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.

# Whitehorse Baptist Mission Narrative 04 21 2008

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

#### I - NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS

Name	Item No.	Date MM/DD/YYYY
Whitehorse Hostel (Baptist)	BAP-090025	00/00/0000
Whitehorse Baptist Hostel	BAP-090017	09/28/1953
Whitehorse Indian Baptist Mission School	BAP-090077-0000	12/27/1956
Baptist Indian Hostel	YKS-000726	05/01/1959
Baptist Mission Hostel	BAP-090006-0000	03/01/1960

# **II - CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY**

#### **Years of Operation**

1947 to June 30, 1960; however the residential buildings continued to house children until September 1961.

# **Opening Date**

#### 1947

January – Rev. H.I. Lee opened a day-school on January 13, 1947. [BAP-000309]

September – The residential school was started with 45 children. [BAP-000067-0002]

## **Closing Date**

#### <u> 1959</u>

With plans for the new Federal Government owned and operated hostel to begin operation in September 1960, plans are made to close the Whitehorse Indian Day School. Plans are made to transfer junior pupils to Carcross IRS, and senior pupils to live in the new Government Hostel while attending school in Whitehorse. [BAP-090051]

As of June 30, 1960, the "Whitehorse Indian Day School (Baptist) Residential School" was effectively closed as students were discharged. [BAP-090065-0000]

In September 1960, children continued to be placed and accepted into the Baptist Mission by Reverend Montgomery of the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society [BAP-000181]. In November 1960, the government refused to accept any financial responsibility for these children residing at the Whitehorse Baptist Mission hostel because the children were accommodated without prior approval [BAP-000170-0000 and BAP-000170-0001]. Reverend Montgomery advised the government at that time that due to their responsibility to parents of the Baptist affiliation who do not wish to send their children to the Anglican school at Carcross, that they would look after the children until such a time that a satisfactory arrangement could be made. [BAP-000182]

#### 1961

In April, the Whitehorse Baptist Mission no longer operated as a school. However the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society housed Welfare children and children of other unfortunate circumstances in the residential portion of the buildings referred to as the Baptist Mission Home. [BAP-000612]

#### **III - MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL**

# <u>Dates Managed by Church / Organizational Structure of WBM:</u>

The Whitehorse Baptist Mission, as an institution, over the years consisted of:

#### Day-School

Reverend H.I. Lee opened a day-school in January 1947. [BAP-000309]

#### Hostel

There was a hostel portion of the WBM institution. [BAP-090023 and BAP-000067-0002]

The institution was treated similarly to Indian Residential Schools in the same geographic location. [See BAP-000387-0000; BAP-000995-0000; BAP-000612; CP 00438-000439]

# Orphanage<sup>1</sup>

In connection with the school and hostel, an orphanage was maintained in which pre-school aged children were given a home. [BAP-000614]

#### Timeline of Events:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For more information see section of Narrative titled: Orphanage.

September – The residential portion of the school opened with 45 children in residence. [BAP-000067-0002]

#### <u>1948</u>

The director of the school, Reverend Harold Iden Lee, conducted the boarding school to the end of the 1947/1948 school year largely assisted by contributions from the local people. [BAP-000379, BAP-000368, and BAP-000369] However, the government did pay for two teachers, the fuel, school supplies and janitor services. [BAP-000387-0000]

The teachers were the only government paid personnel at the school. Unpaid workers included the director, mechanical worker, cook, girls' and boys' supervisor and the laundress. [BAP-000369 and BAP-000379]

#### 1949

The government and the founder of the Indian Baptist Mission School Society signed a funding agreement which noted that the government would not recognize the institution as an Indian Residential School. [BAP-000416]

# <u> 1951</u>

July 9 – The Indian Baptist Church was incorporated. [BAP-001026]

July 9 – The Whitehorse Indian Mission School was incorporated under the name Indian Baptist Mission School Incorporated, with a board of six full-time directors tasked with seeing that the work was carried on in the best way possible. [BAP-000614]

#### 1956

July 24 – The Yukon Baptist Missionary Society is incorporated under the Yukon Societies Ordinance. [BAP-001281-0001]

The Constitution of the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society sets out the objects of the society which included:

