

## **THE KOOKUM PROJECT**

The Kookum (Grandmother) Project is made possible with funding from the Advocacy and Public Information Program, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC).

The objectives of this initiative are to: inform and encourage the sharing of diverse viewpoints on a range of Indian Residential Schools (IRS) Settlement Agreement issues, policies and programs that allow the Government to respond to the widest source of information possible and thus improve the quality of AANDC's decisions; identify where the changes may be needed to enhance service delivery; and ultimately, ensure the Aboriginal community is informed of the benefits available through the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. It is essential for all Canadians to understand the Settlement Agreement and the impact that the legacy of Indian Residential Schools has had on Aboriginal communities.

The expected final outcome of the initiative is that IRS programs and services contribute to healing, reconciliation and a better understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

The goal of the Kookum (Grandmother) Project is to bring together residential school survivors who are now grandmothers and great-grandmothers to impart their knowledge of resiliency to Aboriginal Youth from remote First Nation communities. To enable women to share their wisdom with Aboriginal Youth through storytelling and to work together in a planned mentoring process (youth will be paired with women).