



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

STATEMENT

*For Immediate Release
February 27, 2014*

BC First Nations shocked and saddened by murder of Inuit Woman

Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver – BC First Nations leaders are shocked and saddened by the brutal slaying of Loretta Saunders, a 26 year old Sociology student who ironically filed a thesis proposal on missing and murdered indigenous women in Canada at St. Mary's University in Halifax.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Loretta Saunders' family and friends during this time of grief and mourning.

Aboriginal people from across the country are mourning the loss of this bright young scholar. She was courageous enough to step outside the box with her plans to study this dark and disturbing topic.

Every First Nation in BC identifies with this case and knows firsthand the great sorrow of losing one of their daughters, mothers or aunts to senseless violence and death. Canadians should be outraged by the senseless death of Loretta Saunders.

Once again, we call on Canada to establish a national inquiry into missing and murdered aboriginal women.

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The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in treaty negotiations in British Columbia. Further background information on the Summit may be found at

www.fns.bc.ca.

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