

*MEDIA ADVISORY***Tuesday, March 10, 2020****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****MATAWA EDUCATION HOST 13TH ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

THUNDER BAY, ON: Matawa Education, in partnership with Keewaytinook Okimakanak Board of Education (KOBE) will host the 13th Annual Matawa Education Conference from March 11 - 12 this week at the Valhalla Inn in the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation. The theme is: *Debinan Gibawamowin Kotagiyag Chigichiinendamowach (Achieving the Dream: Inspiring Generations)*. An opportunity will be taken to undertake a strategic planning process on March 10, 2020.

Teachers, staff and others involved in community schools/education from Matawa and KOBE will engage in workshops together as excellent opportunities to create meaningful connections, share their successes and celebrate their learning experiences. The focus of the conference is on building positive relationships with students in order to support their learning. Professional learning opportunities will be provided through 35 workshops in the areas of: cultural curriculum, land-based/outdoor education, First Nation language revitalization tools/techniques/methodology, special education, teaching strategies for literacy and numeracy, mental health/wellbeing, STEM and classroom/school technology/innovation—amongst others.

Highlights of the conference include Non-Violence Crisis Intervention training that will be available on March 11 and 12 and keynote speaker Dr. Pamela D. Palmater during the morning of March 12.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend the opening ceremonies (agenda attached).

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2020
Location: Valhalla Inn Ballroom, Thunder Bay, Ontario
Time: 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.

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For more information, please contact Carol Audet, Communications Manager – Matawa First Nations Management at (807) 632-9663 or by email at caudet@matawa.on.ca



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