

# National Indigenous History Month

What is Indigenous History Month?
It is essential to learn about Indigenous history, the traditional stewards of the land, and the diversity of Indigenous cultures in Canada. In 2009, June was declared National Indigenous History Month following the passing of a unanimous motion in the House of Commons.

What is Indigenous Peoples Day?
On June 21, Canada celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day, and 2022 will mark the twenty-sixth year. We celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day to learn about the rich lived experiences of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people all across Canada.

## What are Treaties?

Treaties are agreements made between the Canadian Government and Indigenous groups. Often times in the past, many of these agreements were made unfair for the Indigenous Peoples. Modern Treaties are more inclusive; and are decided with community, rather than for them. Learn more about the Williams Treaties.

## What were Residential Schools?

Indian Residential Schools were made by the Government of Canada to assimilate and erase Indigenous Peoples and culture. The last residential school closed in 1996. The Government of Canada documented that around 200,000 children attended Indian residential schools. The actual number of children that attended was around 450,000 —many of them have still not made it home. According to Sir John A. Macdonald, the objective of residential schools was "to take the Indian out of the child."

> To learn more about Indigenous History Month and how YOU can be an ally, visit National Indigenous History Month.