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President: Mike Synnuck

*Positive experiences in a unified soccer community*

September 27, 2023

To: All Member Clubs and Teams

Re: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

LISA acknowledges how fortunate we are to participate in the game we love on the ancestral lands of the Lekwungen and SENĆOTEN speaking Coast Salish people. We are honoured to have the ability to enjoy sport on their traditional lands and we strive to build and respect strong working relationships with local Nations based on learning, openness, humility and respect. We endeavor to walk softly on the ancestral lands of the Lekwungen (Songhees), WSÁNEĆ (Saanich), Xwsepsum (Esquimalt), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Malakut (Malahat), T'Sou-ke (Sooke), and families of the Coast Salish area.

The Lower Island Soccer Association would like to recognize the importance of Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a day to recognize and reflect on the history and harm caused by the residential school system. It's a day to honour the resilience, dignity and strength of survivors and intergenerational survivors and remember the children who never came home. It's a chance to engage and educate people about B.C.'s colonial history and how it has and continues to impact Indigenous communities.

On September 30, individuals and communities will be honouring Orange Shirt Day, as well as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. Collectively, we are marking this important occasion by encouraging members of the soccer community to actively participate in this day of Truth and Reconciliation. Should any team or club wish to forgo their regularly scheduled matches on September 30<sup>th</sup> they are encouraged to do so without repercussion. Any competitive matches that are not played will be considered "un-played, to be made up at a later date". Please ensure active communication with your club and opposition if your team will not be participating in scheduled activity.

If you'd like to learn more about Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth and Reconciliation please find below links:

- [B.C. Event Listings: Orange Shirt Day / National Day for Truth and Reconciliation 2023](#)
- [viaSport BC National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Resources](#)
- [Sport and Reconciliation Calls to Action \(87-91\)](#)
- [781: A Story of Sports and Survival in Canadian Residential School](#)

Best Regards,

Lower Island Soccer Association