

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RETSD Powwow to Transform School into Hub for Community

(April 16, 2019) The heartbeat of the River East Transcona community will be at River East Collegiate (295 Sutton Ave.) on Thursday, April 18, 4–8 p.m., when the school fills with the pounding rhythm of drums as River East Transcona hosts its sixth divisional Powwow since its first in 2008.

“We are honoured to be hosting an event such as this which celebrates the enduring strength, pride, and resiliency of Indigenous People,” says divisional inclusion specialist Leanne Smith. “Ever increasing attendance at our Powwows is indicative of the respect and importance that Indigenous teachings and traditions have within our community.”

There will be a pipe ceremony in a tipi in front of the school to kick off the event at 4 p.m., followed by a community feast, vendors to explore, and the Powwow itself. RETSD Powwows are lively, inclusive events that attract drum groups and colourfully dressed traditional dancers from across the province, as well as students, families, and others from throughout the division.

“We’re proud to continue the tradition of hosting the Powwow for our students, staff, and community,” says superintendent/CEO Kelly Barkman. “And we extend our warmest invitation to all to join us for this much anticipated celebration of Indigenous culture and another successful year of Indigenous Academic Achievement (IAA) programming.”

IAA integrates Indigenous perspectives into learning for all students and aims to help Indigenous students achieve the highest possible success at school. Powwows are just one of the ways this programming is celebrated in RETSD.

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