



Native Women's Association of Canada

Press Release – For Immediate Release

Newly Elected Native Women's Association of Canada President To Receive Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case

Ottawa, ON (September 30, 2009) – Tomorrow Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, will present Jeannette Corbiere Lavell, the newly elected President of the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) the Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case. President Corbiere Lavell is one of six receiving this award at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

The award is presented annually to honour individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of women's equality and have celebrated Canada's evolution as an inclusive society. For decades Ms. Corbiere Lavell has been a champion for the rights of Aboriginal women and fought a landmark court challenge to regain her First Nations status.

“It means a lot to win this award and to know that my commitment towards the equality of Aboriginal women has been recognized,” remarked President Corbiere Lavell. “I thank my family that has stood by me all these years, knowing that the work I did has helped improve the lives for all Aboriginal Peoples.”

Jeannette Corbiere Lavell, who was elected as the new President of the Native Women's Association of Canada this past weekend, is looking forward to her new role leading one of Canada's National Aboriginal Organizations. She will ensure that the issues that affect Aboriginal women and their families the most are heard at key government tables.

The Native Women's Association of Canada is founded on the collective goal to enhance, promote, and foster the social, economic, cultural and political well-being of Aboriginal women within the Aboriginal community and Canadian society. In 2009, as we celebrate our 35th year of service, we are proud to continue to speak as a voice for Aboriginal women.

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