

**Closing Submissions to the
National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls**

I think the other lessons that we learned were that, you know, the strength of the families, and that they had a lot of valuable information to contribute if anybody would listen to them.ⁱ

- Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C.

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Table of Contents

A.	THE MANDATE AND FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL INQUIRY	1
B.	ENGAGEMENT OF THE SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT	2
C.	CONCRETE SOLUTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE CHANGE	4
D.	RECONCILIATION	6
1)	Working In Partnership	7
2)	Reconciliation In Government	8
3)	Reconciliation Through Education	9
E.	TRANSITION TO THE LABOUR FORCE	12
F.	HOUSING	13
1)	Housing Initiatives in Northern Saskatchewan	14
G.	HEALTH CARE	15
1)	Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan	17
H.	CHILD WELFARE	18
1)	Engagement and Collaboration with Indigenous Leadership, Providers and Communities ..	19
I.	JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS	23
1)	Elders Advisory Committee: Engaging Traditional Knowledge	25
2)	Providing Responsive and Accountable Policing	26
3)	Enhancing the Responsiveness of the Justice System	27
4)	Community-Based Justice	28
5)	Prosecutions	29
6)	Cultural Programming in Provincial Correctional Institutions	31
7)	A Partnership of Equals: The Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons	32
8)	Partnering to Address Violence	35
J.	HONOURING AND COMMEMORATING MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS	37
K.	CONCLUSION	39

A. THE MANDATE AND FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL INQUIRY

The reality is, our existence is nuanced. It requires nuanced responses. Not everything for each community is going to be the easy answer. And we need to both acknowledge that and not let any of these institutions, organizations, governments, anything off the hook with easy responses to complex issues.ⁱⁱ

– Jesse Wente

1. Complex problems require complex solutions. The disproportionate violence against Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people is a complex problem. The path forward must be carved out of candid and respectful dialogue and collaboration among individuals, families, communities, and organizations.

2. The mandate of the National Inquiry is expansive. Its breadth affirms the complexity inherent in examining and understanding the systemic causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people. According to the Terms of Reference, the Commissioners are directed, firstly, to inquire into and to report on:

i. systemic causes of all forms of violence — including sexual violence — against Indigenous women and girls in Canada, including underlying social, economic, cultural, institutional and historical causes contributing to the ongoing violence and particular vulnerabilities of Indigenous women and girls in Canada, and

ii. institutional policies and practices implemented in response to violence experienced by Indigenous women and girls in Canada, including the identification and examination of practices that have been effective in reducing violence and increasing safety[.]ⁱⁱⁱ

3. The Terms of Reference must be considered and interpreted as a whole. All actions and decisions taken by the Commissioners are informed by the Terms of Reference.

4. Through their work, the Commissioners are required to inquire into the systemic causes (social, economic, cultural, institutional and historical) of violence against Indigenous women and girls. This broad mandate recognizes the need for carefully considered and constructed solutions to address complex problems. Such solutions require multi-sectoral involvement, which

in turn requires a dialogue among partners to promote an exchange of information, encourage understanding, and support capacity-building.

5. The National Inquiry, as a public commission of inquiry, is characterized by inquisitorial rather than adversarial processes. This essential character facilitates open discourse about past and present challenges, existing practices, and proposed solutions. The National Inquiry is an opportunity to build on existing dialogue and collaboration to promote effective action to address violence against Indigenous women and girls.

6. The Commissioners serve a multi-faceted role as investigators, educators, and advisors. The Commission is required to investigate the matters within the Terms of Reference and make findings of fact based on that investigation.^{iv} The Commission, as a collective, educates the public by “allowing the public to be apprised of the conditions of worrisome problems of public importance”.^v Finally, through the issuing of its final report, the Commission provides advice to governments. In the context of this Inquiry, each of these roles must be directed toward the systemic causes of violence, as well as the identification and examination of “practices that have been effective in reducing violence and increasing safety”.^{vi}

B. ENGAGEMENT OF THE SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT

I think – I don’t know about you, but I don’t think there’s any substitute for working together as allies, people in different positions who have different things, who bring different things to the table. If we were going to work together, that would be my hope that we could do that.^{vii}

– Dr. Allan Wade

7. Saskatchewan is invested in the work of the National Inquiry. Among the provinces, Saskatchewan has the second highest percentage of Aboriginal^{viii} people, after Manitoba.^{ix} As of 2016, Saskatchewan, which has a total population of 1,070,560, was home to 175,015 individuals (16.3%) who self-identify as Aboriginal^x and 360 people who self-identify as Inuit.^{xi} Slightly over 50% of Aboriginal people in Saskatchewan self-identify as female.

8. According to Ruel, “only matters of very significant public importance should be entrusted to commissions of inquiry”.^{xii} Violence against Indigenous women and girls is a matter of significant public importance. Saskatchewan has recognized this by providing the Commission with authority to inquire into issues under provincial jurisdiction.^{xiii} Saskatchewan’s Order in Council affirms that it is in the public interest to entrust to the commission of inquiry “the mandate to carry out its work in matters of Saskatchewan’s jurisdiction in accordance with The Public Inquiries Act, 2013”.^{xiv} Saskatchewan says further that it is committed to:

...working with Indigenous communities to end the threat of violence against women and girls and to ensure the safety of future generations of Indigenous women and girls; and ... to take action to support reconciliation, working in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples based on principles of mutual respect and shared benefits.

9. The engagement of government, and the affirmation of the Terms of Reference in Saskatchewan, demonstrate the Government’s concern about the underlying issues of violence for Indigenous women and girls.^{xv}

10. The underlying causes are many. In particular, Saskatchewan acknowledges the significant overrepresentation of Indigenous families in the child welfare system, the significant overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the correctional system, the challenges of service delivery in remote and northern communities, and the existing disparities in income, education, and employment for Indigenous people in Saskatchewan.

11. Saskatchewan has implemented policies and practices to address the causes of violence against marginalized populations, including Indigenous women and girls. Saskatchewan understands, however, that it does not have all of the answers. Saskatchewan has participated in the Inquiry to seek out more effective and responsive solutions to challenging issues.

12. In the course of the Inquiry, the following themes have been identified:^{xvi}

- The importance of ensuring a person(s) with lived experience is/are at the table;
- The significance of understanding Indigenous worldviews;

- Implementing culturally appropriate services and programs, including meaningful, and culturally appropriate treatment and recovery programs, and putting the supports in place to help people heal from trauma;
- Educating those who are delivering services, educating the next generation, and addressing and combatting racism in all its forms;
- Ensuring that supports and services exist in and for remote communities and paying attention to the unique needs of those in northern communities;
- Ensuring that supports and services exist for those transitioning from remote communities to urban centers;
- Keeping women and children safe in their homes/communities and building capacity;
- Spreading awareness of the problem of human trafficking;
- Educating and training boys and men so they may be allies to women, empowering them to understand their role in ending violence, and providing supports to help perpetrators make better decisions;
- Recognizing the resilience of Indigenous women, children, and families;
- Ensuring the strength of enforcement mechanisms in responding to violence;
- Collecting reliable statistics related to existing challenges and performing objective evaluations of programs and services;
- Ensuring that risk factors do not penalize but instead create opportunities for treatment;
- Being mindful of the language and signals that people use that alienate, humiliate, or create more vulnerability for victims;
- Creating alliances as among women across cultures and backgrounds; and
- Addressing the marginalization of Two-Spirit people.

C. CONCRETE SOLUTIONS FOR EFFECTIVE CHANGE

13. Saskatchewan is seeking concrete solutions to address the complex challenge of violence against Indigenous women and girls, in line with the Terms of Reference, as follows:

- i. concrete and effective action that can be taken to remove systemic causes of violence and to increase the safety of Indigenous women and girls in Canada, and
- ii. ways to honour and commemorate the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada[.]

14. Through its authority to make recommendations for concrete and effective action, the Commission has a crucial opportunity to influence an important public issue.

15. At the same time, Saskatchewan is asking that the Commission look carefully at existing effective practices in developing its concrete recommendations. The quality and strength of the Commissioners' recommendations require a proportionate, but rigorous review of the information available to the Commission. Saskatchewan recognizes that the Commission has been unable to hold a *viva voce* hearing focused on every systemic cause. It is for this reason that Saskatchewan has provided a series of evidentiary submissions to the Commission outlining past and existing practices implemented by the provincial Government.^{xvii} By necessity, these submissions fall far short of being an exhaustive review of the programs, services, and history of the Saskatchewan government in the related areas.

16. Saskatchewan asks the Commission to carefully consider existing effective practices, not only of the Saskatchewan Government, but of all organizations and communities. The Commission's recognition and acknowledgment of effective practices serves to:

- 1) Promote trust among provincial government institutions, Indigenous and non-Indigenous public servants and members of the public, so as to facilitate important collaborative efforts;
- 2) Build on the momentum of existing efforts and encourage capacity building within institutions;
- 3) Contribute to a sense of wellbeing and hope for Indigenous people, rooted in their demonstrated successes.

17. To add to the existing dialogue, Saskatchewan will provide a summary of the importance of reconciliation to the province of Saskatchewan, and will seek to promote an understanding of

the progress that has been made, and a recognition that the public service is capable of empathetic service and is committed to performing progressive, responsive work for and with its Indigenous partners.

D. RECONCILIATION

[O]ne of the major issues that you need to deal with in work like this is building trust. Because if you don't build the trust and focus on relationships, then -- then it's going to be much more difficult for you to be successful. People have to feel they're in a safe environment in which they can -- they can say what they want to say, even if what they have to say, you know, might be hard to hear.^{xviii}

– Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C.

18. The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to reconciliation with Indigenous people and, in particular, to addressing the systemic causes of violence against Indigenous women and girls. Saskatchewan shares in Canada's legacy of residential schools and disproportionate levels of violence against Indigenous woman and girls. Of the 139 recognized residential schools that existed across Canada, Saskatchewan was home to 20 residential schools and the highest number of residential school claimants.^{xix}

19. It is a consistent theme in the evidence that the residential school system has had long-lasting impacts for family cohesion, domestic violence, and child welfare, among other outcomes. It is important for the Saskatchewan public to be educated and informed about the legacy of residential schools. Greater understanding will lead to more empathetic provision of public services, reduce negative stereotyping against Indigenous people, and improve the quality of life for Indigenous people.

20. As this Commission has recognized, “[n]o one knows for sure how many Indigenous women and girls have been murdered or gone missing in Canada”.^{xx} Yet it is clear that Indigenous people are disproportionately represented as victims of crime generally. Nationally, “Aboriginal women experience dramatically higher rates of violent victimization than non-Aboriginal women” and “on average 25% to 50% of Aboriginal women were victims of sexual abuse as children compared to 20% to 25% average rate within the non-Aboriginal

population”.^{xxi} As of 2009, the self-reported violent victimization rate among Aboriginal women aged 15 or older in the Canadian provinces was almost three times higher than among non-Aboriginal women.^{xxii}

21. Since the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police (“SACP”) began recording long term missing persons statistics in 2006, the number of missing Indigenous women in Saskatchewan missing consistently represents 50% or more of total female persons missing in the province. This compares to the fact that Indigenous women account for only 15.6% of the female population in the province.^{xxiii} There is a clear overrepresentation of Indigenous women among the missing in Saskatchewan.

