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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday February 15, 2017 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NAN MOURNS PASSING OF SECOND WORLD WAR VETERAN JACK WYNNE

THUNDER BAY, ON: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, on behalf of the Executive Council, expressed condolences following the passing of NAN Elder Jack Wynne, a Second World War veteran from Moose Cree First Nation and the last surviving veteran from Moose Factory, who died today at 91 years of age.

"We are very saddened to learn of the passing of Jack Wynne, a well-respected Elder and veteran of the Second World War, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family and community," said Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler. "Jack was highly regarded for his leadership and service to others during conflict and in peacetime. His exemplary service overseas was matched by his commitment to improving life in his community and our Nation, and it is fitting that he helped unveil the official NAN Veteran's Flag in 2009 in honour of our veterans."

The son of a fur trader and First World War veteran, Jack Wynne was accepted for active duty at the age of 18 and was honorably discharged as a corporal in 1946 after serving in England, the Netherlands and Germany. Wynne served as a bombardier in the Royal Canadian Artillery, 1st Canadian Corps before transferring into the infantry with the Royal Montreal Regiment and then the Irish Regiment of Canada.

Wynne assisted in the unveiling of the NAN Veterans Flag during a special ceremony on August 11, 2009 to open NAN's XXVIII Keewaywin Conference in Chapleau Cree First Nation. He spoke about the significance of NAN veterans' contributions to Canada and the importance of having an official flag to represent the veterans of Nishnawbe Aski.

The NAN Veterans Flag was designed by artist Patrick Cheechoo from Constance Lake First Nation. It is flown in all 49 NAN First Nation communities in honour of service and sacrifice of NAN veterans in the defence of Canada.

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