



Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc.

MKO Honours the Leadership and Legacy of Mary Simon

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Treaty Five Territory, Thompson Manitoba - Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) honours the legacy of Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon as she concludes her tenure as Governor General of Canada. As the first Indigenous person to serve in this role, her appointment in 2021 marked a historic moment for the country. Throughout her mandate, Mary Simon demonstrated steadfast leadership rooted in a lifelong commitment to advancing Indigenous Rights, and the preservation of Indigenous languages and cultures. Her presence in the office of Governor General has inspired First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples across the country.

MKO recognizes Governor General Simon's efforts to elevate Indigenous voices on the national stage, including her dedication to mental health awareness, which has helped bring greater attention to issues affecting Indigenous youth, encouraging dialogue and education.

"On behalf of MKO, we extend our deepest gratitude to Governor General Mary Simon for her service and leadership," said MKO Grand Chief Garrison Settee. "Throughout her mandate, she has championed Indigenous self-determination and protected the languages, cultures, and identities that root our peoples in this land. Her legacy will continue to guide and inspire future generations."

MKO also congratulates Louise Arbour on her appointment as Canada's next Governor General. Her distinguished career in law and international human rights reflects a deep commitment to justice and accountability. MKO looks forward to working with the incoming Governor General in advancing shared priorities, including advancing the Rights of First Nations peoples and continuing the path towards meaningful reconciliation.

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Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO) is a non-profit, political advocacy organization that has represented 26 First Nation communities in Manitoba's North since 1981. The MKO represents more than 72,000 First Nations people.