

Primary Recommendations on behalf of the Native Women's Association of the NWT

1. All Canadians and Canadian political leadership must meaningfully acknowledge that violence against Indigenous women and girls including members of the 2SLGBTQ communities is a national crisis that demands an urgent and active response.
2. All Canadians and Canadian political leadership must proactively re-establish, build and foster trust between all levels of government, service providers, communities and citizens.
3. Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Indigenous governments should ensure that the purpose and objective of all government services is to be community and person centered.
4. Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Indigenous governments should establish a senior level entity mandated to be accountable for monitoring and reporting on measures of Indigenous women's safety, health, education levels and any other socio-economic indicators relevant as measures of their equality, dignity and wellness.

Additional Recommendations for Consideration

1. Federal, Provincial, Territorial and Indigenous governments ensure that all projects or programs directed to or for Indigenous women actively involve Indigenous women in their research, development and delivery.
2. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments in collaboration with Indigenous governments establish working groups to reduce the high turnover rate in front-line community services.
3. Provincial and Territorial governments in collaboration with Indigenous governments establish joint working groups with Elders, grandmothers and youth to develop and deliver public education and community awareness in support of: 1) safe and healthy relationships; 2) warning signs of abuse; 3) warning signs of personal crisis; 4) ending the stigma of victimization; and 5) ways to access community services.
4. That Indigenous Elders who contribute to the development or delivery of community services, including but not limited to counselling, victims' services, social services, or rehabilitative supervision of offenders, be compensated at a level reflective of their role.

5. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments in collaboration with Indigenous governments support the establishment of a mobile trauma-recovery team relevant to the local Indigenous community or region and capable of returning to remote communities on a regular basis.
6. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively support Indigenous communities to establish community-based addictions treatment programs including after-care supports that are adequately resourced and culturally safe.
7. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively support Indigenous communities including Elders, grandmothers and other knowledge keepers to establish community-based anti-violence programs for persons who have violence in personal relationships.
8. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively support Indigenous communities including Elders, grandmothers and other knowledge keepers to establish community-based recovery programs for survivors or witnesses to violence that are trauma informed and culturally safe.
9. In all cases where an individual must travel from their home community in order to access any government services, the relevant government have policies and measures to ensure that the individual is supported while away from their community and given all reasonable accommodation to support a choice to return to their community.
10. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments who engage non-government services providers to deliver a government-funded core community-service ensure that the funding or contribution agreements are multi-year and include a contribution towards core-funding as well as program or service-specific funding.
11. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments ensure that all front-line service providers delivering government funding community services have access to adequate emergency or enhanced health or mental health resources to prevent or alleviate vicarious trauma or trauma triggering events to the service provider staff themselves.
12. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments in collaboration with Indigenous governments and by engaging Privacy Commissioners proactively establish a working group to determine

best practices for the sharing of personal information between service agencies when in the best interests of a client.

13. As appropriate to a child's jurisdiction, the Federal, Provincial or Territorial government ensure that where a member of a child's family assumes their full time care instead of the child being apprehended and placed in the child welfare foster system, the caregivers be eligible for financial supports up to an amount that might otherwise be paid to a foster family and will not have other government financial support or benefit removed or reduced by virtue of receiving additional financial supports for the purpose of caring for the child.
14. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively support Indigenous communities including Elders, grandmothers and other knowledge keepers with adequate resources to develop and deliver culturally safe, community-based programs that encourage positive parenting and healthy families.
15. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively engage Indigenous communities including Elders, grandmothers and other knowledge keepers to establish working groups to 1) identify traditional forms of justice that remain socially and culturally relevant to the community; and 2) propose steps to increase the use of restorative justice principles and methods in all litigation.
16. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments pro-actively support Indigenous communities including Elders, grandmothers and other knowledge keepers to development community-based programs and contact-points for all offenders.
17. All lawyers serving an indigenous community shall inquire with each client or witness whether she or he would prefer the court proceedings or their testimony to take place in an Indigenous language and, if so, that all efforts be made to accommodate that choice.
18. All provincial and territorial governments responsible for victims services ensure that such services are available to all persons appearing in court, including child protection matters, in a manner that is culturally safe and language appropriate.
19. Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments, including law enforcement bodies, pro-actively support Indigenous communities to establish Elders councils and grandmothers'

councils with adequate resources, including compensation for participants, to support the development and delivery of cultural safety training for all front line community-service providers, including law enforcement officers and persons working in the justice system.

20. All persons working within the justice system including judges, lawyers, law enforcement, victim assistance workers, social workers, justice coordinators and relevant front-line support staff receive training on trauma informed justice processes.

Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls		
Location/Phase: <u>Part 4: Closing oral subs</u>		
Witness: <u>n/a</u>		
Submitted by: <u>Carolina Wawzonek</u>		
Add'l info: <u>P04 P01 P02 D1</u>		
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