

MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, March 3, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MATAWA EDUCATION TO HOST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THUNDER BAY, ON: Matawa Education will host its annual Matawa Education Conference from March 4 to 6 at the Valhalla Hotel and Conference Centre in the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation. The theme is: *Walking the Indigenous Path: Anishinaabe Bimosewin*.

Author James Vukelich (kaagegaabaw) will be providing the keynote on March 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. A descendant of Turtle Mountain, James is a renowned international speaker, digital creator, and author of *The Seven Generations* and *The Seven Grandfather Teachings*. His deep insights were developed through years of collaboration with elders and native language speakers across North America as part of the Ojibwe Language Dictionary Project. Entertainment on March 4 and 5 will include the Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers, Natasha Fisher, and student piano performers Noah Mendowegan, and Meegwun Sakanee.

Professional learning and networking opportunities will be provided for remote First Nations elementary and secondary educators and administrative staff. Approximately, 65 presenters and 319 Matawa Education Pathways to Achieving Student Success (PASS) staff and community educators are registered.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend. The conference programme, including agenda, is available [here](#).

Date: Wednesday, March 5, 2025
Location: Valhalla Hotel and Conference Centre Ballroom
Time: 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

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

