



Indigenous Works

**National Day for Truth
and Reconciliation**

Taking Action - Tip Sheet

September 30, 2021



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be held on September 30, 2021. What will you and your organization do to observe this important day which honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities?

This public commemoration will honour First Nations, Inuit, and Métis survivors, their families, and communities to ensure the legacy and history of residential schools moves the reconciliation process forward. The discovery of more than 1,300 gravesites has awakened Canada. Now is the time to put reconciliation into Action with your employees, your community, and your organization.

Reconciliation + Action = ReconciliACTION

Here are some ways to take action.

1. **Read books on Indigenous People and by Indigenous Authors:** [48 books by Indigenous writers](#) to read to understand residential schools. Click [Indigenous authors in Canada](#) to view.
2. The creation of this federal statutory holiday was achieved through legislative amendments made by Parliament. On June 3, 2021, Bill C-5, *An Act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act, and the Canada Labour Code* (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation) received Royal Assent. Read about the bill at [LEGISinfo](#), provided by the Library of Parliament. You can also read the [full text of the bill](#).
3. **Watch films and documentaries** - See the National Film Board online library.

[Indigenous Cinema at the NFB](#)

4. **Start a ReconciliACTION Sharing Circle** in your organization to discuss current affairs and expand your knowledge and perspectives with others reflecting/learning from reading books & watching films on Indigenous people and their history.
5. **Conduct Land acknowledgements** at your events, meetings, and forums. Use them in your email signature and in other communications activities. Look at your current statement(s) and consider how to expand them. Do they convey respect, sincerity, and meaningful commentary on land acknowledgement and reconciliation?
6. Read the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) [report](#). A purposeful review of the report and what it means for your organization is an important exercise which can be done for yourself as a manager or leader, or for your organization.
7. **Implement The TRC report Corporate [Call to Action #92](#)**. There are 3 key actions for employers to show they have adopted the corporate calls to action.
8. Actively seek out and **support Indigenous businesses** and add them to your supplier list.
9. **Visit and engage with an Indigenous community**, attend a pow-wow or community event. Volunteer and be a mentor.
10. **Engage and talk with Indigenous Youth and Elders in your region**. Bring voices together.
11. **Support our [Kocihta Charity](#)** - Your donation will help Kocihta achieve its mandate to “Help Indigenous Youth discover their career and human resource potential including youth with disabilities” (Charity #846394922)

*Please send us your ReconciliACTIONS to contactus@indigenousworks.ca. We will compile a list of ways that people and organizations are observing this important day. Below are a few more links!

<https://indiandayschools.com/en/>

<https://irshdc.ubc.ca/learn/indian-residential-schools/indian-day-schools/>

[Ottawa How you can recognize the day](#) (events and links)