

# ***“Making Connections”***

## **People For Education**

Ontario Public School Boards  
Association

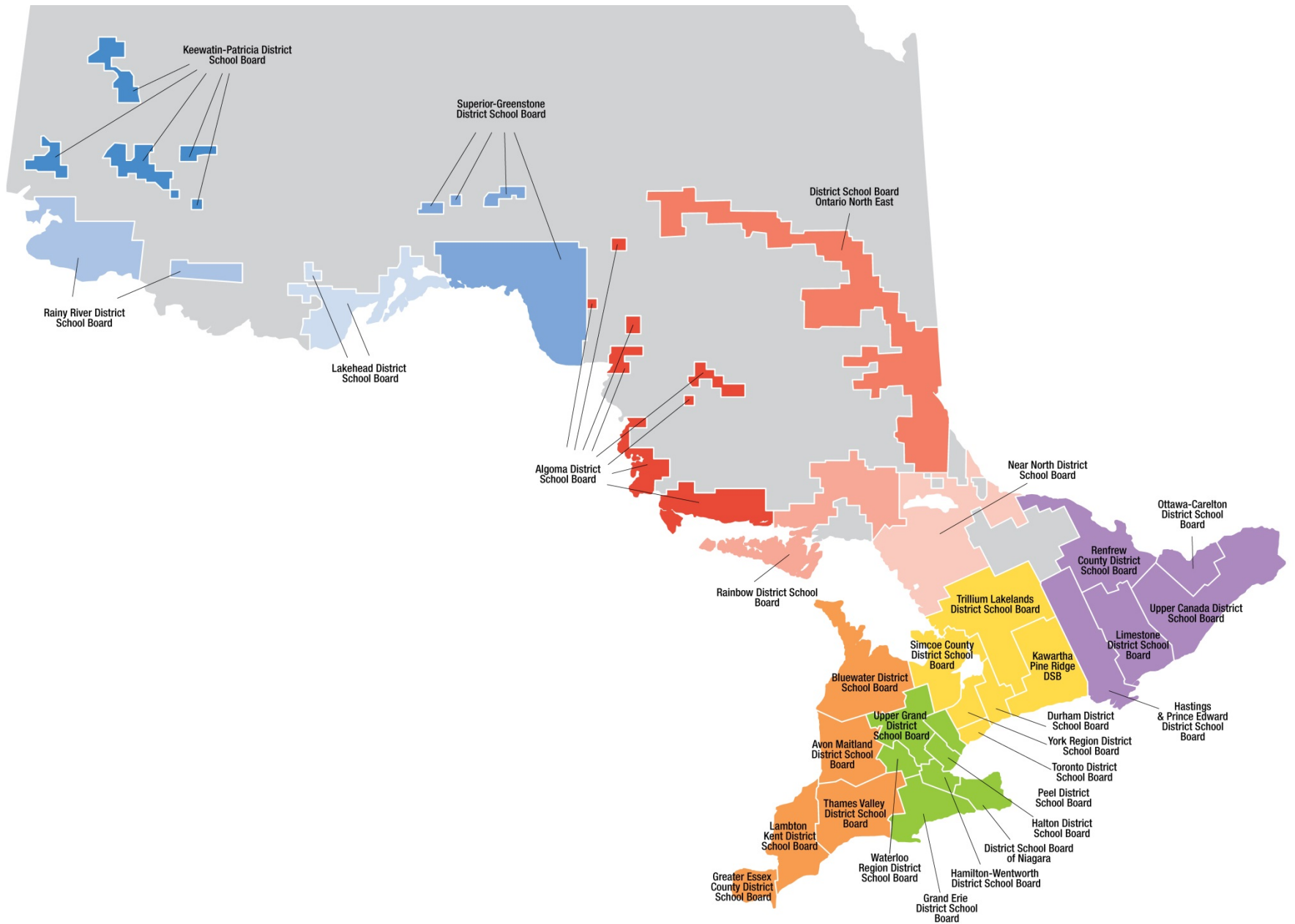
First Nations Trustees

Peter Garrow  
Director

Nov. 7, 2015

# Ontario School Boards

- 72 School Boards in Ontario
- OPSBA represents 31 public school boards and 10 School Authorities and Children's Treatment Centres as well as one Protestant Separate Board
- French Public (ACEPO) 4 school boards
- Catholic (OCSTA) 29 school boards
- French Catholic 8 school boards



