



Monday, June 26, 2017

Media Advisory

Walkers Complete Highway 11 Route, Begin Highway 17 Route on 322 KM Healing Walk for all First Nations & Communities

LONGLAC, ON – Members of the media and the public are cordially invited to attend an event this Thursday where walkers from the *Healing Walk for all First Nations and Communities* will be available to speak about a 7-day walk that began yesterday at the Keemeshomnishnanak Monument in Ginoogaming First Nation.

The walk, hosted this year by Long Lake #58 First Nation, brings spiritual focus and attention to the many different issues facing Indigenous Peoples. Each day, walkers will pray and bring attention to the following issues: Drugs/Alcohol Addictions, Cancer, Missing Women/Men, Residential School/Day School Survivors/Descendants, Suicide, Land Water & Air, Racism. The walk continues the vision of Elder and residential school survivor Fred Thomas of Lac Seul First Nation near Sioux Lookout, Ontario. It began last year.

Walkers are covering 40 – 50 km per day passing the communities of Longlac, Long Lake #58 First Nation, Geraldton, Jellicoe, Aniimbigoo Zaaging Anishnawbek (Lake Nipigon Ojibway First Nation), Beardmore, Bingwi Neyashi Anishnawbek (Sand Point First Nation), Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishnawbek (Rocky Bay First Nation), Lake Helen First Nation, Nipigon, Red Rock, Hurkett, Dorion, Pearl, Pass Lake, and Thunder Bay. Walkers have invited members of these communities to join them as they go along.

By Thursday, walkers will have walked 191 kms on Trans-Canada Highway 11. They will be starting the last leg of their journey along Trans-Canada Highway 17 which will be 131 kms to conclude on Mount Mackay in Fort William First Nation on July 1. They will start their walk to Mount Mackay in Thunder Bay at City Hall with speeches and a ceremony.

Date: Thursday, June 29, 2017 and Saturday, July 1, 2017
Location: Nipigon River Bridge (on June 29) and City Hall (on July 1)
Time: 10:00 AM (both dates)

For questions about the walk, please contact: Allen Towegishig at (807) 853-5959; or Lionel McCraw (807) 853-0599; or Cecil Mendowegan at (807) 708-4923. **For media questions, please contact:** Carol Audet, Communications Manager – Matawa First Nations at (807) 632-9663 or by email at caudet@matawa.on.ca.



SPIRIT WALKERS ON THE 2017
HEALING WALK FOR ALL FIRST
NATIONS AND COMMUNITIES
INVITE YOU TO...

MEET US AT THE NIPIGON BRIDGE.

Thursday, June 29, 2017
10:00 a.m.

After completing our 191 walk on Trans-Canada Highway 11 starting in Longlac, come join us as we begin our journey on Trans-Canada Highway 17 to Mount McKay in Fort William First Nation, Thunder Bay. We start our walk in Thunder Bay at City Hall on July 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Join us there also!

More info: Allen Towegishig (807)853-5959 or
Cecil Mendowegan (807)708-4923



LONG LAKE #58 FIRST NATION