



June 2, 2026

June 21: National Indigenous Peoples' Day

This June 21st, on National Indigenous Peoples Day, we celebrate the cultures, traditions, and enduring strength of Indigenous Peoples. This day also marks the summer solstice, the longest day of the year, and holds a great cultural significance for many Indigenous Peoples. It is a time to renew their commitment to the land, to each other, and to all the relations that they hold with nature and their surroundings.

CUPW recognizes that the fight for justice in our workplaces and society is linked to Indigenous Peoples ongoing struggles for reconciliation, rights, sovereignty and self-determination.

This year's artwork: "The Good Life" by Isaac Murdoch

The poster this year features the work of Isaac Murdoch (Bombgiizhik), an Anishinaabe artist from the Serpent River First Nation, and a member of the Fish Clan. Isaac grew up in a traditional setting, hunting, fishing, and learning from elders. His art carries the marks of these learnings.

"The Good Life" is rooted in the Anishinaabemowin concept of Mino pimatisiwin, which means living in good relationship and in harmony with all of creation. It also reflects intergenerational knowledge, family and community connection, respect for the land and waters, and our responsibilities towards each other.

Mino-pimatisiwin is not just a philosophy. It is lived every day through language, ceremony, care for the land, and built on mutual respect and responsibility.

Walking the path together...

As workers and as union members, we understand the meaning of injustice and solidarity. On this National Indigenous Peoples Day, let us recommit to:

- Supporting Indigenous Peoples struggles for the land, language, and sovereignty;
- Learning from Indigenous knowledge systems that promotes balance, care, and respect for all form of life;
- Challenging colonial narratives that erase Indigenous history;
- And building relationships based on respect, dignity, and accountability.

CUPW invites all members to take this time to learn, reflect and engage with the histories and cultures of Indigenous Peoples. If you are able, consider joining an Indigenous celebration event in your area.

In Solidarity,

Coleen Jones
2nd National Vice-President



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