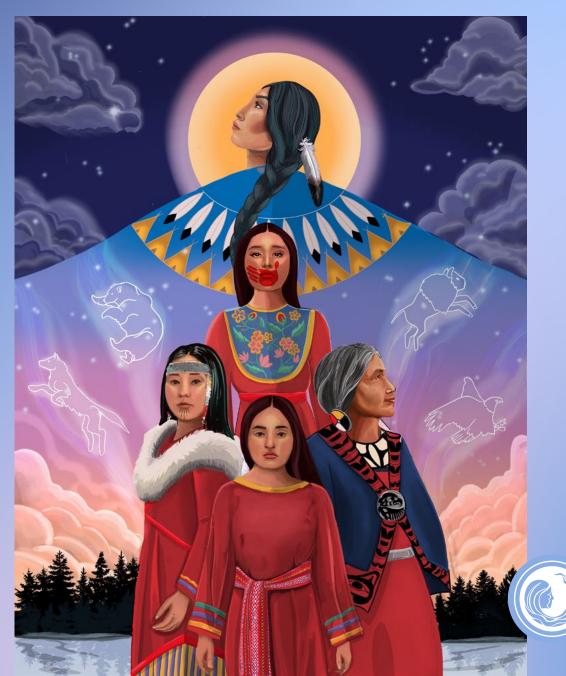


An annual report outlining the **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S** progress on implementing the commitments made in their

# MMIWG2S National Action Plan







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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Native Women's Association of Canada's (NWAC) Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People (MMIWG2S) Scorecard will formally track the Federal government's progress on their implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice presented by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). This will be done through an analysis of the commitments made in the 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan: Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People (National Action Plan) released on June 3rd, 2021.

### INTRODUCTION

The National Inquiry into MMIWG was tasked with uncovering and assessing the systemic and root causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people including existing institutional policies and practices. Their analysis showed that the ongoing violence and deliberate human and Indigenous rights violations "amount to a race-based genocide" targeting Indigenous people, and women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse individuals in particular, through colonial violence. The Calls for Justice of the National Inquiry into MMIWG highlighted the urgent need for a complete paradigm shift to dismantle colonialism and bring an end the crisis of MMIWG2S by shifting the narrative and lens through which to view issues relating to the safety and security of Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people from "unfulfilled needs" to a "denial of rights".

NWAC's MMIWG2S Scorecard will assess the action taken to address the gaps in key human rights areas impacting safety and violence prevention identified in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into MMIWG2S and next steps outlined in the National Inquiry's Calls for Justice. NWAC's Scorecard will do so through an assessment of the implementation of the short-term priorities and immediate next steps presented in the Federal Government's National Action Plan.



<sup>1</sup> National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, Calls for Justice (Ottawa: Privy Council Office, 2019), https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Calls\_for\_Justice.pdf, p.169.

# DEFINING THE CALLS FOR JUSTICE AS LEGAL IMPERATIVES

The 231 Calls for Justice are legal imperatives, meaning that their implementation is not optional, and there is an urgent need for them to be acted upon to create substantial and systemic change and to end the ongoing rights violations and violence.

The National Action Plan was released on June 3rd, 2021, two years after the National Inquiry presented their Final Report and the violence experienced by Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people was declared a genocide and a year later than it was promised. The National Action Plan is an "aspirational document with no funding, timelines or measurable goals". It is a vision and set of guiding principles and ideas for moving forward to address the Calls for Justice, but lacks a robust implementation plan that outlines detailed funding and resources dedicated for capacity building to end the genocide against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people.

In response to the *National Action Plan*, NWAC filed a human rights complaint in Canada and requested international intervention on the ongoing genocide by the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United Nations<sup>3</sup> as the Federal Government was not fulfilling their legal responsibility outlined under multiple international human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Genocide Convention,) to implement action immediately.<sup>4</sup> According to *A Legal Analysis of Genocide*, genocidal conduct is not only reserved for action with intent to destroy a protected group but can be empowered through inaction that upholds and/or creates socio-economic vulnerabilities that contribute to higher rates of gender-based violence and jeopardize the safety of Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people.<sup>5</sup> This clearly demonstrates the responsibility of the Federal Government to respond and act urgently. A failure to do so perpetuates the ongoing genocide.



<sup>2 &</sup>quot;NWAC Demands Explanation for Appointment of a Non-Indigenous Man to Head Secretariat on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls," The Native Women's Association of Canada, accessed May 1, 2022, https://www.nwac.ca/nwac-demands-explanation-for-appointment-of-a-non-indigenous-man-to-head-secretariat-on-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-and-girls/.

<sup>3</sup> Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Communication to the United Nations Human Rights Committee (Geneva: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2021), https://nbapc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/CAP-UN-Complaint.pdf.

<sup>4</sup> National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, A Legal Analysis of Genocide: Supplementary Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (Ottawa: Privy Council Office, 2019), https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Supplementary-Report\_Genocide.pdf, p.4.

<sup>5</sup> National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, A Legal Analysis of Genocide: Supplementary Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (Ottawa: Privy Council Office, 2019), https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Supplementary-Report\_Genocide.pdf, p.4.

### NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

The National Action Plan, which includes the Federal Pathway, was co-developed by the Government of Canada, provincial, territorial, Indigenous and municipal governments and Indigenous partners to address the findings of the National Inquiry into MMIWG, respond to the Calls for Justice, and end the systemic violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse individuals. The Core Working Group and the National Family and Survivors Circle, composed of family members and survivors, in addition to the eight subworking groups established the overarching vision and guiding principles, the short-term goals and priorities as well as the immediate next steps and monitoring processes of the National Action Plan.

The resulting documents is intended as an "overarching framework" by providing a high-level vision and does not provide information about the scope, timelines or the departments that will be responsible for the actions and finally the mechanisms to ensure accountability to communities, families and survivors. It is not a true action plan and does not urgently or properly respond to the MMIWG2S crisis. NWAC was disheartened by the lack of critical actionable, measurable and costed steps in the *National Action Plan* and expressed concern about their implementation and the ability to make the transformative change necessary to eliminate violence and keeping Indigenous women, girls, transgender and gender-diverse people safe. In fact, NWAC walked away from the federal *National Action Plan* process after being shut out of decision-making processes on the creation and implementation of actions – stating that we "could no longer be part of a process that was so toxic and dysfunctional" – and released our own Action Plan.<sup>6</sup>

Nearly a year after the release of the federal *National Action Plan*, we have yet to see an implementation plan and the rates of MMIWG2S and violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people continue to be staggering. We are even seeing violence continue to rise – with Statistics Canada reporting earlier this year that six in 10 Indigenous women experience physical or sexual assault in their lifetime. At the same time, we continue to see the same barriers for support and justice – recently exemplified in the case of Chelsea Poorman. Despite an overwhelming number of unanswered questions, Vancouver Police Department deemed her death non-suspicious while her family continues to fight for answers.

Cory Bilyea, "National Day of Awareness for MMIW2S ceremonies meant as a reminder to learn more," Toronto Star, May 16, 2022, https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2022/05/16/national-day-of-awareness-for-mmiw2s-ceremonies-meant-as-reminder-to-learn-more.html.



