



Aboriginal Healing Foundation

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Fondation autochtone de guérison

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*Our mission is to encourage
and support Aboriginal people in
building and reinforcing sustainable
healing processes that address the
legacy of physical and sexual abuse
in the residential schools, including
intergenerational impacts.*

*Notre mission est d'encourager
et d'appuyer les autochtones afin de
bâtir et de renforcer les processus
de guérison souhaitables qui
s'attaquent aux séquelles
des abus physiques et sexuels
dans le système de pensionnats,
y compris aux séquelles
intergénérationnelles.*

MEDIA ADVISORY

The Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association and Algoma University to Receive the Gail Guthrie Valaskakis Memorial Resource Centre

July 4, 2011 (OTTAWA) – The Aboriginal Healing Foundation Board of Directors today announced that Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association and Algoma University will become the beneficiaries of the *Gail Guthrie Valaskakis Memorial Resource Centre*.

This resource centre, which commemorates Dr. Gail Guthrie Valaskakis (the AHF's original Director of Research, who passed away in 2007), contains over 6,000 items, among them video and audio interviews of survivors, research materials, and AHF project reports. This one-of-a-kind public centre functions as a library, a reading room, and a private screening room. Currently housed in the Aboriginal Healing Foundation's Ottawa office, the *Gail Guthrie Valaskakis Memorial Resource Centre* will be gradually transferred to its new home beginning later this year.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation received several comprehensive and high-quality proposals for the transfer of the resource centre. Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association and Algoma University were chosen on the basis of their long-standing grassroots-driven commitment to healing, sharing, and learning. The buildings housing Algoma University and the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association were from 1873 to 1970 the Shingwauk Indian Residential School, in Sault Ste Marie.

The AHF remains committed to working with all who submitted a proposal in the cultivation of a robust network committed to education, healing and reconciliation. As the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada fulfils its mandate, the Board of Directors particularly look forward to the establishment of a National Research Centre.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation is a not-for-profit, Aboriginal managed national funding agency which encourages and supports community-based healing efforts addressing the intergenerational legacy of physical and sexual abuse in Canada's Indian Residential School System.

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For more information: Wayne K. Spear, Director of Communications, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, 613-237-4441 extension 237, or toll-free 1-888-725-8886. Please visit the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association online at www.shingwauk.auc.ca