

September 30, 2025

## NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is an opportunity for everyone to reflect on the painful history of residential schools and the continuing intergenerational trauma caused by the residential school system. It is also a time to celebrate the strength and resilience of Indigenous people and communities and to deepen our engagement with the work of reconciliation.

As the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada recognized, for reconciliation to become a reality there has to be awareness of the past, acknowledgment of the harm inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour.

The BC Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, and Provincial Court recognize reconciliation as an ongoing process that is part of pursuing a justice system that is inclusive and respectful to all. While each level of court performs an independent role within the justice system, all three courts are committed to working towards reconciliation.

With the input of several Indigenous judges, the courts have chosen National Truth and Reconciliation Day as an appropriate date to provide information about their reconciliation efforts. Additional information and updates will be provided on an ongoing basis through the three courts' Annual Reports and other avenues.

In 2024, the Provincial Court struck a Reconciliation Committee, and in September 2025, the Court adopted a Reconciliation Framework. The Reconciliation Frameworks commit the Courts to advancing reconciliation in all their work, including through education, relationship building, and improving access to justice for Indigenous peoples. The Reconciliation Framework is available <a href="here">here</a>.

- The Supreme Court struck a Reconciliation Working Group in 2024 and is currently considering feedback following a period of public consultation.
- The BC Court of Appeal adopted a Reconciliation Framework in 2024. More information is available <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.