



WHAT IS TRC AND ORANGE SHIRT DAY?

According to the canada.ca website, “September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.” This is a day to honour and remember “the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities.”

The Orange Shirt Day is a grassroots campaign founded by Phyllis Webstad and led by Indigenous Peoples. It grew out of her own experiences and the experiences of other residential school survivors who attended St. Joseph’s Mission near Williams Lake, British Columbia. Orange Shirt Day is a day to honour the healing journeys of residential school survivors and their families and a time to engage in meaningful discussions about the history and legacy of the residential school system.

WHAT TO DO TO COMMEMORATE TRC AND ORANGE SHIRT DAY?

Ideas to grow in understanding of Residential Schools and honour the children in a good way.

SONGS

- “Residential School Song” (Indian Boarding School Song) by Cheryl Bear. *The Good Road* (2007). In <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PoVERQn0YV0>
- “Lost Souls” by Tom Jackson (2021). In <https://open.spotify.com/track/2te1MEC4Kk3PVzT07TmfAY>
Also, in <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9gOBtGfvaE>
- 215 and Counting (Oh Canada) by Jordan Hart (2023). In <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYDPVIART4U>
- “Survivor’s Voice” by Edward Gamblin. *Cree Road* (2006). In <https://open.spotify.com/track/63RtWGqjTg8uhqVUs8yGrP>
- “Cut My Hair” by Digging Roots (2021). In <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Qp-Xt6glZ0>
- “Seeds” by Julian Taylor (2022). In <https://open.spotify.com/artist/35k2toFgs8gru6GMPChzo6?si=EL7Pxmb9SBi8OoCT2axlZw&nd=1&dlsi=91b47ae49f0a4a04>
- “Some Of These Children, They Never Grew Up” by Myles Goodwyn (2021). In <https://open.spotify.com/album/4YRk2jxaeU5KVRQ5Xgulfj>
Also, in <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wlwAEGKu9F8>

BOOKS

- “10 must-reads on residential schools, reconciliation and the experience of Indigenous peoples” by the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre. The University of British Columbia (N.D.). In <https://irshdc.ubc.ca/2019/06/26/must-reads/>
- *The Survivors Speak: A Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada*. Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2015). In https://turtletalk.blog/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/survivors_speak_2015_05_30_web_o.pdf
- *From the Ashes. My Story of Being Métis, Homeless, and Finding My Way* by Jesse Thistle. Simon & Shuster (2019). <https://www.strongnations.com/store/7778/from-the-ashes-my-story-of-being-metis-homeless-and-finding-my-way>

José Luis Moraga, MCCA Program Director, is available to speak to your congregation, Sunday school, church group (chapel, retreat, devotional, or talk), staff team, OR to lead an MCC learning experience. To inquire more, please contact him at joseluismoraga@mccab.ca





- *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act* by Bob Joseph. Indigenous Relations Press (2018). <https://www.ictinc.ca/books/21-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-indian-act>
- *They Came for the Children. Canada, Aboriginal Peoples, and Residential Schools*. Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2012).
- *From Truth to Reconciliation. Transforming the Legacy of Residential Schools*. Aboriginal Healing Foundation Research Series (2008). In <https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/from-truth-to-reconciliation-transforming-the-legacy-of-residential-schools.pdf>

MOVIES/FILMS

- *We Were Children* by Tim Wolochatiuk (2012). Rent in https://www.nfb.ca/film/we_were_children/
- *Indian Horse*. Directed by Stephen S. Campanelli and written by Dennis Foon (2017). <https://www.indianhorse.ca/en/film>

PODCASTS

- “Honouring Treaties as Peacebuilding – A conversation with Adrian Jacobs.” Relief, Development & Podcast (2021). <https://reliefdevelopmentpodcast.libsyn.com/honouring-treaties-as-peacebuilding-guest-elder-adrian-jacobs>
- “Undercurrents: Episode 7 – Merle’s Story.” Undercurrents (2021). In <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/undercurrents/episodes/Ep-7-Merles-Story-early-release-e13ap7j>
- “State-sponsored Abuse in Canada.” The New York Times (2021). <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/16/podcasts/the-daily/canada-indigenous-residential-schools.html>

BLOGS/ONLINE ARTICLES

- “TRC DAY: A Time to Listen by Dianne Climenhage.” Published by MCC Peace & Justice Office (2021). In <https://mccottawaoffice.wordpress.com/2021/09/28/trc-day-a-time-to-listen/>
- *Embracing the Pain of the Past and the Present* by Randy Klassen. Published by MCC Peace & Justice Office (2021). In <https://mccottawaoffice.wordpress.com/2021/06/21/embracing-the-pain-of-the-past-and-the-present/>

WEBINARS

- “Treaty as Sacred Covenant Video Series” by MCEC Truth & Reconciliation Working Group. Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (2021). In <https://mcec.ca/treatysacredcovenantvideos>

Don't forget to get and wear an orange shirt on September 30!