22. The evidence shows that the causes of the disproportionate violence against Indigenous women and girls are complex and multi-faceted. The solutions must be equally so. Saskatchewan has heard that it is important to collaborate with Indigenous partners to address the serious challenges and underlying causes of violence. Saskatchewan has understood that collaborative approaches offer an important opportunity to learn from the experiences, truths, and lived realities of Indigenous people. Truly collaborative relationships provide the necessary climate to educate those working within the public service and to lead systemic change. Collaboration and education are mutually-reinforcing, and result in an exchange of ideas and greater understanding among cultures, traditions, and lived experiences.

1) Working In Partnership

23. Saskatchewan agrees that the current and future well-being of Indigenous women and girls, their families and communities, must be built upon the foundation of reconciliation, described as the “[establishment and maintenance of] a mutually respectful relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples”.^{xxiv} The Saskatchewan Government has made progress in partnering and collaborating with Indigenous people. What follows is a brief summary of this progress, referencing earlier evidentiary submissions, with the aim of informing the recommendations of the Commission. As Saskatchewan has made clear, it is committed to the task of reconciliation through the adoption of practical solutions, and it urges the Commission to consider existing responses in formulating its recommendations.^{xxv}

2) Reconciliation In Government

24. Indigenous people are the fastest growing demographic entering the working age population in Saskatchewan. In order to be responsive to the needs of the Indigenous population, the Saskatchewan government must position itself as an attractive employment option for Indigenous people –throughout the spectrum of available jobs, from policy development to service delivery to senior management. Saskatchewan is making efforts to improve its record of employment diversity throughout the public service. Including Indigenous voices within government enhances the quality and responsiveness of the services that Saskatchewan delivers to its citizens.

25. For non-Indigenous provincial government staff, reconciliation must include listening to and learning from Indigenous people’s experiences. To that end, Saskatchewan’s Public Service Commission (“PSC”), the central human resource agency for the provincial government,^{xxvi} has entered into a contract with Aboriginal Consulting Services to ensure that all provincial government staff receive Aboriginal Awareness training.^{xxvii} Saskatchewan hopes that by providing government-wide education about the lived experiences of Indigenous people, Indigenous staff members will benefit from an enhanced sense of belonging in the public service.

26. Several ministries also have internal training programs, specific to the services provided by the ministry, to enhance intercultural competence. For example, the Ministry of Social Services provides five types of cultural awareness training delivered by Indigenous consultants for its Child and Family Programs staff.^{xxviii} This training, which includes education on the Calls to Action, is an important part of ensuring that Child and Family Services staff are providing services that are culturally appropriate.

3) Reconciliation Through Education

“I believe we have to invest in our children, we have to invest in them early and often.”^{xxxix}

- Corey O’Soup, Saskatchewan’s Child Advocate

27. Saskatchewan’s Indigenous population is young. As of 2016, the average age of an Aboriginal person was 28.2 years, compared to the average age of a non-Aboriginal person at 40.6 years. At the same time, 42.5 per cent of the total Saskatchewan Aboriginal population was under the age of 19.^{xxx} It is important that young Indigenous people have genuine opportunities to thrive.

28. One of the systemic causes of violence against Indigenous women and girls, as identified in the Commission’s Interim Report, is the existing gap in education, skills, and employment training as between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. The Commission has called on all governments to bridge these gaps, and in so doing, to focus on the welfare of students by incorporating Indigenous Peoples’ history and culture into provincial curricula.^{xxxix} Saskatchewan acknowledges that improvements must be made to ensure that Indigenous people feel a sense of belonging in the provincial education system, and have genuine opportunities for quality education.

29. In the meantime, the achievements of Indigenous people must not be overlooked. For self-identified First Nations and Metis students, the five-year high-school graduation rate rose from 47.1 per cent in the 2008-09 school year to 59.4 per cent in 2017-18. The three-year graduation rate improved from 32.9 per cent in the 2010-2011 school year to 44.5 per cent in 2017-2018.^{xxxii} Saskatchewan recognizes and affirms the strength and resilience of Indigenous people in the province and wishes to acknowledge the continued progress in this area.

30. From 2007 to 2017, among adults aged 15 years and older, there was a 48 per cent increase in the number of First Nations and Métis graduates in Saskatchewan who had a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree.^{xxxiii} Among adults aged 25-64, Saskatchewan’s total First Nations and Métis post-secondary attainment rate has improved from 42 per cent to 47 per

cent since 2011. During the same period, the national First Nations and Métis post-secondary attainment rate increased from 48 per cent to 52 per cent. Based on the 2016-17 enrollment data included in the chart above, enrollments of Indigenous students in the three Indigenous post-secondary institutions in Saskatchewan is high. Enrollments are also increasing in the other post-secondary institutions.^{xxxiv}

31. Saskatchewan is cognizant of the strong positive correlation between increased educational attainment and higher earnings over a lifetime (and reduced unemployment), better health outcomes and lower criminal activity.^{xxxv} Enhanced educational attainment provides promise for the future. Improving educational outcomes of Indigenous students is an important commitment.

We need to have meaningful collaboration with Indigenous governments and communities in order to look at what K-12 curriculum and education is about. And, I put the word “meaningful” in there because just checking off a box and saying that you do this doesn’t necessarily make it happen.^{xxxvi}

- Dr. Sylvia Moore

32. The TRC Calls to Action highlight the importance of incorporating Indigenous issues into provincial curricula.^{xxxvii} The Ministry of Education created an action plan in response to the TRC in which it committed to continued engagement with First Nations and Métis people through the Government’s key initiatives that align with the Calls to Action.^{xxxviii}

I’m actually really proud of the work that we’ve done in Saskatchewan with regards to incorporating and infusing First Nation, Métis, Inuit ways of knowing into our curriculum. It’s something that we’ve worked really hard on in Saskatchewan and something that I’m proud to be a part of.^{xxxix}

- Corey O’Soup

33. Saskatchewan is committed to incorporating Indigenous ways of knowing into the provincial curriculum. First Nations and Métis education is a ministry-wide undertaking, not just the work of a single Branch, and there is a First Nations and Métis Advisor in the Deputy

Minister's Office whose role is to provide recommendations and guidance to the Ministry of Education.

34. In 2007, Saskatchewan, in collaboration with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, implemented mandatory Treaty education in its provincial curricula. As a result, curricula provide multiple opportunities for students to learn about treaties in all subject areas and grade levels.^{x1}

35. In 2009, the Ministry released *Inspiring Success: Building Towards Student Achievement - First Nations and Métis Education Policy Framework* ("Inspiring Success"), a policy framework that guides the development of First Nations and Métis education plans at the provincial, school division, and school levels. *Inspiring Success* aims to ensure that Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing shape the learning experience for all students while creating a culturally responsive system that benefits all learners.^{xli}

36. Corey O'Soup, now the Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth, has made significant contributions to the provincial curriculum both in his role as a Superintendent in 2010-2011 and as a First Nations Metis Advisor for the Ministry of Education 2014-2016.^{xlii} As he explains in his evidence:

I've worked both in our provincial system as a Superintendent of Education with the Ministry of Education, responsible for First Nation Métis education in the Province of Saskatchewan, working with our school divisions to ensure that they have plans around First Nation Métis education and to ensure that they enact those plans.

37. First Nations and Métis content, perspectives and ways of knowing continue to be integrated into renewed curricula, and this includes content about residential schools. First Nations and Métis Elders from across the province vetted the provincial high school Catholic Studies curricula, in which truth and reconciliation is directly addressed. The history of residential schools is taught in Social Studies in four separate grades.^{xliii}

It means just talking to them. I think often we infantilize children... We think that they don't understand or can't be engaged in these issues, but my experience is

completely contrary to that. Kids are really open to talking about hard stuff...that is why I find children really are able to understand and to process lessons of residential school so easily...if they learn about the stuff that hurts, then they can be a part of making it better.^{xliv}

- Dr. Cindy Blackstock

38. Saskatchewan has implemented various programs aimed at improving educational achievement for Indigenous youth. In particular, *Following Their Voices* is designed to improve Indigenous student outcomes by engaging and supporting students through changes in student-teacher relationships, instructional practices and learning environments. In developing this initiative, Saskatchewan engaged with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, as well as First Nations and Métis students, their parents/caregivers, teachers and administrators to determine what is working well for students and where improvements are needed.^{xlv}

39. Overall, significant efforts are being made in developing relationships with First Nations communities, creating flexible education and training options, providing customized supports, and relying on Elders, and Indigenization^{xlvi}.

E. TRANSITION TO THE LABOUR FORCE

We need to empower Indigenous women through education and financial independence...financial dependence on someone really dissipates your ability to make a decision for yourself about your own safety and well-being.^{xlvii}

- Dr. Cindy Blackstock

40. Having a post-secondary credential is important to labour market attainment. According to Statistics Canada:^{xlviii}

- 85% of First Nations and Métis people who have a university degree are employed, compared to 78% of non-Aboriginal people;

- 66% of First Nations and Métis people who have a post-secondary certificate or diploma are employed, compared to 72% of non-Aboriginal people.

41. Engaging Indigenous people in the labour force is also a priority for the Government of Saskatchewan. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, the Ministry of the Economy committed \$27.8 million for skills training and employment initiatives targeted at First Nations and Métis people.^{xlix} The Government of Saskatchewan believes these improving education, post-secondary, and labour market outcomes will have a long-term effect on employment rates, income security, health, and reduction of violence.

F. HOUSING

42. According to this Commission's Interim Report, Indigenous women, girls, and LGBTQ2S people continue to be marginalized in socio-economic ways:

They experience disproportionate rates of poverty and poor living conditions compared to non-Indigenous Canadians. They are more vulnerable to violence, and less able to leave violent circumstances. This is due to gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people's access to good schools and jobs; emergency housing in the short term and safe, affordable housing in the long term; and culturally appropriate health, mental health, and addictions treatment services.¹

43. Saskatchewan is committed to closing the poverty gap for Indigenous people, not only through measures related to improving education outcomes and labour market access, but also in relation to greater access to affordable housing and improved health care.

44. The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC) provides a range of programs and services to help Saskatchewan people in greatest housing need.^{li} The success of SHC's programs and services relies upon partnerships. In addition to SHC's work with housing authorities and non-profit organizations, it partners with housing co-operatives, Métis and First Nation housing providers, and private owners. SHC also works with municipalities, the Ministry of Social

Services, other government ministries, and the Federal Government to integrate housing programs and services with other services.

45. Many of SHC's units are occupied by Indigenous families. However, the data suggests that there is an underrepresentation of Indigenous people in SHC-owned social housing in southern communities. Through program reviews and ongoing engagement with housing authorities and Indigenous agencies, SHC is working toward a better understanding of how off-reserve Indigenous households across the province are best served.^{lii}

46. Safe, affordable housing is important in improving safety for Indigenous families. Since 1993, SHC has had a Victims of Family Violence Policy^{liii} that requires Housing Authorities to give priority to applicants who are victims of family violence. Applicants who meet eligibility requirements^{liv} do not need to provide rental references or have their applications point scored. An applicant is eligible regardless of where the person is living at the time of application for special status. A victim of family violence is offered the first available housing unit, even if the unit is too large or too small for their needs. Additional safeguards about risks, communications and privacy are set out in the policy.^{lv}

1) Housing Initiatives in Northern Saskatchewan

47. Throughout the Inquiry, witnesses have frequently raised concerns about safe, affordable housing in remote, northern communities. The SHC supports the growth of a stronger housing market in northern Saskatchewan by increasing housing supply, providing housing support to individuals and families in greatest need, strategic planning, and creating opportunities for private sector investment in affordable housing.^{lvi} SHC also invests in housing units to be built through Northern Lights School Division's Trades Training Program, a program that offers students training in basic carpentry skills and work experience as part of the school curriculum.^{lvii}

48. SHC plays an important role in the northern rental housing market. The social and affordable housing rental units across the northern part of the province serve households that might not otherwise have access to safe and secure housing.

