Hockey was a part of the boy’s curriculum in the Indian Residential schools. There are sources that say that playing hockey was a positive experience for the students. In my essay, I am going to argue the opposite, as hockey was used as a method of control. It was part of the assimilative strategy used in order to discipline the aboriginal people and turn them into the Canadian ‘ideal’. If the students weren’t behaving like a “normal” Canadian citizen, their punishment was that they weren’t allowed to play hockey. In this way, proper behaviour was enforced. Priests and lay teachers coached the boys, with a large focus on military drills in order to train them to become Canadian soldiers. They hockey teams took road trips to play against other schools, including non-aboriginal teams. It was the more skilled teams that were presented to the public. This decreased any suspicion surrounding negative intensions of using hockey as a method of control. In addition, aboriginal people traditionally played informal sports like Shinny, which they weren’t allowed to play in residential schools. Stopping the aboriginal people from playing Shinny, and instead getting them to play hockey, is an example of how the behaviour of the aboriginal people was controlled. I am going to be basing most of the evidence in my essay from articles that talk about hockey played in residential schools. For example, Braden Te Hiwi and Janice Forsyth have an article about hockey played at Pelican Lake Indian Residential school.