<sup>6 &</sup>quot;NWAC Loses Confidence in Government, Walks Away From "Toxic, Dysfunctional" NAP Process to Put Families – Not Politics – First; Announces Own Action Plan: Our Calls, Our Actions," The Native Women's Association of Canada, accessed May 3, 2022, https://www.globenewswire.com/news-re-lease/2021/06/01/2239800/0/en/NWAC-Loses-Confidence-in-Government-Walks-Away-From-Toxic-Dysfunctional-NAP-Process-to-Put-Families-Not-Politics-First-Announces-Own-Action-Plan-Our-Calls-Our-Actions.html

<sup>7</sup> Brooke Taylor, "6 in 10 Indigenous women experience physical or sexual abuse: Statistics Canada," CTV News, May 19, 2021, https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/6-in-10-indigenous-women-experience-physical-or-sexual-abuse-statistics-canada-1.5435599?cache=szcuxcmsiqb%2F7.497094.

### **BUDGET COMMITMENTS**

The Calls for Justice clearly outline the importance of sustainable, long-term funding in order to end the ongoing genocide of MMIWG2S. As such, the Federal Government has made commitments through the 2021 Federal Budget that support the implementation of the Calls for Justice.

In Budget 2021, there were \$2.2 billion over five years allocated to respond to ongoing genocide of MMIWG2S. This includes:

- \$453 MILLION over five years to support, promote and restore Indigenous cultures and languages
- \$139 MILLION over five years to ensure equal access, without racism or discrimination, to health, wellness and social programs
- **\$861 MILLION** over five years to ensure human security and safety through funding commitments in Indigenous-led community safety services and models, as well as in First Nations police programs
- **\$75 MILLION** over three years to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system
- **\$57 MILLION** over five years to enhance work with partners to ensure regional Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people's organizations have core and sustainable funding.

The MMIWG2S funding earmarked in Budget 2021 is slowly being released without a detailed, costed and actionable implementation plan, and there was no additional funding announced in Budget 2022. Ensuring funding is critical to responding to the Calls for Justice, but this must be accompanied by a clear plan as well as accountability measures that track progress. As stated by Qajaq Robinson, Former Commissioner of the National Inquiry into MMIWG:

"They must do more than show you the Budgets that they've spent, and the line items attached. They must be prepared to show you how it has affected people's lives".9

<sup>9</sup> Fraser Needham, "Former commissioner suggests Senate could embarrass government into acting on recommendations," APTN News, April 04, 2022, https://www.aptnnews.ca/national-news/former-commissioner-suggests-senate-could-embarrass-government-into-acting-on-recommendations/.



### ANALYSIS FRAMEWORK

In order to assess progress on each action, we will score our progress using the following criteria:

#### **ACTION COMPLETE OR SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS**

This category is reserved for actions that are completed, near-completion, or have seen significant action.

### **SOME PROGRESS**

This category will outline actions that have seen some progress, but more work is needed to fully complete the action and answer the targeted Calls for Justice.

### LITTLE OR NO PROGRESS

This category will define actions that have seen very little or no progress.

### A NOTE ON TRANSPARENCY

A lack of transparency with regards to the development of initiatives, actions and funding distribution have made it challenging to evaluate the Federal Government's progress towards implementing the 231 Calls for Justice and the commitments they made in their *National Action Plan*.

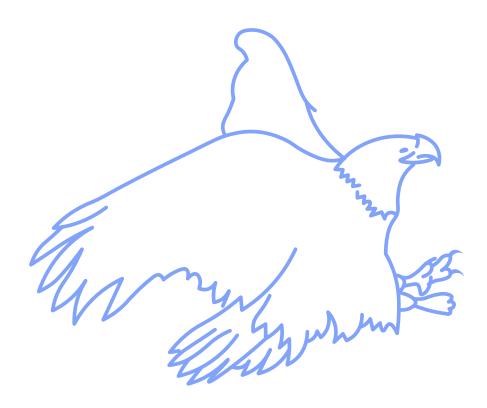
The assessment and evaluation made in **CANADA'S MMIWG2S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN: ANNUAL SCORECARD** is based on the information currently available to the public on the actions that have been completed. There may be additional progress and actions that are currently underway, however this information has not been released. For instance, the federal government has allocated funds in Budget 2021 to advance their progress on addressing the Calls for Justice and the immediate priorities they identified in the *National Action Plan* and the Federal Pathway. We have seen that program funding from Budget 2021 has been announced and funds are beginning to be released. However, the information available about how the funding is being distributed, including where the funds are going and the concrete actions that are being taken, is not consistently disclosed.



### OTHER ISSUES WITH TRACKING PROGRESS:

- Some funding is designated to support racialized communities more broadly, conflating the needs of Indigenous women, Two-Spirit, transgender and genderdiverse people with other racialized communities and making it unclear how much funding is actually allocated to Indigenous women, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people specifically, and if any portions of this funding answer the Calls for Justice
- There has been no transparency on the creation of oversight bodies, working groups and/or national task forces – all of which were outlined actions in the National Action Plan.

NWAC and the Canadian public (according to the survey) call for greater transparency around the progress toward the implementation of the Calls for Justice including the process of developing actions toward specific targeted Calls.





### SCORECARD: SUMMARY

NWAC has tracked the Federal Government's progress on implementing their *National Action Plan* through the five short-term goals and immediate next steps outlined in their plan. Below is a summary of their progress:

Goal #1	One action in this section saw some progress, while one action saw little or no progress.  Outside of funding commitments, little has been done to achieve transformative changes in attitudes, behaviours, and knowledge in broader society.
Goal #2	One action in this section saw some progress, while two actions saw little or no progress. Outside of funding commitments (with no clear commitment to MMIWG2S), little has been done to provide support to survivors and families of MMIWG2S.
Goal #3	As we have seen MMIWG2S-specific funding allocations on violence prevention and housing, as well as the announcement/release of funding through programs, both actions in this section were assessed as somewhat progressing.
Goal #4	Three actions in this section saw some progress, while three actions saw little or no progress. Outside of funding commitments, little has been done address the root causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people.
Goal #5	On all three actions in this section, we have seen little or no action. There has been no creation of oversight bodies or a national task force, and transparency and monitoring have been sparse.
Immediate Next Steps	Three actions saw some progress while five saw little or no progress. Again, this is due largely to a lack of monitoring and transparency – both of which are key in implementing the Calls for Justice.
Overall	In total, the Federal Government outlined 23 actions in their <i>National Action Plan</i> . Nine of these actions saw some progress, while 14 actions saw little or no progress. There was an overall lack of concrete action and transparency on progress.



# SCORECARD: ANALYSIS

IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE PROGRESS MADE ON EACH COMMITTED ACTION, OUR ANALYSIS WILL GO THROUGH THE PROPOSED ACTIONS OUTLINED IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ACTION PLAN AND PROVIDE OUTLINE WHAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED SO FAR.