49. In La Loche, SHC is part of a multi-agency group that worked with the community to develop a housing action plan, and is working with partners to build new affordable units to address housing need in the community.^{lviii} Using funding available under the Rental Development Program, northern communities are building the capacity to develop and operate their own affordable housing portfolio. New North, a non-profit advocacy association for northern municipalities, explores ways for these communities to share their knowledge with other northern communities.^{lix}

50. The Northern Working Group's objective is to have a continuum of housing options for northern residents and to work toward the establishment of a resale housing market. Specific recommendations from the Working Group have included promoting housing planning, increasing community capacity, and creating home ownership opportunities.^{lx}

G. HEALTH CARE

51. Saskatchewan recognizes that there is a significant gap in the health status of Indigenous people and the general population. It is important for all governments to work together with Indigenous people to close that disparity.

52. There have been efforts made to improve how health services are delivered to Indigenous people. While many of these initiatives are not targeted specifically at Indigenous women and girls, there is recognition of the importance of working with and assisting vulnerable individuals and families. Any supports need to be culturally appropriate and holistic, and assist individuals and their families through the healing process. The Rule 33 submission highlights some of the significant, specific initiatives that leverage Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing.^{lxi}

53. Saskatchewan's Ministry of Health is committed to addressing the Calls to Action and to building and strengthening partnerships to meet the health needs of Indigenous patients and clients. Saskatchewan has several major inter-ministry strategies aligned with the Calls to Action in which it aims to work with Indigenous communities and representative organizations on education, poverty reduction, disabilities, child welfare and mental health and addictions.^{lxii}

54. A priority for the new Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA)^{lxiii} is working with the Ministry of Health and Indigenous communities to address the health disparities of Saskatchewan's Indigenous population.^{lxiv} Within the new Saskatchewan Health Authority organizational structure, there are two Indigenous board members, a VP Quality, Safety and Strategy whose roles and responsibilities include Indigenous health, and an Executive Director for First Nations and Métis health.

55. An Indigenous Health Working Group (IHWG) was formed for the months leading up to the transition to the single health authority.^{lxv} The mandate of the IHWG was to engage Indigenous communities, rural and urban, to inform the new Authority on how to best address the health needs of Indigenous peoples in a culturally responsive and respectful manner. Members of the IHWG met with community members and leaders to share information on the transition process and to solicit input into issues related to Indigenous health and well-being, and representation in the provincial health authority.

56. The IHWG heard from individuals who felt that racism in the health care system results in Indigenous peoples being more likely to experience quality of care issues.^{lxvi} Based on these discussions, the IHWB determined that, going forward, a vision of health care should include:

- Holistic and traditional care that is in collaboration with Western Medicine;
- Respectful care for all people free from racism, harm, and discrimination; and,
- A commitment to work together for the betterment of the people and communities.

1) Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan

57. In his evidence, and through his advocacy, Corey O'Soup has been candid about the problem of youth suicide in Saskatchewan.^{lxvii} As explained in his report,

The issue came to the forefront of public consciousness again in October 2016 when six Indigenous girls aged 11-14 died by suicide. Families lost daughters, granddaughters, sisters, cousins and friends. Six young girls lost their future, and we know there are others after them who are also now gone.^{lxviii}

58. Saskatchewan recognizes that it does not have all the answers to solve the problem of youth suicide. It wishes to share, however, some of the initiatives it has developed to make progress in this area.

59. Mental health strategies must be informed by meaningful partnerships and meaningful dialogue. Saskatchewan's ten-year Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan (MHAAP)^{lxix} was developed based on input received at over 150 meetings and face-to-face focus groups in 24 communities. The focus groups allowed clients and family members to participate, with special attention to Indigenous people and individuals with lived experiences of mental health and addiction issues.

60. The MHAAP includes a system goal of partnering with Indigenous peoples. Recommendation 13 states, "Partner with First Nations and Métis peoples in planning and delivering mental health and addiction services that meet community needs." There are also three recommended actions directly relevant to Indigenous perspectives:

- 13.1 – Design services in partnership with First Nations and Métis organizations, communities and Elders;
- 13.2 – Ensure ongoing dialogue and coordination between regional health authorities and First Nations and Métis organizations and communities; and,
- 13.2 – Improve the cultural responsiveness of services respecting the history of First Nations and Métis peoples.

61. Work continues under ten recommendations that speak to supportive housing, reducing wait times and increasing access to outpatient and psychiatry services, improved and more coordinated service responses, and partnering with First Nations and Métis peoples in planning for and delivering services.^{lxx}

H. CHILD WELFARE^{lxxi}

62. Saskatchewan acknowledges the significant overrepresentation of Indigenous families in the child welfare system. At the heart of those families are women and children who are often shaped by or exposed to generational poverty, violence, addictions and the legacy of residential schools. Saskatchewan understands that cultural identity and community connection are critical components to strengthening families and improving the lives of children in the care of the ministry.

63. When the TRC's Calls to Action were released, Saskatchewan was already undertaking a legislative review to create change that aligned with those Calls. The 2016 amendments to *The Child and Family Services Act* addressed issues with the ministry's Aboriginal Child Welfare Agreements and strengthened the information sharing provisions of that Act to allow the ministry to work more closely with other human service providers to meet family's needs holistically.^{lxxii}

64. The TRC calls on governments to reduce the number of Aboriginal children in care through culturally-relevant services, adequate resources for agencies providing services, and full implementation of Jordan's Principle. It calls on governments to ensure all staff have a full understanding of the history and impacts of residential schools and the role of Aboriginal families and communities in providing appropriate solutions for family healing. It calls for national standards for Aboriginal child welfare that focus on keeping families together, having Aboriginal-led child welfare service delivery agencies, and annual reporting. It also calls for culturally appropriate parenting programs for Aboriginal families.

65. With the Calls to Action in mind, the Ministry of Social Services built on initiatives already underway and incorporated the principles of reconciliation into existing and new

program development to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and families. The Ministry of Social Services reports on the number of children in care, self-identified as Indigenous, and updates on the actions taken in response to the TRC recommendations to inter-ministry committees.^{lxxiii}

66. Saskatchewan agrees that all children deserve equitable access to services. Saskatchewan has made a concentrated effort to ensure that whenever the provincial child welfare system identifies a child with an unmet need, efforts are made to address that need regardless of which jurisdiction is formally responsible for the care and services provided to that child.

1) Engagement and Collaboration with Indigenous Leadership, Providers and Communities

67. The first delegation agreement between Saskatchewan and a First Nations Child and Family Services (“FNCFS”) Agency was signed in 1993.^{lxxiv} The establishment of FNCFS Agencies fundamentally changed the way child welfare services are delivered in Saskatchewan. Families could now receive services in their communities and First Nations have more direct control of how those services were delivered.^{lxxv}

68. First Nations Agencies and the ministry also enter into contracts that support Agencies to work both on and off reserve in the best interest of children and families involved with the ministry. The ministry also funds a number of First Nations and Métis community-based organizations to provide services to children and families in a culturally appropriate manner. These services include intensive in-home support, reunification, parenting, and some out-of-home care options.^{lxxvi}

69. The ministry is committed to respecting cultural bonds to a child’s home community. When the ministry, a family or an individual expresses an interest in permanent custody for a First Nations child in care, provincial legislation requires that the ministry provide 60 days’ notice to the child’s band or agency. As a best practice, the ministry extends that requirement further and a child’s band and agency is also notified when short-term and person of sufficient

interest orders are being sought. Contact with the First Nation is maintained throughout the continuum of service delivery through, for example, notices of court hearings, planning for children and families, and reviews of children in care. Furthermore, Saskatchewan courts are required to take into account “the child’s cultural and spiritual heritage and upbringing” in making a best interests determination under the legislation.^{lxxvii}

70. Since 2007, the ministry has had a strong working relationship with the Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute.^{lxxviii} The Institute conducts research and develops First Nation standards and best practices to support First Nations Child, Family and Community Service. The ministry provides funding to the Institute and supports its work with FNCFS agencies in building capacity and improving case management practices.

First of all, I think there should be a priority on where First Nations children in particular are placed...they should be place[d] within family; if not within family, within kinship community inside their own nation and with extended family members.^{lxxix}

- ***Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond***

71. Saskatchewan utilizes the CRIA (Child Rights Impact Assessment) in making decisions about the care of a child. The CRIA puts safety at the center of decision-making, while ensuring that culture and community feature prominently. In their decision-making processes, child protection workers must strike a delicate balance of ensuring that children are safe while guarding against excessive risk aversion and aiming to preserve families, whenever possible. When children have to be removed from their parents due to safety issues, the ministry works hard to keep children with extended family and/or within their community.^{lxxx}

72. In line with the goal of keeping families together, safely, the ministry is undertaking a one-year pilot, called Keeping Families Together.^{lxxxi} This initiative will provide integrated services, including social housing, for Regina families who currently have children in care and who face a housing barrier to reunifying. Other initiatives include the Integrated Practice approach, which has been expanded from Saskatoon to the South service area of the province. This approach is a family-focused, strength-based and culturally appropriate way to help ensure that children are safe and families are healthy. In 2018-19, the Integrated Practice approach will

continue to be expanded across the province, beginning with the North.^{lxxxii} The ministry also enters into a Family Finders contract to support agencies in identifying family or community members who could provide care and support for a child who has come into the care of the ministry.

73. The ministry is working to provide culturally appropriate supports for families to keep children safe while remaining in their homes, where possible through continued investment in Integrated Practice Strategies, Intensive In-Home Supports, Family Finders, and Triple P.^{lxxxiii} The ministry is entering into innovative partnerships with community-based programs to improve outcomes for children and families, with an emphasis on building capacity for parenting within the family home.^{lxxxiv}

74. Furthermore, starting in 2008, the ministry implemented significant changes to the funding and supports provided to PSI (Person of Sufficient Interest) caregivers, allowing for greater equality between PSI caregivers and foster families. Currently, PSI providers are eligible for training and monthly maintenance payments (equal to Foster Care basic maintenance rates) for each child, special needs funding, school fees and Christmas gift allowances.^{lxxxv}

75. Since the beginning of 2015, the percentage of children placed with extended family has increased by 15 per cent.^{lxxxvi} In 2017-2018, the percentage of children placed with extended family or persons of sufficient interest was 57.5 per cent.^{lxxxvii} First Nations Child and Family Service agencies have played a key role in supporting this effort through innovative partnerships like the Family Finders Program.

