

# Opening Remarks Thames River PRC

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# Moment of Silence

Two recent incidents that deserve reflection:

- Discovery of 215 Indigenous children's unmarked graves in Kamloops British Columbia
- Killing of a Muslim family in London, Ontario

# PRC History

- Five-year funding was given in mid-2018 and projects got going in 2019. Some continue today while others were completed, and information shared. Today we'll hear from another group of projects.
- Work on field drainage systems was particularly frustrating during this past three-year period as the region experienced below average rainfall. This year was probably the worst.
- As a result, projects with sorbent materials have been difficult to interpret and must continue for several more years before definitive conclusions can be reached.
- The PRC will maintain its field sites and efforts will continue to find suitable funding to support the monitoring, testing and dissemination of future results.

# Is the job done?

- Our problems persist and we do detect a sense of complacency as the annual blooms are becoming part of our everyday life.
- Everyone is targeting the regulatory compliance levels but we all know it will take more!
- Work on solutions continues but there isn't any silver bullet for answering the question
  - “can we remove phosphorus in drainage waters once it has left our fields?”