



# LAKELAND SOCIETY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Website [LakelandTruthandReconciliation.com](http://LakelandTruthandReconciliation.com)

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September 7, 2023

ATTENTION: MD Council of Bonnyville No. 87

## **RE: Invitation and Request for Donation for NDTR Commemorative Activities**

Tansi!

It has come the time of year in which we are finalizing details for our annual activities that commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. As you are aware, during the week of NDTR, the **Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation** will be hosting a series of activities in commemoration of NDTR. This year we are adding two new activities to our week of commemoration:

1. **September 21, 2023 - Blanket Workshop with Dr. Patricia Makokis.** This event will help connect Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals by creating a safe place for conversation, sharing, and learning about what it means to build allies within our community.
2. **September 25, 2023 - Tour of the Former Blue Quills Residential School.** This tour will be guided by a Blue Quills Residential School Survivor and is focused on visualizing what the Residential School Experience meant for our local Indigenous community members.

**Please consider this letter your official invitation to attend any and all activities.** Attached you will find our tentative itinerary. NDTR Commemorative activities were so well received last year. We are excited to offer this opportunity to the community once again. And we preemptively thank you for supporting us with your presence.

It is very important that all our events be accessible for all people. In order to do this, we must keep this event **free of charge**. As a nonprofit society we depend on grants and donations in order to make the events of NDTR week available. **We hope we can count on your attendance, as well as your financial support in the amount of \$1800.** Monetary payments can be made by cheque, payable to "Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation" and mailed to Lakeland Society for Truth and Reconciliation, 4530 41A Street, Bonnyville AB, T9N 1K2, or by e-Transfer to the following email address: [LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com](mailto:LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com)

Of course, we also have orange shirts available for \$20 each. We use a local supplier and all funds raised will be used to support related activities in the Lakeland area. Please find attached a letter sized poster of our "Orange Shirts for Sale." We ask that you consider purchasing our shirts for your staff and family. Please feel free to share this poster with your network of people as well.

Our mission is always **to honour the children who survived Indian Residential Schools and to remember those who didn't. #EveryChildMatters.** As we plan our Commemoration for NDTR 2023, we hope to create more community awareness, education and support for our organization and the goals we are working towards.

I, personally, thank you for your continued support for our organization. If you have any questions or require additional information, I may be reached via return email or cell at 780-826-1061.

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

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I await your reply,

Corita Vachon  
President

## **2023 NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMEMORATION**

### **TENTATIVE ITINERARY**

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#### **SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 - Blanket Workshop, Venue: St. Louis Parish Hall, Bonnyville AB**

- 9:30-10:00 AM Pre-meeting Greetings and Refreshments  
10:00-12:00 PM Blanket Workshop and Discussion on Building Allies with Dr. Patricia Makokis  
12:00-1:00 PM **TRADITIONAL LUNCH** - Deer or Moose Soup and Bannock  
1:00-2:00 PM Discussions Continue

#### **SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2023 - Skirts'n Vests Workshop, Venue: Kehewin Health Centre Board Room, Kehewin Cree Nation AB**

- 1:00-5:00 PM Ribbon Skirts'n Vests Sewing Workshop

#### **SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 - Venue: Former Blue Quills Residential School, Saddle Lake Cree Nation AB**

- 12:00 PM Leave Bonnyville (*possible transportation included*)  
1:00-3:00 PM Tour of Former Blue Quills Residential School  
3:00 PM Return to Bonnyville (*possible transportation included*)

#### **SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 - Venue: Beaver River Fish and Game Hall, Bonnyville AB**

- 9:00-11:00 AM Tipi Raising and Teaching at Museum Parking Lot by Melvin John  
1:00-3:00 PM Pipe Ceremony  
6:00-7:30 PM Drive Through Procession Through Town of Bonnyville (Start/End at C2)

#### **SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 - Venue: Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre Field House**

- 10:00-3:00 PM Displays of Local Residential School, Red Dress Series, Possible Traditional Garments, Artisan Tables  
4:00-5:00 PM Orange Shirt Walk Down Main Street  
5:00-6:00 PM **TRADITIONAL DINNER** - Moose Stew, Bannock, Traditional Desserts  
Music by... FN and Métis  
6:00-8:00 PM **EVENING SPEAKERS and PERFORMERS**  
-Welcome/Introduction, Moment of Silence by MC  
-Opening Prayer by Melvin John  
-Red Tail Traditional Singers and Drummers with Honour Song  
-Land Acknowledgement (Dignitary)  
-Delegates (Kehewin Chief/Council, MNA Rep, MLA, TOB Mayor or delegate, MD Reeve or delegate)  
-Métis Speaker/Survivor  
-Karen Dion (Métis Fiddler) and Jiggers  
-Speaker, Chantel Gladue  
-Kehewin Native Dance Theatre - Dancing the Red Path  
-Survivor/Speaker  
-Jody John, Hoop Dance  
-Closing Prayer  
-Round Dance - Red Tail Traditional Singers and Drummers



# **ORANGE SHIRTS FOR SALE**

## **\$20 EACH**

**Adult Sizes: S/M/L/XL/XXL/XXXL**

**Youth Sizes: S/M/L**

Sizes available while quantities last.

A Fundraising Campaign in Support of the  
**LAKELAND SOCIETY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION**

**Honouring the children who survived Indian Residential Schools.  
Remembering those who didn't. #EveryChildMatters**

For more information, to place an order or to donate, please call or text  
Corita at 780-826-1061  
or email [LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com](mailto:LakelandTruthandReconciliation@gmail.com)

Donations and/or payments for orders may be made by cash, cheque or eTransfer.

**Thank you for your generous support!**  
**All funds raised will be used to support activities in the Lakeland area.**