

LOCAL NEWS

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Nora was remembered

The Truro Daily News

INDIAN BROOK — The native elder who spearheaded the landmark lawsuit for residential school survivors was on many peoples' mind Wednesday.

Following a "letting-go" ceremony and before the prime minister's apology, many of the survivors spoke about Millbrook native Nora Bernard.

"I truly believe if it wasn't for Nora and other survivors ... that this day would not have happened," said John McKiggan, a lawyer who represented Bernard and her group. "Nora fought long and hard for the settlement and apology that this day represents."

Bernard was murdered last December but her hard work was evident by those at Wednesday's ceremony. McKiggan said she never cared about the money for herself but wanted justice to be served.

Gladys Bjorndal, a survivor who lives near Dalhousie, N.B, knew she had to take part in the event.

"Especially for Nora who worked so hard for what we've been through," she said after making the roughly five-kilometre walk from Shubenacadie to Indian Brook. "Just being here and seeing all the people that went through this with us, it was a blessing."

Bernard's daughter, Leanna MacLeod, said she found the apology "very weak."

"I don't feel that he was really, truly sincere," she said in front a large banner bearing his mother's face. "It was very weak, but I accepted it on behalf of my mom."

With files from The Canadian Press

12/06/08



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shane stevens from millbrook, nova scotia writes: I agree Leanna,. Aunt Nora still has her footprint in this event but the prime minister's mindset should have been to make his mark as well not just read what others wrote like another policy review at a time like this.

next time mr. prime minister,... dont read it or try to memorise a line like its a movie script just do your research and determine what your gonna say as you say it. thanks for the apology on my familys behalf its overdue about 100 years or more, but this isnt the end. It's not over untill it's over.

Shane Stevens. Nora's nephew
Alberts grandson
Lindas nephew
Matildas nephew
Ritas nephew
and countless others who are also survivors.
RIP. Nora Bernard
RIP. Albert Benard

Posted 12/06/2008 at 9:41 PM | [Alert an Editor](#) | [Link to comment](#)

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