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ATTACHMENT:
Nitsitapiisinni-Galileo winter 05.pdf



NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY AT THE GALT: NEW EXHIBIT OPENING PLUS STORYTELLING

Nitsitapiisinni: Stories and Spaces explores Kainai plants and culture

The Galt Museum & Archives is pleased to announce the opening of a new exhibit housed in the Discovery Hall's Kainai Arbour in celebration of National Aboriginal Day, Thursday, June 21. Consisting of photographs and an interactive, multi-lingual computer station, ***Nitsitapiisinni: Stories and Spaces*** is an exploration of Kainai plants and culture and the result of a recent partnership project involving Kainai elementary students.

The Kainai people's vast knowledge of indigenous plants and their healing properties was traditionally passed down orally from elder to child. Using modern technologies, Kainai students went out on the land with elders, teachers and community members to digitally collect stories and take photographs. As part of this curriculum-linked project, the students also undertook research at the Glenbow Museum and worked with a variety of educators and scientists.

The result is a comprehensive [website](#) featuring stories, photos, resource listings, educational links and more. A [logbook](#) of their experience is also included.

In addition to the opening of *Nitsitapiisinni: Stories and Spaces*, Galt Museum Blackfoot interpreter **Blanche Bruised Head** will be on hand throughout the day for tours and story telling. Bruised Head has been a Blackfoot interpreter with the Galt Museum since 2002 when she was a guide for the *Akaitapiiwa/Ancestors* exhibit.

First proclaimed by the Governor General of Canada on June 13, 1996, National Aboriginal Day has become a day when Aboriginal peoples express great pride for their rich diverse cultures with their families, neighbours, friends and visitors. A variety of events are scheduled for Lethbridge all week, including a Powwow, mini dance competition, pancake breakfast and much more. For further information on local events, please contact Jacinda Wiess, Public Relations Officer at the Aboriginal Council of Lethbridge, 403.320-7699 or check www.aboriginalcounciloflethbridge.ca.

June 21 kick-starts eleven days of *Celebrate Canada!* which includes National Aboriginal Day, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day (June 24), Multiculturalism Day (June 27) and concludes with Canada Day on July 1.

Nitsitapiisinni: Stories and Spaces is a collaborative project between the Kainai Board of Education, [Red Crow Community College](#), University of Calgary Information Resources and [Galileo Educational Network](#). Funding from the Community Initiatives Program has made possible the computer interactive component at the Galt Museum where the exhibit will be on display for at least a year. For more information on the Galt Museum & Archives and additional programs check www.galtmuseum.com or call 403.320-3954.

Nitsitapiisinni: Stories and Spaces Opening Schedule:

- 10:30** Arrival of Grade 6 Kainai students who participated in project (by bus from their school), elders, invited guests. Students will be given a sneak preview of their exhibit in the Discovery Hall.
- 10:45** Opening and blessing in the Viewing Gallery
- 11:45** Kainai students will lead tours for Grade 3 students [at the Galt for day-long programming] and invited guests to join tours into the coulee west of the Galt where Kainai students will find and identify plants and talk about uses.
- 1:00** Kainai students will hear stories from Blanche Bruised Head
- 1:30** Kainai students return to school

The Galt Museum is located at the west end of 5 Avenue South, off Scenic Drive, Lethbridge, Alberta
Parking lot located at the north end of the building | enter through the sliding north doors
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