

## **Mount Pearl Renames June Holiday to National Indigenous Peoples Day (Observed)**

Mount Pearl, NL – June 10, 2025 - The City of Mount Pearl is renaming the June Holiday to National Indigenous Peoples Day (Observed), reaffirming its commitment to truth and reconciliation. The change will be officially announced at the City Council meeting on today, June 10, 2025, and will take effect this year.

Because the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador continues to recognize the June Holiday – formerly known as Discovery Day – on the Monday nearest to June 24, the City is unable fully to align the renamed holiday with NIPD, which is celebrated annually on June 21. For that reason, the observed holiday will continue to fall on the date set by the provincial holiday schedule. This year that date is Monday, June 23.

“This change reflects our dedication to decolonizing municipal practices and promoting Indigenous perspectives,” said Mayor Aker. “It’s a meaningful step forward in our journey toward reconciliation and inclusivity.”

The decision was made in consultation with First Light St. John’s Friendship Centre, in support of Call for Change 20. The initiative aligns with the City’s commitment to recognizing and celebrating the diverse cultures, contributions, and resilience of Indigenous Peoples. National Indigenous Peoples Day was first proclaimed by the Governor General of Canada in 1996.

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