



June 20, 2025

## **The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate recognizes and celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day**

The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate recognizes and celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2025. June 21 is the summer solstice, which is the longest day of the year. This day holds significance for many Indigenous Peoples and marks a time of renewal, connection and celebration.

“National Indigenous Peoples Day is an opportunity to celebrate the rich history, traditions, and talents of Indigenous People throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as across Canada. I am delighted to recognize this important day for Indigenous peoples, and in particular Indigenous children and youth. I have been fortunate to spend time in Indigenous communities and to see first-hand the talent, resilience and ingenuity that exists in these communities,” said Karen Gray, Child and Youth Advocate (A).

To recognize this special day and those talents, the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate is launching a special edition of the Young Artist Program. We are asking young people to send us their artwork which reflects what being Indigenous means to them. While the Young Artist Program accepts art all year long from young people, this special edition is meant to amplify the voices and creativity of Indigenous children and youth.

“I am eager to see the creations sent to my office as part of this special edition of the Young Artist Program. I, along with staff at my Office, take every opportunity to hear directly from young people on matters that affect them and work hard to ensure their rights are respected and protected. We also delight in opportunities to celebrate young people, their individuality, and uniqueness,” said Gray.

Please see the attached poster for more details on the Special Edition of the Young Artist Program.

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CHILDREN  
& YOUTH  
NEWFOUNDLAND  
& LABRADOR

Special Edition

June 21, 2025

**Celebrating**  
**National Indigenous Peoples Day**

## Young Artist Program

We are inviting you to submit artwork to tell us  
What being **Indigenous** means to you!

We are always interested in art created by Indigenous young people. The Young Artist Program accepts artwork from all young people every day of the year.

Submissions for this special edition will be accepted until June 21, 2026. At which time we will draw for a special prize from the submissions received.

### Who can participate?

Anyone under the age of 21.

### How will my art be used?

It will appear on our website, on social media, and in our various print materials.

### What kinds of art do you accept?

Anything you create! (E.g., Drawings, Paintings, Photography, Poetry)

### Do I have to send in my original work?

The art must be created by you. However, we accept photos of your art so that you can keep your original if you wish.

Submit to the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate by:

**Email:** [Office@ocya.nl.ca](mailto:Office@ocya.nl.ca)

**Mail:** PO Box 8700, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

**Using the online form:**

<https://www.childandyouthadvocate.nl.ca/for-young-people/young-artists/>