



### **National Truth & Reconciliation Day:**

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) officially launched in 2008 as part of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA). Intended to be a process that would guide Canadians through the difficult truth behind the Indian Residential School System, the TRC lays the foundation for lasting and impactful reconciliation across Canada. In June 2021, the Government of Canada declared September 30<sup>th</sup> as National Truth & Reconciliation Day to honor those who attended Indian Residential School and the intergenerational impacts of trauma on their families.

September 30<sup>th</sup>, is now, a recognized day of reflection & honouring, **not a celebration.** National Truth and Reconciliation Day should be observed with the same consideration and solemnity as other days of honouring those who have paid the ultimate price, sometimes needlessly, especially these Indigenous children. Assemblies, school wide opportunities for learning, and special tributes should occur throughout our school system in the days leading up to and beyond “Orange Shirt Day.” In solidarity with National Truth & Reconciliation Day, we ask you to respect, reflect, and observe this day, with careful consideration. This provides intentional time to pause and reflect on concepts of Truth & Reconciliation.

Please utilize September 29<sup>th</sup> to observe “**Orange Shirt Day**” (wear Orange- Every Child Matters), and September 30<sup>th</sup> as a day of reflection and further learning. Treaty Day is October 1<sup>st</sup>, and the week of September 27<sup>th</sup>-October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, should be utilized as an opportunity for “Reconciliation Week.” This would be a wonderful tribute and way to launch Mi’kmaq History Month- October 2022. In solidarity, wear Orange all week long!

As highlighted in the TRC, there are [94 calls to action](#) under the subsection for *Education*. This is a critical entity for us as Treaty People to focus on our path forward to Reconciling our shared history. Additional teaching & learning resources will be included in the next program memo. Please see the following resources for further opportunities of learning:

<https://ourcloud.nspes.ca/index.php/s/yfjCngGpYwo5H9N>

<https://nctr.ca/education/trw/>

<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/phyllis-story.html>

<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/resources--supplies.html>

<https://nctr.ca/education/>

<https://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

With gratitude,

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