

## A MESSAGE FROM NWAC'S CEO

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## WELCOME TO THE EIGHTH EDITION OF KCI-NIWESQ, THE MAGAZINE OF THE NATIVE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (NWAC).

This issue is dedicated to our youth. You'll find there is so much hope and resiliency resonating from these pages.

Young Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA people are our future. But those we have profiled have not waited to make their mark.

You will read about Michelle Chubb, the hugely popular TikTok star who uses her social media platform to address the injustices facing her people—and has garnered modelling contracts with international companies in the process.

We tell you about Molly Swain and Chelsea Vowel, two young women whose Métis in Space podcast dissects science fiction through a decolonizing lens. It sounds terribly niche but it has attracted a big following.

Fifteen-year-old DeeDee Austin, whose recording career is taking off, tells us what it was like to play her poignant song about the horrors of the residential schools to groups of survivors. Spoiler alert: They loved it.

Annie Beach has painted Winnipeg pink (and blue and green and all other shades of the rainbow) with collaboratively created murals. Now the artist and social justice activist says it might be time to go solo.

We tell you about the amazing art created by young Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA people from across Canada that will hang on the walls of NWAC's new Social and Economic Centre in downtown Gatineau, Que., thanks to a donation from TikTok.

Former Prime Minister Paul Martin will explain how his Martin Family Initiative placed its bets on Indigenous education—and is getting results.

And finally, you will read about First Nations journalism student Catriona Koenig about the isolation that Indigenous students can experience at Canadian universities and what Indigenous centres on campus should be doing to help.

We hope this magazine will, in future, showcase many other pieces by budding Indigenous reporters. It is time for First Nations, Métis, and Indigenous women to occupy their space in the national media.

So thank you once again for opening the pages that follow. Thank you for reading the eighth edition of *Kci-Niwesq*. Please drop us a line and let us know what you think at [reception@nwac.ca](mailto:reception@nwac.ca).

**MIIGWETCH.**

MONTHLY MAGAZINE TO TELL OUR STORIES