We are at a loss for words. Since first hearing of the 215 children discovered at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, we have been among the many who cannot comprehend what took place. How could this happen?

The word loss has many definitions: destruction, ruin; the act or fact of being unable to keep or maintain something or someone; a person or thing or an amount that is lost; and more. But these meanings don't capture enough.

How can one begin to comprehend that the lives of these children were deemed unimportant? How can you describe that 215 innocent souls - and likely innumerable more - had their futures stolen and their existence erased. Children who were mistreated and misunderstood, and then silently and unapologetically buried. There are no words to capture the sorrow, shock and disgust we feel.

Our hearts and thoughts are with the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation, Indigenous people across the country, and the survivors of residential schools. We mourn with you but cannot begin to imagine your pain. Our words here seem lacking and imperfect, but we had to say something. We are devastated. And we are committed to support action and change in any way we can.