- a) To organize, establish, conduct and operate Churches, Missions, Schools, Hostels, Orphanages, Children's Homes, Welfare Homes, Hospitals, and to conduct, further or encourage charitable activities in the Yukon Territory.
- b) To acquire real and personal property; and to hold, occupy, use, lease, transfer, sell or otherwise deal with the same. [BAP-001281-0002]

The process to amalgamate the Indian Baptist Church and the Indian Baptist Mission School into the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society was explained by letter by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies; a handwritten note on the letter indicates that they had been amalgamated and the file closed. [BAP-001016]

#### **Dates Managed by Government**

Effective September 1948, the government provided finances for the maintenance of the Indian children housed in the hostel section of the school. No payment would have been made for the admission of the child unless the government gave their approval prior to the child entering the school [BAP-000416].

The government paid the salaries and Northern Living Allowances of the teachers and approved the appointment of teachers [BAP-000416]. The government operated the classrooms, employing the teachers and supplying fuel, books etc. [BAP-090017].

#### 1947

March 4 - The government approved the appointment of a teacher at Whitehorse Day School [BAP-000319].

September 24: The Indian Agent in the Yukon strongly recommended the appointment of a second teacher at Whitehorse Indian Day School due to a larger enrolment. On September 29 a second teacher was nominated by Reverend Lee [BAP-000340 and BAP-000341].

#### 1948

An application for employment is submitted to the government for a new teacher who had commenced work on September 15 at Whitehorse Day School because the first teacher was unable to return [BAP-000388].

#### 1949

The government appointed a part-time Domestic Science and Handicrafts teacher at the Day School [BAP-000422].

## **1950**

In November, the government agreed to employ a fourth full time teacher at Whitehorse Indian Day School [BAP-000238-0001].

#### 1951

In June, the government increased the per diem rate for the maintenance of each Indian child from \$0.95 to \$1.15 [BAP-000055-0000].

In September, the government increased the per diem rate per pupil from \$1.15 to \$1.25 for children maintained the in Whitehorse Baptist Hostel [BAP-090017].

#### 1958

Effective April 1, 1958, the government allowed the management of the Indian Baptist Mission at Whitehorse \$1.70 per pupil, per day for children maintained at the Whitehorse Baptist Hostel [YKS-003503].

#### 1960

The Minister explains in a letter that public funds would not be available for the continued operation of the hostel as it would be a duplication of services, since the new hostels in Whitehorse were to be opened in September [BAP-001334]. A telegram in September advises that DIAND will not accept responsibility for children in the Baptist Mission that had not received prior approval from the Department [BAP-000176-0001]. This policy is confirmed in a memorandum from October regarding the children who were admitted to Whitehorse Baptist Mission without approval [BAP-000609].

#### **Yukon Territory Involvement**

While since its inception in 1947, the founder and resulting societies managed the Whitehorse Indian Baptist Mission School, the territory provided finances for maintenance of some children under their jurisdiction.

#### 1948

September - The Yukon Territorial Council is paying \$1.10 per day per child for "the upkeep of half-breed children and orphans of white or doubtful status maintained by the Reverend Mr. Lee and attending Whitehorse Indian Day School" [BAP-000387-0000].

#### <u>1950</u>

The Yukon Territorial Government allows \$1.25 a day for maintenance of boarders [BAP-000606].

The Yukon Territorial Government makes a grant for "the education and care of indigent half-breed children for which the government has a responsibility [BAP-090014].

#### 1953

The hostel accommodates a number of non-Indian children for whom the Yukon Territorial Government makes a grant of \$1.90 per day [BAP-090017].

#### **IV - SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

The buildings which comprised the Whitehorse Indian Baptist Mission School were originally bought by the school and society's founder Reverend Harold Iden Lee. When the Indian Baptist Mission Society [later the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society] was created, the society became the owner of the buildings.

#### 1946

In October, Rev. H.I. Lee informs the Indian Agent that he had obtained a large building, 120 X 20, from the War Assets Corp. The building is well lighted, fully equipped with electric lights and with double plumbing [BAP-000307-0001].

