

ROCK YOUR MOCS!

November 15 – 21, 2020



PEACE WAPITI
PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

Educating Today for Success Tomorrow



IT IS A WEEK LONG, BUT THE MAIN DAY IS

NOVEMBER 15


WHAT IS "ROCK YOUR MOCS" DAY?

A worldwide Indigenous Peoples social media event held annually and during National Native American Heritage Month in the U.S.A..

It was started in 2011 by Jessica Jaylyn Atsye of Laguna Pueblo, N.M., at the age of 19! Beginning in 2013, it has been organized by Melissa Sanchez as a worldwide movement every Nov. 15.

– [CBC Article](#)





“Rock Your Mocs is about unifying Indigenous Peoples globally through social media, promoting cultural pride, and showcasing the diversity of nations.”

– Jessica Atsye, RYM Founder



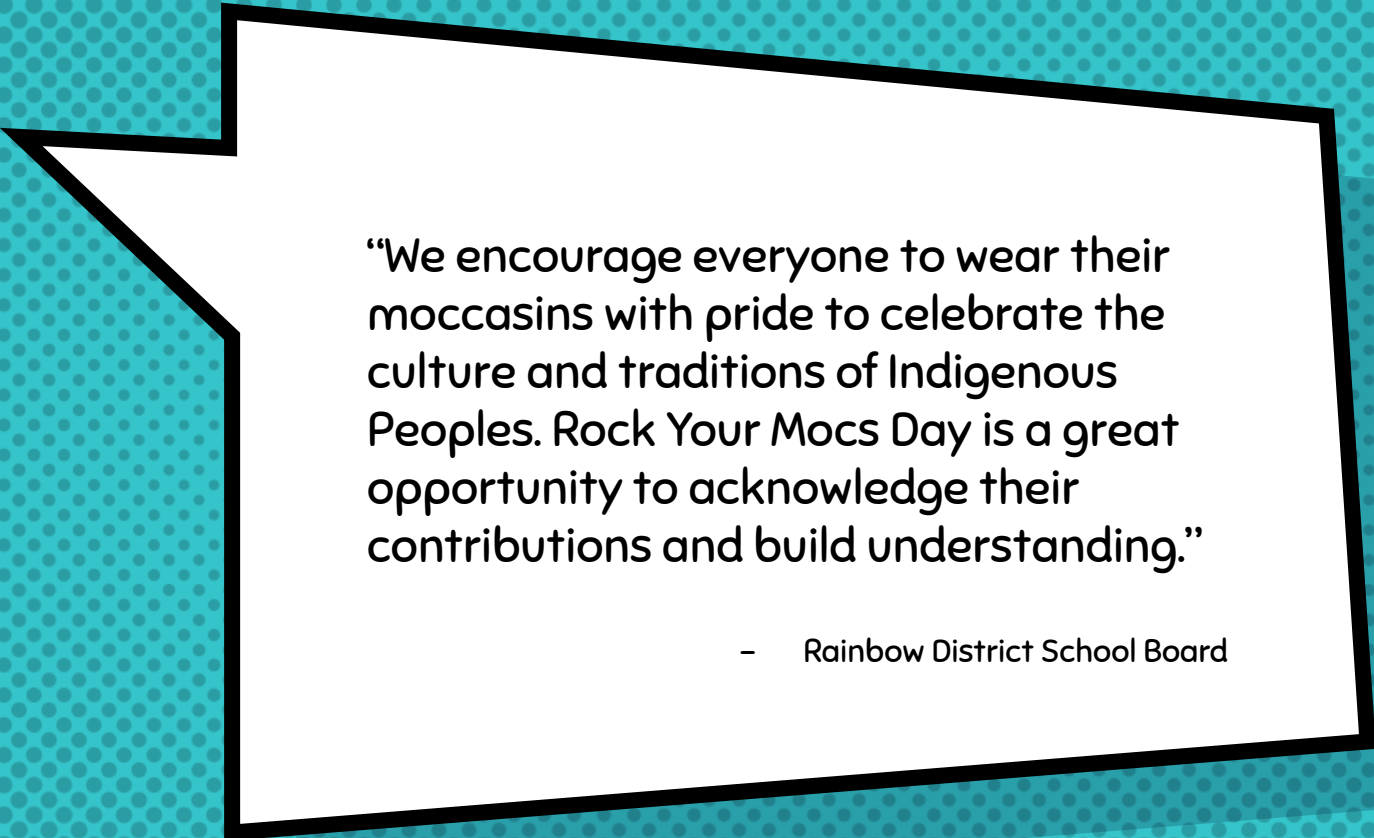
"Rock your Mocs" founder
talks about the day. (5 min)

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

People wear their moccasins, take a photo or video or story, add the hashtag **#RockYourMocs** and upload to social media. If you don't have any moccasins, you can participate by wearing turquoise!

- [Rock Your Mocs Facebook](#)





“We encourage everyone to wear their moccasins with pride to celebrate the culture and traditions of Indigenous Peoples. Rock Your Mocs Day is a great opportunity to acknowledge their contributions and build understanding.”

– Rainbow District School Board



1 min video about
"Rock Your Mocs"

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE AT PWPSD?

At Peace Wapiti School Division, we encourage schools to celebrate “Rock your Mocs” day by:

- × Encouraging students to wear their moccasins, and/or wear teal
- × Sending your photos to brigittebenning@pwsd76.ab.ca
- × Learning about the history of moccasins and the Indigenous people of our area...



