

September 2019



# VSB – INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

WEAR ORANGE  
ON  
SEPT 30TH

## ORANGE SHIRT DAY

### A DAY TO RECOGNIZE AND REMEMBER THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to Indigenous children's sense of self-esteem and well being,

and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and it also provides educators an opportunity to foster dialogue and deepen their understanding of Indigenous People's histories for the coming school year.

Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

#### RESOURCES

**Legacy of Hope** <http://www.legacyofhope.ca/>

**Orange Shirt Day Lesson Plans** <http://mbteach.org/mtscms/lesson-plans/>

**Orange Shirt Day** <http://orangeshirtday.org>

**Phyllis Webstad's YouTube Video** <https://youtu.be/E3vUqr01kAk>

**Residential School History and Dialogue Centre**  
<http://irshdc.ubc.ca/orangeshirtday>

## WHY ORANGE SHIRTS?

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in May 2013. It grew out of Phyllis Webstad's story of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.



**Orange Shirt - Design**  
by Robin Roberts,  
Haida/Tsimshian/Squamish

Orange Shirts for staff can be ordered individually through the ProD website under Indigenous Education <http://prod.vsb.bc.ca> Bulk orders for schools can be ordered by emailing Elizabeth at [ewunch@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:ewunch@vsb.bc.ca)



EVERY  
CHILD  
MATTERS

#orangeshirtday