

Ceremonial Smudge and Prayer for New Mural by First Nation Artist Lance Cardinal at TELUS World of Science - Edmonton

WHAT: Media are invited to TELUS World of Science – Edmonton to commemorate the start of National Indigenous History Month with a ceremonial smudging and prayer for the new mural, *amiskwacîwâskahikan* (ᐱᐢᑦᐢᓴᑦᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠ), recently completed by First Nation artist Lance Cardinal.

Following the ceremony performed by Elder Gilman Cardinal and Lynn Lush, Indigenous Land-Based Learning Navigator at the science centre, the event will include an activity with Grade 4 students from Paul Band School, a drum performance, and a Jingle Dress Dance performed by Danni Okemaw, Indigenous Cultural Intern at TELUS World of Science – Edmonton.

WHEN: **Thursday, June 2, 2022**

- 9:45 a.m. Check-in**
- 10:00 a.m. Opening and Welcome by Alan Nursall**
- 10:05 a.m. Prayer and Smudge by Elder Gilman Cardinal and Lynn Lush**
- 10:30 a.m. Drum Performance**
- 10:40 a.m. Lance Cardinal Speech**
- 10:50 a.m. Jingle Dress Dance Performance**
- 11:00 a.m. Program concludes**

WHERE: TELUS World of Science – Edmonton
Lobby
11211 142 St NW, Edmonton, AB

WHO: The following people will be available for interviews:

- Lance Cardinal, Two-Spirited Indigenous Artist
- Elder Gilman Cardinal
- Alan Nursall, President & CEO, TELUS World of Science – Edmonton

WHY: The mural was created to accompany the Land Acknowledgement in the science centre’s lobby and represents TELUS World of Science – Edmonton’s ongoing commitment to building relationships with Indigenous communities.

The mural, titled *amiskwacîwâskahikan* (ᐱᐢᑦᐢᓴᑦᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠᐠ), means Beaver Hills House, the Cree name for Edmonton, and represents wisdom, one of the Seven Grandfather Teachings. The piece was created through conversations with local Elders and speaks to the land we steward on Treaty 6 Territory, as well as the concept of community gathering.

The smudge ceremony and blessing of the mural is a unique opportunity to commemorate the start of National Indigenous History Month in recognition of the history, heritage, and contributions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples across Canada.

HOW: Any media interested are asked to RSVP by emailing Brett Nestman at bnestman@twose.ca or by cell at 780-999-8893 by noon on June 1, 2022.

About TELUS World of Science – Edmonton

TELUS World of Science – Edmonton’s mission is to: Ignite curiosity. Inspire discovery. Celebrate science. Change lives. We are the destination to engage Albertans’ hearts and minds in science. The Edmonton Space & Science Foundation is a non-profit organization that operates TELUS World of Science – Edmonton.

About Lance Cardinal

Lance Cardinal is a Two-Spirited Indigenous Artist and member of the Bigstone Cree Nation in Treaty 8 territory. Lance has over 2 decades of professional experience, traveling and living all over Canada as a multi-award-winning Set Designer, Sculptural Artist, Entertainment Director, Producer, Singer, Model Maker/Miniaturist, Concept Artist, and Cultural Healer.