



PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Subject: NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY  
JUNE 21, 2008**

“Perspectives, Realities and Strengths of Aboriginal Women”

Kahnawake - To celebrate the 400th anniversary of the city of Quebec, **Quebec Native Women (QNW) is organizing a conference on National Aboriginal Day, June 21, 2008, at the new outdoor Auditorium of Wendake, on Huron-Wendat territory.** Her Excellency, the Right Honourable **Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada**, along with Mrs. Ellen Gabriel, president of QNW, Beverley Jacobs, president of the Native Women’s Association of Canada, and Jolene Rickard, Art Historian at Cornell University, **will uncover Aboriginal women’s contribution to the fight to preserve their culture and identity.**

The goal of the conference is to sensitize the public on Aboriginal women’s place in history: their identity and culture; their realities and current experiences.

The conference will gather political activists of Aboriginal Women’s rights: Aboriginals, artists, and politicians. This panel discussion is being held to listen to the voices of those from different backgrounds, who are all devoted to justice and equality. The panellists are representative of the strength of Aboriginal women: a quality that has enabled them to preserve their culture and identity for the last 400 years.

The panellists include:

- Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada.
- Ellen Gabriel, Turtle Clan Mohawk from Kanehsatake, President of Quebec Native Women;
- Beverley Jacobs, Bear Clan Mohawk of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, President of the Native Women’s Association of Canada.

**The event will take place at Wendake’s new outdoor Auditorium, near Tourisme Wendake’s office, on June 21<sup>st</sup>, at 3:30pm.** The conference is part of the National Aboriginal Day festivities organized by the Huron-Wendat people, celebrating over 400 years of Aboriginal presence in Quebec City.

**Over 300 people are expected.**

Kiosks are available for artisans and Aboriginal organizations upon request.

- 30 -

**Our organization:**

Founded in 1974, **Quebec Native Women Inc. (QNW)**, a non-profit organization, represents women from the First Nations in Quebec and Aboriginal women living in urban areas. QNW advocates on behalf of the Rights of Aboriginal women and their families.

For more information please call:

Marie-Claude Pastorel, Communications Officer

Quebec Native Women

Tel. : 450 632 0088, #227