



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Tsilhqot'in Nation Congratulates Mary Simon on Historic Appointment as Governor General**

Williams Lake, BC: The Tsilhqot'in National Government congratulates Mary Simon on her historic appointment as the 30<sup>th</sup> Governor General of Canada, the first Indigenous person appointed to this role. Canada is a diverse country but this appointment demonstrates the movement towards inclusion that is urgently needed for government to be truly representative.

Indigenous people have long been underrepresented in the political fabric of Canada even though Indigenous people are a vital part of Canada's history and future. As Mary Simon moves into her new role, the TNG welcomes her as the Governor General of Canada.

#### **Quotes:**

##### **Nits'il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, Tsilhqot'in National Government**

"Indigenous people are needed in all levels of government in Canada and in all positions of power in order to ensure that Indigenous peoples have a voice in this country. The appointment of Mary Simon to Governor General is a step towards our people – our youth – beginning to see themselves as not only Indigenous leaders, but leaders for the future of Canada. We hold our hands up to Mary Simon and look forward to her success in her new role as Governor General."

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