to 1917/18	1 to 5	KNR-001337, pg. 2-3 KNR-001338, pg. 2-3 KNR-001339 PLP-004318
1918/19 to 1920/21	1 to 6	KNR-001341 KNR-001342 KNR-001343
1921/22	1 to 5	KNR-001344
1922/23 to 1923/24	1 to 6	KNR-001345 KNR-001346
1924/25	1 to 5	PLP-004325
1925/26 to 1928/29	1 to 6	KNR-001347 KNR-001359 FTA-000139 KNR-001349
1929/30 to 1930/31	1 to 3, 5 to 6	KNR-001350 KNR-001351
1931/32 to 1935/36	1 to 6	KNR-001352 KNR-001353 KNR-001354 KNR-001355 FTA-000147
1936/37	1 to 5	KNR-001356
1937/38	1 to 6	FTA-000149
1938/39	1 to 7	KNR-001358
1939/40	No information found	
1940/41	1 to 7	KNR-000028
1941/42	1 to 7	KNR-000030
1942/43	1 to 7	KNR-000034
1943/44	1 to 7	KNR-000038
1944/45	1 to 8	KNR-000044
1945/46	1 to 8	KNR-000046
1946/47	1 to 7	KNR-000050
1947/48	1 to 8	KNR-000054
1948/49	1 to 8	KNR-000058
1949/50	1 to 8	KNR-000061
1950/51	1 to 8	KNR-000065
1951/52	1 to 8	KNR-000069
1952/53	Kindergarten, 1 to 9	KNR-000237-0000 KNR-001234
1953/54	Kindergarten, 1 to 10	KNR-001232-0001
1954/55	Kindergarten, 1 to 10	KNR-001222

1955/56	Kindergarten, 1 to 10	KNR-001212
1956/57	Kindergarten, 1 to 10	KNR-001202
1957/58	Kindergarten, 1 to 11	KNR-001189 KNR-000298-0002 KNR-000246
1958/59	1 to 11	KNR-001179
1959/60	1 to 12	KNR-001167 KNR-001160 KNR-001162
1960/61	1 to 8	KNR-001156
1961/62	1 to 8	KNR-001145
1962/63	1 to 7	KNR-001135
1963/64	1 to 8	KNR-001120
1964/65	1 to 4	KNR-000143
1965/66	1 to 4	KNR-001104
1966/67	1 to 4	KNR-000145
1967/68	1 to 4	KNR-001086
1968/69 to 1970/71	No information found	
1971/72	1 to 3	KNR-000222-0001 KNR-000149-0002

Other Schools Attended by Residents

School Years	Name of School	Location	Administration	Grades	Document
1964/65 to 1965/66	Mount Carmel School	Kenora	Kenora Separate School Board	5 to 8	KNR-001108 KNR-001098 KNR-001705-0001, pg. 7-8
1965/66	Lakewood High School	Kenora	Not specified	9 to 10	KNR-001705-0001, pg. 8
1965/66	Beaver Brae Secondary School	Kenora	Not specified	9 to 10	KNR-001705-0001, pg. 9-10
1965/66	Father Moss School	Sioux Narrows	Not specified	Not specified	KNR-001705-0001, pg. 10
1971/72	Mount Carmel School	Kenora	Kenora Separate School Board	4 to 8	KNR-000149-0002
1971/72	Thomas Aquinas School	Kenora	Not Specified	4 to 8	KNR-000149-0002

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

School Years	Number of Residents	If applicable, day scholars	Document Reference
1897/98	29	No information found	KNR-001320, pg. 4-5
1898/99	30	No information found	KNR-001321, pg. 5-6
1899/00	32	No information found	KNR-001322, pg. 5-6
1900/01	30	No information found	KNR-001323, pg. 6-7
1901/02	33	No information found	KNR-001324, pg. 8-9
1902/03	31	No information found	KNR-001325, pg. 5-6
1903/04	32	No information found	KNR-001326, pg. 5-6
1904/05	32	No information found	KNR-001327, pg. 5-6
1905/06	33	No information found	KNR-001328, pg. 5-6
1906/07	43	No information found	KNR-001329, pg. 5-6
1907/08	47	No information found	KNR-001330, pg. 5-6
1908/09	45	No information found	KNR-001331, pg. 4-5
1909/10	44	No information found	KNR-001332, pg. 2-3
1910/11	49	No information found	KNR-001333, pg. 3-4

