



Fast Facts

BULLETIN 104 | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is observed on September 30th. The purpose of this day is to provide an opportunity to recognize the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools, and to honour Survivors and those children who never returned home, their families, and communities.

Today, Canadians are encouraged to educate themselves on the harmful legacy of the residential school system in Canada, as well as on the many different Indigenous communities across Canada and their unique cultures, histories, and traditions. The following myth busters are intended to start the education process and encourage you to continue the conversations throughout the year to move towards reconciliation.

Myth 1: “The last Residential School closed ages ago; this is ancient history.”

Fact: The last Residential school closed only around 29 years ago, in 1996. Many of its survivors watched their friends and other children die, experienced physical and sexual abuse, and malnutrition - all of which still live with them as trauma.

Myth 2: “Indigenous peoples were treated poorly and faced many injustices in the past, but now, we all have equal access to resources and are treated equally.”

Fact: Equality does not mean equity. Indigenous peoples still do not have the same access to resources or the same access to their rights. For example, even though all individuals in Canada have the right to education, factors such as inadequate housing and transportation from the reserves may make it hard for Indigenous peoples to receive adequate education.

Myth 3: “Indigenous peoples do not pay taxes.”

Fact: This is an extremely common misconception. Only “Status Indians” in very specific situations - most of the situations include living or working on reserves - are exempt from taxes. This tax exemption is a way to protect their land. Even then, the type of taxes they are exempt from differs greatly. Furthermore, according to the [Annual Report of 2020](#) to the Parliament, only 40% of Registered Indians live on reserves, who are 3.5 times more likely than the non-indigenous population to be living in low-income situations. More information on tax exemption can be found [here](#).

We have included some resources below to help you to educate, including videos, books, and articles by Indigenous people. You can also join us today in wearing the colour orange to raise awareness about the history and legacies of the residential school system in Canada.

Resources

1. [**Assembly of First Nations It's Our Time Toolkit**](#)

Learn about the stories of Indigenous peoples and access tools to help you reflect on the intergenerational harm that Indian Residential Schools have caused.

2. [**A Steady Brightness of Being**](#), edited by Sara and Stephanie Sinclair

This book is a collection of letters from Indigenous writers, activists, and thinkers, to their ancestors, to future generations, and to themselves.

3. [**Five Little Indians**](#), by Michelle Good

This is an award-winning novel by Michelle Good, a Cree author, about Indigenous children taken from their families and sent to residential schools.

4. [**21 Things You May Not Know About The Indian Act**](#)

This article is written by Chief Robert Joseph and provides a comprehensive overview of the Indian Act.

5. [**Indigenous Feature Films**](#)

Reel Canada provides a selection of diverse feature films created by Indigenous filmmakers from across Canada.

6. [**Namwayut: We are all one. Truth and Reconciliation in Canada**](#)

Chief Robert Joseph speaks about his experience attending a residential school as a child. **Warning:** video contains upsetting content.

7. [**Reserve 107: Reconciliation on the Prairies**](#)

This documentary is about an old injustice and how it is providing new opportunities for dialogue, friendship and a fierce determination to right the wrongs of the past.

Events Calendar

This Fall, as the leaves turn, let your team's skills evolve too! Have you thought about training opportunities for your team? Check out our events and workshops designed to help your team lead and grow.



The Resilient Workplace

NAVIGATING CHANGE & FUTURE-
PROOFING YOUR BUSINESS

HRPAR is pleased to present at The Resilient Workplace! Join us for a day of insightful discussions focused on critical business trends. This event will equip you with valuable tools to promote growth and enhance resiliency in today's dynamic business landscape.

Register at resilientworkplace.eventbrite.com >

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, October 23
7:45 AM - 4 PM

LOCATION:

Sandbox Centre
24 Maple Ave. Barrie, ON

**THE RESILIENT
WORKPLACE**
NAVIGATING CHANGE
AND FUTURE-PROOFING
YOUR BUSINESS



Why Can't I Just Fire Them?

YOU CAN - BUT IT WILL COST YOU!

During this practical, interactive workshop, participants will learn how to manage the risks associated with managing difficult employment related matters and possible termination outcomes.

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, November 20
9 AM - 12:30 PM

LOCATION:

Virtual (Zoom)

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Interested in customized training programs for your company? [Click here to learn more!](#)

Blog

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30th marks National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is important to understand the



meaning behind the day and its importance in the reconciliation process. It is critically important for all Canadians to...

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LOCATION

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