I lift them up with their accomplishment...some of them...are grandparents in their 80s and they are still raising children with no support from any system. So, that gives me a lot of hope and it gives me a lot of examples of positive change...that is remarkable resilience.^{lxxxviii}

– Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel Lafond

76. Saskatchewan acknowledges the significant and compassionate caregiving that has been and continues to be provided by Indigenous families (commonly by grandmothers). Saskatchewan invests in initiatives to leverage this caregiving, including by paying families at

rates commensurate with those for foster families. Currently, the majority of children in care are placed with extended families. There is power and capacity building with Indigenous caregivers, and Saskatchewan welcomes opportunities to work with Indigenous families to continue to leverage these strengths.

77. The ministry has prioritized training of all Child and Family Programs staff on First Nations and Métis history, traditions and culture, including on residential schools and their impacts, and more recently, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its Calls to Action.^{lxxxix} The training is designed to advance reconciliation, inspire accountability, improve intercultural competence, and create inclusive and supportive environments. Many of the powerful sessions have been developed and are led or co-led by strong Indigenous women and Elders who incorporate their personal experiences to enhance impact and increase understanding.

There is no children’s law program in most provinces... They can’t take an action on their own behalf... [S]trengthening those remedies for Indigenous children and families to make them meaningful is really an important part...^{xc}

- Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel Lafond

78. Saskatchewan acknowledges the concerns around the absence of children’s advocacy programs across Canada, and points to Saskatchewan’s recently developed Counsel for Children program as an exception.^{xcⁱ} As described by Betty Ann Pottruff, the program may appoint a lawyer for children or youth (with no age minimum) who are involved in proceedings under *The Child and Family Services Act*.^{xcⁱⁱ} The lawyer takes instructions from the child or youth, generally, and ensures the child or youth’s voice is heard. In addition, the Ministry of Justice supports the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Family Courtworker Program in three major urban centres.^{xcⁱⁱⁱ} The Family Courtworkers serve as a bridge between Aboriginal parents, families and legal counsel or child protection authorities.

79. To further strengthen families, Saskatchewan has also developed a program of free legal advice for survivors of sexual violence, called *The Listen Project*.^{xc^{iv}} Funding for the program was provided by the Department of Justice Canada. As a pilot project, the program has been provided with enough funding to run until March 2021.

And to recognize that children in particular, who witness domestic violence...they have to be part of the approach, a wholistic approach of being able to prevent that and respond to it.^{xcv}

– Dr. Cindy Blackstock

80. Saskatchewan has programs to assist children and youth who have witnessed or experienced interpersonal violence or abuse, with a goal of preventing those children from becoming victims or perpetrators of violence and abuse themselves. Saskatchewan has funded Children Exposed to Violence Programs in several locations since 1993, and some communities have offered services with funding from other sources during the same period.^{xcvi} In 2010, Saskatchewan published a *Guide for Children Exposed to Violence Programs* in Saskatchewan, intended to assist newly funded programs and serve as a resources to existing programs.^{xcvii} Currently, programs exist in eight communities in Saskatchewan.

I. JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS

81. Saskatchewan recognizes that there is a significant overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the justice and corrections systems in the province. It is also true that, since the 1980s, it has been a focus for the ministries^{xcviii} to engage directly with First Nations and Metis groups to improve services for Indigenous people in Saskatchewan.^{xcix} Saskatchewan has sought to involve Indigenous organizations and communities to inform, lead, and partner with the ministries to be more responsive to the needs of Indigenous people and communities.

82. In 1993, to respond to the Reports of the Saskatchewan Indian Justice Review Committee and the Saskatchewan Metis Justice Review Committee,^c Saskatchewan Justice developed and implemented a Saskatchewan Aboriginal Justice Strategy (“SAJS”). The SAJS was intended to focus on four main areas of activity:^{ci}

- Crime prevention and reduction;
- Building bridges to Aboriginal communities through community-based justice development;
- Employment equity and race relations; and

- Self-determination issues.

83. The SAJS is the foundation for the Saskatchewan's efforts to engage Indigenous groups on justice issues, supporting the development of a community-based justice approach to address both Indigenous victims and Indigenous offender over-representation in the justice system.

84. Saskatchewan has been on the forefront of community justice since the 1990s. In 1992-3, Saskatchewan Justice began working in the area of community development and supporting community-based justice programs. In 1998-99, Saskatchewan Justice funded 14 community-based justice projects, eight Aboriginal family violence projects, 14 contracts for courtworker services, and several crime prevention projects.^{cii}

85. In line with much of the evidence presented at this Inquiry, Saskatchewan invested in an evaluation in order to understand the impact of its efforts. According to the evaluation, which was published in 2000, Saskatchewan's efforts in addressing Indigenous justice issues had found mixed success. Saskatchewan was found to have been successful in building bridges but less successful in crime prevention/reduction and self-determination/self-government.^{ciii}

86. In response to cases involving Indigenous people such as Neil Stonechild, the province worked with First Nations and Métis groups, and police services, to develop a model for a Commission to examine the justice system. These efforts led to the establishment of the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform. This Commission was mandated to identify efficient, effective and financially responsible reforms to the justice system, and included several methods to engage First Nations, Métis, community, government and other groups.

87. The Commission released its report on June 21, 2004 with a total of 104 recommendations. This was not a report that simply sat on a shelf to gather dust. Saskatchewan has implemented many of the recommendations, including the establishment of the Public Complaints Commission; the redesign of the Coroners Program; the establishment of the Missing Persons Task Force; province-wide expansion of victims services; the creation of victim programs to respond to needs of children, families and individuals; three domestic violence

courts; two drug treatment courts and two mental health courts; and enhancements to community justice and alternative measures programs.^{civ} The Ministry of Justice also increased its focus on cultural awareness training, employment equity, and continued to expand its victim services programming.^{cv}

1) Elders Advisory Committee: Engaging Traditional Knowledge

88. In 2004-2005, after the Commission released its report, the Ministries of Justice and Corrections and Public Safety established a *Traditional Elders Ministerial Advisory Committee* to provide advice to the provincial Government on a broad range of justice-related issues and programs. In 2012, the Committee was recast as the Ministry of Justice Elders Forum.

89. The Forum is representative of a range of Indigenous linguistic groups, of most geographic areas of the province, and of both on-reserve and off-reserve areas throughout the province. Members of the Forum are expected to have some knowledge of the criminal justice system. The Forum, which includes male and female Elders, meets regularly throughout the year to discuss policy, operational and program issues that are topical and important to the Elders.

90. Countless initiatives have benefited from the advice of the Elders, in a significant way, including:

- the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform;
- the establishment of a new Public Complaints Commission for complaints against municipal police;
- the redesign of the Coroners' Office;
- establishment of the Safer Communities and Neighbourhood initiative;
- advice regarding Saskatchewan Provincial Court jury selection; and
- advice on the involvement of Elders in family justice matters.

91. This important engagement has provided government officials with an enhanced appreciation of Indigenous culture and teachings as well as cultural protocols.

92. Saskatchewan relies on the knowledge and wisdom of Elders across Government. In the correctional system, the Director of First Nations and Metis Services ensures that all inmates have access to Elders (or advisors) that provide individual mentoring and support.^{cv} In the Ministry of Social Services, Elders are a central part of the development and delivery of the cultural awareness training for the Child and Family Services staff.^{cvii} There are also numerous Elder engagement initiatives within the Ministry of Education (Invitational Shared Services Initiatives, Supporting Reconciliation in Saskatchewan Schools, the annual Elders' Gathering, Summer Literacy Camps, *Inspiring Success: First Nations and Métis PreK-12 Education Policy Framework*).^{cviii}

2) Providing Responsive and Accountable Policing

93. Saskatchewan does not have a provincial police force. Policing services are provided by municipal police pursuant to *The Police Act, 1990*^{cx}, and by the RCMP under contract with the province and/or municipalities. Since 1993, First Nations policing has been provided through the framework agreements signed between the federal government, the provincial government, and the governing body of the First Nations community. Saskatchewan has 33 Community Tripartite Agreements impacting 46 First Nations and 1 self-administered First Nation Community Police Service that impacts 5 First Nations.^{cx} Throughout the province, representatives from First Nations, the municipalities, and the provincial and federal governments must work together to provide police services that are professional, effective, culturally appropriate, and accountable to the communities they serve.

94. Much has been said in the Inquiry about the need for civilian oversight of the police services. The Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, in its closing submissions, spoke in detail about the multiple levels of police oversight in Saskatchewan.^{cx} In particular, the Public Complaints Commission ("PCC"), established in 2006, is a five-person civilian oversight body which is legislatively mandated to include at least one Métis person and one First Nations person.^{cxii} The PCC is responsible for ensuring a fair and thorough investigation of a complaint against the municipal police.^{cxiii} The PCC may: investigate a complaint; advise a police service

that a complaint must be investigated by a different police service; appoint an outside observer to monitor and report on an investigation; and, refer the matter for investigation to the police service whose member is the subject of the complaint.^{cxiv}

95. The PCC was established in 2006, with input from the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN), Métis Family & Community Justice Services, Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police and the Saskatchewan Federation of Police Officers.^{cxv} These partners provide ongoing input into the nomination of the five Commissioners. Additionally, the PCC was designed to complement the ongoing work of the FSIN's Special Investigation Unit, a body that works with First Nations individuals who have concerns about police conduct and is funded by the Ministry of Justice.^{cxvi}

3) Enhancing the Responsiveness of the Justice System

96. Indigenous people disproportionately come into contact with the family and criminal courts in the province. Saskatchewan has made efforts to incorporate Indigenous perspectives into the design of its court services. One example is the Aboriginal Courtworker Program. This program ensures that Aboriginal youth and adults appearing before the criminal courts receive fair, just and culturally sensitive treatment.^{cxvii} In 1995, the Aboriginal Courtworker program was re-established in Saskatchewan, following the recommendations of the Linn Report.^{cxviii}

97. The Cree Court is a circuit court that conducts criminal and child protection hearings in communities across Northeastern Saskatchewan. The Court was the first of its kind and received the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Public Service in 2003.^{cxix} There are also seven therapeutic courts operating in Saskatchewan: three domestic violence courts, two drug treatment courts and two mental health courts.^{cxx} These therapeutic courts emphasize healing and provide an alternative approach within the criminal justice system to address offender-specific societal issues that are directly tied to offending.^{cxxi}

98. The Drug Treatment Courts address drug addiction as an underlying cause of criminal activity. People who have completed the program have significantly changed their lifestyle in several ways, including reduction in crime and drug use, improvements in overall health, family

relationships, housing and employment.^{cxxii} The Mental Health Courts help assess and respond to the criminal justice needs for individuals with mental health, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder or cognitive issues.^{cxxiii} Finally, the benefits of the Domestic Violence Courts include early treatment, positive steps toward ending the cycle of violence, and access to professional help for other issues, including substance abuse.^{cxxiv}

99. Women who participate in the drug treatment court may also be supported through access to safe housing at Kate's Place.^{cxxv} Through supported living, women in Kate's Place access addictions treatment, counselling, and education, and have the opportunity to be reunited with children. Prior to its opening, women were often unable to complete the Regina Drug Treatment Court (RDTC) program due to homelessness and sexual exploitation. Within five months of operating Kate's Place, 48% of participants in the RDTC were female; their graduation rate climbed sharply; and the rate of absence without leave was significantly reduced.^{cxxvi} Kate's Place is the only housing for women offered by a drug treatment court in Canada.

