

# Special Interlocutor Missing Children and Unmarked Burials

Kimberly R. Murray



**Office of the Independent  
Special Interlocutor**

for Missing Children and Unmarked  
Graves and Burial Sites associated  
with Indian Residential Schools

**Bureau de l'interlocutrice  
spéciale indépendante**

pour les enfants disparus et les tombes  
et les sépultures anonymes en lien avec  
les pensionnats indiens







# Mandate



# Mandate

- Engage Survivors, First Nation, Inuit and Métis Leaders and organizations
- Identify needed measures, gaps and inconsistencies and recommend a new federal framework
- Examine existing Federal, Provincial and Territorial laws, regulations, tools and practices to protect unmarked burials
- United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the UN Declaration Act





# Mandate

- Work with National Advisory Committee
- Indigenous laws, legal orders and governance
- Facilitate Communications with Government Departments
- Support Advancement of TRC Calls to Action #71–76
- Associated Lands and Other Sites
- Possible Return of Land







# Mandate Restrictions





Not to interfere with criminal investigations, prosecutions or civil proceedings.

No powers to compel records and only has “ability to request, obtain, or review documents in accordance with access and privacy legislation or any other applicable law.”





# Reports



# Reports

- In 3 months - update to Minister
- At end of year 1 - Interim Report
- At end of year 2 -Final Report – include recommendations for a new framework to protect and preserve unmarked burials and support the recovery of missing children.







# Office of the Special Interlocutor Activities



# Gatherings

- September 12–14, 2022 Edmonton: Survivor and Community Voices
- November 28–30, 2022 Winnipeg: Community Wellness
- January 17–19, 2023 Vancouver: Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Access to Records
- March TBD, 2023 Toronto: Indigenous Law







# What we have heard

- Access to Records: NCTR, LAC, Church Entities
- Funding Concerns – wellness funding for teams and communities, funding for Impacted Communities – how do they participate in the Sacred work
- Data Analysis: Delay and few Experts
- Legal Issues and access to lands (IRS and other sites)
- Justice and Accountability





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# Questions?

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