



Evangel Hall Mission

*A community of compassion. A place of hope.*

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**September 30<sup>th</sup> is National Truth and Reconciliation Day.** This day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. It is a day for remembering, learning, and reflecting. It is a day to deepen our understanding of the legacy of residential schools, and how it has impacted the lives of all Indigenous peoples in Canada.

At EHM, we see this legacy every day:

- While Indigenous people represent 2% of the population in Toronto:
  - 15% of people experiencing homelessness identify as Indigenous;
  - 23% of people staying outdoors identify as Indigenous, with two-thirds staying in encampments
- Indigenous people are more likely to experience chronic homelessness, to first experience homelessness as children/youth, and to have foster care experience

EHM also honors the lives of over 4,000 missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, killed or gone missing in Canada over the past 30 years.

- Indigenous women represent 10% of the total population of missing women in Canada
- Indigenous women are six times more likely to be murdered than non-Indigenous women
- This violence has been acknowledged by the Government of Canada as an outcome of state actions and inactions rooted in colonialism and colonial ideologies

### **Please join EHM in our work to advance reconciliation**

- Advocate for increased affordable and subsidised housing for Indigenous people;
- Advocate for increased awareness of, and support for, Indigenous women at risk for and living with violence; and
- Learn about Canada's colonial history, and the impact of the harm caused by governments, churches, charities and social service agencies.

### **What's on our Bookshelf**

EHM has a bookshelf for staff, clients, and tenants, with books written by Indigenous authors. Here are some of our favourites:

- 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act - Bob Joseph
  - A summary of the ways Canada used the Indian Act to build the systematic oppression of Indigenous peoples into our social, economic, political, environmental, and legal systems.
- From the Ashes: My Story of Being Métis, Homeless, and Finding My Way - Jesse Thistle
  - A memoir that walks the reader through how someone becomes homeless, and what it takes to find your way out.

