



Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon **OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

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Support of Catholic TRC Healing Response: Residential School Survivors and their Families and Communities

**Dear Clergy, Religious, Lay Faithful –Sisters and Brothers of the
Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon:**

Following the recent announcement of the collective effort of the dioceses and eparchies throughout Canada to raise the collective amount of up to \$30 million dollars in support of a broad Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Healing Fund in support of Residential School survivors and their communities, and to engage more deeply in our own ongoing commitment and response to the Truth and Reconciliation process, I commit our own efforts here in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon to fully participate in this collective effort.

Our diocese has already launched this appeal through the leadership and of the Diocese of Saskatoon Catholic Foundation. Details have been setup at the following website for information about the appeal, and the funds collected: <https://dscf.ca/catholic-trc-healingresponse/> Many donors have already taken the opportunity to donate a one-time amount or make a pledge for ongoing support over a multi-year period.

As previously outlined, the funding priorities are as follows:

- 1) Healing and Reconciliation
- 2) Cemeteries on the sites of former residential schools
- 3) Education and Cultural Support


Funds would be allocated to local and national initiatives responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action involving a financial commitment, as guided by Indigenous representatives of communities and organizations here in Saskatchewan (cf. *Calls to Action* #61, #73-76; #82).

Efforts are now being made to gather such representatives to form an oversight circle and board to discern, allocate, and distribute funds as we are able to gather them. In keeping with the recent announcement by both the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the Catholic Bishops of Saskatchewan, the timeline for this effort will be up to five years.

We commit to work hard and contribute to maximize our efforts and contribution to this collective national effort of our Catholic dioceses and eparchies across Canada.

Yours in Christ,

✠ Mark A. Hagemoen

 In all things we are *rooted in Christ*,
in His desire to bring God's love to all peoples.