Shannon's Dream

Rains are red,
Violets are blue,
Every child deserves a school,
Black or white isn't,
That alright?
Shannon was brave,
Shannon had might,
She knew things,
Herself she knew,
Made them right.
North, south, east and west.
We are all Canadian,
Don't we deserve,
The best? Young live power,
Young have might,
Just like Shannon. How can,
Make things right she wanted.
Opportunity, Shannon was extraordinary,
Shannon was unique she got put in,
Perfetk because of a terrible oil leak,
She spoke to the Prime Minister about how thing,
Hopes for the future into after Shannon's death a new school was built in Attikins.
First Nations have been unable to drink their water. It's got black stuff that's floating in it. Water straight from the lake is First Nations children are 6 to 8 times more likely to be taken into child welfare care than non-Aboriginal children. Kinda stuff. 1995-2020. 25 years later. Nothing changed. Good health and well-being.

Wilford, age 12
Claire, age 9

Shannon was very sad until it rain a storm.

Ammiskapot doesn’t want help. They want opportunity.

Now Ammiskapot has a school! Yay! But they get it what Shannon asked the same.

Never forget about Shannon Kootenay.

Every child should get a school to have proper education.

Now there is a school named Shannon Kootenay Flooring School

Know that Shannon Kootenay is a hero to all First Nation communities.

Over and over, the government refused to listen to Shannon and her dream.

Oh no, the children must have been cold when they had to walk in popkash! But Shannon Kootenay wanted to change things and was successful to do so.

The children were not able to have a school.

Ammiskapot is cold. Some of the kids might have gotten sick.

Chances is that Shannon would not get what she wanted.

The school was so nice, they got closed down because of the oil spill.

In Ammiskapot they move every year in the spring because of the oil spill.

No indigenous communities should be treated differently than us or anyone else.

Shannon cared about her dream and we do too!

Dream anything possible like Shannon did.

Really stand up when you know something is not right.

Even now Shannon is no longer with us, her story lives on.

By Claire
She is stuck inside of my head.

Help First Nation’s People.

A slum is in her.

Not fair that we get a school and they don’t.

Never again should have no school.

Everyone deserves

Now!!!

by: Mason

Mason, age 9
Nour K., age 12
Isla, age 9
Dear Mr. Marc Miller,

My name is Isla and I stand up for Shannen. Shannen’s Dream is a big deal. Her dream is also special. I heard about Shannen’s story and it hit me. I thought about this and you should know if you were Shannen, too. Then, if you would want to give your friends, in your school, and not at your school, the real experience of a school not only portable too. You would feel really sad and mad if Shannen said you don’t deserve a school you would not feel very good and I promise you. That. Sometimes you can’t only think about yourself. Shannen’s dream should not have taken her death to only get a new school. It wasn’t fair. Just because you are the Minister of Indigenous Services does not mean you can treat them like that. I also made you a poem.

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Young kids can make a difference.
And so can you!

Sincerely,
Isla
Water comes directly from the non-purified lake.

Dirty water with black stuff.

The non-purified water contains coliform, E.Coli, cancer causing Trihalomethans.

Can die because of the dirty water.

Treatment facility is ignored by the government.

Pipes are not working they are all rusted and broken.

Now stopped testing the water because of the pandemic.

No water.

Now is 2020

They are not working from 1995

25 years

Have to buy really big water bottles.

174 Advisories

Really bad water.

Some people have to leave homes.

Noor F., age 12
Every child deserves a school. I’m so happy that there is a new school called Katwaqipsqat Elementary School but there is still children that have no school. I think every child deserves a school like Shannon’s. Back then when Shannon was alive she wanted a real school. I think she should of had a real school, not a portable. Sorry for the loss of Shannon. Recess is by far my happy time. Shannon’s dream came true and she got a new school called Katwaqipsqat.

Sincerely, Lola

Lola, age 9
Shannon Koostachin is a good kid. My teacher, Ms. Thomasson, (well, for you she must be McFihod, and anyway she told us all about the story. And Shannon is right, everyone needs a school. No matter what? It really is not fair! Kids have the power too! I hope Shannon does not feel embarrassed because we have a school and she does not. I think they should have just made a new school or fixed the oil tank. I wish Shannon was still here to keep fighting. All kids deserve a school, not just us. You are Canadians too! They don’t even have a library because they have portables. It’s so sad but I hope you like it. What I sent you, and I hope you get it too. Now I will tell you about my drawing. I drew the school that had an old spill and it’s crossed off, and then same portables. I hope you like it.

We All have
Sincerely, Molly
Power!!!
My name is Lauren and my aunt was my teacher. Ms. Thomas, who my teacher was, is a teacher in the children's home. Ms. Thomas taught Shannen and she was right! I think Shannen's dream was amazing. She wanted to go to school and make sure everyone gets a school. Shannen's dream was an amazing idea, and we need to make sure everyone gets a school. Shannen's dream is for children to feel safe and happy. I don't think it's fair for me to go to a real school in Nova Scotia without a portable. In sight and also have safe water to drink out of a tap, while Atawampish and many other First Nations communities have to boil their water. I feel like it's unbelievable children had to protest for a simple playground.

By Lauren

Lauren, age 9
Water crisis in First Nation: Clean water we all need. Some of the advisories date back as far as 1995—like Shoal Lake 40 First Nation.

73% of First Nation water systems are at high or medium risk of contamination. In 2010, the United Nations declared water and sanitation human rights, acknowledging their essential role in the realization of all other rights. In May 2012, there were 17 drinking water advisories in over 100 First Nations.

A single drinking water advisory can mean as many as 5,000 people lack access to safe, clean drinking water. If Canada raises corporate tax rates from 15 to 25%, all First Nations could have working water systems.

Amro, age 12
Shannen’s dream will come true. Schools are helpful to make people happy. Shannen needs a big neighborhood so she wasn’t alone. Kids in Canada need a school. Everybody needs a school in the world. Shannen needs people to have a school. Shannen deserving a school because she doesn’t have a school and it’s not fair for Shannen and her friends. Shannen died in a terrible car accident. Shannen Koostachin died in June 19th, 2018. In Shannen’s school there was an oil spill at the school so they had to go in a portable so they can stay safe and not be sick. All of the people were getting really sick and that’s why the people in the school had to go in a hospital.

Olivia, age 9
Charlotte, age 9
Dear Mr. Marc Miller,

I think it is so unfair that the First Nations do not have clean water, schools or fresh food and vegetables. It is also unfair that the First Nations people have to boil dirty water to drink and they could get sick. Over here in Dartmouth, we can just turn on the tap and have clean water and that is very unfair to the First Nations people. In some communities, they do not even have school, or children to learn in and they should have the same education as us. First Nations people should have clean water, fresh food, clothes and good homes. All children should have the same things as us. First Nations people matter too!!! Shannen Houstadin should have been I send to before she died. It is like she needed to die before understand what was going on. She tried so hard to get a school, but now they do in Attawapiskat, but there are still communities that only has portables and not real schools for the children to learn in. First Nations People Matter too!!!
Dear Mr. Marc Miller,

I hope Shannen’s dream continues on by people making speeches, letters or even making a sign. Shannen’s dream was impacted because every town in Canada should have a real school no matter what. I want to continue on Shannen’s dream by making people notice these types of towns and what they don’t get. Attawapiskat and any other town who doesn’t have rights deserves to have schools clean water or anything else that we get and they don’t. Shannen didn’t do this for the own. She did this to have rights. I’m making this letter to try to make a difference to the first nation communities. It wasn’t until her death when the media realized that a portable is not good for a child’s education. It’s wrong that they had to put their warm clothing on every time they went to physical computer lab or anything else. I couldn’t imagine waking up to school and not getting to go in a school bulding. I think Shannen was very brave to fight for rights for her town. It’s time for every child to deserves rights, no matter their culture or where they live in Canada.

Sincerely,
Whitney
Makim

Whitney, age 9
Owen, age 10

Shannen Koostachin
Help us
Attend school
Notice us
Notice attendance
Everyone needs an education
Nova Scotia has schools but not one passes
Don’t forget about us
Remember me
Everyone needs an education
Anyone? Write not onboard
Make a difference
Isaac, age 9

Schools matter
Help the kids that have no school
Atwapiskat
No kids should not have a school
Not fair
Every child should have a school
Never give up your dream
Dear Mr. Marc Miller,

I go to Coleby Village Elementary School and I think that it is not fair that kids in Nova Scotia like me get to be in a nice big warm school but the kids in Attawapiskat had to get stuck in portables because of the oil spill at their old school. Shannen Koosistooinu had to lose her life just for her to be able to go to school. While we get to wake up and go right to our school. I hope that Shannen’s dream comes true because young people have just as much power as older people do. All Shannen wanted was a school after she died her dream come true and she was pretty young. I can make a difference by making posters, protesting for equal schools, and even sending a letter like I am now. My hope for Shannen’s dream is to get more schools in First Nations communities because every child’s education matters.

