

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MATAWA EDUCATION HOSTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE OFFERING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOOL STAFF IN THE MATAWA REGION

THUNDER BAY, ON – From March 4 to 6, 2025, Matawa Education hosts its annual conference offering learning opportunities for school staff in the Matawa region. “This year, we focus on creating meaningful opportunities for professional growth, offering a wide range of transformative sessions dedicated to cultural/land-based curriculum, autism awareness, mental health/wellness, language revitalization and, so much more,” said Annamarie Majiskon, President of the Matawa First Nation Education Authority.

With the theme ‘*Walking the Indigenous Path: Anishinaabe Bimosewin*,’ the conference provides transformative professional development opportunities. The event highlights the importance of integrating Indigenous perspectives, fostering community connections, and supporting holistic education for students in northern communities.

The event features a keynote address by author James Vukelich (kaagegaabaw) on March 5 and entertainment by the Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers, Natasha Fisher, Noah Mendowegan, and Meegwun Sakanee on March 4 and 5. The conference also features a diverse lineup of workshops and sessions designed to address the unique needs of educators working in remote First Nations schools. Approximately, Approximately, 65 presenters and 319 Matawa Education Pathways to Achieving Student Success (PASS) staff and community educators registered.

Dr. Sharon L. Nate, Executive Director of the Matawa Education Department said, “to our educators, administrators and staff: miigwetch for your unwavering dedication to the students and families of Matawa First Nations. Your hard work ensures that every child has the opportunity to succeed in ways that honour their identity and traditions.” The programme, which includes agenda, presenter biographies, sponsorship information and Indigenous teachings, is available [here](#).

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