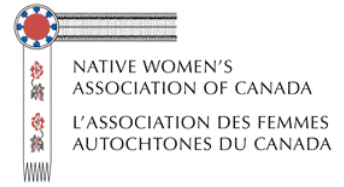




FEMMES AUTOCHTONES DU QUÉBEC INC.  
QUEBEC NATIVE WOMEN INC.



Press Release

For immediate release

## **Vigil to be Held in Val-d'Or to Commemorate Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women**

**Val-d'Or, September 29, 2015** – For the second consecutive year in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, a Sisters-in-Spirit Vigil will be held in commemoration of missing and murdered Aboriginal women.

Jointly organised by the Val-d'Or Native Friendship Centre and Maison d'hébergement Le Nid, the event is aimed at exposing indifference, demanding an inquiry commission and engaging women in a fight for decolonisation.

**The vigil will take place in Val-d'Or on Sunday, October 4 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Participants will gather at the Lapointe Park, in front of the downtown IGA, corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 8<sup>th</sup> Street.**

This province-wide concerted action is part of a mobilisation surrounding the upcoming World March of Women (WMW) to be held next October 17 across Québec as well as in over 50 countries. The WMW's central theme is **Controlling our Bodies and Territories** and these first gatherings testify to women's solidarity with the fights led by Aboriginal women.

The silent disappearance of Aboriginal women is one of the consequences of the colonisation process that threatens Aboriginal communities' cultures, languages and well-being. Imposed patriarchal laws marginalise Aboriginal women in their own community and in society as a whole. These laws increase Aboriginal women's vulnerability and they are, for example, five times more exposed to violence than non-Aboriginal women.

The Vigil is open to all.

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