Shannen Koosistooinu did not only want schools for Attawapiskat. She wanted schools for all Canadian children. Isn’t that nice when a young Special kid did what she did. It is not fair at all how we can just go to gym and computer lab without having to get all geared up while the kids in Attawapiskat had to put on their warm gear just to go to gym class or computer lab. I just imagine all of the little kids who had no library and just wanted to learn how to read. What is really Special is that the Indigenous people did not want to be given things they want to do it by their selves. And be proud. I feel sad because of her story but I feel proud of her. I know that we can make a difference and you know it too.

Sincerely, Brooke

Brooke, age 9
Shannen lost her life just for her to go to school.

Shannen Koostichin
Died June 21st
2010 one day before her 16th birthday.
RIP
Meweda, age 12

**WATER CRISIS**

**IN FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES**

- 870,000 people under a water crisis
- 174 advisories
- 5,000 people each
- 879,000 people

Some people find unknown little black things in their water.

- The water advisories started in 1995
- 2020 (this year)
- 1995 (when it started)
- 0025 years

This adviser is saying that the water is not drinkable.

First nations shouldn't have to pay for water like other places in Canada. In order to drink safe water, they buy big jugs of water.

Sustainable Development Goals that could help with this problem:

- #3
- #6

73% of first nation's water systems are at high risk of contamination.

The water that first nation community gets is from the lake directly to their taps.

These homes directly get their water.

The council of Canadians learned that the federal government has provide a water treatment facility that cost 3.6 million, but it didn't even work.

The government provide a water treatment facility that cost 3.6 million, but it didn't even work.

In order to drink safe water, they buy big jugs of water.

First nations shouldn't have to pay for water like other places in Canada.

Sustainable Development Goals that could help with this problem:

- #3
- #6

Good health and well being because everyone needs to access to clean water so they can stay healthy, strong, and well.
Hello my name is Maddy and I wanted to let you know everyone deserves a school. There was a person named Shannen Koostachin and she was First Nations. She did not have a school and died because there was no one to help them. They had to learn in outside. Our teachers taught Shannen Koostachin here are still no schools to be built.

After her death they built a school and she lived in Attawapiskat. If you do something about it Canada could be a better place. My point is we have a warm school. Clean water. None. People don’t even get these things. This is because I want this to happen and also because it’s the right thing to do. If we were in a village with no clean water it’s really not fair. You’re so lucky you have all these things. Other people don’t have. My point is every child deserves a school.

Yours truly, maddy

Madison, age 9
Dear Mr. Marc Miller,

There are Indigenous communities without schools, and I think it is not fair for the communities without schools. Now in Arizona, Ktunaxa has a school because Shannen was a strong and active student and organized. She sees a school walkout. This is not fair because the rest of Ktunaxa schools, people are still without a good education and are highly.

Sincerely,
Max

Max, age 9
There are over 174 water advisories preventing the First Nations from clean drinking water.

There was a treatment plant built, but it does not work.

People get sick because of water.

Some spend thousands of dollars every month just for clean water.

Some people don't even have water!

This unfairness needs to end!

SDG # 6
Clean water and sanitation

SDG # 11
Sustainable cities and communities

Mario, age 12
Jaela, age 12

WATER CRISIS

The water many Indigenous communities depend on is contaminated, difficult to access or risk due to faulty treatment system.

Contaminants: The contaminants in the water include Coliform, E.coli, and cancer causing Tribhalomethanes.

Each water advisory, at least 5,000 people lack of access.

In 2018, there were 174 water advisories.

5,000 x 174 = 870,000 people

25 years ago

Some advisories date as far back as 1945 like Shoal Lake.

They have to order water. Some get delayed in winter.

Right now, there's COVID the First Nations are in a huge disadvantage.

Jaela, age 12
Mary, age 9

Roses are red, violets are blue,
Indigenous peoples deserve opportunities
too, for what else but other people
don’t give them a chance. Please
try, they are just like us like
me and you. Normal people just
walking in the blue, they need
opportunities like me and you, not
lots of girls, they should be
proud of the way they live. It’s
up to you to change. You’re there.
I have a good life and
they should too, but should
see how that it’s not very
tall, not fair at all to the
people out there. Just
walking without a home
or food too. They are
very special.Special
indians their colour doesn’t
matter it’s what’s underneath.

