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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs Condemn Residential School Denialism

The Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs stand in strong support of Residential School Survivors and their families, and we strongly denounce the recent statements made by MLA Dallas Brodie that attempt to undermine the truth of the harms committed in Canada's residential school system.

The painful history of residential schools is well-documented, and the experiences of Survivors must not be questioned or minimized. The Wet'suwet'en Nation acknowledges the intergenerational trauma caused by these institutions and affirms the lived experiences of those who suffered and continue to endure the impacts of these colonial policies.

It is deeply troubling to witness elected officials attempt to cast doubt on the tragic realities that Indigenous peoples have fought for decades to have recognized. A recent statement by MLA Dallas Brodie—"The number of confirmed child burials at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School site is zero. Zero. No one should be afraid of the truth. Not lawyers, their governing bodies or anyone else."—is not only misleading but deeply harmful. Such remarks dismiss the ongoing efforts of Survivors and their families to have their truths acknowledged and respected. that Indigenous peoples have fought for decades to have recognized. The Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs do not support the words and actions of MLA Brodie, and we call on all leaders to hold their colleagues accountable when propagating or promoting further harms.

Reconciliation requires truth. The Wet'suwet'en Nation will always stand with our people in the pursuit of justice, healing, and accountability. We urge all members of government to educate themselves, listen to Survivors, and commit to the path of truth and reconciliation in both words and actions.

Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs

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