From: "van Dyk, Donny"
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 6/12/2026 9:32:59 AM
Subject: EMBARGOED UNTIL JUNE 15: Upcoming news release. Upcoming News Release: National Indigenous Peoples Day Block Party

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EMBARGOED UNTIL MONDAY, JUNE 15 AT 10 AM

Dear Mayor and Council,

The City will be issuing the below news release on June 15, regarding Carnegie Community Centre's Block Party for National Indigenous Peoples Day. Please keep this news release embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account on Monday, June 15 at approximately 10 AM.

Chris will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links once these are live.

Thanks,

Donny

Donny van Dyk (he/him)

City Manager

City of Vancouver

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
News release
June 15, 2026

Celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day at the Carnegie Community Centre Block Party on June 21



The City of Vancouver and Carnegie Community Centre invite the public to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day (NIPD) at the Carnegie Community Centre Block Party on Sunday, June 21. The event welcomes everyone to come together and celebrate the diverse cultures, living traditions and enduring contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

Event Details

- Date: June 21
- Time: 10 am to 2 pm
- Location: The Block Party will take place on the 100-block of East Hastings at Main Street, commonly known as 'The Block.' This intersection holds great community and cultural significance for Indigenous people living in the DTES.

Event Program

The event will open with a welcome from respected Indigenous leaders Mary

Point from xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Indian Band, Bob Baker from Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and Carleen Thomas from səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation, followed by cultural sharing, food and live performances, featuring:

- Urban Nisga'a Drummers & Dancers
- Misty Raine Band
- Mandy Campbell – Lady Sincere
- TALON
- Carnegie Lexwst'i:lem Drum group & Ceol Abu
- Zach Saunders
- Red Trail Drummers & Singers

Community members can also explore cultural sharing tables and giveaways hosted by the Carnegie Cultural Sharing Program and other partners.

"It's an honour to come together with Carnegie Community Centre and our dedicated partners to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day," said Mayor Ken Sim. "This is a meaningful time to showcase Indigenous culture and reflect on our Reconciliation journey and the ongoing work ahead. We are grateful for the Indigenous voices that have shaped these lands for thousands of years and for this ongoing legacy that we celebrate today."

2026 National Indigenous People's Day Artwork

This year's National Indigenous Peoples Day artwork, Gathering of Nations was created by Daemon Elliott, Tayaalh, of the Nuxalk Nation in Bella Coola, British Columbia. The artwork will be featured on commemorative 2026 NIPD shirts worn by volunteers and community members, serving as a visual tribute to local Indigenous identity and artistry.



Traffic impact and closures

To support the Block Party, Main Street, between East Hastings and East Pender, will be closed to vehicle traffic between 7 am and 3 pm. Please plan your route accordingly. Drivers are cautioned to use alternative routes and exercise patience while navigating the area.

The City of Vancouver extends deep gratitude to the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Indian Band, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nation, on whose unceded territories this event takes place.

To learn more about the National Indigenous Peoples Day 2026 event with Carnegie Community Centre, visit the Facebook event page.

- 30 -

Media contact
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