

MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, January 21, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MATAWA EDUCATION AND CARE CENTRE ART STUDENTS HOST
INDIGENOUS ARTIST IN MURAL PROJECT**

THUNDER BAY, ON: Art students from the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC) will be hosting an Indigenous artist named Joseph Sagaj, a member of Neskantaga First Nation who lives in Toronto, during the week of January 21 – 25, 2019 to do a mural project.

Joseph Sagaj is an active artist in Southern Ontario whose work centers around cultural understanding and identity as an Indigenous person. Joseph has the knowledge and experience of being an artist and leaving his home community to pursue the creative world. This project is funded through the Ontario Arts Council's *Indigenous Artist in Communities and Schools* grant.

During the week, MECC students will participate in a variety of activities aimed at developing their self-awareness as both as individuals and artists, as well as developing basic painting skills. Students will be given an opportunity to employ and display their creativity in meaningful ways that showcases and exhibits their identity as Indigenous youth living in Northern Ontario.

On December 12, 2018, the MECC celebrated a Phase 1 opening of the Centre after purchasing the surplus building in 2017 from the City of Thunder Bay.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend a portion of this week's mural project.

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019
Location: 200 Lillie Street North
Time: 1:00pm

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

