National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls

Summary Report

Ottawa, Ontario
February 26 – 27, 2015
# Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.................................................................................................................. 1  
BACKGROUND...................................................................................................................... 3  
APPROACH............................................................................................................................. 5  
PLANNING PROCESS........................................................................................................... 7  
FAMILY GATHERING........................................................................................................... 8  
  Purpose.................................................................................................................................. 8  
  Outcomes............................................................................................................................... 8  
PEOPLES’ GATHERING........................................................................................................... 10  
  Purpose.................................................................................................................................. 10  
  Outcomes............................................................................................................................... 10  
NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND  
GIRLS ..................................................................................................................................... 11  
  Purpose.................................................................................................................................. 11  
  Outcomes............................................................................................................................... 11  
MOVING FORWARD.............................................................................................................. 13  

Appendix A: Roundtable News Release.............................................................................. 14  
Appendix B: Family Gathering Fact Sheet ......................................................................... 19  
Appendix C: Peoples’ Gathering Fact Sheet ....................................................................... 22  
Appendix D: National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and  
Gir ls Agenda......................................................................................................................... 24  
Appendix E: Framework for Action...................................................................................... 26  
Appendix F: List of Roundtable Participants...................................................................... 31
INTRODUCTION

All Indigenous women and children have an equal right to live free from violence and all forms of discrimination. In recent years, there have been a number of initiatives aimed at responding to the prevalence of violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the disproportionate rates of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. Although communities and governments, including provincial, territorial, federal and Indigenous governments, have developed a variety of responses and actions, no comprehensive and coordinated response exists. Such a response would bring broader attention, education and focus to prevention and immediate solutions, while enabling local flexibility and decision-making.

The goals of the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (the National Roundtable) were to:

1. Create a dialogue with all levels of government, Indigenous\(^1\) representatives and families to effectively address the crisis of violence against Indigenous women and girls;
2. Identify solutions and collaborative means of moving them forward, including the ongoing engagement of Indigenous Peoples, families and communities in reducing and eliminating all forms of violence.

The National Roundtable brought together federal, provincial and territorial governments in partnership with National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs) to discuss how best to collaborate and coordinate action to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls, including those cases that result in their murder or disappearance. In preparation for the National Roundtable, all Parties worked towards a guiding document, the Framework for Action to Prevent and Address Violence against Indigenous Women and Girls (the Framework) that was reviewed at the Family Gathering and reviewed and adopted at the National Roundtable. As noted in the 2014 Federal Action Plan to Address Family Violence and Violent Crimes Against Aboriginal Women and Girls, “…no organization or level of government alone can eradicate this violence. This work must be done in partnership across federal organizations, with provinces and territories and through the leadership of Aboriginal communities and organizations.”

In conjunction with the National Roundtable, held on Friday February 27, 2015 at the Ottawa Marriot Hotel in Ottawa, Ontario, two related yet separate events also occurred:

\(^1\) Indigenous refers to Inuit, Métis and First Nations peoples in Canada. Parties to the National Roundtable acknowledge specific needs that arise as a result of urban/rural/northern and on/off reserve-based considerations, north of 60° considerations, the application of the Indian Act, and gender issues.
1. The *Family Gathering*, Thursday February 26, 2015 at the Delta Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario
2. The *Peoples’ Gathering on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, Friday February 27, 2015, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

To move this dialogue forward and initiate coordinated action, the following three priority areas were identified for discussion at the *National Roundtable* and related events to address the disproportionate number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls:

1. Prevention and Awareness
2. Community Safety
3. Policing Measures and Justice Responses
BACKGROUND

It is well understood there are complex and long-standing underlying issues that have brought us to where we are today in respect to the disproportionate levels of violence against Indigenous women and girls. Indigenous women and girls are three times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women and this violence results in more serious harm. In May 2014, the RCMP released the report, *Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview*. The report revealed 1,181 missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls in police reports between 1980 and 2012. In June 2015, an update to this report was released confirming that Aboriginal women and girls continue to be overrepresented among those missing and murdered.

