



Launch of MADAMIKANA – the crossroads, an artistic journey through anicinabe territory

Parc national d'Aiguebelle celebrates its 40th anniversary with the inauguration of a permanent work of Anicinabe art by Frank Polson

Abitibi-Témiscamingue, May 12, 2025 — To mark the official opening of the Taschereau campground's summer season and their 40th anniversary, Parc national d'Aiguebelle and Minwashin invite the public to the unveiling of the first permanent work of the project MADAMIKANA – the crossroads, created by renowned Long Point First Nation Anicinabe artist, Frank Polson.

A public art project deeply rooted in the territory

MADAMIKANA, an Anicinabe word meaning “crossroads”, evokes those symbolic places where history, territory, art and people meet. Supported by the Minwashin cultural organization, this artistic mediation project celebrates the millennia-old presence of the Anicinabek through the creation and installation of six public artworks in the four corners of the anicinabe aki – the Anicinabe territory.

Each work, inspired by Anicinabe archives and elders' stories, becomes a tangible trace of living memory, a mark of recognition of the territory, and an invitation for dialogue between peoples.

“Reappropriating heritage is a way of digging into history to relearn the fundamental elements of our identity, to reconstruct the values that were ours and those that we want to continue to transmit.”

— Richard Ejinagosi Kistabish, President of Minwashin

A moment to meet and celebrate

The opening will take place on Saturday, **May 24, 2025 at 1 pm**, at the **Taschereau sector of Parc national d'Aiguebelle**. The event will mark both the start of the MADAMIKANA artistic trail and the park's 40th anniversary, reinforcing the links between culture, territory and natural heritage.

Program:

- Unveiling of the work by Frank Polson
- Anicinabe dancers and drummers
- Storytelling
- Makushan – traditional feast

The event is free and open to all.

"The presence of this work of art in the Parc national d'Aiguebelle will help to highlight the richness of Anicinabe culture on the territory, and its presence in the landscape will underline the importance of the influence of this culture on the values of harmony with nature, conveyed by the Park. "

— Frédéric Bilodeau, Director, Parc national d'Aiguebelle

A journey through art and recognition

Throughout the summer of 2025, MADAMIKANA will unfold in different areas of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, creating a unique Anicinabe art circuit. Through these permanent works, Minwashin honors the Ancestors, gives a voice to today's artists, and invites the public to recognize, feel and celebrate Anicinabe culture in a new light.

A first opening at Parc national d'Aiguebelle is all the more significant, as this work will be exhibited in the bush, in a well-known tourist spot for all outdoor enthusiasts.

This project was made possible thanks to the financial support of the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec.

About Minwashin

At the heart of the Anicinabe AKI, Minwashin is a non-profit cultural organization whose mission is to support, develop and celebrate Anicinabe arts, language and culture. www.minwashin.org

About Parc national d'Aiguebelle

A true natural jewel in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, Parc national d'Aiguebelle's mission is to showcase the region's natural and cultural heritage, raise public awareness of the importance of nature conservation and enable visitors to enjoy natural beauty while promoting respect for the environment.

For informations:

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Interviews will take place on site on May 24.



Madamikana – the crossroads – evokes this symbolic space where history, territory, art and nations meet. This artistic mediation project, led by Minwashin, celebrates the age-old presence of the Anicinabek on their ancestral territory through art. Six permanent, vibrant works, nourished by the stories of the elders and the archives of the Anicinabe Nation, will mark the territory of Abitibi-Témiscamingue. Each work, like a star, is part of a living constellation and an invitation to explore the territory differently, to renew links between peoples.

