

September 2023

Labour Day September 4, 2023



Labour Day is a national holiday in Canada that occurs on the first Monday of September. It celebrates the achievements and rights of workers in Canada.

The annual celebration has its roots in the labour movement's fight for an eight-hour work day and it celebrates the many gains unions have struggled for on behalf of all workers, including health and safety regulations, parental leave, better wages, pay equity laws, and same-sex spousal benefits.

[Statement by the Minister of Labour on Labour Day](#)

The more you know:

[Labour Day – CUPE Ontario Events](#)

Gender Equality Week September 17 to 23, 2023

With the passage of Gender Equality Week Act (Bill C-309) in 2018, the fourth week of September was designated as Gender Equality Week. It is an opportunity “to raise awareness of the important contributions women and gender diverse communities have made to the growth, development, character and identity of Canada; celebrate the significant achievements and accomplishments that we have made in advancing gender equality, and; reconfirm our commitment to address persistent gender equality gaps in our country”.

The more you know:

[Women and Gender Equality \(Canada\) 2022–23: Departmental Plan Learning Toolkit for Gender Equality Week](#)

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30, 2023

September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is a day of remembrance to honour victims and survivors of Canada's Indigenous residential school system.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC), which concluded its mandate in 2015, provided those directly and indirectly affected by the legacy of the residential school policy with an opportunity to share their stories and experiences.

The Commission released its [final report](#), detailing 94 calls to action. The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a direct response to Call to Action 80 (below), which called for a federal statutory day of commemoration.

“We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

The more you know:

[Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada \(TRC\) Reports](#)
[National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: Legislative Amendments](#)

Orange Shirt Day September 30, 2023



September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) Residential School (1891-1981) Commemoration Project and Reunion events that took place in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in May 2013. As spokesperson for the Reunion group leading up to the events, former student Phyllis (Jack) Webstad told her [story](#) of her first day at residential school when her shiny new orange shirt, bought by her grandmother, was taken from her as a six-year old girl.

Returning 2023 - Carleton Orange Shirt Day Shirts

Carleton Athletics is proud to collaborate with Diamond Phoenix Creations and artist Patrick Tenasco both of Kitigan Zibi on the [sales of custom Orange Shirts](#). Your purchase will continue to raise funds for the [Indigenous Student Emergency Fund](#). on-campus pick up will be available Sept. 26 and 27.

The more you know:

[Orange Shirt Society](#)
[Orange Shirt Day: Resources](#)

Resources to add to your toolkit



- [A Woman's Place Is in Her Union?](#)
- [Unions are Bringing Sexy Back](#)
- [Enough is Enough!](#)

The RJC is committed to being a transparent and responsive committee and we welcome feedback on the content of our newsletters and other relevant communications. Your voices are vital to our commitment to continuous learning in order to be stronger community members and allies.

If you are interested in joining the RJC or have comments, please contact us at cupe2424@carleton.ca.