



**Office of the Independent
Special Interlocutor**

for Missing Children and Unmarked
Graves and Burial Sites associated
with Indian Residential Schools



WELCOME

Iqaluit, Nunavut

63.7467° N, 68.5170° W

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Joanasie Akumalik

Project Manager

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“Let’s Find Them” Project

Process

Lessons Learned

Obstacles

Communication

Nanilavut - “Let’s Find Them” (2017)

- Closure and begin healing process who have been searching for lost loved ones from tuberculosis epidemic of the 1940s to 1960s.
- *Inuvialuit: Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) – Inuvialuit Settlement Region;*
- *Nunavut: Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) - Nunavut*
- *Northern Quebec: Makivvik Corporation (Makkivik) - Nunavik*
- *Labrador: Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) - Nunatsiavut*

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), also take part in being involved in the process.

In March 2019, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau came to Iqaluit to deliver an apology to Inuit, on behalf of the Government of Canada.



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Inuit Nunangat

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INUIT TAPIIRIT KANATAMI

WWW.ITK.CA

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Inuvialuit
Nunangat

Inuvialuit
Settlement
Region

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Nunavut

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Nunatsiavut

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Nunavik

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CANADA

History.

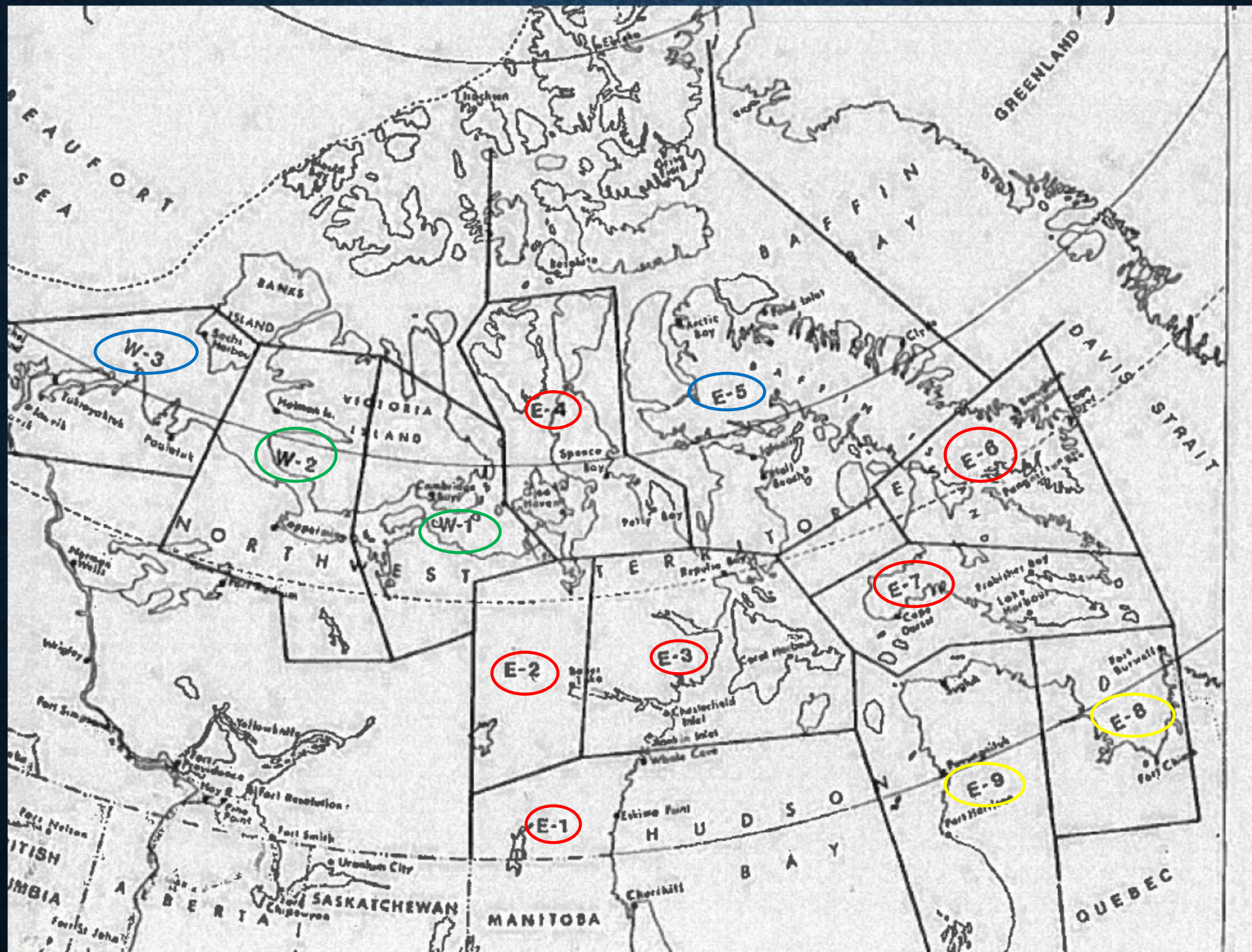
- Tuberculosis epidemic in Canada in the 1940s through to the 1960s.
- During the 1950s, at least one-third (1/3) of the Inuit population was infected with tuberculosis.
- Approximately 4,500 Inuit sent down south for treatment, about 900 never return home.