### SCORECARD: ANALYSIS

To do so, we will analyze progress in the six categories outlined in the Federal Government's National Action Plan:

### • GOAL #1:

Achieve transformative changes in attitudes, behaviours and knowledge within the broader society to prevent and end the root causes of systemic racism, inequality, injustice, and violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people in Canada

### • GOAL #2:

Keep families and survivors at the centre of the process and provide concrete support to survivors and families of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people

### • GOAL #3:

Support the delivery of programs and services by Indigenous organizations, including at the grassroots level, to address all forms of gender- and race-based violence.

### • GOAL #4:

Address the broader root causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people

### • GOAL #5:

Develop a national Indigenous human rights accountability mechanism focused on Indigenous human rights that include inherent, Treaty, and Constitutional rights. This mechanism will create shared accountability for upholding the human rights of Indigenous Peoples regarding gender-based violence

### IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS



# **GOAL #1:**

ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGES IN ATTITUDES, BEHAVIOURS AND KNOWLEDGE WITHIN THE BROADER SOCIETY TO PREVENT AND END THE ROOT CAUSES OF SYSTEMIC RACISM, INEQUALITY, INJUSTICE, AND VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, TWO-SPIRIT, TRANSGENDER AND GENDER-DIVERSE PEOPLE IN CANADA.

### **GOAL #1:**

Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Public education/ awareness campaigns on the issues Indigenous people experience and to challenge the acceptance and normalization of violence	1.9; 11.1; 16.23; 17.24; 18.1; 18.19-18.21	While there was funding allocated to public education awareness through the Federal Anti-Racism Secretariat and Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy, there were no specific allocations or actions on MMIWG2S  The Federal Government also contributed to raising awareness about human trafficking through the National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking by modernizing the "I'm Not For Sale Campaign". This campaign, however, did not outline a specific focus on MMIWG2S.
Trauma-informed training for those who work with Indigenous people on topics such as history, culture, issues, anti-racism, anti-sexism, anti-homophobia, anti-transphobia, etc.	7.6; 10.1; 3.1; 7.6; 16.27; 17.8; 17.13; 17.24; 17.29; 18.1; 18.13; 18.20; 18.26; 18.32	The federal government held a series of national dialogues in 2021 with Indigenous health practitioners and leaders, health system partners, federal, provincial, and territorial governmental representatives to discuss ways of ending anti-Indigenous racism in Canada's health system.  This resulted n a funding commitment in 2021 of \$126.7 million over three years to end anti-Indigenous racism in health systems <sup>10</sup> , released through the Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health Systems Program. Information on release of funding through this program has not been made public.  There has been progress on unconscious bias training for law enforcement however there has been little progress on cultural safety training and more is needed, particularly the context of wellness checks.



 <sup>&</sup>quot;Government of Canada honours Joyce Echaquan's spirit and legacy," Government of
 Canada, accessed May 2nd, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2021/09/government-of-canada-honours-joyce-echaquans-spirit-and-legacy.html
 "Addressing Racism and Discrimination in Canada's Health Systems Program-2022 Call for Proposals," Government of
 Canada, accessed April 30th, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/corporate/about-health-canada/funding/addressing-racism-discrimination-canada-health-systems-program/2022-call-proposals.html.

# **GOAL #2:**

KEEP FAMILIES AND SURVIVORS AT THE CENTRE OF THE PROCESS AND PROVIDE CONCRETE SUPPORT TO SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, TWO-SPIRIT, TRANSGENDER AND GENDER-DIVERSE PEOPLE.

### **GOAL #2:**

Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Continuous and accessible community-led healing programs and support for children of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people and family members	3.7	While Budget 2021 committed funding for Indigenous-led healing programs and mental wellness supports for Indigenous people, no MMIWG2S-specific funding for community-led healing was released in Budgets 2021 or 2022.
Comprehensive approach to support Indigenous victims and families/friends of Indigenous murdered or missing persons, such as victim services, family information liaison units, legal services, access to coroner/hospital reports, media, etc.	5.6; 16.29; 17.28	Budget 2021 committed funding for enhanced family justice system supports and Justice Canada launched the Justice Partnership and Innovation Program in 2022 <sup>12</sup> . <b>Funding allocated to Indigenous women, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse individuals and addressing the Calls for Justice is unclear.</b> Additional funding has been made available for Family Information Liaison Units (FILU), providing services specifically to the families of MMIWG2S.
Nationwide emergency number	9.5vii	There is no progress documented to create a nationwide emergency number.



<sup>12 &</sup>quot;Apply for Funding- Department of Justice Canada," Government of Canada, accessed May 5th, 2022, https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fund-fina/form.html.

# **GOAL #3:**

SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BY INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL, TO ADDRESS ALL FORMS OF GENDER- AND RACE-BASED VIOLENCE.

# **GOAL #3:**

Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Indigenous-led prevention and healing programs, education, and awareness campaigns for Indigenous families and communities related to violence prevention and lateral violence	1.8, 3.2, 3.3, 7.3, 7.9, 11.2, 16.7, 16.9, 16.22, 16.24, 17.20, 17.27	Budget 2021 committed broad funding for mental health and wellness, as well as funding programs specifically addressing violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. MMIWG2S-specific programs include:  • \$103.8 million over five years to support Indigenous communities develop holistic community-based safety and wellness models. This has been launched through the Pathways to Safe Indigenous Communities Initiative.  • \$36.3 million over five years and \$8.6 million ongoing to enhance support for Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQQA+ organizations. Two programs were announced in 2022 aligned with this goal: Increasing the Capacity of Indigenous Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Organizations to address GBV <sup>13</sup> and Supporting Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Organizations program <sup>14</sup> Funding allocations for two out of three have been announced/released.  Budget 2022 proposed funding for Indigenous-led services, but none were MMIWG2S-specific.
Creation of shelters and second-stage/ transition housing	4.7, 16.19, 18.25	Through CMHC, there have been the following funding commitments: <sup>15</sup> \$724.1 million for a comprehensive Violence Prevention Strategy to support new shelters and transitional housing for Indigenous people  \$420 million over 5 years to support the construction of new shelters and transitional housing  • ISC also committed funding for the expansion of culturally-relevant violence prevention activities for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people through the Family Violence Prevention Program. <sup>16</sup> Progress on distribution of funding is not clear, but this funding is specific to violence prevention and MMIWG2S.

<sup>13 &</sup>quot;Increasing the Capacity of Indigenous Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Organizations to Address GBV: About this Call for Proposals," Government of Canada,  $accessed\ May\ 5th,\ 2022,\ https://women-gender-equality.canada.ca/en/funding/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-programs/increasing-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus/funding-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-women-2slgbtqqia-plus-capacity-indigenous-wom$ 

<sup>&</sup>quot;Family Violence Prevention Program," Government of Canada-Indigenous Services Canada, accessed April 28th, 2022, https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/11001 00035253/1533304683142.



<sup>&</sup>quot;Supporting Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Organizations program," Government of Canada- Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, accessed May 2nd, 2022, https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1641310927019/1641310955839.

"Indigenous Shelter and Transitional Housing Initiative," Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, accessed May 2nd, 2022, https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/professionals/project-funding-and-mortgage-financing/funding-programs/all-funding-programs/shelter-and-transitional-housing-initiative-for-indige-

# **GOAL #4:**

ADDRESS THE BROADER ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, TWO-SPIRIT, TRANSGENDER AND GENDER-DIVERSE PEOPLE.

