



WELCOME TO THE THIRD VOLUME OF KCI-NIWESQ
THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (NWAC).

This edition is quite different from the two previous offerings.
We will return to the regular format next month.

When we were considering which stories would best fill these pages, we knew we had to recount the words of the speakers at the remarkable, online International Summit of the Americas on Violence Against Indigenous Women, which NWAC hosted on March 29 and 30.

The Summit came together so quickly—about six weeks from conception to reality. But we managed to put together a roster of guests from all over the Americas who were eager to share their thoughts and, in some cases, their pain.

It turns out that Indigenous women and their allies really do want to work together across national boundaries to put an end to the violence, the genocide, that stalks us all.

In this edition of Kci-Niwesq, you will hear from public officials like Luis Almagro, the Secretary General of the Organization of American States, and Anita Bhatia, the Deputy Executive Director for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships at UN Women.

You will also read the words of Indigenous women who are making a difference on the ground, like Nelsy Ku Chay, the Coordinator of the Houses of Indigenous and Afro-American Women in Mexico, and Marize Vierade Oliveira Guarani, the President of the Associação Indígena Aldeia Maracanã in Brazil.

You will read about the best practices that were discussed, and the traditional healing methods that are providing hope and health to those who have been abused.

You will hear that the word 'genocide' was repeated time and time again in relation to the violence being directed at Indigenous women across the Western hemisphere. One of our speakers was Marion Buller, the Chief Commissioner of the National Inquiry in Canada that concluded a genocide is being perpetrated.

The Summit was a time for sharing information. But it was also a time for coming together, as Indigenous women, to chart a unified course for addressing the violence.

We know it must be stopped. We know we cannot allow future generations—our granddaughters and great-granddaughters—to live with the fears that have haunted us and our ancestors.

We hope, as you read the words contained in these pages, you will understand the imperative that lies before all of us to say 'no more' to the deaths and disappearances. We hope they will inspire you to join us in this mission.

Thank you for reading the third edition of Kci-Niwesq. Please drop us a line and let us know what you think at reception@nwac.ca.

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