



Indspire

Indigenous education,
Canada's future. | L'éducation des autochtones,
L'avenir du Canada.

Journeys to Success: Empowering Indigenous Visions of Success Through Photovoice

This report prompted Indigenous communities to present and highlight their perceptions of success through the medium of photography (photovoice).

"My family assembles at my great-grandmother's house to learn how to bead, how to sew, how to cook, and how to tell stories. Gossip and laughter spill into every corner, and I soak it up along with the sweet-smelling fragrance of pies and breads lining each counter. This is my great-grandmother's success. As the matriarch of an enormous family, she is still passing on traditions to her great-great-grandchildren at 92 years old."



"As I travel over this continent, under the Jay's Treaty—a right for all Indigenous born in the settler state of Canada and which specifically allows us to work, study, live and invest in the settler state of the US of A—I can still pursue my academic education wherever I am. This means that I can combine my academic studies with on-the-ground learning from the Land, wherever this may be."

***These findings are not meant to define what success is to everyone, and many experiences of success live beyond what we have shared.**

Through this project, we hope to inspire other Indigenous community members to share their meanings of success, and further encourage and celebrate these unique views.

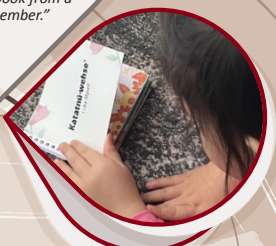
"Our right to have a healthy and safe environment to go home to every day is what success looks like to me [...] Experiences of housing insecurity have led me to feel incredibly grateful to have a place to call home. I took this picture of my keys unlocking my apartment door because it reminds me of the importance of having a healthy and safe home to be empowered to succeed."



SUCCESS WITHIN OUR JOURNEYS APPEARED IN...

- PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE
- CONNECTING TO THE LAND
- NURTURING GOOD INTENTIONS
- CULTIVATING STRENGTH AND RESILIENCY
- UPHOLDING CULTURE AND TRADITION
- CREATING PEACE AND SECURITY
- BUILDING SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS
- DEVELOPING SENSE OF SELF

"This photo represents success to me; I see my efforts being reflected through my daughter[...] Here, my daughter is lying on the floor, reading her positive affirmations book in the Oneida language. This is meaningful in many ways, including it being a handmade book from a family member."



➔ ***For complete collection of Photovoice entries, see pages 13-30 of the report.**

