



GORD

CHANIE

# DOWNIE & WENJACK FUND

## #DoSomething

2020/2021

Did we miss something?  
Do you want to be included in next year's calendar? Send us your photos and ideas!  
This is a work in progress, just like reconciliation.  
[LegacySchools@DownieWenjack.ca](mailto:LegacySchools@DownieWenjack.ca)

## #DoSomething

A special thank you to:

Pearl Achneepineskum  
Carol Hermsiton  
Barbara Day  
Annie Wenjack  
Elaine Kicknosway  
Ninah Hermsiton

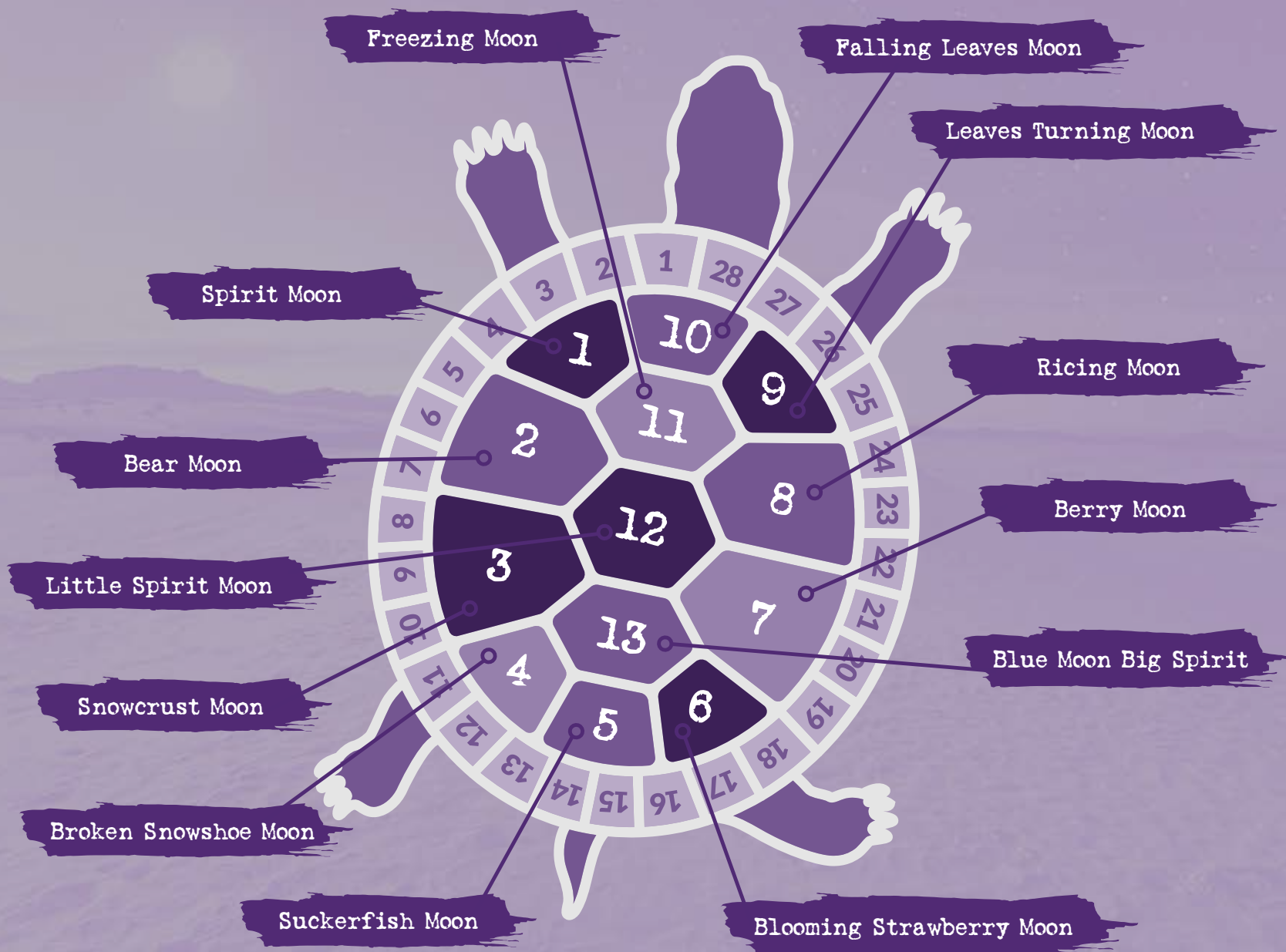
Chi miigwetch for sharing your knowledge, wisdom, and ideas.



