



**CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
NEW BRUNSWICK - NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK
SYNDICAT CANADIEN DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE**

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CUPE NB Statement
Truth and Reconciliation Day Finally Recognized in NB

Dear Members of CUPE NB,

On September 30th, also known as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we invite all union members to take time to remember the victims and survivors of residential schools. This day was proclaimed a statutory holiday by the federal government in 2021. At last, thanks to Indigenous activism, public pressure, grievances made by CUPE locals and more, the government of New Brunswick has also proclaimed it a statutory holiday.

We stand in solidarity with the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati nations, whose traditional lands are in the Maritime Provinces of Canada. We remember their children who attended "Indian Day Schools", the Sussex Vale School and the Shubenacadie Residential school. The colonial goal of these institutions was plainly stated as "to kill the Indian in the heart of the child". This was one of the multiple methods put in place by governments to destroy Indigenous culture, identity, and collective power.

As trade unionists, we strive to make reconciliation a tangible reality in our lives, in our workplaces and in [our new collective agreements](#).

We encourage you to check Indigenous communities' social media and municipal webpages for events happening in your area:

Moncton: <https://www.experiencemoncton.ca/article/national-day-truth-and-reconciliation>

Saint John: <https://www.discoversaintjohn.com/event/national-day-truth-and-reconciliation-indigenous-film-festival>

Fredericton: <https://www.facebook.com/WolastoqeyNation/>

Saint Andrews: <https://www.townofsaintandrews.ca/events/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation-2/>

In solidarity,

Stephen Drost
CUPE NB President

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