



Nishnawbe Aski Nation
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DFC STUDENTS DISPLAY ARTISTIC TALENTS

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox congratulates students from Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School (DFC) who have shared their artistry and creativity with the Thunder Bay community this week.

“We are amazed by the artistic talents of these students, and very impressed with the showcase of artwork at the Thunder Bay airport and today’s unveiling of this magnificent quilt,” said Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox. “It is encouraging to see our youth come together to be a part of something special and create something that they can be proud of. We thank them for using their creativity to express themselves and honour their culture and history in such meaningful ways, and we look forward to more great work in years to come.”

Today, DFC students unveiled their ‘Quilt of Hope’, a three-month quilting project. Supported by the Ontario Native Women’s Association (ONWA) Youth in Transition Worker program, the new art project brought together students to tell their life stories through individual squares that form the quilt.

Students were assisted by Elder Elsie Stoney, who helped with the sewing and design. ONWA’s Nicole McKay came up with the idea, and DFC teacher Katie Saj helped students promote the project.

Earlier this week, the work of DFC Art Club students Clara Adams, Christyn Koostachin and Jaylene Harper was unveiled at the Thunder Bay airport. The work of more students will be displayed in the near future.

Inspiration for their artwork came from a workshop with artist and teacher Saul Williams, a painter and graphic artist from North Caribou Lake First Nation.

Art Club members are selling their work to raise money to attend the Royal Ontario Museum’s exhibition on Aboriginal Art and Culture in Toronto. An exhibition of DFC art runs until May 7 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

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