

# National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls



## Final Report

Calls for justice



# WHY A NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MMIWG & 2SLGBTQQIA People?

“In short, the history of colonization is gendered, and must be considered in relation to the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls as a series of encounters that has ultimately rendered Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people as targets.” Indigenous Women and Girls & 2SLGBTQQIA people are 12Xs more likely to go missing or murdered than any other Non-Indigenous Women.

*From Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.*

# MMIWG & 2SLGBTQQIA People

- ▶ Using a gender specific lens isn't about excluding anyone , but rather giving voice to historically discriminated individuals based on their Gender.
- ▶ This is the first time in History Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA People have been given a platform on a National level that focuses on their Safety and Welfare ....even if short lived.
- ▶ An Inquiry that is Gendered Specific allows the ability to address both Colonial Violence and Gendered Colonial Violence.

*From Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.*

# National Inquiry into MMIWG Mandate

“The National Inquiry must look into and report on the systemic causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls, including sexual violence. We must examine the underlying social, economic, cultural, institutional, and historical causes that contribute to the ongoing violence and particular vulnerabilities of Indigenous women and girls in Canada. The mandate also directs us to look into and report on existing institutional policies and practices to address violence, including those that are effective in reducing violence and increasing safety.”

# Four Pathways that maintain Colonial Violence

- ▶ historical, multigenerational, and intergenerational trauma;
- ▶ social and economic marginalization;
- ▶ maintaining the status quo and institutional lack of will; and
- ▶ ignoring the agency and expertise of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

Violence is more likely to occur when these four forms of colonial violence intersect in the lives of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

*From Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.*

# An Intersectional Approach

“Definitions of “intersectionality” vary, and have evolved to reflect the unique learnings and experiences of Indigenous Peoples. In its broadest terms, however, intersectionality examines more than a single identity marker and includes a broader understanding of simultaneous interactions between different aspects of a person’s social location. For example, rather than using a single-strand analysis of sexual orientation, gender, race, or class, intersectionality challenges policy makers and program developers to consider the interplay of race, ethnicity, Indigeneity, gender, class, sexuality, geography, age, and ability, as well as how these intersections encourage systems of oppression and, ultimately, target Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.”

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# An Intersectional Approach

“In an intersectional analysis, researchers are interested in **what the intersections of systems can tell us about power: who holds it, how it is used, and how it impacts various groups.** The combination of different systems of oppression against Indigenous women and girls, and including the particular issues faced by 2SLGBTQQIA people in some Indigenous communities, can show us how systems, institutions, and individual actions further **target individuals in other areas, including homelessness, poverty, and other circumstances that increase the dangers they may face.** In Canada, this is especially important for both non-Indigenous and Indigenous people when considering colonization and how the lives of Indigenous people continue to be affected by generations of oppressive government policy, which has systematically stripped away the identities of Indigenous women and children through the imposition of the Indian Act, residential schools, the Sixties Scoop, and modern child welfare systems, to name a few causes. **The systematic racism that Indigenous people in Canada have experienced and continue to experience has had major consequences on outcomes of poverty, substance use, violence, and mental health”**

# National Inquiry Into MMIWG Calls to Justice

“Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people are holders of inherent Indigenous rights, constitutional rights, and international and domestic human rights. In addition, many Indigenous Peoples in Canada are rights holders under various Treaties, land claims, and settlement agreements. These Calls for Justice arise from international and domestic human and Indigenous rights laws, including the *Charter*, the Constitution, and the Honour of the Crown. As such, governments have **legal obligations** to fully implement these Calls for Justice and to ensure Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people live in dignity.”

*From Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.*

# 231 CALLS TO JUSTICE

Calls for Justice for All Governments  
Calls for Justice: Industries, Institutions,  
Services, and Partnerships  
Calls for Justice for All Canadians  
Calls for Justice: Distinctions-Based Calls  
Inuit-Specific Calls for Justice  
Métis-Specific Calls for Justice  
2SLGBTQQIA-Specific Calls for Justice

# Calls for Justice for All Governments: Health and Wellness

## ▶ 3.4

We call upon all governments to ensure that all Indigenous communities receive immediate and necessary resources, including funding and support, for the establishment of sustainable, permanent, no-barrier, preventative, accessible, holistic, wraparound services, including mobile trauma and addictions recovery teams. We further direct that trauma and addictions treatment programs be paired with other essential services such as mental health services and sexual exploitation and trafficking services as they relate to each individual case of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

# Calls for Health and Wellness Service Providers

## ▶ 7.3

We call upon all governments and health service providers to support Indigenous-led prevention initiatives in the areas of health and community awareness, including, but not limited to programming:

- for Indigenous men and boys
- related to suicide prevention strategies for youth and adults
- related to sexual trafficking awareness and no-barrier exiting
- specific to safe and healthy relationships
- specific to mental health awareness
- related to 2SLGBTQQIA issues and sex positivity

