

Statement of the Rosminians on the Occasion of the 10th Anniversary of Publication of the Ryan
Report
May 20, 2019

Following the publication of the Ryan Report in May 2009, the Rosminians, as we had done on previous occasions, expressed our deep regret for the years of pain, anguish and suffering that former residents of our Institutions had experienced. We welcomed the Ryan Report and expressed the hope that it would be an instrument of healing in the lives of all those affected.

Ten years on, we continue to be aware of suffering and sadness in the lives of many survivors, and we are also aware that some people have thankfully made progress since the publication of the report. We have endeavored in the intervening years to keep the welfare, support and respect of survivors to the fore in our actions, learning and attitudes. In our former Industrial Schools we have erected memorials to honour survivors and we have been involved in various initiatives to support healing and wellbeing. We have continued to take a non-adversarial and pastoral approach with survivors and we have financed counselling and support services as requested. We have continued to cooperate with all Investigations, Audits and Reviews.

In all our commitments, and with the cooperation of our members, we have worked focused on contributing to healing where possible. We have also supported and put in place best practice in the area of Safeguarding Children so that children may live safe, happy lives, secure in the knowledge that they are respected and valued. The courage of survivors in speaking out about abuse and their sufferings has brought about real and significant changes in the Church.

We are mindful that none of us can be complacent or remain silent if all children are to be protected into the future. Changes and decisions at a societal level need to be made now in relation to those children who are currently vulnerable.