



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, including those from xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, Lil'Wat, shíshálh, Stóo peoples, and other Indigenous communities across British Columbia, were forcibly taken to the St. Paul's Indian Residential School in North Vancouver, contributing to the displacement and urbanization of Indigenous peoples in Vancouver;

AND WHEREAS The xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (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, Decolonization, Reconciliation and Indigenization 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 acknowledge 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, creating long-term, systemic change and new relations based on 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 30th, 2025 as

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

Ken Sim
MAYOR

