

Master List of Report Recommendations Organized By Theme

This document contains recommendations from the 58 reports reviewed. All recommendations are in their original wording and are organized under 16 overarching themes.

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Theme 1: National commission of inquiry

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- The IACHR strongly supports the creation of a national-level action plan or a nation-wide inquiry into the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, in order to better understand and address the problem through integral approaches. The IACHR considers that there is much more to understand and to acknowledge in relation to the missing and murdered indigenous women. This initiative must be organized in consultation with indigenous peoples, particularly indigenous women, at all stages from conception, to establishing terms of reference, implementation and evaluation.(para 309)

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Establish a national commission of inquiry into the murders and disappearances of indigenous women and girls before the end of 2013
- Ensure that a public inquiry takes place into the violence experienced by indigenous women and girls in northern British Columbia
- Encourage Canada to launch a national inquiry into the murders and disappearances of indigenous women and girls

Report: Coordinated and Urgent Action to End Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls – Towards a National Action Plan – Assembly of First Nations, 2012

- The Assembly of First Nations recommends the Government of Canada immediately strike an independent and inclusive National Public Commission of Inquiry on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls, with the full support and participation of Provinces and Territories
- The Assembly of First Nations recommends that an inclusive, outcome oriented inter-governmental mechanism be created, inclusive of Indigenous women and girls, elected leadership and federal and provincial Ministers, to develop a comprehensive action and implementation plan to address the high incidences of violence against Indigenous peoples

Report: Blueprint for an Inquiry: Learning from the Failures of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry - British Columbia Civil Liberties Association, Pivot Legal Society, British Columbia Legal Education and Action Fund, 2012

- 1. Commissions must ensure that marginalized individuals and groups who could contribute to the Commission's work have meaningful opportunity, including funding and legal representation if necessary, to participate in inquiry processes.

- 2. Commissions should prioritize using the infrastructure, expertise and staff of existing community organizations to facilitate the participation of marginalized groups by providing those groups with additional resources to support the commission, rather than try to create new resources.
- 3. The consultation process should include an educational component for commission staff to assist them in understanding culturally appropriate and effective ways to gather evidence and conduct itself
- 4. Where the establishing government body fails to support the full participation of marginalized communities, a commissioner must act to protect their participatory rights. These steps should start with consultation with affected groups about best responses to the government interference and end with, if necessary, the resignation of the commissioner
- 5. For all future public inquiries, compensation for commissioners of inquiries should be commensurate with judicial salaries and commission counsel salaries should not exceed that of Crown Counsel.
- 6. Terms of Reference should be developed in consultation with communities that are directly affected by the prospective inquiry or who have called for the inquiry.
- 7. Those whose conduct is being investigated by the inquiry should have an extremely limited role in influencing the development of the terms of reference
- 8. Given the nature of an inquiry as seeking systemic reforms, terms of reference must be broad enough to capture systemic factors and cause
- 9. Psychosocial, legal and any other supports that are reasonably required to facilitate participation by marginalized witnesses should be provided to them.
- 10. Supports must be culturally appropriate, adequately resourced, and available from well before a witness gives their testimony until well after their testimony is complete. Inquiries should work in partnership with established community organizations to design and deliver supports, while understanding that these organizations have limited funding that is entirely focused on their core mandates. Additional financial support may be required for these groups to assist.
- 11. The possibility of amnesty for witnesses must be considered and publicly debated in the context of each individual inquiry
- 12. Procedural protections for marginalized witnesses who fall into protected grounds under provincial or federal human rights legislation should be established at the outset of proceedings, and can include anonymity, publication bans, limits on cross examination, and other legal protections.
- 13. If a marginalized witness claims this protection, the onus should be on any party challenging those protections to demonstrate why the witness is not entitled to the protection requested.
- 14. Inquiries should be launched as soon as is practically possible after the event in question
- 15. Except where exemptions already exist in the law or the terms of reference or the rules of the commission itself, commissioners should follow the common law rules around disclosure.

- 16. Applications by parties for disclosure or the calling of particular witnesses should be decided in a timely manner, as a matter of convenience for all where those applications involve evidence that may impact on upcoming witnesses, but especially where the requests come from marginalized participants.
- 17. Parties must disclose documents in a timely manner, and documents should be disclosed in advance of the calling of witnesses. Commissioners of inquiry must not hesitate to use court processes to compel timely and complete document disclosure
- 18. Procedural protections for marginalized witnesses must not come at the expense of their ability to influence equally the purpose and outcomes of the inquiry.
- 19. Creative approaches for collecting evidence should be explored, such as trained statement-takers from supportive community organizations, and facilitated to ensure that witnesses are able to share their information completely.
- 20. When a public inquiry targets in whole or in part the activities of the police, current or former members of the police should not be hired to organize or coordinate the inquiry, or be retained to prepare supposedly independent reviews of the evidence that will be heard at the inquiry.
- 21. Experts chosen by a commission of inquiry should be chosen solely on the basis of qualifications, relevance, availability and independence, not because they are available at no cost and are soliciting participation.
- 22. When determining funding levels for public interest or community interveners at a public inquiry, a rough balance should be struck between the legal resources available to government and non-government interests represented. The principle of the indivisibility of the Crown should govern when evaluating the amount of public funding dedicated to protecting and promoting government and government agent interests as compared to public funding dedicated to particular community or public perspectives.
- 23. Organizations and individuals in conflicts of interest, following the definition of the Supreme Court of Canada and the Law Society of the relevant jurisdiction, should not be hired to be experts or staff of an independent inquiry.

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- At the earliest opportunity, the provincial government should establish a public inquiry into police handling of the cases of women who are reported to have gone missing from Downtown Eastside in Vancouver

Theme 2: National action plan

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- The IACHR strongly supports the creation of a national-level action plan or a nation-wide inquiry into the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, in order to better understand and address the problem through integral approaches. The IACHR considers that there is much more to understand and to acknowledge in relation to the missing and murdered indigenous women. This initiative must be organized in consultation with indigenous peoples, particularly indigenous women, at all stages from conception, to establishing terms of reference, implementation and evaluation. (para 309)
- the IACHR strongly urges the need for better coordination among the different levels and sectors of government.(para 307)
- The IACHR considers that full compliance with the already established recommendations of the Oppal report is necessary and will bring about important advances. Drawing from those recommendations, the IACHR stresses the importance of appointing a new Chair of the Advisory Committee on the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women as soon as possible (Para 312).

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 16 That the federal government implement all of the recommendations above in a coordinated action plan.

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- With leadership from indigenous communities, develop and implement a national action plan to address violence against indigenous women and girls that addresses the structural roots of the violence as well as the accountability and coordination of government bodies charged with preventing and responding to violence

Report: Report on the 2011 Western Regional Forum on Supporting Families of Missing Persons, Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch of Ministry of Justice and AG, 2011

(Note: these are really calls for more coordinated action)

- 3. Make a commitment – In order for any progress to be made it is important to have all agencies committed as well as to clearly identify who can do what, who is willing to do what and name various subgroups that are willing to provide assistance and help create strategies.
- 4. Build relationships – All Forum participants are responsible to build and maintain cross-jurisdictional relationships in order to work toward our goals and provide the best services possible to missing persons and their families.
- 5. Identify champions – Every province and territory is tasked with identifying a person who will champion the issue of missing persons.
- 6. Identify a key point or person – Participating jurisdictions will identify one person who is linked to many services and professionals that knows how to help families of missing persons.

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Federal, provincial and territorial governments and national and regional Aboriginal leadership need to develop and implement a multi-year national strategy to facilitate collaboration and partnerships with Aboriginal organizations to develop and implement community-based solutions to address violence against Aboriginal women
- Establish a National Centre of Excellence focused on violence against First Nation, Métis and Inuit Women

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that Ministers ask the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to consider a national strategy to ensure consistency in reporting mechanisms for reporting missing persons. This could be developed in conjunction with implementation of a National Data Base
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions work with law enforcement/police agencies to ensure that the public is made aware of reporting practices for missing persons in their jurisdiction; to evaluate the adequacy of current educational mechanisms; and consider how to make information more accessible through websites. This could include a national public education campaign about missing persons' issues and police policies and procedures in order to change misconceptions

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- As a matter of urgent priority, the federal government should work with Indigenous women and representative organizations and provincial and territorial officials to develop and implement a comprehensive, co-ordinated national plan of action in keeping with the scale and seriousness of the violence and discrimination experienced by Indigenous women

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 1. Continue ongoing work to coordinate services, and address jurisdictional gaps within each service or program delivery area, between departments and jurisdictions. The federal, provincial and First Nation governments will need to take the lead for this as this should be done for programming in the federal, provincial and First Nation spheres of authority.

Report: Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women - Ontario Native Women's Association & Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, 2007

- That a specific *Strategy to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women* be developed, adopted, resourced and implemented, consistent with the principles and design set out in this document

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women, Ontario Native Women's Association Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, September 2007

- That a specific Strategy to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women be developed, adopted, resourced and implemented, consistent with the principles and design set out in this document

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International 2004

- undertake a review of outstanding recommendations from Canadian commissions, inquiries and inquests pertaining to the safety and welfare of Indigenous people with a view to ensuring their timely implementation.
- clearly outline the measures taken to address the problem of violence against Indigenous women in Canada in reports to relevant UN human rights bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Committee.
- The federal government should commit to fully implementing outstanding recommendations of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples which address poverty and social marginalization of Indigenous people in Canada, as has repeatedly been urged by United Nations treaty bodies.

Report: Provincial Association Against Family Violence, Moving Toward Safety: Responding to Family Violence In Aboriginal and Northern Communities of Labrador, 2002

- A comprehensive evaluation process for all initiatives to ensure that goals and objectives are realized.

Theme 3: Public acknowledgement of this issue by provincial and federal governments

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government appoint two advisors, including one Aboriginal Elder, to consult with all affected parties regarding the form and content of the apologies and other forms of public acknowledgement required as a first step in the healing and reconciliation process
- That Provincial Government appoint two advisors, including one Aboriginal Elder, to consult with all affected parties regarding the structure and format of this facilitated reconciliation process and to consider mechanisms for funding it. These consultations and recommendations could be undertaken together with recommendation 3.1

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Provide more public recognition of the damage done by residential schools and more healing programs to address addictions and their effects on family relationships

Report: Pauktuuit, National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities and Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Wisdom – A Guide to a National Strategy, 2006

- Make abuse in Inuit communities a priority issue

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- Publicly condemn the high rates of violence against Indigenous women – whether within Indigenous communities and society as whole -- and make public their plans to address the crisis

Theme 4: Properly resourced, Indigenous-specific, programs to address violence against Indigenous women, and services to protect, heal and support

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- This means addressing the past and present institutional and structural inequalities confronted by indigenous women in Canada. This includes the dispossession of indigenous lands, as well as historical laws and policies that negatively affected indigenous people, the consequences of which continue to prevent their full enjoyment of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. This in turn entails addressing the persistence of longstanding social and economic marginalization through effective measures to combat poverty, improve education and employment, guarantee adequate housing and address the disproportionate application of criminal law against indigenous people. These measures must incorporate the provision of information and assistance to ensure that indigenous women have effective access to legal remedies in relation to custody matters. (para 306)

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 5 That the federal government continue to support K-12 education on reserve as an important tool in combating the root causes of violence against Aboriginal women and girls.
- Recommendation 6 That the federal government continue to support programming and legislation that allow Aboriginal communities to respond to violence.
- Recommendation 7 That the federal government examine options to address poverty as a root cause of violence against Aboriginal women and girls by empowering Aboriginal people through economic development opportunities and jobs and skills training.
- Recommendation 9 That the federal government support provincial, territorial and First Nation childcare agencies in their responsibility to ensure effective and accountable service delivery.
- Recommendation 15 That the federal government examine opportunities to improve the incorporation of best practices into existing programs and services available to Aboriginal women and girls.

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Provide adequate shelters and social services for victims of violence, including in rural areas and with specific culturally-sensitive services

Report: Summary Report: Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit 2 – Strong Women, Strong Communities – Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues and the Yukon Women's Directorate, 2012

- Build a centre for Aboriginal women and their families that is safe - with resources, welcoming women, counselling, functional gatherings, workshops, and programming
- Provide adequate, sustainable CORE funding for all Yukon Aboriginal women's organizations
- Support efforts to reduce homelessness by increasing access to and availability of affordable, safe and healthy housing for Aboriginal women and children. Work with community partners to develop an affordable rent-to-own housing program and increase housing options and support for youth who want to live independently
- Build and permanently staff a traditional healing, treatment and after-care centre with land-based camps with programming that addresses trauma, addictions and violence, to heal the heart, mind, body and spirit. Services, programming and support will be culturally-relevant and gender-based and will incorporate traditional teachings, knowledge and medicines (Dene-Net-Sete-Tan), which means that it must support the whole family
- Address the high rates of depression/mental health issues of young rural Aboriginal girls by working with them directly by the age of 9 years old – in healthy activities, role models and opportunities to determine choices that open doors (see Health and Health Related Behaviours Among Young People in Yukon Survey results)

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government provide additional funding to Aboriginal women's organizations to create programs addressing violence on reserves, so that fewer women and youth are forced to escape to urban areas
- That Provincial Government provide additional funding to Aboriginal women's organizations to provide more safe houses and counselling programs run for and by Aboriginal women and youth

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Provide more public recognition of the damage done by residential schools and more healing programs to address addictions and their effects on family relationships
- Recognize the high rates of violence experienced by Aboriginal women across Canada and create and fund specific programs to address this violence
- Provide funding to Aboriginal women's organizations to create programs addressing violence on reserve, so that fewer women are forced to escape to urban areas
- Strengthen justice systems for dealing with violence on reserves, and develop homecoming programs so that women who have left their reserves as a result of violence can be welcomed back
- Provide more safe houses and counseling programs run for and by Aboriginal women

- Recognize that removing Aboriginal children from their families to place them in white foster homes is detrimental to both the children and their parents; provide support to parents to enable them to better parent instead
- Provide teens with more positive role models, including more Aboriginal role models
- Support Aboriginal youth to secure employment by providing better schooling, vocational training and life skills training
- Provide more funding for counseling and ensure that counseling is culturally appropriate and administered in an accountable manner
- Provide better low-cost, subsidized or free housing, including more women-only emergency shelters, for women in the DTES
- Get the City of Vancouver to invest in more housing, either by purchasing temporary and portable individual housing units or by taking over and refurbishing existing SROs
- Establish more no-barrier housing that accepts women who are actively using drugs or engaging in sex work
- Provide more drug treatment options to women
- Provide counseling for women who have experienced sexual or childhood abuse and may be using drugs to self-medicate
- Provide drugs by prescription, including methadone, heroin and stimulants, as a way of reducing the risks associated with addiction to illegal drugs
- Provide drug counseling and treatment programs for women who are imprisoned, including court-appointed therapeutic rehabilitation programs (*consensus not necessarily reached for this recommendation*)
- Provide life skills programs to women, including in prison (*consensus not necessarily reached for this recommendation*)
- Make sure that marginalized women are not denied access to services because they are using drugs or engaging in sex work

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- A continuum of programs and services that assist women and girls who are at risk of or have experienced violence, as well as their children, families and communities, and that can be accessed throughout an individual's full life cycle should be available in every community
- Programs and services that draw on or are based on culture and tradition should be available in all Aboriginal communities
- Wherever reasonably possible, programs and services should be delivered in the home communities of people using those programs and services
- Children and youth should have access to activities that will help strengthen their traditional and cultural knowledge and identity, and help them understand and negotiate the impacts of history on their present day lives

- Increase women's access to services that are designed and delivered by Aboriginal women, including in-community victims' services, advocacy services and activities that build capacity for Aboriginal women
- All provinces and territories should dedicate funding to provide emergency support to victims of domestic violence
- Establish single points of access where women can connect to integrated services
- Federal government departments or agencies should set family violence as a priority and allocate appropriate funding to support community-led activities in this area. The federal government should also share and strategically coordinate funding between and across departments and agencies and, if appropriate, with other levels of government
- Provincial government departments or agencies should set family violence as a priority and allocate appropriate funding to support community-led activities in this area. They should share and strategically coordinate funding between and across departments and agencies and, if appropriate, with other levels of government; lobby and advocate at federal, provincial and territorial levels and establish violence prevention as an area for statutory activity
- Municipal governments should provide in-kind support and share resources (e.g., public space for camps) and funding to support community-led activities
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments should ensure that funding is coordinated, timely and capable of meeting community needs
- Public health funds should be directed towards young vulnerable mothers with very young children and other high risk groups
- Government should increase investments in services for men, including treatment services that allow the removal of the man/perpetrator from the family home rather than the woman/victim
- All provinces and territories should dedicate funding to provide emergency support to victims of domestic violence
- Government and Aboriginal leaders should explore ways to expand upon or adapt the model used by the Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin: I Am A Kind Man Initiative for national implementation

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice encourage Ministers responsible for work place health and safety to ensure that all employers assess the risk factors that may make isolated employees vulnerable to serial predators within work environments and develop safety plans with employees in order to promote safety and reduce risk of harm
- The MWWG recommends that municipalities and First Nations, as appropriate, work with relevant community agencies and police to establish programs at key places where women rely heavily on hitchhiking, and incorporate strategies such as the shuttle bus transportation system recommended in the *Highway of Tears Report*

- As a priority Aboriginal organizations or organizations that work with high-risk Aboriginal populations be funded to support individual or group safety planning awareness and engagement, taking into account, in particular, the specific barriers women face, and their lack of protections on or off reserve
- The MWWG recommends that the FPT Community Safety and Crime Prevention Working Group should be asked to examine the need to make the personal safety of women a priority, with particular consideration given to those factors shown to increase the risk of violence from predators

Report: Final Report: Strengthening the Circle to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; Ontario Native Women's Association; Métis Nation of Ontario; Independent First Nations, 2010

- Increase the number of culturally appropriate services in the community
- Provide Aboriginal-specific programming
- Ensure counselling and other healing services are available in the community for each specific family member and the whole family
- Share knowledge and information
- Ensure a consistent quality of care and support for all services
- Develop an Aboriginal, community-based cultural Child Witness program
- Invest in education to prevent violence
- Fund an independent Aboriginal specific help line
- Establish Aboriginal Specific D.V. Coordinating Committees
- Existing Domestic Violence Coordinating Committees support Aboriginal specific programming
- MCSS staff work effectively with Aboriginal communities to deliver programs and develop policies
- Aboriginal shelters and MCSS funded programs are supported to develop board and staff capacity
- Develop policy and deliver programs in a way that is consistent with the Aboriginal community it is meant to serve
- Work in an integrated way with Violence Against Women services
- Ensure counselling and other healing services are available in the community for each specific family member and the whole family
- Address the lack of affordable housing for Aboriginal women
- Provide supports for women to find and maintain housing
- Increase the number of Aboriginal Transitional Support Workers (TSWs)
- Shift the organizational culture of Ontario Works to be able to be responsive and respectful to women who have experienced violence

Report: A Call for Action, Summary Report, National Aboriginal Women's Summit, 2009

- 1. Federal/Provincial/Territorial Governments must increase financial resources for family violence initiatives and abuse prevention programs; provide more national financial and policy support for enhanced programming regarding family violence and abuse for prevention, care, healing initiatives/treatment and support; and increase resources for child sexual abuse and Elder abuse programs and services.
- 2. Make violence against Aboriginal women and girls a priority in all areas. In health, this includes providing sexual and reproductive health services, particularly sexual health education programs, HIV/AIDS awareness, education and health prevention and promotion services. In education, particularly post-secondary education, this means supports that meet the unique needs of Aboriginal women, such as child care and housing, to decrease their vulnerability to violence and increase their opportunities for economic opportunities. In housing, this means ensuring that emergency shelters, second stage housing and transition shelters are adequately funded in areas where these services are currently not accessible to Aboriginal women.
- 3. Ensure that resources be available to address all issues that negatively impact on Aboriginal women's well-being, including poverty, lack of housing, sexualized and racialized violence, employment, education, single parent families, healthcare, urban and remote issues, etc.
- 4. Ensure economic opportunity strategies consider all the socio-economic conditions that are required to create the right environment for Aboriginal women to participate in the economy. For example, child care, adequate housing, strategies to combat gendered racism, and ensuring that the right and fundamental freedom to live free from violence are all factors to be considered. Existing inequities facing Aboriginal women must be removed in all sectors. This requires the application of a culturally relevant gender- based analysis.
- 7. National and regional Aboriginal women's organizations (NAOs) must be provided appropriate resources for the development, implementation and monitoring of a national, long-term strategic plan for Aboriginal women in all spheres (social and economic development, etc.). Resources must reflect the unique circumstances of each group or geographical area.
- 9. Federal, provincial and territorial governments must address jurisdictional issues so that programs and services are provided irrespective of status and residency with specific agreements for delivery.
- 11. Aboriginal women must be actively involved and take their rightful place in self-determination and processes must be developed to ensure that their unique and important roles in Aboriginal governments be recognized.
- 12. Economic development for First Nation, Métis and Inuit women is a priority.
- 13. Educational outcomes for Aboriginal women must be improved through accessible affordable educational opportunities and increased financial resources.
- 14. Gender equity is a right and must guide all policies and legislation while taking into account the distinctiveness of First Nations, Métis and Inuit women.
- 18. Aboriginal languages are a significant part of identity. Language program funds need to be increased to allow for retention of the language from various nations. This is a vital part of maintaining cultures.

