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## Media Release

For Immediate Release  
June 18, 2021

### **Township Hosts Commemorative Signs in Memory of the Kamloops 215**

MUSKOKA LAKES – The Township of Muskoka Lakes is proud to be a host location of a commemorative sign display in memory of the Kamloops 215. On Tuesday, June 22, 2021, the commemorative signs will be displayed at Hanna Park in Port Carling from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm.

"This is an opportunity for Muskoka Lakes to come together and reflect, raise awareness and learn about residential schools," says Mayor Harding. "I encourage everyone to take the time to honour the lives of the 215 indigenous children and those of many others not yet known whose lives were lost."

Parry Sound-Muskoka MP Scott Aitchison and local community advocate Trisha Cowie have collaborated in organizing a special community service to honour the 215 indigenous child victims found in an unmarked grave at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.

As the sun rises over Muskoka on June 21, 2021, Trisha and volunteers will mark the beginning of Indigenous Awareness Week by placing 215 commemorative and awareness-raising signs in Memorial Park in downtown Bracebridge where the display will remain until the evening. In the following days, the commemorative signs will be moved to other locations throughout Muskoka where they will be displayed from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm each day.

At 1:00 pm on Monday, June 21, 2021, a ceremony will be held at Memorial Park in Bracebridge, which will include First Nations drummers, words from Indian Residential School survivor Elder, Lila Tobobondung, and words from Traditional Elder, Doug Pawis. Local elected officials present will include MP Scott Aitchison, MPP Norm Miller, District Chair John Klinck and Bracebridge Mayor Graydon Smith.

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