



Niibin 2026

Boozhoo gakina awiya!



**Gii-wigwaas-ojiimaanikemin
(we built a birch bark canoe together)**

In early August, Anishinaabemodaa hosted a Birch Bark Canoe Build. Over the five days, approximately 75 visitors and helpers stopped by to learn, lend a hand, and admire the work. At the end of the build, a few participants tested it out on the water! Miigwech to Darren and Alyssa Lentz, who taught us how to build the canoe. Miigwech to all who came to help, and to Don Jones, Pam Johnson and Lorna Cochrane for sharing the process in Anishinaabemowin with us. The finished canoe now hangs in the atrium of the Rainy Lake Campus, outside the Circle Room!



Upcoming Events!

Final Semester of
Anishinaabemowini-
ogichitaag Program
Begins
September 9

Niigaanendadaa
Dagwaagin Cohort
Begins
September 16

Gigidiziiminaaning
Meeting
September 17

Dagwaagani-
mawindoosijgewin
September 24 & 25

PD Day Storywalk Family
Event
@ Kay-nah-chi-wah-nung
October 26

Daycare Visits

Miigwech to Aboriginal Head Start, UNFC Little Turtle’s Club, Couchiching Child Care Centre, and Nigigoonsiminikaaning Child Care Centre for joining us throughout the summer. It was a great opportunity to welcome children and educators into our space and share Anishinaabemowin through stories, activities, and play. During their visits, we enjoyed circle time, smudged together, made crafts, explored VR with Connor, toured SGEI, and spent some time exploring outside.



Weechi Children's Days

Weechi-it-te-win Children's Days at the Point of Agency One Lands was very well attended in July. We had a suncatcher-making station, brought out our knot-tying station, and shared prizes and language activities throughout the day. Miigwech to our interns, Alex and Olivia, for helping plan and put together such a great event!

The Gidakiiminaan Gagiikwewinan Program also hosted canoe races as part of Children's Day. There was even an exciting organization vs. organization race, with Weechi-it-te-win taking first place, followed closely by our SGEI canoe! Miigwech to everyone who came out, participated, and helped make the day such a success!



Niigaanendadaa

2026 Niibin Cohort

This summer, 13 students successfully completed the eight-week Niigaanendadaa Niibin Session, with fishing and land-based learning as the focus. Students spent time learning from Skilled Experts and First Language Speakers while participating in hands-on cultural and language activities, including:

- Medicine picking and asemaa-making
- Anishinaabemowin conversation and ear training
- Canoe skills, paddling, and water safety
- Week-long birch bark canoe build
- Fishing lure making and fishing on Rainy Lake
- Fish cleaning and filleting
- Traditional smokehouse building and use

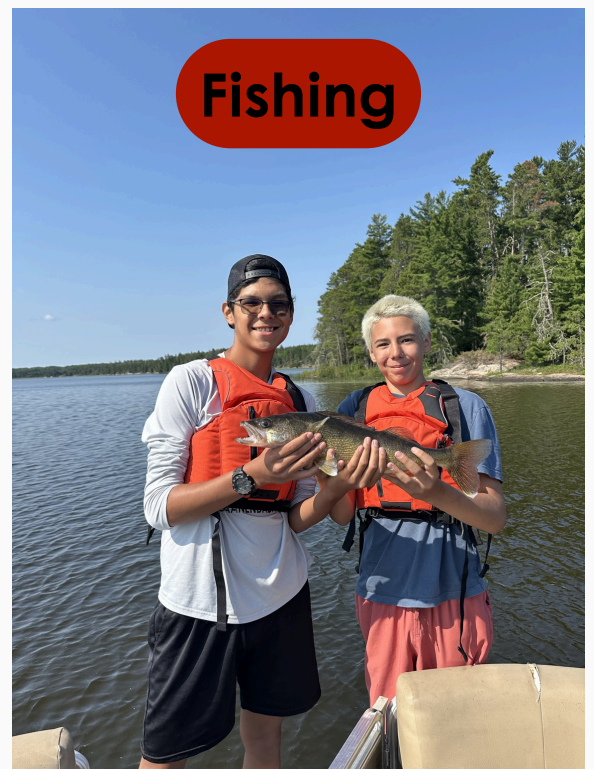
Throughout the summer, students had opportunities to practice Anishinaabemowin, build confidence in the language, and learn teachings connected to the land, water, and traditional ways of life. It was a meaningful summer filled with learning, hands-on experiences, and opportunities to connect with Knowledge Keepers and First Language Speakers. We are incredibly proud of all 13 students and their commitment, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn!