100. Saskatchewan has heard concerns about access to services in remote, often Northern, communities across the country. To this end, the Justice of the Peace program has been improved to provide increased and more efficient service in Northern communities. In 2010, a centralized hub was established to provide 97 communities with extended hours of service to accept applications for search warrants, tele-warrants and release and remand hearings. The hub model has been implemented in several Northern communities, which has provided extended access to necessary services in those communities.^{cxxvii}

4) Community-Based Justice

101. In Saskatchewan, there remains a significant over-representation of Indigenous people in the justice and corrections systems. It is therefore all the more important that Saskatchewan continue to work with its Indigenous partners to provide community-based justice.^{cxxviii} This approach strives to be respectful of community interests and engages communities in the design and delivery of programs and services that draw on local strengths and resources, including

Elders and other local programs and services. It requires a strong emphasis on community development due to the different levels of interest, readiness and capacity.

102. The Ministry supports community development and the community-based approach to justice by: employing Indigenous staff to better understand the issues and work directly with communities; engaging in ongoing dialogue with Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners to guide the development, implementation and operations of programs; providing assistance with networking, issues management, reporting, evaluation and other activities;^{cxxxix} using collaborative training models; and supporting Indigenous organizations in policy development.^{cxxx}

103. Saskatchewan also has a province-wide restorative justice initiative offered by 19 funded community-based organizations.^{cxxxix} The community justice programs involve 65 First Nations in the province.^{cxxxiii} The province also has five community justice committees in rural areas^{cxxxiii} and four school-based restorative justice programs.^{cxxxiv}

104. Research and evaluation also indicate that restorative justice and Indigenous justice processes lead to decreased re-offending.^{cxxxv} Since many of the offenders who participate in restorative justice programs in Saskatchewan are young and Indigenous,^{cxxxvi} restorative justice plays an important role in reducing the over-representation of marginalized, vulnerable people in the criminal justice system, while meeting the needs of victims and communities.^{cxxxvii}

5) Prosecutions

105. Public Prosecutions plays an important role in ensuring that perpetrators of violence against Indigenous women and girls are brought to justice. Prosecutors are bound to honour their role in the justice system, which is described as follows:

It cannot be over-emphasized that the purpose of a criminal prosecution is not to obtain a conviction, it is to lay before a jury what the Crown considers to be credible evidence relevant to what is alleged to be a crime. Counsel have a duty to see that all available legal proof of the facts is presented: it should be done firmly and pressed to its legitimate strength but it must also be done fairly. The role of prosecutor excludes any notion of winning or losing; his function is a

matter of public duty than which in civil life there can be none charged with greater personal responsibility.^{cxxxviii}

106. Public Prosecutions has developed and follows policies which insist upon and enable the just resolution of cases wherever the prosecution standard is met. That standard is the same in every instance.

107. The decision to prosecute or not is the most important decision that a prosecutor makes. Such decisions must reflect sound knowledge of the law and careful consideration of the interests of victims, the accused and the public at large. Prosecutions that are not well founded in law or fact, or do not serve the public interest, may unfairly expose citizens to the anxiety, expense and embarrassment of a trial. The failure to effectively prosecute guilty parties can directly impact public safety. Wrong decisions tend to undermine the confidence of the community in the criminal justice system.

108. Domestic violence cases call on prosecutors to carefully consider the context in deciding whether to lay a charge, and if so, deciding who to charge. Given those considerations, and the practical realities of how violence occurs, Prosecutions' approach is that charges against both parties should be rare.^{cxxxix} When police can determine that one spouse began the violence and the other responded only to the extent needed to defend, only one charge is appropriate.

109. Just resolution includes recognizing and giving effect to the historical and personal circumstances of victims, offenders, accused, and others pursuant to the *Criminal Code* and the common law. Prosecutions supports and refers matters down alternative and restorative justice paths. It supports and participates in the use of video-conferencing, the Cree Court, and is a driving force behind the therapeutic courts. Prosecutors work with Aboriginal Courtworkers to see justice done.

110. Further, prosecutors are familiar with and address *Gladue* issues in courts across Saskatchewan while drawing attention to the need for sentences that consider the victim's situation and, in many instances, the community's, while emphasizing public safety.

Prosecutions remains committed to providing ongoing training to prosecutors to improve their understanding of the unique circumstances and perspective of Indigenous people.

111. Public Prosecutions has established a committee to review the Calls to Action issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.^{cxl} The aim is to ensure that Prosecutions is doing all it can, within the rule of law and the role of Attorney General's agent, to foster reconciliation and achieve justice for all.

6) Cultural Programming in Provincial Correctional Institutions

112. Corrections works with Indigenous communities, local Elders, and cultural advisors to ensure that culturally appropriate services and programs are available for offenders in provincial correctional facilities.^{cxli}

113. All inmates in provincial correctional institutions have access to cultural Elders/advisors that provide individual mentoring and support. Elders/advisors are contracted on a long term or casual basis to provide traditional teachings such as Indigenous history, cultural protocols, Tipi Teachings, parenting, the Medicine Wheel, and to assist inmates in healing from the legacy of residential schools. The cultural services at Pine Grove Correctional Centre, the women's institution, also incorporate pipe ceremonies, feasts, sweats, sharing circles and smudging. Each of the provincial custody institutions^{cxlii} employs an Indigenous individual whose responsibility is to coordinate the provision of cultural programming to inmates.

114. Corrections employs a Director of First Nations and Métis Services who reports to the Assistant Deputy Minister, and is responsible to provide access to services that improve outcomes for First Nations and Métis people and to participate in the design, development and delivery of correctional services. This position has been in existence since 2006.^{cxliii}

7) A Partnership of Equals: The Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons

“[T]hat's what we want for our families, we want our communities to grow tall and strong and protect each other.”^{cxliv}

- Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C.

115. Saskatchewan has taken a similarly collaborative approach through the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons (“PPCMP”), a strategy for addressing the challenges of preventing and responding to cases of missing persons.^{cxlv} Three primary markers of the PPCMP strategy are: (1) increased resources to support police investigations; (2) the development of province-wide policy and protocol to standardize how reports of missing persons are received and investigated; and (3) a strengthened partnership among government, police agencies, Indigenous and community organizations to support families and communities when identifying and responding to missing persons cases.^{cxlvi}

116. As Pottruff explains in her testimony, when the PPCMP was formed, the “organizations involved all had an understanding of the issues from their perspective. What we didn’t have ... was a holistic understanding of the issues from a shared perspective.”^{cxlvii} It is that commitment to a holistic understanding from a shared perspective that has been the hallmark of the PPCMP’s work. PPCMP is a true partnership of equals, consisting of Indigenous and non-Indigenous community agencies, police, and provincial government representatives from the Ministries of Justice, Health, and Social Services.^{cxlviii}

117. In 2006, the Government funded research to analyze the characteristics of all reports of missing persons made to the police, research that provided baseline information to help the PPCMP understand the nature of the problem.^{cxlix} According to this research the majority of missing persons reports were for persons under age 18 and many of those were “chronic, repeat runaways or -- or leaving.” At the time, the police response to these cases was inconsistent. Therefore, it was important for the PPCMP to focus on developing consistent police practice in response to runaway youth.^{cl}

118. True to its desire to collaborate, soon after its formation, the PPCMP organized engagement sessions with families of missing persons as a means of conducting research. The PPCMP relied on the knowledge and experience of its Indigenous partners in conducting the family meetings,^{cli} and gained valuable insight, including that “[families] had a lot of valuable information to contribute if anybody would listen to them”.^{clii} As a result of the family meetings, 20 recommendations were made, the vast majority of which have been implemented.^{cliii}

119. The PPCMP, and its partners, have initiated and undertaken numerous key actions: creating resources to support families of missing persons (for example, a checklist for families, a media kit, and list of agencies); establishing missing persons’ liaisons; launching annual public awareness activities; and initiating important community-based programming.^{cliv} Important legislative changes to improve access to information about missing persons, and thereby facilitate missing persons’ investigations, have been made as recently as 2017.^{clv}

120. In this Inquiry’s proceedings, particular attention has been paid to the toolkits for families, developed by the PPCMP. As explained by Weighill in his evidence, “these toolkits are available for every police service, every municipal service and the RCMP.”^{clvi} Weighill provides a summary of the usefulness of the toolkits, which walk families through “a missing person’s checklist, a communications log..., what they can expect from police, what the police are going to expect from the family, what they can expect from social media, self-care..., and internet links and information that they might need [.]”^{clvii}

121. While these collaborative efforts were noteworthy, Saskatchewan again met with families in 2009 and heard that they were pleased with the activity that had occurred but recommended that there was more to be done.^{clviii} This led to important work on improving inter-jurisdictional collaboration, spreading public awareness, and providing seminars on ambiguous loss.^{clix} While all of these initiatives are important, Saskatchewan remains committed to doing more for missing persons and their loved ones.^{clx} For one, Saskatchewan acknowledges that it not always been able to connect sufficiently with residents of the Northern part of the province.^{clxi}

122. Of crucial assistance to addressing the problem of missing persons, has been the website of the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, which displays important information

about missing persons.^{clxii} As explained by former Chief Weighill in his testimony, the website contains “a list of all missing persons in the Province of Saskatchewan that have been reported to the police and any information that ... would ...relate to that”.^{clxiii} This includes information about race or ethnicity, to the extent that such information is known to the police. This website has been displaying this data about missing persons since 2006.

123. Also crucial is the police policy related to missing persons, which long ago removed the requirement for a 24 hour waiting period prior to reporting missing persons to the police.^{clxiv} It also allows for the reporting of missing persons to any detachment in Saskatchewan, regardless of the location from which the individual went missing. To assist with this work, Saskatchewan has funded investigators whose full time job is to work on missing persons files; Victims Services Missing Person Liaisons; and Aboriginal Victim Service officers (all within Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and the RCMP).^{clxv} Beginning in 2012-13, Saskatchewan expanded police-based Victim Services coverage throughout the province, including the North.^{clxvi}

124. Finally, a common theme in the evidence was that, after a certain period of time, files become designated as “cold cases” thereby receiving little to no attention from police services.^{clxvii} For certain files, however, there are no end dates until the file has been concluded. *The Police Act, 1990* states that files related to the *Criminal Code* offences of Sexual Assault, Cause Death by Criminal Negligence, Murder, Manslaughter, Attempted Murder, and Threats, must be kept indefinitely.^{clxviii}

125. There have also been efforts to address the root causes of runaways, as described by Weighill in his testimony:

Saskatoon has a recent pilot project that’s now gone into a regular project working with young girls that are running away from the group homes. [...] we developed a program in conjunction with social services, and the police and mental health and additions. The girls get cell phones when they’re in the program. So, if they’re in a place of danger and they’re in a place of help, they can phone....If they do run away and they do come back...it’s kind of a group effort, a wraparound ...^{clxix}

8) Partnering to Address Violence

126. In 2014-15, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice held or supported 22 meetings with various groups to discuss a Draft Justice Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls.^{clxx} A total of over 700 people participated in these meetings. Saskatchewan continued to engage with Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners to review and revise the National Roundtable Principles and to discuss how to move forward together on a strategic approach to addressing interpersonal and domestic violence in Saskatchewan.

