

Community Summary,  
Highlights and  
Celebrations

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**R.B.  
RUSSELL  
VOCATIONAL  
HIGH SCHOOL**



2025 - 2026

# 2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR

**The 2025/2026 school year has been a busy one, full of growth and change. New learning experiences, a new principal, the launch of the Waabishkaa Makwa Lab, new partnerships, and expanded opportunities to learn on and from the Land have all contributed to an incredible year of learning.**



## Welcoming Families

R.B. Russell welcomed families into our school for various events.



## Welding Workshops



## Caregivers tea



## Spring Family Celebration

## Michif Language



## Artisan Workshops

# LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCES



Art in Bloom exhibit at the Winnipeg Art Gallery



Career Expo



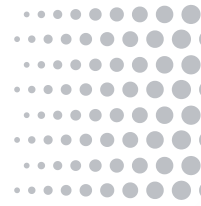
Running Club



Our grade 9 cohort enjoy skating!



Traditional dancing



# LEARNING EXPERIENCES



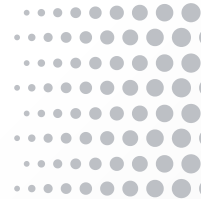
# MMIWG2S Walk

## Earth Day School Clean Up



# Taking Care of Our Community

RB Russell students help their community and take care of the land



## Moosehead Campaign Walk May 14, 2026

## Bear Clan Walks



## Connecting Culture

Between September 2025 and June 2026, Knowledge Keeper Elaine Mayham led monthly Full Moon Ceremonies for students, families, and staff of the Winnipeg School Division. These gatherings provided opportunities to connect with Grandmother Moon through prayer and ceremony in support of the ongoing healing journey.

In addition, the Sweat Lodge was active throughout the year, with a total of 36 sweat lodge ceremonies conducted by Tyrone Keeper, Vern Dano, and Elaine Mayham. These ceremonies provided students with opportunities to receive traditional teachings, Spirit Names, and guidance on living the Good Life in accordance with Indigenous values and ways of knowing.



## Connecting Culture

Ten schools participated in Sweat Lodge Ceremonies held at R.B. Russell School: William Whyte, St. John's, Tec Voc, R.B. Russell, Kelvin, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate, Churchill, Adolescent Parent Centre, M.C.E.P., and Build From Within. Through these ceremonies, students received traditional teachings focused on caring for their mind, body, and spirit. They were encouraged to recognize and use their unique gifts and strengths to support their own well-being while contributing positively to their families and communities.





Learning on the Land

This land-based learning experience provided students with the opportunity to connect with Mother Earth while immersing themselves in the Seven Sacred Teachings. Throughout the camp, students participated in a variety of cultural and recreational activities, including swimming, a Sweat Lodge Ceremony, a Pipe Ceremony, sharing circles, and traditional campfire gatherings where they roasted hot dogs and marshmallows. The experience also fostered friendship, community, and a deeper connection to Indigenous teachings, the land, and one another.



