



Nishnawbe Aski Nation

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HEALING THE GENERATIONS
RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

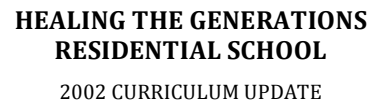
2002 CURRICULUM UPDATE

READING

BACKGROUND INFORMATION continued...

These apologies were made in public, in the presence of Aboriginal people who had attended and been affected by residential schooling. Church leaders also encouraged congregations at the local level to be involved—for example, by arranging feasts with local Chiefs and giving a copy of the apology to each Chief—making public confessions on the territory of Aboriginal people.

Today the churches are committed to educating non-Aboriginal people about the legacy of residential schools policies. They are developing resources and conducting special fund-raising campaigns among their own members, as well as reaching out to the general public.



UNITED CHURCH APOLOGY



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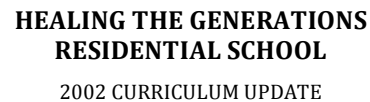
CHURCH APOLOGIES UNITED CHURCH

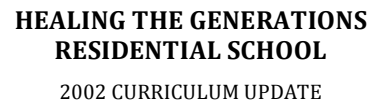
In July 1991:

Father Douglas Crosby, OMI, then presidential of the Oblate Conference of Canada, delivered a detailed apology to approximately 25,000 natives at Lac Ste. Anne, on the occasion of the annual pilgrimage. He said in part:

"We apologize for the part we played in the cultural, ethnical, linguistic and religious imperialism that was part of the European mentality and, in a particular way, for the instances of physical and sexual abuse that occurred in these schools. We recognize that in spite of the good that came of them, the residential schools have caused pain to so many. For these trespasses we wish to voice today our deepest sorrow and we ask your forgiveness and understanding. We hope that we can make up for it being part of the healing process wherever necessary."

The (OMI) Missionary Oblates operated most of the Roman Catholic residential schools in Canada







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INFORMATION

WHAT IS AN APOLOGY?

An apology is a regretful acknowledgement of an offence or failure. It is an assurance that no offence was intended. It is an explanation or defense. To make an apology; express regret is the action of apologizing.

How does it make the person receiving the apology feel?

How does it make the person giving the apology feel?

WHEN AND HOW TO APOLOGIZE

One key to getting along well with people is knowing when to say you're sorry. Sometimes little comments or actions can hurt or offend others. The little things can add up. It doesn't take long for someone to hold a grudge and for grudges to grow into conflicts. In most cases, if someone is offended by something you do or say, it's much better to apologize right away. That solves the small problem and keeps it from getting bigger. It's hard to apologize. Many of us are ashamed or have too much pride. Sometimes we just don't know how to do it. Here are some tips that may make it easier to say you're sorry.

Take responsibility: the first step in apologizing is to admit to yourself that you have offended someone.

Explain: it's important to let the person you hurt know that you didn't mean to do harm. At the same time, you must show that you take your mistake seriously. Recognize that your actions caused a problem for the other person.

Show regret: the other person needs to see that you have suffered, too. Come right out and say you are sorry or ashamed. *"I felt bad the minute it told your secret to Fred. I'm ashamed of myself."*

Repair the damage: to be complete, an apology must correct the injury. If you damaged someone's property, offer to fix it. If the damage isn't so obvious, ask *"What can I do to make it up to you?"* There may be nothing concrete you can do, but the offer must be sincere. *"I'll try to keep my mouth shut in the future. Meantime, let me buy you a cup of coffee."* Another way to repair the damage is to send a note or a small gift.

Use good timing: Apologize right away for little things; for example, if you bump into someone, say you're sorry right away. Don't wait until the next day to apologize. However, if you have done something more serious, like insult a friend, your apology should be more thoughtful. A quick apology might seem phony.

Source: <http://extension.unl.edu/welfare/apology.htm>

WORKSHEET



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Name: _____

MY APOLOGIES

Think of four (4) different scenarios where you were at fault. Come up with an apology for each scenario to show your regret (without using real people names).

Scenario #1:	
Apology #1:	

Scenario #2:	
Apology #2:	

Scenario #3:	
Apology #3:	

Scenario #4:	
Apology #4:	