

Minute for Right Relations
National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous
Women and Girls
CSRC Right Relations Resource Team

Responding to repeated calls from Indigenous groups, activists, and non-governmental organizations, the Government of Canada under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau established the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in September 2016. The National Inquiry closed in June 2019 publishing a final report calling for 231 individual calls for justice directed at Governments, Institutions, Social Service Providers, Industry and Individuals.

The National Inquiry's Final Report revealed that persistent and deliberate human rights violations and abuses are the root cause behind Canada's staggering rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

The National Inquiry heard from more than 2,380 participants, including knowledge keepers, officials, family members and survivors who provided testimony, artistic expression and truth sharing over two years of cross-country public hearings and evidence gathering.

“To put an end to this tragedy, the rightful power and place of women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people must be reinstated, which requires dismantling the structures of colonialism within Canadian society,” said Commissioner Michèle Audette. “This is not just a job for governments and politicians. It is incumbent on all Canadians to hold our leaders to account.”

The National Inquiry's Calls for Justice, were presented as legal ***imperatives*** rather than ***optional*** recommendations and outline transformative actions in the areas of health, security, justice and culture including:

- Establishing a National Indigenous and Human Rights Ombudsperson and a National Indigenous and Human Rights Tribunal
- Developing and implementing a National Action Plan to ensure equitable access to employment, housing, education, safety, and health care
- Providing long-term funding for education programs and awareness campaigns related to violence prevention and combatting lateral violence
- Prohibiting the apprehension of children on the basis of poverty and cultural bias

The hard work of the implementing these calls to action is ongoing. To learn more about this report and how you can help be a part of making transformative changes, please visit the United Church of Canada's Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice page.

Submitted by Lisa Blais,
On behalf of the CSRC Right Relations Resource Team
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