WANT TO GET READY FOR ORANGE. SHIRT





WHAT IS ORANGE SHIRT DAY?

THIS IS A DAY TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOUR THE LONG-LASTING IMPACTS THAT RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS HAVE HAD ON INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS WERE CHURCH-RUN, GOVERNMENT-FUNDED BOARDING SCHOOLS DESIGNED TO DISCONNECT INDIGENOUS CHILDREN FROM THEIR FAMILIES, LAND, AND CULTURE.

WHEN PHYLLIS WEBSTAD (FOUNDER OF THE ORANGE SHIRT SOCIETY AND RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SURVIVOR) ARRIVED AT SCHOOL, SHE HAD HER ORANGE SHIRT TAKEN AWAY. THAT IS WHY THE ORANGE SHIRT HAS BECOME A SYMBOL OF SOLIDARITY AND REMEMBRANCE.

WHAT IS ORANGE SHIRT DAY?

BETWEEN 2008-2015, THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION RECORDED STORIES FROM THOSE IMPACTED BY RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS. MANY PEOPLE SHARED STORIES OF PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, AND PSYCHOLOGIST ABUSE.

AFTER HEARING SURVIVORS' STORIES, THE COMMISSION PUT TOGETHER 94 CALLS TO ACTION. THESE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS TOWARDS A HEALING PROCESS. ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS WAS TO CREATE A NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION.

THIS YEAR MARKS THE SECOND NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION, ALSO KNOWN AS "ORANGE SHIRT DAY".

TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

"WE CALL UPON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLES, TO ESTABLISH, AS A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, A NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION 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"

- TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

WEAR AN ORANGE SHIRT

 PURCHASE YOUR ORANGE SHIRT FROM AN INDIGENOUS-RUN BUSINESS OR AN INDIGENOUS ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATION

LEARN MORE ABOUT RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

• THE LEGACY OF RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO IMPACT PEOPLE TODAY.

THE LAST ONE CLOSED IN THE LATE 1990S. THIS IS NOT PART OF CANADA'S

HISTORY, IT IS PART OF CANADA'S PRESENT.

LEARN MORE ABOUT RECONCILIATION

 ALL NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLE NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION. THIS IS NOT JUST ABOUT WHAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO, BUT HOW TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN INDIGENOUS AND NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

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