GORD  
DOWNIE & WENJACK  
FUND  
CHANIE



# 13 Turtle Moons



The moon goes around the earth approximately every 28 days. This means that over 365 days, the moon orbits earth 13 times. Though there are 13 lunar months each year, most of us follow the 12-month Gregorian calendar created by Pope Gregory XIII.

Many Indigenous teachings use the back of a turtle's shell as a calendar. There are numerous distinct names and differences of the thirteen moons throughout various Indigenous cultures in Canada.

The Anishinaabe named the moon cycles after the important natural events that influence a location on earth. Because the region the Anishinaabe live on is so large, the moons may not be called the same thing for all areas.

North America is also known as Turtle Island by some Indigenous peoples. The Ojibwe refer to the whole Earth as Turtle Island. This comes from many origin stories in which the turtle holds the earth on its back. For more information, visit [LegacySchoolResources.ca](http://LegacySchoolResources.ca).

## ABOUT THE GORD DOWNIE & CHANIE WENJACK FUND

Inspired by Chanie's story and Gord's call to build a better Canada, the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund aims to build cultural understanding and create a path toward reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Our goal is to improve the lives of Indigenous people by building awareness, education, and connections between all Canadians.

DWF uses Ojibwe language, practices, and traditions in our materials to honour Chanie and the Wenjack family's culture. The Ojibwe are an Indigenous people who are part of a larger group known as the Anishinaabe. There are many unique Indigenous cultures throughout Canada, and we encourage you to find out more about your local community and what treaty or unceded territory you live on.





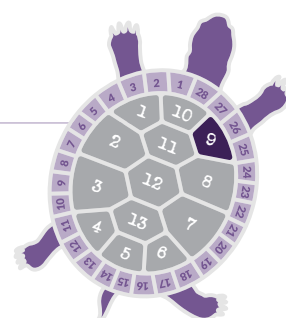


Back to School for students and educators throughout Canada. For Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30, Ripple Rock Elementary's (Campbell River, BC) school drum group drummed and sang, while staff and students walked and wrote about hope and respect for all nations. They combined their Walk for Wenjack with their Orange Shirt Day events to recognize both Chanie Wenjack and our friend Phyllis Webstad. Hartney School (Hartney, MB), École Viscount Alexander (Winnipeg, MB), and McCraig Elementary School (Montreal, QC) also hosted Orange Shirt Day events with thousands of other students throughout Canada.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labour Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Orange Shirt Day	1	2	3

# September 2020

Waatebagaa-giizis (Leaves Turning Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Waabaagbagaa-giizis (Leaves Turning Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





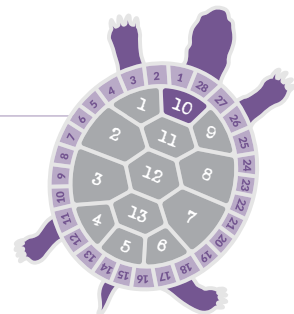


Gord Downie hugs his brother Mike, as Pearl (Wenjack) Achneepineskum looks on at the original Secret Path Live. Sarah Midanik, DWF President & CEO, speaks to students at a Walk for Wenjack event. Buffy Sainte-Marie headlines Secret Path Live 2019 with Selena Ryder, Tanya Tagaq, Whitehorse, July Talk, William Prince, members of the Tragically Hip, the original Secret Path Band, and many more. Pearl speaks to students at Walk for Wenjack with organizer Rob Ferreira.