School Camping Trip June 2026



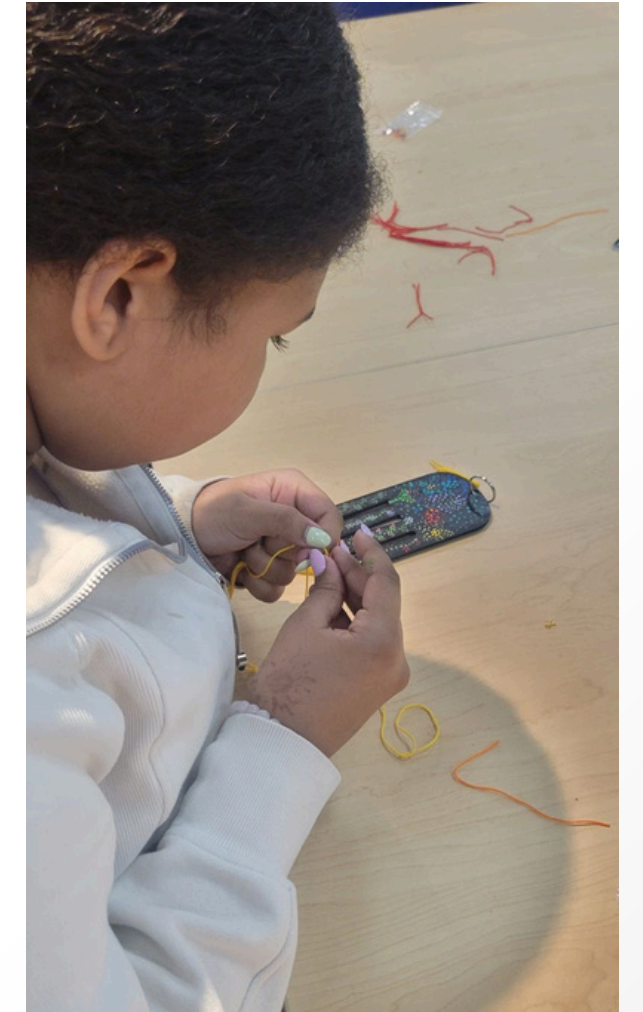


# OPENING OF PHASE 1:

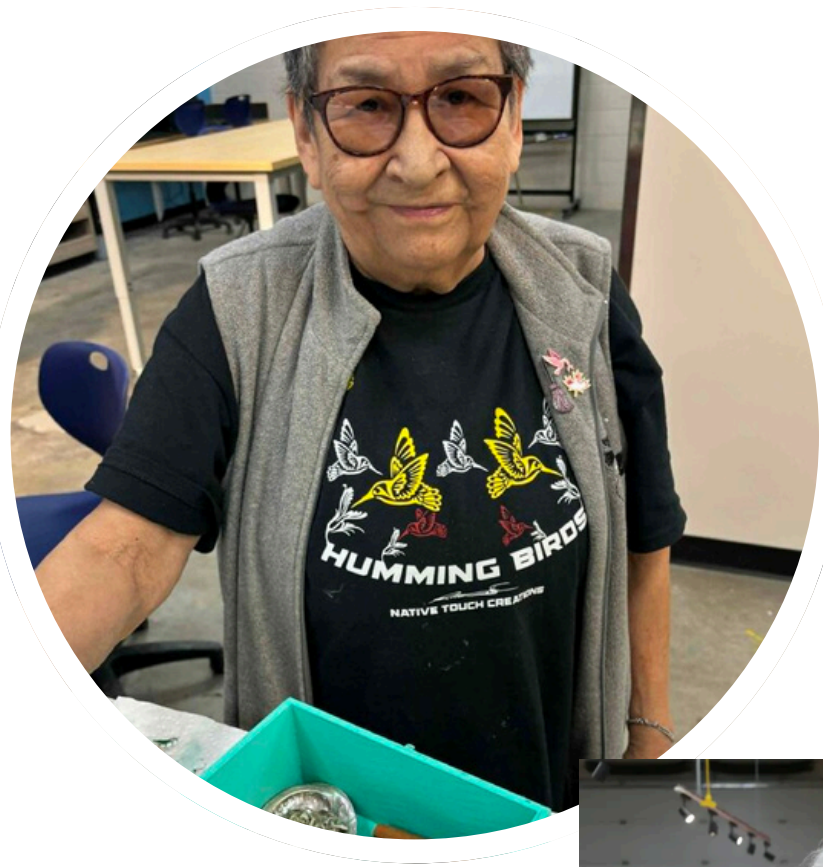
## WAABISHKAA- MAKWA LAB

Opening in April 2026, the lab will provide nearly 1,000 students, teachers, learners, and community members with opportunities to explore emerging technologies while designing, creating, and discovering together.

With STEAM challenges, guitar making, Ooshitaak learning, and countless other hands-on experiences, the lab will become a vibrant space where curiosity, creativity, and innovation come to life.



# LAB HIGHLIGHTS



# EAGLE'S NEST RE-OPENING

Students and staff were excited to support the opening of our school store. In addition to snacks and treats, the store is selling products created by students and staff in the Waabishkaa-Makwa lab, as well as RB Russell merchandise.



# WSD - RRC PROGRAMS



We were happy to celebrate the graduation of our first cohorts in the Administrative Assistant Program, as well as the 5<sup>th</sup> Class Power Engineering program.



We began our second cohort in our Library Technician Program – with 50 students currently working on their certificates and as Library Technician trainees in 50 of our WSD schools! Another cohort of students in our Administrative Assistant Program began their learning journey in January.





# THANK YOU

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To all students, families, WSD Staff and community for an amazing school year

