



Press release

For Immediate Release

Get involved in the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, it Matters!

Quebec, June 19, 2017 - Missinak Community House will contribute to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) by offering support and handmade blankets, made by Indigenous women living in the Quebec City area, to Commissioner Michèle Audette, at 12:00 pm, June 21, on National Aboriginal Day, in front of the National Assembly of Quebec.

Pénélope Guay, spokesperson for Missinak Community House and who is also Commissioner Audette's spiritual grandmother, believes it is essential to get involved to truly make a difference in preventing violence against Indigenous women and girls, as well as LGBTQ2S people.

"We are giving a blanket and many more will be created and sewn up this summer," explained Penelope Gay. These blankets will be used to give comfort to family members testifying at hearings in Quebec and elsewhere in the country. They were conceived in the spirit of love, for families who will go participate in hearings," says Guay.

The Blankets for Hope initiative was launched in Saskatchewan with the collaboration of Elizabeth Fry Society and Special Advisor Jorgina Sunn of the National Inquiry. Nearly thirty blankets were exhibited and used at the first hearings of the National Inquiry in Whitehorse, Yukon. It is now Missinak Community House in Quebec who has joined the collective effort to support the success of the National Inquiry. "Every person, every initiative, will allow this inquiry to reach its goal of finding the truth, honoring the truth and giving life to the truth as a path to healing," reminds Commissioner Michèle Audette.

The public and the journalists are invited to the presentation of the blanket:

Date and Time: On June 21, 12 pm.

Location: In front of the National Assembly of Québec

La Maison Communautaire Missinak (Missinak Community House) is a shelter and resource organization for Indigenous women in difficulty and their families, in Quebec city since 2003. The House offers the following services to women and children: emergency housing, outpatient services and referrals, spiritual healing.

Commissioner Michèle Audette and Ms. Pénélope Guay from the Missinak Community House will be available to speak to the media.

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