

April 16, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The CBE Indigenous Education Team invites all Indigenous Grade 9 students and their families to participate in a Mini-Round Dance to celebrate and honour their transition to high school. Indigenous knowledges and protocols acknowledge the child to young adulthood phase as significant. Key teachings focus on responsibility as youth move forward in all aspects of their lives (spirit, heart, body, mind) and where education is critical to their success.

We honour you as the parents/guardians of these students as well. Your love, support and guidance has brought your child(ren) to this important phase of life. We celebrate this milestone along with you in spirit, and as Métis Elder Kerrie Moore would say, "in joy, hope, purpose and peace."

The Round Dance will be held on **Wednesday May 1**, **2024** from **5:00pm to 8:00pm** at **Ernest Manning High School** (20 Springborough BLVD SW).

As you might already know, the Round Dance is a communal event; a social gathering intended to share healing, celebration, and blessing. The protocols of the Round Dance varies from community to community. For your reference, we have created a "Round Dance 101" learning resource (attached). This document provides understandings of the protocols and teachings related to the Round Dance.

Note that in following protocols of this community celebration,

- Sandwiches, fruit and snacks will be provided
- A giveaway—the practice of honouring community through gift-giving—will be held
- While it is not necessary, Grade 9 students and their guests are welcome to wear a ribbon skirt or ribbon shirt

On behalf of the Indigenous Education Team, we are excited to celebrate your child's achievements in the circle of our community. Please RSVP your plans to attend here or by scanning the following QR code:



All of Our Relations, Indigenous Education Team