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PRESS RELEASE

MCDC Indigenous Artist Cooperative Study Release

Billings, Montana - The Montana Cooperative Development Center (MCDC) announces the presentation of the Indigenous Artist Cooperative Study on April 2nd, from 1-3pm at the Cultural Center, Little Big Horn College. The study, conducted in collaboration with Native Ways Today LLC, assesses the feasibility of establishing a cooperative of Indigenous artists in the Billings area and on four eastern Montana reservations – Fort Belknap, Fort Peck, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne.

Through surveys and interviews with stakeholders, including artists, retail establishments, and educators, the study revealed strong interest and potential for the establishment of an Indigenous artist cooperative. The presentation will feature Indigenous artists sharing their stories and experiences, showcasing the importance of collective support in artistic pursuits.

Attendees will also learn about available resources and support services for Indigenous artists, including funding opportunities and mentorship programs, and an overview of the cooperative business model. Davey Madison, MCDC Program Director, highlights the presentation's focus on collaboration and support for Indigenous artists.

Montana Cooperative Development Center is the statewide economic development organization dedicated to utilizing the cooperative business model to address communities' economic and social needs. MCDC serves all 56 counties and the Tribal Nations within Montana. MCDC is currently working with over 30 community groups across the State who are exploring cooperative solutions. For more information or to set up an appointment visit www.mcfdc.coop or follow on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/mcfdc.coop>.