### **GOAL #4:**

Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Implement initial steps to ensure stable and sustainable housing and close the housing gap between Indigenous people and non-Indigenous Canadians	4.6; 16.18; 18.25	Budget 2021 committed to a variety of distinctions-based funding initiatives. The portion of this funding dedicated to addressing Indigenous housing is unclear.  In Budget 2022, the Federal Government committed \$4 billion over seven years to accelerate closing the housing gap. While significant, recommendations from CMHC and the National Housing Advisory recommended \$4.3 billion per year for 10 years and \$6.8 billion over two years respectively. Budget 2022 committments fall short of these recommendations.
Immediate action to implement infrastructure to ensure access to high-speed internet	15.1; 16.5	Budget 2021 committed to fund community infrastructure in Indigenous communities, including supporting broadband:  On June 23rd, 2021, the federal government announced close to 3,000 Indigenous households would benefit from a high-speed Internet initiative in Ontario. <sup>17</sup> On June 28th, 2021, two broadband and wireless projects were announced in Alberta Indigenous communities. <sup>18</sup> However, connection to high-speed Internet continues to negatively impact Indigenous communities and additional funding distribution through the community infrastructure funding is unclear.
Guaranteed annual livable income	4.5; 16.20	No measurable landmarks for the creation of an annual livable income have been released to the public at this time.



 <sup>&</sup>quot;Government of Canada invests over \$9.5 million to bring high-speed Internet to 6,124 homes in rural and Indigenous communities in Ontario," Government of Canada, accessed April 28th, 2022, https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100035253/1533304683142.
 "Canada and Alberta announce two broadband and wireless projects in Indigenous communities," Government of Canada, accessed May 1st, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2021/06/canada-and-alberta-announce-two-broadband-and-wireless-projects-in-indigenous-communities.html.

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Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Support Indigenous- led initiatives for Indigenous individuals, families, and communities to access cultural knowledge and programs and services for women, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people	2.4; 2.5; 16.4; 17.7; 17.25; 17.26; 18.1; 18.7; 18.17	<ul> <li>A number of budget commitments were made in relation to this action, including:</li> <li>\$108.8 million over 2 years to re-establish and revitalize Indigenous cultural spaces. This funding program has launched and funding has started to be released.<sup>19</sup></li> <li>\$275 million over five years and \$2 million ongoing to Canadian Heritage to support language and culture initiatives. Canadian Heritage launched the Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program in 2021.<sup>20</sup></li> <li>\$14.9 million over four years to support the preservation of Indigenous heritage through Library and Archives Canada. In 2021, LAC launched the Listen, Hear Our Voices Initiative.<sup>21</sup></li> <li>\$40.1 million over three years to Canadian Heritage to support the Indigenous Screen Office</li> <li>It is unclear how much of this funding has been allocated to violence prevention or MMIWG2S-related activities.</li> </ul>
24-hour in-person support system for Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people, such as wraparound mental health services, trauma, addictions, etc.	3.4; 16.7; 17.23; 18.27	There has not been a public update on the development of a 24-hour in-person support system.
Governments recognize Indigenous self-determination and inherent jurisdiction over child welfare and support enhancements for child and family services	1.2v; 2.2; 12.1; 12.10; 17.17	Budget 2021 and Budget 2022 committed funding to support self-determination and jurisdiction over child welfare and to ensure accessibility to services delivered through Jordan's Principle. Much of this funding is determined by the \$40-billion class-action settlement on child welfare. <sup>22</sup>

<sup>19 &</sup>quot;Cultural Spaces in Indigenous Communties Program," Government of Canada- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, accessed May 1st, 2022, https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1628786076040/1628786094489.

en/library-archives/news/2021/11/funding-available-to-preserve-the-diversity-and-richness-of-indigenous-heritage.html.

22 "Agreements-in-Principle reached on compensation and long-term reform of First Nations child and family services and Jordan's Principle," Government of Canada- Indigenous Services Canada, accessed May 2nd, 2022,https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2022/01/agreements-in-princi $ple-reached-on-compensation-and-long-term-reform-of-first-nations-child-and-family-services-and-jordans-principle. \\html.$ 



<sup>20 &</sup>quot;Indigenous Languages Component-Indigenous Languages and Cultures Program," Government of Canada, accessed May 5th, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/aboriginal-peoples/languages.html.
21 "Funding available to preserve the diversity and richness of Indigenous heritage," Government of Canada, accessed May 5th, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/

## **GOAL #5:**

DEVELOP A NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM FOCUSED ON INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS THAT INCLUDE INHERENT, TREATY, AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS. THIS MECHANISM WILL CREATE SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY FOR UPHOLDING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES REGARDING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.

## GOAL #5:

Short-Term Priorities	Calls for Justice	Progress
Oversight bodies, such as Indigenous Ombudsperson, Human Rights Tribunal, or civilian police oversight bodies to represent the interests of families, survivors, and communities by investigating and addressing complaints of mal-administration or violation of rights	1.7; 5.7; 16.43	There has been no update on the establishment of any oversight bodies.
National task force which reviews and re-investigates unresolved files of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people; and police services to provide unresolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people to the task force	9.9; 9.10	There has been no update on the establishment of a national task force.
Make the National Inquiry's public record accessible and report annually to Parliament on the Calls for Justice; implement LFMO Calls for Miskotaha	1.10; 1.11	Budget 2021 proposed \$20.3 million over five years to ensure appropriate monitoring measures are in place. However, there has been no monitoring and transparency over the past year on the progress of acting on the Calls for Justice



# ACTION COMPLETE OR SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS

### **IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS**

Immediate Next Steps	Progress
<ul> <li>Immediate Support Services for Survivors and Family Members</li> <li>Provide funding to establish accessible healing and support services for survivors and family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people wherever they are.</li> <li>Develop a comprehensive approach for providing support to Indigenous and women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse victims and families/friends of Indigenous missing or murdered Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people.</li> </ul>	We have seen action on providing funding for healing support for MMIWG2S survivors and their families.  Due to the absence of an implementation plan, a comprehensive approach for providing support has not been established.
<ul> <li>Continued Involvement of Survivors and Family Members in the Implementation of the National Action Plan</li> <li>With adequate funding, the National Family and Survivors Circle will develop and implement an engagement strategy that provides further opportunity for family and survivors to provide insight and input into the National Action Plan's next steps.</li> <li>The Contributing Partners will continue to complete their Action and Implementation Plans built upon their engagement with survivors and family members.</li> </ul>	There is no engagement strategy or implementation plan that has been released at this time.
Create an Oversight Body     Creation of an oversight body which represents the interests of families, survivors, and Indigenous communities by investigating and addressing complaints of mal-administration or a violation of right.	There is no documentation or transparency on progress for the creation of an oversight body.



