

## Solidarity with Indigenous Communities

Today is **Orange Shirt Day**. Thank you to all who wore orange today in solidarity with residential school survivors and in memory of all lives lost.

In the spirit of this day, the EDI Committee encourages you to reflect on what reconciliation means to you and to think of ways you can take action to stand in solidarity with Indigenous communities year-round – not just September 30<sup>th</sup>. To get you started, we hope you'll check out the two organizations listed below and consider supporting Indigenous owned businesses.

### [Orange Shirt Society](#)

Learn more about the origins of **Orange Shirt Day** and the legacy of the residential school system. This site has excellent resources for anyone wanting to learn more, and to begin conversations with children and other young people. While on this site, consider making a donation to the Orange Shirt Society!

### [National Association of Friendship Centres](#)

The National Association of Friendship Centres is a network of over 100 Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations, which make up part of the Friendship Centre Movement—Canada's most significant national network of self-determined Indigenous owned and operated civil society community hubs offering programs, services and supports to urban Indigenous people.

Visit this site to find helpful resources. Find and connect with your local Friendship Centre. Consider making a donation to the NAFC so they may continue doing important work to support Indigenous people across the country.

### **Support Indigenous Owned Businesses**

Visit the following sites to learn about Indigenous owned businesses across Canada that you can support:

Support Indigenous Business: Discover local First Nations, Inuit, and Métis businesses open to serve you during the COVID-19 Crisis - <https://shopfirstnations.com>

Indigenous-Owned Businesses to Support Across Canada - <https://www.slice.ca/indigenous-owned-businesses-to-support-across-canada/>

Indigenous Makers in Ontario: 6 Local Small Businesses to Support Now - <https://www.projectlocallove.com/blog/indigenous-owned-businesses-in-ontario>

### **Contact the Residential School Crisis Line for Support**

The residential school crisis line is available 24 hours a day for anyone experiencing pain or distress as a result of a residential school experience; **call 1-866-925-4419**.