



Manitoba

Introductory Statement

As we mark the second anniversary of the release of the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, we acknowledge and honour the Indigenous women, girls, 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, families and communities who have lost loved ones to this unspeakable national tragedy and we further acknowledge and honour survivors who have experienced trauma and violence.

The tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls is deeply felt in Manitoba. It is imperative that we continue to honour the memories of those who have been taken and that we support those who have been impacted.

On August 24, 2016, Manitoba joined with other provinces and territories and affirmed its participation in the National Inquiry as a means to put an end to the cycle of trauma and violence, advance reconciliation and support the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. On December 6, 2018, Manitoba announced its intention to take concerted and coordinated action to combat gender-based violence under the leadership of a new Gender-Based Violence Committee of Cabinet.

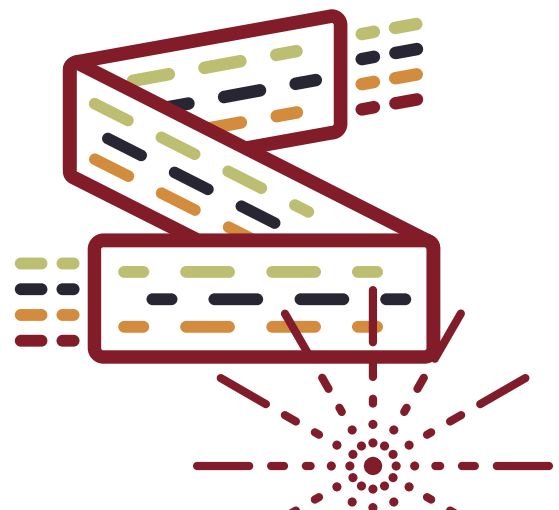
This Committee provides leadership with respect to our efforts to prevent the further victimization

of Indigenous women and girls and marks our commitment toward a government-wide, integrated and coordinated approach to ending gender-based violence.

Honourable Eileen Clarke, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Relations

Current Progress

Under the umbrella of Manitoba's Gender-Based Violence Committee of Cabinet, Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations is leading the work, with the support of Manitoba Status of Women and other departments that will form the basis of Manitoba's response to the National Inquiry and Calls for Justice. This work includes an engagement process with community-based organizations, Indigenous leadership, families and survivors and a detailed cross-department review of current and planned activities related to missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.





Red lights lit up on the Manitoba legislature building in honour of MMIWG on February 14th, 2020 – The Annual MMIWG March/Walk

The broader engagement plan is essential to ensure an aligned and effective path forward, and is intended to capitalize on Manitoba's strong, dedicated and vibrant networks who continue to work to put an end to violence against Indigenous women and girls. The engagement process is ongoing, with over 40 community-based organizations having participated to date. Engagement with families and survivors continues and is being led by Indigenous organizations with funding support from the Manitoba government.

The cross-departmental review is well underway and the results are expected to complement what is heard through engagement and contribute to a fulsome and coordinated approach to responding to the Final Report and Calls for Justice.

Manitoba is working to develop a concrete and effective response to the National Inquiry that builds on work that is underway at the community-level and aligns with the main pillars of Manitoba's Framework for Addressing Gender-Based Violence. It is intended that this response will serve as a starting point for ongoing work that will evolve and grow over time.

In the meantime, Manitoba is pursuing a wide variety of more immediate activities that align with the Calls for Justice and support efforts to end violence against Indigenous women and girls. Examples of these activities include:

- ★ The provision of \$6.4 million, in April 2021, to 24 community organizations to deliver programs that address the diverse needs of victims, including \$850,000 for agencies that support survivors of sexual violence.
- ★ Continued efforts to work with Indigenous leadership, police agencies and other community partners to more fully incorporate the use of restorative justice options where appropriate.
- ★ The establishment of the Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Act.
- ★ The implementation of new and enhanced supports in the Justice system for victims of intimate partner violence.
- ★ The expansion of a "hub model" for integrated youth services, including mental health and addictions services for youth and young adults.
- ★ The establishment of a pilot partnership with the Winnipeg Police Service aimed at developing new approaches to support families experiencing domestic violence through the co-location of specialized Justice staff at the Winnipeg Police Headquarters.

For more information please visit:



<https://www.gov.mb.ca/inr/mmiwg/index.html>

Closing Statement

Addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls, and incidences of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, is a priority for Manitoba. We will continue to work with Indigenous women, girls, 2SLGBTQQA+, families, survivors, leadership and communities to advance concrete action to respond to the Calls for Justice of the National Inquiry and promote a future where Indigenous women and girls can thrive in an environment of safety and security.