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NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday September 12, 2017 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NAN WELCOMES SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO THUNDER BAY

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler and Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox joined with First Nation and municipal leaders, area police, education and other community officials to welcome secondary school students from NAN First Nations to Thunder Bay today.

"Our annual orientation sessions are a great way to pull together as a community to greet our students. We thank everyone involved for their efforts to help our youth pursue their education in a welcoming and supportive environment," said Deputy Grand Chief Derek Fox, who holds the education portfolio. "Student safety is first and foremost when it comes to the education of our youth so far away from home. We want to assure our students, their families and communities, that we are doing everything we can to improve safety and education outcomes."

The "Working Together for Student Success" student orientation is open to all NAN students attending secondary school in Thunder Bay. It provides an opportunity for students to interact with community leaders and learn more about the services, activities and other opportunities available in the city.

NAN has coordinated three student orientation sessions across northern Ontario. Sioux Lookout area students were welcomed with an orientation at Pelican Falls High School on September 1. Students attending secondary school in Timmins will be welcomed with a similar event on September 29.

Post-secondary Indigenous students, including many from NAN First Nations, were welcomed to the city at the 4th annual Maadaadizi at Marina Park on the weekend.

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