



UNIVERSITY  
nuxəʔhot'jine thaaʔehots'j  
nistameyimâkanak  
BLUE QUILLS



## Statement on the Continued Legacy of Indian Residential Schools

The discovery of 215 children who never got to go home from Kamloops Indian Residential School is a heart-breaking reminder of the continued effects of a genocidal system. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission only opened the door to so many more truths yet to be revealed. Blue Quills has been in a process to launch a similar investigation and continue to collect the stories of survivors and their families to honour their voices and to support the healing of our people and the ones who have come to share our lands. We grieve with the people whose relatives were found at the Kamloops Indian Residential School and for all of those yet to be found. We lift our prayers in ceremony.

On Monday we started a ceremonial 4 day fire at Blue Quills for the children. People are welcome to come to the fire, make offerings, share songs, prayers, stories. We ask that you respect our health protocols with distancing, face coverings, sanitizing, gathering size.

At Blue Quills, we continue to be inspired by the vision of our ancestors who said we can and we must create learning spaces, relationships, and programs that honour our knowledges, languages, and ceremonies. Working in a former Indian Residential School is a challenge, a daily reminder of the atrocities that happened here and of the work ahead of us. We draw on the strength of those ancestors and are motivated by our responsibility to the generations who will follow. We celebrate the resilience of our people.