



KINOOMAADZIWIN EDUCATION BODY

Anishnawbe Aadzwin. Anishnawbe Bimaadzwin.

Kinooaadziwin Education Body honours the passing of Nipissing First Nation Deputy Chief

For Immediate Release

NIPISSING FIRST NATION, ON (February 8, 2021) – Along side our brothers and sisters of Nipissing First Nation, the Kinooaadziwin Education Body is saddened at the loss of the community's Deputy Chief, Muriel Sawyer. On Saturday, February 6, 2021 Muriel began her journey to the Spirit World. The impact of her passing is significant to her family, her friends, her community, and to the Anishinabek Education System (AES).

Muriel was a long-time supporter of the AES throughout its inception and negotiation. In more recent years, she served as a Regional Education Council Representative for Nipissing First Nation and she was a valued member of the AES's Language and Culture Reference Group.

Muriel's belief in the AES and her support for the Kinooaadziwin Education Body never wavered. Her contributions over so many years were instrumental in the development and implementation of our historical education system.

Muriel was a life-long teacher and a fierce protector of our Anishinaabe language. Her legacy takes shape in the many students, young and old alike, who learned from her and who admired her. Her kindness, her knowledge, her humour, and her infectious laugh will certainly be missed at our gatherings and our celebrations.

We take comfort in knowing that although her physical presence is no longer with us, Muriel's spirit will always live on in our language and in the ongoing successes of the Anishinabek Education System.

On behalf of the Kinooaadziwin Education Body's Board of Directors and its staff, we offer our condolences to Muriel's family and to Nipissing First Nation, and we say Miigwech to Muriel for being a true and constant warrior for our language, education, and for all Anishinabek students.

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