

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 29, 2023
To: All Respite Workers
From: Dana MacMillan, Director of Services
CC: Supervisors, Respite Home Assistants
Re: National Truth and Reconciliation Day

September 30 marks National Truth and Reconciliation Day and Orange Shirt Day in Canada. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to take the time to educate yourself about Truth and Reconciliation, Orange Shirt Day, and our shared history with Residential Schools.

In 2008, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established. Their job was to listen to the stories about residential schools and record them so that we can learn from our mistakes. This resulted in 94 Call to Actions. These Actions let us know how we can fix our mistakes of the past and how to move forward so that all children – including First Nation, Metis and Inuit children – can grow up happy, healthy, safe and proud of who they are.

Orange Shirt Day, which now coincides with the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools and promotes the concept “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. I encourage you to wear orange in honour of the thousands of survivors of residential schools.

Here are some ways you can be involved:

- **Remembering The Children: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**
2023 APTN and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation present Remembering The Children: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation 2023, a 90-minute commemorative gathering. This multilingual event will be broadcast live from Parliament Hill, starting at 12:30 pm (ET) on APTN. Consult [APTN's September 30 programming](#).

- **Wear Orange**

Both the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day take place on September 30. On September 30, all Canadians are encouraged to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools

- **Learn More**

This National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, I encourage you to explore the rich and diverse cultures, voices, experiences and stories of the First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. [Start your learning journey](#) today.