



Good afternoon,

September 30, 2021, will mark the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a federal holiday established “to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools.”

The designation of this day is in response to one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s 94 Calls to Action and is meant to honour survivors, their families, and communities. It also ensures the ongoing commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools will remain a vital part of the reconciliation process.

In honour of this important day and with deep respect for our Indigenous communities, the Horizon School Division Board voted on September 7 2021 to observe this day as a non-operational day starting the 2021-22 school year.

Horizon staff have worked to diligently promote awareness about the history and legacy of the Residential School system and honour the healing journey of survivors and their families.

While September 30 will be a non-operational day, schools will continue to engage in activities to bring this important issue to the forefront for students.

The Board wishes to thank those who provided perspective regarding this decision-making process and strongly believes that schools play an essential role in educating future Canadians. It is imperative that we as a community bear witness to this legacy and to join in the collective efforts to rethink our understandings of, and attitudes toward, the Canadian past and present.

Thank you,

Administration

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