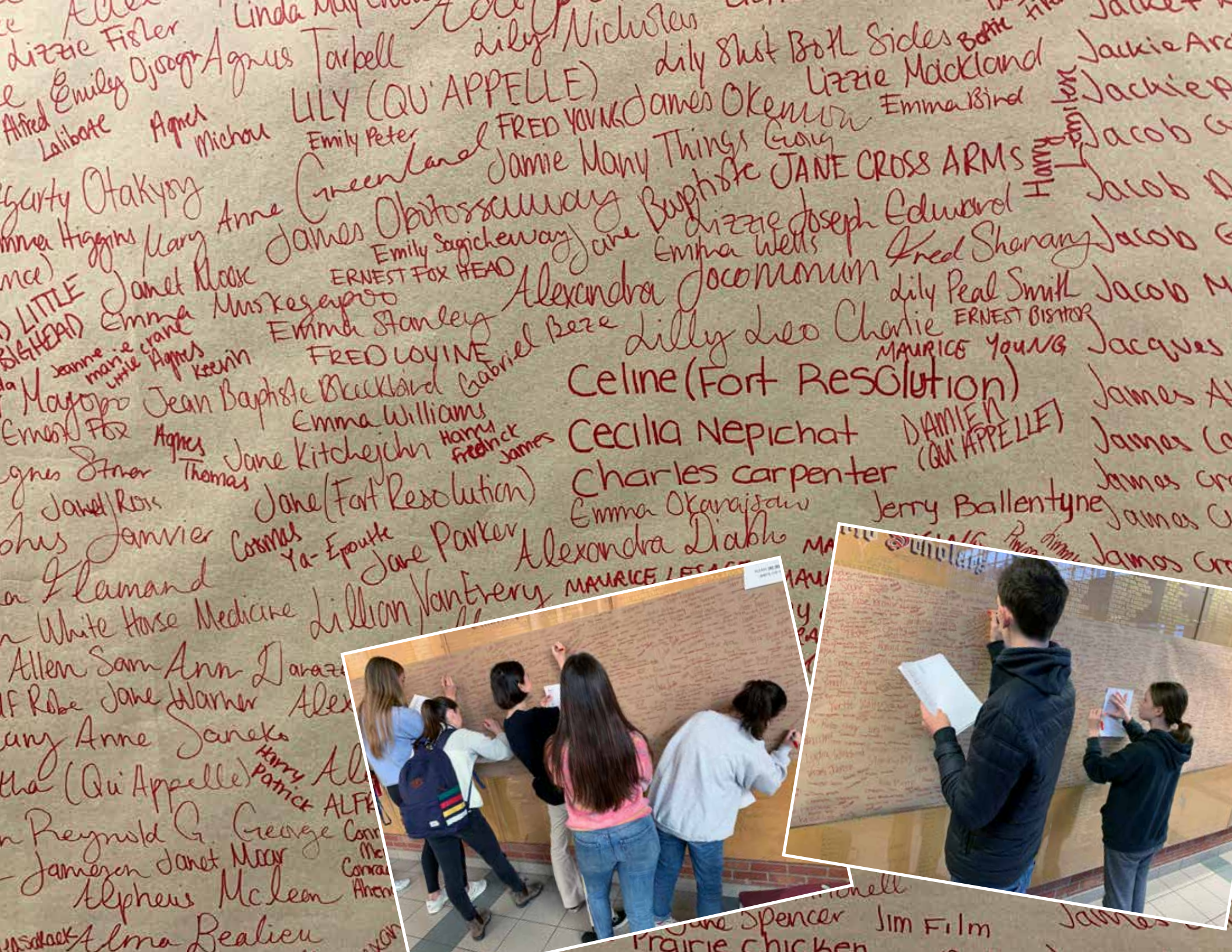
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Secret Path Week is a national movement commemorating the legacies of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack, taking place annually from October 17-22. This is a meaningful week as October 17th and 22nd respectively mark the dates that Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack joined the spirit world. We call on all Canadians to use Secret Path Week to answer Gord Downie's call, to "Do Something" by creating a reconciliation and furthering the conversation about the history of residential schools. We encourage schools and communities to organize a Walk for Wenjack during this time.				<b>Treaty Day</b> to commemorate the Indigenous rights of Mi'kmaq and their relationship to the Crown. (Nova Scotia)		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Thanksgiving Day	13	14	15	16	17 Anniversary of Gord Downie's passing
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Oct 17-22 - Secret Path Week Organize a Walk for Wenjack. Oct 19-23 Interactive sessions will be available for students: <a href="http://exploringbytheseat.com/event/secret-path-week/">exploringbytheseat.com/event/secret-path-week/</a>				Anniversary of Chanie Wenjack's passing		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