# OPSBA

## Multi-Year Priorities

- **Student Well-Being and the Whole Child**
- **New Generation Education**
- **Trustees- Building Leadership Capacity**
- **Labour Relations**
- **Education Funding**

# OPPSBA Priorities and the Role of First Nation Trustees

First Nation Trustees have contributed to or developed:

Advocacy paper on First Nation, Métis and Inuit perspectives in Full-Day Kindergarten curriculum

Guide for Education Services Agreements

Charter of Commitment on First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education

Professional Development Module on First Nation, Métis and Inuit education

Hosting the 2014 National Aboriginal Trustees Gathering

# First Nation Trustees and Ontario Curriculum

Advocacy for mandatory elementary and secondary curriculum components in First Nation, Métis and Inuit history that includes treaty education, the history and legacy of residential schools and the impact of the *Indian Act*.

# First Nation Trustees and Ontario Curriculum

- OPSBA First Nation Trustees Council Curriculum Advocacy Paper was released in June, 2015 – within two weeks of the final report on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- It has been submitted to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Education

# School Boards Taking Action

- Many individual school boards have taken up the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and adopted specific resolutions to support the recommendations and to call on the Minister of Education to revise K-12 curriculum and expand learning resources on First Nation, Métis and Inuit peoples in Canadian history



# Colonialism and Racism

- Whose Territory?
- Who is left out of the History of Canada?
- What happens if there is no understanding?
- Are they only in the past or are they present?
- What happens if we ignore the past?
- Is it a basic form of Injustice?
- What does the UN indicate?
- “Native Resistance” Is it violence or self-defense?
- Are you a part of a colonial system?

# Residential School History

- **1857** - Gradual Civilization Act passed to assimilate Indians.
- **1860** – Indian Lands Act.
- **1867** – Canada.
- **1869** – Gradual Enfranchisement Act.
- **1876** – First Indian Act
- **1870-1910** - Period of assimilation where the clear objective of both missionaries and government was to assimilate Aboriginal children into the lower fringes of mainstream society
- **1920** - Compulsory attendance for all children ages 7-15 years. Children were forcibly taken from their families by priests, Indian agents and police officers.
- **1931** - There were 80 residential schools operating in Canada.
- 150,000+ FNMI students ( fatalities ?)
- **1948** – There were 72 residential schools with 9,368 students.
- **1979** – There were 12 residential schools with 1,899 students.
- **1980's** - Residential School students began disclosing sexual and other forms of abuse at residential schools.
- **1996** - The last federally run residential school, the Gordon Residential School, closes in Saskatchewan.

**18 Residential Schools in Ontario. The last one, in Fort Frances, closed in 1974.**



# Residential School History

- 1990 -Assoc. Man. Chiefs call out to all Churches re: Residential Schools (Abuses)
- 1996 – RCAP Separate Public Inquiry
- 1998 Aboriginal Healing Foundation est.
- 2005 – Common Experience Payments (CEP)
- 2007 - \$1.9 Billion formalized
- 2008 – Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- 2013 - \$1.6 Billion - 105,548 cases (79,272 accepted and 23,892 denied \$10,000 1<sup>st</sup> year and \$3,000 each year after)
- Ave. \$20,452 - \$1.62 Billion
- Independent Assessment Process – Sexual and Physical Abuse 29,384 resolved - Ave. Pmt. \$114,179 - \$2.552 Billion Damages

# Thomas Moore before and after his entrance into the Regina Indian Residential School in Saskatchewan in 1874



THOMAS MOORE, AS HE APPEARED WHEN ADMITTED TO THE REGINA INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.



THOMAS MOORE, AFTER TUITION AT THE REGINA INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.



Garnier Residential School,  
Spanish, ON.  
Closed 1962



Girls Dorm - 2011



The Mohawk Institute  
Brantford, ON.  
Closed 1969.



Carlisle Indian Industrial  
School, Carlisle, PA.  
Closed 1918.