Eskimo Identification Numbers

E numbers



E5 - 1455



NORTH WEST TERRITORIES
ESKIMO RECORD

T. O. No. 2247

COPELAND-CHATTERSON LIMITED, BRAMPTON, ONT. 6159-46

DATE OF BIRTH **July 1, 1934** BIRTH CERTIFICATE No **(P.I. 619)**
 PLACE OF BIRTH **Clyde River, N. W. T.** DISTRICT OF REGISTRATION **E-5 Pond Inlet**
 RACIAL ORIGIN **Eskimo** OCCUPATION **Housewife** RELIGION **Church of England**
 EDUCATION **Nil - reads and writes Eskimo syllabics** LANGUAGE **Eskimo**
 NAME OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD **Peterloosie** IDENTITY No. **E5-279** RELATIONSHIP **Husband**

IF SUBJECT IS HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD SHOW REST OF FAMILY AS FOLLOWS:

IDENTITY No.	NAME	SEX	YR. OF BIRTH	REL TO HEAD OF HOUSE	IDENTITY No.	NAME	SEX	YR. OF BIRTH	REL TO HEAD OF HOUSE

REMARKS ON REVERSE SIDE

NAME	PLACE OF RESIDENCE	YEAR	IDENTIFICATION No.		
IN SYLLABICS	IN ENGLISH	YEAR	OLD	NEW	YEAR
ᐱᐱᐱᐱ	Clyde River, N. W. T.	1941	7216	E5-254	1947

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 de recherche ou d'études privées.
 Reference number/no de référence: RG85 VOL 1905 E5

