



## NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

### **De-colonizing sex and sexuality**

*New partnership honours the spirit of reconciliation*

Wednesday, April 26 2017- WINNIPEG MANITOBA: Ka Ni Kanichihk and Sexuality Education Resource Centre (SERC) are excited to announce a new partnership: the White Wolf Speaking Program (White Wolf) originally a program of SERC, will be moving to Ka Ni Kanichihk. White Wolf works to increase Indigenous community engagement and understanding of sexuality and reproductive health.

SERC is dedicated to promoting sexual health through education in Manitoba, dating back to the suffragist movement. Understanding when to advocate also means knowing when to step back and support. In this era of reconciliation, Indigenous leadership in sexual health and reproductive justice is an important part of healthy relationship-building.

SERC aims to support Indigenous-led processes to decolonize the structures and systems within which we work", says Nicole Chammartin, Executive Director of SERC. "Knowing when to step up and when to step back is key to working in solidarity and supporting Indigenous leadership, this is our goal through this exciting change."

As part of this partnership launch, SERC has released its statement on reconciliation, which is available at [serc.mb.ca](http://serc.mb.ca).

"Sexual health models often come from a deficit or disease approach – community based programming comes from the perspective of what makes a community safe, not what makes them sick", says Leslie Spillett, Executive Director of Ka Ni Kanichihk. "This partnership recognizes the continuing strength, self-determination and resiliency of Indigenous people, families, nations and organizations in maintaining and renewing Indigenous knowledge and ways of life."

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*Ka Ni Kanichihk provides Aboriginal identified programs and services that focus on wholeness and wellness and that build on the strengths and resilience of Aboriginal peoples.*

*Sexuality Education Resource Centre provides inclusive, non-judgmental education about sexuality. We believe that people have the right to accurate information on all their choices.*

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