#### 1947

In September nine army buildings 20' x 120' were purchased from Crown Assets [BAP-000067-0002]

The building acquired by Rev. H.I. Lee was the original Public Roads Administration, U.S.A., headquarters built by the U.S Army [BAP-000463 and BAP-000617].

# <u> 1948</u>

Fire Chief inspects the Whitehorse Indian School and recommends the installation of extinguishers into Reverend Lee's quarters, water pump cans into the dormitories, and pyrene extinguishers into the kitchen [BAP-000375].

#### 1949

November – Mr. Lee acquired another building that was a former army mess hall and kitchen, including a walk-in refrigerator [BAP-200221].

Alterations are made to the building owned by Rev. H.I. Lee to create the new manual training room [BAP-000269].

# <u>1950</u>

The buildings occupied by the Whitehorse School were in need of painting and repairs, however Rev. Harold Lee did not feel that he should undertake the work as his tenure on the site could not be assured [BAP-090014].

The addition of an art classroom to the Whitehorse Indian Day School was approved and funded by the government [BAP-000568 and BAP-000569].

In May, a survey of the Indian Mission School was completed by the Yukon Territorial Government. No serious overcrowding was noted, but a suggestion was made that a minimum standard be set. All classrooms had approximately 20 square feet per pupil and had ample summer ventilation. The mess hall dishwashing was found to unsatisfactory in that no sterilization of utensils was carried out. General conditions at the school were found to be very good and the building kept in reasonably good shape [YKS-000709].

#### 1952

May – Territorial Government purchased from the Whitehorse Baptist Indian Mission a 20' x 56' building located at the Carmacks road camp for the sum of \$1000. [BAP-001084]

#### 1953

October – In regards to the hostel and school portions of WBM, the Indian Affairs Branch noted that "to separate the two units physically is impossible." [CP000440]

Furthermore, the Federal Government found that the notion of the Whitehorse Indian Day School being a separate entity from the Hostel was not substantiated by fact. [CP000438-000439]

#### 1954

It was noted that the buildings of the Baptist Mission at Whitehorse, which were formerly army huts, reached a state of disrepair where they had to be replaced or abandoned [BAP-090019].

The buildings were not suitable for the purpose for which they were being used, and it was planned to abandon them and construct a new hostel when a suitable location could be found [BAP-090021].

#### 1955

Effective July 1, 1955, the government decreased the authorized pupilage of Whitehorse Indian Day School from 140 to 80 pupils. The decrease was due to a serious fire hazard existing in the school, owing to its rambling nature and the highly flammable materials used in its construction. [BAP-000607].

#### 1959

Following detailed reports of the hazardous condition of the building, the government stipulated that no more than 80 Indian children should be accommodated [BAP-000189].

The Whitehorse Mission Home appears as a property owned and operated by the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society for the year 1960 to 1961 [BAP-000624-0002].

#### 1961

A letter from the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society notes that some buildings have already been removed and others are scheduled to be dismantled [BAP-001290].

#### **Dates owned by Government**

N/A

# Date turned over to Band or other aboriginal group

N/A

### V - LAND

# <u>1947</u>

The Whitehorse Indian Day School was located on a leasehold called the Alaska Highway Maintenance Lease No. 15A. The leasehold was described as follows:

Commencing at a point where the south boundary line of the city limits of Whitehorse, Y.T. intersects the west property line of Fifth Street, thence east along the south boundary line of Whitehorse, a distance of 460 feet, thence south 520 feet; thence west 460 feet, thence north 520 feet to the point of beginning, in Lot 19, Group 5, containing an area of 5.491 acres, more or less [BAP-000468]

The land was owned by the British Yukon Railway Company and the present lease was obtained by the Department [of Mines and Resources] for a term of five years from 15<sup>th</sup> of February, 1946, at a rental of \$5.00 per acre per annum [BAP-000468].

The Department of Mines and Resources leased the land for the purposes of constructing the Northwest Highway [BAP-000463].

#### 1948

January - In 1948, the maintenance authority of the land was the Department of National Defence. The Department of National Defence stated that although there was a continuing Army Requirement for the lease in question, it would have been quite in order for the Indian Affairs Branch to occupy an area of one acre of

land surrounding the building then in use by the Whitehorse Indian Day School [BAP-000486].

