Community Based Access: Preserving and Sharing Indigenous Archival Materials

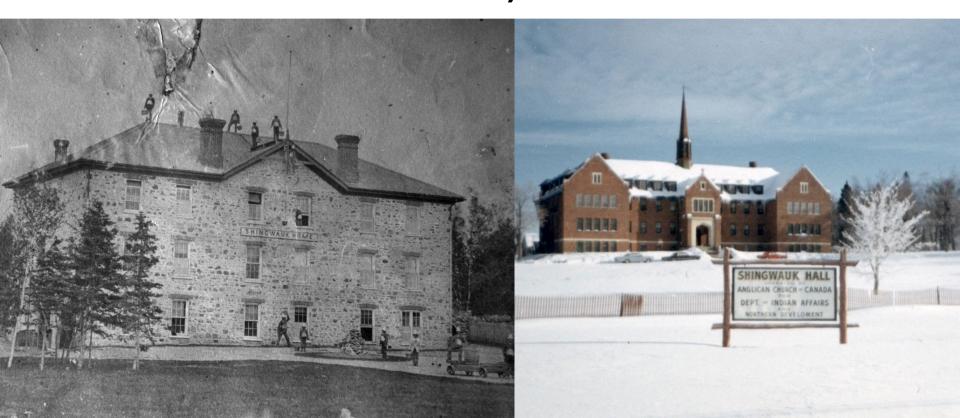
Krista McCracken (they/them)

Twitter: @kristamccracken

Email: krista.mccracken@algomau.ca



Shingwauk Indian Residential School (1874-1970)



Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association



Existing Guidelines

- Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1996)
- OCAP (1998)
- United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples (2007)
- Protocols for Native American Archival Materials (2008)
- TRC Final Report and Calls to Action (2015)
- Reconciliation Framework for Canadian Archives (2020)

Digitization is Not Reconciliation

- Just because it's in the public domain...
- Community needs and priorities
- Relationship building



Survivor Mike Cachagee. Photograph from the Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall exhibition.

Description of Difficult Histories

- Residential School Crisis Line,
 Hope For Wellness Help Line
- Re-description projects addressing dated and racist language
- Even seemingly benign administration records document colonial violence



Covers of the Shingwauk Principal Letter books.

Health Support

- Staff and visitors
- Cultural and mental health support
- Staff training first aid, mental health first aid, suicide safeTalk training



Visitor space in SRSC, including comfortable chairs and seating for groups.

Doing The Work

- Community first
- Listening
- Long term commitment
- Take care of yourself



Photo by Ron Smith on Unsplash