127. In 2015, Saskatchewan undertook the Saskatchewan Domestic Violence Death Review to review domestic-related deaths in the province.^{clxxi} The structure and scope of the death review process was determined following extensive consultations with various organizations across the province, including Aboriginal groups.^{clxxii} The purpose was to have a better understanding of why perpetrators kill intimate partners and other family members, and of the reasons for the vulnerability of the victims. The final report, released May 2018, contains 19 recommendations, which will be used to guide specific key actions and ongoing dialogue on the issue of domestic violence.^{clxxiii}

128. Specific key actions will be taken as a starting point in response to the report, including:^{clxxiv} Kids on the Block/Kids Matter northern expansion (additional funds will be provided to expand these programs in northern Saskatchewan);^{clxxv} additional crisis workers (funding will be made available for an additional crisis worker in northern Saskatchewan and one in the rural south); and expansion of the Children Exposed to Violence program.^{clxxvi} In addition to these short-term responses, the results of the Domestic Violence Death Review Panel's work will be used to inform ongoing dialogue on a provincial domestic violence plan. In 2018-19, approximately \$19.5 million will be provided to community-based organizations across Saskatchewan to deliver violence support services and prevention programming.

129. Saskatchewan has heard that programs and services need to be available at the community level. To this end, starting in 2012-13, Saskatchewan expanded police-based victim

services programs, including in 34 additional police jurisdictions in rural and northern Saskatchewan so that they are available throughout the province. There are also:^{clxxvii}

- Indigenous Family Violence programs aimed at helping Indigenous families living in urban areas deal with violence and abuse;
- Aboriginal Resource officer programs helping victims of crime and their families by providing information, support and referrals; prevention and early intervention;
- Missing person liaison programs;
- North Sask Victims Services serving residents of the northern administration district by providing assistance in the immediate aftermath of crisis;
- Northern Transportation and Safety Initiative providing emergency transportation, expenses related to place of safety and resources to return when the danger is reduced; and
- Community based programs that provide direct services for women and children fleeing violence and abuse.

130. Community based strategies are key. Saskatchewan has heard about the links between gangs and violence in communities. To tackle this, the Saskatoon-based organization, STR8 UP, will be working with provincial stakeholders, including First Nations communities, police agencies, and the private sector to develop a provincial gang strategy. Saskatchewan's view is that the development of a provincial gang strategy must be driven by the community for it to be successful. Saskatchewan has filed with the Commission two documents describing the development of this strategy at a community level.^{clxxviii}

131. Saskatchewan has had a provincial sexual exploitation strategy since 1997.^{clxxix} The strategy initially focused on measures pertaining to prevention, outreach, harm reduction, treatment and law enforcement. After its creation, a special committee made 49 recommendations to combat sexual exploitation, 44 of which were directly acted upon. Information on the strategy was provided in the Government Services submission.^{clxxx}

J. HONOURING AND COMMEMORATING MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

132. The Terms of Reference direct the Commissioners to make recommendations on “ways to honour and commemorate the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada”.^{clxxxix} As explained by this Commission,

[p]ublic commemoration is a powerful way to make sure that survivors are acknowledged for the suffering they have endured. It also ensures that families can let Canada know that their loved ones were [are] cherished human beings who are still missed.

133. Saskatchewan has worked on listening to understand the needs of its Indigenous partners, and, through its engagement, has come to understand the importance of recognizing and demonstrating respect for the lived experiences of Indigenous people. To that end, in 2014, Saskatchewan provided funding for the Aboriginal Women’s Circle Corporation to collaborate with the RCMP, and family members of missing women, to create a Place of Reflection on the grounds of Depot “F” Division. Around the same time, Saskatchewan funded a partnership between the Saskatoon Police Service and the Saskatoon Tribal Council to commission a monument in recognition of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.^{clxxxii}

134. In September 2014, the PPCMP planted an oak tree to remember missing persons in the province. As explained by Pottruff:

We also planted an oak tree in Wascana park in 2014 because this is a tree that will grow tall and strong and live a long time and protect a lot of area. And that's what we want for our families, we want our communities to grow tall and strong and protect each other.”^{clxxxiii}

135. Pottruff also describes what she understood as important differences between families of missing persons and families of murdered persons:

I think we also learned that there's -- there are some subtle differences in terms of dealing with families, that if you're dealing with the families of missing, they're -- they're in a different space than the families of the missing and murdered, and that we

had to be careful in these events to have separate discussions, the families of the missing and murdered from just the families of the missing because they're simply at a different point in the process in terms of processing things. That -- the family of the missing are obviously still living in hope that the person will be found, and they are frustrated with the system because they don't have the answers they want, but there may be reasons why they don't have the answers there. And you can explain to them that there are reasons why the police can't tell them more about the investigation, but they're still frustrated and they want somebody to fix this. They're angry with the police because they want the police to fix it, but the police can't, but they're still trying to do the investigation.

With the families of the missing and murdered what you would find, sometimes, is that they now understand some of the issues with the investigation and why they weren't given the information when they wanted the information because the investigation was ongoing, but they've now moved on because of the -- of the tragedy of the death and -- and they're dealing with grieving that way, and often what they want is to simply make sure that this never happens to another family...^{clxxxiv}

136. Saskatchewan asks that the Commissioners take this evidence into consideration in recommending ways of honouring and commemorating the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada.

K. CONCLUSION

137. In closing, Saskatchewan understands that it does not have all of the solutions to missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit and Transgender people. It is for this reason that it has engaged with the process of the National Inquiry. It seeks concrete solutions to the existing challenges. In doing so, Saskatchewan asks the Commissioners to give significant consideration to the existing effective practices of all organizations, including Saskatchewan, so as to build on progress, and so as to promote trust in existing institutions and reconciliation with all Indigenous people.

DATED at the City of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan this 14th day of December, 2018.



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ⁱ Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 192, lines 22-24 and page 193, line 1.

ⁱⁱ Jesse Wenté, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Racism, Part III Volume X, Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at page 167, lines 11-16.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Establishment and Appointment of Chief Commissioner and five commissioners - National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls pursuant to the Inquiry Act*, PC 2016-0736, August 2, 2016 (Federal Terms of Reference) at page 1.

See, also: <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/terms-of-reference.pdf>. See, also the interpretative principles as set out in *Bisaillon v Keable*, [1983] 2 SCR 60.

^{iv} Simon Ruel, *The Law of Public Inquiries in Canada* (Toronto: Carswell, 2010) [“Ruel”] at page 20.

^v *Ruel*, *supra*, at 3.

^{vi} *Federal Terms of Reference*, *supra* at page 1.

^{vii} Dr. Allan Wade, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XIV, Friday, October 5, 2018 at page 171, lines 19-24.

^{viii} Terms and definitions used by Statistics Canada.

^{ix} Statistics Canada, “Aboriginal Peoples Highlight Tables, 2016 Census”, online: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/hltfst/abo-aut/Table.cfm?Lang=Eng&T=101&D1=4&D2=1&D3=1&RPP=25&PR=0&SR=1&S=102&O=D>. Note that this statistic is “among the provinces” but not the territories.

^xOf those who self-identified as “Aboriginal”, two-thirds self-identified as First Nation, and one-third as Métis.

^{xi} Statistics Canada, “Aboriginal Peoples Highlight Tables, 2016 Census”, online: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/hltfst/abo-aut/Table.cfm?Lang=Eng&T=101&S=99&O=A>; Statistics Canada, “Aboriginal Peoples Highlight Tables, 2016 Census”, online: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/hltfst/abo-aut/Table.cfm?Lang=Eng&T=103&S=88&O=A&RPP=25>.

There are 74 First Nations in Saskatchewan. Most are affiliated with one of nine Tribal Councils. Approximately equal numbers of First Nations people live on reserve (47.5%) and off reserve, in Treaty 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 territories. There is also a small area of Treaty 7 territory in Saskatchewan near Leader. When First Nations and Métis are considered together, they make up the following percentages of Saskatchewan’s three largest cities: 10.7% of the population of Saskatoon, 9.1% of the population of Regina, and 39.2% of the population of Prince Albert.

See, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, “First Nations in Saskatchewan”, online: <https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100020616/1100100020653>.

^{xii} *Ruel, supra* at page 6.

^{xiii} Joint National Commission into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls (National Inquiry) – Appointment and Terms of Reference (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of the Government of Saskatchewan), OC 420/2016. See, also online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/details.cfm?p=82224>.

^{xiv} See *The Public Inquiries Act, 2013*, SS 2013, c P-38.01.

^{xv} It is noteworthy that commissions of inquiry have no power at common law and, therefore, depend on a statutory grant of authority from which to derive their powers of investigation. See e.g. *Quebec (Attorney General) v Canada (Attorney General)* [1979] 1 SCR 218 at 244; *Public Inquiries Act, Re (1977)*, 74 DLR (3d) 422 at 429.

^{xvi} These themes are listed randomly and in no particular order.

^{xvii} See, appended to this closing submission, Appendix “A”: Documents Provided to the Commission.

See also, Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Part II: Institutional Hearings on Government Services – Panel on Victim Services, Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018, and Part II Volume II, Tuesday May 29, 2018.

^{xviii} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 183, lines 6-13.

^{xix} Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat, “Independent Assessment Process (IAP) Statistics from September 19, 2007 to March 31, 2018”, online: <http://iap-pei.ca/stats-eng.php>; see also Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, “Recognized Indian Residential Schools”, online: <https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100015606/1100100015611>.

^{xx} The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, *Our Women and Girls are Sacred: Interim Report* (2017) at page 7 [“Interim Report”].

^{xxi} Katie Scrim, “Aboriginal Victimization in Canada: A summary of Literature”, Department of Justice, online: <http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/victim/rd3-rr3/p3.html>.

^{xxii} Shannon Brennan, “Violent Victimization of Aboriginal women in the Canadian provinces, 2009” (May 17, 2011), Statistics Canada, The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) Juristat, online: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2011001/article/11439-eng.pdf>.

xxiii Royal Canadian Mounted Police, “Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview” (2014) at page 7, online: <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/wam/media/460/original/0cbd8968a049aa0b44d343e76b4a9478.pdf>.

xxiv Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada* (2015) at page 6, online: http://www.myrobust.com/websites/trcinstitution/File/Reports/Executive_Summary_English_Web.pdf.

xxv See Saskatchewan, News Release, “Premier’s Statement on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report” (June 5, 2015), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2015/june/05/commission-report>.

xxvi “Saskatchewan Public Service Commission”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/boards-commissions-and-agencies/public-service-commission>.

xxvii Government of Saskatchewan, “Evidentiary Submission on Education, Health, the Family, Justice Oversight, and Policing”, Legal Path Rule 33 Submission at page 10 [“Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2”].

xxviii These programs are described in the Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at pages 10-12 and include: (1) *Truth and Reconciliation Workshop* (developed and facilitated by First Nations Training Consultants); (2) *Working with First Nations* (a workshop facilitated by the First Nations Training Consultant and an Elder); (3) *Touchstones of Hope – Reconciliation in Child Welfare*; (4) *CORE Training* (provides: (i) a First Nations historical overview of child welfare including residential schools and the 60’s scoop; (ii) a general overview of human development from the perspective of the Indigenous worldview through the teachings of an Elder; (iii) reflection on the experiences and learning of two Indigenous children who committed suicide after having involvement with the child welfare system; and (iv) a comprehensive training package that accurately reflects Saskatchewan’s First Nations and Métis populations and their unique cultural considerations); and (5) *First Nations Supervisory Training*.

xxix Corey O’Soup, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Human Rights Framework, Part III Volume VII, Thursday, May 17, 2018 at page 79, lines 4-5.

xxx “Saskatchewan Aboriginal Peoples, 2016 Census” (October 25, 2017), online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=86690&i=104388>.

xxxi *Interim Report, supra* at page 46.

xxxii Ministry of Education, Annual Report for 2017-18, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=90717&i=107654>. This annual report provides the data to June 2017, however the information has been updated to June 2018 in this document and will appear in the Annual Report for 2018-19.