October 2020

Binaakwe-giizis (Falling Leaves Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Binaakwe-giizis (Falling Leaves Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





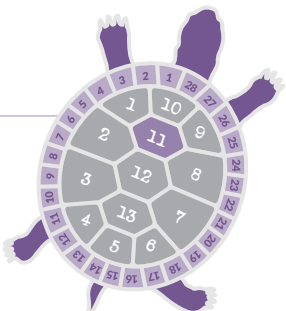


Riverdale Collegiate Institute's (Toronto, ON) Reconcili-Action Club did a memorial project writing out the names of 2,800 children who died in Residential Schools from the list released by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation in September 2019. Many victims remain unnamed or missing.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Inuit Day
Treaties Recognition Week (Ontario)						
8 National Aboriginal Veterans Day	9	10	11 Remembrance Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Métis Week						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

# November 2020

Gashkadino-Giizis (Freezing Over Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Baashkaakodin-Giizis (Freezing Moon) *Eastern Dialect*







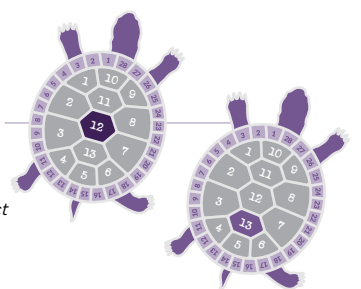
Ms. Gill's class at Ryerson Elementary (Cambridge, ON) had a visit from Mike Downie and DWF staff. Students created art cards after learning about over 30 different Indigenous Canadian artists. Students also hosted an informed debate to decide if the name of their school should be changed, explained their knowledge of treaties, wampums, allyship and Indigenous leaders who have inspired them.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1 Giving Tuesday	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Winter Solstice	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1	2

# December 2020

Mnidoons Giizis Oonhg (Little Spirit Moon)  
Mnidoons Giizis (Blue Moon Big Spirit Moon)


Eastern & Western Dialect





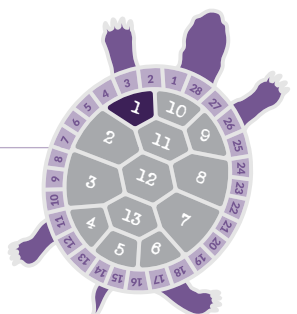


Several communities along the James Bay Ice Road were treated with a visit to their high schools by musicians Melissa McClelland and Luke Doucet of Whitehorse. Students at Vezina Secondary School in Attawapiskat, ON, Francine J. Wesley Secondary School in Kashechewan, ON, and Delores D. Echum Composite School in Moose Factory, ON were able to hear the band perform and ask questions of them and their involvement with the Gord Downie & Chaine Wenjack Fund Artist Ambassador program (ArtistAmbassador.ca). Stan Kapashesit from Moose Cree First Nation says, "Uncle Gord' is always in our thoughts and very much missed - especially in summer time when he would find his way here for his time at Onakawana."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19  Chanie's Birthday	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