- 27. The Federal Government (as a result of the previous assimilation policies of residential schools that negatively impacted on languages) must fund the revitalization of indigenous languages through programs dedicated to adults, youth and children.

Report: First Nations Communities at Risk and in Crisis: Justice and Security - Journal of Aboriginal Health (academic article), 2009

- Empowering the Healing Processes of First Nations
- Seek Comparable Funding for Preventative and Proactive Community Justice and Security Community Plans
- Building Community Capacity and Infrastructure
- Building Relationships
- Review Models that Work (Project and Cooperative Governance)

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- Review all social programmes to ensure that funding for programmes for Indigenous women, children and families is equitable to those available to non-Indigenous people in Canada and is sufficient to ensure effective protection and full enjoyment of their rights. Particular priority should be given to eliminating discrimination in funding for Indigenous child welfare

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 5. Establish an information resource at the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women and/or the NB Women's Issues Branch on potential funding programs in the federal, provincial government levels and other sectors from which the NBAWCI and Wabanaki women's groups can potentially access funding.
- 11. Establish a resource centre at the NBAWCI, once the organization has developed stable operations that will be useful to Wabanaki women's groups in developing their capacities to meet the needs and concerns of Wabanaki women. This centre would provide expertise in areas of interest to Wabanaki women, e.g. proposal development, fiscal accountability, etc.
- 12. Provide training to service providers off reserve so they can better assist and address the needs of both on and off reserve Wabanaki women, children, Elders and women with disabilities dealing with violence.
- 13. Provide training in woman abuse protocols, recognizing neglected or abused children and reporting of these types of situations to service providers on reserve and Aboriginal organizations.
- 19. Investigate the situation regarding pay equity in First Nation communities. This could be initiated by First Nation governments with the assistance with agencies such as the Coalition on Pay Equity.
- 20. Institute transparent and objective hiring processes and policies in First Nation community workplaces, if these have not already been adopted by First Nation band governments.

- 21. Identify the existing numbers of Aboriginal provincial and federal government employees. The provincial and federal governments should actively continue with efforts to increase these numbers as part of their employment equity or equal employment opportunities initiatives. This may require ensuring there are suitable orientation programs for new Wabanaki employees; receptive cultural environments; and, addressing any systemic issues in the hiring and retention process.
- 22. Undertake outreach activities to Wabanaki women, on and off reserve, on the part of agencies providing services and information for Aboriginal entrepreneurs.
- 23. Provide childcare options in First Nation communities for women working shift work, and ensure that services are available even when other community agencies may temporarily close.
- 24. Increase the numbers of affordable childcare spaces available in the province. This should be addressed by the Province of New Brunswick and daycare providers.
- 25. Develop and deliver culturally appropriate initiatives for Wabanaki young women on and off reserve to foster an attitude of self-sufficiency and reciprocity.
- 29. Develop and enforce human resource policies in First Nation communities that meet or exceed provincial and federal standards, but that are culturally appropriate for communities.
- 32. Deliver cross cultural training for service providers that will include some practical and culturally appropriate strategies for dealing effectively with Wabanaki clients and patients.
- 33. Offer or be receptive to both Wabanaki and western approaches to health, mental health and addiction related services so that individuals can access the type of assistance and support they are most comfortable with. This would particularly apply to service providers off reserve who may be less familiar with alternate Wabanaki approaches.
- 34. Identify and address jurisdictional gaps and inconsistencies in health, mental health and addiction services for Wabanaki individuals.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- Families of missing persons should be supported by governments and involved agencies to develop a support network.
- The provincial government, in partnership with police services, First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations, and local governments, should consult with families of missing persons to determine the form or forms that a provincial memorial to missing persons could take and how it would be implemented and maintained.
- The mandate of Victim Services should include the provision of support to families of missing people.
- The Committee recommends that the government undertake a study to better understand the issues related to the high number of runaways and to identify prevention and intervention strategies, particularly for chronic runaways and their families.

Report: Highway of Tears Symposium Recommendation Report, 2006

Recommendation #13

- That recreation and social activity programs for Rural First Nation community youth, and Urban Aboriginal youth, be increased in the First Nation communities, towns and cities located along the Highway of Tears.
- That the number, types, and frequency of essential health and social services be increased for direct delivery to the First Nation communities located along the Highway of Tears.
- That a permanent Regional First Nation Crisis Response Plan be developed and implemented for First Nation communities, and Aboriginal families (Urban and Rural) experiencing a traumatic event.
- That a roster of fully qualified Aboriginal; mental health therapists, grief counselors, critical incident stress counselors, and other counselors of relevant specialty, be developed.
- That an exceptionally qualified First Nation Crisis Response Team be assembled, receive training on their roles, and be ready for deployment to any of the Rural First Nation communities, or Urban Aboriginal family, from which a victim disappears.
- That Aboriginal Agencies, or First Nation Communities, qualified to deliver such services, be assigned to provide long term counselling and support to Aboriginal victims' families upon their request and direction

Report: Applying Inuit Cultural Approaches in the Prevention of Family Violence and Abuse, Nuluaq Project, 2005

- 9. Consultation with Inuit healers in the establishment of counselling services and education programs aimed specifically at male members of Inuit society, designed to address the issues of abuse and the healthy regard of women and children.
- 7. The direct involvement of Inuit healers in the designing and implementation of drug and alcohol prevention programs.
- 10. The set up of an effective children's help line, available to all children in Aboriginal communities, with access to traditional Inuit counsellors.

Nuluaq Project, Research Report: Applying Inuit Cultural Approaches in the Prevention of Family Violence and Abuse, 2005

- 5. The establishment of a visible structure of frontline Inuit healing personnel who work in conjunction with existing agencies and who receive salaries equal with their role in Inuit society.

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- The federal government should provide adequate, sustained, multi-year funding for initiatives to deal with the immediate and intergenerational impacts of both the physical and psychological abuse suffered at residential schools, including the loss of cultural identity.
- Federal, provincial and municipal governments should subject all social programs to a periodic review to ensure the accessibility and resourcing of programs for Indigenous women and families is at least on a par with those available to non-Indigenous people in Canada.

- In collaboration with Indigenous representatives and organizations, the federal government should take urgent action to address the chronic unemployment and poverty faced by Indigenous women and men both on and off reserve.

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- Federal, provincial and territorial governments should ensure adequate, sustained, multi-year funding to ensure the provision of culturally appropriate services such as shelters and counseling for Indigenous women and girls.
- Federal, provincial and municipal governments should subject all social programs to a periodic review to ensure the accessibility and resourcing of programs for Indigenous women and families is at least on a par with those available to non-Indigenous people in Canada.
- In collaboration with Indigenous representatives and organizations, the federal government should take urgent action to address the chronic unemployment and poverty faced by Indigenous women and men both on and off reserve.

Report: Start of Something Powerful: Strategizing for Safer Communities for BC Aboriginal Women, Pacific Association of First Nations Women, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counseling Programs, 2003

- Recommendation 4: Funds be allocated for a transition house program for Aboriginal women in the North to be funded by Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.
- Recommendation 5: Funds be allocated for a new community based victim assistance program located in a region with high Aboriginal population, utilizing funds from the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.
- Recommendation 6: Core funding be provided by the Provincial Health Services Authority to develop a provincial Aboriginal women's organization with Aboriginal women's health and safety as a primary mandate.
- Recommendation 7: The Pacific Association of First Nations Women take a lead role to initiate this organization.
- Recommendation 8: The Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General provide funds to develop and implement education and training on variety of topics related to violence in Aboriginal communities delivered by Aboriginal women.
- Recommendation 9: Training be developed and provided by Aboriginal women focused on capacity building within Aboriginal communities on topics such as leadership, intersectoral coordination, policy and protocol development, etc.
- Recommendation 11: All social policy ministries in BC review existing research about Aboriginal women and violence to expand knowledge and inform policy, programs and services.
- Recommendation 12: The Ministries of Public Safety & Solicitor General and Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services take the lead role in this initiative, and provide funds for Aboriginal women to review the existing literature related to Aboriginal women and violence,

aggregate the findings and recommendations and the Ministries begin to fund programs based on the recommendations.

- Recommendation 13: The Ministries of Public Safety & Solicitor General, Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Health Planning and Health Services allocate core funding directly to Aboriginal organizations and programs in the areas of anti-violence and health related services.
- Recommendation 14: The Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General review and alter their population-based funding formula to ensure that women in remote communities have access to services.
- Recommendation 15: The Ministries of Public Safety & Solicitor General, Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Health Planning, Health Services and Children and Family Development review current government funding criteria to ensure that it is accessible, relevant and equitable to Aboriginal women and peoples.

Report: Provincial Association Against Family Violence, Moving Toward Safety: Responding to Family Violence In Aboriginal and Northern Communities of Labrador, 2002

- A financial commitment to established women's groups that would increase their capacity to coordinate an integrated community response to family violence.
- Restructuring of the Nain Safe House to enhance its capacity to exist as a fullservice shelter for families of northern Labrador. Changes must occur on several levels including physical space, staff and management training and salary structure.
- Reopening of the Hopedale shelter as a multi-service unit.
- The establishment of multi-service units in the other fly-in-only, policed communities in northern Labrador.
- The presentation of this report by the Provincial Association Against Family Violence to the Innu Nation recommending the establishment of a temporary multiservice unit in Davis Inlet, to be replaced by a 24-hour shelter following relocation to Natuashish.
- The establishment of a multi-service unit in a central, policed south-coast community.

Report: Pauktuuit, National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities and Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Wisdom – A Guide to a National Strategy, 2002

- Sustain front-line workers and community services
- Deliver services that heal the Inuit
- Expand programs that build on Inuit strengths and prevent abuse.

Report: Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission, 2001

- The Commission recommends that the Manitoba Government adopt, in consultation with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Manitoba Métis Federation, a five-year Aboriginal employment strategy. The Government must make annual reports to the public on its progress in implementing this program.

Report: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996

- 1.7.1 The Government of Canada
 - (a) commit to publication of a general history of Aboriginal peoples of Canada in a series of volumes reflecting the diversity of nations, to be completed within 20 years;
 - (b) allocate funding to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to convene a board, with a majority of Aboriginal people, interests and expertise, to plan and guide the Aboriginal History Project; and
 - (c) pursue partnerships with provincial and territorial governments, educational authorities, Aboriginal nations and communities, oral historians and elders, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal scholars and educational and research institutions, private donors and publishers to ensure broad support for and wide dissemination of the series.
- 1.7.2 In overseeing the project, the board give due attention to
 - the right of Aboriginal people to represent themselves, their cultures and their histories in ways they consider authentic;
 - the diversity of Aboriginal peoples, regions and communities;
 - the authority of oral histories and oral historians;
 - the significance of Aboriginal languages in communicating Aboriginal knowledge and perspectives; and
 - the application of current and emerging multimedia technologies to represent the physical and social contexts and the elements of speech, song and drama that are fundamental to transmission of Aboriginal history.

That the nature and scope of the injury caused to Aboriginal people by past policies in relation to residential schools be established and appropriate remedies devised therefor.

The Commission recommends that
- 1.10.1 Under Part I of the *Public Inquiries Act*, the government of Canada establish a public inquiry instructed to
 - (a) investigate and document the origins and effects of residential school policies and practices respecting all Aboriginal peoples, with particular attention to the nature and extent of effects on subsequent generations of individuals and families, and on communities and Aboriginal societies;
 - (b) conduct public hearings across the country with sufficient funding to enable the testimony of affected persons to be heard;
 - (c) commission research and analysis of the breadth of the effects of these policies and practices;
 - (d) investigate the record of residential schools with a view to the identification of abuse and what action, if any, is considered appropriate; and
 - (e) recommend remedial action by governments and the responsible churches deemed necessary by the inquiry to relieve conditions created by the residential school experience, including as appropriate,
 - apologies by those responsible;

- compensation of communities to design and administer programs that help the healing process and rebuild their community life; and
- funding for treatment of affected individuals and their families.
- 1.10.2 A majority of commissioners appointed to this public inquiry be Aboriginal.
- 1.12.1 Acknowledge, on behalf of the people of Canada, the contribution of Aboriginal people within the Canadian Armed Forces during the wars of this century (the First World War, the Second World War and Korea) by
 - (a) giving a higher profile to Aboriginal veterans at national Remembrance Day services;
 - (b) funding the erection of war memorials in Aboriginal communities; and
 - (c) funding the continuing work of Aboriginal veterans' organizations.
- 1.12.2 Agree to Aboriginal veterans' requests for an ombudsman to work with the departments of veterans affairs and Indian affairs and northern development and national and provincial veterans' organizations to resolve long-standing disputes concerning
 - Aboriginal veterans' access to and just receipt of veterans benefits; and
 - the legality and fairness of the sales, leases and appropriations of Indian lands for purposes related to the war effort and for distribution to returning veterans of the two world wars.
- 1.12.3 Hire Aboriginal people with appropriate language skills and cultural understanding in the Department of Veterans Affairs to serve distinct Aboriginal client groups.
- 1.12.4 Establish and fund a non-profit foundation in honour of Aboriginal veterans to promote and facilitate education and research in Aboriginal history and implement stay-in-school initiatives for Aboriginal students.
- 3.3.11 Aboriginal, federal, provincial and territorial governments incorporate in funding agreements plans for capital development and operating costs of a network of healing lodges.
- 3.3.12 Federal, provincial and territorial governments, and Aboriginal governments and organizations, support the assumption of responsibility for planning health and social services by regional Aboriginal agencies and councils where these now operate, and the formation of regional Aboriginal planning bodies in new areas, to promote
 - (a) equitable access to appropriate services by all Aboriginal people;
 - (b) strategic deployment of regional resources; and
 - (c) co-operative effort between Aboriginal communities and communities of interest, consistent with the emergence of nation governments and confederacies.
- **3.3.13** The government of Canada provide funds to the national Aboriginal organizations, including national Aboriginal women's organizations, to permit them to prepare a comprehensive human resources development strategy in health and social services that
 - (a) facilitates and draws upon regional initiatives, integrates information from diverse sources, and is structured to incorporate regular updating;
 - (b) builds an inventory of Aboriginal human resources currently available in health and social services, identifying where, in what field and at what level Aboriginal personnel are currently practising;

- (c) assesses current and future Aboriginal human resources needs and identifies the actions needed on the part of governments, educational institutions and others to address these needs;
 - (d) assesses requirements for direct service personnel as well as for planners, researchers and administrators;
 - (e) collates an inventory and available evaluative data on training and education options;
 - (f) explores recruitment, training and retention issues;
 - (g) examines the personal and professional supports required to encourage Aboriginal professionals to practise in Aboriginal communities;
 - (h) develops proposals for a system to monitor the status of Aboriginal human resources; and
 - (i) develops an analysis of how, to the maximum extent possible, Aboriginal human resources development can be brought under Aboriginal control.
- **3.3.15** Federal, provincial and territorial governments and national Aboriginal organizations, including Aboriginal women's organizations, explore how training approaches and personnel complements of current health and social services, including the community health representative and drug and alcohol abuse programs, can contribute to a more comprehensive, holistic and integrated system of services, while helping to maintain continuity and adequacy of Aboriginal community services.
 - **3.3.16** Post-secondary educational institutions providing programs of study leading to professional certification in health or social services collaborate with Aboriginal organizations to examine how they can
 - (a) increase the number of Aboriginal students participating in and graduating from their programs;
 - (b) provide support for students to promote completion of programs;
 - (c) develop or expand specialized programs; and
 - (d) modify the curriculum of programs leading to certification so as to increase the cultural appropriateness and effectiveness of training provided to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students who will be providing services to Aboriginal people.
 - **3.3.17** Post-secondary educational institutions and professional associations collaborate with Aboriginal organizations to ensure that professionals already in the field have access to programs of continuing professional education that emphasize cultural issues associated with the provision of health and social services.
 - **3.3.18** Post-secondary educational institutions involved in the training of health and social services professionals, and professional associations involved in regulating and licensing these professions, collaborate with Aboriginal organizations and governments to develop a more effective approach to training and licensing that recognizes the importance and legitimacy of Aboriginal knowledge and experience.
 - **3.3.19** The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the Canadian Association of University Teachers encourage their members to implement the Commission's recommendations with respect to professional training of Aboriginal people for health and

social services, and that these organizations provide leadership to help ensure that the recommendations are implemented.

- **4.2.1** The government of Canada provide funding to Aboriginal women's organizations, including urban-based groups, to
 - (a) improve their research capacity and facilitate their participation in all stages of discussion leading to the design and development of self-government processes; and
 - (b) enable them to participate fully in all aspects of nation building, including developing criteria for citizenship and related appeal processes.
- **4.2.2** Aboriginal governments and organizations provide for the full and fair participation of Aboriginal women in the governing bodies of all Aboriginal health and healing institutions.
- **4.2.3** Aboriginal governments and planning bodies with a mandate to develop new structures for human services undertake, in collaboration with women's organizations, an inventory of existing services, organizations and networks with a view to building on existing strengths and ensuring continuity of effort.

