



**KTUNAXA  
NATION**

Ktunaxa Nation Council  
7825 Mission Road  
Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5  
tel: 250-489-2464  
fax: 250-489-2438

*visit us at:*  
[www.ktunaxa.org](http://www.ktunaxa.org)

**For Release  
September 12, 2016**

## **Ktunaxa Nation Supports Brett Merchant's Walk for Highway of Tears**

*Cranbrook/?a·kiskaq#i?it* – The Ktunaxa Nation is donating \$1000 to a local man's courageous and important walk to raise awareness of the young women that have been murdered or gone missing along Highway 16, often called the Highway of Tears, in northern British Columbia.

Brett Merchant is from Kimberley, British Columbia and decided to make the 1200 kilometer trek on foot with his dog Kura to give back to the Aboriginal community and raise awareness for the families and victims of the Highway of Tears murders.

"I am doing this because I am facing significant health issues. I have SLE lupus, early onset dementia and diabetes and am very aware that I have a limited time in which I will be physically able to make a difference in the world," writes Brett on his fundraising website.

The Ktunaxa Nation is challenging our fellow Nations and partner organizations and governments to donate to Brett's cause. You can personally donate to Brett's gofundme page at <https://www.gofundme.com/highwayoftears>.

You can find more information on Brett's journey on his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/walkforhighwayoftears>

If you see Brett on the highway, be sure to wave, and better still stop to offer him support, food, water or walk with him a while.

–30–

### **For Further Information Contact:**

Jesse Nicholas  
Communications Manager  
Ktunaxa Nation Council  
(250) 489-2464  
[JNicholas@ktunaxa.org](mailto:JNicholas@ktunaxa.org)

*?akisqnuuk*

*?aqam*

*Lower Kootenay*

*Tobacco Plains*