



# NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

30 September 2021

On 2 June 2021, Bill C-5 received Royal Assent to designate 30 September 2021 as a federal holiday and the first *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) report's [Call-to-Action # 80](#). This bill had previously been passed in March of 2019, but died in the Senate.

Since 2013, September 30<sup>th</sup> has been [Orange Shirt Day](#), an Indigenous-led movement to honour the children who survived Indian Residential schools and to remember the many who did not. It was this time of year children would be taken from their homes and communities and brought to Residential schools, which have had a tragic history and long-standing effects on Indigenous families and communities.

## Indigenous Awareness Days:

- June: [National Indigenous History Month](#)
- 21 June: [National Indigenous Peoples Day](#)
- 30 Sept: [Orange Shirt Day](#)
- [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#)

## In This Issue

- What is Reconciliation?
- How can you meaningfully participate?

[Indigenous Canada Course](#): Learn from an Indigenous perspective, RAE is reimbursing employees who complete their certificate.

## RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN CANADA



### HARMONY

Renew the nation-to-nation relationship, and recognize indigenous rights to lands



### CONVERSATION

Have a critical conversation about Canada



### CLOSING THE GAP

Improve the life conditions of Indigenous peoples



### RESTORATION

Improve the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people

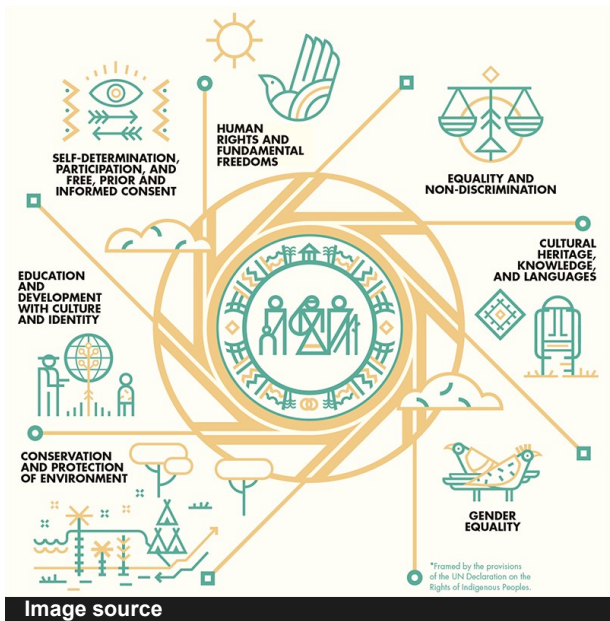


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## What is Reconciliation?

Reconciliation is a process to establish, repair, or maintain a mutually respectful relationship. In the context of the TRC, it requires an awareness and acknowledgement of past harms, atonement, and a commitment to change. Some of the considerations, as published [Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.](#) are included below:

### Reconciliation is:

- An opportunity to move forward
- Complex
- About working towards solidarity as a society and country
- A commitment to taking a role and assuming responsibility in working towards a better future for every Canadian
- Honouring Treaties
- Acknowledging Indigenous rights and title
- Acknowledging and letting go of negative perceptions and stereotypes
- Acknowledging the past and ensuring that history does not repeat itself
- Learning about Indigenous history

### Reconciliation is not:

- A single gesture, action or statement
- About blame or guilt
- A box to be ticked
- Someone else's responsibility

## Territorial Acknowledgement

**RAE's offices are located in the following traditional territories and treaty lands:**

**Calgary:** Treaty 7; Tsuu t'ina Nation, Siksika Nation (Blackfoot), and Stoney (Nakoda) territory

**Edmonton:** Treaty 6; Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakoda, Tsuu T'ina, Dene territory

**Grande Prairie:** Treaty 8; Dane-zaa (Beaver), Cree, Dene territory and Metis settlement

**Red Deer** Treaty 6; Cree territory

## How can you participate?

One way to pledge your commitment to reconciliation is to learn about Indigenous history. As a colonized country, the education system in Canada has traditionally taught history from the settler's perspective while often excluding Indigenous perspectives and worldviews.

In commitment to Reconciliation, individuals may take the [Indigenous Canada course through the U of A.](#)

- Indigenous Canada is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course. It will take approximately 21 hours to complete at your own pace.
- [Click here for a video overview](#)
- RAE employees who purchase and complete the course will be reimbursed after submitting the expense workflow with receipt and certificate.

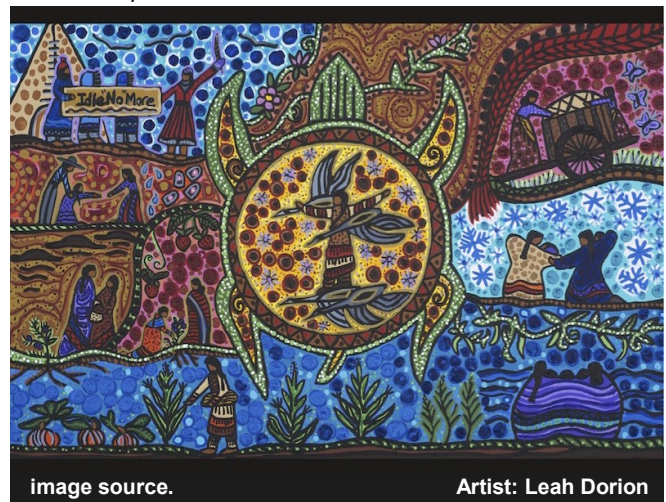


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Artist: Leah Dorion

## Informative Links

- [Make a Personal Pledge of Reconciliation](#)
- [About National Truth and Reconciliation Day](#)
- [Indigenous Canada course](#)
- [What is Reconciliation and What is Not?](#)
- [Aboriginal, Native, or Indigenous?](#)
- [Why we say "Indigenous" instead of "Aboriginal"](#)
- [Interactive Map of Residential Schools in Canada](#)
- [Reports: TRC of Canada: Calls to Action](#)
- [National Association of Friendship Centres; Metis Nation; Assembly of First Nations; Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami;](#)
- [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)
- [UNESCO policy on engaging with Indigenous Peoples](#)
- [Know History: Why Know Indigenous History?](#)

## Mental Health Supports

- 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 in Canada can go to The Hope for Wellness Help Line 24hrs/day, 7 days/wk for counselling and crisis intervention. Call [1-855-242-3310](tel:1-855-242-3310) or connect to the [online chat](#).