



National Day of Awareness ~ May 5th, 2024

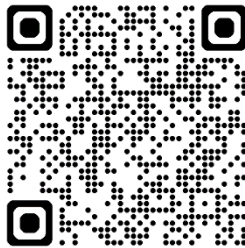
Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls (MMIWG2+) or **Red Dress Day**

What and When?

- Red Dress Day will be held on May 5th, 2024. It is a day to remember and honour missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirited people (MMIWG2S+).

Why Red Dresses?

- Red Dress Day began as an art project by Canadian Métis artist Jaime Black. In 2010, she created the “**REDress Project**” as a visual reminder of the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women across Canada. For the project, she hung red dresses in public places as symbols of both sorrow and resilience. Since then, red dresses have been used to raise awareness about the ongoing violence faced by Indigenous women and girls in Canada. You can learn more about the REDress Project below:



Please Note:

- The topic of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, as well as the information and images contained in the links below, may be triggering to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students as they contain references to situations of violence and abuse.
- Please ensure that students are aware of the supports and social work resources within your school that can help them before introducing the topic of MMIWG2+.
- Additionally, students can find support at 1-844-413-6649. This is a national, toll-free 24/7 crisis call line providing support for anyone who requires emotional assistance related to missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Indigenous students can also contact Hope for Wellness at 1-855-242-3310 or hopeforwellness.ca for support.

The Facts:

- Violence against Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG2S+) is disproportionately high.
- Indigenous women are 4 times more likely than non-Indigenous women to be victims of violence.
- Indigenous women make up 16% of all female homicide victims, and 11% of missing women, yet Indigenous people make up only 4.3% of the population of Canada.
- A little more than 13% of Indigenous people experience violence from their current or ex-partner, a proportion twice as high as non-Indigenous people (5.7%).
- 56% of Indigenous women have suffered physical assault, and 46% have experienced sexual assault. By comparison, about one-third of non-Indigenous women have suffered these assaults in their lifetimes.
- **Source:** <https://afn.ca/rights-justice/murdered-missing-indigenous-women-girls/>

What Can You Do to Help?

- Wear **RED** on May 5th.
- Participate in the **Faceless Doll Project**.



The Faceless Dolls Project was initiated by the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) in the spring of 2012. The purpose of this project is to raise awareness about the crisis of MMIWG2+ peoples in Canada through art.

Use the link below to access the NWAC's Tool Kit and create your own Faceless Dolls in support of this initiative. Each faceless doll created will symbolize a missing or murdered Indigenous woman, girl, or two-spirited person and will honour and commemorate their lives.

NWAC Tool Kit: [Red-dress-day-TOOL-KIT.pdf \(nwac.ca\)](#)

- **Learn more:**
 - [Final Report | MMIWG \(mmiwg-ffada.ca\)](#)
 - [Red Dress Day | The Canadian Encyclopedia](#)
 - <https://afn.ca/rights-justice/murdered-missing-indigenous-women-girls/>
 - [Red Dress Day 2024: Take Action on May 5 \(amnesty.ca\)](#)
 - [Canada's missing and murdered Indigenous women | AJ+ \(youtube.com\)](#)