



SOLIDARITY WITH THE *IDLE NO MORE* MOVEMENT

Wendake, January 11, 2013 – The Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec (RCAAQ) supports *Idle No More*, a movement created by Aboriginal women to denounce Bill C-45. Indeed, this omnibus bill pushes through several legislative changes directly affecting elements of Aboriginal governance and environmental standards, without any kind of process in place for consulting the First Nations.

The Quebec Native Friendship Centre Movement gives its support to Chief Theresa Spence of the Cree Nation of Attawapiskat, who is on a hunger strike to denounce the attitude of the federal government. Furthermore, we support the Innu women who also began a hunger strike a few days ago.

Idle No More has become the rallying point for an increasing number of demonstrations by Aboriginal people in Quebec and Canada. The Native Friendship Centres in Quebec are supporting this national movement through activities that they are holding today:

- The Centre d'amitié autochtone du Saguenay (CAAS) will hold a demonstration beginning at 2 p.m. at the social centre of Université du Québec à Chicoutimi;
- The Val-d'Or Native Friendship Centre (VDNFC) is holding a "Solidarity with *Idle No More* Day" and invites people to a demonstration at the VDNFC at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.;
- The Centre d'amitié autochtone de Lanaudière (CAAL) will be holding a demonstration at its offices beginning at 2 p.m.;
- The Chibougamau Eenu Friendship Centre (CEFC) is coordinating a flash mob at 4 p.m. at Place le Chainon in support of *Idle No More*.

In addition, the Centre d'amitié autochtone de La Tuque (CAALT) has produced a video of a silent demonstration, which is on YouTube.

For 35 years, the RCAAQ has been defending the rights and interests of urban Aboriginal people and has been supporting the Native Friendship Centres in accomplishing their mission, which is to improve the quality of life of urban Aboriginal people, promote culture, and foster mutual understanding between peoples. For more information about the RCAAQ, please visit our website at www.rcaaq.info

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