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NEWS RELEASE

Thursday, December 6, 2012 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NAN SUPPORTS AFN RESOLUTION CALLING FOR PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN CANADA

OTTAWA, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler stood proud in his support today calling for an inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women at the Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly in Ottawa.

The Resolution, which unanimously passed today, calls for an inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women as well as to work towards a national framework of action. NAN Deputy Grand Chief Fiddler seconded the AFN Resolution titled: Direct Action on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Woman.

The Resolution is in conjunction with the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada today. It is in accordance with the anniversary of the 1989 École Polytechnique Massacre in which 14 women were singled out for their gender and murdered. It is often marked by vigils, discussions and other reflections on violence against women. The commemoration date was established by Canada in 1991.

"Today we reflect on and remember all the women who have fallen victim to violence in their lives," said NAN Deputy Grand Chief Fiddler. "Domestic violence causes far more pain than the visible marks of bruises and scars. Violence against women is an appalling human rights violation. But it is not inevitable. We can put a stop to this."

According to the Canadian Human Rights Commission young Indigenous women are five times more likely to die as a result of violence.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities in James Bay Treaty No. 9 and Ontario portions of Treaty No. 5 – an area covering two thirds of the province of Ontario in Canada.

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