

# National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

## EVERY CHILD MATTERS



### Content warning // Residential Schools

At 6 years old, Phyllis Webstad was sent to St. Joseph's Mission Residential school, where they took away her clothes, including the orange shirt her family bought her for her first day of school. Phyllis says, "the colour orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing." September 30th is Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Everyone is encouraged to wear orange in recognition of the harm the residential school system did and to symbolize commitment to ensure that everyone matters.



**"I just want people to know that this happened in my lifetime. It's not something that happened 100 years ago and it's all over. It's still current."**

**- Phyllis Webstad  
Founder of Orange Shirt Day**



On September 30th - we observe National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It's a day to honour the healing journeys of residential school survivors and their families and a time to engage in meaningful discussions about the history and legacy of the residential school system. Wearing orange honours the thousands of Survivors of residential schools.

To learn more about Orange Shirt Day, please visit:

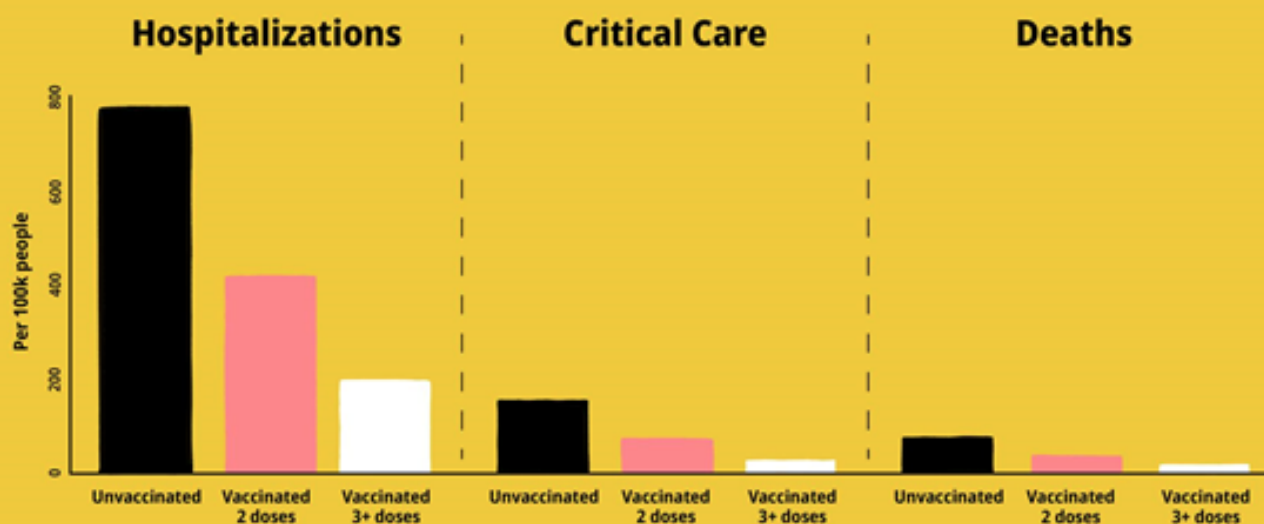
<http://www.orangeshirtday.org/>

The Residential Schools Crisis Line is available 24-hours a day for anyone experiencing pain or distress as a result of the ongoing impacts of the Residential school system. Call 1-866-925-4419

## FLU shots and COVID boosters

As the weather gets colder and we spend more time indoors, we need to prepare for respiratory illness season. At the beginning of the month, we began rolling out a new combination bivalent vaccine. This new vaccine offers enhanced protection against COVID-19 by targeting the original virus strain, as well as Omicron subvariants. This vaccine is available to all adults over the age of 18, and youth from 12 to 17 years who are at risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19.

### COVID-19 vaccines protect you from severe illness



Source: COVID-19 Update, September 28, 2022

COVID-19 IN BC

# FLU shots and COVID boosters con't

Once you receive an invitation, we encourage you to book in for your fall booster. As in previous campaigns, invitations are being sent to people who received their vaccine at least six months ago, and are being distributed in priority order based on age and risk factors.

In addition, the influenza campaign will launch the week of October 11th and vaccines will be available in participating pharmacies and health authority clinics across the province. Not only does the flu vaccine help keep you safe through the winter season, it also goes a long way in protecting our vulnerable loved ones and is key tool for public health. Also, all seniors/elders older than 65 can get a free enhanced influenza vaccine this year. Enhanced influenza vaccines stimulate stronger immune responses, which compensate for the natural weakening of the immune system that occurs with age.

This year, eligible people can get their COVID-19 fall booster and influenza vaccine at the same time. And people will be able to book their influenza vaccine through the provincial Get Vaccinated system, just like when booking a COVID-19 vaccine. As it is so convenient to get vaccinated, take a few minutes out of your day to help protect loved ones, community members and our health care system.

For more information about the fall outlook for respiratory viruses, visit:  
<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/briefings>

For more information about COVID-19 booster doses, visit:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/booster>

To register with the Get Vaccinated system, visit:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/register>

To learn more about COVID-19 vaccines for children, visit:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/children>

## CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Is someone in your life, your workplace, or church celebrating a Milestone birthday or anniversary? Make sure to put in a request for a letter from your MLA. [Requests are made online here.](#)

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Would you like to lend your voice on important topics in BC? There are many topics on which the government of BC would like hear from you.

Take some time to lend your voice: [Click here](#)



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

### GET IN TOUCH

**AS ALWAYS, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT ANY PROVINCIAL ISSUE, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT. WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU. MY OFFICE CAN BE REACHED AT 250.703.2410 OR [RONNA-RAE.LEONARD.MLA@LEG.BC.CA](mailto:RONNA-RAE.LEONARD.MLA@LEG.BC.CA) OUR OFFICE HOURS ARE MONDAY TO THURSDAY 10AM-4PM. IF THE DOOR IS LOCKED, SIMPLY KNOCK OR CALL 250.703.2410 TO GET OUR ATTENTION. FRIDAYS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

**IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO RECEIVE THESE UPDATES PLEASE REPLY TO THIS EMAIL WITH: UNSUBSCRIBE**