



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

# REMEMBERING THE CHILDREN PROCLAMATION

**Whereas** The “Remembering the Children Society,” founded in 2011, was established to:

- support the reclamation and preservation of Indian Residential School cemeteries and history in Alberta;
- research missing children and unmarked burials;
- commemorate and remember the children who attended Indian Residential Schools in Alberta, and died at the schools and were buried in cemeteries;
- facilitate reconciliation between and within Indigenous families, communities, churches, governments and Canada; and

**Whereas** For more than a century Indian Residential Schools separated over 150,000 Aboriginal children from their families and communities and have contributed to a legacy of relationships between First Nations, Metis, Inuit and non-native people that requires healing, reconciliation and restoration across cultures and generations; and

**Whereas** June 11 marks the anniversary of the official apology of the Government of Canada to the children and descendants affected by Residential schools throughout the Country with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission being integral in moving towards healing, reconciliation and restoration of the legacy of Indian Residential Schools; and

**Whereas** The “Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada” identified Calls to Action in order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation; and

**Whereas** Within our community an Indian Residential School operated from 1893 – 1919, and some of the children who attended there died there and are buried in the Red Deer Industrial School cemetery; and

**Whereas** The City of Red Deer wishes to join the commemoration of this history and live in a land where all persons are respected as human beings with a rich history; and

**Whereas** A day to remember is a day to learn about this history, to recognize the forms and impacts of racism, to appreciate the gifts of Indigenous cultures and peoples, and to take steps on the path of healing, reconciliation and restoration; and

**Whereas** June 11 is recognized as “Remembering the Children Day” in honour of the Indigenous children of the Red Deer Industrial School and their descendants;

**Therefore** I, Mayor Ken Johnston, recognize that June 11<sup>th</sup> shall be known as “Remembering the Children Day” and encourage Red Deerians to engage in the healing, reconciliation and restoration efforts of the “Remembering the Children Society.”

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of The City of Red Deer, Alberta, to be affixed.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Johnston".

His Worship  
Ken Johnston  
Mayor

