

Hadih,

September 30th marks the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. This day honours the lost children and Survivors of residential schools, their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.

As such School District No. 57 (Prince George) will not be in session on September 30th, 2021, to allow students and staff time to acknowledge this important day.

Here are some ways you can acknowledge the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation;

Wear orange. Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day that honours the children the children who survived Indian Residential Schools and remembers those who did not. This day relates to the experience of Phyllis Webstad, a Northern Secwpemc (Shuswap) from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, on her first day of school, where she arrived dressed in a new orange shirt, which was taken from her. It is now a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

Attend national, provincial, or local National Day for Truth and Reconciliation events in person or online. Many national, provincial, and local news outlets have published articles detailing events happening locally and online.

Learn about the 94 calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1524494530110/1557511412801>

Learn more about the rich and diverse cultures, voices, experiences and stories of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

<https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1621447127773/1621447157184>

Mussi Cho,

School District No. 57