

# Community Action

**TOOL**

**NWAC YOUTH COUNCIL**

**INFORMATION SHEET**



## **NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (NWAC)**

### **Mission and Mandate**

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) is founded on the collective goal to enhance, promote, and foster the social, economic, cultural and political well-being of First Nations and Métis women within First Nation and Canadian societies.

NWAC is an aggregate of 13 Native women's organizations (PTMAs) from across Canada and was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1974. Much like a "Grandmother's Lodge", we as aunties, mothers, sisters, brothers and relatives collectively recognize, respect, promote, defend and enhance our Native ancestral laws, spiritual beliefs, language and traditions given to us by the Creator.

Our mission is to help empower women by being involved in developing and changing legislation that affects them, and by involving them in the development and delivery of programs promoting equal opportunity for Aboriginal women.

The principles or objectives of the Native Women's Association of Canada are as follows:

- to be the national voice for Native women;
- to address issues in a manner which reflects the changing needs of Native women in Canada;
- to assist and promote common goals towards self-determination and self-sufficiency for Native peoples in our role as mothers and leaders;
- to promote equal opportunities for Native women in programs and activities;



- to serve as a resource among our constituency and Native communities;
- to cultivate and teach the characteristics that are unique aspects of our cultural and historical traditions;
- to assist Native women's organizations, as well as community initiatives in the development of their local projects; and
- to advance issues and concerns of Native women; and to link with other Native organizations with common goals

## **NWAC YOUTH COUNCIL**

### **Mission and Mandate**

NWAC Youth Council (YC) is comprised out of one youth representative from each of the thirteen NWAC's PTMAs. The four Youth Council members from four directions are elected to Youth Directors positions and have a vote on the NWAC's Board of Directors. One Youth Director is elected National Youth and sits on NWAC's Executive Committee and is a spokeswoman for the YC.

### **NWAC Youth Council Mission Statement**

Represent, promote, advocate, empower, protect and educate young indigenous women of Canada.

Encourage unity and the growth of the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of ones self, family and community.



## Mandate

- To be proactive in addressing all issues and concerns that affect young indigenous women of Canada
- To raise awareness about issues concerning young indigenous women
- To be a political voice for young indigenous women
- To review and provide direction and recommendations on all NWAC youth initiatives
- Address youth issues and concerns with the NWAC Board of Directors

If you wish to learn more about NWAC Youth program and Youth Council and to get the information about how you can get involved, please contact NWAC's office in Ottawa.

If you wish to obtain the copy of the Toolkit or the Violence Prevention Workshops, please contact:

Native Women's Association of Canada  
Youth Department  
1292 Wellington Street W  
Ottawa On  
K1Y 3A9

Phone (613) 722 3033 ext 230 or 1800 461 4043

Fax: (613) 722 7687

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