Cemeteries

Unmarked Graves



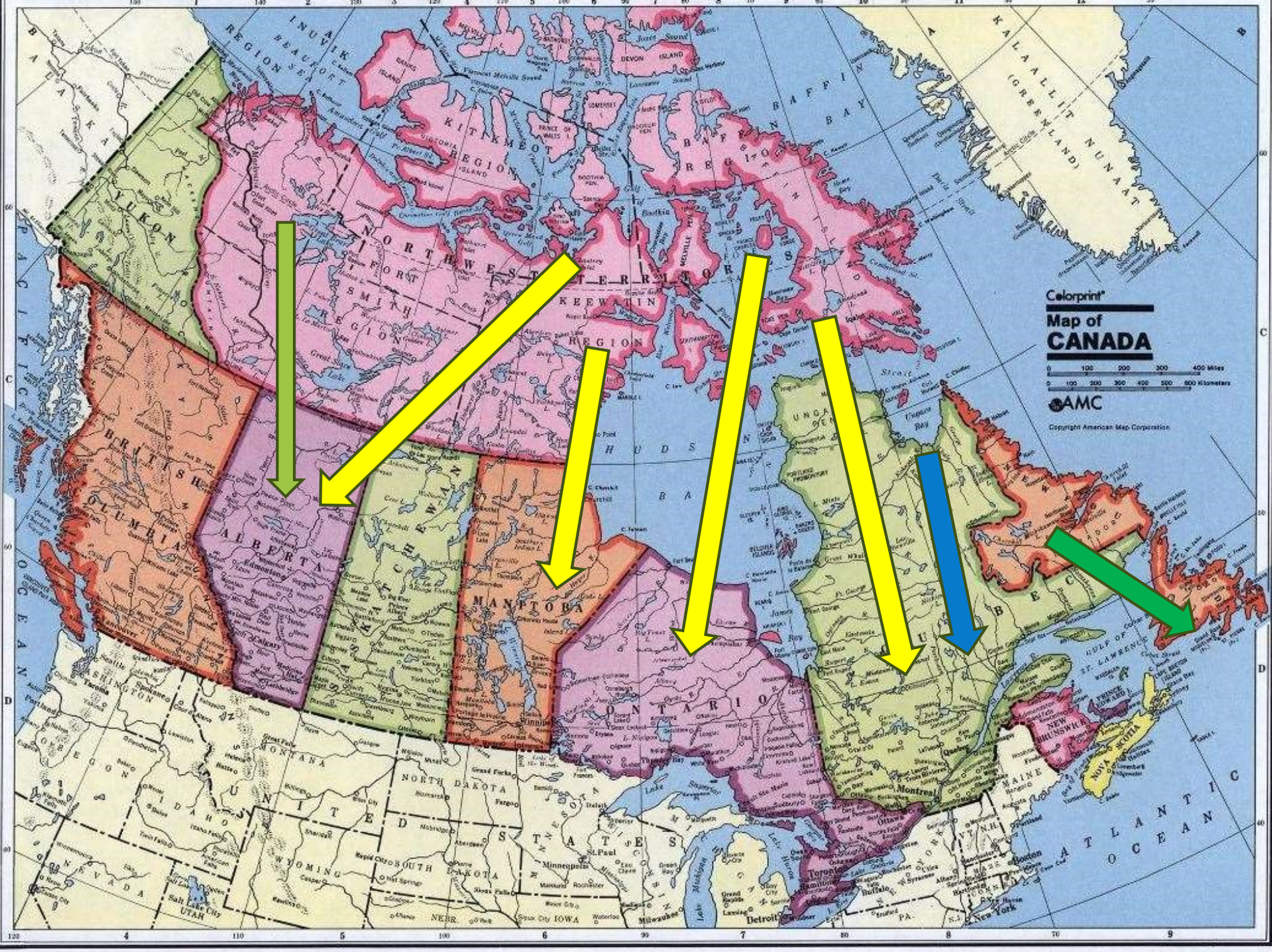






