



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS SUPPORTS ANNUAL ORANGE SHIRT DAY

(Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Territory/Kamloops – September 29, 2017) Tomorrow is Orange Shirt Day. It is a day to honour and recognize survivors and those that attended residential school. Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of residential schools and the legacy they have left behind. It is a dialogue that all Canadians can contribute to which in turn creates meaningful movement in the process of reconciliation. Orange Shirt Day is a day of affirmation for survivors and their families to let them know that we are here to support them and remember those who are no longer with us.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph's Mission Residential School Commemoration Project and Reunion that took place in May 2013. Phyllis Webstad shared her story of St. Joseph's Mission Residential School when she had her new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, taken from her as a six-year old girl.

The BC Assembly of First Nations honours survivors, their families and communities and reiterates the message from the Assembly of First Nations, "we encourage everyone to learn more about this part of Canada's history and to support measures that will change the situation for First Nations today."

The BC Assembly of First Nations Board Directors, Chief Susan Miller, Chief Marilyn Slett and Chief Rebecca David will be attending events commemorating this day or wearing their orange shirts in support. BCAFN encourages all Canadians to show their support by wearing an orange shirt day on September 30.

For further information contact:

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