

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 9/13/2021 6:28:47 PM
Subject: Request to Council - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Video Message - September

Dear Mayor and Council,

External Relations and Protocol, with the assistance of COV Indigenous staff, are creating a 3 minute video message from the Mayor and Council to acknowledge the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (NDTR). It will be released to the public on September 30.

Orange *Every Child Matters* t-shirts have been ordered for each of you to wear for this special video that marks the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Your Council Assistants will help with the distribution of these.

Councillors are asked to wear their orange t-shirts as a sign of solidarity and respect and then record a video of themselves using their phone – in landscape view – as follows:

Record a 5 second personal message – see below for suggestions that have been drafted by Indigenous staff.

Kindly provide your brief video recording to ellen.vaillancourt@vancouver.ca by Sunday, September 19th @ midnight. For the best quality and to create a fitting video for this particular occasion, the videographer asks that Councillors:

- Use an uncluttered background that is not brighter than the Councillor in view
- Ensure the lens is focused
- Keep your video message to 5 seconds. Videos that are longer may be edited down for timing purposes.
- **Record message in landscape orientation**

One liner's for Councillors: (Please ask your Council Assistant to avoid duplication – we would like the 3 highlighted suggestions to be included amongst the messages. Thank you.)

1. We must all commit to lifelong learning about Reconciliation and the profound ways Indigenous residents have shaped Vancouver's rich culture and vibrant communities.
2. We have a responsibility to examine our role of occupying these lands, and we recognize we're on a long journey to repair and make right our relations with Indigenous nations and peoples.
3. We strive to be a City of Reconciliation, creating long-term, systemic change and new relations based on mutual understanding and respect.
4. I am grateful to all Indigenous Peoples for their vital contributions to advancing arts, culture, equity, safety and community wellbeing throughout Vancouver.
5. We are committed to truth-telling and lasting Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and the prevention of racism, violence and discrimination
6. Every child matters.
7. Residential schools should have never happened. They were racist, violent, and caused ongoing intergenerational trauma.
8. **We are committed to advancing 27 of the 94 Truth and Reconciliation calls to action identified as actionable by the City of Vancouver**
9. Our commitments to Reconciliation are ongoing, evolving, and essential to our path forward.

10. We are deeply grateful to the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, who have stewarded these lands and waterways since time immemorial.
11. We are committed to developing strong relationships with diverse urban Indigenous communities in Vancouver.
12. Reconciliation is critical to reducing the recurring impacts of colonization on Indigenous communities, and we acknowledge we have a long way to go to achieve appropriate Reconciliation
13. Thank you to all Indigenous staff at the City of Vancouver for the invaluable work they do every day.
14. Today is Orange Shirt Day, created by Phyllis Webstad, and I wear an orange shirt to honour the children who survived the Indian Residential Schools and to remember those who didn't.

Please also note the following NDTR details:

- 12 *Every Child Matters* flags will be installed on the flag island @ 12th and Cambie on Monday, September 27th for the Week of Reconciliation.
- Vancouver City Hall and the Burrard Street Bridge will be Illuminated in Orange on September 30.
- NDTR messaging will go out through COV social and digital channels and will be found on the City's website under Truth and Reconciliation: <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/truth-and-reconciliation.aspx>

Thank you,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθθʌʔəm (Musqueam), ḵʷərcwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.