



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Credit Union to close on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

First Credit Union branches and administration offices will be closed on September 30 to observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This day recognizes Indigenous culture and history and the importance of honouring those who were lost and the survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities. Regular hours will resume on October 1.

“Earlier this year we reinforced our commitment to listening, learning, and more broadly, being part of the truth and reconciliation movement by pursuing initiatives that would foster a sense of inclusion and cultural understanding, especially related to decolonization and the history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada,” said Linda Bowyer, CEO. “While September 30th is not yet a provincially recognized statutory holiday, First Credit Union is choosing to honour this day as part of our ongoing commitment toward truth and reconciliation.”

The new federal statutory holiday, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a response to the 80th Call to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Report. The report states that the purpose of the day is 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.” This coincides with Orange Shirt Day, which was started by campaign founder Phyllis Webstad in 2013.

Over the coming weeks, First Credit Union is focusing on education and development opportunities for employees to learn more about the history of residential schools and Indigenous Peoples in Canada. The week of September 30, employees are encouraged to wear orange shirts in commemoration of the day. First Credit Union encourages everyone to reflect and consider our roles in reconciliation with Indigenous peoples wherever we live, work and play on September 30 and beyond.

First Credit Union is the longest-running credit union in BC, incorporated in 1939. With eight credit union branches, over \$700 million in credit union and \$160 million in wealth management assets, the organization serves over 17,000 members in eight coastal communities.

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