Frequently Asked Questions

Who is on the Project Advisory Council (PAC)?

This project has a volunteer Project Advisory Committee (PAC) comprised of six individuals who are First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Residential School Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors.

- Gerri Sharpe, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
- Lillian George, Prince George, British Columbia
- Daryle Gardipy, Duck Lake, Saskatchewan
- Sharon Slippery, Ottawa, Ontario (from Saskatchewan)
- Victor Spence, Split Lake, Manitoba
- Jamie Morse, Ottawa, Ontario

The project also includes the guidance of two Elders/Traditional Knowledge Keepers:

- Dr. Thomas Louttit
- Ms. Irene Compton

How were they chosen?

The Legacy of Hope Foundation develops all of its educational and exhibition projects with the guidance of Elders and Indigenous Advisors. The members of the PAC were selected through a public call-out process similar to this one.

When will Survivors be notified if they are to be included in the Exhibition?

We will want to start the interviews in late January, so Survivors will be notified, likely, by Friday, January 13, 2020. Interviews will take place February 2020.

How are the selections being made?

The Advisory Council and the Foundation developed a framework to ensure diversity and balance in the Survivor stories. The matrix calls for:

1. Gender balance (Male, Female, 2SLGBTQ2+)
2. Balanced representation of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Survivors
3. Geographic balance (based on where the Survivor came from originally):
   - Northern Canada (Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut - can be Inuit living in Ottawa)
   - Western Canada (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba)
   - Central Canada (Ontario and Quebec)
   - Eastern Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia)
Prince Edward Island

Will Survivors be required to sign any permission forms before sharing their story?

Two forms will be given to participants for their review and signature:

1. A consent form, indicating that the Survivor is aware of the purpose, procedures, and risks (e.g., triggering) associated with the interview, and giving their consent to proceed.
2. A release form, outlining the ways in which the Survivor’s interview will be used (e.g., exhibition content, curriculum, communication and promotion), and providing the Foundation with approval to use their words and images for these purposes.

What will happen to the testimonies that the Survivors provide?

Excerpts of the testimonies will be used in the Exhibition in a variety of formats – audio visual clip, still photography, text excerpt. The complete testimonies will be gathered together in a special archive, attached to the Legacy of Hope Foundation’s existing archive of over 600 testimonies provided by Residential School Survivors prior to the implementation of the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement and the Truth and Reconciliation process. The Escaping Residential Schools Archive will have its own identity and the future use of the testimonies will be governed by the consent forms signed by the Survivors when the interview takes place. The digital files are stored in a secure facility and are not available online.

Who is funding the development of the project?

The development and fabrication of the exhibition are funded through a grant from the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Legacy of Hope Foundation, and through donations from the public.

Where will the exhibition be shown?

Legacy of Hope Foundation exhibitions travel across the country, as well as internationally. Our main borrowers are schools and universities, community groups, libraries and archives, church groups, and government offices. Our shows are generally on display for a week to a month or so at a time, with some being longer term installations. We ask that borrowers prepare programs (e.g., workshops and lectures) to support the exhibitions while they are on display.

In addition to the Exhibition, the Foundation is preparing a workshop manual so that Exhibition borrowers, and all Canadians, can use it to enhance their experience while viewing the Exhibition, through participation in hands-on activities.

What is the contact information of the Legacy of Hope Foundation?

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the Legacy of Hope Foundation at info@legacyofhope.ca or 613-237-4806.