



MUNICIPALITY *of the*
COUNTY *of* KINGS

Municipal Message

September 30, 2021

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation:

A message from the Municipality of the County of Kings

September 30, 2021, marks the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. The historic observation of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours the memory of those who lost their lives in residential schools in Canada and acknowledges Indigenous persons who survived the horrific experience of residential schools.

September 30 is a day for collective reflection, acknowledgment of the systemic discrimination, oppressive policies, and behaviours that resulted in cultural genocide against Indigenous Peoples. The harm caused by the residential school system continues to be felt by individuals, families and communities today. Today is a day of solemn reflection but it is also a collective call to action.

Addressing and redressing past and present wrongs requires a commitment to, and understanding of, accurate truth. The Kings Region exists in Mi'kma'ki – the ancestral and present territory of the Mi'kmaq Nation. Beginning in 1725, a series of Peace and Friendship treaties were signed between the British and the Mi'kmaq. These treaties, which are just as relevant today as the day they were drafted, serve as a foundation for the relationship of the Mi'kmaq and all citizens of the region. We are **all** treaty people.

The Municipality of the County of Kings is committed to truth and reconciliation through policies, and education. We value our relationships with Chief Peters, Chief Toney, their respective Councils and communities. You are our partners, our neighbours and our friends.

The Municipality encourages residents of the Kings Region to take time to reflect on the history of residential schools, other colonial structures like the Indian Act and their lasting impact on Indigenous communities today and every day.

To learn more about National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, visit Government of Canada at <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html>