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**RELEASE**

## OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE **10<sup>TH</sup>** EDITION OF THE FNEC INTER-SCHOOL GAMES

**Québec, May 11, 2017** – The First Nations Education Council (FNEC) is pleased to announce the official opening of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the FNEC Inter-school Games. The Games are being held at Laval University's sports complex–Pavillon de l'éducation physique et des sports (PEPS) from May 11 to 14, 2017. For 4 days, 550 youths, between the ages of 10 and 18, from 19 First Nations schools across Quebec, gather together in a single location to take part in this major sporting event. The Games feature four sporting events: floor hockey, volleyball, basketball and track and field involving over 45 teams and 170 scheduled competitions.

The FNEC Inter-school Games have three primary objectives: encourage students to adopt healthy lifestyle habits, improve student retention, and support academic success. The FNEC team is thrilled by the event's popularity and the sense of pride it instills among students. Since the Games began in 2008, the FNEC has noted that schools are increasingly taking advantage of the enthusiasm this friendly competition generates to introduce a variety of incentives for students. This year-end gathering has become both a reward for students and a concrete measure to promote persistence in school.

In addition to the sports competitions, here are a few examples of some other activities taking place during the Games:

- *Thursday, May 11*, the new logo of the FNEC Inter-school Games will be revealed during the opening ceremony.

- Saturday, May 13, track and field champions will receive their medals from Mathieu Bertrand, football coach for the Rouge et Or and former star quarterback for Laval University, during the medal presentation ceremony.

The complete program of events is available at [www.inter-schoolgames.com](http://www.inter-schoolgames.com).

The 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the FNEC Inter-school Games is made possible through the participation of dedicated school staff members and numerous volunteers, the financial support of Health Canada, and the generosity of several sponsors including:



### About the FNEC

For 30 years, the FNEC has been working to fulfill the right of First Nations to have complete authority over their education through the implementation of an education system that has adequate resources, and that is developed and managed according to First Nations values and cultures. Further information is available at [www.cepn-fnec.com](http://www.cepn-fnec.com).

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