

FOR RELEASE  
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## **Yukon presents on Indigenous women's empowerment at the United Nations**

Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Jeanie Dendys attended the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW) in New York this week.

As part of Canada's official delegation, she presented during panel discussions on Indigenous women's economic empowerment and community strategies to reduce violence against women. She joins global representatives to discuss best practices to close gender gaps and empower Indigenous women around the world.

The minister attended opening ceremonies at the UN General Assembly. She spoke to the Canadian delegation about making strong national and international connections to strengthen equality in Yukon. She also connected with prominent Canadian non-governmental organizations on Indigenous and women's equality issues.

Minister Dendys was honoured to provide an opening traditional ceremony at a key discussion. Yukon youth representative Megan Jensen of Dakhka Tlingit and Tagish Khwaan ancestry shared a prayer song.

### **Quotes**

"The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women is a wonderful opportunity to bring forward a Yukon perspective on Women's Economic Empowerment to this global conversation, and to highlight our understanding of the importance of community development as a starting point for Indigenous women's safety and economic security."

*–Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate Jeanie Dendys*

### **Quick facts**

- The UNCSW session is at the United Nations Headquarters in New York March 13 to 24, 2017.
- The theme for this year's session is women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work, and an emerging theme for the session is the empowerment of Indigenous women.
- There will also be a review of progress on the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls which was the priority of the 58th session.
- Canada's delegation is being led by Minister of Status of Women Maryam Monsef and includes: Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau; Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Patty Hajdu; Parliamentary Secretary for Status of Women Terry Duguid; provincial ministers responsible for the Status of Women and a number of non-governmental organizations.

**Learn more:** United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

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