

August 25, 2021

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Government of Canada recently passed legislation to make the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on the 30th of September a Federal Statutory Holiday. CLR has been in discussions with the Bargaining Council regarding our collective agreement language and have reviewed the language in all of our collective agreements. The majority of collective agreements include language that allows for the addition of new statutory holidays “proclaimed by the Federal and/or Provincial Government”. Given the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is now a day proclaimed by the Federal Government, it is captured by the language of those Agreements.

Therefore, **starting this year September 30th will be recognized as a Statutory Holiday in the majority of CLR collective agreements**, and employees will be entitled to double time if they work on the day.

Those collective agreements negotiated with the Bargaining Council include a commitment from 2019 that in the event the Federal or Provincial Government declares a new Statutory Holiday, BCBCBTU and CLR will meet to determine which Non-Statutory Holiday will be floated to the period between Christmas and New Years. Unfortunately, this meeting was not able to occur this year due to the short notice of the change; however, they will be ongoing and will be concluded prior to next summer.

While this new Statutory Holiday does apply to the majority of CLR Agreements, there are a few exceptions, and CLR staff will be contacting all contractors signatory to those Agreements separately to clarify the status of their Statutory Holidays.