



Dear People,

We are writing to you today seeking support for a very special and much needed gathering. Over the past few years there has been an increased stress on Indigenous single parent families with children with “special needs.” Many of these parents also struggle with their own challenges such as PTSD or other “disabilities.” In our recent Hearing our Voices research we heard from Moms about the layers of trauma and isolation.

From June 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>, we want to hold a family gathering for parents and children at the Tatamagouche Centre. The goal is to provide nourishment through Ceremonies, connections through Talking Circles and uplifting of the parents, while the children are in a culturally rich and fun program. Because the children include non-verbal autistic, flight risks or have mobility, or developmental challenges, we need to have experienced childcare providers who can design an Indigenous cultural program that engages the youth. We also need to have a high ratio between the number of children and workers.

We have a commitment of \$10,000 towards the gathering which would cover the accommodation and meals for around 22 people for the weekend. We need funding to support bringing in elders and childcare workers, craft supplies and travel. There are several ways to contribute. You could cover the cost of a respite worker to come with a specific child (\$250). You could cover the travel, accommodation, and meals for one family (\$550). You could contribute towards an elders honourarium and travel (\$750). Or you could make a general donation. Any amount is helpful. We are a registered charity. Our number is 789814910RR0001. For more information, please email [womenoffirstlight@gmail.com](mailto:womenoffirstlight@gmail.com) or call 902 921-4014

Kindly,

Ishbel Munro

Head office:  
24 Glooscap  
Millbrook, NS, B6L 1G5  
Sub office:  
25 Woodlot Crt.  
Esgenoopetitij, NB  
E9G 4C4



Head office:  
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Millbrook, NS, B6L 1G5  
Sub office:  
25 Woodlot Crt.  
Esgenoopetitij, NB  
E9G 4C4