Indigenous Peoples are not a homogeneous group culturally, traditionally or geographically. Diversity and distinctions exist between and within First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples based on a number of factors including language, cultural beliefs, social structures, geography, governance structures and the existence of Treaties and other agreements with the Crown in some areas. **This means effective solutions must be community-based and community-driven.** In recognition of this diversity and differences in documented outcomes for various First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples, special attention needs to be given to the development of responses that reflect these differences. Additionally, the varying needs and perspectives of women, youth, Elders, urban, northern and remote populations must also be taken into account.

The safety and well-being of Indigenous women and girls is integral to ensuring healthy and prosperous Indigenous families, communities and nations within Canada. There is no more important role for governments or the state than protecting citizens. Equally, there is no more important role for families or communities than keeping each other safe and promoting wellbeing.


Jurisdictions and Indigenous communities have responded with a range of activities. Additionally, there are a number of cross-jurisdictional efforts underway to address violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada. Frameworks have been developed by the Aboriginal Affairs Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders Working Group (*Framework for Coordinating Action to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls*), the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Ministers of Justice and Public Safety (*Draft Justice

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2 Statistics Canada 2004 General Social Survey
Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls) and the Iqaluit Declaration in 2007 to address violence against Aboriginal women, endorsed by the FPT Forum of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women.


Despite these important actions, violence against Indigenous women and girls continues, demonstrating the need for a comprehensive and coordinated response with dedicated participation from all levels of government, Indigenous families and communities, and all Canadians. The *National Roundtable* is a first step in the creation of holistic solutions to ending violence against Indigenous women and girls.
APPROACH

There is consensus that additional action must be taken now and increased efforts need to be made to assess progress while ensuring that everything possible is being done for the safety and security of Indigenous women and girls. The National Roundtable presented a unique opportunity for federal, provincial and territorial governments to come together with NAOs and representatives from the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls to move forward with coordinated actions, prevention strategies, and solutions.

Parties to the National Roundtable believe an important foundation for the Framework for Action to Prevent and Address Violence against Indigenous Women and Girls is agreement on a set of common principles that guide how the Parties work together to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls. Parties to the National Roundtable endorsed the following principles:

**Human Rights:** Violence against Indigenous women and girls violates numerous human rights including the rights to life, security, equality, and the right to be free from discrimination.

**Shared responsibility:** Preventing and addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls is a shared responsibility, requiring shared commitments across governments and communities.

**Community-based solutions:** Solutions to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls must be community-based and led, recognizing the diversity of community situations, and appropriate support given to building community capacity.

**A focus on healing:** Addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls acknowledges the need for improved relationships based on respect and understanding among Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians, and the need for holistic approaches in concert with support for the healing of individuals and communities.

**A collaborative focus:** Indigenous Peoples must be partners in developing and implementing responses to addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls.

**Bringing about behavioral change:** Addressing and preventing violence against Indigenous women and girls requires a shift in societal attitudes and behaviours, within individuals, institutions and organizations, including men and boys, who are key agents of that change.

**Changing the discourse:** Mobilizing Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to change how we talk about the issues can help re-frame institutional responses, community perspectives and individual attitudes.
These principles underlie recent work as noted in the reports cited in the Framework document that have identified paths forward in developing community-based approaches to ending violence against Indigenous women and girls.
PLANNING PROCESS

Many individuals, organizations, and all levels of government were involved in the planning of the National Roundtable and related events. Representatives from the NAOs and all levels of government worked collaboratively to create a framework for the historic event and coordinated all logistics, including event agendas, communications, and volunteer coordination.

The National Roundtable Planning Committee, made up of representatives from the NAOs and provincial, territorial, and federal governments, oversaw the planning process for the National Roundtable as a whole.

