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September 29, 2023

Dear Members;

Re: Recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, September 30th

September 30, 2023 will mark the third anniversary of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (NDTR). Previously and still known to many as Orange Shirt Day, the NDTR is a day to reflect on the history and legacy of the residential school system.

This day is an opportunity to recognize, honour and remember those most impacted. We encourage you to reflect on the historical harms, wrongs, abuses, and injustices that were perpetrated on the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

We take this day to formally recognize but ask that we all continue to honour those residential school survivors, their families, and communities, every day.

On our journey towards Reconciliation, we ask that you take the time to educate yourselves and consider the 6 Actions of ReconciliACTION released by the National Center for Truth and Reconciliation.

www.nctr.ca/reconciliaction-plans/

These actions are:

Learn the history between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples;

Understand the history and legacy of residential schools;

Explore the unique intersections we have between treaty, constitutional, Indigenous and human rights we have in Canada;

Recognize the rich contributions that Indigenous peoples have made to Canada;

Take action to address historical injustices and present-day wrongs; and

Teach others.

As per our Collective Agreement Article 18, your union is committed to upholding the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and acknowledges the historical and pervasive harms of colonialism. We stand together to eliminate Indigenous-specific racism and to create a culturally safe health care system.

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As Ambulance Paramedics and Emergency Dispatchers of BC, CUPE Local 873 is honoured to deliver care and services on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the 198 First Nations and 38 chartered Métis communities across British Columbia.

On behalf of your Provincial Executive board, thank you!

In solidarity,



Stuart Myers
Indigenous Relations & Cultural Liaison
Ambulance Paramedics of BC
CUPE Local 873



Troy Clifford
Provincial President
Ambulance Paramedics of BC
CUPE Local 873

SM/sd/MoveUp

