



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30, 2022

The Town of Ponoka, which is located on Treaty 6 territory, will observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Friday, September 30 to recognize and commemorate the history of residential schools. To honour the importance of this new federal statutory holiday, the Town flags at the Ponoka Civic Centre will be lowered to half-mast. All Town facilities will also be closed on September 30, with the exception of the Ponoka Arena Complex which will be open in the evening. Regular hours for all facilities will resume on Monday, October 3.

"The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a time for all of us to take a moment to listen. It is only through listening that we can get to understanding," said Ponoka Mayor Kevin Ferguson.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was created by the Government of Canada in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #80, which calls for a federal statutory day of public commemoration to reflect on the ongoing impacts of residential schools, and to honour survivors, their families and communities.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30 is also Orange Shirt Day, an Indigenous-led, grass roots commemorative day that honours the children who survived residential schools and remembers those who did not.

"As a way to bring awareness to the painful legacy of residential schools, the Town is also encouraging Ponoka citizens and Town staff to wear orange on September 30," said Sandra Lund, Chief Administrative Officer for the Town of Ponoka.

Discovering Truth

A Tribute to Residential School Survivors and Those That Were Lost

Recognizing the legacy of residential schools & discovering the new found truths.

Please join us in this community-wide event in honour of the
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Thursday, September 29 FROM 1 - 3 pm

In the field between Ponoka Elementary School, The BRICK Learning Centre and The Youth Centre, along Highway 2A.



PARKING NOTE: No parking in the bus area. Please park across highway 2A in the Centennial Park parking lot or on the East side of the school. Thank you.

Let's come together as a community to celebrate our diversity and the cultural heritage of where we live. Join us as we build understanding and respect through



- Guest speakers
- Drumming & Pow Wow Dancing
- Bannock and refreshments

Honouring the life experiences of those affected by this dark period in our history.

Honouring Truth.

Hosted by:



Attendees are encouraged to wear Orange.

Wearing orange, on September 30th, National Day of Truth & Reconciliation, shows that you recognize the impact that residential schools have had on multiple generations of Indigenous families. It shows that you understand the need for reconciliation and that you are open to being part of the discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they have left behind.

We respectfully acknowledge that we live and work on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

Early Bird Animal Licensing Rates Available Starting in October for Ponoka Residents



Residents will be able to access the early bird rate by renewing their dog licences for the 2023 year between October 1 and December 31, 2022.

The early bird rate also applies to:

- New Ponoka residents who own a dog and/or cat as of October 1, 2022; and
- First-time animal owners of a dog and/or cat as of October 1, 2022.

Why should I licence my pet?

- All dogs and cats six months of age and older must be licensed annually in the Town of Ponoka, as per the Town's Animal Control Bylaw #424-19.
- An animal licence is your pet's ticket home and helps ensure they can more easily be returned home safely by the Town's animal control contractor, Old MacDonald Kennels.
- Licensing also saves pet owners added cost if your animal accidentally escapes your property, which can result in a fine for failing to license your cat or dog.
- Animal licence fees help offset the cost of the animal control contractor's services provided by the Town of Ponoka.

For more information and a list of Frequently Asked Questions, please visit the Town of Ponoka's website at www.ponoka.ca/p/dog-cat-licences.

~ TOWN NEWS ~

- **Deadline on Outstanding Property Taxes** – To avoid further penalties, the last day to pay your 2022 property taxes is this Friday, September 30. Please submit your property tax payment in-person by Thursday, September 29, as the Town Office will be closed on September 30 to recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. For more information and payment options, please visit the Town's website at www.ponoka.ca/p/property-taxes.
- **Annual Fall Clean Up** – The annual back-alley collection of compostable yard waste starts on Tuesday, October 11. The Town of Ponoka Operations Department will make one pass down each back alley to collect yard waste (grass clippings, leaves, weeds and branches less than five feet) in excess of what will fit in your Green Cart. For more information, please visit www.ponoka.ca under 'Latest News and Notices.'
- **Kick It to the Curb** – Citizens are invited to turn unwanted items into somebody else's treasure during the Kick It to the Curb Week from October 11 - 16. Place items you wish to give away in your front yard with a 'FREE' sign on them. People can then come by and pick up any items they would like. Full details at www.ponoka.ca under 'Latest News and Notices.'
- **Green Carts and Recyclable Materials** bundled in clear or blue transparent plastic bags should be placed at the curb for pick up on September 28, 29 and 30 – depending on what Zone you live in.
- **Grey Carts and Green Carts** should be placed at the curb for pick up on October 5, 6 and 7 – depending on your Zone.

~ UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS ~

- **Next TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, October 11 at 6 p.m.**
- **Next PRIORITIES AND INITIATIVES MEETING: Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m.**
- **2023 BUDGET DELIBERATION DATES: Tuesday, November 1 and Wednesday, November 2** (stay tuned for more details).
- The public is welcome to attend all Council meetings. Meetings and budget deliberations will be held in Town Council Chambers on the third floor of the Ponoka Civic Centre (5604 50 Street).



Hometown Weekly

Town of Ponoka News and Events

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