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September 24, 2021

My Dear People,

The Bishops of Canada are profoundly saddened by the Residential Schools legacy. This subject has been central to our annual plenary, which took place this week. We know that no single measure will alleviate the historical and ongoing trauma caused by the residential school system and the legacy of suffering that persists to this day. We also understand the power of contrition and hope that a collective apology from the Bishops of Canada will help to advance the trusted collaboration between Indigenous leaders and the Bishops of Canada.

To that end, I solemnly submit the attached apology on behalf of the Bishops of Canada. As an assembly, we are fully committed to listening, learning, and taking meaningful measures that can advance the healing journey.

Fraternally,

+ Wayne Kirkpatrick

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick