
BRITISH HOME CHILD DAY

BEACONS OF LIGHT

Subject: Invitation to Participate – Beacons of Light Tribute (September 28)

The British Home Children were over 100,000 children sent to Canada from the United Kingdom between 1869 and 1948 as part of child migration schemes. Many came from families facing poverty and hardship and were placed in homes across the country, often as indentured farm or domestic labourers. While some found kindness, many experienced neglect, loss of identity, and separation from their families. Despite these challenges, they grew up to contribute significantly to Canada, including serving in large numbers during the First and Second World Wars.

Today, it is estimated that 4–6 million Canadians can trace their ancestry to a British Home Child, making their story an important part of our national history. Recognizing and honouring the Home Children ensures that their experiences—both the hardships and the resilience—are not forgotten. It also helps Canadians better understand the lasting impact of this migration on families and communities across the country.

September 28th is recognized as **National British Home Child Day in Canada**, proclaimed by the Government of Canada in 2017.

Home Children Canada invites you to participate in our annual **Beacons of Light International Tribute**, held each year on this day since 2019. This national and international initiative honours the British Home Children and their descendants.

Communities across the country participate by illuminating landmarks, monuments, and buildings, or by hosting gatherings and educational events. Individuals also take part by leaving a light on overnight as a simple but meaningful act of remembrance.

Home Children Canada is a registered charity dedicated to raising awareness, supporting descendants in their search for family information, and preserving historical records and artifacts—all free of charge.

We would be honoured to have your organization join us in recognizing this important part of Canada's history.

If you are interested in participating, please reply to this email or contact us at **homechildrencanada@gmail.com**. We would also be grateful to receive any photos or details of your participation to share and help raise awareness.

For more information please visit our website as www.homechildrencanada.ca

Thank you for considering this opportunity to commemorate and educate.

Warm regards,

Home Children Canada