



National Indigenous Peoples Day 2025 at Beaches Sandbox

**Presented in Partnership with HOPES Indigenous Training Network
(Healing Our Peoples Through Education, Sports & Social Justice)**

Curatorial Statement from Dawn T Maracle, M. Ed., Curator & Facilitator

I contributed to lobbying the government for decades for the creation of a National Indigenous Peoples Day to recognize our foundational contributions to Canada's existence, richness and identity. Now that this is a well-established day, it's time for us to roll up our sleeves and dig a little deeper.

While Canadians are still learning about Indigenous history and contemporary issues, we are slowly starting to walk the same path together as Indigenous peoples and neighbours. Now it's time for us to start getting to know each other better; to build stronger relationships; and to get to know each other more meaningfully. We can grow healthier relationships as friends, neighbours, businesses and communities. I encourage everyone who takes part in our NIPD celebration to say hello to someone new – to start a conversation. A shared joy in discovering Indigenous foods, stories, art, reflection, and creativity is a great place to start!

I am excited about the great line-up we are bringing you this year, and I look forward to sharing with your families and communities!

Skennen / Peace,

Dawn T Maracle, M. Ed.
Tkaronto, Ontari:io, Kanata



Dawn T Maracle
Curator & Facilitator