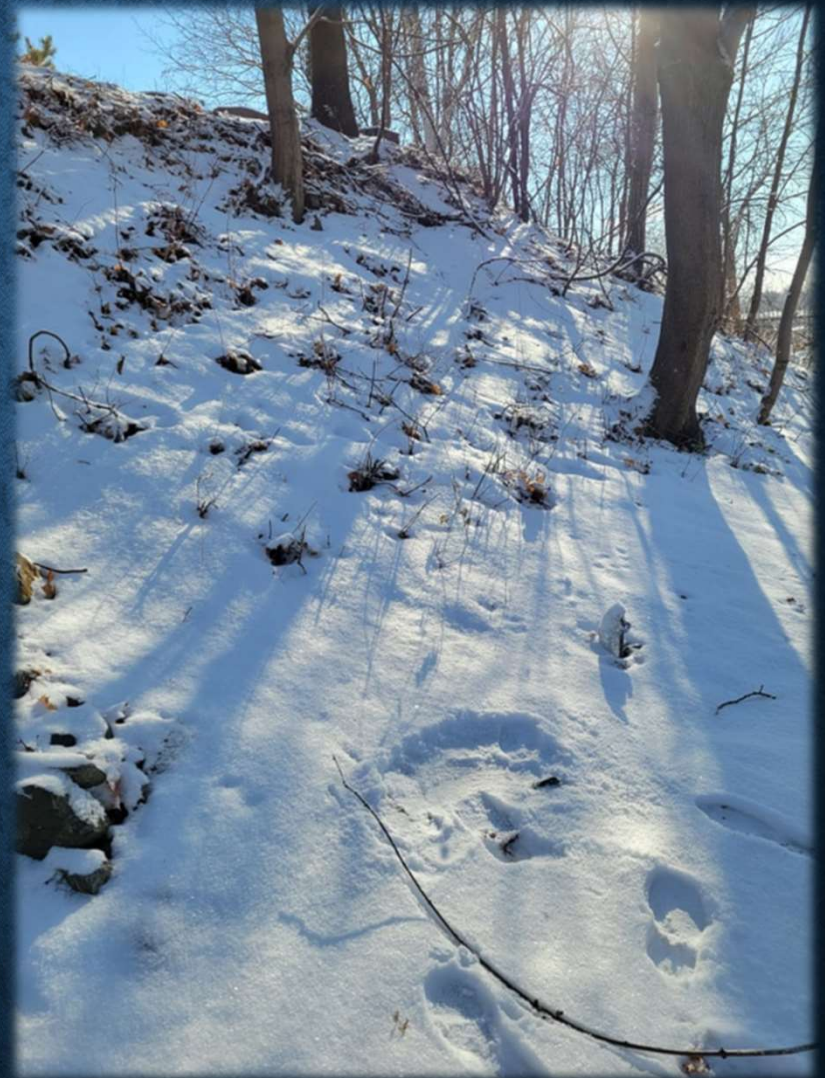
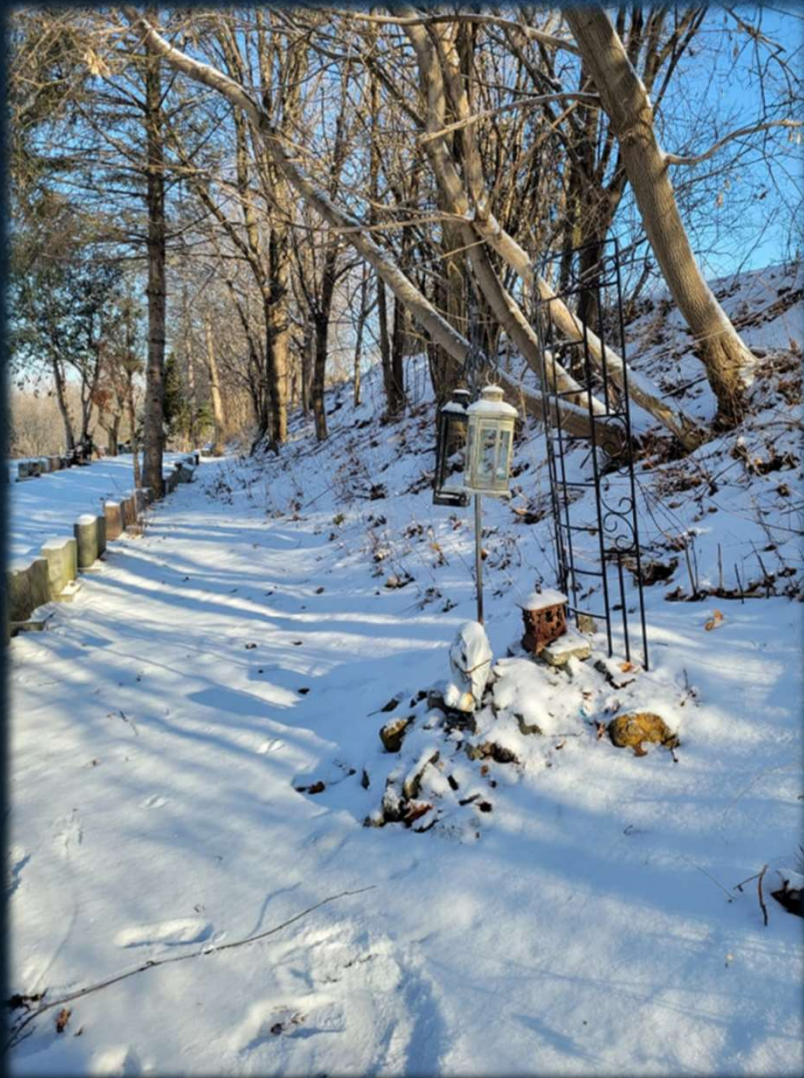
TUBERCULOSIS EPIDEMIC