1911/12	52	No information found	KNR-001334, pg. 3-4
1912/13	54	No information found	KNR-001335, pg. 5-6
1913/14	49	No information found	KNR-001336, pg. 2-3
1914/15	59	No information found	KNR-001337, pg. 2-3
1915/16	69	No information found	KNR-001338, pg. 2-3
1916/17	73	No information found	KNR-001339
1917/18	71	No information found	PLP-004318
1918/19	76	No information found	KNR-001341
1919/20	69	No information found	KNR-001342
1920/21	78	No information found	KNR-001343
1921/22	80	No information found	KNR-001344
1922/23	78	No information found	KNR-001345
1923/24	75	No information found	KNR-001346
1924/25	74	No information found	PLP-004325
1925/26	70	No information found	KNR-001347
1926/27	76	No information found	KNR-001359
1927/28	77	No information found	FTA-000139
1928/29	83	No information found	KNR-001349
1929/30	83	No information found	KNR-001350
1930/31	83	No information found	KNR-001351
1931/32	84	No information found	KNR-001352
1932/33	79	No information found	KNR-001353
1933/34	83	No information found	KNR-001354
1934/35	88	No information found	KNR-001355
1935/36	97	No information found	FTA-000147
1936/37	98	No information found	KNR-001356
1937/38	98	No information found	FTA-000149
1938/39	102	No information found	KNR-001358
1939/40	No information found	No information found	
1940/41	94	No information found	KNR-000029, pg. 4
1941/42	109	No information found	KNR-000033, pg. 5
1942/43	106	No information found	KNR-000037, pg. 5
1943/44	105	No information found	KNR-000038, pg. 5
1944/45	94	No information found	KNR-000043, pg. 4
1945/46	101	No information found	KNR-000048, pg. 5
1946/47	109	No information found	KNR-000050, pg. 5
1947/48	109	No information found	KNR-000055, pg. 5
1948/49	104	No information found	KNR-000059, pg. 5
1949/50	106	No information found	KNR-000061, pg. 4
1950/51	125	No information found	KNR-000068, pg. 6
1951/52	120	No information found	KNR-000069, pg. 5
1952/53		No information found	
1953/54	119 (average)	0	KNR-001232-0001 KNR-001223-0001
1954/55	133 (average)	2	KNR-001222 KNR-001213
1955/56	126 (average)	3 (average)	KNR-001212 KNR-001209

			KNR-001203
1956/57	140 (average)	3 (average)	KNR-001202 KNR-001190
1957/58	137 (average)	6 (average)	KNR-001189 KNR-001186 KNR-001180
1958/59	135	13 (average)	KNR-002001 KNR-001179 KNR-001176 KNR-001169
1959/60	112 (average)	14 (average)	KNR-001167 KNR-001164 KNR-001158
1960/61	110	14 (average)	KNR-000075 KNR-001156 KNR-001146
1961/62	118	10 (average)	KNR-000078 KNR-001145 KNR-001136
1962/63	116	8 (average)	KNR-001714 KNR-001135 KNR-001131 KNR-001125
1963/64	112	4 (average)	KNR-000083 KNR-001122 KNR-001114
1964/65	129	0	KNR-000091 KNR-000143 KNR-001105
1965/66	112	0	KNR-000092 KNR-001104 KNR-001095
1966/67	110	0	KNR-000097 KNR-000145 KNR-001087
1967/68	98	4 (average)	KNR-000102-0001 KNR-001085 KNR-001079
1968/69	97	No information found	KNR-000106
1969/70	93	No information found	KNR-000110-0001
1970/71	94	No information found	KNR-000114-0002
1971/72	73	No information found	KNR-001739-0001

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

School Years	Special Programs Offered	Document Reference
1923	A local Boy Scout troop participated in sporting activities such as hockey with IRS students. These activities took place on the IRS grounds and on the Kenora Indian Reserve. Films provided by the Y.M.C.A were also shown at the IRS.	KNR-000776
1946	Residents participated in various recreational activities including hockey and cadet corps. The hockey team was part of a school league and had won the league cup the	KNR-000325

	previous three years.	
1952	Students from the IRS participated in the Kenora Musical Festival and several students won prizes.	KNR-000236
1954	Students from the IRS participated in league hockey games with teams from Kenora as well as with hockey teams from McIntosh IRS. Older girls from St. Mary's IRS were taken to see the Annual Ice Skating Carnival at the Thistle Rink in the town of Kenora.	KNR-001227, pg. 2
1958	The IRS hockey team won the annual Indian Residential School Hockey tournament that was held in Kenora.	KNR-000397, pg. 3
1959	Students participated in the local music festival, as well as hockey, basketball, and softball leagues	KNR-001072
1964	Disbursement expenses for extra-curricular activities for the year ending December 1964 included: hockey equipment, baseball equipment, basketballs, volley balls, film rental, magazine subscription, shows, toboggans, television, charter bus, Walt Disney skill kit, gym suits, toys and games.	KNR-000584-0007
1968	Disbursement expenses for extra-curricular activities for the year ending December 1968 included: hockey equipment, toboggans, water skis, theatre tickets, and Musical Festival expenses.	KNR-000565-0009

INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Date	Event	Document Reference
1897	The main IRS building was three stories high with an extension that was two stories high. The first floor of the main building had a parlour, a chapel, a classroom, a children's dining room, a private dining room, a pantry, and the boys' recreation room. The second floor of the main building had offices, the Principal's room, the infirmary, and the girls' sewing and recreating room. The third floor in the main building had dormitories for boys and girls. Other buildings on IRS grounds included a temporary store-house, a shed, a carpenter's shop, and a cottage for the Principal's residence that was two stories high.	KNR-001320, pg. 2
1911	The IRS building was increased in size to accommodate more students. No information was provided in terms of the specific construction.	KNR-000632
1920	An addition was made to the IRS building to accommodate an additional 25 students.	KNR-000149-0002, pg.1
1929	A new dormitory at the IRS measuring 28' X 20' was constructed with enough space for 10 pupils.	KNR-000348 KNR-000347
1938	A fire caused by a defective chimney destroyed a staff residence. This building was referred to as the "priest's old residence".	KNR-000859 KNR-000866 KNR-000864 KNR-000869
1939 to 1945	A new dormitory wing at the IRS was under construction. By September 1944, the plastering and decorating was still not complete due to insufficient funds. Funds became available in January 1945. Documents note that the plaster work at the IRS had been completed by September	KNR-000869 KNR-001553 KNR-000886-0001 KNR-000888 KNR-001290 KNR-001295

	30, 1945, and pupils returned to the IRS from summer holidays.	KNR-001298-0000 KNR-000492 KNR-000539 KNR-000543 KNR-000549
1954 to 1955	The federal government built a new four classroom block at the IRS. The classroom building was one storey plus a basement, and it had four classrooms and a gymnasium. The classroom block was ready for use in September 1955.	KNR-000682 KNR-001535 KNR-000689 KNR-000417 KNR-000766-0001, pg. 4 KNR-000373
June 1955	Due to overcrowding in the girls' dormitory, the Principal considered moving ten girls into the sewing room. The sewing room was located on the second floor of the main IRS building and was 370 square feet. Next to the sewing room were two water closets, a wash basin, and a drinking fountain.	KNR-000417
1956	A workshop was built on IRS property for wood working and general shop work. It was one story high and approximately 2700 square feet.	KNR-000766-0001, pg. 4
November 1960	The main IRS building was three stories high plus a small basement, and a two storey attachment with a basement. The basement had a boy's playroom and a boiler room. The first floor had a boys' dormitory, dining rooms, a kitchen, and a laundry facility. The second floor had a girls' dormitory, sewing room, and living quarters. The third floor had a chapel, study, and living quarters. Other buildings on the IRS property included a four classroom block, a staff house, a boathouse, and a workshop.	KNR-000766-0001, pg. 2-3
November 1966	The main IRS building housed the boys on the first floor and the girls on the second floor. The recreation area was located in the basement while the chapel was on the top floor. Other buildings included a four classroom block, a workshop, a staff house, a boathouse, and other "minor buildings". The lake was approximately 250 feet from the residence.	KNR-000373
1968	All classroom instruction at the IRS was held in buildings separate from the main residence building.	BAX-000911-0000 BAX-000911-0001 CJC-000611-0000 CJC-000611-0001

PHOTOS, PLANS AND LAYOUT

Date	Description	Document Reference
1906	Side elevation of the IRS showing location of doors, windows, and fire escapes.	KNR-000922-0001
1909	Map showing Reserve land bordering the Lake of the Woods.	KNR-000448-0001
1928	Diagrams showing proposed addition to dormitories, proposed boat house, implement shed and addition to laundry and bakery	KNR-000840-0001 KNR-000840-0002 KNR-000840-0003 KNR-000840-0004
July 1930	Survey plan of farm lands utilized by St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS. The farm lands were part of Indian Reserve 38 B and comprised 118 acres. Geographic	KNR-001370

