



Unveiling of a Public Artwork at Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Rouyn-Noranda Campus

Rouyn-Noranda, August 19, 2025 — Minwashin and the Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue in Rouyn-Noranda invite you to the unveiling of a permanent public artwork. This mural creation is signed by Anicinabe artist Fabienne Théoret-Jerome, from the Lac Simon community. Fabienne is a young artist known for her illustrations, including the book *Odibi: voyage dans l'histoire anicinabe de Lac Simon*.

"Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue is delighted to welcome and make Fabienne Théoret-Jerome's artwork accessible to the entire community. This gesture fully reflects the Cégep's educational mission and our commitment to openness, dialogue, and collaboration with First Nations and Inuit members and communities."

- Dany Mercier, General Director of Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue

A Public Art Project Rooted in the Land

MADAMIKANA, an Anicinabe word meaning "*the crossroads*", evokes these symbolic spaces where history, territory, art, and peoples meet. Led by the cultural organization Minwashin, this artistic mediation project celebrates the millennia-old presence of the Anicinabek through the creation and installation of six public artworks across the anicinabe aki — *the Anicinabe territory*.

Each piece, inspired by Anicinabe archival materials and Elders' stories, becomes a tangible trace of living memory, a mark of land acknowledgment, and an invitation to intercultural dialogue. MADAMIKANA is unfolding throughout summer 2025, creating a unique regional circuit of Anicinabe art. This unveiling marks the sixth and final piece of the project.

"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

The unveiling will take place on back-to-school week, on **Tuesday, August 26, 2025, from noon to 1:30pm**. The unveiling will take place on the mezzanine, across from the Library, in Rouyn-Noranda's Campus.

The event is open to all. Snacks will be provided.

This project was made possible thanks to financial support from Quebec's Ministry of Culture and Communications.

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 Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue

Founded in 1967, Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue is one of Quebec's first twelve cégeps. It is the only college in the vast Abitibi-Témiscamingue region, which covers 65,143 km². The institution includes three campuses located in Amos, Rouyn-Noranda, and Val-d'Or, as well as two continuing education centers in Ville-Marie and La Sarre.

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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.

