

**Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada
Media Clips**



**Résolution des questions des pensionnats indiens Canada
Manchettes**

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Gathering Local Stories From Residential School Survivors

Prince George is the second stop in what will be an 18-month journey across the country gathering the stories of survivors of residential schools.

The project is being undertaken by the Legacy of Hope Foundation in a bid to educate both aboriginal and non-aboriginal youth about the residential school experience and history.

Executive Director, Angie Bruce, says the foundation grew out of a 2001 gathering in Edmonton that brought together aboriginal youth -- Inuit, Metis, and First Nations -- from across the country. She says, "They came together and said to us, 'Your number one mandate should be educating the youth about the legacy of residential schools because it still affects us today.'"

Bruce says the first education program developed is a historical photographic exhibit that is currently travelling the country called, "Where are the Children?" The exhibit is scheduled to be in Prince George in the fall of 2007. But Bruce says when survivors saw the exhibit, many wanted the chance to record their experiences. "They wanted to educate youth through what they had to say because, as you know, the aboriginal community uses oral tradition and they wanted to pass that down."

So, the storytelling sessions are an opportunity for survivors to record their residential school experiences either individually or in a group setting. The final results will be a book, DVD, and website to be used as educational tools.

Bruce says the sessions have been well received both in Vancouver and our city. "It's been really, really amazing. What we find is that B.C. is a lot further along than maybe some other provinces in the healing movement that's occurring right now and so people have been ready -- they want their story heard, they want a venue to document so that it's here forever."

She says, "I think what really brings them here is that they know that they need to educate both aboriginal and non-aboriginal youth because those are our leaders of tomorrow."

"So they (the youth) need to have that understanding of what happened and that empathy and that touch with humanity, so that what happened doesn't happen again."