

LACOMBE MUSEUMS HOSTS INAUGURAL TREATY 6 FLAG RAISING IN CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

(Lacombe, AB) – On June 21st 2023, the Lacombe Museums hosted their first-ever Treaty 6 Flag Raising ceremony as part of the National Indigenous People's Day Celebration. This momentous occasion marks a significant step forward in recognizing and honouring the diverse Indigenous cultures that contribute to our shared heritage. Members of the community, the Lacombe Museums, and City Council were in attendance.

The Lacombe Museums extend their sincere gratitude to the individuals and organizations that have played a vital role in making this day possible, especially Terri Smallboy and Guide Fleury.

The Treaty 6 Flag Raising ceremony holds immense significance, symbolizing a commitment to fostering understanding and appreciation for Indigenous traditions and histories. The Lacombe Museums were delighted to welcome friends and guests from Maskwacis, creating an opportunity for attendees to deepen their knowledge and connection with Indigenous cultures. The event was a cultural celebration that showed off the beauty of traditional dance, singing, and drumming. The celebration began with a blessing of the Treaty 6 flag and Michener House site.

While the Michener House Museum is currently closed for a large Reimagination Project aimed at enhancing the sharing of Lacombe's diverse stories, its interpretation, and the stories it shares, visitors were encouraged to partake in the festivities and explore the Heritage Gardens, a space which highlights the history of the region from the last ice age. The event ended with the sharing of a National Indigenous Peoples Day cake and tea, fostering a spirit of community and connection.

This event was supported by a variety of community sponsors, including FORTIS Alberta, the City of Lacombe, Lacombe County, and the Government of Canada's *Celebrate Canada* Grant.

For more information on our efforts of becoming Good Relations, please contact:

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About the Lacombe Museum

Located in Lacombe, AB, the Lacombe Museum is operated by the Lacombe and District Historical Society and operates three buildings: The Michener House Museum, the former Grace Methodist Church parsonage and birthplace of populist Governor General Daniel Roland Michener; The Blacksmith Shop Museum, the oldest operational blacksmith shop in Alberta; and the iconic Flatiron Building Museum in downtown Lacombe. More information about the Lacombe Museum can be found at: www.lacombemuseum.com