



The CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM
Le MUSÉE CANADIEN du CANOT

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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FREE WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCES AT THE CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY

With Miawpukek First Nation from Conne River, Newfoundland

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. — Workshops, performances and demonstrations will be open for all to enjoy at The Canadian Canoe Museum, 910 Monaghan Road, and a ceremonial paddle will take place at the Peterborough Lift Lock. In honour of National Aboriginal Day, celebrations will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on June 21. The event is in partnership with Miawpukek First Nation, from Conne River, Newfoundland and the entire day is free to the public.

The opening ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. with traditional welcomings, remarks as well as songs of honour and reconciliation performed by Sipuji'j Drummers and Eastern Owl.

Artists from Miawpukek will lead free workshops on singing, drumming, canoe building and language at the Museum beginning at 10:30 a.m. and wrapping up at 2:00 p.m. with a traditional round dance. At 3:30 p.m., Miawpukek First Nation's Chief Mi'sel Joe will present the Museum with a birch bark canoe crafted in Newfoundland by Mi'kmaw canoe builders and youth. The occasion will be celebrated with a ceremonial paddle at the Peterborough Lift Lock. Everyone is invited to bring their own boat and gear to paddle alongside the canoe. To finish the day, all are welcome to enjoy a continuation of the morning's workshops with Miawpukek singers, drummers, dancers and canoe builders at the Museum from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

"This is an important event for everyone, and especially for the residents of Conne River," says Colleen Lambert, Tourism, Culture and Recreation Manager for Miawpukek First Nation. "It will be one of many reconciliation events, and it will give us an opportunity to share our culture with the people of Peterborough. Through workshops, we'll share our traditions of the big drum, hand held drum and birch bark canoe. Chief Mi'sel Joe will present on our language. We have been working to make this event happen for a long time, and I'm excited to see it come together."

For more information, please visit canoemuseum.ca

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