



REPRESENTATIVE FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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2 October 2007

Beverly Jacobs, President
Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)
C/o Six Nations of the Grand River
P.O. Box 331
Ohsweken, ON
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Dear Beverly Jacobs,

I am writing today to offer my support to the collective efforts of those involved in encouraging Canadians and their governments to never forget the loss of hundreds of missing Aboriginal women – a loss to their families, our communities and to Canada.

Native women across our country are dying – often mysteriously or violently -- while struggling to make a better life for those they love. Far too many disappear, victims of the brutality that rips them from the lives of those dependant on them.

Children and youth look to their mothers, aunts and Elders for nourishment -- physically, emotionally and culturally. They look to these women for shelter from the harshness of the world that too often defines our history. When these women disappear, huge holes are left in so many lives, and we all are weakened.

These women may have died alone but they did not live alone. They leave behind little ones and grieving families. We must remember them all, and continue to embrace them with our support, our anger, our actions and our voices.

Thank you for your continuing efforts to highlight and stop this Canadian tragedy through the Sister in Spirit campaign and the nation-wide vigil on October 4th, 2007.

With deepest respect,
All My Relations,

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond

