



AIR CANADA

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Air Canada Unveils Indigenous Commitment Plaque and Artwork at its Montreal Headquarters



Oct 30, 2022

Air Canada held a special event at its Montreal headquarters alongside Indigenous community members to unveil an Indigenous Commitment Plaque. Permanently and prominently installed at the airline's headquarters in Montreal, it represents the airline's commitment to truth and reconciliation. A Montreal land acknowledgement plaque is being showcased prominently at the airline's downtown office location acknowledging that this office is located on the traditional lands of the Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) Nation situated within the Tiohtià:ke.

The event was attended by Kahnawà:ke Nation community leaders who are also Members of the Haudenosaunee External Relations Committee, Joe Deom and Kenneth Deer, Traveling Spirit Drum, who performed a ceremonial drumming, Air Canada's indigenous consultant, Tarra Wright Many-Chief, senior Air Canada executives, and Air Canada employees. During the event, Mr. Deom performed a welcome and Mr. Deer highlighted aspects of the Kanien'kehà:ka culture and territories for the audience of Air Canada Employees.

Speaking at the event, Christianna Scott, Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Air Canada, introduced the airline's commitment alongside Michael Rousseau, President and CEO of Air Canada.

"As Canada's largest airline and the country's flag carrier, we at Air Canada have a responsibility to support Indigenous inclusion internally and externally. We have started to engage in dialogue with Indigenous community members, at key locations where we fly across Canada. We are discussing community priorities and exploring ways in which as a company, we can meaningfully apply and deliver the corporate recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada," said Christianna, at the ceremony.

The plaque includes artwork from Star 'Otsisto' Horn, an accomplished Indigenous artist from the Kahnawà:ke nation, signifying that the combination of wisdom and ideas can create strong communities with the ability to fly together and be protected by that strength.

“We have purposefully installed this commitment in a high-traffic area where it can get the recognition it deserves. This is a significant step in our journey to strengthen partnerships with Indigenous communities where Air Canada flies,” Ms. Scott concluded.

Air Canada also acknowledges Indigenous peoples’ ancestral and traditional lands it flies over in its on-board pre-flight safety video.



Titre de l'œuvre : Akwé:kon énska entitewahwé'nón:ní' né onkwa'níkhóhrehn (Tous ensemble, nos esprits ne feront qu'un)

Artiste : Star « Otsisto » Horn

Nation : Kahnawà:ke

Signification de l'œuvre : La sagesse et les idées combinées peuvent créer des collectivités fortes ayant à la fois la capacité de s'envoler ensemble et d'être protégées par la force ainsi créée. Les symboles réunis ici présentent la culture, les traditions et la nature avec lesquelles les Kanien'kehá:ka sont à jamais interreliés.

Name of piece: Akwé:kon énska entitewahwé'nón:ní' né onkwa'níkhóhrehn "Everyone, we will make our minds one"

Artist: Star 'Otsisto' Horn

Nation: Kahnawà:ke

Meaning of artwork: The combination of wisdom and ideas can create strong communities with both the ability to fly together and to be protected by that strength. The symbols herein describe the culture, traditions, and natural world for which the Kanien'kehá:ka are forever intertwined.

En tant que principale société aérienne et transporteur national du Canada, il incombe à Air Canada d'appuyer l'inclusion des communautés autochtones en interne et en externe. Nous sommes engagés à cultiver un environnement de travail sain, valorisant et respectueux, en établissant une culture organisationnelle qui traduit la diversité, l'équité et l'inclusion envers les personnes autochtones. Nous sommes aussi engagés à participer à un dialogue, à un apprentissage et à un partenariat continus et significatifs avec les communautés autochtones, qui ont longtemps été passées sous silence dans notre pays.

As Canada's largest airline and the country's flag carrier, we at Air Canada have a responsibility to support Indigenous inclusion internally and externally. We are committed to fostering a healthy, rewarding, and respectful work environment by developing an organizational culture that exemplifies diversity, equity, and inclusion for Indigenous peoples. We are also committed to continually and meaningfully engage in dialog, learning, and partnership with the Indigenous communities that have long been marginalized in our country.



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