- 1940s – 1960s
 - Ships, trains, buses, planes
 - Parc Savard, Quebec
 - Toronto Sanatorium Weston
 - Mountain Sanatorium Hamilton
 - Moose Factory Indian Hospital
 - Clearwater Indian Hospital
 - Charles Camsell Edmonton
- Treated, returned home, succumbed to the illness and buried down south



Colorprint
Map of
CANADA
0 100 200 300 400 Miles
0 100 200 300 400 500 600 Kilometers
AMC
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Inuit Children (7)





Three-pronged Approach

Acknowledgement:

- ✓ Full acknowledgement and apology
- ✓ Commemoration events
- ✓ Public education tools
- ✓ Properly marked graves

Family Support:

- ✓ Nanilavut Project Managers
- ✓ Health support counsellors
- ✓ Travel to visit graves

Health Awareness:

- ✓ Tuberculosis awareness

SeeChange



TB Sanatorium Survivor's Closure and Healing Journey to Hamilton Organized by NTI and SeeChange Initiative



SeeChange supported by organizing the logistics in Hamilton, led the media communications, and advocated for a plaque to be added to the sanatorium location, the street signage to be translated to Inuktitut, and Inuit art collections and photos to be returned to the community

**Nunavut Tunngavik incorporated will
provide and assist:**

- ✓ Airfare;
- ✓ Accommodations;
- ✓ And Meals.

For two selected persons (16 and over)
approved.

- ✓ Commemorations
- ✓ Grave Markers
- ✓ Mental Health Support
- ✓ Public Education Tools, website

Process:

- ✓ Enquiry Form;
- ✓ Information on Lost Loved One;
- ✓ Consent Form;
- ✓ Research;
- ✓ Research tools;
- ✓ Vital statistics,
- ✓ Websites;
- ✓ Cemeteries;
- ✓ Official letter.

Whats missing?

- ✓ Technical,
- ✓ Research,
- ✓ Funding,
- ✓ Access and support from the provincial and territorial governments,

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Too many unmarked graves
- ✓ Funeral homes do not always know
- ✓ Difficult to work with Vital Statistics
- ✓ No support from the different levels of government
- ✓ Hard to obtain death certificates; i.e. hospitals
- ✓ Finding graves is not a priority
- ✓ Short staffed
- ✓ Communities lack training

Resources

- ✓ Technical
- ✓ Funding
- ✓ Staffing
- ✓ Research
- ✓ Religious
- ✓ Mental Health

Obstacles

- ✓ No agreements with provinces/First Nations
- ✓ No Information Sharing Agreements
- ✓ Access to archives
- ✓ Staffing

Communication

- ✓ No communication strategy
- ✓ Working with National organizations
- ✓ Constant struggle to be heard

Good
Afternoon

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Ullukkut