



ABORIGINAL YOUTH ENVISION HEALTHY FUTURES!



HOW IS HIV AND AIDS AFFECTING ABORIGINAL YOUTH?

- ▶ ALMOST HALF (48%) OF THE ABORIGINAL POPULATION IS MADE UP OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGED 24 AND UNDER, COMPARED TO 31% OF THE NON-ABORIGINAL POPULATION.
- ▶ BETWEEN 1998 AND 2006, ALMOST 1/3 (32.4%) OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE AN HIV DIAGNOSIS ARE UNDER THE AGE OF 30, COMPARED TO 21% OF HIV-POSITIVE TESTS AMONG NON-ABORIGINAL PERSONS IN THE SAME AGE GROUP.
- ▶ FIRST NATIONS YOUTH AGED 0 TO 29 YEARS MADE UP 20.6% OF REPORTED AIDS CASES AMONG FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE. AMONG INUIT AND MÉTIS POPULATION, 31.8% OF REPORTED AIDS CASES WERE REPORTED TO BE INUIT AND MÉTIS YOUTH.
- ▶ FROM 2001 TO 2008 INFANTS OF ABORIGINAL ETHNICITY CONSTITUTED 19.3% OF THE 83 CASES OF INFANTS PERINATALLY HIV-EXPOSED AND CONFIRMED TO BE INFECTED WITH HIV PUBLIC

HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA,
POPULATION-SPECIFIC HIV/AIDS STATUS REPORT: ABORIGINAL PEOPLES, 2010

**Aboriginal Youth
+ strategies &
Awareness
+ community**

ABORIGINAL YOUTH BENEFIT FROM COMMUNITY NETWORKS TO:

- SUPPORT ABORIGINAL PEOPLES LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS;
- PREVENT HIV AND AIDS BY PROMOTING THE HUMAN RIGHT OF ABORIGINAL YOUTH TO LEARN AND TALK ABOUT HIV AND AIDS, HEALTHY SEXUALITY, CARE, TREATMENT AND SUPPORT;
 - CREATE SPACE, FACILITATION AND SUPPORT FOR ABORIGINAL YOUTH TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT AND MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT IN REDUCING HIV AND AIDS RELATED DISPARITIES;
- PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABORIGINAL YOUTH TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT HIV AND AIDS EDUCATION, POLICY, PROGRAMMING;
- ENCOURAGE POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL YOUTH IN ACCESSING HEALTH CARE BY PROVIDING INFORMATION, RESOURCES AND EDUCATION ABOUT HIV AND AIDS;
 - ELIMINATE STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION ABOUT HIV AND AIDS THROUGH AWARENESS; AND,
- RESPOND TO THE DIVERSITY OF ABORIGINAL YOUTH VOICES THROUGH CULTURALLY RELEVANT, YOUTH-SENSITIVE, HARM REDUCTION BASED APPROACHES TO HIV AND AIDS PREVENTION.

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL YOUTH STRATEGY ON HIV AND AIDS IN CANADA FOR FIRST NATIONS, INUIT & MÉTIS YOUTH FROM 2010 TO 2015,
CANADIAN ABORIGINAL AIDS NETWORK, 2010 AT 11.