



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

To all students, faculty and staff,

September 30, 2021 will mark the inaugural National Day for Truth and Reconciliation across Canada – a day of commemoration and reflection to learn more about the tragic legacy of residential schools and systemic racism against Indigenous persons. The day will also focus on the hard work ahead to rebuild relationships between settler and Indigenous communities.

As part of the university's commitment to advancing action that supports truth and reconciliation, StFX will close on Thursday, September 30. In collaboration with local Mi'kmaq partners, we have instead been planning a ceremony for that day to honour survivors of residential schools and remember the children whose lives were lost. It is one of numerous activities we have been working on to better educate and remind Xaverians that we are all Treaty People. Details will be forthcoming, and I truly hope all students and employees will take the opportunity to attend to gain a deeper understanding of the history of Indigenous peoples in this country.

This is important to us as a community. While this work takes time, as a university we remain committed to listening and learning from Indigenous voices so we can build a campus community that is equitable for all.

Sincerely,

Andy W. Hakin
President and Vice-Chancellor
St. Francis Xavier University

