

June National Indigenous History Month

The month of June being National Indigenous History Month, here is a small list of some of the work done or being done to recognize the Indigenous people.

National Indigenous Peoples Day - In 2009 June this was declared by the Government of Canada, it was established to recognize the First Nation, Inuit and Métis people who have helped shape Canadian history, as well as celebrate their culture and heritage. In 1996 June



21st was declared National Indigenous Peoples Day.

Apologies - In 1998, the United Church of Canada formally apologized for its role in operating Indian residential schools in Canada. - In 2008, the Prime Minister of Canada made a Statement of Apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools. These apologies are framed and displayed in the space between our sanctuary and auditorium.

Truth & Reconciliation Commission - 2008-2015

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of

Canada was active, organized by the parties of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, with the purpose of documenting the history and lasting impacts of the Canadian Indian residential school system on Indigenous children and their families.

94 calls to action - In 2015, the (TRC) released its report “94 calls to action”. # 48, “We call upon the church parties to the Settlement Agreement, -and all other faith groups and interfaith social justice groups in Canada who have not already done so, to formally adopt and comply with the principles, norms, and standards of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for reconciliation.”

Red Deer Industrial School – Located in Red Deer which ran from opened in 1889 but was known to be poorly maintained and was closed in 1919 this Indian Residential School was run by our United Church ancestors.



Orange Shirt Day - September 30th is

Orange Shirt Day it is a day when we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to Indian residential schools in Canada.

Red Dress Day - May 5th every year is the national day of awareness of MMIWG in Canada, also known as Red Dress Day. “Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls”.

Land Acknowledgement - St. Andrew’s United Lacombe is located on Treaty 6 and we acknowledge the Land every Sunday before service.

LIRR - Living into Right Relation is a committee in St. Andrew’s Church Lacombe who helps to pass on learnings, sharing, teachings, and bring honour to the history and culture of the Indigenous people. Committee members **Rev** Bob Settle, Don Fraser **Métis**, and Tilly Meyer

Submitted by Tilly Meyer