



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Colonial and Domestic Violence, Child Welfare, Justice System, Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking will be the focus of final hearings this Fall**

**Vancouver, B.C.** - On June 5th, 2018, the federal government granted the National Inquiry a short extension of six months to June 30, 2019, instead of an additional 24 months requested. The National Inquiry is expected to conclude its research and submit its final report by April 30, 2019.

As a result of that decision, the National Inquiry has engaged with Grandmothers, the members of National Family Advisory Circle (NFAC) and other groups to prioritize and develop a schedule for the time remaining.

The schedule will include events that will take place this fall, beginning as early as September 2018. The events will focus on gathering critical information necessary to developing recommendations meaningful to various Indigenous groups including to Inuit, Métis, and 2SLGBTQQIA people, focusing on significant topics that emerged from testimony during community hearings and statement gathering.

With guidance from the Grandmothers and NFAC, the Commissioners have given the direction to conduct hearings on the following topics:

1. **Colonial Violence** – socio-economic, health impacts, wellness
2. **The Family**: Child Welfare, Supports to family, Domestic Violence
3. **Oversight and Accountability in/of the Criminal Justice System**
4. **Sexual Exploitation/Human Trafficking/Sexual Violence**

To complement these events, focused discussions will gather information necessary to explore the perspectives on the issues raised and best practices related to Métis, 2SLGBTQQIA, and Inuit peoples.

In addition, events and ongoing work will prioritize gathering statements for families and survivors around the country who are already registered with the National Inquiry and are waiting to share their truths.

The National Inquiry is working on securing necessary funding, finalizing dates and determining locations for all anticipated events. The schedule will be publicly available and posted on our website once details are confirmed at: [www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/media](http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/media).

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