In addition to the National Roundtable Planning Committee, sub-committees, made up of NAO representatives, were established to focus on particular aspects of the planning process. The sub-committees were as follows:

1. Family Gathering Sub-Committee
2. Peoples’ Gathering Sub-Committee
3. National Roundtable Executive Sub-Committee
4. Communications Sub-Committee

The Committee and Sub-Committees met regularly in-person and by teleconference in the months preceding the National Roundtable to ensure all events, including the Family Gathering and the Peoples’ Gathering, were well-coordinated and productive to their established goals.
FAMILY GATHERING

Purpose

The Family Gathering took place on February 26, 2015 at the Delta Hotel in Ottawa, Ontario. This gathering took place in advance of two other related events taking place on February 27th, also in Ottawa, Ontario: the Peoples’ Gathering and the National Roundtable.

The goals for the Family Gathering were to:

1. Put families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls first;
2. Enable real dialogue between family members on solutions to end violence against Indigenous women and girls;
3. Support family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in developing a presentation to the National Roundtable;
4. Select four family member representatives to act as ceremonial witnesses to the National Roundtable.

Outcomes

The Family Gathering was a private closed event for the family members of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls. The dialogue that happened at the event was not recorded.

An introductory roundtable took place in the morning, and the afternoon provided an overview of the three established priority areas of the National Roundtable and presentation of the draft Framework document. Family members were informed that the draft Framework document was the result of a collaborative effort among the NAOs and federal, provincial, and territorial governments present at the National Roundtable, meant to represent a conversation among all Parties to address the crisis situation of violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Family members at the event engaged with each other and the draft Framework document, discussing ways to prevent violence against Indigenous women and girls. Family members provided the following feedback and recommendations:

- Shared responsibility; this is not the responsibility of one group or organization, it is shared by government and communities;
- Solutions must be community-based. We are not a homogenous people, we are diverse and support has to be appropriate for each community;
- The focus needs to be on healing and based on respect between Indigenous and non-Indigenous parties. Solutions must be collaborative in nature, working with First Nations as equal partners;
• Attitudes and behaviours have to change in society, including at the individual, organizational, and governmental levels;
• We need to change the language used to talk about Aboriginal women. When we have access to media, we have access to all of Canada. We have a voice.

Recommendations:

1. A national public inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls that examines issues of prevention and awareness, community safety, and policing measures and justice responses.
2. Implementation of a three-pronged approach to address the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls: 1) listen to families; 2) transform dialogue; and 3) eliminate racist overtones. A national inquiry must happen in conjunction with other initiatives.
3. Recommendations related to missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls are often not implemented or completed due to lack of funding. Changes need to happen in order to make programs work.

Eight ceremonial witnesses were selected by family members at the gathering. Four ceremonial witnesses were chosen to attend the Peoples’ Gathering, and four were chosen to attend the National Roundtable. The roles of the ceremonial witnesses were to share the vision of the families at the Peoples’ Gathering and National Roundtable and to observe, reflect, and report on the discussions at these events.

**Peoples’ Gathering Ceremonial Witnesses:**
- Ceejai Julian
- Micah Arreak
- Doreen Morrisseau
- Delilah Saunders

**National Roundtable Ceremonial Witnesses:**
- Judy Maas
- Doreen Osborne
- Diane Lily
- Beverley Jacobs
PEOPLES’ GATHERING

Purpose

The Peoples’ Gathering took place on February 27, 2015 at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. The purpose of the Peoples’ Gathering was to facilitate an open and public discussion on recommendations for action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls. The event was webcast live at www.afn.ca and an archived recording of the event is available at www.afn.ca/index.php/en/policy-areas/i-pledge-end-violence.

The Peoples’ Gathering was in response to the great interest generated around the National Roundtable with federal, provincial, and territorial governments and NAOs. It was open to all those who work on the issue of violence against Indigenous women and girls who were interested in learning more and contributing to the dialogue.

Moderator Harold Tarbell, Sherrylyn Sarazin, Councillor, Pikwàkanagàn First Nation, and John Osborne, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Carleton University, gave welcoming remarks. Ceejai Julian, Micah Arreak, Doreen Morrisseau, and Delilah Saunders, ceremonial witnesses selected by family members at the Family Gathering the previous day, gave opening and closing remarks. The microphone was open at the Peoples’ Gathering and those who wished to speak on the issue of violence against Indigenous women and girls were invited to do so.

