



St. Clair Catholic Honours Indigenous Peoples Day – June 21, 2022

St. Clair Catholic will honour National Indigenous Peoples Day on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 and throughout the week, with learning, events and celebrations across the district.

"In our classrooms across the system, we are celebrating the thousands of years of wisdom and tradition from the Indigenous people of Turtle Island," says Scott Johnson, Director of Education. "As educators, we are committed to ongoing reflection and learning, which honours the rich cultures of Indigenous communities."

Students will participate in a variety of learning opportunities, including the importance of the summer solstice to the Anishinaabe and learning more about diverse Indigenous cultures.

June 21st will open by celebrating in song together with the Isaac Family, Bkejwanong Territory, Deb and Barry Milliken, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, David Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation along with an Ancestral Lands Acknowledgement, by St. Clair Catholic student voice and photos from the past year.

In addition, youth activist <u>Theland Kickosway</u> will share a song as he reflects on the day. Awardwinning music group, <u>Twin Flames</u>, will bring two sessions of song and story to classes across the system. Métis musician, <u>Brianna Lizotte</u>, will engage students in interactive sessions to learn about Métis culture. Artist <u>Rhonda Snow</u> will share stories of her paintings connected to Mother Earth and will provide a doodling opportunity for classrooms.

We also welcome Aalla who will share about Inuit culture with students. Lynda Lou Classens, Bkejwanong First Nation Public Library, will engage classes in stories. On June 20, 200 youth had the opportunity to celebrate at the Bkejwanong Children's Centre Parade to start the week off together!

This month, we have been excited to learn from Inspiring Indigenous People, such as musicians Chelsey June and Jaji of <u>Twin Flames</u>, author, former journalist, hip hop artist, and politician, <u>Wab</u> <u>Kinew</u>, NASA astronaut <u>John Herrington</u>, and Anishinaabe artist <u>Moses Lunham</u>!

For more information regarding St. Clair Catholic learning and celebrations, visit the Board website by clicking <u>here</u>.

For further information regarding this release, please contact:

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