



Nishnawbe Aski Nation  
ᐱᐁᓂᐱᐁᐅᐁ ᐱᓂᐱ ᐅᐱᐱᐁᐅᐁ

100 Back Street, Unit 200 Thunder Bay, ON P7J 1L2  
Tel: (807) 623-8228 Fax: (807) 623-7730

## NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday February 23, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **NAN WELCOMES ONTARIO STRATEGY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN**

**THUNDER BAY, ON:** Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Anna Betty Achneepineskum welcomes today's announcement of "Walking Together", the Government of Ontario's long-term strategy to end violence against Indigenous women, as a strong commitment towards protecting vulnerable women and girls and reconciliation with First Nations:

"We are pleased with the Premier's commitment to preventing violence against Indigenous women and we are encouraged that significant funding has been allocated to support the implementation of the strategy to raise awareness and prevent violence developed in collaboration with Ontario's Joint Working Group on Violence Against Aboriginal Women. This is a positive step that we hope will help prevent further violence against Indigenous women and reduce its impact on youth, families and communities before the launch of the national inquiry that will fully determine the scope of these disappearances and provide accountability and justice for the families affected."

NAN supports a national plan of action to prevent further violence against Indigenous women and girls and has encouraged the participation of NAN members in the pre-inquiry consultation phase as part of the design process for a national inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls to be launched this summer. The prevention of violence against women and girls is a priority and continues to be addressed by the NAN Women's Council.

**For more information please contact:** Michael Heintzman, Director of Communications – Nishnawbe Aski Nation (807) 625-4965 or (807) 621-2790 mobile or by email [mheintzman@nan.on.ca](mailto:mheintzman@nan.on.ca)