January 2021


Gichimanidoo-giizis (Great Spirit Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Manidoo-giizis (Spirit Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





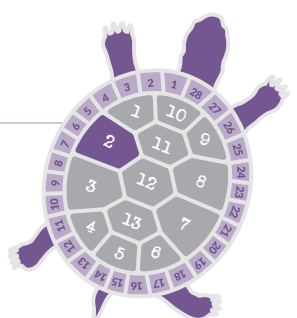


Aurora D., a grade 9 student at St. Patrick's High School (Ottawa, ON) recreated the illustration of Chanie Wenjack from Secret Path using the lyrics to "The Stranger". Students at St. Bonaventure School (Brampton, ON) held their Walk for Wenjack in the snow. In Kenora, ON where Chanie was sent to Residential School students and teachers hosted a hockey game as their reconcilACTION.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6 
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Have a Heart Day	15 Family Day  Louis Riel Day (Manitoba)	16	17	18	19	20
21 International Mother Language Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

February 2021

Namebini-giizis (Suckerfish Moon) *Western Dialect*  
Mkwa-giizis (Bear Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





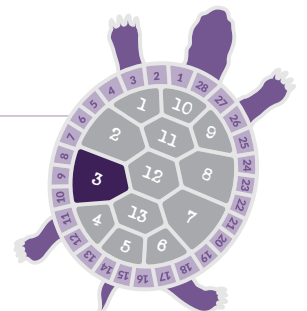


Chanie Wenjack's sisters Evelyn, Pearl, and Daisy with niece Harriet at Walk for Wenjack in Toronto, ON. Artist Ambassador Adrian Sutherland of Midnight Shine signs autographs during Walk for Wenjack. Augustine Fine Arts School (Calgary, AB), École Gron Morgan (Thunder Bay, ON), and Cochrane Pubic School (Cochrane, ON) students Walk for Wenjack.