# <u>1950</u>

It was noted that the Whitehorse School operated by Reverend Harold Iden Lee was situated on land belonging to the British Yukon Railway Company Limited which was held under lease by this Department [Department of Resources and Development] for the benefit of the Department of National Defence (Army) and it was not possible for the Reverend Mr. Lee to acquire title to any portion of the property although he desired to do so [BAP-090014].

#### 1954

The school facilities were located in Block 19, Whitehorse Townsite, which property was under lease by the Federal Government to the British Yukon Navigation Company Limited, and in turn leased to the Department of National Defence [BAP-090021].

The Indian Baptist Mission School was situated on land leased from B.Y.N.; the contract with them was temporary and only from month to month [BAP-000614].

# VI - PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA

Item #	Year	Description
BAP-000325	1947	Evacuation Plan of the "Whitehorse School."
BAP-000335	1947	Photo of the "Whitehorse Indian Day School and Pupils - May 1947", picture is described as the old building.
BAP-000342	1947	Photo of the first building used as an Indian School in Whitehorse (mid-left)
BAP-000395- 0000	1948	Plan of current and proposed site of Reverend Mr. Lee's School (cover document).
BAP-000395- 0001	1948	Plan of current and proposed site of Reverend Mr. Lee's School. (map)
BAP-000292	1950	Photos of the manual training room that was set up for the joint use of the Whitehorse Indian School and local territorial school.
BAP-000240	1950	Photo of town and airport of Whitehorse.

# **VII - GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME**

Year	Item #	Number of Students
September 1947	BAP-000067- 0002	45 children in residence
October 1947	BAP-000356	40 children in residence; 26 day pupils
June 1948	BAP-000379	67 children enrolled at the boarding school
February 1950	NPC-603454	75 Indian and 15 other pupils in residence
June 1951	BAP-000055- 0000	Present enrolment at the Whitehorse Day School is 106 [boarders]
March 1953	BAP-001003	Enrollment at Indian Baptist Mission School, Incorporated is 171 pupils; of these 143 are Indian Status while the remaining 28 are of mixed blood
April 1953	BAP-000897- 0000	140+ Indian children living in residence
January 1954	BAP-090018	Whitehorse Indian Day School enrolment was 176; of these 140 were Indian resident pupils, 6 day school pupils, and the rest of the children were enfranchised Indians or half-breed children.
September 1954	BAP-001046	140 Indians, 25 non-Indians in residence
June 1954	BAP-000067- 0002	100 Students in residence; 3 preschool children in orphanage
November 1956	BAP-090077- 0002	118 Indian Status Children attending

Year	Item #	Number of Students
May 1957	BAP-000144	95 Pupils enrolled in Whitehorse Indian Day School.
October 1957	BAP-000069	95 or 98 Children in residence. [Not clearly legible – unclear copy]
September 1959	YKS-003489	80 in attendance at Baptist Indian Mission Residential School
June 1959	BAP-000190	93 Indians in attendance at Whitehorse Indian Day School
August 1959	BAP-090028	11 discharged and 82 returning to Baptist Indian Mission
February 20 1961	BAP-001290	18 Baptist and welfare children residing in Mission Home

# VIII - STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES

Students from the following bands attended or resided at Whitehorse Baptist Mission: Carmacks, Aishihik, Atlin-Teslin, Laberge, Whitehorse, Ross River, Dawson, Selkirk, Champagne, Pelly Lakes, Teslin, Haines Junction, Upper Laberge; Burwash.

## **IX - RELIGIOUS GROUPS**

Teaching Staff were drawn from the following and other religious groups:

- Prophetic Bible Institute, Calgary, Alberta
- Berean Bible College, Calgary, Alberta
- Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills Alberta
- Christian Training Institute, Edmonton Alberta
- Briercrest Bible Institute, Caronport Saskatchewan
- Moody Bible Institute, Chicago Illinois
- Canadian Bible Institute, Regina Saskatchewan

# Anglican/Baptist Conflict 1957

The Principal of Carcross IRS became concerned when a baptized Anglican student was admitted to the Baptist Mission School. He requested to the Yukon Indian Agency that the practice should cease immediately [BAP-090050].

