



**YUKON  
REGION**

June 21, 2019

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **AFN Regional Chief Kluane Adamek Encourages Yukoners and all Canadians to join National Indigenous Peoples Day Celebrations**

Whitehorse, YT – AFN Regional Chief Kluane Adamek called on Yukoners and all Canadians to participate in celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st. National Indigenous Peoples Day is an important occasion to demonstrate respect and appreciation for First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation cultures, languages and history, and to recognize their rightful place in this country.

"National Indigenous Peoples Day is an opportunity for each of us to celebrate and honour the accomplishments, achievements and contributions of First Nations, Inuit and the Métis Nation from coast to coast to coast," said Regional Chief Adamek. "Today, two incredibly important pieces of federal legislation regarding some of our most precious gifts, our children and our Languages, shall receive Royal Assent. I hope that all Canadians will join our communities across the country in celebrating this momentous occasion. It is an exciting time for First Nations in the Yukon. Our youngest generations are the leaders of right now; they are actively learning their cultures, languages and traditions, and we have so much potential to look forward to in the future. To our neighbours, today and every day, we invite you to join with Indigenous peoples across the country to learn, recognize and celebrate the diverse cultures, contributions and achievements of the Indigenous people and territory you live on or nearby. I encourage everyone to learn about the traditional territory of which you live, and how the peoples of these lands greeted one another. I also encourage everyone to take a moment and reflect, learn and be open to learning more about Indigenous people in Canada and our true shared history"

AFN Yukon invites all to join us in celebrating and supporting Indigenous Yukon artists and dancers at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre. Celebrations continue on June 22 —2019 with APTN's live broadcast of 'Indigenous Day Live' at Shipyards Park in Whitehorse, featuring Co-Host Chantal Rondeau from Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation. This event will also feature other locations across the country. More information can be found here: [indigenousdaylive.ca](http://indigenousdaylive.ca) or #IDL2019.

In 1982, the Assembly of First Nations (previously the National Indian Brotherhood) called for the creation of a national day of celebration. In 1995, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples recommended that a national day be designated by Canada. National Aboriginal Day was first recognized in 1996 as proclaimed by Governor General of Canada Romeo Leblanc and later

renamed in 2017. National Indigenous Peoples Day also became a statutory territorial holiday in the Yukon in May 2017. #ayukonthatleads

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