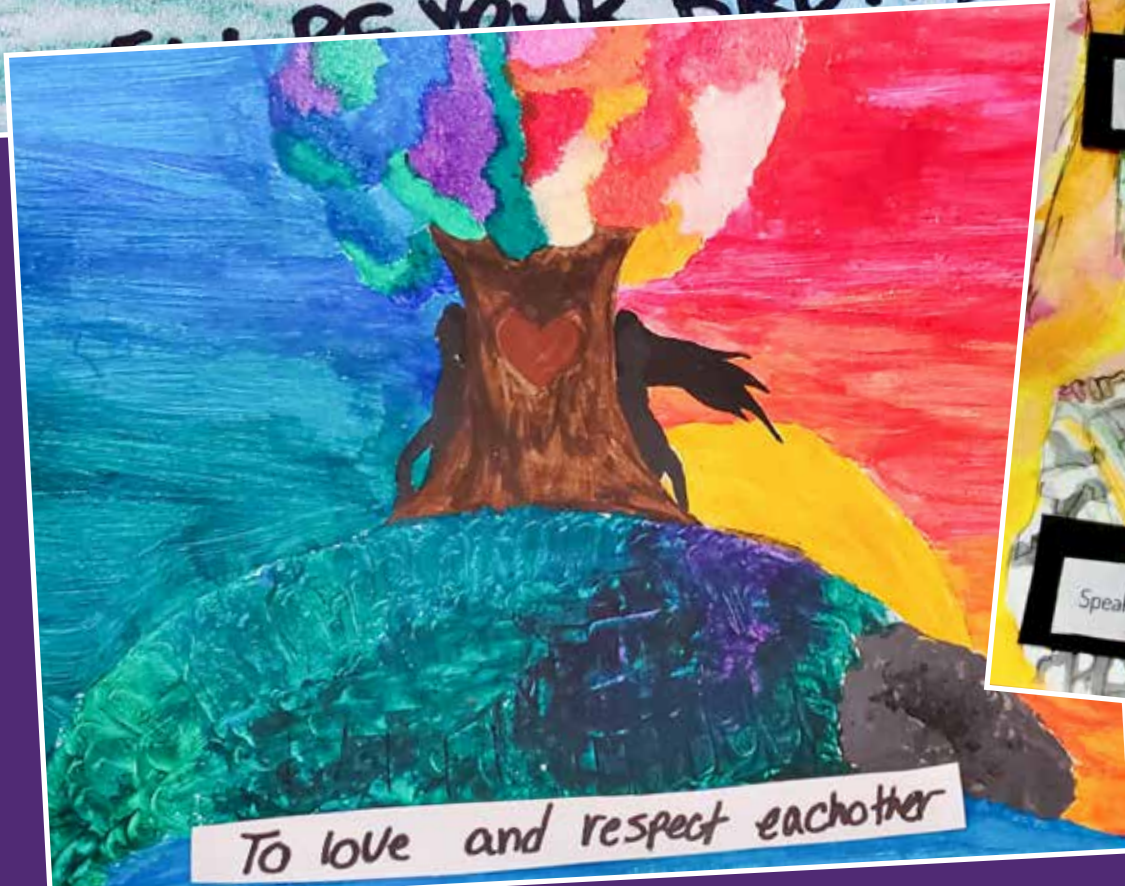
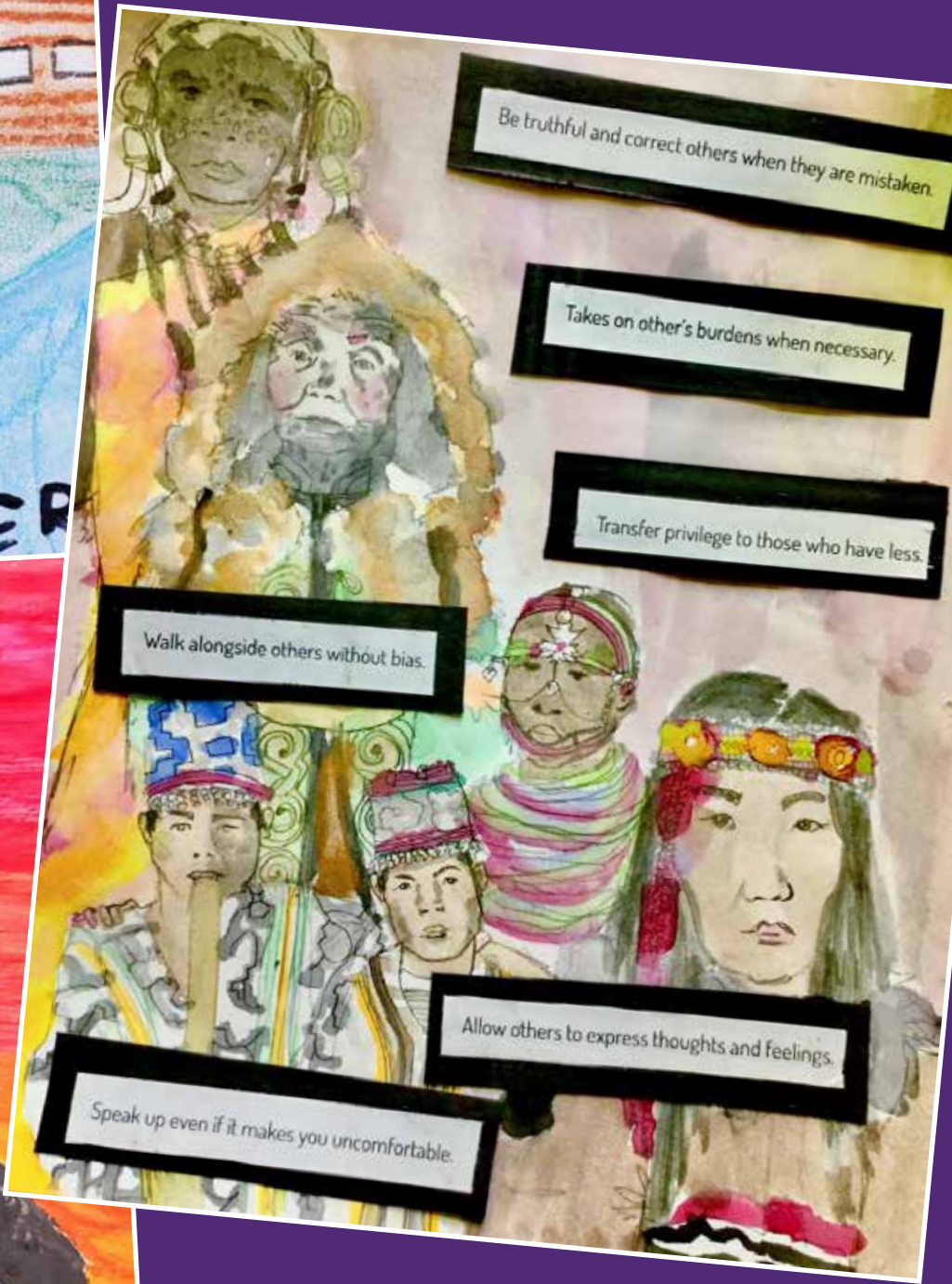
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Elderbeary Day
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