Immediate Next Steps	Progress
<ul> <li>Public Awareness and Training</li> <li>Begin immediate work on the development of a public education/awareness campaign on the issues Indigenous people experience and to challenge the acceptance and normalization of violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, transgender and gender-diverse people.</li> <li>Implement trauma-informed training for those who work with Indigenous people, on topics such as history, culture, issues, anti-racism, anti-sexism, anti-homophobia, anti-transgender, etc.</li> </ul>	There are a number of course and training opportunities for public servants in relation to topics such as history, culture, issues, anti-racism, anti-sexism, anti-homophobia, anti-transgender, etc. outlined in the Government of Canada's School of Public Service's course catalogue. <sup>23</sup> It is unclear if these are, in fact, trauma-informed programs.  There was no dedicated public education/awareness campaign on MMIWG2S.
<ul> <li>Develop an Implementation Plan for the National Action Plan that includes the short-term priorities identified in the National Action Plan, as well as medium- and long-term priorities that will lead to real systemic change.</li> <li>Each priority will include specific actions, expected outcomes, timelines, and resources.</li> <li>Determine mechanisms and processes for national independent oversight and coordination of the National Action Plan, that includes Contributing Partners and governments with financial support.</li> <li>Continuance of Contributing Partners to continue to develop their implementation plans.</li> <li>Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of all governments (federal, provincial/territorial, municipal, Indigenous) and Indigenous organizations to implement the 231 Calls for Justice and 62 Calls for Miskotahâ.</li> <li>Develop an accountability/results structure for the National Action Plan.</li> <li>An Indigenous and gender-based analysis plus (GBA Plus) lens will be applied to the implementation plan.</li> </ul>	There has been no implementation plan released at this time.





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# **Immediate Next Steps**

### Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Federal-Provincial/Territorial Table

 Create a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Federal-Provincial/Territorial Table to provide a specific forum to consider and coordinate intergovernmental collaboration and discussion on various areas such as administrative issues, policy, resourcing, resolution of interjurisdictional responsibilities, and processes that emerge from the implementation of the National Action Plan.

### **Progress**

While this was outlined as a priority in the Liberal Party's election platform, we have not seen any public confirmation that the MMIWG Federal/Provincial/ Territorial table has been created."

### Create Accountability Mechanisms for the Reporting on the 231 Calls for Justice and the 62 Calls for Miskotahâ

- Create broad accountability mechanisms rooted in Indigenous data sovereignty focused on truth-telling to ensure the National Inquiry's 231 Calls for Justice and LFMO's 62 Calls for Miskotahâ are implemented by all governments (federal, provincial/territorial, municipal, Indigenous) and organizations, and their outcomes are measured for effectiveness in creating transformative change and achieving decolonization. This could be part of the responsibilities of the independent committee or working group.
- Create data accountability mechanisms rooted in Indigenous Data Sovereignty.
- Create an independent web portal to post annual reports which track the progress on responding to the Calls for Justice and Calls for Miskotahâ.
- By June 2022, publish the first annual report on progress in responding to the Calls for Justice and the Calls for Miskotahâ.

Budget 2021 proposed \$20.3 million over five years to ensure appropriate monitoring measures are in place.

We anticipate an update in June 2022, however, we have not seen transparency in progress or monitoring throughout the past year.





### **OVERALL ANALYSIS**

Through the analysis of each short-term priority and immediate next step outlined in the *National Action Plan*, what has become clear is that there have been funding promises made to address the Calls for Justice, but we are still lacking concrete action and transparency.

It is unclear what actions have been taken outside of budget allocations, including in the creation of oversight bodies, committees and working groups, as well as how funding is being allocated and what impact that funding is having at the community level. There is an overwhelming lack of information and transparency that makes it difficult to assess progress on these programs in certainty. That said, transparency and availability of information are outlined quite clearly in the Calls for Justice, as well as in the *National Action Plan*. On this, we can certainly say the Federal Government has failed to act upon. Even further, the *National Action Plan* does not address every Call for Justice that calls on the federal government to act [see Annex A], so our analysis only captures a fraction of the Calls for Justice the government is legally obligated to act upon.

Using the available information, our overall assessment shows that little progress has been made. A significant amount of work is needed to fully complete their proposed actions and answer the targeted Calls for Justice.

Our analysis shows what we have known to be true – the federal government has not prioritized the implementation of the Calls for Justice.

Three years after the National Inquiry into MMIWG, we still do not have an implementation plan that is costed and measurable, we are lacking key accountability and transparency mechanisms that were promised a year ago, and key funding commitments for National Indigenous Organizations and other partners to implement MMIWG commitments are progressing very slowly. There was no mention of MMIWG2S in Minister Miller's report of his first 100 days as Minister of Crown and Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs <sup>24</sup> and in a recent Federal-Provincial/Territorial meeting with Women and Gender Equality (WAGE), NWAC had to request MMIWG2S be put on the agenda.

This is consistent with a pattern of inaction that we see with many issues impacting Indigenous people. This includes government inaction to align Canadian Law with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), as well as the latest Correctional Investigator's Report, which outlined rates of Indigenous women in federal prisons had reached 50% despite recommendations in Creating Choices (1990) urging Canada to do more.

We urge the government to end this ongoing trend – acting upon the legal obligations outlined by the National Inquiry into MMIWG and fulfilling the promises they make towards reconciliation.

<sup>24 &</sup>quot;Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister completes busy first 100 days," Government of Canada- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, accessed May 1st, 2022, https://www.canada.ca/en/crown-indigenous-relations-northern-affairs/news/2022/02/crown-indigenous-relations-minister-completes-busy-first-100-days.html.



### MOVING FORWARD

Moving forward, we hope to see accelerated action from the Federal Government to implement every Call for Justice. Specifically, we hope to see immediate action to:



**INCREASE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN REPORTING** ON PROGRESS AND FUNDING RELEASE A COSTED, ALLOCATIONS, ESPECIALLY **MEASURABLE** IN THE CREATION OF **AND ACTIONABLE ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND OVERSIGHT BODIES ACCELERATE THE** IMPLEMENTATION OF THE **ADDRESS EVERY CALL FOR** NATIONAL ACTION PLAN, AS JUSTICE IN WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE LIBERAL **LEGALLY OBLIGATED TO** AND NDP CONFIDENCE AND **RESPOND TO SUPPLY AGREEMENT** 

To end this ongoing genocide, we must see a sustained effort from the Federal Government to prioritize answering every Call for Justice. We urge the government to accelerate their response to the Calls for Justice and implementation of their *National Action Plan*.



## CALLS FOR JUSTICE UNADDRESSED IN

### THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

In the Federal Government's *National Action Plan*, every short-term priority listed the Calls for Justice that were being addressed. However, there are a number of Calls for Justice that remain unaddressed by the *National Action Plan*. These are legal imperatives that must be responded to.

Below is an overview of the Calls for Justice that were not included or mentioned in the *National Action Plan*. There are notes throughout on Calls for Justice that may have been addressed outside of the *National Action Plan*, which ones again shows the importance of ongoing, accurate and transparent reporting and data collection mechanisms.

### CALLS FOR ALL GOVERNMENTS

# HUMAN AND INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND GOVERNMENTAL OBLIGATIONS

1.1

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COSTED, MEASURABLE AND ACTIONABLE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN. While we saw the delivery of a National Action Plan in June of 2021, the plan was not costed, measurable, or actionable, and required a companion document of an Implementation Plan. We have yet to see an Implementation Plan.

pursue prioritization and resourcing of the measures required to eliminate the social, economic, cultural, and political marginalization of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people when developing budgets and determining government activities and priorities

BUDGET 2021 SAW SIGNIFICANT FUNDING COMMITMENTS IN ANSWERING THE CALLS FOR JUSTICE.

