National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Thursday, September 30, 2021

NESA <u>will be open</u> for programming on September 30 and we encourage all program participants to wear orange in recognition of Orange Shirt Day.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event, held in Williams Lake, BC, in the spring of 2013, that was inspired by Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's story of having her new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission. Since then, the event, it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

With the number of events growing across the country, September was chosen as it marks the back-to-school season and also reflects the time in which Indigenous children were taken from their families to be placed in residential schools.

Indigenous children were forcibly removed from their families, and denied access to their culture, ceremonies, and languages. The impacts of Residential Schools have resonated through families and communities for generations.

To learn more and keep the conversation going check out the resources below:

Visit the **City of Edmonton**'s **website** for a list of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation resources and supports available.

The **University of Alberta** has a free virtual course that is available to everyone: Click **here** to check it out!

The **Royal Alberta Museum** has compiled resources:
One of the recommendations that resulted from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission is that all Canadians educate themselves on the true history of Indigenous peoples on Turtle Island, so we've assembled a number of resources for you to keep learning:
Indigenous Reading List

Check out RAM staff's recommended reading list for everything Indigenous! The list includes everything from books to introduce your children to the history of residential schools, to understanding the Indian Act and Indigenous Rights.
Indigenous Resources List