# Lake Report

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## 'Just believe us, that's been the hardest'

"Even before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission we've been talking about how there were more children, we've always known that. We've been talking about how pervasive racism is, we've always known that. We've been talking about how there was an active plan to erase Indigenous people, and we've always known that. What's been difficult is that for generations we've been saying this and Canadians have been going, 'Well, no. That can't be.' They're minimizing or diminishing it and trying to distance themselves."

"This is shared history. The residential school discoveries aren't about Indigenous people as much as they're about what Canadians did."

> Karl Dockstader Executive director Niagara Regional Native Centre



Each of the 1,140 stars above represents an Indigenous child lost to Canada's residential school system, in Kamloops, Cowessess

and lesser known sites in Regina, Brandon and Lestock. These numbers are sure to grow.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RICHARD HARLEY

#### Editorial

**Everyone is responsible,** including the media, for ignoring residential school genocide.

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#### **Dealing with tragedy**

**Columnist David Israelson** says Canada Day is a time to start dealing with our Indigenous history.

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#### **Calls for justice**

Niagara's Indigenous community is calling for active reconciliation, and is holding a sacred fire.

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### **Educate yourself**

Indigenous lecturer says self-education is an important step toward making amends.

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