TAKE URGENT AND SPECIAL
MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT
INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS,
AND 2SLGBTQQIA+ PEOPLE ARE
REPRESENTED IN GOVERNANCE AND
THAT THEIR POLITICAL RIGHTS ARE
RESPECTED AND UPHELD.

We have seen the appointment of Mary Simon as the first Governor General of Canada and Michèle Audette to the Senate of Canada

take all necessary measures to prevent, investigate, punish, and compensate for violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people

WE HAVE SEEN SOME ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT, INVESTIGATE AND PUNISH FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS, TWO-SPIRIT, TRANSGENDER, GENDER-DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS. NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN REGARDING COMPENSATION.

eliminate jurisdictional gap and neglect that result in the denial of services, or improperly regulated and delivered services, that address the marginalizationof, and violence against, Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people

### **CULTURE**

ensure all Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people have access to safe, no-barrier, permanent, and meaningful access to their cultures and languages

PROGRAMS ANNOUNCED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, SUCH AS THE CULTURAL SPACES IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES PROGRAM, SEEM TO ADDRESS THIS CALL. YET, LITTLE OR NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, E.G., WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME FUNDING FOR LANGUAGES, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF LANGUAGES BEING INTRODUCED IN THE SCHOOLS OR OTHERWISE.

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS

establish culturally competent and responsive crisis response teams in all communities and regions to meet the immediate needs of an Indigenous person, family, and/or community after a traumatic event



### **HUMAN SECURITY**

4.1 uphold the social and economic rights of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people by ensuring services and infrastructure that meet their social and economic needs

WE HAVE SEEN INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITMENTS IN BUDGET 2021 AND BUDGET 2022.

We have seen some commitments toward Indigenous People's right to self-determination of economic social development in Budget 2021 and Budget 2022, however they are very limited in scope.

RECOGNIZE
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'
RIGHT TO SELFDETERMINATION OF
ECONOMIC SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

**4.3** | support programs and services for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people in the sex industry to promote their safety and security

PROVIDE SUPPORTS
AND RESOURCES FOR
EDUCATIONAL, TRAINING,
AND EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
INDIGENOUS WOMEN, GIRLS
AND 2SLGBTQQIA PEOPLE

We have seen commitments to support educational training and employment opportunities in Budget 2021 and Budget 2022. Some funding has been released through the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) Program.

**4.8** | ensure adequate plans and funding are put into place for safe and affordable transit and transportation services and infrastructure

NWAC ATTENDED A FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL TABLE ON TRANSPORTATION. THERE HAS BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP.

### JUSTICE

**5.1** | immediately implement the recommendations in relation to the Canadian justice system

WE HAVE SEEN FUNDING COMMITMENTS FOR THE CREATION OF AN INDIGENOUS JUSTICE STRATEGY BUT LITTLE IMPLEMENTATION IN KEY AREAS SUCH AS ALIGNING CANADIAN LAW WITH UNDRIP, DISMANTLING LEGISLATIVE BARRIERS, IMPROVING ACCESS TO JUSTICE, ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC RACISM, AS EVIDENCED IN THE ONGOING INDIGENOUS INCARCERATION CRISIS.

- review and amend the Criminal Code to eliminate definitions of offences that minimize the culpability of the offender
- **5.4** | immediately and dramatically transform Indigenous policing from its current state as a mere delegation to

WE SAW THE PASSING OF BILL S-224 WHICH AMENDS THE CRIMINAL CODE TO INCREASE PAROLE INELIGIBILITY FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF ABDUCTION, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND MURDER OF THE SAME PERSON.

We have seen budget allocations towards self-determined policing.

5.4

IMMEDIATELY AND DRAMATICALLY
TRANSFORM INDIGENOUS
POLICING FROM ITS CURRENT
STATE AS A MERE DELEGATION
TO AN EXERCISE OF SELFGOVERNANCE AND SELFDETERMINATION OVER POLICING

fund the provision of policing services within Indigenous communities in northern and remote areas in a manner that ensures those services meet the safety and justice needs of the communities and the quality of policing services is equitable to that provided to non-Indigenous Canadians

# WE HAVE SEEN BUDGET ALLOCATIONS TOWARDS SELF-DETERMINED POLICING.

- **5.9** | ensure that protection orders are available, accessible, promptly issues, and effectively serviced and resourced
- **5.10** | recruit and retain more Indigenous justices of the peace

5.11

INCREASE
ACCESSIBILITY
TO MEANINGFUL
AND CULTURALLY
APPROPRIATE JUSTICE
PRACTICES

We have seen budget allocations toward increasing accessibility to meaningful and culturally appropriate justice practices delivered through the Indigenous Justice Program.

**5.12** increase Indigenous representation in all Canadian courts, Including within the Supreme Court of Canada

thoroughly evaluate the impact of mandatory minimum sentences as it relates to sentencing and over-incarceration of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people and take action to address over-incarceration

WE ARE SEEING ACTION ON BILL C-5, AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL CODE THAT SEEKS TO REMOVE 20 MANDATORY MINIMUM SENTENCES. HOWEVER, EXPERTS ARGUE THAT THIS WILL NOT END THIS WORSENING CRISIS.

5.15

We have seen budget commitments to support the implementation of Gladue principles in Budget 2021 but have not seen additional funding in Budget 2022.

CONSIDER GLADUE REPORT AS A RIGHT AND RESOURCE THEM PROPERLY

**5.16** provide community-based and Indigenous-specific options for sentencing

WE HAVE SEEN ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION OF HEALING LODGE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES THAT INCORPORATE INDIGENOUS VALUES, TRADITIONS AND BELIEFS.

thoroughly evaluate the impacts of Gladue principles and section 718.2(2) of the Criminal Code on sentence equity as it relates to violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people

WE HAVE SEEN SOME ACTION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE IMPACTS OF GLADUE PRINCIPLES THROUGH INCREASED FUNDING IN BUDGET 2021.

- **5.18** | consider violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people as an aggravating factor at sentencing and amend the Criminal Code accordingly
- include cases where there is a pattern of intimate partner violence and abuse as murder in the first degree under section 222 of the Criminal Code

IMPLEMENT THE
INDIGENOUS-SPECIFIC
PROVISIONS OF THE
CORRECTIONS AND
CONDITIONAL RELEASE ACT,
SECTIONS 79 TO 84.1

We have seen commitments to implement section 79 including additional funding to support the Gladue principles. We have also seen fund allocation toward the Aboriginal Community Reintegration Program.

