May 9 - 12, 2016 WWOS Memorial De-Installation

May 9 9am - 6pm

May 10 9am - 6pm

May 11 9am - 8pm

May 12 9am - 4pm

4pm - Farewell Feast

Volunteers Needed

Reminder:

Offsite Work Leave will be granted for Tribal Operations employees with supervisory approval for one 2 hour shift.

ZIIBIWING CENTER OF ANISHINABE CULTURE & LIFEWAYS 6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI • 989.775.4750





Community Conversations @ 6pm

Thursdays: February 4, February 18, March 3, March 17, March 31, April 14, 2016 Free to Attend • All Are Welcome • Dinner Included

> To volunteer to assist with this event contact: Maria Colberg at (989) 572-8022, Robin Spencer at (989) 775-4748, or Anita Heard at (989) 775-4733

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WALKING WITH OUR SISTERS

APRIL 23 - MAY 7, 2016

Free to Attend • All are Welcome

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For more information or to volunteer contact: William Johnson at 989.775.4730 or wjohnson@sagchip.org



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WalkingWithOurSisters.ca

A Commemorative Art Installation for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women of Canada and the United States



Over 1,181+ native women and girls in Canada have been reported missing or have been murdered in the last 30 years. Many vanished without a trace with inadequate inquiry into their disappearance or murders paid by the media, the general public, politicians and even law enforcement. This is a travesty of justice.

Walking With Our Sisters is by all accounts a massive commemorative art installation comprised of 1,763+ pairs of moccasin vamps (tops) plus 108 pairs of children's vamps created and donated by hundreds of caring and concerned individuals to draw attention to this injustice. The large collaborative art piece will be made available to the public through selected galleries and locations. The work exists as a floor installation made up of beaded vamps arranged in a winding path formation on fabric and includes cedar boughs. Viewers remove their shoes to walk on a path of cloth alongside the vamps.

Each pair of vamps (or "uppers" as they are also called) represents one missing or murdered Indigenous woman. The unfinished moccasins represent the unfinished lives of the women whose lives were cut short. The children's vamps are dedicated to children who never returned home from residential schools. Together the installation represents all these women; paying respect to their lives and existence on this earth. They are not forgotten. They are sisters, mothers, aunties, daughters, cousins, grandmothers, wives and partners. They have been cared for, they have been loved, they are missing and they are not forgotten.



Our Sisters

For over 30 years family member, advocates & organizations have been working to raise awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous women, and many have called for or supported the call for a National Inquiry into this issue. The Liberal Government of Justin Trudeau committed to a National Inquiry during the election campaign of 2015 and the inquiry is now underway.

The individual stories of the women and girls who have gone missing and what their families endure is heart wrenching and the growing list of names is too long to list here. And frankly, it is widely believed that the 1,200+ women who have been murdered or have gone missing in the last 30 years only scratches the surface. Not included in the statistics of 1,200 cases are: unreported cases; cases not within RCMP jurisdiction; Two-spirit/trans people who were not listed as women; suspicious deaths not listed as homicides; cases where no ethnicity was known or found; data or oral history extending back beyond 30 years; data that incorporates deaths of Indigenous children who are within the child welfare system; data that incorporates the deaths of children from residential schools; data that incorporates the oral history of unreported cases; data that incorporates deaths from domestic violence occurring following years of abuse; the absence of consistent record keeping on the ethnicity of victims; unclear information on the methodology used to assess files for non-status/Metis women.

The family networks, advocacy groups and organizations who have relentlessly kept organizing, marching, protesting, holding vigils, and telling their stories are the foremost experts on the issue of #MMIW #MMIWG2S. No one wants change, justice and a brighter future for our people more than they do.