Report: Changing the Landscape: Ending Violence - Achieving Equality. Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women, 1994

- The Zero Tolerance Policy is based on the position that no level of violence is acceptable, and women's safety and equality are priorities. The report recommends that all organizations and institutions review their programs, practices and products in light of the Zero Tolerance Policy, which they should use as a tool for creating a violence-free environment and for monitoring that environment. The policy should also be applied in key sectors of society such as health and social services, legal institutions, workplaces, the military, educational settings, the federal government and religious institutions. While the implementation of a Zero Tolerance Policy in these sectors will address the overall nature of Canadian society, the report also includes a plan for action by for individual Canadians in their capacity as parents, partners, children, co-workers, friends and community members
- To implement a national child care plan based on the principles of equity and flexibility and to support that program through regulations and standards governing child care workers, programs and facilities.

Sub- theme The need to heal male perpetrators of violence and prevent the perpetuation of male attitudes that devalue the lives and experiences of Indigenous women

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 2 That the federal government continue strengthening the criminal justice system to ensure, among other things, that violent and repeat offenders serve appropriate sentences.

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Enforce harsher penalties for sexual assault, rape and murder; and institute rehabilitation programs aimed at changing behaviour of offenders (*consensus not necessarily reached on this recommendation*)

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Enforce harsher penalties for sexual assault, rape and murder; and institute rehabilitation programs aimed at changing behaviour of offenders (*consensus not necessarily reached on this recommendation*)

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Provincial government departments or agencies should set family violence as a priority and allocate appropriate funding to support community-led activities in this area. They should share and strategically coordinate funding between and across departments and agencies and, if appropriate, with other levels of government; lobby and advocate at federal, provincial and territorial levels and establish violence prevention as an area for statutory activity

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Activities for children designed to prevent violence and promote healthy relationships should be incorporated into elementary school activities and begin in the primary grades
- Government should increase investments in services for men, including treatment services that allow the removal of the man/perpetrator from the family home rather than the woman/victim

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice, in cooperation with other partners, should continue to provide adequate levels of monitoring, social support and intervention to sex offenders to interrupt patterns of serial predation

**Report: Final Report: Strengthening the Circle to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; Ontario Native Women's Association; Métis
Nation of Ontario; Independent First Nations, 2010**

- Ensure counselling and other healing services are available in the community for each specific family member and the whole family

**Report: Nuluaq Project, Research Report: Applying Inuit Cultural Approaches in the
Prevention of Family Violence and Abuse, 2005**

- 9. Consultation with Inuit healers in the establishment of counselling services and education programs aimed specifically at male members of Inuit society, designed to address the issues of abuse and the healthy regard of women and children.

Theme 5: Indigenous involvement in social program development and delivery

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- Initiatives, programs and policies related to indigenous women should be tailored to their needs and concerns, including whether they are living on reserve or off reserve. Their consultation is crucial for the success of any initiative, especially given the context of historical and structural discrimination. In this regard, Canada should adopt measures to promote the active participation of indigenous women in the design and implementation of initiatives, programs and policies at all levels of government that are directed to indigenous women, as well as those that pertain to indigenous peoples more broadly. The selection of indigenous women to participate in these initiatives should be made in consultation with recognized associations of indigenous peoples and of indigenous women and their leadership. (para 308)

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 8 That the federal government engage First Nation communities to examine how to improve supports for shelters and front-line services on reserve for victims of violence.

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Aboriginal leaders and community members need to take ownership of the response to violence against Aboriginal women and initiate activities in their own communities to prevent and address violence
- Aboriginal community members need to reinstitute community governance by establishing formal structures that support their ability to work together to address violence against Aboriginal women and other community issues
- Ongoing consultation and communication must be established between government and Aboriginal women on policies, decisions, planning, projects or activities that affect or involve them
- Increase women's access to services that are designed and delivered by Aboriginal women, including in-community victims' services, advocacy services and activities that build capacity for Aboriginal women

- Government and Aboriginal leaders should explore ways to expand upon or adapt the model used by the Kizhaay Anishinaabe Niin: I Am A Kind Man Initiative for national implementation
- Working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and leadership, establish a virtual centre, clearinghouse or similar online resource where information and resources on violence against Aboriginal women can be aggregated and made publicly available
- Federal, provincial and territorial governments and national and regional Aboriginal leadership need to develop and implement a multi-year national strategy to facilitate collaboration and partnerships with Aboriginal organizations to develop and implement community-based solutions to address violence against Aboriginal women
- Departments and agencies in all levels of government should explore opportunities for interdepartmental and intergovernmental partnerships, as well as partnerships with Aboriginal government, leadership, organizations and communities
- Police services, Aboriginal leaders and grassroots community organizations should explore ways to establish mutually empowered and accountable working relationships
- Federal government departments or agencies should set family violence as a priority and allocate appropriate funding to support community-led activities in this area. The federal government should also share and strategically coordinate funding between and across departments and agencies and, if appropriate, with other levels of government
- Municipal governments should provide in-kind support and share resources (e.g., public space for camps) and funding to support community-led activities

Report: A Framework for Action in Education, Economic Development and Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls - BC Aboriginal Affairs Working Group, 2010

- Increase collaboration and engagement among governments, non- governmental organizations, service agencies, justice systems including courts and police forces, and National and other Aboriginal organizations with the goal of developing more co-ordinated approaches to address issues of violence against Aboriginal women, including missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls. This could incorporate support for shelters and safe houses and other local initiatives
- Work together along with the federal government with a goal of developing comprehensive approaches to addressing violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada, including missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls

Report: Final Report: Strengthening the Circle to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; Ontario Native Women's Association; Métis Nation of Ontario; Independent First Nations, 2010

- Create a provincial Aboriginal Women's Violence Action Committee
- Establish Aboriginal Specific D.V. Coordinating Committees
- Existing Domestic Violence Coordinating Committees support Aboriginal specific programming
- MCSS staff work effectively with Aboriginal communities to deliver programs and develop policies
- Support Aboriginal women leadership in the implementation of the Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that municipalities and First Nations, as appropriate, work with relevant community agencies and police to establish programs at key places where women rely heavily on hitchhiking, and incorporate strategies such as the shuttle bus transportation system recommended in the *Highway of Tears Report*

Report: First Nations Communities at Risk and in Crisis: Justice and Security - Journal of Aboriginal Health (academic article), 2009

- Empowering the Healing Processes of First Nations
- Seek Comparable Funding for Preventative and Proactive Community Justice and Security Community Plans
- Building Community Capacity and Infrastructure
- Building Relationships
- Review Models that Work (Project and Cooperative Governance)

Report: A Call for Action, Summary Report, National Aboriginal Women's Summit, 2009

- 5. Recognize and understand the role and value of traditional Aboriginal reproductive, pregnancy and birthing knowledge; the loss of continuity of family and community care and involvement for women who must leave their communities during late pregnancy to give birth; the importance of Aboriginal women's roles in teaching young women about the physical aspects of womanhood and holding related ceremonies; and develop and implement a comprehensive strategy that promotes the inclusion of Aboriginal youth in the design and delivery of policy, programs and services.
- 6. Aboriginal women must be engaged fully within environmental stewardship issues including water, land, food, air quality, medicines and access and benefit sharing of traditional knowledge on the use of resources, consistent with traditional and modern responsibilities.

- 17. Governments must work jointly with First Nation, Métis and Inuit to facilitate governance, capacity building and accountability with an emphasis on supporting the roles of Aboriginal women.
- 19. NAOs, Federal, Provincial, Territorial, and all governments ensure that culturally-based GBA [gender-based analysis] processes are established, and that Aboriginal women be resourced to define for themselves the impact of any proposed legislation, policy, programs and services. Protection of intellectual property and indigenous knowledge transmission must be included and respected through the GBA.
- 20. Implementing a culturally relevant gender based analysis (CRGBA) framework in all legislative, policy and programming at all government levels will provide critical insight into the current situation forcing outcomes to be more holistic and inclusive.
- 21. Full participation of Aboriginal women at all decision making tables is needed so they are well served in all legislative, policy and programming initiatives affecting Aboriginal people.
- 22. A lifelong learning strategy must be developed in key areas of early childhood development, primary, secondary, and post-secondary education, and skills development, and retention, which addresses the unique circumstances of Aboriginal women.
- 28. Provide support and recognition to traditional healers, opportunities for Aboriginal women to help develop traditional healing policies and programs, and encourage meaningful dialogue between Aboriginal healers and non-Aboriginal health care providers.
- 29. Develop a strategy to allow Aboriginal women to reclaim their traditional roles, pass on traditional knowledge, and revitalize their cultures and communities through increased research and educational opportunities.

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 2. Establish a Wabanaki Women's Issues Table as part of the First Nation/Province Bilateral process to bring forward the perspectives and address the concern of Wabanaki women, and to ensure that gender equity issues are addressed at the various tables of the bilateral process
- 3. Strengthen or initiate collaborative working relationships between the federal and provincial governments, First Nation communities, off reserve agencies and postsecondary education institutions in the different sectors that deal with violence to Aboriginal women, e.g., policing, health, social services, and others, to ensure that the needs of all Wabanaki women and children are considered.
- 4. Provide base operational funding to the NBAWCI so that it can increase its capacity and be an effective voice for Wabanaki women in New Brunswick.
- 6. Include NBAWCI at the different federal, provincial and First Nation government forums addressing Aboriginal issues in New Brunswick so that there is a strong voice representing the needs and interests of Wabanaki women in New Brunswick.
- 7. Facilitate linkages between NBAWCI and relevant key agencies, provincial and federal departments so that the concerns and interests of Wabanaki women can be brought forward,

and partnerships and collaboration on issues relevant to Wabanaki women are facilitated. This should be undertaken by the Women's Issues Branch.

- 9. Provide the Women's Issues Branch with adequate funding to hire a provincial Aboriginal Coordinator to undertake and coordinate the work necessary to address violence against Wabanaki women and children. The Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women would continue to provide advice.
- 10. Develop partnerships and collaboration between the NBAWCI and other agencies and institutions to develop the organization's networks, capacity and its work on Wabanaki women's issues. NBAWCI would take the lead for this action once it has established its base of operations.

Report: Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women - Ontario Native Women's Association & Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, 2007

- That an Aboriginal women-specific gender-based analysis be developed by Aboriginal women in Ontario and be applied broadly by all levels of government.
- That the Ministers responsible to address the Domestic Violence Action Plan or its successor meet with Aboriginal women forthwith, to discuss the Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and ensure that they undertake, at a minimum, annual meetings with Aboriginal women concerning the progress of the Strategy, administration of funds, and the enhancements of policies designed to address violence against Aboriginal women and strengthen the government, organizational and community responses.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- The provincial government, in partnership with police services, First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal organizations, and local governments, should consult with families of missing persons to determine the form or forms that a provincial memorial to missing persons could take and how it would be implemented and maintained

Report: Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women - Ontario Native Women's Association & Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, 2007

- That the Ministers responsible to address the Domestic Violence Action Plan or its successor meet with Aboriginal women forthwith, to discuss the Framework to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and ensure that they undertake, at a minimum, annual meetings with Aboriginal women concerning the progress of the Strategy, administration of funds, and the enhancements of policies designed to address violence against Aboriginal women and strengthen the government, organizational and community responses

Report: Pauktuuit, National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities and Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Wisdom – A Guide to a National Strategy, 2006

- Invest in training and capacity development

Report: Highway of Tears Symposium Recommendation Report, 2006

- 12. That Aboriginal Youth, who live in the Rural First Nations communities, and Urban Aboriginal Youth who live in the towns and cities on the Highway of Tears, be organized and listened to

Report: Nuluaq Project, Research Report: Applying Inuit Cultural Approaches in the Prevention of Family Violence and Abuse, 2005

- 1. The transcription of all that can be learned from the oral tradition of healing practices. This generation of elders is the last truly traditional source we will have available to us. Their knowledge must be collected now
- 2. The gathering and compilation of any written materials which may exist throughout the north by current and past healers, pertaining to specific case studies, advice, healing practices. This is of vital importance, and must be done in a timely fashion
- 3. The establishment of centers in which Inuit healers train future Inuit healers in a structured, consistent manner. In addition, an effective screening process for applicants should be considered.
- 4. The establishment of a set of qualifications for Inuit healers.
- 5. The establishment of a visible structure of frontline Inuit healing personnel who work in conjunction with existing agencies and who receive salaries equal with their role in Inuit society.
- 7. The direct involvement of Inuit healers in the designing and implementation of drug and alcohol prevention programs.
- 8. The direct involvement of Inuit healers in open discussion and educational programs designed to bring physical and sexual abuse issues into the open.
- 9. Consultation with Inuit healers in the establishment of counselling services and education programs aimed specifically at male members of Inuit society, designed to address the issues of abuse and the healthy regard of women and children.
- 10. The set up of an effective children's help line, available to all children in Aboriginal communities, with access to traditional Inuit counsellors.
- 11. The involvement of aboriginal counselling experts in government planning and regulations.
- 12. Facilitation of movement from one community to another of healers when needed to assist in special circumstances.
- 13. The appropriate training of southern staff and counselors in a knowledge of Inuit culture and values, so that disparities in the two approaches are alleviated.

Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- In collaboration with Indigenous representatives and organizations, the federal government should take urgent action to address the chronic unemployment and poverty faced by Indigenous women and men both on and off reserve.
- All levels of government should adopt such measures as are necessary to ensure that Indigenous women are consulted in the formulation and implementation of any policy that could affect their welfare and status.
- All levels of government should work with Indigenous peoples to strengthen and expand public education programs, including within the formal school system, that acknowledge and address the history of dispossession and marginalization of Indigenous peoples and the present reality of racism in Canadian society.

Report: Start of Something Powerful: Strategizing for Safer Communities for BC Aboriginal Women, Pacific Association of First Nations Women, BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre, Association of Specialized Victim Assistance and Counseling Programs, 2003

- Recommendation 3: Funds be allocated to the development of anti-violence programs managed and staffed by Aboriginal women.
- Recommendation 10: As all issues impact violence against Aboriginal women, Aboriginal women's involvement in policy making must extend beyond violence against women to include treaty and all other issues impacting Aboriginal peoples.

**Provincial Association Against Family Violence, Moving Toward Safety:
Responding to Family Violence In Aboriginal and Northern Communities of Labrador, 2002**

- A consultation process should be considered which would enable communities to begin planning proposed initiatives.
- A comprehensive evaluation process for all initiatives to ensure that goals and objectives are realized.

**Report: The Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission, 2001
Selected recommendations:**

- The Government of Manitoba seek to enter into agreement with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Manitoba Metis Federation to develop a plan that would result in First Nations and Métis communities developing and delivering Aboriginal child welfare services.

**Report: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996
Selected Recommendations:**

- 3.2.6: Aboriginal leaders take a firm, public stance in support of the right to freedom from violence of all members in the community, but particularly of women, children, elders, persons with disabilities and others who may be vulnerable, as well as in support of a policy of zero tolerance of actions that violate the physical or emotional safety of Aboriginal persons.
- 3.2.7: Aboriginal governments adopt the principle of including women, youth, elders and persons with disabilities in governing councils and decision-making bodies, the modes of representation and participation of these persons being whatever they find most agreeable.
- 3.2.8: The full and equal participation of women be ensured in decision-making bodies responsible for ensuring people's physical and emotional security, including justice committees and boards of directors of healing centres and lodges.
- 3.2.9: Aboriginal leaders and agencies serving vulnerable people encourage communities, with the full participation of women, to formulate, promote and enforce community codes of behaviour that reflect ethical standards endorsed by the community and that state and reinforce the responsibility of all citizens to create and maintain safe communities and neighbourhoods.
- 3.2.10: Federal, provincial and territorial governments promptly acknowledge that the field of family law is generally a core area of Aboriginal self-governing jurisdiction, in which Aboriginal nations can undertake self-starting initiatives without prior federal, provincial or territorial agreements.
- 3.2.11: Federal, provincial and territorial governments acknowledge the validity of Aboriginal customary law in areas of family law, such as marriage, divorce, child custody and adoption, and amend their legislation accordingly.
- 3.2.12: Aboriginal nations or organizations consult with federal, provincial and territorial governments on areas of family law with a view to
 - (a) making possible legislative amendments to resolve anomalies in the application of family law to Aboriginal people and to fill current gaps;
 - (b) working out appropriate mechanisms of transition to Aboriginal control under self-government; and
 - (c) settling issues of mutual interest on the recognition and enforcement of the decisions of their respective adjudicative bodies.
- 3.2.13: With a view to self-starting initiatives in the family law area or to self-government, Aboriginal nations or communities establish committees, with women as full participants, to study issues such as
 - (a) the interests of family members in family assets;
 - (b) the division of family assets on marriage breakdown;
 - (c) factors to be considered in relation to the best interests of the child, as the principle is applicable to Aboriginal custody and adoption;
 - (d) rights of inheritance pertaining to wills, estates or intestacy; and
 - (e) obligations of spousal and child support.

- 3.3.1: Aboriginal, federal, provincial and territorial governments, in developing policy to support health, acknowledge the common understanding of the determinants of health found in Aboriginal traditions and health sciences and endorse the fundamental importance of
 - holism, that is, attention to whole persons in their total environment;
 - equity, that is, equitable access to the means of achieving health and rough equality of outcomes in health status;
 - control by Aboriginal people of the lifestyle choices, institutional services and environmental conditions that support health; and
 - diversity, that is, accommodation of the cultures and histories of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people that make them distinctive within Canadian society and that distinguish them from one another.
- 3.3.2: Governments recognize that the health of a people is a matter of vital concern to its life, welfare, identity and culture and is therefore a core area for the exercise of self-government by Aboriginal nations.
- 3.3.3: Governments act promptly to
 - (a) conclude agreements recognizing their respective jurisdictions in areas touching directly on Aboriginal health;
 - (b) agree on appropriate arrangements for funding health services under Aboriginal jurisdiction; and
 - (c) establish a framework, until institutions of Aboriginal self-government exist, whereby agencies mandated by Aboriginal governments or identified by Aboriginal organizations or communities can deliver health and social services operating under provincial or territorial jurisdiction.

- 3.3.4: Governments, in formulating policy in social, economic or political spheres, give foremost consideration to the impact of such policies on the physical, social, emotional and spiritual health of Aboriginal citizens, and on their capacity to participate in the life of their communities and Canadian society as a whole.
- 3.3.5: Governments and organizations collaborate in carrying out a comprehensive action plan on Aboriginal health and social conditions, consisting of the following components:
 - (a) development of a system of Aboriginal healing centres and healing lodges under Aboriginal control as the prime units of holistic and culture-based health and wellness services;
 - (b) development of Aboriginal human resources compatible with the new system, its values and assumptions;
 - (c) full and active support of mainstream health and social service authorities and providers in meeting the health and healing goals of Aboriginal people; and
 - (d) implementation of an Aboriginal community infrastructure development program to address the most immediate health threats in Aboriginal communities, including the provision of clean water, basic sanitation facilities, and safe housing.
- 3.3.6: Federal, provincial and territorial governments collaborate with Aboriginal nations, organizations or communities, as appropriate, to
 - (a) develop a system of healing centres to provide direct services, referral and access to specialist services;
 - (b) develop a network of healing lodges to provide residential services oriented to family and community healing;
 - (c) develop and operate healing centres and lodges under Aboriginal control;
 - (d) mandate healing centres and lodges to provide integrated health and social services in culturally appropriate forms; and
 - (e) make the service network available to First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, in rural and urban settings, on an equitable basis.
- 3.3.7: Federal, provincial and territorial governments collaborate with Aboriginal nations, regional Aboriginal service agencies, community governments and Aboriginal organizations, as appropriate, to adapt legislation, regulations and funding to promote
 - (a) integrated service delivery that transcends restricted service mandates of separate ministries and departments;
 - (b) collaboration and shared effort between federal, provincial/territorial and local governments; and
 - (c) the pooling of resources flowing from federal, provincial, territorial, municipal or Aboriginal sources.

