

KAMLOOPS INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, KAMLOOPS, BC

51 students were listed on the NCTR website in 2021 as having died at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School (KIRS):

<https://nctr.ca/residential-schools/british-columbia/kamloops-st-louis/>

Francis Moses	1919-10-31
Adrian Reynold G. George	1959-04-25
Agnes Michou	1935-12-28
Ambrose Alexander	1947-09-27
Annie Frank	1940-01-21
Annie Lucy Andrew	1940-01-20
Arcelle William	1943-05-19
Archie Oxime	1919-06-20
Bobby Joseph Bell	1961-01-01
Caroline Harris	1927-02-21
Christine Jacob	1962-11-12
Christine Josephine Joy Joseph	1961-06-02
Christine Jules	1917-02-28
Clarina Matthew	1936-09-16
Eileen Joseph	1964-01-25
Florence Morgan	1941-06-26
Francis Alec	1947-09-27
Francis Maximin	1915-01-31
Frederick Lecamp	1962-11-19
George Michel	1916-07-01 – 1916-07-30
George Petel	Not known
George Purdaby	1946-01-01
Gertrude James	1947-01-01
Gladys Chapman	1931-04-29
Henry Lulu	Not known
Jesephine Louie	1945-09-03
John Lecamp	1962-11-19
Julienne Sharon Dennis	Not known
Kathleen Mitchel	1937-05-02 – 1937-05-03
Leonard Major	1947-09-27
Leslie Lewis	1935-09-23
Louise Seymour	1936-05-26
Lucine Whimpin	1935-03-09
Marguerite Fallardeau	1900-12-10
Mary Anne Soulle	1957-12-24

Mary Francois	1937-05-13
Minnie Spy	1927-04-14
Nellie Fallardeau	1923-07-13
Pearl Joe	1944-09-04
Peter Michael Purdaby	1962-05-01 – 1962-05-31
Ronald Frezie	1959-08-22
Rose Adrian	1958-12-25
Rose Marie Adolph	1958-12-25
Sandra Seymour	1963-06-01
Shirley Link	1971-04-17
Sophie George	1947-01-01
Sophie Pettel	1947-01-01
Theophile Dick Billy	1941-04-22
Violet William	1945-01-01
Willard Frank William	Not known
Willie Joseph	ca. 1914-01-01

The above-referenced 51 students are not ‘missing’. They are listed below in the order in which they appear on the NCTR website with the following indications as to source material concerning the date of death, cause of death, and place of burial for each student.

(1) Names followed by an asterisk are students for whom the BC Archives has an online death record, although a microfilmed copy of the full death certificate is not available for viewing online. Where a BC death record exists, a copy of the full death certificate also likely exists, and can be ordered at a cost of \$50 per certificate. BC Archives death records can be searched for here:

<http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy>

(2) Names followed by the letter [C] are students for whom the BC Archives has a full copy of the death certificate which can be viewed online at the link above.

(3) DIA Inquiry indicates student deaths which occurred within the period 1935-1945 for which Department of Indian Affairs inquiries into deaths of students at KIRS are extant and were microfilmed by Library and Archives Canada. To access the inquiries into these students’ deaths, go to this link for LAC c-8773, and insert the page number 1323:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2501914>

(4) The student’s unique register number at KIRS has been added from the extant quarterly returns and DIA inquiries into student deaths where these are available. Register numbers were used to track students in quarterly returns from the time they entered the school until the time they ceased to attend and were recorded as

‘discharged’. Quarterly returns for KIRS are extant for the years 1943-1952 and were microfilmed by Library and Archives Canada. To access the quarterly returns for KIRS, go to this link for LAC c-8770, and insert the number 829:

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2495443>

(5) For Family Search, see:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1538285>

Francis Moses* (1919/10/31), 17 yrs old; d. Sahhaltkum Indian Reserve (Adams Lake Band) [NB: on 7 October 2021, Francis Moses’ name was the first name on the NCTR list, which has subsequently been realphabetized] [NB: died on the reserve; unlikely to have been a student at KIRS at the time]

Adrian Reynold G George (1959/4/25), [C]; 12 yrs old; #59 Coldwater Band; d. Kamloops Indian Residential School; asphyxia due to strangulation; autopsy; death certificate signed by pathologist, death stated to have been an accident; buried Lytton Indian Cemetery

Agnes Michou* (1935/12/28), register #534; 9 yrs old; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; acute nephritis due to uraemia; DIA inquiry held; report signed by doctor [NB: death record states name was Agnes **Missoo Charlie**]