Outcomes

Many family members and individuals spoke at the Peoples’ Gathering. Common themes expressed at the gathering included:

- A sense of urgency about the murders and disappearances of Indigenous women and girls;
- Failures of the justice system;
- Systemic issues confronting Indigenous women and girls including poverty, drug and alcohol addiction, and violence;
- Exploitation of the environment;
- Many speakers told stories of losing family members to violence;
- Importance of family participation in working toward solutions;
- Importance of working together to end violence against Indigenous women and girls;
- Importance of public awareness raising and education to end violence;
- Importance of culture in violence prevention and healing;
- Sharing of community responses to violence against Indigenous women and girls.
NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

Purpose

The National Roundtable took place on February 27, 2015 at the Ottawa Marriott Hotel in Ottawa, Ontario. An unprecedented gathering, the National Roundtable included representatives from families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, the Assembly of First Nations, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak/Women of the Métis Nation, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Métis National Council, the Native Women’s Association of Canada, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, and all provincial, territorial, and federal governments. The National Roundtable was a closed event with only permitted delegates in attendance.

Judy Maas, Doreen Osborne, Diane Lily, and Beverly Jacobs, ceremonial witness selected by family members at the Family Gathering the previous day, provided general context and reflection on the themes for discussion and recommendations for action from family members who attended the Family Gathering. The ceremonial witnesses also provided closing reflections.

The three themes of the National Roundtable framed the discussion at the event:

1. Prevention and Awareness
2. Community Safety
3. Policing Measures and Justice Responses

NAO and provincial, territorial, and federal government delegates were given four minutes to present on each of the three theme areas. The draft Framework document, prepared in advance by all Parties to the National Roundtable, was presented for review.

Outcomes

All Parties to the National Roundtable agreed to coordinate efforts toward tangible and immediate action in each identified priority area:

1. Prevention and Awareness
   - Raising public awareness aimed at changing attitudes that devalue Indigenous women and girls and the contributions of Indigenous Peoples as an educational tool for violence prevention.
   - Reducing the marginalization of Indigenous women and girls by improving socio-economic development and outcomes.
• Improving prevention and responses to violence within intimate relationships and families.

2. Community Safety
• Supporting Indigenous communities, organizations and individuals to develop safety initiatives that respond to their unique cultural, traditional and socio-economic needs and realities.
• Engaging communities, governments, organizations and institutions, in supporting prevention, action, and intervention when violence has occurred.
• Supporting and addressing safety and healing of individuals, families and communities.

3. Policing Measures and Justice Responses
• Improving the relationship between justice sector professionals, including police, and Indigenous Peoples and strengthening community-based policing in Indigenous communities.
• Identifying strategies within the justice system to protect and assist Indigenous women and girls who are victims of violence.

Parties to the National Roundtable committed to continue to work together in coordinating action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls. All Parties committed to working directly with Indigenous communities and organizations to move forward on National Roundtable commitments to discuss efforts underway, progress and areas for further focus. Parties to the National Roundtable committed to using their respective reporting and accountability mechanisms to report on their activities and progress and will increase efforts at enhanced public reporting. Parties agreed to share information on effective collaboration efforts both within and across jurisdictions, organizations and communities.

Parties to the National Roundtable further committed to:

1. The development of a national prevention and awareness campaign addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls;
2. Continued review of identified actions under each priority area to determine areas of focus and tangible commitments;
3. A forum to be hosted by Manitoba to explore best practices and share information on policing and justice responses;
MOVING FORWARD

As a result of the National Roundtable, each federal, provincial and territorial government and each NAO will coordinate efforts toward tangible and immediate actions in each of the priority areas. Together this will constitute a shared national commitment to increased, ongoing collaboration with the development of regionally and community-based and community-driven solutions to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Parties to the National Roundtable have agreed to improve coordination and collaboration across sectors, and amongst each other, to address all of the priority areas: prevention and awareness; community safety; and policing measure and justice responses, recognizing these areas are fundamentally interconnected and must not be viewed in isolation.

