



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.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ABORIGINAL HEALING FOUNDATION APPOINTS NEW DIRECTORS TO BOARD

Ottawa, Ontario (September 27, 1999) The Aboriginal Healing Foundation announced today that Louis Tapardjuk and Rose Marie Blair-Smith will join its 17-member Board of Directors.

Mr. Tapardjuk is the Executive Director of the Nunavut Social Development Council. In September 1998 he oversaw the Justice Retreat and Conference, whose purpose was to plan and implement an effective justice system for Nunavut. The Nunavut Social Development Council, the formation of which was assisted by Mr. Tapardjuk, defines and promotes social and cultural development goals and objectives as well as programs and services that are appropriate to Inuit in Nunavut. Mr. Tapardjuk has extensive experience in promoting Inuit culture, language, values, and knowledge. He lives in Igloodik, Nunavut.

Ms. Blair-Smith is a Land Claims Implementation Officer and former Chief of the White River First Nation. She has a diploma in Social Work from Grant McEwan College in Edmonton, Alberta and was elected as the Vice-Chairperson of Social Programs for the Council of Yukon Indians. As Vice-Chair, she put in place initiatives to combat the effects of the mission school on the Yukon First Nation people. Ms. Blair-Smith has spoken nationally on residential school issues at various healing conferences. She lives at Beaver Creek, Yukon.

The Aboriginal Healing Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation, funds community-based healing programs which address the legacy of physical and sexual abuse at residential schools, including the intergenerational impacts on individuals. Program funding is accessible to Métis, Inuit, and First Nations people, status and non-status, both on and off reserve. To date, the Foundation has entered into 75 Contribution Agreements totalling \$16.8 million.

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