Ambrose Alexander (1947/9/27), [C]; 13 yrs old; register #727; Seton Lake Band; d. while running away (CNR freight train derailed when it struck a slide 5 miles East of Ashcroft); shock due to traumatic amputation (other contributing causes listed); coroner’s inquest held; death certificate signed by Indian Agent and coroner; buried Seton Lake Indian Reserve Cemetery [NB: death record states place of death was **Maple Bay**] [NB: quarterly return extant]

Annie Frank (1940/01/21) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: likely same person as Annie Lucy/Elizabeth Andrew below]

Annie Lucy Andrew* (1940/1/20), 11 yrs old; register #644; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; pulmonary tuberculosis; DIA inquiry held (Indian Agent: *I understand Dr. Tennant held this child at the school awaiting arrival of the Provincial T.B. Clinic for examination by them*); report signed by doctor; father could not be located to be notified of inquiry [NB: death record states name was Annie **Elizabeth** Andrew; DIA inquiry states name was Annie **Elizabeth** Andrew (**Annie Lucy**)] [NB: Family Search states parents were Frank Andrew and Catherine Antoine, Little Shuswap Reserve, Tappen]

Arcelle William* (1943/5/19), 11 yrs old; Salmon River Band, Okanagan Agency; not on KIRS register, arrived at school with her three sisters, no application having been made for her admission; mother dead, father working at various locations, unable to care for family; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; tubercular meningitis;

father came while daughter ill; DIA inquiry held, report signed by doctor; body taken May 20th by school car to Salmon River Reserve

Archie Oxime* (1919/6/20), 13 yrs old; d. Kamloops Indian Reserve [NB: death record states date of death was 1919/6/18] [NB: stated to have died on Kamloops Reserve; may not have been a student at KIRS]

Bobby Joseph Bell (1961/1/1), [C]; 14 yrs old; d. Indian Reserve, West Bend of Shuswap River, Enderby; hemorrhage, skull and spinal fractures when struck by falling tree; coroner's inquest held; death certificate signed by mother and coroner; buried No. 2 Indian Reserve cemetery, Spallumcheen [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1961/8/2] [NB: death occurred during summer holidays]

Caroline Harris (1927/2/21) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Christine Jacob (1962/11/12), [C]; 15 yrs old; d. Kamloops (Apple Lane – Orchard Park); burned to death when plane crashed into a home in Valleyview in Kamloops; coroner's inquest held; death certificate signed by coroner; buried Fountain Indian Reserve Cemetery

Christine Josephine Joy Joseph (1961/6/2), [C]; 8 yrs old; permanent residence North Thompson Indian Reserve, Barriere; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; acute yellow atrophy of liver (other contributing causes listed); autopsy; death certificate signed by father and coroner; buried Chu Chua Indian Cemetery [NB: not identified as a student in death certificate]

Christine Jules (1917/2/28) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Clarina Matthew* (1936/9/16), 8 yrs old; North Thompson Band; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; tubercular meningitis, 'no doubt developing disease before admission to school'; DIA inquiry held; report signed by doctor; Indian Agent discussed cause of death with father [NB: appears to have been new admission to school, attended only a few days]

Eileen Joseph (1964/1/25), [C]; 18 yrs old; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; bronchial pneumonia due to acute leukemia; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Chu Chua cemetery

Florence Morgan (1941/6/26), register #672; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; basic encephalitis leethorgica; DIA inquiry held, report signed by doctor; 'remains returned to parents at Bonaparte Indian Reserve by school truck'

Francis Alec (1947/9/27), [C]; 11 yrs old; register #754; Fountain Band; d. 5 miles East of Ashcroft (same CNR train derailment as Ambrose Alexander above); coroner's inquest held; death certificate signed by Indian Agent and coroner; buried Fountain Indian Reserve Cemetery [NB: death certificate states surname was **Aleck**] [NB: quarterly return extant]

Francis Maximin* (1915/1/31), 9 yrs old; d. Kamloops [NB: death record states surname was 'Maxine', likely an error for 'Maximin' as other members of Maximin family attended KIRS]

Frederick Lecamp (1962/11/19) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: likely same person as John Lecamp below, said to have died on same day]

George Michel (1916/7/1-1916/7/30) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

George Petel (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: There is a death record for an Ernest George Petel, 19 yrs old; d. Bonaparte on **1942/10/25**]