Discussion continues among Parties to the National Roundtable regarding implementation of actions to address the priority areas. Means and processes for implementation will vary based on relationships and priorities among Indigenous communities and organizations and provincial, territorial and federal governments.

All Parties to the National Roundtable commit to continuing to work together in coordinating action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls, including a commitment to implement a national awareness campaign focused on violence against Indigenous women and girls. A second National Roundtable will be held by the end of 2016 to discuss progress and continue dialogue on efforts underway and areas for further focus. All Parties commit to work directly with Indigenous communities and organizations to move forward on these priorities and in preparation for the second National Roundtable.

Public accountability is paramount to the continued progress in addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Accordingly, Parties to the National Roundtable commit to using their respective reporting and accountability mechanisms to report on their activities and progress and will increase efforts at enhanced public reporting, and sharing information on effective collaboration efforts both within and across jurisdictions, organizations and communities.
Appendix A: Roundtable News Release

News Release

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

February 28, 2015 Ottawa, ON: Indigenous families and leaders, Premiers, provincial and territorial Ministers and representatives and Ministers from the Government of Canada met yesterday in Ottawa on needed action to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Indigenous women and girls are three times more likely to be victims of violence than non-Indigenous women. In May 2014, the RCMP released a National Operational Overview on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women. The research identified 1,181 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canadian police databases between 1980 and 2012; of those 1,017 were murdered, and there are 164 investigations of missing Aboriginal women dating back to 1952.

In an unprecedented gathering, the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls included representatives from families of missing and murdered Indigenous women, the Assembly of First Nations, the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, the Native Women’s Association of Canada, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, Métis National Council, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak / Women of the Métis Nation, all provinces and territories and the federal government.

Delegates committed to ongoing dialogue and coordinated action in priority areas, including prevention and awareness, community safety, policing measures and justice responses. Specific outcomes include the commitment to gather again in 2016 to assess progress.

The National Roundtable is a result of support expressed by Premiers at a meeting with National Aboriginal Organizations in August 2014.

Highlights:

Three priority areas were the focus of roundtable discussion and delegates agreed to coordinate efforts toward tangible and immediate action in each.

Prevention and Awareness
  o Raising public awareness aimed at changing attitudes that devalue Indigenous women and girls and the contributions of Indigenous Peoples as an educational tool for violence prevention.
  o Reducing the marginalization of Indigenous women and girls by improving socio-economic development and outcomes.
  o Improving prevention and responses to violence within intimate relationships and families.

Community Safety
  o Supporting Indigenous communities, organizations and individuals to develop safety initiatives that respond to their unique cultural, traditional and socio-economic needs and realities.
  o Engaging communities, governments, organizations and institutions, in supporting prevention, action, and intervention when violence has occurred.
  o Supporting and addressing safety and healing of individuals, families and communities.
Policing Measures and Justice Responses

- Improving the relationship between justice sector professionals, including police, and Indigenous Peoples and strengthening community-based policing in Indigenous communities.
- Identifying strategies within the justice system to protect and assist Indigenous women and girls who are victims of violence.

Outcomes and Next Steps:

Delegates of the National Roundtable commit to continuing to work together in coordinating action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the commitment to a second National Roundtable to be held in 2016. All Parties committed to working directly with Indigenous communities and organizations to move forward on Roundtable commitments to discuss efforts underway, progress and areas for further focus. Parties to the National Roundtable commit to using their respective reporting and accountability mechanisms to report on their activities and progress and will increase efforts at enhanced public reporting, and sharing information on effective collaboration efforts both within and across jurisdictions, organizations and communities.

Parties to the National Roundtable further committed to the development of a prevention and awareness campaign and accepted an invitation from the Province of Manitoba to host an inaugural forum to explore best practices and better coordinate and share information on policing and justice responses.

