



PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

WHEREAS the City of Fort Saskatchewan recognizes the impacts of Canada's colonial history on Indigenous Peoples, and affirms that Indigenous people in Canada continue to face systemic discrimination to this day as a result of this history; and,

WHEREAS the Canadian government created and supported residential schools across the country, where Indigenous children were separated from their families, culture, language, and sense of belonging, and were often subjected to abuse; and,

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada calls for a national day to honour survivors of residential schools, to remember the thousands of children who did not survive, and to ensure the public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process; and,

WHEREAS the federal government of Canada has recognized September 30th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in accordance with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Calls to Action; and,

WHEREAS September 30th has been reclaimed by survivors as a day to listen to the stories of those affected by the residential school system, to celebrate the inherent value of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures, and to reflect on the ways in which our society must improve in order to better uplift and respect Indigenous Peoples living in Canada; and,

WHEREAS Council of the City of Fort Saskatchewan supports taking concrete action towards reconciliation and believes that acknowledging the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a municipal statutory holiday is an important step in supporting both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples' ability to engage with and understand the value of Indigenous history, culture, and tradition;

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of Council and the residents of Fort Saskatchewan, I, Gale Katchur, Mayor, do hereby proclaim September 30, 2023, as "National Day for Truth and Reconciliation" in the City of Fort Saskatchewan.

Mayor Gale Katchur

Sept. 30, 2023