



Unfortunately, there was a typo in the newsletter we sent earlier. The second workshop listed from Nahanee Creative Inc is "*Restorying Colonialism*". Please accept our apology and this updated version of the newsletter with the correct workshop name.

This Friday, September 30th, our offices will be closed in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. In lieu of a day of work, Rivershed is asking staff to take time to reflect on the impacts of residential schools, to create space to listen and learn from survivors and their families, and to make a donation to an organization that supports survivors of residential schools. We encourage you to do the same. A few options to consider are:

[Orange Shirt Society](#)
[Native Women's Association of Canada](#)
[Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund](#)
[Indian Residential School Survivors Society](#)

Rivershed is firmly committed to doing our part to further reconciliation and we are dedicated to intentional and respectful relationships with Indigenous partners and community members throughout the Fraser Watershed. On this day last year, we shared that staff were given an assignment to help further their understanding about the on-going impacts of this country's colonial history. We also said we were implementing scheduled decolonization assignments and recurring meetings to help educate our staff and decolonize the organization.

We have remained dedicated to this commitment and would like to share some of the most impactful assignments we have completed so far:

Read:

[*Calls to Action*](#), from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada
[*Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*](#), book written by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Watch:

[*There's Something in the Water*](#), documentary by Elliot Page

Listen

[*The Secret Life of Canada | S2: The Indian Act*](#), CBC podcast hosted by Leah-Simone Bowen and Falen Johnson

[Telling Our Twisted Histories: Reconciliation](#), CBC podcast hosted by by
Kaniehti:io Horn

Workshops:

[Etiquette for Allies](#), and [Restorying Colonialism](#), by Nahanee Creative Inc.

There is always more to learn

Many communities throughout the country are hosting in-person events to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Rivershed strongly encourages you to take part in one near you to increase your understanding of Canada's colonial history and show support for members of your community who have been affected by the horrific legacy of residential schools.

Here are a few events happening in the Fraser Watershed on Friday, Sept. 30:

Nechako Region:

The [Lheidli T'enneh First Nation is hosting their first Truth and Reconciliation Day event](#) on their ancestral lands and historic village site now known as Lheidli T'enneh Memorial Park (Prince George).

Cariboo Chilcotin Region:

The Orange Shirt Society is hosting their [9th annual Orange Shirt Day](#) (Williams Lake).

Fraser Canyon:

The [Truth and Reconciliation March and Memorial](#) (Lillooet).

Thompson Shuswap Region:

The Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc are hosting [Xyemstem Xwexwéyt re Kwséltktens-kt](#) (Kamloops).

Lower Fraser Region:

[Events and Exhibits in the Fraser Valley](#) (Abbotsford, Chilliwack and Mission).
[10 events in Metro Vancouver](#) (Vancouver, South Delta, New Westminster, Coquitlam, Port Moody and Surrey).

Online:

[Special programming on CBC](#)

[Panel Discussion: Indigenous Perspective's on the Pope's Apology](#)

Don't leave kids out of the conversation! Schools are closed province-wide this Friday, as such, we encourage you to take this opportunity to have age-appropriate conversations with the children in your life about the history and impact of residential schools. CBC Kids News platform has [a page dedicated to Indigenous news stories](#) that may be of interest to the children in your family.

A Special Thank You to Stelat'en First Nation and the people of Sekw'el'was

We would like to take a moment to extend our gratitude to the nations that welcomed the Rivershed team during the last several weeks as we traveled through the Fraser Watershed. Our staff was inspired by the **Stelat'en First Nation** who invited us to their Salmon Fest. During this event, staff learned more about the nation's connection with the land and their continued stewardship of it. We also want to thank the people of **Sekw'el'was** (Cayoose Creek band, St'át'imc nation) for sharing a lunch with us, and teaching us about their local Watershed CPR efforts. Their generosity and commitment to the land reinvigorated us in our mission to connect, protect and restore the Fraser Watershed.



Justine Nelson
Executive Director
Rivershed Society of BC

Our next edition of Rivershed Stories will be out on Oct. 13 and will feature updates from our travels through the Fraser Watershed, plus content provided by YOU. Please [send us](#) any news, events, or opportunities you would like Rivershed to share with our network of Watershed Defenders by Oct. 10.



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