Thomas Indian School,  
Cattaragus Seneca Nation.  
Closed 1957.

Convents:  
St. Andrews West, ON.  
Cornwall, ON.  
Montreal, QC.







*First Communion Class circa 1900. Girls from the St. Regis convent for girls. Photo by Francis San Jule, from the collection of the Akwesasne Museum.*

# Residential School Impacts

- Nominal objective of education
- Indoctrinating into Euro- Canadian and Christian ways (Aggressive Assimilation)
- Children lived under strict / harsh conditions by those without strong parenting skills
- When the children returned, their parents were often not bonded or lacked attachment – and often lacked parenting skills
- When these children had children of their own, they often lacked parenting skills
- The cycle continued – residual effects continue over several generations



# Truth and Reconciliation

## EST. June 1, 2008

- June 2, 2015 TRC – 94 Recommendations – Calls for Actions
  - Child Welfare (1-5)
  - Education (6-12)
  - Language and Culture (13-17)
  - Health (18-24)
  - Justice (25-42)
  - Reconciliation (43-94)
  - PD and Training for PS (57)
  - Education and Reconciliation (62-65)

# RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL APOLOGIES

- 1986 – 1<sup>ST</sup> Apology – United Church (FN)
- 1993 – Anglican Church of Canada
- 1994 – Presbyterian Church
- 1998 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Apology – United Church of Canada
- 2008 – June 11, Canada – PM Harper
- 2009 – April 29 – Catholic Church – Pope Benedict XVI expressed sorrow
- 2015 – Nov. 3 – Request for PM Trudeau to ask Pope Frances to apologize for Roman Catholic Church
- US Apology (?)

# COLONIZATION AND DE-COLONIZATION

## Six steps of Colonization

1. Denial – Withdrawal
2. Destruction – Eradication
3. Denigration – Belittlement
4. Surface Accommodation – Tokenism
5. Transformation
6. Exploitation

## Five Steps of De-Colonization

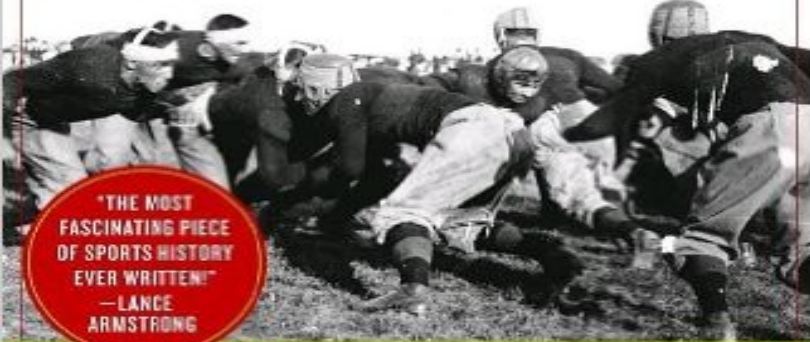
1. Recovery – Re-discovery
2. Mourning
3. Dreaming
4. Consensus
5. Action

*“In order for people to think, they need some facts to help them. In order for people to govern themselves well, they must know their own history, laws and court cases and decisions....If you cannot govern yourselves to your own satisfaction, there are always those who are willing to govern to their satisfaction.” Ernest Kaientaronkwen Benedict – War Hoop (1941)*

★ NATIONAL BESTSELLER ★

# THE REAL ALL AMERICANS

SALLY JENKINS



"THE MOST  
FASCINATING PIECE  
OF SPORTS HISTORY  
EVER WRITTEN!"  
—LANCE  
ARMSTRONG

IN 1912, A NATIVE AMERICAN FOOTBALL TEAM, LED BY  
JIM THORPE AND COACH "POP" WARNER, DEFEATED THE U.S.  
MILITARY ACADEMY ON THE FIELDS OF WEST POINT. THE  
ASTONISHING WINNING STREAK OF THE CARLISLE INDIANS,  
INCLUDING VICTORIES AGAINST HARVARD AND YALE, CHANGED  
AMERICAN FOOTBALL INTO THE GAME IT IS TODAY . . .

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# SHINGWAUK'S VISION

*A History of  
Native  
Residential  
Schools*

J.R. MILLER