George Purdaby (1946/1/1), [C]; 14 yrs old; register #705; Neskainlith Band; d. Neskainlith Reserve, Salmon Arm; crushed when run over by CPR train; coroner's inquest held; death certificate signed by father and coroner; buried Salmon Arm Indian Cemetery [NB: death certificate states date of death was **1946/7/21**, i.e. during summer holidays] [NB: quarterly return extant]

Gertrude James (1947/1/1), [C]; 16 yrs old; register #836; Bridge River Band; d. Coqualeetza Indian Hospital, Sardis; pulmonary tuberculosis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Bridge River Reserve Cemetery, Lillooet [NB: death certificate states date of death was **1947/2/24**] [NB: quarterly return extant, states she was 12 yrs old]

Gladys Chapman* (1931/4/29), [C]; 12 yrs old; Spuzzum Band; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; acute dilation of heart; death certificate signed by Indian Agent; buried Spuzzum Indian Burying-ground [NB: death certificate states parents were John Chapman, Matilda Andrew] [NB: article here:

<https://theyee.ca/News/2015/07/04/The-Gladys-We-Never-Knew/>

[NB: death certificate here:

<https://www.bctf.ca/classroom-resources/details/gladys-we-never-knew>

Henry Lulu (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: There is a death record for a Norman Henry Lulu, 2 yrs old, who died at Kamloops **1929/11/1**]

Jesephine Louie* (1945/9/3), [C]; 11 yrs old; new to school (no register #); Lower Similkameen Band, Oliver; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; food poisoning (gastro enteritis and cerebral toxemia); ill when she arrived at school, other family members also ill per Dr Payne in Penticton; DIA inquiry held, parents notified of inquiry but did not attend; death certificate signed by Indian Agent and doctor; buried Lower Similkameen Indian Reserve Cemetery, Keremeos [NB: death certificate states name was **Josephine** Louie] [NB: DIA inquiry states she was 12 yrs old]

John Lecamp (1962/11/19) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: likely same person as Frederick Lecamp above, said to have died on same day]

Julienne Sharon Dennis (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Kathleen Mitchel* (1937/5/2 or 3), 14 yrs old; register #551; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; acute nephritis (other contributing causes listed); DIA inquiry held, father notified but didn't attend; death report signed by doctor; DIA recommended parents be notified when child sent to hospital, especially in cases where illness could prove fatal [NB: BC death record and DIA inquiry state date of death was 1937/5/3] [NB: death record and DIA inquiry state surname was **Michel**]

Leonard Major (1947/9/27), [C]; 13 yrs old; register #658; Pavilion Band, Leon's Creek; d. 5 miles East of Ashcroft (same CNR freight train derailment as Ambrose Alexander and Francis Alec above); shock due to fractured skull (other contributing causes listed); death certificate signed by Indian Agent and coroner; buried Pavilion Indian Reserve Cemetery [NB: death record states place of death was **Maple Bay**] [NB: quarterly return extant, states he was 15 yrs old]

Leslie Lewis* (1935/9/23), 11 yrs old; register #412; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; status epilepticus, recovering from measles; DIA inquiry held; death report signed by doctor; autopsy report signed by coroner; Indian Agent's recommendation: *As an epidemic of measles was indirectly responsible for this death, it might be well to point out that the sleeping accommodation for 285 pupils in the school consists of five dormitories, which are crowded. During an epidemic it is impossible to properly isolate the patients and contacts. The need for separate quarters to house sick children is evident.*; father consented to autopsy; parents did not attend inquiry [NB: BC death record and DIA inquiry both state date of death was 1935/9/24] [NB: DIA inquiry states he was 9 yrs 9 mos old]

Louise Seymour* (1936/5/26), 14 yrs old; d. Kamloops Indian Reserve [NB: not included in DIA inquiries into deaths 1935-1945 and stated to have died on reserve; may not have been a student at KIRS at the time of her death]

Lucine Whimpin (1935/3/9) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Marguerite Fallardeau* (1900/12/10), 14 yrs old; d. Kamloops [NB: death record states name was **Maggie Fillardeau**]

Mary Anne Soulle (1957/12/24), [C]; 19 yrs old; Adams Lake Band, Chase; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; cerebral embolus (other contributing causes listed); death certificate signed by brother, Harvey Jules, and doctor; buried Adams Lake Indian Reserve Cemetery, Chase [NB: death certificate states name was Mary Soulle]

