



**FEMMES AUTOCHTONES DU QUÉBEC INC.**  
**QUEBEC NATIVE WOMEN INC.**

**Press release**  
**For immediate distribution**

**New Governor General of Canada: Indigenous woman nominated**

**Kahnawake, July 6, 2021** — Justin Trudeau's Liberal government today announced the nomination of Canada's new Governor General, Mary Simon, an Inuk from Nunavik. She is the first Indigenous person in Canadian history to hold the position of 30<sup>th</sup> Governor General. Ms. Simon succeeds Julie Payette, who resigned on January 21.

Quebec Native Women (QNW) welcomes this news and congratulates Ms. Simon on her appointment. Her ongoing work on behalf of Inuit rights and culture in Canada and internationally is remarkable and deserves to be recognized. Ms. Simon has advocated for Inuit rights and culture in Canada at the regional, national and international levels. Her advocacy even led to the inclusion of the Inuit people in the 1982 Constitution of Canada.

QNW is honoured to note that the person who will occupy this position is not only a woman, but also an Indigenous woman. Our organization believes that this dual representation is symbolic of a new era for Indigenous women's rights.

*"As president of an organization representing Indigenous women in Quebec, I am delighted to see that an Indigenous woman has been appointed by the Government of Canada as Governor General. I am very proud of this news: her nomination is proof that Indigenous women have their place in high positions and at high levels. Indigenous women can be a driving force for change. We should all be inspired by Ms. Simon's significant involvement to continue our fight for Indigenous women's rights. I have no doubt that she will continue to represent the interests of women and Indigenous people in her new position,"* said Viviane Michel, President of QNW.

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Source:

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