



## **PROCLAMATION**

### **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

**WHEREAS**, in June of 2021, the federal government passed a new legislation making September 30 a national statutory holiday to commemorate the tragic legacy of residential schools in Canada; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of a national holiday is in response to the 80th call to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action; and

**WHEREAS**, the date coincides with Orange Shirt Day, which began in 2013 and has become a symbol of remembrance to honour Indigenous children forced to leave their families to attend residential schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the orange shirt symbol originated in the experience of Phyllis (Jack) Webstad of the Stswechem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, who shared her story of how her new orange shirt was taken away from her on her first day at St. Joseph Mission Residential School, leaving her with feelings of worthlessness and insignificance; and

**WHEREAS**, this day will provide a way for our community to publicly commemorate the history and legacy of residential schools and the resilience of residential school survivors, commemoration being a vital component of the reconciliation process; and

**WHEREAS**, Tay Township is a community that encourages and celebrates its cultural diversity;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Ted Walker, Mayor of the Township of Tay, do hereby proclaim September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Tay Township**

Ted Walker, Mayor