# WALKING THE RED PATH – HIV/HCV INITIATIVE



#### Native Women's Association of Canada

L'Association des femmes autochtones du Canada

**Prepared by:** Melissa Lambert-Tenasco, Research Officer

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT INCARCEREATED INDIGENOUS WOMEN IN CANADA:

- One third of inmates in federal correctional facilities identify as Indigenous women<sup>1</sup>.
- 10.8% of all new HIV infections in 2014 occurred in Indigenous populations<sup>2</sup>.
- Hepatitis C is nearly 5 times higher in Indigenous peoples than in non-Indigenous people<sup>3</sup>.
- 63.6% of HIV infections in Indigenous women were attributed to injection drug use<sup>4</sup>.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CONTACT: Health Unit Chaneesa Ryan Director of Health cryan@nwac.ca 343-997-2999

### **Overall Goals of the RED Path project**

- Reducing stigma related to HIV, Hepatitis C, and other STBBIs amongst Indigenous women living in or recently released from federal correctional institutions.
- Increasing knowledge of effective HIV, Hepatitis C, and related STBBI intervention and prevention evidence among Indigenous women incarcerated in federal correctional institutions.
- Increasing testing, harm reduction behaviours, and adherence to treatment among Indigenous women currently incarcerated, or recently released from federal correctional facilities.
- Strengthening the capacity of Indigenous women currently incarcerated in a federal correctional institution to prevent infection and improve health outcomes.
- Strengthening cultural continuity among Indigenous women incarcerated in federal correctional institutions.

#### References

- <sup>1</sup> Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (2012). "*Women in Prison, HIV and Hepatitis C*", Women in HIV, Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
- <sup>2</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada (2014). "Summary: Estimates of HIV Incidence, Prevalence and Proportion Undiagnosed in Canada, 2014", Public Health Agency of Canada
- <sup>3</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada (2012). Hepatitis C in Canada: 2005-2010 Surveillance Report. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada
- <sup>4</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada (2014). "Chapter 8: HIV.AIDS Among Aboriginal People in Canada, *HIV/AIDS EPI Updates*", December 2014

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