	features on the map include Lake of the Woods.	
May 1931	Floor plan of the IRS illustrating the laundry, bakery, kitchen, and staff dining room.	KNR-000851
March 1939	A diagram illustrating the existing buildings and the proposed classroom addition at St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS.	KNR-000871-0001
1940	Photographs of new two story addition to St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS. There was also a basement, part of which was above grade.	KNR-001294-0001
1941	Floor plans of the first, second, and third floors of St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS. Rooms illustrated include the kitchen, laundry, bakery, staff dining rooms, bedrooms, children's refectory, classroom, boy's and girl's playrooms, utility rooms, and girls and boys dormitory.	KNR-000479-0001
September 1948	Photographs of school buildings including elevations of the old and new wing of the IRS. Other buildings shown include the chicken house, implement shed, garage, and barn. The second document is a sketch or site plan of St. Mary's IRS showing the spatial relationship of the buildings to one another.	KNR-001018-0001 KNR-001018-0002
March 15, 1954	Electrical schematic drawings and floor plans for new four room classroom block at St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS.	KNR-001512
September 1954	Floor plan of first, second, and third floor of the IRS.	KNR-001700
1959	Plan of town of Kenora with approximate location of the IRS and nearest existing sanitary sewers	KNR-000941-0001
June 1962	Plans for improvements to St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS dormitory washroom facilities.	KNR-001532
1968	Map showing Lake of the Woods, the town of Kenora, the IRS, and the Kenora Indian Reserve No. 38 B.	KNR-000372-0001
1968	Map showing location of St. Mary's IRS, the Town line for Town of Kenora, and the Lake of the Woods.	KNR-001518
February 1972	Photographs of the IRS exterior in 1920, 1939 and 1972.	KNR-000149-0001 KNR-000149-0002
1974	Sketch of placement of the former St. Mary's IRS buildings including residence and classroom block, teacherage, barn, and boat house.	KNR-000202

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS or of any convicted abusers present at the school.

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

Incidents (Physical)

- 1922 Allegations were made by local people regarding physical abuse of children at St. Mary's IRS by the Principal [KNR-000673; KNR-000674; KNR-000675; KNR-000776; KNR-000770; KNR-000768].
- 1924 A resident requested an investigation into the management at St. Mary's IRS, claiming that punishment of the children was inhumane. He alleged that four students were beaten, tied up and put in the cellar [KNR-000804-0000, KNR-000804-0001]. The Principal stated that no children were beaten but two of the children were locked in the cellar and two others locked in other places for about two hours and they did have their hands tied together [KNR-000803; KNR-000801].

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1925 An employee at St. Mary's IRS shot and killed a religious Brother and wounded another man. The Government asked the Principal to comply with the recommendation of the Jury that all firearms at the IRS be kept in his charge [KNR-000796; KNR-000797; KNR-000793-0000; KNR-000793-0001; KNR-000792].
- 1939 An epidemic of dysentery occurred at the IRS due to the drinking water [KNR-000877; KNR-000882].
- 1940 Sewage from St. Mary's (Kenora) IRS was running down the bank onto the ice on the river. The District Sanitary Inspector recommended that the chlorine content of the water in the school be increased. Tests revealed that the tap water in the boys' playroom and the dining room was not good [KNR-000885; KNR-000890].
- 1953 An IRS employee had pumped septic tank sludge onto the ice of Lake of the Woods [KNR-000965-0001].
- 1954 Three boys ran away from the IRS in November. The RCMP and OPP were called in to retrieve them. The boys were located 65 miles from Kenora, in semi-conscious condition due to a fire in the camp where they were found. They were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Kenora where they recovered from smoke inhalation [KNR-001380-0000; KNR-001380-0001 to 0004].
- 1956 A bacterial test determined that the water at the IRS was dangerous and unfit for consumption. Treatment of the water was said to be haphazard [KNR-000950; KNR-000952].
- 1960 Water samples taken at the IRS contained dangerous levels of coliform bacteria [KNR-000761-0001].
- 1970 Two boys died of exposure when they ran away from the IRS [KNR-001071; KNR-001051-0000; KNR-001051-0001].

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Reverend Charles Cahill	Principal	June 1897 to June 1904
Reverend Matthias Kalmes	Principal	June 1905 to June 1906
Reverend P. Bousquet	Principal	November 1906 to March 1912
G. Leonard	Principal	August 1912 to March 1914
Reverend J.B. Dorais	Principal	March 1914 to September 1914
Father C. Brouillet	Principal	September 1914 to January 1922
Reverend Father Louis De Grandpre	Principal	January 1922 to August 1922
Reverend Herve Kerbrat	Principal	August 1922 to January 1925

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Reverend Camile Perreault	Principal	January 1925 to April 1925
Reverend Joseph Eugene Baillargeon	Principal	April 1925 to November 1938
Reverend Jean Lemire	Principal	November 1938 to March 1943
Reverend Charles Emile Comeau	Principal	March 1943 to July 1946
Reverend Camille Perreault	Principal	December 1946 to June 1948
Reverend Michel St. Jacques	Principal	September 1948 to March 1953
Father Antonio Lacelle	Principal	March 1953 to September 1956
Father Charles Ruest	Principal	September 1956 to May 1959
Reverend Michel St. Jacques	Principal	May 1959 to January 1960
Father Charles Ruest	Principal	January 1960
Father Gaston Lebleu	Principal/ Administrator	February 1960 to June 1972

Effective September 1, 1968, the administration of the residence and the classrooms at the IRS was separated. As of that date, the residence portion was managed by the Administrator [BAX-000911-0000; BAX-000911-0001].

Narrative Completed: August 29, 2012
Narrative Updated: December 12, 2012

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

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA