CARRIER SEKANI FAMILY SERVICES

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Creating wellness together

News Release

29,000 Indigenous children and youth in Canada's child welfare system - a tragic legacy of residential schools

September 29 – For immediate release

On National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, Carrier Sekani Family Services will present a new documentary 'For Love' that exposes the link between residential schools and the 29,000 Indigenous children and youth in Canada's child welfare system.

"The horrors of residential schools are finally starting to be understood by non-Indigenous Canadians," said producer Mary Teegee of Carrier Sekani Family Services. "I wanted this movie to create awareness about the generational trauma caused by residential schools. But it also celebrates the resilience of our people, and shows how communities across the country are rebuilding family connections and rich cultures."

150,000 children attended residential schools until the last one closed in 1997. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has condemned them as 'cultural genocide.' Indigenous youth are seven times more likely to commit suicide than other young Canadians.

'For Love' is narrated by singer Shania Twain and directed by artist and filmmaker Matt Smiley. It is produced by Smiley and Mary Teegee of Carrier Sekani Family Services, who produced the documentary "Highway of Tears," in 2015 about missing and murdered indigenous women.

Watch For Love Trailer here

Interviews with producers, residential school survivors and former children in care are available.

September 29 - NOON: Press Conference

- Noon: Vancouver Convention Centre. Level 1 Ocean Foyer, in front of West Meeting Room 121+122
- Interviews with former children in care available upon request

September 30: Private Screening 'For Love'

- Vancouver Convention Centre
- 6pm: Ceremony, singing, drumming - Outside
- 7pm: Movie Screening – Room D, Convention Centre

Contacts: Catherine Pope 778-229-0330 / catherinepope100@gmail.com

CSFS Communications, Andrea Palmer: 778-349-1676 communications@csfs.org