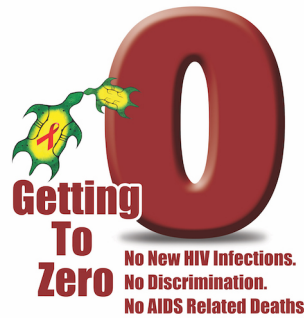


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Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week Launches in Ottawa

Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health to Deliver Key Note

What: During **Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week**, Aboriginal Peoples across Canada are putting up their hands to stop the epidemic proportions they are experiencing **2.7 times higher than other Canadians**. Following the launch in Ottawa, the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) will host a series of **Hands Up for #HIVprevention** events across Canada to reflect on the Indigenous response to HIV: What has been achieved, must still be achieved.

"Aboriginal Peoples across Canada are putting up their hands to create community readiness and culturally safe approaches to testing, care and treatment," stated CEO of CAAN, Ken Clement. " Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week will bring awareness to the different aspects of HIV prevention and how they relate to key populations such as women, youth, and Aboriginal people living with HIV and AIDS."

- 12:15pm: **Hon. Jane Philpott, Minister of Health** –Keynote
- 1:30pm: **Bob Monette, Deputy Mayor of Ottawa** – Remarks & Signing Declaration
- 1:40 pm: **Chair, Canadian Global Health All-Parliamentary Caucus on HIV, TB Malaria**

Where: Sheraton Hotel, 150 Albert St. Ottawa, ON

When: Thursday, December 1, 2016, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm EST

More info: www.aboriginalaidsawareness.com

About CAAN www.caan.ca

The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) is a non-profit coalition of individuals and organizations which provides leadership, support and advocacy for Aboriginal individuals living with and affected by HIV and AIDS, regardless of where they reside.

Their philosophy is that all Aboriginal Peoples deserve the right to protect themselves against infectious disease and thrives on providing the Aboriginal community with accurate information about HIV including risks of contracting the virus, issues of care and treatment, and support for families and those living with the disease.

For Media Enquiries, contact: Office 778-737-6877

Shelley Mantei 647-559-7713 shelley@mediatonicpr.com

Milena D'Agostino 647-737-6877 milena@jivecommunications.ca