Quotes:

Ceremonial Family Witness Judy Maas from Blueberry River First Nation: “We will idle no more as our sisters, mothers, daughters, aunties, and grandmothers go missing and continue to be violated by any type of violence. We will no longer remain invisible. We will take our rightful place. Our voices are the voices of those who have suffered. Our children deserve better. We expect nothing less than a formal commitment by governments to implement the recommendations being heard.”

Minister of Labour and Minister of Status of Women Dr. K. Kellie Leitch, P.C., O.Ont., M.P.: “Our Government understands the heavy toll that violence has on victims, families, and communities. That’s why we are committed to taking concrete actions that address family violence and violent crimes against Aboriginal women and girls. And because everyone has a role to play, the Government of Canada will continue working collaboratively with provinces and territories, Aboriginal families, communities and organizations, to address this important issue.”

Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Bernard Valcourt: “Our Government recognizes that addressing violence against Aboriginal women is a shared responsibility that requires commitment to action from all partners, including at the community level. By meeting today and continuing to work together, we are sending a strong message that these abhorrent acts of violence will not be tolerated.”

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde: “I commend the strength of the families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and the leadership of Indigenous organizations, provinces, territories and the federal government for coming together for this unprecedented gathering. Ending violence must be a national priority and we must work together to ensure to uphold the fundamental right to life and security for every Indigenous woman and girl and to live free of discrimination. The commitments we made today must translate into action on the ground to keep Indigenous women and girls safe and secure. We will continue to work with Indigenous families, organizations and all levels of governments to end violence and we will continue the push for a National Public Inquiry to seek justice and to move on long-term solutions.”
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Chief Betty Ann Lavallée: “This meeting was a constructive step forward, but there is much more to do. The spirits of our sisters will not rest until justice is done and neither will we.”

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami President Terry Audla: “There is no one-size-fits all approach to addressing some of the significant issues we have been wrestling with today. Inuit welcome the commitments reached at this meeting and look forward to working with provincial, territorial and federal governments to develop specific means of addressing our most pressing needs, respecting the fact that violence has a human cost, and it also has an economic cost. Inuit live in some of the most remote communities in Canada, and the delivery of and access to programs and services in our homeland will always cost more than it does to provide those same programs and services in Southern Canada.”

Métis National Council President Clément Chartier: Métis National Council President Clément Chartier: “The Métis Nation is pleased to witness the forward movement on addressing this most critical matter. The issue of murdered and missing Aboriginal women and girls has been plaguing our communities for far too long and concrete solutions must be explored and implemented. I congratulate the leadership of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal governments and organizations for taking this progressive step and thank the affected families for their continued determination to seek the justice this violation of life is demanding.”

Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak / Women of the Métis Nation President Melanie Omeniho: “I acknowledge the work that has been achieved by bringing together the National Aboriginal Organizations, provinces, territories, the federal government and representatives from the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women for this unique meeting. The life, safety and security of Indigenous women, which includes Metis women is a priority for Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak. It is an exceptional opportunity to work with other Aboriginal representative organizations and the various levels of government to build on a collective action plan that will assist us in addressing the overwhelming issues that result from the level of violence that some Indigenous women have been a victim of.”

Native Women’s Association of Canada Interim Action President Dr. Dawn Harvard: “We must work together – Aboriginal Peoples and all levels Governments to put in place measures that protect Aboriginal women and girls. Anything less is a denial of our basic human rights. The provinces and territories and Aboriginal Peoples have all supported the call for a national public inquiry and now we need to work together, along with the Federal Government to implement a comprehensive, national framework of action to end violence!”

Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada President Rebecca Kudloo: “We know that Inuit women and children are at the greatest risk of violence in their homes and our members feel prevention is the most important and urgent issue to be addressed after this roundtable. They have told us that unresolved trauma and abuse is the most significant underlying cause to be addressed, and we look forward to a whole-of-government response in working together to address this major physical and mental health issue.”