- 3.3.8: Aboriginal organizations, regional planning and administrative bodies and community governments currently administering health and social services transform current programs and services into more holistic delivery systems that integrate or co-ordinate separate services.
- 3.3.9: Federal, provincial and territorial governments, in consultation with Aboriginal nations and urban communities of interest, co-operate to establish procedures and funding to support needs assessment and planning initiatives by Métis and other Aboriginal collectivities, in rural and urban settings, to
 - (a) form interim planning groups for rural settlements with a minimum of 250 Aboriginal residents, or catchment areas, whether urban or rural, with a minimum of 1,000 residents;
 - (b) compile an inventory of existing services, organizations and networks directed to meet Aboriginal needs, from which to build on existing strengths and ensure continuity of effort; and
 - (c) prepare plans to develop, operate and house healing centres, considering the goal of equitable access by Aboriginal people wherever they reside, the historical pattern of distinct Métis and treaty nation development in the prairie provinces, the availability and adaptability of municipal and provincial services, and the cost and efficiency of services.
- 3.3.10: Aboriginal, federal, provincial and territorial governments, as appropriate, collaborate on regional initiatives to develop healing lodges providing residential services oriented to family and community healing, with priority being given to
 - (a) needs assessment and planning that reflect regional Aboriginal initiative and responsiveness to the diversity of cultures and communities;
 - (b) services broadly inclusive of all Aboriginal people resident in a region or associated with the nations of the region;
 - (c) institutions that collaborate with and complement other Aboriginal institutions and services, particularly healing centres delivering integrated health and social services; and
 - (d) governance structures consistent with emerging forms of Aboriginal self-government in the region.
- 4.2.1: The government of Canada provide funding to Aboriginal women's organizations, including urban-based groups, to
 - (a) improve their research capacity and facilitate their participation in all stages of discussion leading to the design and development of self-government processes; and
 - (b) enable them to participate fully in all aspects of nation building, including developing criteria for citizenship and related appeal processes.

- 4.2.2: Aboriginal governments and organizations provide for the full and fair participation of Aboriginal women in the governing bodies of all Aboriginal health and healing institutions.
- 4.2.3: Aboriginal governments and planning bodies with a mandate to develop new structures for human services undertake, in collaboration with women's organizations, an inventory of existing services, organizations and networks with a view to building on existing strengths and ensuring continuity of effort.
- 4.3.1: Aboriginal, federal, provincial and territorial governments acknowledge the essential role of Elders and the traditional knowledge that they have to contribute in rebuilding Aboriginal nations and reconstructing institutions to support Aboriginal self-determination and well-being. This acknowledgement should be expressed in practice by
 - (a) involving Elders in conceptualizing, planning and monitoring nation-building activities and institutional development;
 - (b) ensuring that the knowledge of both male and female Elders, as appropriate, is engaged in such activities;
 - (c) compensating Elders in a manner that conforms to cultural practices and recognizes their expertise and contribution;
 - (d) supporting gatherings and networks of Elders to share knowledge and experience with each other and to explore applications of traditional knowledge to contemporary issues; and
 - (e) modifying regulations in non-Aboriginal institutions that have the effect of excluding the participation of Elders on the basis of age.
- 4.3.2: Aboriginal Elders be involved in the formulation and implementation of policies for the preservation and protection of sacred sites. In co-management situations, Elders should be board members.
- 4.3.3: Federal, provincial and territorial governments
 - (a) recognize Aboriginal people's right of access to public lands for the purpose of gathering traditional herbs, plants and other traditional medicines where the exercise of the right is not incompatible with existing use; and
 - (b) consult with Aboriginal governments on guidelines to govern the implementation of this right.
- 4.4.1: Youth centres be established on reserves and in communities, including urban communities, where there is a significant Aboriginal population. Where cultural centres exist they should develop a specific youth component, including cultural and recreational programs.
- 4.4.2: Federal, provincial and territorial governments provide funding for community initiatives to establish Aboriginal youth camps that would
 - (a) pursue cultural activities linking youth with elders through the development of traditional skills and knowledge;
 - (b) promote a healthy lifestyle (counselling, fitness and nutrition); and
 - (c) encourage positive social interaction between Aboriginal youth of different nations and between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal youth.

- 4.4.4: The proposed Aboriginal sports and recreation advisory council promote programs and initiatives that are
 - (a) community-driven, based on needs identified by the community, with programming developed or modified by the community to meet the community's needs;
 - (b) sustainable, as opposed to one-time tournaments or events; and
 - (c) capacity builders aimed at providing instruction in recreation programming, leadership development and coaching skills.
- 4.4.6: Co-operative home construction, based on the Habitat for Humanity model, be initiated in Aboriginal communities to provide housing, employment and construction skills for Aboriginal youth.
- 4.4.7: Federal, provincial and territorial governments develop and adopt, through the leadership of the Ministry of State for Youth, and in close consultation with Aboriginal youth and their representative organizations, a comprehensive Canada-wide policy framework to guide initiatives and programs directed to Aboriginal youth.
- 4.4.8: Key program areas for a Canada-wide Aboriginal youth policy be education, justice, health and healing, sports and recreation, and support programs for urban Aboriginal youth:
 - (a) Education in the broadest sense must be a priority, with greater efforts to develop a culturally appropriate curriculum that reinforces the value of Aboriginal culture. Transformative education — which uses students' personal experiences as a springboard for deeper analysis and understanding of the world around them — should be considered in developing initiatives in education.
 - (b) The justice and corrections system has a substantial impact on youth. New programs should be developed and existing programs modified to focus on reintegrating youth into the community through approaches that reflect Aboriginal culture.
 - (c) Health and healing must reflect the needs of Aboriginal youth, particularly in the areas of counselling and support.
 - (d) Sports and recreation must be treated as an integral part of Aboriginal youth policy. Increased resources for facilities and programming are needed, as are trained people to co-ordinate sports and recreation programs for Aboriginal youth. Also, the sports community — athletes and fans — must be seen as a way to build and strengthen relationships among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
 - (e) Aboriginal youth in urban areas need innovative programs to help them bridge the traditional and urban worlds and support their choices about where and how to live.

- 4.4.9: All governments pursue the following goals in developing and implementing a Canada-wide Aboriginal youth policy: youth participation at all levels, leadership development, economic development and cultural rebirth, youth involvement in nation building, and cultural and spiritual development.
- 4.4.10: The federal government provide funding for a biennial conference of Aboriginal youth delegates and invited representatives from government and non-government organizations, the purpose of which would be to
 - (a) review progress over the preceding 24 months on goals established under the Canada-wide Aboriginal youth policy; and
 - (b) set priorities for new policies and programs where a need is identified by delegates.
- 4.6.11: All governments in Canada support the development of co-management regimes along the lines of those already established in the North.
- 4.6.12: Federal and territorial governments establish a task force with strong Aboriginal representation to review all social assistance and income supplement programs across the territorial North with the goal of restructuring these programs to make them effective instruments in promoting a mixed economy and sustain viable, largely self-reliant communities.
- 4.6.13: Based on the work of the task force recommended in 4.6.12 and recognizing the fundamental changes under way in the structure and administration of social assistance programs across Canada, territorial governments take the initiative, in consultation with federal and provincial governments, to create a northern social policy framework with sufficient flexibility to allow existing levels of social assistance spending to be used to fund community work creation and provide income supplements related to community employment or traditional production and harvesting.

Theme 6: Data gathering and publication

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- The IACHR recommends the development of data collection systems that collect accurate statistics on missing and murdered indigenous women, by consistently capturing the race of the victim or missing person. Capturing accurate data is the basis for moving forward in any initiative. (para 310)

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 4 That the federal government implement a national DNA-based missing person's index
- Recommendation 10 That the federal government in cooperation with municipal, provincial and territorial governments examine the possibility of collecting police data on violence against Aboriginal women and girls that includes an ethnicity variable.

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Collect and make publicly available (as ethically appropriate) accurate and comprehensive, disaggregated data that includes an ethnicity variable on violence against indigenous women and girls in cooperation with indigenous community organizations and the National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains (NCMPUR)

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government undertake a community consultation, needs assessment and feasibility study concerning the reestablishment of an independent society comparable to the former Vancouver Police Native Liaison Society
- That the Minister of Justice establish a working group to develop options for enhanced legislative protection for exploited women. The working group should include representatives of sex workers, community-based organizations providing support to and advocacy for women engaged in the sex trade, Aboriginal women's organizations, police agencies and the Crown Counsel Association

- That Provincial Government fund a community consultation process led by Aboriginal organizations to develop and implement a pilot project designed to ensure the safety of vulnerable Aboriginal youth during the rural-urban transition
- That Provincial Government fund a collaborative action research project on the entry of young women into the sex trade, especially Aboriginal women who are often homeless during the transition from reserves or foster homes to urban centres, and to develop an action plan to facilitate and support exiting the survival sex trade

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Explore ways to measure meaningful outcomes or assess the effectiveness of activities related to violence against Aboriginal women

Report: Report on the 2011 Western Regional Forum on Supporting Families of Missing Persons, Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch of Ministry of Justice and AG, 2011

- 13. Build a clearinghouse of information – A depository of information about missing persons consisting of items such as inventory kits, tools, checklists, pamphlets and other useful sources will be created. Some participants indicated that they may be able to employ a group of students to complete this task.
- 16. Establish a national database – NPSCMP is already working toward this goal, so it is important for participants to provide any support and help they can to Sergeant Prosper as her and her group work toward achieving this.

Report: A Framework for Action in Education, Economic Development and Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls - BC Aboriginal Affairs Working Group, 2010

- Support the work of national organizations and Federal, Provincial and Territorial working groups. This support could include a review of existing initiatives with the goal of identifying future opportunities for collaboration and engagement in areas such as gaps in the areas of service and program delivery, access to justice and root causes of violence against Aboriginal women and girls

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice encourage Ministers responsible for work place health and safety to ensure that all employers assess the risk factors that may make isolated employees vulnerable to serial predators within work environments and develop safety plans with employees in order to promote safety and reduce risk of harm

- The MWWG recommends that: jurisdictions work with justice system partners such as local police; community justice services; Aboriginal court workers; and victims' services to support Aboriginal communities and organizations to assess safety risks to Aboriginal women and to develop local plans to respond to those risks
- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice consider undertaking or encouraging the continuation of research into the escalation of violence in criminal sexual predation as related to risk assessment processes
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support research that monitors and evaluates the efficacy of measuring levels of psychopathy in offenders as a means of intervention
- The MWWG recommends that there be consideration by federal, provincial and territorial officials to better provide the tools needed to address preparatory conduct involved in facilitating sexual offences under the Criminal Code
- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice direct officials to engage in discussions with health professionals and other affected professional bodies to ensure that the existing protocols and legislation in each jurisdiction are adequate to address the public safety exemptions or whether legislative changes are required
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the use of risk assessment and monitoring of serious offenders, and support the work of Corrections authorities to continue improving these approaches
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions provide support to justice institutions, including correctional facilities and forensic psychiatric institutions, to develop and implement research-based therapeutic interventions that have the potential to interrupt paraphilic fantasies and the escalation of violence in sexual offenders
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions conduct a feasibility study on the development of a voluntary database containing information on individuals considered to be at high risk of going missing, including developing criteria for such a database; and that the federal government lead the feasibility study, including a review of any legislative authority required for the collection and use of this information
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support further consideration of the feasibility and utility of a Missing Persons Index, including potential resolutions to privacy concerns relating to the possible cross-matching feature of the sub-indices, and also subject to the ongoing review of the DNA Data Bank scheme
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider testing and evaluating community mobilization processes, such as adaptations of the Community Solutions to Gang Violence initiative in urban communities with a high population of vulnerable women

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- Review all social programmes to ensure that funding for programmes for Indigenous women, children and families is equitable to those available to non-Indigenous people in Canada and is

sufficient to ensure effective protection and full enjoyment of their rights. Particular priority should be given to eliminating discrimination in funding for Indigenous child welfare

Report: Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women - Ontario Native Women's Association & Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, 2007

- That an Aboriginal women-specific gender-based analysis be developed by Aboriginal women in Ontario and be applied broadly by all levels of government

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- 2. Support research into the extent and causes of violence against Indigenous women
 - The federal government should ensure adequate funding for comprehensive national research on violence against Indigenous women, including the creation of a national registry to collect and analyze statistical information from all jurisdictions.
 - In consultation with Indigenous peoples' organizations and organizations representing ethnic minorities, protocols should be developed to ensure that police consistently record and appropriately use data on the ethnicity of the victims and perpetrators of violent crimes.
 - The federal government should request the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people and Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, to jointly study and document patterns of violence against Indigenous women, including in Canada.
 - Clear policies and practices should be established with respect to the timely provision of information, including autopsy results and coroners reports, to the families of missing and murdered persons.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- There is a need for a more systematic and consistent approach to collecting data on: 1) missing person reports; 2) actual missing persons; 3) basic demographic information about missing persons; and 4) CPIC data entry.
- The SACP [Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police] is encouraged to promote the concept of a national website or linked websites and the Saskatchewan Minister of Justice is encouraged to raise the need for a national website or linked websites on missing persons at the next meeting of Ministers Responsible for Justice.
- Recommendation 12.1: The provincial government should amend provincial legislation to permit the disclosure of information on missing persons to police conducting a missing persons investigation as information necessary to protect the mental or physical health or safety of an individual.
- Recommendation 12.2: The Saskatchewan Minister of Justice should raise with the Federal Ministers responsible for Justice the need to amend federal legislation to ensure that when police are investigating a missing person case they have access to information under federal jurisdiction relevant to the investigation.
- The Saskatchewan Minister of Justice should raise at the next meeting of Ministers Responsible for Justice the need for national consideration of whether and how a voluntary national information base or linked information bases on potential missing persons could be created.

Report: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996

- 1.10.3: The government of Canada fund establishment of a national repository of records and video collections related to residential schools, co-ordinated with planning of the recommended Aboriginal Peoples' International University (see Volume 3, Chapter 5) and its electronic clearinghouse, to
 - facilitate access to documentation and electronic exchange of research on residential schools;
 - provide financial assistance for the collection of testimony and continuing research;
 - work with educators in the design of Aboriginal curriculum that explains the history and effects of residential schools; and
 - conduct public education programs on the history and effects of residential schools and remedies applied to relieve their negative effects.

That the nature and scope of the injury caused to Aboriginal people by past policies in relation to the relocation of Aboriginal communities be established and appropriate remedies devised therefor.
- 1.11.13 The national repository for records on residential schools proposed in Recommendation 1.10.3 and its related research activities also cover all matters relating to relocations.

That the nature and scope of the injury caused to Aboriginal people by past discriminatory policies in relation to Aboriginal veterans be established and appropriate remedies devised therefor.

Report: Changing the Landscape: Ending Violence - Achieving Equality. Canadian Panel on Violence Against Women, 1994

- to require all departments responsible for the compilation and dissemination of statistics to provide data based on gender and other significant demographic characteristics

Theme 7: Public information and education

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 1 That the federal government learn from the stories of the families of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls and work with the provinces, territories and municipalities to create a public awareness and prevention campaign focusing on violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada.
- Recommendation 14 That in implementing the public awareness strategy on substance abuse, the federal government target support to Aboriginal communities

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Raise the issue of violence against indigenous women and girls in Canada as part of the United Nations Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review

Report: Summary Report: Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit 2 – Strong Women, Strong Communities – Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues and the Yukon Women's Directorate, 2012

- Continue to support the development of curriculum in Yukon schools that includes cultural components such as: land claims, the history of Yukon First Nations, traditional roles of First Nation women and men. Ensure children are taught traditional knowledge and culture in indigenous languages as a basis for leadership development
- Build on strengths and skills of women, particularly who face violence, through life skills workshops (anger management, healthy relationships, self-esteem, respect, self-care)
- Develop a leadership program for women and deliver in communities and Whitehorse. Provide leadership training to Aboriginal women (including how to balance work/family responsibilities and personal wellness, communication skills and conflict resolution skills, financial management)
- Support and develop a camp for gatherings that will build cultural strength and identity and that teach traditional knowledge and customs, including rites of passage, language, how to cut fish and dry meat, medicines, ceremonies and spirituality
- Reduce victim blaming by monitoring statements, comments and other language used by the courts, RCMP, individual, leaders, (and others) when it comes to violence against women
- Develop community workshops and education on healthy relationships and violence prevention including sexual assaults and drug and alcohol addiction for adults, youth and front-line workers.

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That provincial authorities create and maintain a provincial missing person website aimed at educating the public about the missing persons process and engaging them in proactive approaches to prevention and investigation

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Provide information to the former victim and the public when offenders who have been convicted of crimes of violence against women, particularly street-engaged women, are released back into the community
- Educate youth about the risks of drugs and prostitution
- Provide teens with more positive role models, including more Aboriginal role models
- Develop a media campaign about missing persons practices, advising people how to report, and make this information widely available

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Activities for children designed to prevent violence and promote healthy relationships should be incorporated into elementary school activities and begin in the primary grades
- Working in partnership with Aboriginal communities and leadership, establish a virtual centre, clearinghouse or similar online resource where information and resources on violence against Aboriginal women can be aggregated and made publicly available
- Develop and implement a national campaign that focuses on a message of zero tolerance for domestic violence
- As individuals and organizations, take action to educate the media about violence against Aboriginal women and girls, encourage media to report responsibly and respectfully about Aboriginal peoples, cultures and history, and acknowledge and honour them when they do
- Use social media and other web platforms for a campaign focused on women and youth, to educate and share information and resources, address root causes and prevention of abuse, and draw on traditions and a holistic approach to violence

Report: Report on the 2011 Western Regional Forum on Supporting Families of Missing Persons, Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch of Ministry of Justice and AG, 2011

- 7. Pursue partnerships and support – Forum members will continue to contact other organizations and groups in order to build positive partnerships that will help raise awareness
- 8. Seek national attention – It will be important to get the report on the schedule of Federal, Provincial and Territorial Deputy Ministers Responsible for Justice. There is an International

Symposium on Victim Issues being organized by Public Safety Canada for November 2011, where we may be able to present our results in a national setting. A panel presentation may occur at this conference, in order to link more partners and gain more support.

- 9. Raise awareness – All participants are responsible for presenting the key findings of this Forum back to their organizations and jurisdictions. There needs to be an ongoing effort in creating and maintaining awareness of this issue.
- 10. Provide feedback for NPSCMP's public website – Sergeant Prosper has indicated that she would be appreciative of feedback from various sources for her project. Participants are encouraged to provide feedback within one year so that a national website can be developed.
- 14. Develop and implement a communication strategy – A strategy will be developed so that members of the Forum can communicate with one another to provide feedback.
- 15. Increase public support – Commitment and support is necessary in making sure that this issue remains a priority.

