



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Health Careers conference aimed at Aboriginal youth in 2010 – Speakers, vendors invited

Ottawa, ON (November 26, 2009) — Doctors and nurses are not the only two jobs in the health care field. That is why the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) is holding a two-day conference and tradeshow for Aboriginal youth on careers in this exciting and diverse field.

Miyo Machihowin – a National Aboriginal Health Careers Conference & Tradeshow is currently looking for speakers and tradeshow participants to introduce our youth to all kinds of career opportunities. From lab technicians and researchers to plastic surgeons and epidemiologists, this career fair will help to inform youth of a world of opportunities. But before NWAC can do that, Miyo Machihowin needs you: the healthcare worker to provide expertise in your field.

“It's important for our youth to enter the health field to help transform the care we provide to better meet the needs of our people. As Indigenous people we have a very unique understanding of health and healing and we have a lot to contribute. Our youth should consider a career in healthcare, because we need their voices to be heard at the bedside,” says Daniele Behn-Smith, a member of the board of directors for the Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada.

With the belief in fostering relationships between youth and future employers, and providing youth with access to information and opportunity, the Miyo Machihowin – National Aboriginal Health Careers Conference & Tradeshow is taking place March 11 and 12, 2010 at the Mayfield Inn & Suites in Edmonton, Alberta.

Although this conference is aimed at all Aboriginal youth, from Alberta and beyond, it should be noted that the Aboriginal female population is growing substantially faster than the overall population. In the period from 2001 to 2006, the number of Aboriginal women and girls rose by 20.3% compared to a 5.6% growth rate in the non-Aboriginal population of women and girls.

“Miyo Machihowin is about good health but it is also about achieving a successful future. It is about Aboriginal Peoples' economic security, education and skills development, and cultural continuity,” said NWAC President Jeannette Corbiere Lavell.

“The Miyo Machihowin Tradeshow represents a unique opportunity for future employers from all sectors to tap into the human resource that is Aboriginal youth,” concluded President Corbiere Lavell.

For details on the call for participants, tradeshow vendors and workshop speakers please visit: <http://www.nwac.ca/en/careers.html>

For more information or if you would like to book an interview please contact Kim Ziervogel at K'Image Communications 204-782-3266 or kim@kimage.ca