<https://orangeshirtday.org>

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DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO FOR TRC DAY? Here are a few options:

CALGARY

Michelle Good Presentation Event

Getting Under the Myth of Canadian History | Sept. 30 | 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. MT
Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, Rozsa Centre, UCalgary

https://go.ucalgary.ca/2024OSDNDTR_LPRegistrationAlnPersonPresentation.html

Film Screening of Bones of Crows

Sept 29 | 6:30 – 9 p.m. MT | Central Library

Bones of Crows is a multi-generational epic and story of resilience told through the eyes of Cree Matriarch Aline Spears (played throughout her life by Summer Testawich; Grace Dove, Monkey Beach; and Carla Rae, Rutherford Falls). Removed from their family home and forced into Canada's residential school system, young musical prodigy Aline and her siblings are plunged into a struggle for survival. Over the next hundred years, Aline and her descendants fight against systemic starvation, racism and sexual abuse—and to build a more just future.

https://go.ucalgary.ca/2024OSDNDTR_LPRegistrationBlnPerson-FilmScreening.html

POKAIKS. The Children Commemorative Walk and Gathering Event

Sept. 30 | Place? TBD

Be a part of our meaningful Orange Shirt Day Event that honours our past and builds bridges for the future. Pokaiks - The Children Commemorative Walk and Gathering 2023 is a tribute to survivors of the Residential School System and Sixties Scoop and the generations that have been impacted by this era in our collective history.

There are several volunteer opportunities. Please, look at them on the following link
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA8A82CA0FCC07-50978715-pokaiks#/>

EDMONTON

Metis Crossing Truth and Reconciliation Event

Monday, September 30 | Metis Crossing | Smoky Lake County

Experience a day of community, reflection, dialogue, and hope at the Truth and Reconciliation Event at Métis Crossing on Monday, September 30th, 2024. Join us for an opening ceremony featuring prayers and stories of resilience, followed by engaging conversations with Métis Knowledge Holders. Enjoy traditional live music and dance that celebrates the enduring spirit of the Métis community.

<https://goeastofedmonton.com/events/metis-crossing-truth-and-reconciliation-event/>

Are you interested in learning more and continuing the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples? MCC Alberta offers a variety of educational resources and learning experiences to support your efforts. Please, contact José Luis Moraga at joseluismora@mccab.ca for more information.





Orange Shirt Day Run/Walk / Every Child Matters

Monday, September 30, 2024 | 12:00pm | Kinsmen Park, Edmonton

Run/Walk to honor our little ancestors who did not survive the Residential school era and in support and solidarity for the survivors who fight every day for healing and justice. This event aims to raise funds for the Orangeshirtday.org as well as local grassroots movements including promoting and supporting Indigenous athletes. This will be a combination of pavement and trail run through the beautiful YEG river valley trails starting at Kinsmen Park and includes three distances of 5 & 10 km and an Elder/Kids 2.15 km. The cancellation policy can be found on our website Indigenous Runner | Red Trail Running

Register here <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/88301/orange-shirt-day-runwalk>

LETHBRIDGE AND SURROUNDINGS

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation & Orange Shirt Day

Monday, September 30, 2024 | 12:00 a.m. 11:55 p.m.

Athabasca Tribal Council: 9206 McCormick Drive Fort McMurray, AB, T9H 1C7

More details at <https://www.atcfn.ca/events/43spcgtnogfe7afmgoj4zt26bkq0w3>

ONLINE

Watch the film: We Were Children

Tim Wolochatiuk | 2012 | 1 h 22 min

https://www.nfb.ca/film/we_were_children/

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

Lunch and Learns | September 23 – 27, 2024

We invite you to join our daily Lunch and Learn webinars – an immersive experience to UN-learn the myths of colonial history in Canada. Lunch and Learn sessions are **aimed at an adult audience**, and **open to the public**, and will be hosted virtually over Zoom Webinar and streamed to YouTube. Expert matter speakers will present for 40-50 minutes before a Q&A between the moderator and guest(s). All sessions will have simultaneous English-French and ASL interpretation.

More details at <https://trw-svr.nctr.ca/lunch-and-learns/>

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- Subscribe to the Edmonton's Indigenous Relations Office Community Bulletin
- Subscribe to Calgary's Indigenous Relations Office The Indigi-Messenger
- Visit Reconciliation Lethbridge Facebook Page

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