Report: Final Report: Strengthening the Circle to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; Ontario Native Women's Association; Métis Nation of Ontario; Independent First Nations, 2010

- Invest in education to prevent violence

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice direct officials to engage in discussions with health professionals and other affected professional bodies to ensure that the existing protocols and legislation in each jurisdiction are adequate to address the public safety exemptions or whether legislative changes are required
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions work with law enforcement/police agencies to ensure that the public is made aware of reporting practices for missing persons in their jurisdiction; to evaluate the adequacy of current educational mechanisms; and consider how to make information more accessible through websites. This could include a national public education campaign about missing persons' issues and police policies and procedures in order to change misconceptions
- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice support, as a priority, the work of the Multi-Provincial Strategy on Missing Persons & Unidentified Remains to establish a national missing person database containing both police missing person information and information on unidentified human remains. This database should be accessible to and searchable by both police and coroners or medical examiners, with designated sections accessible to the public by website
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the recommendations of the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons'* Report that the police develop media

and public communications protocols to implement best practices to disseminate information about missing persons and to request the public's help in locating a missing person

- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police investigators involved in cases of missing or murdered women to design and implement effective media plans in order to ensure proactive and strategic use of media sources for educating and soliciting information from the public concerning details of the investigation
- The MWWG recommends that media best practices should be developed in consultation with police and media and made public

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- All levels of government should work with Indigenous peoples to strengthen and expand public education programs, including within the formal school system, that acknowledge and address the history of dispossession and marginalization of Indigenous peoples and the present reality of racism in Canadian society.

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 8. Provide regular updates to NBAWCI on developments and research in the area of violence and Aboriginal Women by the Women's Issues Branch.
- 14. Provide information and training on existing initiatives to service providers on and off reserve as well as Wabanaki individuals where appropriate so that these reach Wabanaki people on and off reserve, e.g., suicide prevention, tool kits dealing with violence against Aboriginal women.
- 16. Identify areas of service and support where information is not generally available for service providers assisting Wabanaki women, children and community members dealing with violence and develop the necessary public education initiatives
- 17. Develop tools and materials to catalyze and assist the process of rebuilding healthy Wabanaki relationships.
- 18. Develop a culturally appropriate communication strategy to bring awareness and attention to the issue of violence against Wabanaki women and children.
- 30. Update public school curricula to include Wabanaki experiences and perspectives on history, using an approach that will foster both an acknowledgement of the past and opportunities to explore building healthy and reciprocal relationships with others. Both the Department of Education and First Nation leaders will need to take a lead for this for schools located both on and off reserve.
- 31. Develop and implement education and animation processes for Wabanaki peoples to learn about their histories and move forward in rebuilding healthy relationships within their communities, with each other, and with other people living in New Brunswick.

- 35. Undertake outreach and public education activities to inform Wabanaki women about the options and services available to them in dealing with abuse and violence.
- 49. Complete an inventory of public education and training initiatives available that relate to violence against Wabanaki women and children. The Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women should take on this task with secretariat support.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007

- **Recommendation: Supports need to be developed by the Provincial Partnership Committee or other partner organizations to help families deal with a missing person situation:**
 - Families require a simple checklist to follow of actions they can or should take, such as determining who the family contact person is with the police, with the media, or the type of information they might look for to assist the police in the investigation;
 - Families require a media kit or information on dealing with the media to help them understand the issues and relationship that may develop during an investigation in terms of providing information to the media or responding to media inquiries; and
 - Family members who are involved in supporting a missing person investigation may need financial and emotional support from community members or organizations.
- **Recommendation: The media is encouraged to develop best practice standards in dealing with missing person cases which include consistent, neutral messaging sensitive to the family and cultural circumstances.**
- **Recommendation 7.0: As a priority, the Provincial Partnership Committee or another agency, with relevant community stakeholders, should be tasked to develop information/education materials to provide a factual overview of all aspects of missing person situations.**
- **Recommendation 7.1: Agencies that deal with at risk populations should establish teams to conduct presentations on awareness, prevention and personal safety to social and professional networks throughout the province.**
- **Recommendation 7.2: The Provincial Partnership Committee or another agency should be tasked to compile and maintain an inventory of agencies involved in missing person cases to support networking and a publicly accessible inventory of existing or new educational materials on prevention and personal safety.**
- **Recommendation 7.3: Police, as part of communications with the public, should ensure that information about police policy, procedure and practices related to missing persons cases and the role that the public can play in assisting in missing persons cases is generally available.**
- **Recommendation 8: Saskatchewan Learning should include awareness about the risks of going missing or facing missing children and youth in all schools through health education programs and encourage educators and School Community Councils to continue to build awareness through access to materials, speakers, or other programming.**

Highway of Tears Symposium Report Recommendations, 2006

- Recommendation #10 - That an annual awareness and prevention campaign be delivered to every; elementary school, high school, college, university, and silviculture company located in, and between, the cities of Prince Rupert and Prince George prior to the hitchhiking and tree-planting season.
- Recommendation #11- That every First Nation Community, and First Nation families living in the towns and cities, located on or near Highway of Tears, be targeted for a more intensive awareness and prevention program.
- Recommendation #14 - That media campaigns be launched on the subject of the murdered and missing women, and more specifically contain key victim prevention measures targeting young women viewers and readers along the Highway of Tears.

Pauktuuit, National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities and Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Wisdom – A Guide to a National Strategy, 2005

- Raise awareness and reduce tolerance for abuse

Report: Nuluaq Project, Research Report: Applying Inuit Cultural Approaches in the Prevention of Family Violence and Abuse, 2005

- 6. A Nunavut, Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and Northwest Territories program designed to educate families and young people about the role healers can and should play in the building of healthy families.
- 8. The direct involvement of Inuit healers in open discussion and educational programs designed to bring physical and sexual abuse issues into the open.
- 9. Consultation with Inuit healers in the establishment of counselling services and education programs aimed specifically at male members of Inuit society, designed to address the issues of abuse and the healthy regard of women and children.

Theme 8: Transport services and physical access to safe houses and shelters

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Renew the commitment to implementing the recommendations of the 2006 Highway of Tears Symposium, updated, as necessary, in cooperation with northern indigenous communities
- Provide adequate shelters and social services for victims of violence, including in rural areas and with specific culturally-sensitive services

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Provide better low-cost, subsidized or free housing, including more women-only emergency shelters, for women in the DTES
- Provide more safe houses and counseling programs run for and by Aboriginal women

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government fully support the implementation of The Highway of Tears Symposium action plan, updated to the current situation and in a manner that ensures involvement of all affected communities along Highway 16
- To develop and implement an enhanced public transit system to provide a safer travel option connecting the Northern communities, particularly along Highway 16 (not a formal recommendation)

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Implement the 33 recommendations from the 2006 Highway of Tears Symposium report

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that municipalities and First Nations, as appropriate, work with relevant community agencies and police to establish programs at key places where women rely heavily on hitchhiking, and incorporate strategies such as the shuttle bus transportation system recommended in the Highway of Tears Report

Report: A Framework for Action in Education, Economic Development and Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls - BC Aboriginal Affairs Working Group, 2010

- Increase collaboration and engagement among governments, non- governmental organizations, service agencies, justice systems including courts and police forces, and National and other Aboriginal organizations with the goal of developing more co-ordinated approaches to address issues of violence against Aboriginal women, including missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls. This could incorporate support for shelters and safe houses and other local initiatives

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Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that municipalities and First Nations, as appropriate, work with relevant community agencies and police to establish programs at key places where women rely heavily on hitchhiking, and incorporate strategies such as the shuttle bus transportation system recommended in the Highway of Tears Report

Report: Final Report: Strengthening the Circle to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women - Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres; Ontario Native Women's Association; Métis Nation of Ontario; Independent First Nations, 2010

- Increase the number of Aboriginal shelters and increase the number of shelter beds
- Establish shelters for women who have multiple issues (concurrent issues)
- Increase the quality and range of services that are provided by the shelters
- Increase supports to the shelter workers
- Aboriginal shelters and MCSS funded programs are supported to develop board and staff capacity

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 44. Research how First Nations in Canada are dealing with housing protocols and bylaws in relation to violence and abuse. Subsequently, First Nation communities should adapt and adopt those that would suit the particular circumstances of their communities.
- 45. Establish Housing Committees in First Nation communities to deal with housing issues, if these do not already exist. These Committees would also deal with those situations that arise as

a result of violent situations. Wabanaki women should be fairly represented on these Committees.

- 46. Review existing Canada Mortgage and Housing policies, program requirements and implementation so that all First Nation communities in New Brunswick can equitably access funding for new housing.
- 47. Increase the number of second stage housing units available to assist Wabanaki women and their children.
- 48. Include information on second stage housing in a public education strategy regarding violence and Wabanaki women.

Report: Highway of Tears Symposium Report, 2006

- Recommendation #1 - That a shuttle bus transportation system be established between each town and city located along the entire length of Highway 16, defined as the The Highway of Tears.
- Recommendation #2 - That while the RCMP does a commendable job in patrolling the highway; these patrols can no longer drive past a hitchhiker who fits the victim profile.
- Recommendation #3 - That the RCMP be provided the resources to increase their highway patrols during the hitchhiking season, more specifically increase these patrols along the sections of Highway 16 near First Nation communities, towns and cities.
- Recommendation #4 That the Greyhound Bus Company's free ride program be expanded, and target marketed to the population in the Highway 16 corridor who fit the victim profile.
- Recommendation #5 - That every Public Sector employee working between Prince George and Prince Rupert be contacted and used as a female hitchhiker detection network.
- Recommendation #6 - That a number of safe homes similar to, and possibly including, MCFD and Aboriginal Social Service safe homes be established at strategic locations along the entire length of Highway 16, between the cities of Prince Rupert and Prince George, British Columbia.
- Recommendation #8 - That a number of emergency phone booths be placed along the highway at strategic locations between the Cities of Prince Rupert and Prince George, British Columbia.
- Recommendation #9 - That a number of billboards, and many more posters, be placed at strategic locations along the Highway 16 corridor between Prince George and Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

Report: Provincial Association Against Family Violence, Moving Toward Safety: Responding to Family Violence In Aboriginal and Northern Communities of Labrador, 2002

- The establishment of a multi-service unit in a central, policed south-coast community.
- The presentation of this report by the Provincial Association Against Family Violence to the Innu Nation recommending the establishment of a temporary multiservice unit in Davis Inlet, to be replaced by a 24-hour shelter following relocation to Natuashish.
- The establishment of multi-service units in the other fly-in-only, policed communities in northern Labrador.
- Reopening of the Hopedale shelter as a multi-service unit.
- Restructuring of the Nain Safe House to enhance its capacity to exist as a fullservice shelter for families of northern Labrador. Changes must occur on several levels including physical space, staff and management training and salary structure.

Theme 9: Community based first response, including search and rescue

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Build networks of community organizations that can be mobilized when it is believed that someone has disappeared

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women’s Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC’s Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women’s Association of Canada, 2011

- All provinces and territories should dedicate funding to provide emergency support to victims of domestic violence
- Crisis response teams should be in place in all First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities, with adequate funding to train community members and sustain activities

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- Recommendation 11: Police should establish protocols with community agencies to provide a formal system to fan out Missing Persons Information.
- The province and local government need to enhance search and rescue resources province-wide by standardizing provincial policy and providing provincial core funding to ensure volunteer sustainability.
- Recommendation 14.2: The province, communities and search and rescue organizations need to work cooperatively to ensure effective Search and Rescue responses by:
 - Creating a provincial SAR Advisory Council of representative and mandating agencies, for strategic and operational direction to SARSAV;
 - Creating a standard policy regarding the use of SAR teams;
 - Ensuring that municipalities and communities take ownership of SAR volunteer teams;
 - Providing basic SAR training and equipment to volunteers free of charge;
 - Ensuring trained SAR teams, SAR managers and trainers are available throughout all areas of the province;
 - Creating a central provincial database for all SAR events, training and personnel;
 - Ensuring consistent and timely involvement of SAR teams in a missing person's event;
 - Ensuring Critical Incident Stress Management support to SAR volunteers.
- The various Saskatchewan police forces need to establish protocols on when and how to engage search and rescue capacity in a missing person's event.
- All school divisions are encouraged to develop policies and procedures for collaborating with police and/or school resource officers in missing persons cases, which may include procedures for requesting information from students and staff, appropriate communication and information sharing practices, and critical response provisions.
- The provincial government, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, the Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, First Nations, and Métis communities and organizations should be encouraged to develop and enhance mutually supportive strategies to ensure that:
 - First Nations and Métis communities have the capacity to respond to a crisis when a person goes missing;
 - Trained Search and Rescue capacities exist in all communities that incorporate and are sensitive to the culture, language, traditions and values of those communities;
 - First Nations schools participate in prevention and response approaches similar to the recommendations for provincial school involvement; and
 - Relationships between the police (RCMP and municipal police forces) and First Nations and Métis communities are strengthened in missing person cases.

Highway of Tears Symposium Report Recommendations, 2006

- Recommendation #7 - That the Rural Crime Watch Program be expanded to include a Highway Watch component along the full length of the Highway of Tears.
- Recommendation # 1 - That the Highway of Tears Community Governing Body, undertake the development of an Emergency Readiness Plan.
- Recommendation #2 - That the Emergency Readiness Plan contain specific timelines for the actions of the Community Emergency Readiness Teams commencing from the time a missing person's report is first received.
- Recommendation #3 - That this Emergency Readiness Plan contain a missing persons Alert and Response component in the form of community emergency readiness teams .
- Recommendation #4 - That this Emergency Readiness Plan be communicated to an Emergency Readiness Team(s) located in each city, town and First Nation community located along the entire length of the Highway of Tears.
- Recommendation #5 - That, to the greatest extent possible, existing and established community resources like Search and Rescue organizations and Fire Departments be utilized and expanded upon in building each Emergency Readiness Team.
- Recommendation #6 - That there be two contact persons appointed; one acting as the primary, and one the backup secondary, who would be given authorization by the RCMP to enact the Emergency Readiness Plan in each community, and coordinate pre-determined Emergency Readiness Team actions.

Report: Provincial Association Against Family Violence, Moving Toward Safety:

Responding to Family Violence In Aboriginal and Northern Communities of Labrador, 2002

- Development of family violence response teams in communities with shelters or multi-service units together with agreements covering transportation and acceptable police response times for Postville and Black Tickle

Theme 10: Indigenous women working in the survival sex industry

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- To provide funding to existing centres that provide emergency services to women engaged in the sex trade to enable them to remain open 24 hours per day (*not a formal recommendation*)
- That all entities with proposed responsibilities under the Living in Community Action Plan commit to these priority actions that together form a strong basis for enhancing the safety of women engaged in the survival sex trade
- That the City of Vancouver create and fund two community-based liaison positions to be filled by individuals who have experience in the survival sex trade
- That other communities be encouraged to undertake the type of collaborative community engagement strategy employed by Living in Community to develop an integrated strategy for enhancing the safety of women engaged in the survival sex trade
- That Provincial Government fund additional full-time Sex Trade Liaison Officer positions in the Lower Mainland
- That all police forces in British Columbia consider developing and implementing guidelines on the model of the Vancouver Police Department's Sex Work Enforcement Guidelines in consultation with women engaged in the sex trade in their jurisdiction
- That the Minister of Justice consult with the judiciary, police and community representatives to develop a protocol providing the police with the discretion not to enforce a warrant in a circumstance where a sex trade worker is attempting to report a violent crime
- That Provincial Government fund a collaborative action research project on the entry of young women into the sex trade, especially Aboriginal women who are often homeless during the transition from reserves or foster homes to urban centres, and to develop an action plan to facilitate and support exiting the survival sex trade

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Decriminalize prostitution and take a harm-reduction approach; or impose stricter penalties for engaging in prostitution, including large fines and imprisonment; or adopt the Nordic model, which penalizes customers for engaging in illegal activities but not women (*consensus not necessarily reached on this recommendation*)
- Provide more existing programs for women who wish to get out of the sex trade (*consensus not necessarily reached on this recommendation*)
- Make sure that marginalized women are not denied access to services because they are using drugs or engaging in sex work
- Make sure that women are working in areas that are well-lit and can be publicly monitored

- Develop spotter systems, either of women working or volunteers, to monitor women getting into vehicles
- Increase the use of social networking tools to share information
- Create a specific body to deal with complaints about police by those in the sex trade

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 13 That the federal government continue to take appropriate action to reduce human trafficking and to reduce the violence and harm associated with prostitution.

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- As part of ongoing review and implementation of laws regarding the sex trade in Canada, give police clear instructions to ensure that the fundamental rights of women involved in the sex trade are protected in the course of all law enforcement activities.

Theme 11: Measures to improve policing (not including investigations)

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- Canada should ensure that the different policing services in BC understand their jurisdiction and responsibilities when conflicts of policing jurisdiction arise. Canada should also establish or strengthen accountability mechanisms – preferably through independent bodies – for officials handling investigations and prosecutions, and should provide access to legal aid and support services to the families of missing or murdered indigenous women, with the families being able to freely choose their own representative. (para 312)
- The IACHR also recommends that police officers, including both RCMP and Vancouver Police, and public sector functionaries, such as prosecutors, judges and court personnel, receive mandatory and ongoing training in the causes and consequences of gender-based violence in general and violence against indigenous women in particular. This includes training on the police duty to protect indigenous women from violence (para 313)

Report: Invisible Women: A Call to Action, A Report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in Canada, Special Committee on Violence Against Indigenous Women, 2014

- Recommendation 11 That the federal government engage Aboriginal communities and municipal, provincial, and territorial governments to examine options to improving procedures among police services to facilitate multipartite investigations.
- Recommendation 12 That the federal government encourage Aboriginal organizations, the Canadian Police College and municipal, provincial and territorial governments to improve police officer training, including continuing education, to foster cultural understanding and sensitivity.

