



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

September 30 | Orange Shirt Day

The 80th call to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report (TRC 2015) urged the federal government to work with Indigenous people to establish a statutory holiday to “honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

Let's begin a journey of understanding.



Visit OrangeShirtDay.org for more resources and information.

1831 - 1996

130 residential schools operated in Canada between 1831 and 1996. An estimated number of 150,000 children attended residential schools. TRC conservatively estimated that **4,000-6,000 Indigenous children** died in residential schools. Most likely, this number is much higher.

1997

The year when the last federally funded residential school was closed.

2021

On June 3, 2021, the Government of Canada officially designated September 30th of each year beginning in 2021, as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Why September 30?
September 30th falls during the time of year when Indigenous children were taken away to residential school.

2013

Traditionally, September 30th of each year has been commemorated as Orange Shirt Day. Orange Shirt Day began in Williams Lake in 2013 and has since spread to schools across B.C. and Canada.

Why an Orange Shirt?

The "orange shirt" refers to the new orange shirt that was given to 6-year old Phyllis Webstad by her granny on Phyllis' first day of school at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School in Williams Lake, B.C. When Phyllis arrived at school, her clothes – including her treasured orange shirt – were taken away and replaced with school-issued clothing.



For more information, visit: Delta.ca/truthandreconciliation