When building the new hostel for Protestant children to replace the Indian Baptist Mission School at Whitehorse, the government dealt with many concerns regarding the religious teaching of the pupils, the religious denomination of the staff at the hostel and the placement of Baptist pupils within Anglican schools. Both the Baptist and Anglican Authorities were equally insistent that the school should be operated under their respective auspices or in a neutral manner [BAP-090052, YKS-000360, BAP-090005].

There was concern in regard to the Principal of the Baptist Mission becoming the Principal of the new hostel. In 1960, the government decided that the administration of the unit should come directly from an official on their staff and appointed an official to direct the Baptist Principal on matters of operating the hostel [YKS-000360, YKS-003056].

Further conflict surrounded a decision to have all Protestant children in grades 1-3 transferred to Carcross School. The Yukon Baptist Missionary Society opposed Baptist pupils attending an Anglican school and requested arrangements to provide spiritual ministry for these children [YKS-000332, BAP-090005, and BAP-090043]

# X - WRITTEN AGREEMENTS 1949

Arrangement between Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Mines & Resources and the Reverend H.I. Lee of Whitehorse in which the government would not recognize the institution as an Indian Residential School [BAP-000416].

# XI - DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

Convictions

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Whitehorse Baptist Mission or of any convicted abusers present at the school.

#### Incidents

To date, we are unaware of any incidents of abuse at Whitehorse Baptist Mission.

## XII - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# **Admission Matters**

1948

Reverend Lee maintained four children of parents convicted of the charge of intoxication without a grant for six months [BAP-000518].

On many occasions when the local hospital had lacked beds, Mr. Lee took in Indian children and looked after them until a hospital bed in Whitehorse was free [BAP-000419-0001].

#### <u> 1956</u>

A student with a history of truancy, stealing, apprehension by the police and trial in Juvenile Court was approved for a transfer from Carcross IRS to Whitehorse Indian Day School [BAP-090061-0000, BAP-090061-0001, BAP-090062, BAP-090063, BAP-090064, and YKS-003484].

# Alleged Truancy of Pupils

## 1949

RCMP investigates six cases of alleged truancy of students attending Whitehorse Indian Mission School [BAP-000414-0000 to BAP-000414-0006].

### The Life at the Mission and School

#### 1946

May 5<sup>th</sup> - Rev. Harold Lee, his wife and their two children arrive in Whitehorse as missionaries under the Alaska Evangelization Society [BAP-000067-0002].

#### 1947

September – The residential portion of the school opened with 45 children in residence. [BAP-000067-0002]

#### 1948

December – The annual Christmas Concert, consisting of a program of recitations, plays, star drills and other Christmas routines, is reported in the Whitehorse Star. [BAP-001440-0000]

#### 1949

November – An ice rink was made near the school. Desks had been ordered for the school as the students were sitting on backless forms. There were 88 pupils at meal times and the kitchen was well-stocked with moose meat bought from Indians. Sleeping accommodations and sanitary facilities were plain but acceptable [BAP-200221]. Health services in Whitehorse were reinforced.

#### 1950

Circa September – It was noted in an Indian School bulletin that an art exhibition was put on by the British Columbia Indian Arts and Welfare Society of Victoria, at which the Whitehorse Day School provided art-work. The students and their teacher Miss L. Farley were congratulated on their work, but it is not clear if the teacher or students went to Victoria for the exhibition or not. [NPC-600329]

March – On March 2, Reverend Harold Iden Lee died as a result of injuries sustained in a Motor Vehicle accident. His wife and his brother Leforest Lee continued on his work at Whitehorse Indian Mission School. [BAP-000615-0000, BAP-000615-0003]

Leforest Lee continued as Director of the Mission [BAP-001085]. Earl Lee was Senior Teacher from Sep. 1949, and he began requesting that he be reclassified as Principal. It is noted that if the day school is considered separate by the department, Mr. Lee might be classified as Principal Grade 1 [CP000118, CP000438-440].

