



Office of the Mayor
CITY OF VANCOUVER
 BRITISH COLUMBIA

Proclamation

"NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION"

- WHEREAS Since time immemorial, Indigenous Peoples have been caretakers of the land, water, air, animals and each other;
- AND WHEREAS This care was not reciprocated with the advent of European colonization which brought diseases, land theft, racist government policies, and human rights violations;
- AND WHEREAS From the 1870s through until 1996, governments abducted more than 150,000 Indigenous children from their families and communities. Estimates show more than 6,000 Indigenous children died or were murdered in the 139 identified Residential Schools in Canada;
- AND WHEREAS More than 2000 Indigenous children from x̱m̱əθḻc̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətəl (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, Lil'Wat, shísháhl, and Stó:lō peoples were forced to attend the St Paul's Indian Residential School, in North Vancouver;
- AND WHEREAS The x̱m̱əθḻc̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətəl (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations are investigating the St Paul's Indian Residential School that was located in North Vancouver;
- AND WHEREAS Residential school harm has negatively impacted all Indigenous Peoples, communities, and all Canadians, and caused trauma felt throughout the generations;
- AND WHEREAS Truth Telling and Reconciliation are opportunities for all Canadians to participate in healing, and developing a shared understanding of the historical impacts that shape the experiences of Indigenous Peoples;
- AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver must take stock of the damage it has caused Indigenous people, repair harm, admit mistakes, and participate in rebuilding a healthy relationship between Indigenous Peoples and all Canadians;
- AND WHEREAS The City of Vancouver is striving to be a City of Reconciliation and fully implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, creating long-term, systemic change and new relations based on recognition of Indigenous rights, mutual understanding and respect;
- AND WHEREAS "National Day of Truth and Reconciliation" is an opportunity to engage all people to create a new understanding in the relationships between Indigenous Peoples and the people of Canada;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Sim, Mayor of the City of Vancouver, on behalf of Vancouver City Council DO HEREBY PROCLAIM September 30, 2023 as

"NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION"
 in the City of Vancouver.

Ken Sim
 MAYOR

