



**Rouyn-Noranda, Thursday, June 9, 2022** - Minwashin would like to congratulate its President, Mr. Richard Kistabish, on his new position as President for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO).

This is the first time an Aboriginal person has held this position and we warmly greet Mr. Kistabish for this well-deserved position. His term as President will begin in June 2022. He will continue to serve as President of Minwashin, while having the opportunity to take on national challenges for the CCUNESCO.

"The presidency of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO is a form of recognition for Aboriginal peoples, an opportunity to raise the sound of the drum that shows we are still alive. The Canadian Commission is an important ally that will allow us to reclaim the space that has been taken away from us or prohibited, by opening the door to sectors and institutions that we do not yet have access to," explains Mr. Kistabish.

M. Kistabish has been working extensively with UNESCO and CCUNESCO on the International Year of Indigenous Languages in 2019. This collaboration will continue throughout the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Languages (2022-2032), as he has been appointed as the North American representative on the Working Committee for Language Revitalization. This is a unique opportunity of association, and the Minwashin team feels privileged to be able to support Mr. Kistabish in this journey.

**To see the official announcement:**

<https://en.ccunesco.ca/about-ccunesco/press/2022/6/new-president-and-vice-president>

**About Minwashin**

At the heart of Anicinabe AKI, Minwashin is a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to supporting, developing and celebrating Anicinabe arts, language and culture.

[www.minwashin.org](http://www.minwashin.org)

**About the Canadian Commission for UNESCO**

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO (CCUNESCO) serves as a bridge between Canadians and the vital work of UNESCO—the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Through its networks and partners, the Commission promotes UNESCO’s values, priorities and programs in Canada and brings the voices of Canadian experts to the international stage. CCUNESCO operates under the authority of the Canada Council for the Arts.

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**For interviews or more informations**

Janis Rivard, Minwashin

Project Manager – Communication

[janis@minwashin.org](mailto:janis@minwashin.org) / (819) 290-8887