#### 1953

January 31 - Six to eight school age children could be accommodated at the Indian Baptist Mission School next summer. Requesting if accommodations for 10 could be made. [BAP-001056]

May 12 – Students were to be placed into WBM as boarders for their education, because their parents were out trapping and thus not maintaining a permanent home in Whitehorse. [BAP-000887]

October 13 – The Department is not prepared to reclassify Mr. Earl Lee as Principal. Furthermore, the Federal Government found that the notion of the Whitehorse Indian Day School being a separate entity from the Hostel was not substantiated by fact. [CP000438]

#### 1955

January 27 – Earl R. Lee, newly elected President, takes over the administrative duties of the school. [BAP-000066-0001]

#### 1956

Sep. 1, 1956 - Earl Lee is officially reclassified as Senior Teacher/Principal [CP000074]. A document from May 1956 explains the policy change that made the reclassification possible [CP000080].

#### 1957

It is reported that the Whitehorse Indian Day School had a poor and inadequate laundry system, and yet considering this inconvenience, they preferred doing their own laundry as it was more economical. [BAP-090001]

A new hostel to be constructed by the government is approved. The hostel was intended as an alternative hostel for the Indian children attending the Lee Mission School at Whitehorse. The Minister indicated that the hostel should provide for Indian children, white children and children of mixed blood. [BAP-090076]

The government approves closing of the Whitehorse Day School and transfer of the students to the Selkirk Elementary/Joint School in Whitehorse for the 1959-1960 school year. While attending the Selkirk school, the pupils were to live in the hostel at the Whitehorse Indian Day School. Mr. Lee would act as Supervising Principal of Whitehorse Indian Day School and Hostel during this year. After the 1959-1960 school year, the children in grades 1-3 were to be transferred to Carcross School. [BAP-090074-0000]

August – As of June 30, 1959, the children enrolled in the Whitehorse Baptist Hostel were discontinued from attending the Indian Day School at Whitehorse. [YKS-000728]

August – classroom supplies including desks, chairs and blackboards were to be transferred from Whitehorse Indian Day School to Carcross Indian Residential School [BAP-090071]

#### <u> 1960</u>

May – In May, the president of the Yukon Baptist Missionary Society, Incorporated, informs the government of their clear intention to continue providing hostel and classroom accommodations for the Baptist children in grades 1-3. They state they "...do not intend to have the Indians who desire to have their children instructed in the Baptist faith to be subject to Anglican indoctrination by having those in grade 1-3 placed in the Anglican School at Carcross" [YKS-000332 and BAP-090005].

#### Health

#### 1947

In January, an immunization clinic was held at the school. Twenty-six infants and pre-school children were given the first dose of combined diphtheria and pertussis [BAP-000315].

#### 1950

February – A Regional Superintendent of Indian Health Services visited the Mission and noted that the buildings were "not in good repair" and the fire hazard was high. Though, due to the numerous doors on the one-story buildings, "the residents would all probably be able to escape." In terms of cleanliness, the "Premises were as clean and well-kept as could be expected in such buildings." Meanwhile, the "Children were clean, looked well nourished, orderly and cheerful." The Superintendent was satisfied with the care, feeding, teaching, and health supervision of the 75 children at the Mission. [NPC-603454]

December – It is noted in a report to the Department of National Health and Welfare that the pupils at WBM were given excellent care, sleeping quarters were clean and not over-crowded, food was above the standard of other Indian Residential Schools, and Medical Staff were on call at all times for the school. It is noted that Mr. Lee, for a nominal fee of \$2 per day, had a practice of taking in children recently released from Hospital in Whitehorse until transport was arranged to their homes, which if from outlying areas would sometimes take several weeks. [NPC-603453]

#### 1951

February to March – A child died while in residence at WBM. Initial diagnosis was that Tuberculous Meningitis caused the death. Subsequent autopsy revealed that the cause of death was a ruptured aneurysm. Nonetheless, all 126 pupils were x-rayed at the Whitehorse Military Hospital [findings indicating no active tuberculosis disease at the school] and a review of health procedures also took place. [NPC-603446, NPC-603442-0000, NPC-603442-0002, NPC-603451]

March – The WBM new student medical screening involved a medical exam when enrolled for the first time, with further exams in subsequent years if specifically indicated. The infirmary at the Mission was deemed good, with one supervisor to care for patients and to notify the local Registered Nurse with any problems. [NPC-603442-0002]

Throughout the year, the Nurse held clinics two or three times a week at the Whitehorse Indian Day School, and a complete record was kept of the medical history of each child [BAP-000305].