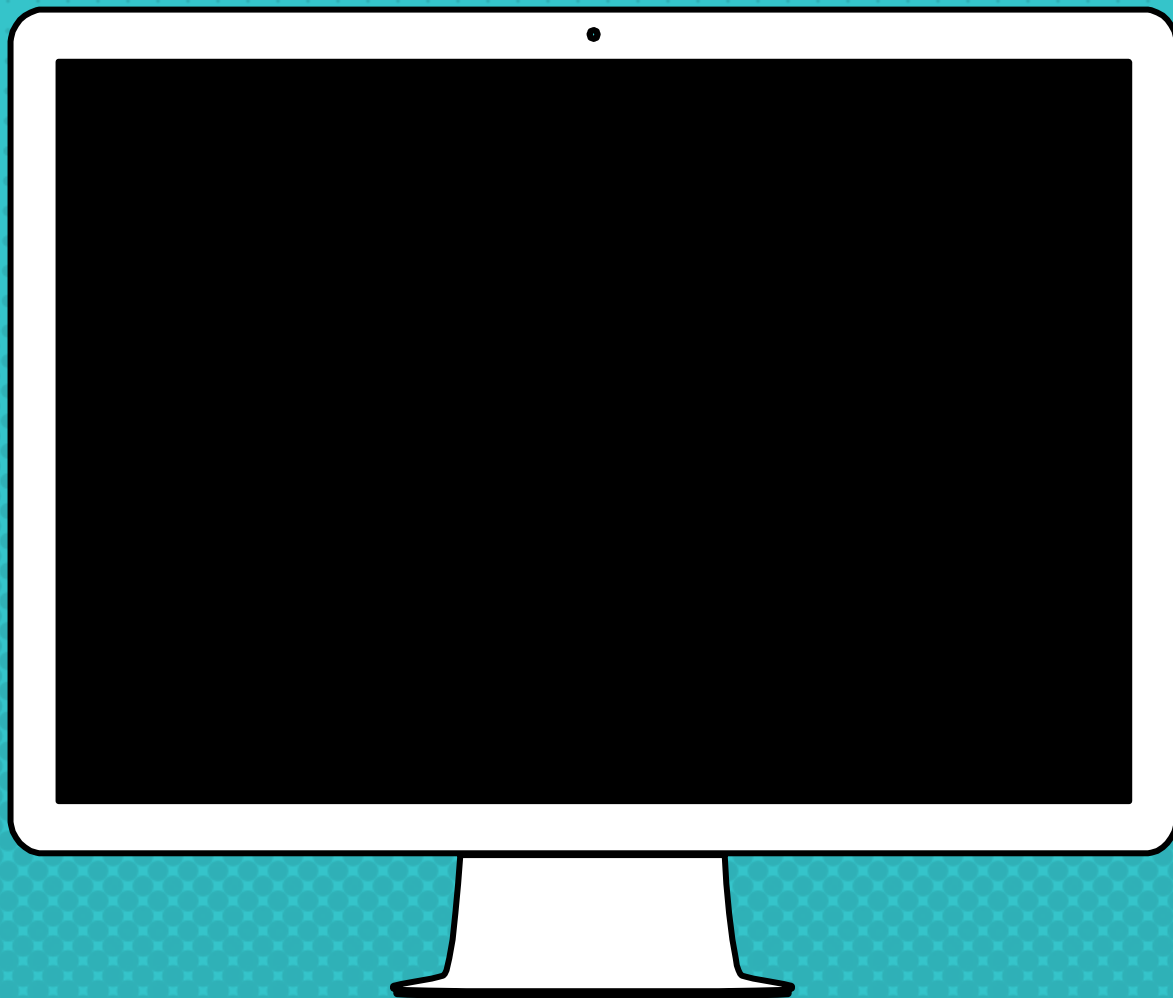
WHAT ARE "MOCCASINS"?

“The word moccasin loosely translates to “footwear” in various Algonquian languages, such as Plains Ojibwe (makisin or makizinan), Siksika (niitsitsikin) and Plains Cree (maskisin).

A type of shoe, boot or slipper, Indigenous peoples historically made moccasins out of animal skins of, for example, caribou, deer, moose, elk and bison.”

– [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#)





The History of the Word
"Moccasin" with Mrs. Belcourt,
Cree Language Instructor at
Hythe Regional School. (1 min)

DO NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLE WEAR MOCCASINS?

“During the fur trade, voyageurs and fur traders adopted moccasins because of their durability and functionality.

Today, moccasins are still used as either outdoor shoes or indoor slippers by both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.”

– [The Canadian Encyclopedia](#)



HOW DO I BE RESPECTFUL WHEN WEARING MOCCASINS?

- × Start by purchasing moccasins by Indigenous makers and artists.
- × Avoid non-Indigenous companies that appropriate and profit off Indigenous culture.
- × If you can, learn about who made your moccasins and share the story with others.
- × Wear them with pride!

Why Buying Authentic Indigenous Art is Important



WHERE CAN I BUY MOCCASINS?

Hazel Talley–Robinson is a Dene artisan who makes moccasins (see photo). She has a stand at the Grande Prairie Farmers Market.

Manitobah Mukluks is a respected Indigenous owned company with beautiful moccasins, mukluks, winter boots and more.





Rock your Mocs Dance Video
(2:36 min)



#ROCKYOURMOCS