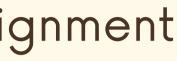
Background Information's Assignment

The Fire Little Indians

By: Alexandra, Mel, and Carson









Fire Facts About the Author

Michelle Good is a member of the Red Pheasant Cree Nation located in Saskatchewan.

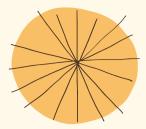


She was apart of the 60's scoop and throughout most of her adolescents she spent time in the foster care system.



Michelle Good is also an essayist and also writes poems and short stories. In addition, to this she also has a law degree from UBC.

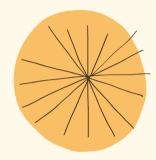








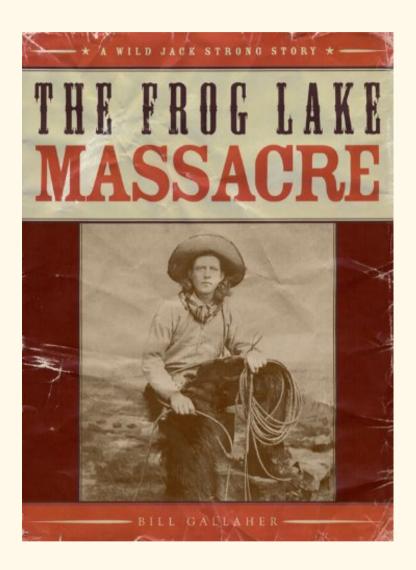
Her book titled, "The 5 Little Indians", was quite influential in Canada. Since, it won a General Literary Award and the Amazon First Novel Award.

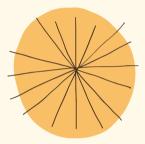






Both of her mother and grandmother were survivors of the Residential Schools. Her great-grandmother was also involved in the Frog Lake Massacre in 1885, which was a Cree uprising in Western Canada.

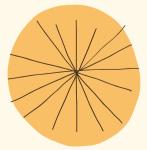




Why is life Difficult for Our First People's in Canada?

There are multitudes of reasons why life is quite difficult for our First People's in Canada. For example, they have poor health due to lack of nutritious and balanced meals available to them due to high costs. Many of them live on reserves that don't have access to fresh, clean water. They also face a tremendous amount of systemic racism in the health and justice system. They have higher levels of drug usage, crime, and abuse rate due to intergenerational trauma from the residential schools. Many of them aren't able to afford an education and go to university, due to inadequate and unstable home life.





What was life like for the First People's Living in Residential Schools?

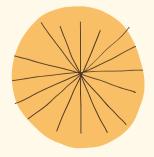
Life in the residential schools were indescribable, as there was a lot of horrific situations that happened. For example, a complete assimilation of their culture since they weren't able to practice their language and their notable traditions. They had to instead assimilate into the white culture, by practicing Catholicism or Christianity and withholding from their own traditional activities. Many of them also were abused mentally, physically, emotionally, and sexually by the higher authority running the institutions. Their day-to-day life consisted of very limited education, hard labour, not enough food to eat, and inadequate housing.



What are the Challenges that First People May Face once they left a Residential School?

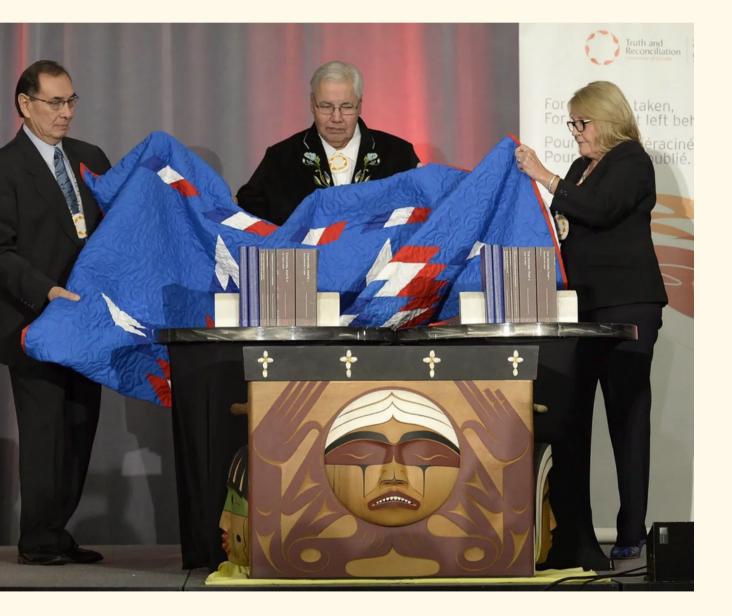
The challenges that First People faced once they left the Residential school was trauma from all of the events that had occurred. Also, loss of language, religion, traditional activities, and connection to their family members and ancestry. In addition, not having an adequate enough education or any source of money, so many of them lived on the streets. From the immense trauma, they also started abusing drugs and commit heinous crimes. There were many horrendous challenges they had to face and continue to do so, once they left the residential schools.





Why was the Truth and Reconciliation Commission I Important to the First Peoples of Canada?

It gave a chance to Indigenous people who did not get to make their voices clear share their different stories and experiences in Residential schools. It recognized what Indigenous people had to go through in residential schools, it acknowledged their trauma and suffering caused by Residential schools. The commission placed the foundation for a new relationship as well as respect for Indigenous peoples of Canada.



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