

âcimowin, Kitachimowinaw, Our Story

September 2021

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Youth Leadership Forum on Reconciliation | Deadline to register October 3

Experiences Canada is hosting a virtual Youth Leadership Forum October 13-17. The event will bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth, ages 14-25, from across the country to develop Reconciliation projects to undertake in their own communities. Registrations are being accepted until October 3. Please connect with your school's lead teacher for details on supports for students if their registration is accepted. For youth who feel internet connectivity issues might be a barrier, please email forums@experiencescanada.ca so we can discuss ways we can support your participation. Further information and registration can be found on [Experiences Canada](#) website.

Strathcona County Family and Community Services have been reaching out to different community groups, organizations and businesses in Strathcona County with respect to understanding their experience with COVID over the past year. Some of the groups they're looking to hear from are newcomer families/individuals, seniors, LGBTQ2+, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples. Specifically, they're looking to hear about their experiences with COVID and the impact it has had on their lives. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in sharing your experience as part of this project, contact Audra.Holm@strathcona.ca.

Direct Student Support

Métis Nation of Alberta Gear up for School Program Is your child Métis? Is your child attending preschool, kindergarten, Grade 1 or Grade 2 this school year? The MNA is once again offering [free school supply kits](#). Click on the link to read more about the program and access the registration form.

Successful applicants for the **Gear Up for School 2021** program will meet the following criteria:

- All children receiving school supplies through this program must be entering **preschool, kindergarten, Grade 1 or Grade 2 in the 2021-22 school year**.
- Successful applicants and their children must currently **reside in Alberta** and provide an Alberta mailing address on the application form.
- Either the parent/guardian applicant or the child receiving a backpack **must be an MNA citizen** (or citizens).

From skills courses to wellness kits, discover all the [MNA Youth Services](#) has to offer free to all Métis ages 12-29.

Jordan's Principle Learn more about Jordan's Principle and the funding supports available for First Nations children—visit the [Assembly of First Nations](#) and [Government of Canada](#) resources.

Resources of Interest

Edmonton Indigenous Relations Bulletin Stay up-to-date on events and initiatives in the Edmonton area—[subscribe](#) to the City of Edmonton's Indigenous Relations Community Bulletin.

Indigenous Art Adventures Cree artist Lance Cardinal is continuing his online art and language show, [Indigenous Art Adventures](#), for young people and their families. His latest show will be live on Saturday, September 11 at 2 p.m., when he'll share the Cree word for fall and will lead children on a fall leaf art project. The show, as well as previous episodes, is available on the Aboriginal Congress of Alberta Association's [Facebook page](#).

Virtual Family Gatherings We're grateful to Elder Wilson Bearhead and the family members who attended our virtual parent gatherings last school year. We look forward to continuing the conversation and welcoming new families to our virtual circle. We'll share this year's schedule in our next newsletter.