

June 7-11, 2021

## Honouring our History with Truth and Reconciliation



This past week, Aurora Middle School kept our flags at half-mast in remembrance of the young lives lost at the residential school in Kamloops, as well as all lives affected by the atrocities that are part of Canada's residential school legacy. As we know, language was one of the many things stripped away from our Indigenous people during the course of many years of colonialism and residential schooling. Through the [University of Alberta Green Fund](#), our very own Ms. Maxine Desjarlais assembled Cree Literacy Kits for distribution to schools, the Lac La biche Friendship Centre, and the Stewart Mcpherson Public Library. These



kits include resources and activities to teach Cree language to young learners. Recognizing the importance that language plays in culture is one step toward celebrating, honouring, and keeping that culture alive.

With that in mind, we would like to take this opportunity to share information about [Every Child Matters Truth & Reconciliation Week](#). This learning event will take place virtually the week of September 27 through October 1, 2021. We will virtually connect with Indigenous storytellers, have remote conversations with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Survivors, and the children of Survivors of residential schools. In the meantime, check out the [Legacy of Hope Foundation](#), an Indigenous-led charitable organization that raises awareness about the history and long-lasting intergenerational impacts of residential schooling, the Sixties Scoop, day schools, and other means of cultural oppression against our First Nations, Metis, and Inuit peoples, their descendants, and their communities. Stay tuned for more info on COVID-safe Aboriginal Day celebrations. We value our Indigenous and Metis families and the diversity, gifts, talents, and spirit their children bring to our schools.

