



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## Press Release – For Immediate Release

### Native Women's Association of Canada Welcomes Jeannette Corbiere Lavell as new President

**Ottawa, ON (September 28, 2009)** – Aboriginal women from coast to coast to coast gathered this past weekend at the Native Women's Association of Canada's (NWAC) 35<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly in Ottawa. Yesterday after two rounds of voting, Jeannette Corbiere Lavell was elected as the new President of NWAC.

President Corbiere Lavell stated: "I thank all of our grassroots women from our Provincial Territorial Member Associations who endorsed my candidacy. Marilyn Buffalo and Nahanni Fontaine were excellent candidates for the position of President and I thank them for presenting their candidacies. I also thank outgoing President Beverley Jacobs for her five years of service to NWAC."

NWAC President Jeannette Corbiere Lavell is a strong Anishinabe woman who hails from Wikwemikong, Ontario. She is a proud mother and grandmother and has previously distinguished herself by leading a Supreme Court challenge of the federal government's system of determining Indian Status, and is the first Anishinabek Nation Commissioner on Citizenship. She is a founding member of the Ontario Native Women's Association and has served NWAC in the past, volunteering as Interim President. President Corbiere Lavell has worked as a teacher, consultant, and counselor and is the co-author of a book.

"NWAC continues to be the only national voice for Aboriginal women in Canada and I look forward to the work ahead during my three year term to see gains to advance the physical, spiritual, economic and social status of Aboriginal women of Canada," concluded President Corbiere Lavell.

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