#### 1952

September – It is noted by the medical superintendent that conditions at the Lee School at Whitehorse in terms of the buildings, accommodation, and facilities were very poor. [NPC-622922]

#### 1955

September – An employee from the Southern Yukon Children's Aid Society visited the WBM and noted they were "Not being too pleased with the sanitary conditions and cleanliness at the Indian Mission School where we have foster children placed." She went on to recommend the Public Health Nurse pay a visit to see what improvements could be made. [BAP-001030]

September – The Yukon Public Health Nurse visited the Indian Mission School Orphanage noting there was a shortage of staff and only two workers to care for sixteen children. The 1956 report notes that one of the Indian children from the orphanage was in the hospital with suspected T.B., while several cases of impetigo were presently under treatment, and one worker in hospital with

infectious hepatitis. However, diets were found to be "quite satisfactory." [BAP-000613]

#### 1956

Vaccinal tests were done at the Baptist Mission School in Whitehorse. In addition, diphtheria and tetanus injections were given as needed and the Salk vaccine program was continued. A total of one hundred and fifty-six injections were given [BAP-000610].

#### 1960

January – A report commented that the buildings and the equipment were old, and notes that the school will be closed in the fall. The report also commented on the diet of children, commending the adequate levels of proteins, while noting a lack of vegetables and vitamin C, and suggesting cheaper sources of Vitamin C. [NPC-620136-0004]

# XIII - ORPHANAGE

#### 1950

Financing for the orphanage was in part provided by the Superintendent of Child Welfare at the rate of 1.50/day. The superintendent was pleased to finally have an orphanage in the territory. [BAP-001104]

#### <u> 1954</u>

In connection with the school and hostel, an orphanage is maintained in which pre-school aged children are given a home. [BAP-000614]

#### 1955

September - One of the workers in the Orphanage contracted infectious hepatitis. [BAP-001030]

September – A report titled "Health conditions at the Indian Mission School Orphanage," notes that one of the Indian children from the orphanage was in the hospital with suspected T.B. Also, several cases of impetigo were presently under treatment. Diets were found to be "quite satisfactory," but a shortage of Staff left only two workers to care for 16 children. [BAP-000613]

#### 1956

May – It is noted by the Indian Superintendent that neglected children were often placed in the orphanage operated by the Baptist Indian Mission until better, more permanent housing was arranged, which was not often. [BAP-000754]

#### XIV - RIDGEVIEW HOME FOR CHILDREN

March – The Yukon Baptist Missionary Society is interested in constructing a building large enough to house 25 to 30 children plus staff [BAP-001288].

In September there were several handwritten letters asking for children to be transferred to the new Baptist Mission Home at Porter Creek, to receive Baptist religious training [see BAP-090110].

# XV - PRINCIPALS / ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Harold Iden Lee	Principal [BAP-000302-0002] Director	1947-1952
Mrs. Harold Iden (Lydia) Lee	"In charge" [BAP-001055]	1952-1953 <sup>2</sup>
Leforest Lee	Director [BAP-000897-0000; BAP-000230-0001] Administrator [BAP-090017] President [BAP-000653]	1952-1955
Earl R. Lee	President [BAP-000066-0001] Director Senior Teacher/Principal [CP000074]	1949-1960 <sup>3</sup>

Updated April 21, 2008

<sup>2</sup> After the death of her husband, documents indicate that Mrs. Harold Iden Lee and her brother-in-law [Leforest] continued her husband's missionary work at the school [BAP-000205; BAP-000849]. Mrs. Harold Iden Lee does not appear to be in a position of administration past 1953, though does appear in the

role of secretary in March 1954 [BAP-000843-0001].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please note that Earl R. Lee was present at the school in the capacity of the Senior Teacher from 1949 [CP000118]. In letter dated January 27, 1955, Earl R. Lee is elected as President of the Indian Baptist Mission School Society and it is advised that he is now in charge of the administrative duties at the school [BAP-000066-0001]. He is reclassified as Senior Teacher/Principal effective September 1, 1956 [CP000074]

The original school narrative document produced by Canabeen separated pending review.	ada also contains a number of records that have
	National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA