

# National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

By: The Fieldstone Student Council

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known as Orange Shirt Day, is an important annual recognition in Canada. This day honors Indigenous children who were forced to attend residential schools and aims to promote reconciliation and awareness of this dark chapter in Canadian history. The Student Council has prepared information about the significance of this day and why it matters to all Canadians.



# What is Truth?

## Recognition of Harm

Truth is the telling process that recognizes the harm and makes sure that people understand the trauma endured by Indigenous people.

## Acknowledgment of Experiences

The truth-telling aspect involves sharing and documenting the experiences of Indigenous people, particularly those affected by the residential school system.

## Understanding Trauma

Truth-telling ensures that the broader public understands the extent of trauma experienced by Indigenous communities over generations.



# What is Reconciliation?



## 1 Repairing Relationships

Reconciliation refers to the efforts made to repair relationships and help with healing between victims and affected communities.

## 2 Healing Process

It involves a process of healing and restoration for Indigenous individuals, families, and communities affected by historical injustices.

## 3 Everyone's Effort

Reconciliation requires the involvement and commitment of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to work towards a fair future.



# The Truth and Reconciliation Plan of Canada

1

## Inform Canadians

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's is to inform all Canadians of the history of the residential school system

2

## Record Experiences

and to record the experiences of survivors, their families, and others involved.

3

## Promote Healing

By documenting these experiences, the Commission aims to promote healing and reconciliation within Canadian society.



# The Path to Reconciliation

Education

Increasing awareness and understanding of Indigenous history and experiences

Acknowledgment

Recognizing past injustices and their ongoing impacts

Action

Implementing policies and practices that support Indigenous rights and well-being

Team Work

Working together to build a fair society for all Canadians



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# The Origin of Orange Shirt Day



1

## Phyllis Webstad's Story

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of this project. Former student Phyllis (Jack) Webstad told her story of her first day at residential school when her shiny new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, was taken from her as a six-year old girl.

2

## Symbol of Loss

The orange shirt became a powerful symbol of the taking away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

3

## Annual Event

Orange Shirt Day was established as an annual event to honor residential school survivors, their families, and communities.

# The Meaning Behind Orange

## Unity

During this day Indigenous and non-Indigenous people come together in the spirit of hope and reconciliation to honor residential school survivors, their families, and communities, by wearing orange.

## Symbolism of Orange

The orange color represents truth-telling and healing. It serves as a visible reminder of the ongoing journey towards reconciliation.

## Raising Awareness

Orange Shirt Day helps raise awareness about the history and impacts of the residential school system, promoting understanding and empathy.

# Why Orange Shirt Day Matters



1 Annual Recognition  
Orange Shirt Day is celebrated each year on September 30.

2 Historical Acknowledgment  
It is held as a celebration that which helps us acknowledge a part of our history which includes residential schools.

3 Indigenous-Led Protection  
Indigenous-led protection is what is known as Orange Shirt Day.

4 Orange Shirt Day aims to show respect to over 150,000 kids from the Inuit, the Métis and the First Nations who were forced to attend school where they were forced and punished to learn English.



# The Impact of Residential Schools



## Cultural Loss

The residential school system resulted in the loss of Indigenous languages, cultural practices, and traditions.



## Family Separation

Children were forcibly separated from their families, causing intergenerational trauma.



## Ongoing Healing

The effects of residential schools continue to impact Indigenous communities, demanding ongoing healing and reconciliation efforts.





**Thank You For Listening!**