^{xxxiii} Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey custom tabulation for “Rate of Educational Attainment of First Nations, Métis and Non-First Nations and Métis Populations 15 Years and Over”.

^{xxxiv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission, supra* at page 24. See also “First Nations and Métis Initiatives: Promising Practices and Challenges in Saskatchewan’s Post-Secondary Sector,” (October 2016) at page 2, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=88432&i=105088>.

^{xxxv} Philip Oreopoulos & Kjell G. Salvanes, “Priceless: The Non-Pecuniary Benefits of Schooling”, (2011) 25:1 *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 159 at pages 159-184, online: <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.25.1.159>; Olena Hankivsky, “Cost Estimates of Dropping Out of High School in Canada” (2008) Simon Fraser University – Prepared for the Canadian Council on Learning, online: <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.510.4857&rep=rep1&type=pdf>; Wim Groot & Henriëtte Maassen van den Brink, “What does education do to our health?” (Paper delivered at the Copenhagen Symposium Measuring the Effects of Education on Health and Civic Engagement – OCED 2006), online: <http://www.oecd.org/education/innovation-education/37425763.pdf>.

^{xxxvi} Dr. Sylvia Moore, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Racism, Part III Volume IX, Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at page 147, lines 2-7.

^{xxxvii} Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, *Calls to Action* (2015), online: http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf.

Recommendation 62 calls for age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples’ historical and contemporary contributions to Canada.

^{xxxviii} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 12.

^{xxxix} Corey O’Soup, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Human Rights Framework, Part III Volume VII, Thursday, May 17, 2018 at page 71, lines 9-15.

^{xl} Saskatchewan, News Release, “Moving it Forward with Mandatory Treaty Education” (September 15, 2018), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2008/september/15/moving-forward-with-mandatory-treaty-education>.

^{xli} The Ministry of Education recently led a process to renew and update *Inspiring Success* in collaboration with First Nations and Métis education representatives, Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers, post-secondary and provincial education sector stakeholders, resulting in the release of the renewed *Inspiring Success: First Nations and Métis PreK-12 Education Policy Framework*. See, Ministry of Education, (June 2018), online: <http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/11/107115-Inspiring%20Success%20Policy%20Framework.pdf>.

^{xlii} Corey O'Soup, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Human Rights Framework, Part III Volume VI, Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at page 87, lines 1-7.

^{xliii} Ministry of Education, *Nēhiyawēwin 10, 20 & 30 Curriculum* (2008), online: <https://www.edonline.sk.ca/bbcswebdav/library/curricula/English/More/nehiyawiwinn-10-20-30.pdf>.

Saskatchewan schools also have access to locally developed courses for Dene, Michif, Nakawe and Saulteaux, as well as Cree Cultural Programs, at the 10, 20 and 30 levels.

^{xliv} Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XII, Wednesday, October 3, 2018, at page 129, lines 14-25.

^{xlv} See e.g. Following Their Voices Initiative, online: <https://www.followingtheirvoices.ca/#/ftv/document/5>. See also Saskatchewan, News Release, "Federal Funding Expands Following Their Voices To Reach More First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students" (June 8, 2017), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2017/june/08/following-their-voices>.

^{xlvi} Here, this refers to creating post-secondary environments that are meaningful to and reflective of Indigenous students.

^{xlvii} Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XII, Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at page 23, lines 7-11.

^{xlviii} Statistics Canada Special Tabulation, Labour Force Survey (15 years and older), 2016 (does not include information about individuals living on-reserve).

^{xlix} Saskatchewan, News Release, "Budget Stays the Course on First Nations and Métis Program Funding" (March 22, 2017), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2017/march/22/budget-first-nations-and-metis-support>.

¹ *Interim Report*, *supra* at page 38.

^{li} Saskatchewan, "Saskatchewan Housing Corporation", online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/crown-corporations/saskatchewan-housing-corporation>.

^{lii} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at 42.

^{liii} *Ibid.*

^{liv} There has been an incident or pattern of incidents that suggest the applicant is in serious danger of harm and needs to be separated from the abuser, and the applicant intends to separate from the abuser.

^{lv} Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at page 42 and Tab A.

^{lvi} *Ibid* at page 44.

^{lvii} *Ibid* at pages 44-45.

^{lviii} *Ibid* at page 45.

^{lix} *Ibid*.

^{lx} *Ibid* at page 46.

^{lxi} Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2 at pages 28-29. The provincial health system includes the following: the All Nations Healing Hospital, the Eagle Moon Health Office, the Four Directions Community Health Centre, the First Nations and Metis Health Services Unit in Saskatoon, and the Native Health Centres at the Pasqua and Regina General Hospitals.

“All Nations Healing Hospital”, online: <http://www.fortquappelle.com/health-emergency/all-nations-healing-hospital>; “Eagle Moon Health Office”, online: <http://www.rqhealth.ca/department/primary-health-care/the-eagle-moon-health-office>; “Four Directions Community Health Centre”, online: <http://www.rqhealth.ca/facilities/four-directions-community-health-centre>.

^{lxii} Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, “Cultural Responsiveness Framework”, online: <http://allnationshope.ca/userdata/files/187/CRF%20-%20Final%20Copy.pdf>; Office of The Treaty Commissioner, “Historic MOU Signed”, online: http://www.otc.ca/reconciliations/details/historic_mou_signed.html; SK HIV Collaborative, “Sharing the Wisdom: HIV Mobilization Event”, online: <https://skhiv.ca/hiv-mobilization-event/>

^{lxiii} “Saskatchewan Health Authority”, online: <https://www.saskhealthauthority.ca/Pages/Home.aspx>.

^{lxiv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra*, at page 35.

^{lxv} *Ibid*.

^{lxvi} *Ibid* at page 36.

^{lxvii} Corey O’Soup, Expert & Knowledge-Keeper Panel: Human Rights Framework, Part III Volume VI, Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at page 96, lines 18-19.

^{lxviii} *Ibid*.

^{lxix} Dr. Fern Stockdale Winder, *Working Together for Change: A 10 Year Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan for Saskatchewan* (Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan, 2014),

online:<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/~media/news%20release%20backgrounders/2014/dec/sashe%20mhaap%20report.pdf> (last accessed May 8, 2018).

^{lxx} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 38.

See also Saskatchewan, “Mental Health and Addictions Action Plan”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/saskatchewan-health-initiatives/mental-health-and-addictions-action-plan>; Saskatchewan Health Authority, “Randall Kinship Centre”, online: <http://www.rqhealth.ca/facilities/randall-kinship-centre>; Saskatchewan, News Release, “One-Of-A-Kind Family Treatment Centre in Prince Albert Improves Access and Care” (April 12, 2013), online: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2013/april/12/oneofakind-family-treatment-centre-in-prince-albert-improves-access-and-care>; Valley Hill Youth Treatment Centre, online: <http://www.vhytc.ca/>; Métis Addictions Council of Saskatchewan, online: <http://www.macsi.ca/>.

^{lxxi} In her evidence, Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond stated that Saskatchewan’s budget for child welfare services, which she estimates as being a billion dollars, is a significant expenditure for the services that are delivered. Saskatchewan asks the Commissioners to ensure a rigorous review of the accuracy of information being relied upon for purposes of its final report. As per the 2017-18 annual report, the total Child and Family Programs expenditure amounted to \$277,144,000. Ministry of Social Services, *Annual Report, 2017-18* at page 15, online: <http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/15/107657-2017-18SocialServicesAnnualReport.pdf> [“*Social Services Annual Report 2017-18*”].

^{lxxii} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 48.

^{lxxiii} *Ibid* at 49.

^{lxxiv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 50.

^{lxxv} Currently, Saskatchewan has signed delegation agreements with 17 FNCFS Agencies to provide mandated child welfare services on-reserve. In addition to these agreements, the ministry has contracts with three First Nation Child and Family Services Agencies to provide off-reserve mandated services. The Agencies include Lac La Ronge Indian Band Child and Family Services, Athabasca Denesuline Child and Family Services, and Meadow Lake Tribal Council Child and Family Services.

^{lxxvi} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 51.

^{lxxvii} *The Child and Family Services Act*, SS 1989-90, c C-7.2 at s 4.

^{lxxviii} Saskatchewan First National Family and Community Institute, online: <http://www.sfnfci.ca/>.

^{lxxxix} Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XIII, Thursday, October 4, 2018 at page 204, lines 12-17.

^{lxxx} *Social Services Annual Report 2017-18*, *supra* at page 5.

^{lxxx}ⁱ *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at page 54.

^{lxxx}ⁱⁱ *Social Services Annual Report 2017-18*, *supra* at page 5.

^{lxxx}ⁱⁱⁱ A promotional video highlighting the Triple P program in Sandy Bay can be found online: <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=breaking+trails+sandy+bay+youtube&&view=detail&mid=E92D0C60D08C11B18448E92D0C60D08C11B18448&&FORM=VRDGAR>.

^{lxxx}^{iv} These include: Saskatoon Downtown Youth Inc. Sweet Dreams; Saskatoon Downtown Youth Inc. EGADZ Baby Steps; Saskatoon Downtown Youth Inc. (EGADZ) Mah's Place; Raising Hope, Moving Families Forward Program (RHMFF).

^{lxxx}^v Government of Saskatchewan, "A Guide to Being a Person of Sufficient Interest (PSI) Caregiver", online: <http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/17/79873-PSI-caregiver-FAM-16.pdf>.

^{lxxx}^{vi} *Social Services Annual Report 2017-18*, *supra* at page 6.

^{lxxx}^{vii} *Ibid.*

^{lxxx}^{viii} Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XIII, Thursday, October 4, 2018 at page 324, lines 10-22.

^{lxxx}^{ix} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra*, at page 58.

^{xc} Dr. Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XIII, Thursday, October 4, 2018 at page 337, lines 21-25 and page 338, lines 1-5.

^{xc}ⁱ Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 173, lines 21-23.

^{xc}ⁱⁱ Some examples include court proceedings following the apprehension of a child, variation of existing child protection orders, investigations leading to supervision orders, or negotiation of agreements to place the child with a person of sufficient interest. See Saskatchewan, "Counsel for Children", online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/courts-and-sentencing/counsel-for-children>.

^{xc}ⁱⁱⁱ *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at pages 87-88.

^{xciv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No.1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at pages 17-18 and Saskatchewan, News Release, “Province Launches Free Legal Advice Program for Survivors of Sexual Violence” (April 24, 2018), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2018/april/24/legal-advice-for-survivors-of-sexual-violence>.

^{xcv} Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Child & Family Welfare, Mixed Part II & III Volume XII at page 24, lines 5-12.

^{xcvi} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No.1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at pages 20-21.

^{xcvii} *Ibid*; Saskatchewan, “Guide for Children Exposed to Violence Programs in Saskatchewan” (Saskatchewan: 2010), online: <http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/9/97883-Guide%20for%20Children%20Exposed%20to%20Violence%20Programs%20in%20SK.pdf>.