# March 2021

Onaabani-giizis (Snowcrust Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Onaabdin-giizis (Snowcrust Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





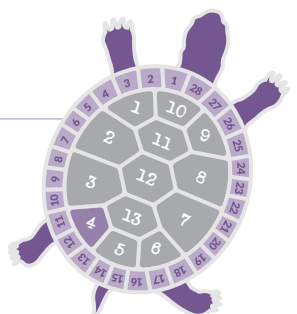


DWF challenged Legacy School students to design posters that answer the question "What does it mean to be an Indigenous Ally?". The elementary school winner, from École James Nisbet Community School, Liam (I will listen drawing). Our middle school winner, from Lillian Berg Public School, was Darius (to love and respect each other). Our high school winner, from St. Pius X High School, congratulations to Pippa.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2 Good Friday	3
4 Easter Sunday	5 Easter Monday	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

April 2021

Iskigamizige-giizis (Sugarbushing Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Pokwaagami-giizis (Broken Snowshoe Moon) *Eastern Dialect*







Timiskaming District Secondary School, ON – MMIW Red feathers hung to increase knowledge and support families of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	28	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (US)		Goose Break		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Mother's Day	Bear Witness Day	Goose Break: schools, business close for a few weeks. In Northern Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec, the goose hunt is still celebrated today bringing families and community members together to spend time on the land and by providing an opportunity for all to share in the harvest. Young hunters learn from Elders, passing the teachings related to building an effective blind, to attracting geese through goose calls and decoys, and preparing the geese to cook over an open fire.				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Victoria Day					
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

May 2021

Zaagibagaa-giizis (Budding Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Namebine-giizis (Suckerfish Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





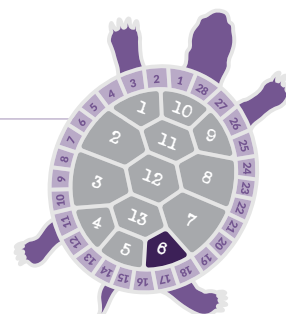


Celebrate National Indigenous History Month and Pride Month! Tillicum Community School Annex (Vancouver, BC) had Alec Dan, a drummer from local Musqueam Nation participate in their school assembly, seen here with vice-principal Bradley Toews. Artist Ambassadors visited schools throughout Canada to inspire student leadership and forward the journey of reconciliation in school communities. Wesley Hardisty visited St. Patrick High School (Yellowknife, NWT). Artist Ambassador visits are now virtual and can be viewed at: [DownieWenjack.ca](http://DownieWenjack.ca) as well as National Indigenous History Month specials! Gord, Patrick and Mike Downie visited Pearl (Wenjack) Achneepineskum and the Wenjack family in Ogoki Post.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
Indigenous History Month						
Pride Month						
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Father's Day Summer Solstice	National Indigenous Peoples Day					
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

