



# Scallywag Rag



Bridgewater Day Care Centre Newsletter

September 2021

## Dates to Remember:

September 6<sup>th</sup> - Labour Day - Centre Closed

September 30<sup>th</sup> - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Wear an orange shirt

October 5<sup>th</sup> - Parent Committee meeting

## Federal /Provincial Child Care Funding

**Agreement:** The Government of Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia signed the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021. With this agreement the Province will receive 604.9 million in federal funding over the next 5 years. Highlights for the use of this funding:

~ Reducing current parents fees by 50% by December 21, 2022

~Parents paying \$10.00 per day child care fees by 2026

~Creating additional 9,500 new not for profit child care spaces by March 21, 2025

~Creating a three year old early learning program

~Enhancing before and afterschool care options for 3-5 year olds using the schools and school resources

~Creating an organization to manage all regulated child care in NS

~Increase in pay and benefits for ECE staff

~Introduce a regulated certification process for ECE staff

~ Providing increased free tuition and bursaries for current ECE staff wishing to upgrade their credentials

~Providing a one time grant of \$500 for trained ECE staff working in provincially funded child care centres.

If you wish more information please visit <https://ednet.ns.ca/childcare>

On July 20, 2021 the Bridgewater Day Care Committee passed a motion to enter into the funding agreement with the Province of NS.

**Orange Shirt Day:** I can remember shopping for school supplies and new clothes at the end of each August and the excitement I felt of wearing them proudly on the first day of school. My heart breaks as I learn of the origins of “Orange Shirt Day”. Please take the time to listen and learn from this horrific heritage we now own, I pray for healing and acceptance, not fear, of our community of diversity.

The “orange shirt” in Orange Shirt Day refers to the new shirt that Phyllis Webstad was given to her by her grandmother for her first day of school at St. Joseph’s Mission residential school in British Columbia. When Phyllis got to school, they took away her clothes, including her new shirt. It was never returned. To Phyllis, the colour orange has always reminded her of her experiences at residential school and, as she has said, “how my feelings didn’t matter, how no one cared and I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.”

September 30<sup>th</sup> - As you may be aware, the federal government has designated as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Starting September 30, 2021, this day will be observed as a federal statutory holiday.

Traditionally, this date has been known as Orange Shirt Day. This new national day is meant to recognize the tragic history of loss, and the lasting effects of Canada’s residential school system. It honours First Nations, Inuit and Métis residential school survivors, their families, and communities, as a vital part in the process of reconciliation.