



Secrétariat
de l'Assemblée des
Premières Nations
du Québec
et du Labrador

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**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

AFNQL encourages the women of the *Marche Amun* and reiterates the importance of their message

Kahnawake, May 19, 2010 – The Assembly of the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador (AFNQL) strongly supports the *Marche Amun* and the demands of its walkers. “The symbolic gesture initiated by these courageous and persevering women is very important. They are walking to end all forms of discrimination against Aboriginal women, who are too often marginalized,” underlined AFNQL Chief, Ghislain Picard.

The AFNQL maintains that their message must be heard by the federal government. The Parliamentary Secretary of the Minister of Indian Affairs affirmed before the House of Commons, a few weeks ago, that Canada is the champion of justice and equality for all and that discrimination weakens the fabric of our society. Bill C-3 represents a real opportunity for the government to honor its’ word. “Bill C-3, in its current form, definitely does not eliminate sex discrimination. I am inviting Prime Minister Harper to give way to justice and equality for the betterment of our collectivity. Let’s put an end to discrimination once and for all” mentioned Chief Ghislain Picard.

On May 4, five determined walkers, led by Michèle Audette and Viviane Michel, embarked on their journey from Wendake to Ottawa, on foot. Their arrival, 500 km later, is expected for June 1st. The AFNQL moreover acknowledges the importance of the gathering which takes place today, at noon, in front of the offices of Status of Women Canada (1564, St-Denis st.) in Montreal and lends its voice to the groups that will welcome the walkers to wish them all the best.

The Chiefs will have the chance to meet and to congratulate the walkers for their endeavour and their determination, at the Chiefs Assembly, to take place in Quebec on June 3rd.

About the AFNQL:

The AFNQL is a regional organization that brings together the 43 Chiefs of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador. For more information, visit: www.apnql-afnql.com.