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Expand training for police officers to counter racism and sexism in the treatment of indigenous women and girls in custody and to improve police response to violence against women and girls within indigenous communities
- Ensure that properly trained officers are stationed at detachments in the north for a sufficient amount of time to develop strong relationships with the local community

- Eliminate searches and monitoring of women and girls by male police officers in all but extraordinary circumstances and require documentation and supervisor and commander review of any such searches; prohibit cross-gender strip searches under any circumstances
- Prohibit the use of conducted energy weapons (Tasers) on youth and re-examine the rules for the use of police dogs and pepper spray on youth with a view to limiting their use to extraordinary circumstances that are then documented and subject to supervisor and commander review
- All RCMP and municipal police policies on conducted energy weapons, police dogs and pepper spray should be made publicly accessible
- Enforce existing rules mandating that parents or guardians be contacted immediately in the case of their child's arrest and that youth not be detained in cells with adults or children of the opposite sex
- Develop a timeline for NCMPUR to complete and implement specialized and standardized protocols for police response when indigenous women and girls are reported missing or found murdered

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Ensure that police have training on dealing with bereaved and grieving people with compassion and sensitivity
- Make sure that police carefully review files before contacting families and keep good records of their communications, in the event of turnover on the file
- Require police to take cultural sensitivity training
- Make it a policy if a person has died, police should notify relatives in a private place and before media or others are informed; where possible, take information with the missing person report about how the relatives would like to be notified if in the event of a death and whether they would like faith-based representatives present
- Ensure that police and criminal justice system personnel do not withhold details of a loved one's death from family members, especially when others are able to access that information
- Ensure that families are given clear and correct information about their rights with respect to Victim Services and compensation
- Prepare families in terms of what to expect from media

Report: Summary Report: Yukon Aboriginal Women's Summit 2 – Strong Women, Strong Communities – Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues and the Yukon Women's Directorate, 2012

- Support the RCMP in communities to become more involved, active, and effective in the prevention of violence of any kind, including supporting victim-based programming (instead of offender-based)

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That the Minister of Justice direct the Director of Police Services to undertake equality audits of police forces in British Columbia with a focus on police duty to protect marginalized and Aboriginal women from violence. These audits should be carried out by an external agency *and* with meaningful community involvement
- That Provincial Government set a provincial standard establishing that police officers have a general and binding duty to promote equality and to refrain from discriminatory policing
- That Provincial Government direct the Director of Police Services to consult with the BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police, the RCMP and community representatives to recommend the wording of a statutory provision on the legal duty to warn and a protocol on how it should be interpreted and applied
- That police forces work with local communities to develop communication strategies for the issuance of warnings that ensure the message is conveyed to community members who are most at risk of the specific threat
- That police forces integrate into training, performance standards, and performance measurement the ability of police officers to develop and maintain community relationships, particularly with vulnerable members of the community who are often at risk of being treated unequally in the delivery of public services
- That the BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police and the RCMP establish a working group to develop a best practices guide for the establishment and implementation of formal discussion mechanisms to facilitate communication and collaboration that transcends the institutional hierarchy within a police agency
- That police officers be required to undergo mandatory and ongoing experiential and interactive training concerning vulnerable community members
- That the Police Complaint Commissioner, working with police forces across the Province, take steps to develop, promote and refine informal methods of police discipline, particularly in marginalized communities such as the DTES and with Aboriginal communities
- That Provincial Government engage with the RCMP in order to bring them into the provincial complaints process
- That SisterWatch be evaluated to provide a basis for further refinements and with a view to establishing best practices for meaningful police-community partnerships; and that these best practices be shared with other police forces to encourage them to develop and maintain ongoing, collaborative community forums
- That Provincial Government fund additional full-time Sex Trade Liaison Officer positions in the Lower Mainland
- That the City of Vancouver create and fund two community-based liaison positions to be filled by individuals who have experience in the survival sex trade
- That Provincial Government undertake a community consultation, needs assessment and feasibility study concerning the reestablishment of an independent society comparable to the former Vancouver Police Native Liaison Society

- That all police forces in British Columbia consider developing and implementing guidelines on the model of the Vancouver Police Department's Sex Work Enforcement Guidelines in consultation with women engaged in the sex trade in their jurisdiction
- That the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Police Department take proactive measures to reduce the number of court warrants issued for minor offences
- That the Minister of Justice consult with the judiciary, police and community representatives to develop a protocol providing the police with the discretion not to enforce a warrant in a circumstance where a sex trade worker is attempting to report a violent crime
- That the Minister of Justice consult with the judiciary, police and community representatives to develop a protocol providing the police with the discretion not to enforce a warrant in a circumstance where a sex trade worker is attempting to report a violent crime
- That the BC Association of Municipal Police Chiefs and the RCMP, with support from the Director of Police Services, should develop a protocol containing additional measures to monitor high-risk offenders, including recommendations for the efficient and timely sharing of information
- That the provincial standards be developed by the Director of Police Services with the assistance of a committee consisting of representatives of the BC Association of Municipal Police Chiefs, the RCMP, representatives of community and Aboriginal groups, and representatives of families of the missing and murdered women
- That the provincial standards require a proactive missing persons process whereby police must take prevention and intervention measures including safe and well checks when an individual is found
- That Provincial Government commit to establishing a Greater Vancouver police force through a consultative process with all stakeholders
- That Provincial Government establish an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force
- That Provincial Government commit to moving expeditiously to implement a regional Real Time Crime Centre

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Build rapport with women who are addicted or doing survival sex work; treat all people with dignity and respect
- Institute a policy to waive warrants for breaches and minor offences when a woman is reporting violence or threats of violence
- Stop ticketing women for minor bylaw violations such as jaywalking and littering, as their inability to clear up tickets results in breaches that put them at risk
- Recognize that women who report violence in danger of retribution and need to be supported and protected through a complaint to police

- Recognize that women who are living high-risk lifestyles will still take steps to protect themselves, and that regardless, police have a duty to communicate about possible predators and threats to women's safety
- Work more closely with community organizations, recognizing their knowledge and expertise
- Increase the number of police working as Sex Industry Liaison Officers to at least five for the Lower Mainland
- Provide information to the former victim and the public when offenders who have been convicted of crimes of violence against women, particularly street-engaged women, are released back into the community
- Hold regular consultations to allow the community to share information and voice problems to police
- Recognize that child apprehensions may increase the likelihood that children will leave home earlier and may become street-engaged for lack of support options
- Increase the number of Aboriginal women and men in police forces by developing proactive policies for Aboriginal recruitment and policies addressing workplace sexual harassment
- Create more independent First Nations police forces
- Ensure that police forces that do not have strong Aboriginal representation have a Native Liaison department
- Prohibit officers from taking contract work that could be seen to be in conflict with their official duties or that might cause confusion about their roles
- Require mandatory human rights training of at least one month duration
- Require mandatory cultural diversity training, including in First Nations' cultures, and training to recognize the importance of spirituality
- Extend the current training for new recruits, so that it is lengthier and more involved
- Raise the age of new recruits

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That the accountability structure for the Greater Vancouver police force incorporate a holistic approach that provides oversight on both an individual and systemic level and is fully responsive and responsible to the communities it serves
- That the Director of Police Services mandate accountability under the MCM standards by requiring that police forces:
 - Provide an explanation as to why MCM was not used for a major crime in an annual report to the Director of Police Services;
 - Notify the Director of Police Services of all major crime investigations that are not under active investigation and have remained open for more than one year. Upon receipt of such notification, the Director will appoint another police department to conduct an independent audit of the prior investigation and conduct such additional

- investigatory steps as it deems necessary, and report its finding to the Director and the originating police agency; and
- Conduct annual internal audits of a statistically valid random selection of MCM investigations to ensure proper compliance with the model
- That the *Police Act* be amended to provide that the Mayor is an *ex officio* member of the Board, but has no voting authority
- That additional steps need to be taken to ensure representation of vulnerable and marginalized members and Aboriginal peoples on police boards
- That police boards have access to greater resources from the Division of Police Services to gather and analyze information to enable them to better carry out their oversight functions

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Hold regular consultations to allow the community to share information and voice problems to police
- Create an advocate or ombudsperson to assist with police complaints
- Create a civilian citizen's accountability board to deal with issues of individual police complaints
- Create a specific body to deal with complaints about police by those in the sex trade

Report: Victoria Rose Paul: Investigation Report. Nadine Cooper Mont, Independent Investigator , 2012

(Recommendations concern ways in which police can better prevent deaths in custody)

- Truro Police Service amend policies to ensure that clear direction is provided to officers and custodians regarding initial and ongoing assessments of persons in custody, consistent completion and review of the C13-4, how information is to be documented and communicated between shifts, providing medical assistance, and clear roles and responsibilities of all individuals working in the lock-up facility
- Truro Police Service develop and implement a review mechanism to ensure that all staff are following a consistent approach when assessing persons in custody before placement in cells; that quality checks are done to ensure continued fitness to be incarcerated; and that adequate documentation of required forms is being done
- Truro Police Service to provide officers and custodians adequate on-site training in order for these employees to sufficiently carry out their duties. This training should include at a minimum proper training on the policies and provincial standards of the care and custody of prisoners, how to interact with challenging or intoxicated individuals, conflict resolution, suicide intervention, use of force, how to conduct quality checks on persons in custody, and how to determine whether medical assistance is required
- Truro Police Service review and enhance its orientation for custodians
- Truro Police Service provide officers and custodians tools such as the 4Rs of of Rousability and to post in plain view such guides to assessing persons in custody

- Truro Police Service adopt definitions in policy regarding questionable consciousness, prisoner alertness, and well-being
- Truro Police Service provide all officers, civilian staff, and custodians sensitivity and cultural awareness training
- Truro Police Service address the attitude among lock-up personnel that a person in custody only needs to be breathing to be alright
- Truro Police Service provide Sgt. Henderson with further supervision training and review of the policies to ensure that he understands and is fulfilling his duties as required with respect to the lock-up facility and his subordinate staff
- Truro Police Service review its performance management process to ensure that the performance of all staff, including contract employees, is appropriately addressed
- Truro Police Service develop policy regarding cell contamination and providing clean, sanitary suits for persons in custody to wear
- Nova Scotia Department of Justice update and clarify the provincial standards for lock-up facilities
- Nova Scotia Department of Justice clarify with all municipal police agencies in the province that have lock-up facilities the role and purpose of the annual inspection of such facilities

Report: The Tragedy of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women in Canada: We Can Do Better, Position Paper by the SisterWatch Project of the Vancouver Police Department and the Women's Memorial March Project, 2011

- 1. To know the size and nature of the problem and so that resources can be effectively targeted, reliable and comprehensive statistics must be gathered. This starts with police agencies but must end with aggregation and analysis at the local, provincial and national level. A harmonized data collection scheme should be developed to accomplish this goal.
- 2. Police forces across Canada should implement best-practice protocols for responding to reports of missing Aboriginal women. There need to be standardized protocols for police handling of missing persons cases including tools for fair and effective assessment of the risk to the missing individual
- 6. Prevention is key to reducing victimization. There need to be more resources targeted at assisting Aboriginal women and girls to escape from dangerous circumstances, whether it involves specific circumstances such as violent domestic situations or the sex trade, or the more general danger created by poverty and addiction that results in marginalization.
- 7. There should be a national 1-800 phone number in support of the MC/MPUR website and a clearing house/centre for excellence model that serves both the public and police agencies. There must be effective coordination with the provinces to ensure no case falls between the cracks.
- 8. Every province should have a 1-800 phone number and a missing persons website as part of a clearing house/ centre for excellence model as described above. At the provincial level, in addition to supporting police agencies, there must be emphasis on ensuring reporting missing

persons is simple and low-barrier, and that no report is missed or mishandled because of a lack of communication and/or coordination between jurisdictions.

- 10. Other police agencies facing similar challenges to Vancouver should consider using the SisterWatch program as a model for community collaboration and targeting of those engaged in predatory violence against marginalized Aboriginal women.

Report: Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum: Report on Outcomes and Recommendations from Working Sessions - Province of BC's Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the Native Women's Association of Canada, 2011

- Police services, Aboriginal leaders and grassroots community organizations should explore ways to establish mutually empowered and accountable working relationships
- Cultural competency and sensitivity training (including components focused on Aboriginal history and historical trauma) and anti-racism and anti-oppression training should be instituted for employees in all positions and at all levels of police and criminal justice systems
- Cultural competency and sensitivity training (including components focused on Aboriginal history and historical trauma) and anti-racism and anti-oppression training should be instituted for employees in all positions and at all levels of police and criminal justice systems

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG supports the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons'* Report in urging that police continually communicate with families of missing persons in order to provide ongoing updates to them on the status of the case
- Building on recommendations in the Saskatchewan Report, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions give consideration to an expansion of the Victims Services mandate to include provision of support to families of missing persons, and that protocols be developed between police and victim services for engagement and support of the families once that need has been identified

Report: Missing Women Investigation Review, Vancouver Police Department, 2010.

- 3. In light of the negative impact on the Pickton investigation of the current multi-agency policing system in the Lower Mainland, examine the benefits of a regionalized police force in the Lower Mainland;
- 4. Examine the work of the 1996 Ontario Major Case Management Committee and give consideration to developing provincial standards for the management of major cases in BC;
- 5. Support the RCMP developing its accreditation program for high level major case managers, so that a provincial pool of highly trained managers are available to any agency, and that the municipal police departments be encouraged and supported in participating in this initiative;

- 6. Strike a Provincial committee of key stakeholders to study and make recommendations regarding a single uniform computerized case management system, or suite of systems, for use by police agencies throughout British Columbia;
- 7. Ensure the selected system is mandatory for use in all serial predator investigations and all major sexual assault and homicide cases that could turn into a serial predator investigation;
- 8. Develop training to ensure that team commanders, investigators, file coordinators and analysts have sufficient training for their respective roles in using the system, and that this training be upgraded whenever substantive changes are made to the electronic case management system;
- 9. Ensure that if the Versadex PRIME-BC product is to be used for major case management, then the issue of complementary analytical software be studied, to ensure that all important functions of an electronic case management system are available, and to avoid a multiplicity of locally-developed products being used as is the case in British Columbia now;
- 21. THAT the current efforts by the VPD to forge improved relationships with the sex trade workers of the Downtown Eastside continue to be strongly supported by VPD management;
- 22. The VPD should encourage the City of Vancouver to: Continue to support the resource needs of the VPD, both in terms of sworn staff but also civilian support staff, such as the priority positions requested in the 2002, 2003 and 2004 Reports to Council regarding civilian staffing, especially those with technical expertise, so that no future serious investigation is compromised by a lack of sufficient staff and expertise.

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that there be consideration by federal, provincial and territorial officials to better provide the tools needed to address preparatory conduct involved in facilitating sexual offences under the *Criminal Code*
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the use of risk assessment and monitoring of serious offenders, and support the work of Corrections authorities to continue improving these approaches
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage law enforcement training authorities to include in police training information about the multiple factors that are characteristic of individuals who commit serial sexual offences
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions provide support to justice institutions, including correctional facilities and forensic psychiatric institutions, to develop and implement research-based therapeutic interventions that have the potential to interrupt paraphilic fantasies and the escalation of violence in sexual offenders
- In order to increase the likelihood that disappearance of marginalized women will be reported in a timely fashion, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police to develop specialized positions or specific units within police agencies so that: knowledgeable personnel are given clear responsibility for contact with families and the public in missing person reports;

and identified police personnel can link with vulnerable communities to increase awareness about reporting missing persons, specifically to:

- let people know that the reporting of a missing person is not limited to immediate family members, and;
 - reassure individuals who may be associated with criminal lifestyles that they can access police services and report a disappearance without fear of arrest
- In order to target police resources effectively, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support, where appropriate, police consideration of:
 - developing approaches to target high risk youth;
 - establishing collaborative approaches with relevant non-police agencies to assess the level of police intervention required in particular missing person cases, such as chronic run-away children;
 - setting policies and procedures consistent with the involvement of and advice from the relevant non-police agencies; evaluating approaches currently in use in order to determine the gains, if any, in efficiencies and effectiveness in responding to missing persons reports, and; sharing the results of evaluations on collaborative operational polices with other interested police agencies
- The MWWG recommends that a move toward compatible MCM software be considered by police agencies across Canada in order to coordinate between police agencies in major investigations
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police forces, as they develop improvements to MCM, to also explore strategies that would promote sharing these best practices with other police forces in a timely manner
- The MWWG recommends that Ministers recommend to CACP that they support local and national police agencies in developing a strategy to raise awareness and use of all available databases by considering the development of a national police electronic resource, such as a web page, containing current information on available databases as well as resources such as those contained by National Flagging Coordinators on specific offenders for use in investigations of serial homicides, and a description of each with contacts for additional information
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage:
 - where appropriate, police forces to review the resources and policies relevant to ViCLAS in order to increase and maintain the coverage of serious crimes within this system, and to ensure that trained specialists are available to provide analysis to investigators;
 - police investigators, who receive a potential linkage report from ViCLAS, to follow up with additional investigation on a timely basis ;
 - police investigators and forensic lab personnel, when they receive notification that a DNA linkage has been made on an outstanding case, to advise ViCLAS so that the ViCLAS personnel can update their database
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police agencies across Canada to:

- consider strategies to promote the empirical testing of specialized tools for narrowing the field of suspects in cases involving serial predators
 - consider mechanisms for sharing current research information and promising practices relevant to these specialized tools, including profiling and instruments to assist in the assessment of potential suspects in serial murder cases
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider the provision of targeted funding to police agencies to ensure that there are adequate resources for dealing with cold case files
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police forces to examine policies on releasing information on ‘cold cases’ to media and ‘co-victims’, with a view to determining the best strategies for determining how and when to provide this information in order to advance investigations and to provide assurance to families and friends that appropriate attention is being given to the case
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage and support, as appropriate, police services to consider using an Aboriginal liaison officer to work with Aboriginal families, wherever possible, and police and Aboriginal organizations/agencies to develop and implement protocols for working together and with Aboriginal families and communities
- The MWWG recommends that Heads of Prosecution and the FPT Working Group on Victims participate in the development of and distribution of best practices for police, prosecutors and Victims Services respectively to use when dealing with victims’ families, witnesses and the media in missing and murdered person cases
- The MWWG recommends that Heads of Prosecution and FPT Working Group on Victims examine the issue of victim and witness support best practices in this context. The best practices identified in the Pickton and Svekla prosecutions may provide a valuable starting point for this examination
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support justice agencies in developing plans for supporting those who have close contact with offensive material in cases involving missing and murdered women given the disturbing nature of these files

Report: A Call for Action, Summary Report, National Aboriginal Women’s Summit, 2009

- 24. All NAO’s must work in partnership with all levels of government, mainstream organizations and each other to ensure: a) that existing victims services are adaptable to needs of Aboriginal victims of crime; b) that existing services and structures are respectful of traditional approaches to justice. Police officers, judges and lawyers must learn about the legislative and policy-related history that impact only Aboriginal peoples in Canada, especially Aboriginal women and the key factors which lead Aboriginal women into the justice system.
- 25. A strategic approach to minimize the growth and impact of gangs in First Nations communities and urban centres as well as to minimize the continued recruitment of Aboriginal youth into gangs must be developed.

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 39. Develop and implement training for police to ensure their approaches and responses are appropriate in the context of First Nation communities.
- 40. Establish collaborative relationships between police and First Nation service providers so that appropriate approaches and protocols are established for dealing with violence against Wabanaki women, children, Elders and women with disabilities in First Nation communities.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- Relationships between the police (RCMP and municipal police forces) and First Nations and Métis communities are strengthened in missing person cases.

Report: Highway of Tears Symposium Report Recommendations, 2006

- Recommendation #5 That the RCMP re-establish and maintain communication with each of the victim's families.
- Recommendation #6 That a First Nation Advocate be provided to bridge the long-standing communications and awareness gap which exists between the RCMP and First Nation victim's families.

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- Police should work closely with Indigenous women's organizations and other frontline groups to identify and implement appropriate and effective protocols for action on missing persons cases, with a view to developing standards for police response in keeping with the risks to Indigenous women and girls.
- Police forces should provide specialized staffing to review and coordinate responses to missing persons cases
- All police officers should receive adequate training to ensure an understanding of violence against women in a range of settings including family violence, child sexual exploitation and violence against women in the sex trade.
- The scenarios used in police training should incorporate issues of cultural sensitivity and violence against women.
- Meetings with Indigenous women leaders and other community members should be organized to build understanding of the specific risks to Indigenous women in Canadian society and establish and strengthen relationships of trust between police and Indigenous communities.
- All police departments should review issues of workload, staffing levels and job rotation to ensure officers have the opportunity to become familiar with and can develop relations of trust with the specific communities they are intended to serve and protect.
- Funding should also be provided for the creation of independent advocates and liaison workers for Indigenous people in contact with police.