- fully implement the recommendations in the reports of the Office of the Correctional Investigator and those contained in the Auditor General of Canada Preparing Indigenous Offenders for Release, Fall 2016);
  - the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (2015);
  - the report of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security, Indigenous People in the Federal Correctional System (June 2018);
  - the report of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, A Call to Action: Reconciliation with Indigenous Women in the Federal Justice and Corrections Systems (June 2018);
  - and the Commission of Inquiry into certain events at the Prison for Women in Kingston (1996, Arbour Report) in order to reduce the gross overrepresentation of Indigenous women and girls in the criminal justice system.
- **5.22** | return women's corrections to the key principles set out in Creating Choices (1990)

WE HAVE SEEN SOME FUNDING TOWARD HEALING LODGES, AND WOMEN CENTERED PROGRAMS THAT ARE SET OUT IN CREATING CHOICES (1990). HOWEVER, SIGNIFICANT ACTION IS NEEDED TO END THE ONGOING OVERINCARCERATION OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN.

- 5.23 create a Deputy Commissioner for Indigenous Corrections to ensure corporate attention to, and accountability regarding, Indigenous issues
- resource research on men who commit violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people

AMEND DATA
COLLECTION AND
INTAKE-SCREENING
PROCESSES TO GATHER
DISTINCTIONS-BASED &
INTERSECTIONAL DATA

# OTHER CALLS FOR JUSTICE THAT CALL ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

recognize that Indigenous Peoples are the experts in caring for and healing themselves and that health and wellness services are most effective when designed and delivered by Indigenous Peoples

WE HAVE SEEN FUNDING COMMITMENTS TOWARD INDIGENOUS-LED HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES.

7.2 | ensure that health and wellness services for Indigenous Peoples include supports for healing from all forms of unresolved trauma

WE HAVE SEEN FUNDING RELEASED TO SUPPORT HEALING PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY-BASED CULTURALLY RELEVANT AND TRAUMA-INFORMED MENTAL WELLNESS SUPPORT DELIVERED THROUGH INDIGENOUS-LED ORGANIZATIONS.

7.4

We have seen additional commitments to support the revitalization of Indigenous health and wellness, and child and Elder care practices.

PROVIDE NECESSARY RESOURCES,
INCLUDING FUNDING, TO
SUPPORT THE REVITALIZATION OF
INDIGENOUS HEALTH, WELLNESS,
AND CHILD AND ELDER CARE
PRACTICES

**7.5** | support and provide permanent and necessary resources for specialized intervention, healing and treatment programs, and services and initiatives offered in Indigenous languages

WE HAVE SEEN ACTION TOWARD ESTABLISHING PERMANENT AND NECESSARY RESOURCES FOR SPECIALIZED INTERVENTION AND HEALING, HOWEVER LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TO SUPPORT TREATMENT PROGRAMS AS WELL AS SERVICES AND INITIATIVES OFFERED IN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES.

- encourage, support, and equitably fund Indigenous people to train and work in the area of health and wellness We have seen funding toward encouraging and supporting Indigenous people to train in the area of health and wellness including the Aboriginal Student Employment Program
- 7.8 | create effective and well-funded opportunities, and socio-economic incentives, to encourage Indigenous people to work within the health and wellness field and within their communities

WE HAVE SEEN FUND ALLOCATION TOWARD RECRUITMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO WORK IN AREAS OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS THROUGH INITIATIVES SUCH AT THE ISET PROGRAM.

9.3 | fund an increase in recruitment of Indigenous Peoples to all police services

### 12.2

TRANSFORM CURRENT CHILD
WELFARE SYSTEMS FUNDAMENTALLY
SO THAT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES
HAVE CONTROL OVER THE DESIGN
AND DELIVERY OF SERVICES FOR
THEIR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

The federal government committed funding in Budget 2022 and developed Bill C-92 to support Indigenous-led solutions for child welfare.

DEVELOP AND APPLY A
DEFINITION OF "BEST
INTERESTS OF THE CHILD"
BASED ON DISTINCT
INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES,
WORLD VIEWS, NEEDS, AND
PRIORITIES

We have seen the development of the principle "The Best Interests of [an] Indigenous Child" in the Act Respecting First Nations, Métis and Inuit children, youth and families.

- 12.4 prohibit the apprehension of children on the basis of poverty and cultural bias
- provide financial resources and support to family or community members of children of MMIWG2S
- ensure child welfare services prioritize and ensure that a family member or members, or a close community member, assumes care of Indigenous children
- ensure the availability and accessibility of distinctions-based and culturally safe culture and language programs for Indigenous children in the care of child welfare
- establish a National Child and Youth Commissioner to strengthen the framework of accountability for the rights of Indigenous children in Canada
- reform laws and obligations with respect to youth "aging out" of the system
- **12.13** | fully implement the Spirit Bear Plan
- **12.14** | provide appropriate care and services for children who have been exploited or trafficked while in care
- **12.15** | fully investigate deaths of Indigenous youth in care



DEVELOP AND APPLY A
DEFINITION OF "BEST INTERESTS
OF THE CHILD" BASED ON
DISTINCT INDIGENOUS
PERSPECTIVES, WORLD VIEWS,
NEEDS, AND PRIORITIES

We have seen the development of the principle "The Best Interests of [an] Indigenous Child" in the Act Respecting First Nations, Métis and Inuit children, youth and families.

- fund further inquiries and studies in order to better understand the relationship between resource extraction and other development projects and violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people
- anticipate and recognize increased demand on social infrastructure because of development projects and resource extraction
- 16.2 | create laws and services to ensure the protection and revitalization of Inuit culture and language
- ensure population numbers for Inuit outside of Inuit Nunangat are captured in a disaggregated matter, and that their rights are upheld
- invest in the recruitment and capacity building of Inuit within the medical, health, and wellness service fields
- **16.10** | develop policies and programs to include healing and health programs within educational systems
- ensure that Inuit men and boys are provided services that are gender- and Inuit-specific to address historic and ongoing trauma

We have seen action and funding to implement the National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy.

16.13

TAKE ALL MEASURES
REQUIRED TO
IMPLEMENT THE
NATIONAL INUIT
SUICIDE PREVENTION
STRATEGY

- 16.14 | review and amend laws in relation to child and family services to ensure they uphold the rights of Inuit children and families and conform to Inuit laws and values
- 16.15 | establish an Inuit Child and Youth Advocate with jurisdiction over all Inuit children in care

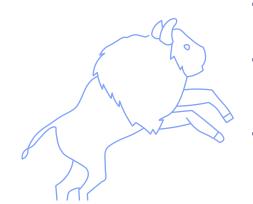
16.16 enumerate and report on the number of Inuit children in their care using disaggregated data

ensure equitable access to high-quality educational opportunities and outcomes from early childhood education to post-secondary education within Inuit communities

16.17

PRIORITIZE
SUPPORTING INUIT
FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES TO MEET
THE NEEDS OF INUIT
CHILDREN

- **16.26** establish more post-secondary options within Inuit Nunangat
- **16.28** Invest in Inuit-specific treatment and rehabilitation services
- 16.33 | invest in capacity building, recruitment and training to achieve proportional representation of Inuit throughout public service in Inuit homelands
- **16.34** | fully implement the principles and objectives of Article 23 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
- 16.35 | ensure the intent and objectives of the policing provisions of the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement are fully implemented



- 16.36 | ensure there are police services in all Inuit communities
- **16.39** I supportand fund the establishment of culturally appropriate and effective child advocacy centres throughout the Inuit homeland
- **16.401** focus on the well-being of children and develop responses to adverse childhood experiences that are culturally appropriate and evidence-based

- work with Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people to identify barriers and promote equal representation within governance
- ensure long-term, sustainable, and equitable funding of Inuit women's, youth's, and 2SLGBTQQIA people's groups
- 16.44 ensure the collection of disaggregated data in relation to Inuit to monitor and report on progress

ACKNOWLEDGE THE
FINDINGS OF THE QIKIQTANI
TRUTH COMMISSION AND
WORK TO IMPLEMENT THE
RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN

We have seen acknowledgement of the findings and some progress on this action.