Mary Francois* (1937/5/13), 14 yrs old; register #309; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; inoperable sinus thrombosis (other contributing causes listed); DIA inquiry held, report signed by doctor, parents notified but did not attend; father, Francois Sampolio, as Chief of Adams Lake Band requested that parents be notified at once when child sent to hospital; Indian Agent notes that efforts were made to

contact parents before child's death; DIA recommended parents be notified when child sent to hospital, especially in cases where illness could prove fatal [NB: death record states name was Mary Francois **Sampolio**]

Minnie Spy (1927/4/14) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Nellie Fallardeau (1923/7/13) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Pearl Joe (1944/9/4), register #751; Hope Band, Lytton Agency; d. Kamloops Indian Residential School; children paddling under supervision under strict orders not to go beyond their depth, child was a good swimmer, suddenly swam away, drowned; body brought ashore by soldiers swimming from the opposite bank; DIA inquiry held, report signed by doctor; Indian Agent's recommendation: *The Principal concurs with my opinion that no paddling or bathing be permitted under any circumstances in the North Thompson River by the school pupils. A rowboat manned by a competent swimmer should have been in use to patrol the area where the pupils were paddling.*; parents notified of death, body forwarded to them for burial at school's expense; coroner decided inquest unnecessary [NB: quarterly return extant, states she was 10 yrs old]

Peter Michael Purdaby (1962/5/1-1962/5/31), [C]; 7 yrs old; Neskainlith Band; d. Coqualeetza Indian Hospital, Sardis; pneumonia, (other contributing causes listed); death certificate signed by doctor; buried Switsemalph No. 7 Indian Reserve Cemetery, Salmon Arm [NB: death certificate states name was **Pete Michel** Purdaby] [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1962/5/13] [NB: not identified as a student in death certificate]

Ronald Frezie (1959/8/22), [C]; 13 yrs old; Kamloops Band; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; acute rheumatic myocarditis (other contributing causes listed); autopsy; death certificate signed by father and coroner; buried Kamloops Indian Reserve Cemetery

Rose Adrian (1958/12/25) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: likely same person as Rose Marie Adoph below, who died on same date]

Rose Marie Adoph (1958/12/25), [C]; 12 yrs old; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; staph bronchiopneumonia (other contributing causes listed); autopsy; death certificate signed by father and doctor; buried Fountain Indian Reserve Cemetery

Sandra Seymour (1963/6/1), [C]; 9 yrs old; d. Kamloops Indian Reserve; home caught fire, burned to death; coroner's inquiry held; death certificate signed by coroner; buried Kamloops Indian Reserve Cemetery [NB: death record states name was **Harriet** Sandra Seymour] [NB: not identified as a student in death certificate]

Shirley Link (1971/4/17), [C]; 11 yrs old; Seton Lake Band No. 52; d. at home, Shalalth Indian Reserve; 'death caused by burns sustained in fire which destroyed family home'; post mortem exam; death certificate signed by father and coroner; buried Shalalth Cemetery [NB: death occurred after KIRS was turned over to federal government in 1969] [NB: death certificate states name was Shirley **Roberta** Link]

Sophie George (1947/1/1) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: same person as Sophie Petel below]

Sophie Petel (1947/1/1), 14 yrs old; register #682; Bonaparte Band [NB: quarterly returns extant; absence authorized for Q1 and Q2 of 1947; Q3 return states name was Sophie George (crossed out) May Petel, 15 yrs old, notes she has died; appears she died between January and September 1947 on Bonaparte Reserve, is buried there]

Theophile Dick Billy* (1941/4/22), 7 yrs old; register #667; d. Royal Inland Hospital, Kamloops; tubercular meningitis (other contributing causes listed); DIA inquiry held, report signed by doctor [NB: Family Search states parents were Casimir Billy and Katie Dick, Fountain Band]

Violet William* (1945/1/1), 9 yrs old; register #762; Bonaparte Band; d. Bonaparte [NB: Q3 quarterly return for 1945 says 'deceased at home'; in attendance at KIRS for full terms in Q1 and Q2 in 1945 but did not return in September 1945; appears she died at Bonaparte Reserve during summer holidays and is buried in the reserve cemetery] [NB: death record states name was Violet **Gertrude** William] [NB: death record states date of death was 1945/7/4]

Willard Frank William (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Willie Joseph (died c. 1914/1/1) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED]

Compiled by Nina Green, 7 October 2021; updated 9 December 2021, 19 November 2022.