Report: The Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission, 2001

(Selected recommendations)

- 1. The Commission recommends that the Province of Manitoba initiate a process involving all stakeholders (with Aboriginal representation that includes the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Manitoba Métis Federation) to review policing issues in Manitoba with a goal of a new Provincial Police Act within 3 years. The review should deal with, among other things
 - The role of the province in encouraging the adoption and delivery of effective community policing
 - Whether current mechanisms to fund police services are equitable
 - The role of the province in ensuring adequate and effective levels of policing
 - Complaints and discipline mechanisms for alleged criminal and non-criminal conduct
 - Establishing training and performance standards
 - Crime Prevention
 - Victim Services
 - The role and responsibilities of bodies charged with providing general supervision of police
 - The distribution of powers between municipal governments, police supervisory bodies and the chief of police
 - The role of the RCMP as a provincial police force and arrangements for provision of specialized services by the Provincial Police Force to other forces such as, First Nation Police forces and municipal forces, both RCMP and non-RCMP
 - What, if any, legislative provisions are required to deal with Aboriginal Police Forces
- (ii) Short-Term (Immediate Ongoing work to improve the provision of police services to Aboriginal people should not stop while this review is being conducted. The Commission suggests the province adopt the short term recommendations suggested by Professor Linden, et al that 2. The Province and Aboriginal communities adopt a process through which Aboriginal communities could choose the most appropriate type of police structure; such a process should include,
 - A needs assessment
 - Option assessment, and
 - Monitoring and evaluation.
- 3. The province work with Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) to explore ways to improve the efforts of DOPS to provide a community-based police service.
- 4. The province work with the RCMP to determine whether the RCMP is sufficiently responsive to community needs and concerns and whether the degree of responsiveness can be improved.

Theme 12: Investigations and prosecutions

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- The IACHR recommends that the State implement a policy aimed at ensuring an appropriate response when a report of a missing person, in particular an indigenous women, is filed. (para311)
- Regarding the ongoing investigations of missing and murdered women, the IACHR stresses the importance of the principle of due diligence. In this regard, the State should:
 - Give special judicial protection and guarantees to family members and relatives, especially by improving mechanisms to ensure that such parties have access to information about the development of the investigation and about their rights in any legal proceedings. Effective access by indigenous people to such protection is especially important given the context of historical and structural discrimination.
 - Guarantee that family members or other affected parties of missing and murdered indigenous women can obtain legal aid that is effective and with which these parties feel comfortable, again taking into account the context of discrimination and marginalization.
 - Ensure adequate oversight of officials responsible for responding to and investigating crimes of violence against women, and ensure that administrative, disciplinary or criminal measures are available to hold such officials accountable.
 - Provide indigenous women and their relatives who are seeking assistance from officials with an available and effective procedure to complaints in the case of noncompliance by such officials with their duties under the law, and information on how to initiate and pursue that procedure.
 - Provide integral social and support services to all family members of missing and murdered indigenous women, as well as to indigenous women who want to remove themselves from an abusive situation.
 - Further develop the steps taken to provide reparations to families of missing and murdered indigenous women in cases where the State has failed to exercise due diligence. (para 313)

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Establish independent civilian investigations of reported incidents of serious police misconduct, including incidents of rape and other sexual assault, in all jurisdictions

- Expand the mandate of the Independent Investigations Office to include authority to investigate allegations of sexual assault by police
- Consider, in consultation with indigenous communities in northern British Columbia, changing the criteria for cases to be investigated by the E-PANA task force to include a greater number of the murders and disappearances of women in the north
- Develop a timeline for NCMPUR to complete and implement specialized and standardized protocols for police response when indigenous women and girls are reported missing or found murdered

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government amend the *BC Crown Policy Manual* to explicitly include equality as a fundamental principle to guide Crown Counsel in performing their functions
- That Provincial Government develop and implement a Crown Vulnerable Women Assault Policy to provide guidance on the prosecution of crimes of violence against vulnerable women, including women engaged in the sex trade
- That Provincial Government adopt a policy statement in the *BC Crown Policy Manual* requiring that a prosecutor's evaluations of how strong the case is likely to be when presented at trial should be made on the assumption that the trier of fact will act impartially and according to the law
- That Provincial Government develop guidelines to facilitate and support vulnerable and intimidated witnesses by all actors within the criminal justice system based on the best practices identified by the Commission through its review of protocols and guidelines existing in other jurisdictions
- That the VPD establish a position of Aboriginal Liaison Officer whose responsibilities would include assisting Aboriginal persons in their interactions with the Missing Persons Unit
- That courts consider making increased use of diversionary or alternative measures to deal with bench warrants and breaches of conditions. This is in light of the barriers that outstanding warrants have on the ability of vulnerable women who are victims of violent crime to access police services. And that proactive steps be taken to assist women to clear outstanding warrants
- That best practice protocols be established for (1) enhanced victimology analysis of missing persons, (2) investigative steps in missing person cases, (3) collaborative missing person investigations collection, (4) storage and analysis of missing persons data, and (5) training specific to missing person investigations
- That Provincial Government establish a provincial partnership committee on missing persons to facilitate the collaboration of key players in the ongoing development of best practice protocols for missing person cases. The committee should be chaired by a senior government official and include representatives of the missing and murdered women's families, Aboriginal organizations, community groups, service providers, police, and Victim Services

- That Provincial Government mandate the use of Major Case Management (MCM) for major crimes and that the Director of Police Services develop these MCM standards in consultation with the police community and through a review of best practices in other jurisdictions
- That the Director of Police Services mandate accountability under the MCM standards by requiring that police forces:
 - Provide an explanation as to why MCM was not used for a major crime in an annual report to the Director of Police Services;
 - Notify the Director of Police Services of all major crime investigations that are not under active investigation and have remained open for more than one year. Upon receipt of such notification, the Director will appoint another police department to conduct an independent audit of the prior investigation and conduct such additional investigatory steps as it deems necessary, and report its finding to the Director and the originating police agency; and
 - Conduct annual internal audits of a statistically valid random selection of MCM investigations to ensure proper compliance with the model
- That issues related to a single electronic MCM system for British Columbia, as well as compatibility with cross-Canada systems, be reviewed as part of the consultation on MCM standards set out above
- That the Director of Police Services mandate provincial standards for multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency investigations to be incorporated into the provincial MCM standards referred to in recommendation 8.2
- That the Director of Police Services consult with the BC Association of Police Chiefs and the RCMP to create a protocol or framework for multi-jurisdictional major case investigations to ensure the timely and seamless implementation of multi-agency teams, including a provision for an independent panel to resolve disputes regarding when the protocol should be triggered
- That Provincial Government commit to moving expeditiously to implement a regional Real Time Crime Centre

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Open a Gladue court in Vancouver devoted to Aboriginal offenders
- Strengthen justice systems for dealing with violence on reserves, and develop homecoming programs so that women who have left their reserves as a result of violence can be welcomed back
- Ensure that missing person reports concerning Aboriginal women are received by police and properly investigated

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That the provincial standards be developed by the Director of Police Services with the assistance of a committee consisting of representatives of the BC Association of Municipal Police Chiefs, the RCMP, representatives of community and Aboriginal groups, and representatives of families of the missing and murdered women
- That proposed provincial missing persons standards include at least 15 components:
 - Definition of missing person;
 - Criteria for the acceptance of reports;
 - Jurisdiction;
 - Missing Person Risk Assessment Tool;
 - Provincial Missing Person Reporting Form;
 - Standards related to interaction with family/reportees;
 - Initial steps – background information;
 - Supervisory responsibility/quality control;
 - Forensic evidence standards;
 - Coroners' Liaison;
 - Monitoring outstanding missing person cases;
 - Automatic annual review of unsolved cases;
 - Closing missing person files;
 - Prevention and intervention; and
 - The role and authority of the BCPMPC
- That the provincial standards require a proactive missing persons process whereby police must take prevention and intervention measures including safe and well checks when an individual is found
- That best practice protocols be established for (1) enhanced victimology analysis of missing persons, (2) investigative steps in missing person cases, (3) collaborative missing person investigations collection, (4) storage and analysis of missing persons data, and (5) training specific to missing person investigations
- That Provincial Government establish a provincial partnership committee on missing persons to facilitate the collaboration of key players in the ongoing development of best practice protocols for missing person cases. The committee should be chaired by a senior government official and include representatives of the missing and murdered women's families, Aboriginal organizations, community groups, service providers, police, and Victim Services
- That Provincial Government establish an agency independent of all police agencies with the purposes to include co-ordinating information, identifying patterns, establishing base rates, checking on police investigations, ensuring accountability for linked interjurisdictional series, and warning the public. It should provide oversight and analytic functions, but it should not be an investigating entity
- That provincial authorities create and maintain a provincial missing person website aimed at educating the public about the missing persons process and engaging them in proactive approaches to prevention and investigation

- That provincial authorities establish a provincial 1-800 phone number for the taking of missing person reports and accessing case information
- That provincial authorities develop an enhanced, holistic, comprehensive approach for the provision of support to the families and friends of missing persons. This should be based on
- a needs assessment carried out in consultation with the provincial partnership committee on missing persons
- That representatives of the media be invited to be members of the provincial partnership committee and that the committee should develop a protocol on issues related to the role of the media in missing person investigations
- That the provincial partnership committee develop a proposal for either an enhanced BCPMPC to meet additional responsibilities relating to the needs of members of the public and, in particular, reporters; or to create an independent civilian-based agency for this
- purpose
- That Provincial Government enact missing persons legislation to grant speedy access to personal information of missing persons without unduly infringing on privacy rights. I recommend the adoption of single purpose legislation, as in Alberta and Manitoba, with a provision for a comprehensive review of the operation of the Act after five years
- That Provincial Government take active steps to support the development of a National DNA Missing Persons Index and to assist in overcoming the impasse on outstanding concerns over its creation and operationalization

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Create a form for a living will to allow information sharing when executed and deposited at government agencies such as welfare, in the event that someone is believed to be missing
- Ensure that missing person reports concerning Aboriginal women are received by police
- and properly investigated
- Do not pre-judge the outcome of a case, for example, by denying that there is a serial killer, until there is certainty or that the case has been resolved
- Take all missing persons reports seriously and investigate them properly; do not judge a
- person or make presumptions about her disappearance based on her lifestyle
- If a woman reported missing has been living in insecure circumstances or is Aboriginal,
- assume that she may have experienced foul play and follow up accordingly
- Make sure that all leads are followed up upon, including with other family members who
- did not report the person missing
- Be willing to maintain contact with more than one person per family, recognizing that not all family members are in regular communication with each other, for a variety of reasons
- Recognize that high turnover among officers assigned to a file may negatively impact both
- progress on the investigation and relationships with family members
- Maintain regular contact with families through their preferred means of contact about the
- progress of investigations

- Consider establishing a civilian system for investigating missing persons cases, outside the police force
- Create a BC Missing Persons Unit, to act as a central point for coordinating all missing persons investigations in the province, including through the use of a website for information-sharing
- Make sure that officers assigned to missing persons cases have sufficient experience
- Prohibit officers from taking contract work that could be seen to be in conflict with their official duties or that might cause confusion about their roles
- View and assess the process of missing persons investigations from the five-phase framework developed by the Saskatchewan Missing Persons Partnership Committee: prevention; identification of situations of concern; reports of missing person; investigations/responses; and outcomes
- Work with families to develop future policies on missing persons investigations
- Develop a media campaign about missing persons practices, advising people how to report, and make this information widely available
- Make sure that descriptions of missing persons and descriptions of unidentified victims are shared with all police agencies across the province as soon as they are received
- Make sure that information about investigations is received from and shared with reporting family members regardless of the jurisdiction in which they reside
- Create a legacy fund for children of missing and murdered women to enable them to engage in a range of activities, including tertiary education, recreational and cultural programs, vocational training and therapeutic programs; ensure that the program can be accessed across Canada.

Report: The Tragedy of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women in Canada: We Can Do Better, Position Paper by the SisterWatch Project of the Vancouver Police Department and the Women's Memorial March Project, 2011

- 3. There should be improved co-ordination of police investigations into long-term missing persons cases and unsolved murders involving Aboriginal women and other women at risk.
- 4. Police forces should provide specialized staffing to review and coordinate responses to missing persons cases.
- 5. Police should work closely with Aboriginal women's organizations and other front line groups to identify and implement appropriate and effective protocols for action on missing persons cases, with a view to developing standards for police response in keeping with the risks to Aboriginal women and girls.
- 9. There should be harmonized legislation in all provinces and territories, such as recently passed in Alberta, to provide rapid police access to government databases (e.g., health and social assistance) that would be useful in missing persons investigations

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that Ministers ask the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to consider a national strategy to ensure consistency in reporting mechanisms for reporting missing persons. This could be developed in conjunction with implementation of a National Data Base
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions work with law enforcement/police agencies to ensure that the public is made aware of reporting practices for missing persons in their jurisdiction; to evaluate the adequacy of current educational mechanisms; and consider how to make information more accessible through websites. This could include a national public education campaign about missing persons' issues and police policies and procedures in order to change misconceptions
- In order to increase the likelihood that disappearance of marginalized women will be reported in a timely fashion, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police to develop specialized positions or specific units within police agencies so that: knowledgeable personnel are given clear responsibility for contact with families and the public in missing person reports; and identified police personnel can link with vulnerable communities to increase awareness about reporting missing persons, specifically to:
 - let people know that the reporting of a missing person is not limited to immediate family members, and;
 - reassure individuals who may be associated with criminal lifestyles that they can access police services and report a disappearance without fear of arrest
- The MWWG supports the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons*' Report in urging that police continually communicate with families of missing persons in order to provide ongoing updates to them on the status of the case
- The MWWG supports the recommendation made in the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons*' Report that tools be created for use as an information resource for families of the missing and/or murdered, such as a simple checklist for families to follow that outlines steps they could take during investigation and prosecution of the case
- Building on recommendations in the Saskatchewan Report, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions give consideration to an expansion of the Victims Services mandate to include provision of support to families of missing persons, and that protocols be developed between police and victim services for engagement and support of the families once that need has been identified
- The MWWG encourages FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice to ensure that police in their respective jurisdictions create appropriate standards for missing person cases, including that:
 - A report is taken immediately when information comes to the attention of police, regardless of the length of time the person has been missing or the location where the person went missing
 - A standardized, specialized in-take form for recording a missing person report and a specialized investigative checklist is used

- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support and encourage police to develop, as recommended in the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons* report:
 - A common assessment tool to help assess the priority of the investigation
 - A practice of entering cases on CPIC as soon as possible after it is established that the person is missing
- The MWWG recommends that FPT governments consider the need for legislation that would allow police access to personal information of persons reported missing
- The MWWG recommends that FPT governments support training and education for personnel responsible for records in departments of health, social assistance, and other government agencies to be aware of the need for timely police access to records in cases of missing persons and to encourage development of protocols for the sharing of that information relative to permissible legislative exceptions such as law enforcement purposes.
- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice support, as a priority, the work of the Multi-Provincial Strategy on Missing Persons & Unidentified Remains to establish a national missing person database containing both police missing person information and information on unidentified human remains. This database should be accessible to and searchable by both police and coroners or medical examiners, with designated sections accessible to the public by website
- In order to target police resources effectively, the MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support, where appropriate, police consideration of:
 - developing approaches to target high risk youth;
 - establishing collaborative approaches with relevant non-police agencies to assess the level of police intervention required in particular missing person cases, such as chronic run-away children;
 - setting policies and procedures consistent with the involvement of and advice from the relevant non-police agencies; evaluating approaches currently in use in order to determine the gains, if any, in efficiencies and effectiveness in responding to missing persons reports, and; sharing the results of evaluations on collaborative operational policies with other interested police agencies
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the recommendations of the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons*' Report that the police develop media and public communications protocols to implement best practices to disseminate information about missing persons and to request the public's help in locating a missing person
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the following Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons* recommendation:
 - All police forces should assign a police officer responsible for the coordination of missing persons' files and establish a backup process to avoid gaps in effectively responding to missing person reports, in conjunction with recommendation 14 that calls for the identification of a specific unit within police services

- The MWWG recommends that FPT Ministers Responsible for Justice support further exploration of the recommendation by the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons* that a more systematic and comprehensive approach be taken to data collection on missing persons in Canada and that the Ministers ask the CACP to consider the following approaches with respect to data entry/collection:
 - Use of a common intake and investigation forms;
 - Increased reporting of missing persons cases onto CPIC; and
 - Aggregate reporting from police reports at the local, provincial/territorial or national level subject to resources
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions:
 - review the police response to missing Aboriginal person cases to understand barriers (cultural and systemic) to reporting and investigation and determine how police responses could be improved
 - encourage police to consider the need to develop standardized police intake forms and appropriate assessment criteria based on the risk profile of Aboriginal women and other marginalized women to ensure an appropriate and consistent police response
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police forces to work with Aboriginal organizations to develop and disseminate tools and information about the reporting process for missing women that reflects different literacy levels and is available in a range of languages/formats
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police training on missing person investigations to incorporate specific information respecting Aboriginal people and particularly Aboriginal women, in order to enhance cultural sensitivity and mitigate any potential distrust on behalf of the families caused by past relationships
- The MWWG recommends that cases matching the profile of women particularly vulnerable to serial predators be flagged as priority cases when a missing person report is received
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police, as recommended in the Saskatchewan *Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons*' Report, to develop standardized training and practice guides for recording and managing investigations in missing person cases
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions conduct a feasibility study on the development of a voluntary database containing information on individuals considered to be at high risk of going missing, including developing criteria for such a database; and that the federal government lead the feasibility study, including a review of any legislative authority required for the collection and use of this information
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support further consideration of the feasibility and utility of a Missing Persons Index, including potential resolutions to privacy concerns relating to the possible cross-matching feature of the sub-indices, and also subject to the ongoing review of the DNA Data Bank scheme

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions support the following Saskatchewan Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons recommendation:
 - All police forces should assign a police officer responsible for the coordination of missing persons' files and establish a backup process to avoid gaps in effectively responding to missing person reports, in conjunction with recommendation 14 that calls for the identification of a specific unit within police services
 - The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider the recommendation made in the 2005 FBI symposium on serial murder that investigators should consult with behavioral experts on the development of a proactive media strategy in order to circumvent issues related to interactions between the offender and the media
 - The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider the recommendation of the Panel on Justice and the Media that consideration be given to formally implementing the guidelines established in the Protocol Regarding Public Statements in Criminal Proceedings document

Report: Issues Related to the High Number of Murdered and Missing Women in Canada - Missing Women Working Group of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials on Criminal Justice, 2010

- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police agencies across Canada to:
 - consider strategies to promote the empirical testing of specialized tools for narrowing the field of suspects in cases involving serial predators
 - consider mechanisms for sharing current research information and promising practices relevant to these specialized tools, including profiling and instruments to assist in the assessment of potential suspects in serial murder cases
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider the provision of targeted funding to police agencies to ensure that there are adequate resources for dealing with cold case files
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police forces to examine policies on releasing information on 'cold cases' to media and 'co-victims', with a view to determining the best strategies for determining how and when to provide this information in order to advance investigations and to provide assurance to families and friends that appropriate attention is being given to the case
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions review their record retention policies for police, prosecutions and courts with a view to assessing the extent to which access to historical records would assist in solving cases, such as the identification leading to new DNA samples being collected for those historical cases and thus linking them to DNA crime scenes on other unsolved cases
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions give consideration to the incorporation of early Crown involvement on suspicious missing persons' files where foul play is suspected

- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions encourage police investigators involved in cases of missing or murdered women to design and implement effective media plans in order to ensure proactive and strategic use of media sources for educating and soliciting information from the public concerning details of the investigation
- The MWWG recommends that Heads of Prosecution and the FPT Working Group on Victims participate in the development of and distribution of best practices for police, prosecutors and Victims Services respectively to use when dealing with victims' families, witnesses and the media in missing and murdered person cases
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions consider the recommendation made in the 2005 FBI symposium on serial murder that investigators should consult with behavioral experts on the development of a proactive media strategy in order to circumvent issues related to interactions between the offender and the media
- The MWWG recommends that jurisdictions ensure that media involvement in any large and complex trial should be managed within a framework supported by the Judiciary

Report: Missing Women Investigation Review, Vancouver Police Department, 2010.

