

For immediate distribution

June 4, 2021

## A Garden of Hearts in Memory of Aboriginal Children

This year, National Aboriginal History Month has taken on a whole new meaning. In order to continue to educate students about the realities of Aboriginal people, École publique Franco-Nord in Azilda held a "garden of hearts" on Friday, June 4, to commemorate the 215 children who died in Kamloops, British Columbia.

Connor Lafortune, from the Dokis First Nation was in attendance and performed a mini smudge ceremony in honour of the children of Kamloops.

This ceremony was an opportunity for the CSPGNO school community to show their solidarity and empathy towards the communities that have been victimized by the past. In their memory, the École Franco-Nord team hung 215 hearts on tree branches on the school grounds.

*Recognized for its keen sense of innovation and openness to the world, CSPGNO offers a French-language public education of the highest quality in thirteen elementary schools and eight secondary schools in the communities of Markstay, Noëlville, Greater Sudbury, Elliot Lake, Sault Ste. Marie, Wawa, Dubreuilville, Marathon, Manitouwadge and Longlac.*

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