

Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation

Mailing Address: 4530 41A Street, Bonnyville AB, T9N 1K2

Email Address: LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com

Website: LakelandTruthandReconciliation.com

Phone: 780-826-1061 (cell)

TOWN COUNCIL OF BONNYVILLE

4917 49 Avenue

P.O. Bag 1006

Bonnyville AB, T9N 2J7

Phone 780-826-3496

Fax 780-826-4806

July 30, 2024

ATTENTION: Town Council of Bonnyville

RE: Donation Request for 2024 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Commemorative Activities

Tansi! Taanishi! Greetings!

As you know, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (NDTR) occurs on September 30. In the past, with the generous support of our partners and sponsors like yourself, we have been able to offer inclusive events and activities held at various locations within the Lakeland area. With this in mind, we humbly ask for your continued financial support for this year's activities, as we bring awareness and understanding that the NDTR Commemoration commands.

Last year's NDTR commemorative activities were so well received that we would like to make them available again this year. However, one of our key partners (Heritage Canada) had a reduction in their program budget, which meant that our approved grant amount was also reduced. We realize that we must live within our means. So subject to financial support received, below is a list of tentative commemorative activities we are planning leading up to and including 2024 NDTR:

Blanket Workshop: Connects Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals by creating a safe place for conversation, sharing, and learning about what it means to build allyships. Traditional lunch included.

Shirts'n Skirts: Create your own ribbon skirt or ribbon vest. Learn valuable teachings. Workshop includes all supplies.

Former Blue Quills Residential School Tour: Guided by a Blue Quills Residential School Survivor.

Drive Through Town Procession: In partnership with the Town of Bonnyville, on the eve of NDTR, aimed to bring a conscious awareness of the children that suffered in Indian Residential Schools, led with either an RCMP officer or Town Bylaw officer, vehicles drive through a planned route in the streets of Bonnyville for an hour, while playing traditional music on a tailgate speaker.

Orange Shirt Walk: In partnership with the Town of Bonnyville, participants will walk down Main Street Bonnyville to bring attention to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Start and end location to be determined.

September 30 Commemoration: Tipi raising, pipe ceremony, visual displays of former Blue Quills Residential School, local survivor stories, Artisans, traditional meal, followed by a blend of First Nations and Métis speakers, musicians, dancers, and storytellers.

Throughout the day's activities, we will provide onsite a registered Indigenous mental health therapist that is specialized in trauma, for anyone attending who is in need of support.

Our mission is always **to honour the children who survived Indian Residential Schools and to remember those who didn't.** #EveryChildMatters Therefore, it is imperative that all of our events are accessible for all people and free of charge:)

We humbly request your support by providing a monetary donation of \$500 from your organization. We hope that you are able to attend any and all activities. We will be sure to recognize your corporate support by including a logo at the event, online and in print through social media and news outlets. As well, a receipt for your donation will be promptly issued.

If donation is monetary, payment options are below:

1. Cheque, payable to **"Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation"**. Arrangements can be made for pick up, drop off or payment can be directly mailed to:

**Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation
4530 41A Street
Bonnyville AB, T9N 1K2**

2. e-Transfers can be made to the following email address:

LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com

We also have Orange Shirts available for sale at a reasonable cost. All funds raised will be used to support related activities in the Lakeland area, should you consider purchasing for your staff and family.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Should you have questions or require additional information, I may be reached via cell at 780-826-1061 or email as indicated above.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Miigwetch!! Maarsi!! Aye Hiy!!

Corita Vachon

President