BY MARY

Mary, age 9
Imran, age 12

Water Crisis

1995 - 2020
25 years later nothing changed.
# SDG

If you do 2020 the year we are in right now 1995 the government should have fixed it 25 years ago!

In May 2018 174 advisories for drinking water.

When you do the math 5,000 x 174 = 870,000 people lack water.

Water bottle with chemicals... sink

Dirty water

Clean water

Unsafe water

The government is arguing again for indigenous people can have clean water.

Water for first nations was contaminated.

Imran, 12
Matteo, age 10

Shannen dreamer, help First Nation communities and help children that are to poverty.
Need help.
Need fresh water.
Needs a school build more.
Needs more education. We need work together to help our community.

Waiting for a long time in a school not fair.

Dreaming for a new school.
Reading, they don’t have a library.
Education is important.
Make more schools.
Education has a big meaning to them.

Save our country with schools.

Matteo
My name is Lauren and my and
my teacher Mr. Tremisson, he knew
the children of Attawapiskat
who had her as a teacher in
the early days. Ms. Elaon, who
actually taught Shannen and she
saw a spark in Shannen and
she was right! I think Shannen's
dream was an amazing one
and we need to make sure
everyone gets a school
for children to feel safe
and happy. I don't think it's
fair for me to go to
a real school in Nova
Scotia without a portable
in sight and also have
safe water to drink out of.
A tap, while Attawapiskat
and many other First Nations
communities have to boil
their water. I feel like it's
unbelievable children had to protest
for a simple playground.

By: Lauren
Fatima, age 12

WATER CRISIS

Meaning of Water Crisis:
- Lack of water
- Can’t drink it
- Wasting water
- Not enough water
- Really bad

Never had clean water for 25 years.

2020 - 1995
- 25 years

73%
73% of First Nations’ water systems are at high risk of contamination.

NAKKO FIRST NATION WATER TREATMENT

The filters and backup generations broke and failed to work.

Water comes from Lake Unclen.
Alexey, age 12

water crisis

- 146 cases of no clean water
- Some places go to have had a case
- Government is not doing anything about it
- They need treatment/water filters that cost $395/5 that they can not work
- The towns where the government is repairing the water treatment plant with the government did not receive water is being forced to be paid by the town people
- The water contains cancer causing
- The water is dangerous for kids with no water
- Children go sick from the water
- They don't get rain water the kids have no being treated properly
- The towns gave chlorine water the only thing they can be clean is taste of water

- The government should be more aware
- The government needs to be more helpful since the water giving them more money
- The government should be giving money to the towns
- The government could also make the people
- The government should give water for free

- The government is spending poorly
- Tods are being put into safety because the first nation
- A lot of towns are at risk and they
- Some places on reserves out at risk because the water and other problems.
- Some places need more supplies too

Alexey, age 12
Mila

Roses are red,
violets are blue,
every child deserves a school too.

Some people are black, people
are white, everybody is different isn’t
that alright from east to west, north
or south. Everybody is great inside and out.

4 4 schools left to be built.

The government feel lots of guilt.

Children are struggling, can’t you
see, let them feel good, help them
be free, it’s just so sad, it’s so
unfair! It took Shannen’s death to
build the kids a school. It’s just
a colour the colour of your skin.

Don’t you realize what your
doing is a sin! Imagine not being allowed
to read, the creators of the
reserve are so full of greed.
As a non-indigenous youth, I don’t know what it feels like to be discriminated against. I have always had a good education and access to good health care. But there isn’t equality in Canada and not everyone has these same rights and that needs to change. That’s why I want to be an ally, because I know that what’s happening currently and what’s been happening in Canada isn’t right. There are some children’s rights around the world: education, health care and safe drinking water. Those rights don’t all apply for children living on reserves. There is discrimination and systemic racism in this country and that has to end now.

We are all kids who have plans and dreams for the future. We are all kids who want to have a good life with a good job and family. Why is that so hard to achieve for indigenous children? People need to hear their story and the side of Canadian history that is often forgotten. I, and many others, hope for a future when everyone is equal and there is no discrimination towards indigenous peoples. But before that, there needs to be change. Shannen had a dream so let’s make it happen.

Liv, age 14