



## Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc.

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### Media Release

December 8, 2014

#### **Two-Spirit Human Rights Rally at AFN Special Assembly**

WINNIPEG, MB - - - Join us for a rally at the entrance to the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg, 375 York Ave., to hear from the three candidates for the position of National Chief of the Assembly of the First Nations. Each candidate has been asked to declare how they will champion the rights of First Nation lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (Two-Spirit). The rally will commence at 11:30 am on Tuesday, December 9, 2014.

In February 2010, the TSPM approached, then National Chief, Shawn Atleo to offer its services so that First Nations would be prepared to address First Nation lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues when Section 67 of Canadian Human Rights Act was repealed. No response was forthcoming. During the lead up to 2012 election of AFN's National Chief, the TSPM sent letters to each of the eight candidates asking them how they would, if elected, enact AFN's Two-Spirit anti-discrimination recommendation (2001) and champion the rights of Two-Spirit people. No responses were forthcoming.

On November 23, 2014, the TSPM sent the same letter to the three candidates for AFN National Chief, Perry Bellegarde, Leon Jourdain and Ghislain Picard. One of the candidates responded with a letter on December 5, 2014 stating how he will affirm the AFN's commitment to ending discrimination against First Nation Two-Spirit people should he be elected.

As First Nation citizens and voters, Two-Spirit people have the right to fair representation, equal access to services and programs, education, employment and housing, and to protection from discrimination and violence. Contact Albert McLeod at the coordinates above for further details.

**Two-Spirit rights are human rights - Two-Spirit rights are First Nation rights**

Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and  
Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Location/Phase: Part 3: Toronto

Witness: Albert McLeod

Submitted by: Christa Big Canoe

Add'l info: P03 P03 P0101

Date: JUN 11 2018

Initials

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Entered

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