

SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION
Board Office



SEVEN OAKS
SCHOOL DIVISION
community begins here

Memorandum

TO: Administrators
DATE: January 15, 2019
RE: **National Indigenous Peoples Day**

At its Regular Board meeting of Thursday, January 10th, 2019 the Seven Oaks School Division passed the following motion.

“That the Board include National Indigenous Peoples Day on its divisional calendar and encourage schools to recognize and celebrate the day.”

This year National Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21st. Please update school calendars.

Attached is a letter outlining details about National Indigenous Peoples Day.

Thank you.

December 19, 2018

School Division Board Chair
Seven Oaks School Division
830 Powers Street, Winnipeg, MB, R2V 4E7

Re: June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day.

We are children, youth, and adults residents of Winnipeg. We are writing this letter to ask for *your support and leadership to celebrate the National Indigenous People's Day, June 21, throughout all the schools in your School Division and identify the day in your school calendar.*

Honouring this day is one of the calls to action identified in the report from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; specifically: "We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process."

According to the government of Canada's website, it is "a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, diverse culture, and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples." The government is looking into acknowledging this as a statutory holiday across Canada in the near future. The day is already celebrated throughout Winnipeg and other cities in various events and is a statutory holiday in the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. We learnt that some schools are not aware of this day and its importance. We trust your leadership can make a difference in making sure that the generation of children and youth in your care understand and take active part in the truth and reconciliation process.

Please consider acknowledging and celebrating *June 21, 2019* as a Divisional initiative by including information about this important date in teaching plans, planning commemorative activities in your schools and/or facilitating your students' group attendance to the various events in the city.

Thank you for taking the time to read this request. We would really appreciate if you let us know the outcome of this request in your School Division.

Sincerely,



Dr. Alicia Ordonez, on behalf of the people signing below
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