- 16.46 | support the work of the Nanivalut project on a long-term basis with sustained funding
- 17.1| uphold its constitutional responsibility to Métis people and to non-Status people in the provision of all programs and services that fall under its responsibility
- pursue the collection and dissemination of disaggregated data concerning violence against Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people
- ensure equitable representation of Métis voices in policy development, funding, and service delivery, and to include Métis voices and perspectives in decision-making
- fund and support Métis-specific programs and services that meet the needs of Métis people in an equitable manner, and dedicated Métis advocacy bodies and institutions
- 17.5 eliminate barriers to accessing programming and services for Métis



- 17.6 | pursue the implementation of a distinctions-based approach that takes into account the unique history of Métis communities and people
- 17.7 | fund and to support culturally appropriate programs and services for Métis people living in urban centres, including those that respect the internal diversity of Métis communities with regards to spirituality, gender identity, and cultural identity
- 17.8 | in partnership with Métis communities, organizations, and individuals, design mandatory, ongoing cultural competency training for public servants (including staff working in policing, justice, education, health care, social work, and government)
- 17.9 | provide safe transportation options, particularly in rural, remote, and northern communities, including "safe rides" programs, and to monitor high recruitment areas where Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA individuals may be more likely to be targeted.
- 17.10 respect Métis rights and individuals' self-identification as Métis
- 17.11 | support and fund dialogue and relationships between Métis and First Nations communities
- 17.12 | build partnerships with Métis communities, organizations, and people to ensure culturally safe access to police services
- 17.13 engage in education about the unique history and needs of Métis communities





We have seen additional funding to support the operation and expansion of community-based security models. FUND THE EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY-BASED SECURITY MODELS THAT INCLUDE MÉTIS PERSPECTIVES AND PEOPLE, SUCH AS LOCAL PEACEKEEPER OFFICERS OR PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE BEAR CLAN PATROL

- 17.16 | provide support for self-determined and culturally specific needs-based child welfare services for Métis families that are focused on prevention and maintenance of family unity
- 17.17 | provide more funding and support for Métis child welfare agencies and for child placements in Métis homes
- 17.18 establish and maintain funding for cultural programming for Métis children in foster care, especially when they are placed in non-Indigenous or non-Métis families
- 17.19 address Métis unemployment and poverty as a way to prevent child apprehension
- 17.20 | fund and support programs for Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people, including more access to traditional healing programs, treatment centres for youth, family support and violence prevention funding and initiatives for Métis,
- 17.21 | recognize and fulfill its obligations to the Métis people in all areas, especially in health, and further call upon all governments for services such as those under FNIHB to be provided to Métis and non-Status First Nations Peoples in an equitable manner consistent with substantive human rights standards
- 17.22 | respect and to uphold the full implementation of Jordan's Principle with reference to the Métis
- 17.23 | provide Métis-specific programs and services that address emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual dimensions of well-being, including coordinated or colocated services to offer holistic wraparound care



- **17.24** | fund and establish Métis-led programs and initiatives to address a lack of knowledge about the Métis people and culture within Canadian society
- 17.25 programs and initiatives that create greater access to cultural knowledge and foster a positive sense of cultural identity among Métis communities
- 17.26 | fund and support cultural programming that helps to revitalize the practise of Métis culture, including integrating Métis history and Métis languages into elementary and secondary school curricula

PURSUE THE DEVELOPMENT
OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AND
REHABILITATION PROGRAMS,
INCLUDING WITHIN CORRECTIONAL
FACILITIES, SPECIFIC TO MÉTIS NEEDS
AND CULTURAL REALITIES, TO HELP
ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE

We have seen budget allocations for restorative justice and rehabilitation programs withing correctional facilities specific to Métis needs.

- 17.28 | provide increased victim support services specific to Métis needs to help Métis victims and families navigate the legal system and to support their healing and well-being throughout the process of seeking justice
- 17.29 | engage in education and training regarding the history and contemporary realities of Métis experiences
- 18.2 | be inclusive of all perspectives in decision making, including those of 2SLGBTQQIA people and youth
- 18.3 | change the way data is collected about 2SLGBTQQIA people to better reflect individuals and communities and improve inclusion in research



18.4 | modify data collection methods to increase data, eliminate 'either-or' gender options, and increase data precision for data on 2SLGBTQQIA individuals

# WE SAW MORE INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE USED IN THE 2021 CENSUS OF POPULATION

- 18.5 | ensure all programs have 2SLGBTQQIA front-line staff and management and culturally-specific support
- 18.6 | fund and support youth programs that are broadly accessible and reach out to 2SLGBTQQIA individuals
- **18.8** | support networking and community building for 2SLGBTQQIA people
- **18.10** | provide safe and dedicated ceremony and cultural places and spaces for 2SLGBTQQIA youth and adults, and advocate for 2SLGBTQQIA inclusion in these spaces

# BUDGET 2021 OUTLINED PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT CULTURAL SPACES, KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY FOR 2SLGBTTQIA PEOPLE

- **18.11** | accommodate non-binary gender identities in program and service design, and offer gender-neutral washrooms and change rooms in facilities
- support and conduct research and knowledge gathering on pre-colonial knowledge and teachings about the place, roles, and responsibilities of 2SLGBTQQIA people
- 18.16 | fund and support specific Knowledge Keeper gatherings on the topic of reclaiming and re-establishing space and community for 2SLGBTQQIA people

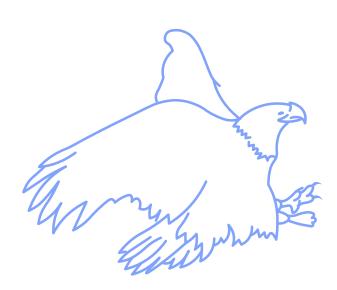
BUDGET 2021 OUTLINED PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT CULTURAL SPACES, KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY FOR 2SLGBTTQIA PEOPLE



ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS, POVERTY, AND OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC BARRIERS TO EQUITABLE AND SUBSTANTIVE RIGHTS FOR 2SLGBTQQIA PEOPLE

Budget 2021 outlined a number of programs to remove socio-economic barriers, some relating to gender-based violence were specific to 2SLGBTQQIA people

- **18.28** | fund and support expanded, dedicated health services for 2SLGBTQQIA individuals
- 18.29 create roles for Indigenous health care works who would hold the same authority as community mental health nurses and social workers in terms of advocating for 2SLGBTQQIA clients
- **18.30** | reduce wait times for sex-reassignment surgery
- **18.31** provide education for youth about 2SLGBTQQIA health







progress on implementing the commitments made in their

National Action Plan



Native Women's Association of Canada

L'Association des femmes autochtones du Canada