



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 9, 2022**

### **AMC Acknowledges National Nurses Week**

**Treaty One Territory, Manitoba** – The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) issues a special thank you to all First Nations Nurses on this National Nurses Week. The work you do, caring for our relatives across Turtle Island, is so important, and we are forever grateful!

National Nurses Week is a week to honour the contributions and sacrifices of nurses across Canada. During this week, we also celebrate Manitoba Indigenous Nurses Day on May 12, noting the invaluable work they do to improve the health of our Nations. The pandemic has been hard on our First Nations, and we are very proud of all those who have shown up and continue to prioritize the health and safety of First Nations in Manitoba.

AMC Acting Grand Chief Cornell McLean states, “Recognizing National Nurses Week is highly significant this year as nurses continue to play a critical role in Canada’s fight against COVID-19. We honour the nurses who have worked tirelessly in Manitoba’s First Nations to keep our citizens protected over these past two years.”

AMC would like to extend a special thanks to the Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association. This group of First Nations nurses was brought together in 1975 by nurses Jocelyn Bruyere of Opaskwayak Cree Nation and Jean Goodwill of Little Pine First Nation. These hero nurses worked for decades to benefit First Nations peoples by physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually improving their health and well-being. And during the past two years, they have gone above and beyond in our Nations to ensure that our people have proper access to healthcare and COVID-19-related education.

“Nurses all across Turtle Island continue to demonstrate strength, knowledge, and courage throughout this pandemic, stepping up like never before,” concludes Acting Grand Chief Cornell McLean. “They commit countless hours and energy to get us all through this unprecedented crisis, and for that, we cannot thank them enough.”

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**About the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs**

The AMC was formed in 1988 by the Chiefs in Manitoba to advocate on issues that commonly affect First Nations in Manitoba. AMC is an authorized representative of 62 of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba with a total of more than 151,000 First Nation citizens in the province, accounting for approximately 12 percent of the provincial population. AMC represents a diversity of Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Nehetho / Ininew (Cree), Anishininew (Ojibwe-Cree), Denesuline (Dene) and Dakota Oyate (Dakota) people.