

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Thursday, September 30, 2021

The federal government has declared **Thursday, September 30, 2021** as a **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada**.

GEF Seniors Housing staff come from many backgrounds and cultures, and we all want to feel that we are valued, respected and belong – both in the workplace and in our day-to-day lives. It's for that reason that we recently introduced a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy – our commitment to create a welcoming workplace environment where we can all thrive.

As an organization, we want to view the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in the same way. This day is an important opportunity to think about our relationship with Indigenous people and to learn more about the legacy of residential schools. September 30 is also **Orange Shirt Day**, a day to raise awareness about residential schools and their impact on Indigenous peoples. You can read more about Orange Shirt Day here: <https://www.orangeshirtday.org/about-us.html>.

On Thursday, September 30, 2021 I encourage you to **wear an orange shirt or the colour orange** to honour the experiences of Indigenous people, celebrate resilience and affirm the commitment that every child matters.

Please note that the Alberta government has not declared September 30 as a statutory holiday. **GEF Seniors Housing will lower all our flags to half-mast on September 30 to recognize this day.**

If you visit our website, gef.org today, you will notice GEF's land acknowledgment in the footer of all our web pages.

This land acknowledgment recognizes the traditional territory of the Indigenous people who called the land home before the arrival of settlers, and is a small but essential step in reconciliation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Raymond'.