Asemaa Pouches



Ober's Island



Fishing



Dialogues & Conversations



Say IT First

SGEI Staff PD on Ober's Island

In June, the Gidakiiminaan Gagiikwewinan Program welcomed SGEI staff to Ober's Island for a week of learning, connecting, and spending time on the land and water. Staff had opportunities to practice language, take part in fish netting and cleaning, go on a short canoe or hike, and learn about the history of Ober's Island. Each day also included an opportunity for Medicine, Song, and Prayer.



MIIN Visit

We were happy to welcome MIIN Executive Director Gimiwan and Community Outreach Officer Niigaanigwaneb to our Rainy Lake Campus this month!

We spent time together sharing stories, playing games, learning through an Ojibwe Language Arts lesson, and connecting with first-language speakers. We also had the opportunity to visit some local historical sites together.

Miigwech to Gimiwan, Niigaanigwaneb, and our MIIN relatives for spending time with us and for continuing to support and strengthen Anishinaabemowin language learning and immersion!



Say IT First

Gaa-aanikanootamaagewaad

We would like to wish Kiitaabines Kelvin Morrison a very happy retirement!

Kelvin has played such an important role in language revitalization and in the creation and growth of Waking Up Ojibwe – Anishinaabemodaa, as well as Seven Generations Education Institute as a whole. His guidance, leadership, and dedication to our language and community have made a lasting impact.

Miigwech, Kelvin, for all you have done and for the many ways you have helped guide and support us along the way. We wish you all the best in this next chapter!



MIDWEST INDIGENOUS IMMERSION NETWORK

2025-2026

Elder of the year

Makoonsiyobiik-Rose Tuesday

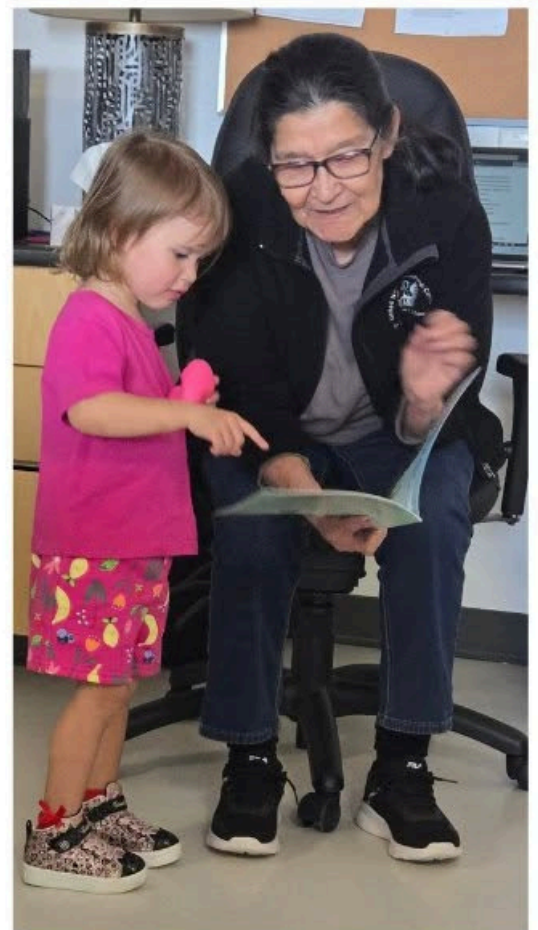
Rose is a pillar of strength and a vital keeper of Anishinaabe language, culture and traditions. She generously shares her deep knowledge, history, and wisdom with everyone around her.

across generations.

Rose currently works with Waking Up Ojibwe in Fort Frances, Ontario as a Master Speaker supporting "Anishinaabemodaa" while focusing on initiatives providing Anishinaabemowin to all families, learners and instructors.

Rose also provides guidance, education and support through MIIN's first language speaker zoom series for Ojibwe language immersion educators.

**Da-de-debibijigaade gidinwewininaan
miziwe anishinaabe endanakiid.**



miinojibwe.org



Say IT First