



OFFICE OF THE LORD MAYOR

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A Message from the Lord Mayor and CAO National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 27, 2024 - On September 30, we recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation as a time to reflect on the enduring impact of residential schools and the resilience of Indigenous survivors, families, and communities. This day serves as an important reminder of the injustices faced by Indigenous Peoples and the need for continued reflection and action.

Honouring the survivors of residential schools and ensuring that the legacy of these schools is remembered is critical to the reconciliation process. **Truth and reconciliation require all of us** to listen, learn, and recognize the history, experiences, and richness of Indigenous cultures. It is through these efforts that we can begin to rebuild relationships, work toward healing, and strive for a more just and equitable society.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is committed to ensuring that the history of residential schools is never forgotten. Council's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan places an emphasis on advancing Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, both internally within our organization and externally through our community partnerships and public initiatives. We remain dedicated to fostering learning and dialogue that contribute to meaningful change.

We encourage all members of our community to continue their journey of learning about Indigenous history, cultures, and the truth of our shared past. It is only through open dialogue, mutual respect, and a commitment to inclusivity that we can create a better future for all.

Let us reflect, learn, and work together as we move forward on the path toward Reconciliation.

Gary Zalepa
Lord Mayor

Bruce Zvaniga
Chief Administrative Officer