



ONWA supports Ontario's First Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Thunder Bay, ON – on February 22, 2018, the Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA) supports Ontario's First Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day. The Ontario government committed to raising awareness on this day through the Anti-Human Trafficking Act 2017.

ONWA, as an Indigenous women's organization, is committed to addressing violence against Indigenous women, is deeply concerned about the safety of Indigenous women and girls and the disproportionate numbers of Indigenous women who are trafficked. The human trafficking of Indigenous women and girls is an issue that is little understood within Canada. While human trafficking is commonly understood to occur when people are moved across international borders into Canada for the purposes of exploitation, it is less commonly known that Indigenous women and girls are trafficked inside Canada.

Cora-lee McGuire-Cyrette, Executive Director of ONWA had the honour of attending the Human Trafficking Awareness Day at Queen's Park with the Honourable Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services and the Honourable Harinder Malhi, Minister of Status of Women. Cora-lee McGuire-Cyrette states, "the issue of Human Trafficking affects everyone one of us; it's a cross jurisdictional issue that affects all socioeconomic classes and we need to all work together to protect our families."



ONWA also hosted a Human Trafficking Awareness Day event at their Thunder Bay satellite office promoting the message of Rights, Safety, and Dignity for Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit Peoples: *End the Human Trafficking of Indigenous Peoples.*

Please feel free to contact us for an Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness package that includes Ontario's strategy and Toolkits. Using the hashtag #knowhumantrafficking is encouraged to raise awareness.

For more information, please contact:

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