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### **Spokane Public Library hosts A Journey of Resilience and Resistance with Yvonne Swan at Central Library**

(Spokane, Wash) – Spokane Public Library is hosting [A Journey of Resilience and Resistance with Yvonne Swan](#) at Central Library in *nx<sup>w</sup>yx<sup>w</sup>yetc<sup>w</sup>* Hall (third floor) on Sunday, June 11 at 2pm.

Yvonne Swan is a member of the Sinixt (Arrow Lakes People) and Colville Confederated Tribes, and a once-convicted criminal. In August 1972, a known child molester entered the home where Yvonne Swan and her children lived and made advancements toward her nephew. Swan, whose leg was in a cast at the time, shot and killed the attacker.

Her resulting entanglement with the criminal justice system eventually led to a landmark ruling in the Washington Supreme Court in 1977. According to the [Center for Constitutional Rights](#), the ruling was the first in the country to recognize “the particular legal problems of women who defend themselves or their children from male attackers.”

Yvonne Swan has dedicated her life to uplifting her community and preserving the rights of Indigenous women. As a key figure in the American Indian Movement, her tireless work has contributed significantly to creating a more just and equitable society.

"During my twelve-year involvement with the court system, I helped other women with their legal defense. After I was put on probation and community service in 1979, I continued with a wide variety of volunteer work from helping teach children, assisting elders, speaking on behalf of the American Indian Movement (AIM), working to protect prisoners' rights to religious freedom, and defending our native human rights," said Swan.

During this unforgettable event, Yvonne will delve into the unique adversities faced by Indigenous women, shedding light on the resilience and strength required to persevere and fight for change.

This is a free, public event and no registration is required.

#### **About Spokane Public Library**

Spokane Public Library aims to inspire a thriving city through cultural and educational opportunities. An award-winning library that spans seven locations and houses nearly half-a-million items, Spokane Public Library circulates nearly two million items and welcomes one million visitors annually. Customers can enjoy traditional library media and can also access digital downloads, databases, historical collections, art exhibits, and interesting free programming. For general information about the library, please visit [spokanelibrary.org](http://spokanelibrary.org) or call 509.444.5300.