



## Assemblée des Premières Nations Québec-Labrador

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### **PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION**

#### **The AFNQL Applauds Quebec City's Commitments to Combat Racism and Discrimination**

*Quebec City, December 19, 2020* - The Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) welcomes the commitments announced by Quebec City totalling \$600,000 to put forward activities and actions that contribute to the rapprochement of peoples in Quebec.

These commitments are part of the development of friendly relationships with First Nations and, in so doing, the City is implementing measures to promote harmony in our respective societies through actions that invite participation in the KWE! Meet with Indigenous Peoples event. The City has decided to act and I can only be grateful to take part in these promising announcements," said AFNQL Chief Ghislain Picard, who was present at the announcement at Quebec City Hall, with Mayor Régis Labeaume.

Mayor Labeaume announced a three-year agreement to host the KWE! Meet with Indigenous Peoples with a recurring grant of \$400,000, as well as actions to promote Indigenous cultures, notably through a program of activities in the library network, a collaboration with the *Salon international du livre de Québec* with a space dedicated to Indigenous literature and authors, and the expansion of the toponymy directory to include names representing the 11 Indigenous Nations in Quebec.

"These gestures put in place all possible conditions to promote co-existence and harmony, through inviting and unifying actions. Last September, the AFNQL proposed an action plan to offer means that encourage municipalities to examine what they can do to help reduce prejudice, racism, and discrimination. This is happening on the ground and we need to find innovative solutions, like those of Quebec City and others that have preceded it, to work respectfully with those who want to improve our relations. This is how we will move forward," concluded Chief Picard.

#### **About the AFNQL**

The Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador is the political organization regrouping 43 Chiefs of the First Nations in Quebec and Labrador. Follow us on Twitter @APNQL

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#### **Source:**

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