

2014 Global Citizen Award Winner



Round dance in Toronto's Eaton Centre (Kevin Konnyu)



Witchekan Lake First Nation's youth ambassador Cheyenne Fineday and Chief Steven Jim lead a march through the streets of Meadow Lake, SK. (Omar Mosleh/Meadow Lake Progress)



Participants in the Journey of the Nishiyuu pause on the Portage Bridge linking Quebec and Ontario, before beginning the march to Parliament Hill, their final destination, 25 March 2013 (Susanne Ure, Amnesty International Canada)

IDLE NO MORE, the global movement that began in 2012, was founded by four Saskatchewan women: Nina Wilson, Sylvia McAdam, Jessica Gordon & Sheelah McLean. While the impact of these women's initiative—their teach-ins and their undying commitment to inspire resistance—makes them global citizens worth celebrating every day, it is the Idle No More *movement* that we are honouring with the 2014 Saskatchewan Global Citizen Award.

Idle No More has truly transformed the world. People from every part of Turtle Island have stood up to defend the land and to demand respect for nation-to-nation relationships between governments and Indigenous peoples. Idle No More began as a pushback against Bill C-45, federal legislation that would impact Indigenous land and water.

Through teach-ins and emphasizing the importance of treaties, sovereignty, and the Seven Generations, Idle No More energized the grassroots, and from there, communities around the world exploded with enthusiasm, passion, and willingness to come together for a common cause.

The movement inspired hundreds of thousands of people in Saskatoon, across Canada, and around the world to protest, dance, sing, and work together to resist destructive colonial legislation. Idle No More reminds us of the good work that emerges when we build networks, support each other, teach each other, listen to each other, act, and take responsibility for our actions.