

# NATIONAL HIV AND AIDS STRATEGIES

## Environments of Nurturing Safety (EONS):

Environments of Nurturing Safety (EONS): Aboriginal Women in Canada Five Year Strategy on HIV and AIDS was released during Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week on Dec. 1-5, 2010. EONS was developed through a consultation process with over 300 Aboriginal women in eleven cities across Canada which included PAW, Aboriginal women 'at risk' or affected by HIV infection and their service providers. EONS highlights the need to increase and strengthen the network of support for PAWs, increase the availability and accessibility of culturally relevant services across all regions, address the structural barriers that impede health and wellbeing, increase the number of prevention programs and address the gaps or make research related to Aboriginal women more accessible.

Meaningfully engaging Aboriginal women in the response is vital to the success of this strategy. This strategy is aligned with ASHAC II and will guide the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network and its member organizations in this targeted response.

## Aboriginal Strategy On HIV & AIDS In Canada

The HIV/AIDS epidemic within the Aboriginal population<sup>1</sup> in Canada threatens the ongoing health and stability of our peoples. The complexity of the epidemic demands a strategic and thoughtful response grounded in meaningful and culturally relevant actions. The Aboriginal Strategy on HIV/AIDS in Canada (ASHAC) was first proposed in 2003 based upon consultation and discussion with 173 people and a literature review. The result was a strategy document with two broad goals and nine strategic areas envisioned to set a course for the next five years. As ASHAC is renewed for another five years through 2014, new ideas are presented for consideration and original strategic responses remain relevant. ASHAC II is offered as a resource to all of the stakeholders involved in the response to HIV/AIDS within the Aboriginal community. Strategic areas and related objectives offer direction. All of us share responsibility for its implementation. It is laid out to highlight strategic areas for action with key objectives and overall outcomes. Following the outline of the strategic areas there are suggestions for how various 'sectors' can engage to move the work of the strategy head.



## The National Aboriginal Youth Strategy on HIV and AIDS in Canada

was launched during Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week on December 1st-5th, 2010.

NAYSHAC was developed with guidance from the National Aboriginal Youth Council on HIV and AIDS (NAYCHA); which is comprised of one Aboriginal (First Nations, Inuit or Metis) youth aged 18 to 29 per province/territory in Canada.

NAYSHAC provides visioning, goals, recommended directions and actions that can be undertaken at all levels in order to lower the high HIV and AIDS rates experienced among Aboriginal youth in Canada. NAYSHAC supports culturally relevant and youth-sensitive strategies that empower initiatives to compassionately address the complex HIV and AIDS issues and challenges. It further promotes the right of Aboriginal youth to be educated and to educate themselves and their peers about HIV prevention, care, treatment and support. The ongoing and meaningful involvement of Aboriginal youth in efforts to lower HIV and AIDS will be crucial to the success of NAYSHAC. This strategy will guide the work of the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network and its national and international partners.

## The International Indigenous Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS for Indigenous Peoples and Communities from 2011 to 2017

The International Indigenous Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS for Indigenous Peoples and Communities from 2011 to 2017, is meant to facilitate an international voice and structure that links Indigenous peoples with their governments, AIDS service organizations, cooperatives, and others in a global collective action to lower the disproportionate impact of HIV and AIDS experienced by Indigenous peoples.

There are six key objectives to the strategy, which are based on the input of the IIWGHA members during the Indigenous Satellite gatherings at the International Conference on AIDS, July 2010 in Vienna, Austria.

- Increase the visibility of the impact of HIV and AIDS in Indigenous communities at the international level;
- Improve meaningful inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, and Indigenous people living with HIV and AIDS, in research, policy and program development at the national, regional and international level;
- Work towards the accurate representation of Indigenous peoples in HIV and AIDS epidemiological data within their own countries or regions;
- Provide capacity building and development to raise HIV and AIDS and Indigenous Peoples as a health priority;
- Promote Indigenous specific approaches to the social determinants of health; and,
- Conduct sustainability planning.

This strategic plan encourages the sharing of wise practices between countries with Indigenous populations. Further, it is strongly encouraged that Indigenous people are supported, through the leveraging of international instruments on human rights and indigenous health, to be meaningfully involved in data collected and reported about them. In particular, the meaningful involvement of Indigenous peoples living with HIV and AIDS. This strategic plan will guide the work of the IIWGHA. A next step is ongoing governance and sustainability planning for the IIWGHA.