

## **Media Release**

For Immediate Release June 13, 2018

## Grand Erie Set to 'Imagine a Canada' Ahead of National Indigenous Peoples Day

**Brantford Ont.** – Grand Erie District School Board's Indigenous Education team, in partnership with the Elementary Teachers Federation, is set to celebrate the diverse cultures, traditions and contributions of Indigenous communities during its annual Sharing Our Voices gala at the Sanderson Centre in Brantford, a day before the country marks Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21.

"The intention of this day has been to celebrate student voice, and the theme for this year's event encourages teachers and students to envision what Reconciliation might look like in the future for them," said Sabrina Sawyer, Teacher Consultant with Grand Erie's Indigenous Education department, echoing the Truth and Reconciliation Council's mandates to promote continued healing. "The children of this generation are going to be the leaders in the most significant changes for Reconciliation; these are the voices that need to be supported and celebrated."

The event will feature a variety of student performances from schools across Grand Erie as well as Oliver M. Smith Elementary School (Six Nations of the Grand River) and Lloyd S. King Elementary School (Mississaugas of the New Credit). Performances will include dance, choir, spoken-word, and instrumental. Special Guests include Kevin Lamoureux, National Education Lead with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, and singer-songwriter Logan Staats, winner of CTV's "The Launch," and former a Grand Erie student himself.

Sharing Our Voices takes place Wednesday, June 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Sanderson Centre, 88 Dalhousie St, in Brantford.

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