

## FSIN MEDIA RELEASE

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## FSIN STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH DAWN WALKER

(Treaty 6 Territory, Saskatoon SK) – The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) is standing in solidarity with Dawn Walker in her plight for justice. The Cree mother from Okanese First Nation was recently returned to Canada and is awaiting to be transferred to a facility in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

"It's been an agonizing month without Dawn in our lives. Our family, friends and community members have been counting the days she will be back home. Our sadness and grief over what she has experienced has brought us all closer than ever before. We want to see her and hug her and let her know we are here for her. Dawn is strong and resilient, and we will support her in her healing and recovery from the trauma of this ordeal not only for her sake but for the health and well-being of our Nation," said Dawn's sister, Kathy Walker.

"FSIN supports Dawn's fight for justice and will continue to stand with her in her fight for freedom and reunion with her son. She represents the forgotten and silenced voices of many of our First Nations women, and we must do more to help our most vulnerable in need. We must do everything within our power to ensure that every woman and child are given the right to live in a safe and healthy environment, free from violence and fear. Dawn, along with too many more, have suffered enough," said FSIN Vice Chief Heather Bear.

"FSIN will continue to support and protect First Nations women's rights and protect the matriarchs of our communities, including Dawn Walker," said FSIN Chief Bobby Cameron. "FSIN won't stand by and allow her fight for freedom go unchecked. This is a battle against the racist and colonial policies that have systematically disadvantaged our traditional kinship systems and families. We must stand up, and by doing so, ensure a generation of children will no longer be disconnected from their mothers, culture and Treaty homelands."

The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations represents 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan. The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations is committed to honouring the spirit and intent of the Treaties, as well as the promotion, protection and implementation of the Treaty promises that were made more than a century ago.

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