



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

NIN: AN INVITATION TO DISCOVER AND CELEBRATE ANICINABE CULTURE

Quebec City, October 21, 2025 – The Musée de la civilisation presents *NIN*, an exhibition created and produced by the cultural organization MINWASHIN as part of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022–2032). *NIN* takes the form of a symbolic forest made up of names, values, and stories, into which the bearers of Anicinabe knowledge invite the visitors. It will be on display from October 22, 2025, to January 4, 2027.

After being presented at UNESCO headquarters in Paris and in the Anicinabe communities of Kitci Anicinabe Aki, the Greater Anicinabe territory, the *NIN* exhibition (previously called *NIN, Je suis, I am*) is being presented for the first time in this new museum version at the Musée de la civilisation.

The majority of the Anicinabek people live along the Ottawa River, on both sides of the border between the territories known as Quebec and Ontario. This exhibition celebrates the strength and beauty of the Anicinabe language—Anicinabemowin—through a sensitive journey that brings together stories, art works and interactive experiences. It invites all audiences to discover the richness of this language, as well as the people who bring it to life, in an intimate, powerful, and human approach.

The central theme, “NIN,” which means “I am,” embodies inclusivity, and the reconnection with oneself and the land. The exhibition is divided into five areas, each addressing different aspects of the transmission of the Anicinabe language and knowledge: introduction to the Anicinabe universe through a symbolic forest, oral transmission and connection with the land and non-humans, evocation of the cycles of life and language revitalization, a space for community connection and celebration of identity, and finally, a celebration of the resilience and self-determination of Indigenous peoples.

With the aim of engaging and educating the public about Anicinabe culture and the revitalization of this deeply poetic and meaningful language, *NIN* highlights the beauty and power of Anicinabemowin through a variety of artistic and interactive content designed to enrich the visitor experience.

Several Indigenous artists and cultural bearers with varied practices come together here, each exploring themes of identity and culture in their own ways. The public can admire works by: Eruoma Awashish, Karl Chevrier, Dominic Lafontaine, Caroline Monnet, Francine Chevrier, Debra Chevrier Polson, Craig Commanda, Rosalie Mowatt, Mary-Jane Brazeau, Barbara Wabanonik, Fabienne Théoret-Jerome, Tom Bulowski, Elizabeth Mianscum, Pascale-Josée Binette, Alice Jerome, Oscar Kistabish, Kevin Papatie, and Virginia Dumont.

Conçue par



*I say NIN as my ancestors taught me.
My language is the flow of the river that carries my canoe.
I say NIN for every child of tomorrow.
My language is the melody of the earth that gave me life.
I say NIN with the children of today.
Our language is an endless song.*

Quotes

"Since its creation, the Musée de la civilisation has been reaching out to First Peoples, showing great respect for their voices and words. The museum also has a deep desire to encourage different audiences to engage with its essential content, which is always rich and beautiful. In addition to the permanent exhibitions *This Is Our Story*, designed with La Boîte Rouge VIF, and *In other words, Quebec*, for which the participation of Indigenous communities was very important, we now have the magnificent exhibition *NIN*, designed and produced by MINWASHIN, whom I thank for their trust."

Julie Lemieux, Director, Musée de la civilisation

"Nit'anicinabe icita8inan odehi nit'icikice8in, ni kacka emitaman, kitci nepitci tak8ak ka ici netimiak, ka ici inapitamak enikokwakamigak, kitci miseiapitamak kitci manatcito8atc ka mamakatentakok acitc e icinagosiak nit'acinabe akinan. Our language is the heart and soul of our culture, because it allows us to communicate with each other and perpetuate our concepts and worldview in a holistic way, while respecting the uniqueness and characteristics of our respective communities. Language unites and brings us together."

Richard EJINAGOSI Kistabish, President, MINWASHIN

Audio clip from *NIN*: <https://mcq.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/nin-voix-enfant.wav>

About MINWASHIN

At the heart of Anicinabe AKI, Minwashin is a non-profit cultural organization whose mission is to support, develop, and celebrate our arts, language, and culture. Minwashin is a space for promoting, revitalizing, bringing together, and spreading Anicinabe language, arts, and culture. This space believes in creation and cultural and linguistic reappropriation... *Nikani*.

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