



Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario

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NEW INDIGENOUS-LED PROGRAM TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF CRIME RECEIVES FEDERAL FUNDING

THUNDER BAY, ON — The Indigenous Police Chiefs of Ontario (IPCO), in collaboration with WHISPER Alliance Inc., is proud to announce the launch of a five-year, federally funded initiative aimed at improving access to justice and culturally safe supports for Indigenous women and girls who are victims and survivors of crime.

Funded through the Department of Justice Canada’s Support for Indigenous Victims of Crime (SIVC) program, this initiative will bring Women Warrior Workshops to communities across Ontario. Rooted in Indigenous knowledge, ceremony, and the Seven Grandfather Teachings, these workshops are designed to empower victims through trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and community-led programming.

“This program is about more than healing,” says Darren Montour, Chief of Police of Six Nations Police Service and President of IPCO. “It’s about building trust, transforming relationships with the justice system, and supporting Indigenous communities in reclaiming safety, voice, and power.”

Through the leadership of IPCO’s 9 member police services and WHISPER’s trauma-responsive facilitation team, the Women Warrior Workshops will be delivered in-person and online to support survivors in rural, remote, and urban Indigenous communities. The program includes:

- Land-based healing and ceremony;
- Justice system navigation and legal rights education;
- Support for survivors of human trafficking and exploitation;





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- Partnership-building between First Nations communities and justice agencies;
- Community action planning and peer-led ambassador training.

“This partnership with IPCO is about showing what’s possible when police services and communities come together to listen, learn, and lead from a place of compassion and accountability,” says Cori Slaughter, Founder of WHISPER Alliance Inc.

IPCO represents 9 Indigenous police services across Ontario, collectively serving 86 First Nations communities. This project builds on WHISPER’s recent pilot programs, which have been praised for their depth, safety, and cultural relevance.

“Programs like this are essential to reversing the harm caused by colonization and systemic barriers,” says Chief Montour. “We’re proud to lead this effort and grateful to the Department of Justice Canada for recognizing the need.”

For more information about the program, upcoming workshops, or to explore community partnerships, please contact:

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