

**Sarah Park**  
**First Prize Winner Grades 5-8 Category**

**Essay:**

You can hear the screams, caught in the wind and then blown away. After all this time, we never truly knew how bad it was. Residential schools have left many of Canada's Indigenous people dead, or forever scarred. In an apple orchard near a residential school in Kamloops, the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc leader mentioned that there was an unmarked graveyard in May of 2021. The bodies of 215 children were found in that graveyard, even children as young as 3 years old were found in the grounds.

If it were not for a woman named Dr. Sarah Beaulieu, those bodies would never have been found. She used Ground Penetrating Radar to search the area. Sarah started her search on May 21 2021, and she spoke about her findings in July. She stated, "A lot of people are working to fulfill the call to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that says we need to do this work. I was the one on the ground in Kamloops but I am part of a community fulfilling this mission."

Sarah is a modern conflict anthropologist who has devoted her life to bringing to the light the stories of the people who were buried, letting them be heard after they were silenced. She dedicated her PHD research entirely to this cause. Dr. Beaulieu realized that searching the ground was going to be her life's work when she was the very first to discover graves at WWI Internment sites in Canada. She also has experience when it comes to Indigenous and city cemeteries.

Dr. Sarah Beaulieu has opened the door to the truth, as we continue to discover dark events that took place in our country. You can no longer hear the screaming, for the ones who were lost were found at last.