June 2021

Odemiini-giizis (Strawberry Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Baashkaabigonii-giizis (Blooming Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





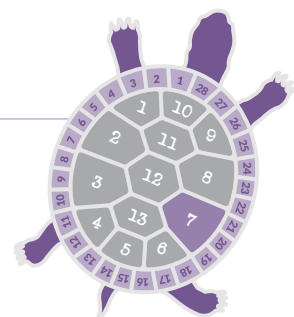


Pearl, Mike and Patrick take a moment to remember Gord and Chanie during Secret Path Live in 2019. Students at Hartney School in Hartney, MB created artwork to remember the children who were forced to attend Residential School.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1 Canada Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Nunavut Day	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July 2021

Abitaa-niibini-giizis (Halfway Summer Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Miin-giizis (Berry Moon) *Eastern Dialect*







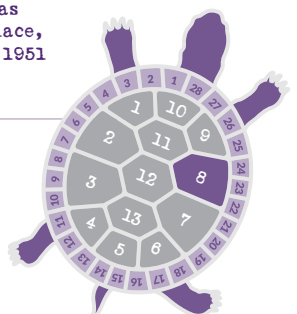
In August amazing volunteers gather to help assemble the toolkits for our Legacy School educators. Volunteers from Northland Power, Rogers Communications, RBC, the DWF team and many more wonderful people helped us to make over 2000 toolkits for teachers throughout Canada last year. Thank you! Artist Ambassador Angela Miracle Gladue treats students in PACE alternative in Peterbough, ON to a workshop on powwow dancing and what it means to her.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Civic Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

Powwows happen throughout the year in North America with many organizers taking advantage of the warm summer months. A powwow may be private or public and is an event where Indigenous peoples dance, sing, socialize, celebrate and honor their cultures. Powwows were once banned in Canada as another attempt at assimilation through the Indian Act of 1876. Powwows never stopped taking place, and were often held in secret. After years of protest the government amended the Indian Act in 1951 to allow for Indigenous peoples to practice traditional ceremonies including powwows.

# August 2021

Manoominike-giizis (Ricing Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Manoominike-giizis (Ricing Moon) *Eastern Dialect*





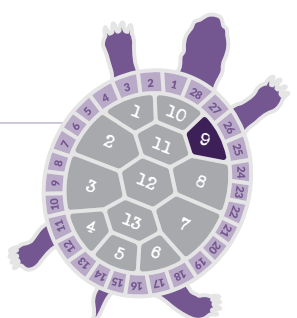


Tillicum Community School Annex (Vancouver, BC) hosts a school-wide assembly with local Indigenous community members. Cochrane Public School (Cochrane, ON) students hold up their Legacy Schools flag before Walk for Wenjack. École Confédération (Brantford, ON) walk their school's track for Wenjack, and students at Clinton Elementary (Burnaby, BC) had an elder join them to share her knowledge and walk together throughout their community.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6 Labour Day	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Orange Shirt Day	1	2

# September 2021



Waatebagaa-giizis (Leaves Turning Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Waabaagbagaa-giizis (Leaves Turning Moon) *Eastern Dialect*







Secret Path Live 2019 was a recreation of the 2016 performance by Gord Downie that brought together renowned musicians to share Chanie Wenjack's story. Before the show, over 100 students from reserves throughout Canada gathered to meet with some of the performing artists, including Leah and Peter from July Talk, Kevin Drew, and Johnny Fay (drummer for the Tragically Hip).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Thanksgiving Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Oct 17-22 Secret Path Week					
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Halloween	1	2	3	4	5	6

# October 2021

Binaakwe-giizis (Falling Leaves Moon) *Western Dialect*  
 Binaakwe-giizis (Falling Leaves Moon) *Eastern Dialect*

