

September 30th



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The day honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as 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.

This federal statutory holiday was created through [legislative amendments](#) made by Parliament.

There were 140 federally run residential schools in Canada that operated between 1867 and 1996. Survivors advocated for recognition and reparations and demanded accountability for the intergenerational impacts of harm caused.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission ran from 2008 to 2015 and provided those directly or indirectly affected by the legacy of the residential school's policy with an opportunity to share their stories and experiences. The Commission [released its final report](#) detailing 94 calls to action. The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a direct response to Call to Action 80, which called for a federal statutory day of commemoration.

The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has become the permanent archive for the statements, documents and other materials the Commission gathered. Its [library and collections](#), as well as its [National Student Memorial Register](#), are the foundation for ongoing learning and research.

How to help support:

Wear Orange

- Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of "Every Child Matters". The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

Join the Conversation

- [Twitter](#): @CdnHeritage use the hashtag #NDTR
- [Facebook](#): @CdnHeritage
- [Instagram](#): @cdn.heritage use the hashtag #NDTR

Former residential school students can call [1-866-925-4419](tel:1-866-925-4419) for emotional crisis referral services and information on other health supports from the Government of Canada. Indigenous peoples across Canada can also go to The Hope for Wellness Help Line 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for counselling and crisis intervention. Call the toll-free Help Line at [1-855-242-3310](tel:1-855-242-3310) or connect to the [online chat](#) (Please use Google Chrome).