- 1. Create a protocol or framework for multijurisdictional major case investigations to ensure the timely and seamless implementation of multi-agency teams. Reference documents should include this Review, Inspector R. Gehl's 2001 M.A. thesis on Multi-Agency Cooperation, and Justice Campbell's Bernardo Investigation Review. The protocol should include specific guidelines, provisions for ongoing liaison between senior police officers, and reporting requirements;
- 2. Strike a committee to:
 - • Develop a mechanism for individual police agencies faced with a major case with a multi-jurisdictional aspect to seek assistance, including involvement of the Provincial Police;
 - • Develop specific criteria that set out the circumstances in which a JFO will be created and a process for providing ongoing review and reporting of the JFO's activities;
 - • Develop an agreement allowing the rapid creation of JFOs when needed; and Develop a funding model for extraordinary investigations that are beyond the capacity of a municipal police department's budget for routine policing;
 - • Examine the state of provincial standards for advanced training of police officers in British Columbia.
- 10. Continue to provide the support necessary to ensure the success of the new provincial analysis unit to examine missing persons cases, and that further attention be given to eliminating barriers to making missing persons reports;
- 11. THAT all VPD supervisors and managers in charge of investigative squads receive major case management training appropriate to their responsibilities;
- 12. THAT the Inspector in charge of the Major Crime Section (and other investigative sections) have a background in criminal investigations;

- 13. THAT the Executive of the Vancouver Police Department implement a policy requiring briefings at the Executive level on major cases so that adequate resources are applied;
- 14. THAT whenever a task force is created for the purpose of a major case investigation, the major case management model is followed;
- 15. THAT a full time supervisor or Team Commander is assigned on a full time basis to any major case team;
- 16. THAT the Team Commander in consultation with the Primary Investigator have the authority to select all team members, and to release any team member who is unable to perform to a reasonable standard, or who is otherwise counterproductive;
- 17. THAT all major investigations consider the need for a written media strategy as a part of its operational plan, developed by the Team Commander in consultation with the Media Liaison Unit;
- 18. THAT the media handling protocol set out in the current Canadian Police College's Major Case Management Manual be used as a reference in major case investigations;
- 19. THAT the VPD implement a process whereby any replacement officers in a major case investigation team are fully briefed on all facets of the case investigation, including both in-person meetings and via case investigation documentation;
- 20. THAT the VPD continue developing the capacity to incorporate major case management best practices;

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 41. Establish a Wabanaki court worker program to assist women dealing with court processes.
- 42. Distribute existing resource kits and directories to inform Wabanaki women about the service and supports available to them.

Report: Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- Recommendation 9.1: The Saskatchewan Police Commission should review its current policy and work with all police agencies in Saskatchewan to develop and implement an overarching provincial Missing Person Policy for all municipal police agencies, and encourage the RCMP to adopt the policy in Saskatchewan.
- Recommendation 9.2: The Saskatchewan Police Commission should give consideration to incorporating the following standards in the policy:
 - 1. A missing person report must be taken immediately when information comes to the attention of police, regardless of the length of time the person has been missing or the location where the person went missing.
 - 2. A standardized specialized in-take form for recording a missing person report and a specialized investigative checklist should be used.
 - 3. A common assessment tool should be developed to help assess the priority of the investigation.
 - 4. Immediate investigation of missing persons in suspicious circumstances.

- 5. Once it is established that a person is missing, the case will be entered on CPIC as soon as possible.
- 6. Continued communication with the families of missing people.
- 7. A media and public communications protocol for disseminating information about missing persons and requesting the public's help in locating a missing person.
- 8. The police, upon identifying a chronic runaway situation, should develop approaches to link with other agencies to support appropriate intervention.
- 9. All police forces should assign a police officer responsible for coordination of missing persons files and establish a backup process to avoid gaps in effectively responding to missing person reports.
- 10. In order to effectively implement the above approach to recording and managing investigations on missing person cases, standardized training and practice guides should be developed.
- Recommendation 10: A process is required to ensure that all suspicious and at-risk missing person reported incidents (young children, medical, elderly, high risk life style) are fanned out to all relevant police agencies in the province immediately.
- Recommendation 11: Police should establish protocols with community agencies to provide a formal system to fan out Missing Persons Information.
- The provincial government should fund a caseworker pilot with a police service. This caseworker would work with the found missing person and their family to deal with the causes of the person going missing by discussing how to avoid future situations and linking the individual and/or family with available resources to deal with the underlying causes of the person going missing to try to avoid repeat situations

Highway of Tears Symposium Report, 2006

- Recommendation #6 - That the RCMP continue its official investigation, or inquiry, into the Aboriginal community's assertions on the actual number of missing women

Report: Stolen Sisters – A Human Rights Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada, Amnesty International, 2004

- The actions of police, including compliance with policies on the investigation of missing persons cases, should be subject to independent civilian oversight.
- Officers found to have failed to act on reports of missing women, or to have carried out biased or inadequate investigation of violence against women, should be subject to appropriate discipline.

Theme 13: Community-based justice

Report: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2015

- Specifically regarding Prince George, the IACHR urges the Canadian State to immediately provide a safe public transport option along Highway 16. (para 306)

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Expand non-incarceration options for publicly intoxicated individuals, including sobering centers where medical personnel can provide appropriate care

Report: First Nations Communities at Risk and in Crisis: Justice and Security - Journal of Aboriginal Health (academic article), 2009

- Seek Comparable Funding for Preventative and Proactive Community Justice and Security Community Plans

Report: A Call for action, Summary Report, Native Aboriginal Women's Summit, 2009

- Aboriginal communities must be supported for the continued implementation and expansion of collaborative and cooperative Restorative Justice Approaches where this is appropriate and supported by the Aboriginal community.

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 43. Review various models across jurisdictions of restorative justice, First Nation tribunal and specialized court processes, and perpetrator interventions. This would be assessed by the Advisory Committee to determine their suitability and applicability to New Brunswick.

Report: The Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission, 2001

- The Government of Manitoba consult with Aboriginal organizations with a view to creating regional, Aboriginal controlled probation services to serve Aboriginal communities, and
- The Government of Manitoba seek to increase significantly the number of Aboriginal probation officers so that probation services to Aboriginal offenders are delivered primarily by Aboriginal probation officers.

Theme 14: International human rights instruments

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Ratify the American Convention on Human Rights and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará)

Report: Those Who Take Us Away: Abusive Policing and Failures in Protection of Indigenous Women and Girls in Northern British Columbia, Canada - Human Rights Watch, 2013

- Cooperate with the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women's inquiry into the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, including by granting permission for a site visit, and provide similar cooperation to other international human rights bodies that may seek to engage the government on these issues

Report: A Call for Action, Summary Report, National Aboriginal Women's Summit, 2009

- 16. The Federal Government must adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and must work with Permanent Forum and Indigenous People's organizations.

Report: No More Stolen Sisters: the Need for a Comprehensive Response to Discrimination and Violence Against Indigenous Women in Canada - Amnesty International, 2008

- Restoration of funding to fulfill the commitment set out in the Kelowna Accord (First Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders: Strengthening Relationships and Closing the Gap) to end inequalities in health, housing, education, and other services for Indigenous peoples
- Immediate implementation of recommendations of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and the UN Human Rights Committee concerning the treatment of women prisoners, including the creation of a new security risk assessment system
- Publicly commit to fully implement the standards contained in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to engage Indigenous Peoples in discussions about their implementation

Report: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996

- 1.11.12: Canada participate fully in efforts to develop further international standards to protect Indigenous peoples against arbitrary relocation and ensure that Canadian law incorporates the spirit and intent of international norms, standards and covenants relating to relocation.
- 2.3.1: The government of Canada take the following actions:

- (a) enact legislation affirming the obligations it has assumed under international human rights instruments to which it is a signatory in so far as these obligations pertain to the Aboriginal peoples of Canada;
- (b) recognize that its fiduciary relationship with Aboriginal peoples requires it to enact legislation to give Aboriginal peoples access to a remedy in Canadian courts for breach of Canada's international commitments to them;
- (c) expressly provide in such legislation that resort may be had in Canada's courts to international human rights instruments as an aid to the interpretation of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and other Canadian law affecting Aboriginal peoples;
- (d) commence consultations with provincial governments with the objective of ratifying and implementing International Labour Organisation Convention No. 169 on Indigenous Peoples, which came into force in 1991;
- (e) support the Draft Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of 1993, as it is being considered by the United Nations;
- (f) immediately initiate planning, with Aboriginal peoples, to celebrate the International Decade of Indigenous Peoples and, as part of the events, initiate a program for international exchanges between Indigenous peoples in Canada and elsewhere.
- 4.6.9: The government of Canada make provisions for the participation of Aboriginal governments and organizations in future international agreements concerning environmental stewardship.

Theme 15: Law reform of discriminatory legislation

Report: A Call for Action, Summary Report, National Aboriginal Women's Summit, 2009

- 8. Action must be taken on a full suite of legislative initiatives including addressing the gender bias under the *Indian Act*, customary and family law reform, Bill C-31 and Canadian Human Rights legislation. Participants want to ensure that the Aboriginal and Treaty rights of Aboriginal women under Section 35(4) are recognized and protected.
- 10. Prior to the repeal of Section 67 of the *Canadian Human Rights Act*, a comprehensive multi-year plan must be developed for community education and consultation in order to define next steps.
- 15. Federal legislation related to Matrimonial Real Property (MRP) on-reserve must be enacted in order to ensure that the property rights of Aboriginal women are recognized and meaningfully respected upon marital breakdown. The proposed solutions must be reviewed to ensure that they do not result in inequitable impacts on Aboriginal women.
- 23. All levels of government in partnership with all Aboriginal organizations should take the necessary steps to address the root causes leading to the over-representation of Aboriginal women as victims and offenders within the criminal justice system.

Report: A Strategic Framework to End Violence against Wabanaki Women in New Brunswick, New Brunswick Advisory Committee on Violence against Aboriginal Women, 2008

- 26. Investigate band bylaws adopted by other First Nation communities in Canada that assist in creating the right conditions for reducing violence against Aboriginal women and children.
- 27. Explore and adopt band bylaws conducive to reducing violence against Wabanaki women and children in First Nation communities. This would be the responsibility of leadership in First Nation communities.
- 28. Develop or adapt existing protocols for service provision in First Nation communities necessary to reducing and dealing with violence against Wabanaki women and children, for example, Woman Abuse Protocols for First Nation communities.

Report: Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women - Ontario Native Women's Association & Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres, 2007

- That through an intensive process of examination, amendment and/or replacement, all legislation, policy, funding and programming processes ensure Aboriginal women are protected from all forms of violence and abuse.

Final report of the Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons, October 2007.

- Recommendation 4: The provincial government should review existing common law and legislation dealing with missing persons and develop a timely, comprehensive legislative response to deal with the estate of the missing person.
- Recommendation 12.1: The provincial government should amend provincial legislation to permit the disclosure of information on missing persons to police conducting a missing persons investigation as information necessary to protect the mental or physical health or safety of an individual.
- Recommendation 12.2: The Saskatchewan Minister of Justice should raise with the Federal Ministers responsible for Justice the need to amend federal legislation to ensure that when police are investigating a missing person case they have access to information under federal jurisdiction relevant to the investigation.

Report: Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, 1996

- 1.16.1: To begin the process, the federal, provincial and territorial governments, on behalf of the people of Canada, and national Aboriginal organizations, on behalf of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada, commit themselves to building a renewed relationship based on the principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, sharing and mutual responsibility; these principles to form the ethical basis of relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal societies in the future and to be enshrined in a new Royal Proclamation and its companion legislation (see Volume 2, Chapter 2).
- 1.16.2: Federal, provincial and territorial governments further the process of renewal by
 - (a) acknowledging that concepts such as *terra nullius* and the doctrine of discovery are factually, legally and morally wrong;
 - (b) declaring that such concepts no longer form part of law making or policy development by Canadian governments;
 - (c) declaring that such concepts will not be the basis of arguments presented to the courts;
 - (d) committing themselves to renewal of the federation through consensual means to overcome the historical legacy of these concepts, which are impediments to Aboriginal people assuming their rightful place in the Canadian federation; and
 - (e) including a declaration to these ends in the new Royal Proclamation and its companion legislation.

That the appropriate place of Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history be recognized.

- 1.11.1 Governments acknowledge that where the relocation of Aboriginal communities did not conform to the criteria set out in Recommendation 1.11.2, such relocations constituted a violation of their members' human rights.
- 1.11.2 Parliament amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to authorize the Canadian Human Rights Commission to inquire into, hold hearings on, and make recommendations on relocations of Aboriginal peoples to decide whether
 - (a) the federal government had proper authority to proceed with the relocations;
 - (b) relocatees gave their free and informed consent to the relocations;
 - (c) the relocations were well planned and carried out;
 - (d) promises made to those who were relocated were kept;
 - (e) relocation was humane and in keeping with Canada's international commitments and obligations; and
 - (f) government actions conformed to its fiduciary obligation to Aboriginal peoples.
- 1.11.3 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be authorized to conduct inquiries into relocations, including those that occurred before the Commission's creation in 1978, and that with respect to the latter relocations, its mandate expire 15 years after coming into force.
- 1.11.4 Parliament amend the Canadian Human Rights Act to provide that it is a violation of the act if a relocation of an Aboriginal community does not conform to the six criteria listed in Recommendation 1.11.2, and that the provisions in Recommendation 1.11.11 apply in those circumstances where appropriate.
- 1.11.5 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be authorized specifically to provide a range of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, including mediation, facilitation, and consensual arbitration.
- 1.11.6 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be given subpoena powers with respect to documents, evidence and witnesses, and powers to compel testimony and appoint experts and counsel.
- 1.11.7 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be given the authority to recommend a range of remedies to redress the negative effects of relocations, including
 - provision for essential social infrastructure or services or special community initiatives;
 - provision for relocatees to return to and re-establish in the home community;
 - provision for visiting between separated families;
 - funding of additional services, for example, to assist the readjustment of returnees, or all persons still adversely affected by the relocations;
 - settlement of individual claims for compensation for, among other things, unpaid work done or services rendered during relocation and personal property lost or left behind; and
 - costs, including future costs, incurred by relocatees or their representatives in attempting to resolve their complaints.

- 1.11.8 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be required to describe activity on relocation claims in its annual report and be authorized to make special reports as it sees fit and periodically review and report on action on its recommendations.
- 1.11.9 Federal, provincial and territorial governments co-operate with communities and the Canadian Human Rights Commission by opening their files on relocation to facilitate research.
- 1.11.10 Aboriginal communities be given funding by the Canadian Human Rights Commission, upon decision of a panel of advisers appointed by but independent of the Commission, as follows:
 - (a) seed funding, of up to \$10,000, to conduct preliminary research on their claims after *prima facie* assessment of the merits of their applications; and
 - (b) adequate additional funding when, in the panel's judgement, the communities have claims sufficient to warrant inquiry by the Commission.
- 1.11.11 The Canadian Human Rights Commission be authorized to apply to an appropriate tribunal to obtain any appropriate measure against the government of Canada, or to demand in favour of the Aboriginal community or communities in question any measure of redress it considers appropriate at the time, where
 - (a) the parties will not agree to mediation or arbitration of the dispute; or
 - (b) proposals of the Commission have not been carried out within an allotted time to its satisfaction; and
 - (c) application to a tribunal or demand in favour of a community is with the consent of concerned communities.
- 3.2.1 The government of Canada acknowledge a fiduciary responsibility to support Aboriginal nations and their communities in restoring Aboriginal families to a state of health and wholeness.
- 3.2.2 Aboriginal, provincial, territorial and federal governments promptly acknowledge that child welfare is a core area of self-government in which Aboriginal nations can undertake self-starting initiatives.
- 3.2.3 Aboriginal, provincial, territorial and federal governments promptly reach agreements on the authority of Aboriginal nations and their communities for child welfare, and its relation to provincial, territorial and federal laws respecting child welfare.
- 3.2.4 Block funding be provided to child welfare agencies mandated by Aboriginal governments or communities to facilitate a shift in focus from alternative child care to family support.
- 3.2.5: Until community of interest governments are established in urban and non-reserve areas, voluntary agencies endorsed by substantial numbers of Aboriginal people resident in the areas be authorized under provincial or territorial law to act in the field of child welfare
 - (a) where numbers warrant; and
 - (b) with levels of funding comparable to those of agencies providing comparable services to the general population and sufficient to meet the service needs of Aboriginal people.
- 3.2.6 Aboriginal leaders take a firm, public stance in support of the right to freedom from violence of all members in the community, but particularly of women, children, elders, persons

with disabilities and others who may be vulnerable, as well as in support of a policy of zero tolerance of actions that violate the physical or emotional safety of Aboriginal persons.

Theme 16: Compensation/healing fund for victims and their families

Report: Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (aka the Oppal Report) - Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- That Provincial Government establish a compensation fund for the children of the missing and murdered women
- That Provincial Government establish a healing fund for families of the missing and murdered women. These funds should be accessed through an application process pursuant to established guidelines

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Change victim compensation policies to recognize the support contributions made by parents throughout a child's lifetime and not just at the time of death
- Ensure that standards for compensation are equitable and explain any differences clearly, so that survivors receiving compensation do not perceive amounts to be arbitrary
- In the case of those in charge of Victim Services and compensation for survivors, recognize that children are not in a position to take pro-active steps towards securing compensation or other programs that are rightfully theirs
- Create a legacy fund for children of missing and murdered women to enable them to engage in a range of activities, including tertiary education, recreational and cultural programs, vocational training and therapeutic programs; ensure that the program can be accessed across Canada
- Ensure that compensation, access to Victim Services and access to healing activities take into account the extended nature of Aboriginal families

Report: Voices of the Families – Recommendations of the Families of the Missing and Murdered Women - consultation report prepared for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, 2012

- Establish a healing retreat or camp program for children and other surviving relatives that would allow them to meet regularly with others, talk, grieve and engage in social activities and memorializing activities
- Ensure that compensation, access to Victim Services and access to healing activities take into account the extended nature of Aboriginal families
- Establish a healing centre or memorial site for all family members to provide a place for families to mourn their loved ones in the absence of graves establish web-based social networking sites for the families to continue to be in touch and share information

Report: Highway of Tears Recommendation Report, 2006

- Recommendation #1 - That a Highway of Tears Legacy Fund be established as one source, among others, to develop and support multi-community, and multi-agency efforts in victim prevention, emergency readiness planning and team response, and victim family counselling and support.
- Recommendation #2 - That a Board of Directors (Governing Body) be established to; provide direction and support in all four areas of this Highway of Tears Community Initiative; and manage the Legacy Fund.
- Recommendation #3 That the Board of Directors, (Highway of Tears Community Governing Body), establish working committees in each city and municipality along the Highway of Tears.
- Recommendation #4 - That the Board of Directors hire two coordinators to provide development and support assistance to each Highway of Tears community working committee located along the highway.
- Recommendation #5 - That the Board of Directors, (Highway of Tears Community Governing Body), report out and be held accountable to the communities and funding bodies at annual Highway of Tears Symposiums.