^{xcviii} Sometimes described as departments, together as a unified whole or as two separate entities within the Government of Saskatchewan.

^{xcix} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No.1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 3.

^c Judge Patricia Linn et al., *Report of the Saskatchewan Indian Justice Review Committee* (Saskatchewan: January 1992), online: http://qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/misc-publications/Indian_Justice_Review_Comm.pdf [“*Saskatchewan Indian Justice Review Report*”] Judge Patricia Linn et al, *Report of the Saskatchewan Metis Justice Review Committee*, (Saskatchewan: January 1992), online: http://www.qp.gov.sk.ca/documents/misc-publications/Metis_Justice_Review_Comm.pdf.

^{ci} Dr. Les Samuelson, *Saskatchewan Aboriginal Justice Strategy: The Origins, Rationale and Implementation Process: An Evaluation Report* (Saskatchewan: 2000) at page 3 per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1, supra* at Tab B [“*Samuelson*”].

^{cii} *Ibid*; *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1, supra* at page 63.

^{ciii} *Samuelson, supra* at page 33.

^{civ} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No.1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at pages 3-4.

There are 18 circuit points on First Nation reserves, including 5 Cree Court locations. See Courts of Saskatchewan, “Court Locations and Sitting Times”, online: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/index.php/home/provincial-court/court-locations-and-sitting-times>.

^{cv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No.1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 4.

^{cvi} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at pages 8-10.

^{cvi} In 2017-18, a Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD) Northern Elders group was developed to rely on local Elders and community engagement strategies to help develop unique day program and residential services that remove barriers and allow for more culturally appropriate programs and services. *Social Services Annual Report 2017-18*, *supra* at page 7.

^{cviii} Ministry of Education, *Annual Report for 2017-18* at pages 11-14, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=90717&i=107654>.

^{cix} *The Police Act, 1990*, SS 1990-91, c P-15.01, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=756&i=1150> [“The Police Act”].

^{cx} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at page 69.

^{cx} Katrina Swan, Oral Submissions of the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, Closing Submissions of the National Inquiry, Wednesday, November 28, 2018, Calgary, Alberta.

^{cxii} *The Police Act*, *supra*, at ss 16(2).

^{cxiii} Saskatchewan, “Saskatchewan Public Complaints Commission”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/boards-commissions-and-agencies/saskatchewan-public-complaints-commission#legislation>.

^{cxiv} Public Complaints Commission, *Annual Report for 2017-18*, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/redirect.cfm?p=90787&i=107687> at page 3.

^{cxv} *Ibid.*

^{cxvi} *Ibid* at page 6.

^{cxvii} Saskatchewan, “Aboriginal Courtworker Program”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/courts-and-sentencing/aboriginal-courtworker-program>.

^{cxviii} *Saskatchewan Indian Justice Review Report*, *supra* at page 33.

^{cxix} “Premier’s Award for Excellence in the Public Service – Recipients”, online: http://publications.gov.sk.ca/documents/313/95783-Recipients_List_2016-2003%20as_of20170518.pdf.

^{cxx} Court of Saskatchewan, “Therapeutic Courts”, online: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/index.php/home/provincial-court/therapeutic-courts>.

^{cxxi} These include the Regina Drug Treatment Courts in Regina and Moose Jaw, the Regina Mental Health Disposition Court, the Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court and the Domestic Violence Courts in the Battlefords, Regina, and Saskatoon. National Judicial Institute, “Problem-Solving in Canada’s Courtrooms: A Guide to Therapeutic Justice” (Ottawa: 2011), online:

https://sasklawcourts.ca/images/documents/Provincial_Court/Problem-Solving%20in%20Canada's%20Courtrooms.pdf.

^{cxxii} Courts of Saskatchewan, “Moose Jaw Drug Treatment Court”, online: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/index.php/home/provincial-court/adult-criminal-court/mj-drug-court>.

^{cxxiii} Courts of Saskatchewan, “Regina Mental Health Disposition Court”, online: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/index.php/home/provincial-court/adult-criminal-court/regina-mental-health-disposition-court>; Courts of Saskatchewan, “Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy”, online: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/index.php/home/provincial-court/adult-criminal-court/saskatoon-mental-health-strategy>.

^{cxxiv} “Domestic Violence Court Defence Counsel FAQs”, online: https://sasklawcourts.ca/images/documents/Provincial_Court/DVC_Defence_Counsel_FAQs.pdf.

^{cxxv} Saskatchewan, News Release, “Provincial Funding Keeps the Doors Open at Kate’s Place”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2014/november/12/kates-place-open>.

^{cxxvi} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at page 43.

^{cxxvii} “Submissions of the Government of Saskatchewan” (The 2013 Justice of the Peace Commission: 2013) at page 30, online: <http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/m/index.cfm?action=view&p=91132> per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2*, *supra* at page 82.

^{cxxviii} In his evidence, Kim Beaudin states that Saskatchewan budgeted approximately \$1 billion for its entire Justice system. See Kim Beaudin, Institutional & Expert/Knowledge-Keeper Hearings: Criminal Justice Oversight and Accountability, Mixed Part II & III Volume VI at page 118, lines 7-8. According to the 2018-19 Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing, the total ministry budget estimate was approximately \$593 million with total expenditures at \$619 million.

Furthermore, according to the 2018-19 Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections and Policing, the budget estimate for total Custody, Supervision, and Rehabilitation Services for 2017-18 was approximately \$165 million, Annual Report for 2017-18, Ministry of Corrections and Policing/Ministry of Justice and Attorney General, Government of Saskatchewan, at page 22. The Report also notes that, in 2017-18, the growth of remand was reduced from 17% to zero, further to ministries efforts to reduce the strategic use of remand (see pages 2, 15-16).

^{cxxix} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2* at page 64-65; SaskNow.com, “Northern Justice Symposium to Focus on the good stories”, online: <https://sasknow.com/article/708967/northern-justice-symposium-focus-good-stories>.

^{cxxx} For example, Justice has a current agreement with the FSIN for the period 2018-2020 in the amount of \$169,650. Through this agreement, the FSIN provides policy and planning support for the framework development of a First Nations justice system. The framework is entitled *First Nations Framework for Just Relations*.

^{cxxxi} Barbara Tomporowski, Briefing Note, “Increasing the Use of Restorative Justice” (November, 2018) per Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at Tab C [“Increasing the Use of Restorative Justice”].

^{cxxxii} *Ibid.*

^{cxxxiii} Jeffrey Dudar, Briefing Note, “Community Justice Committees” (September, 2018) per Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at Tab D.

^{cxxxiv} Barbara Tomporowski and Jeffrey Dudar, Briefing Note, “School-Based Restorative Justice Programs” (November, 2018) per Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at Tab E.

^{cxxxv} Jeffrey Dudar, Briefing Note, “Community Justice Programs” (November, 2018) per Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, *supra* at Tab F.

^{cxxxvi} Increasing the Use of Restorative Justice, *supra*; Ministry of Justice, “Use of Alternative Measures and Extrajudicial Sanctions in Saskatchewan: 2014-15 to 2015-16,” (December, 2016) per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at Tab G.

^{cxxxvii} *Increasing the Use of Restorative Justice, supra.*

^{cxxxviii} *Boucher v The Queen*, [1955] SCR 16 at 23-24.

^{cxxxix} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 77.

^{cxl} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at page 80.

^{cxli} *Ibid* at page 88; Corrections and Policing, Policy, “First Nations and Metis Cultural Programs and Services” (November, 2014, Revised July 12, 2017) per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at Tab I.

^{cxlii} With the exception of the Drumming Hill Youth Centre.

^{cxliii} Saskatchewan Public Service Commission, Out-of-Scope Job Description Form, “Director, First Nations Metis Services,” (2004/2005) per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra* at Tab J.

^{cxliv} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 199, lines 19-21.

^{cxlv} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 205, lines 7-25 and page 206, lines 1-24.

^{cxlvi} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 4.

^{cxlvii} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 182, lines 20-23.

^{cxlviii} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 4; Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 184, lines 11-18.

^{cxlix} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 5-6.

^{cd} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 186.

^{cli} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 192, lines 15-21.

^{clii} Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 192, lines 23-24 and page 193, line 1.

^{cliii} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 6; Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 197, lines 3-4.

^{cliv} *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 6-10; Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 198.

See also Saskatchewan Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, “Agency Response Guide to Missing Person Situations in Saskatchewan” (March 3, 2017), Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Monday, May 28, 2018, Part II Volume I Exhibit 17; “Media Relations: A Toolkit for Families” Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Monday, May 28, 2018, Part II Volume I Exhibit 18; Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons (PPCMP), *Progress Report 2007-2018*, Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Monday, May 28, 2018, Part II Volume I, Exhibit 19.

^{clv} *The Missing Persons and Presumption of Death Act*, SS 2009, c M-20.01.

^{clvi} Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at page 40, lines 19-21.

^{clvii} *Ibid* at page 41, lines 4-11.

clviii Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 204, lines 2-10.

clix *Ibid* at pages 204-208.

clx *Ibid* at page 210.

clxi Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 210, lines 16-18.

clxii Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, “Saskatchewan Missing Persons”, online: <http://www.sacp.ca/missing>.

clxiii Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at page 36, lines 14-18.

clxiv Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at page 38, lines 19-23.

clxv Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at pages 42-43.

clxvi *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at page 13.

clxvii See, for example, Cross Examination of Commissioner Brenda Lucki, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018, at page 50, lines 19 -24.

clxviii *The Police Act, supra* at s 12.

clxix Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at pages 43-3.

clxx *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20), supra* at pages 11-12.

clxxi *Ibid* at 15. Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at pages 239-242.

clxxii Saskatchewan, News Release, “Province to Begin Domestic Violence Death Review” (June 16, 2016), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2016/june/16/domestic-violence-death-review>.

clxxiii Saskatchewan, News Release, “Domestic Violence Death Review Final Report Released” (May 24, 2018), online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/news-and-media/2018/may/24/domestic-violence-death-review-report>.

clxxiv *Ibid*.

clxxv The programs are delivered by community partners who provide educational programming to school-aged children on family and domestic violence issues.

clxxvi This program provides children who have been exposed to domestic violence with supports designed to reduce their risk of becoming a victim or offender.

For more information about the program see Saskatchewan, “Children Exposed to Violence”, online: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/child-protection/children-exposed-to-violence>; and *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20)*, *supra* at pages 20-21.

clxxvii *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20)*, *supra* at pages 13-15.

clxxviii Robert Henry, PhD, *Building Healthier Communities, Final Report on Community Recommendations for the Development of the Saskatchewan Prevention/Intervention Street Gang Strategy* (Calgary: August, 2018); Jeffrey Dudar, Briefing Note, “STR8 Up and Provincial Gang Strategy” (October, 2018) per *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 2, supra*.

clxxix *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20)*, *supra* at page 24.

clxxx *Ibid* at pages 24-28.

clxxxi *Federal Terms of Reference*, *supra* at page 2.

clxxxii *Saskatchewan Evidentiary Submission No. 1 (Exhibit 20)*, *supra* at pages 11-12. See also Former Chief Clive Weighill, Institutional Hearings: Police Policies & Practices, Part II Volume VIII, Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at pages 56-57.

clxxxiii Betty Ann Pottruff, Q.C., Institutional Hearings: Government Services, Part II Volume I, Monday, May 28, 2018 at page 199, lines 19-21.

clxxxiv *Ibid* at pages 193-194.