Alberta Legislative Secretary for Aboriginal Education and Jobs, Skills, and Training Pearl Calahasen: “The discussions we had at today’s national roundtable were incredibly valuable. The Alberta government remains committed to taking action on the issue of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls by continuing its work with Aboriginal leaders, communities and organizations to find solutions.”

British Columbia Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation John Rustad: “This significant gathering has resulted in a level of discussion never seen before and I thank the family members of missing and murdered Aboriginal women who dedicated their time and displayed great courage telling their stories. The B.C. government has taken action on all major themes from our provincial Missing Women Commission of Inquiry and we will continue to work with our Aboriginal partners on the systemic changes needed to create a
legacy of safety for Aboriginal women and girls. This work, and our efforts nationwide, will be enriched by today’s dialogue.”

Manitoba Premier Gregory Selinger: “This roundtable is about the families from across the country who have suffered an unimaginable and tragic loss. Mothers, daughter, sisters and wives have been taken from them and their families are left behind to pick up the pieces. For some families, they have the heartbreaking task of caring for children who will never see their mothers again. This gathering helps us to move forward on addressing the critical issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada.”

New Brunswick Minister Responsible for the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat Dr. Ed. Doherty M.D.: “Violence against Aboriginal women and girls impacts Aboriginal communities and families throughout New Brunswick. We are pleased to have this opportunity to work together and stimulate discussion and collaboration in addressing violence against aboriginal women and girls not only in New Brunswick, but across the country”.

Newfoundland and Labrador Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Attorney General Judy Manning: “In 2014, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador supported a provincial, all-party resolution calling for a national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls. We are prepared to work with the Government of Canada on such an initiative and committed to cooperating with all jurisdictions to eliminate all forms of violence against Aboriginal women and girls. We acknowledge those families and individuals that attended the Family and Peoples Gatherings, and we thank them for having the courage to share their stories.”

Northwest Territories Premier Bob Mcleod: “Our experience in the Northwest Territories is that we are stronger and more successful when we work together as partners. This has been at the foundation of our commitment to engage with Aboriginal governments and organizations in the spirit of respect, recognition and responsibility. As the Chair of the National Roundtable I am very encouraged by the willingness of all the participants to engage in a meaningful national dialogue about concrete action and solutions to address the crisis of violence against Indigenous women and girls.”

Nova Scotia’s Minister of Community Services and Status of Women Joanne Bernard: “I am honoured to have participated in this important and timely discussion. I urge all Canadians to become more engaged and aware as we move to address the disproportionate rates of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.”

Nunavut Minister of Family Services Jeannie Ugyuk: “Keeping Indigenous women and girls safe and well is a shared, national responsibility; one that can no longer be ignored. I am humbled to have been part of today’s gathering. On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I commit to working towards a framework to end this violence once and for all.”

Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne: “Too many Aboriginal women and girls have experienced violence, been murdered or gone missing. This loss not only affects aboriginal communities across the country, but Canada as a whole. I am proud that Ontario has joined leaders across Canada to ensure that Aboriginal women and girls can live safely and reach their full potential.”

Prince Edward Island Minister of Community Services and Seniors and Minister Responsible for the Status of Women Valerie E. Docherty: “Now is the time to take action and address the crisis of the disproportionate number of indigenous women and girls who are missing or murdered in Canada. By working together respectfully we can improve the lives of Indigenous women, girls and their families. I am hopeful that the work accomplished today will initiate collaborative efforts from all levels of government and Aboriginal organizations that will result in achievable action items.”
Quebec Minister responsible for Native Affairs Geoffrey Kelley, and Minister of Justice Ms. Stéphanie Vallée: “In August 2014, during the meetings of the Council of the Federation, the Government of Quebec supported the proposal by First Nations members that a national roundtable be created to study the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women. We are already working on the wide variety of issues that arise from violence against Indigenous women with First Nations organizations in Québec, but we know that we can always do more. Our presence here today is a reflection of our willingness to collaborate with the other provinces as well as the federal government to share our resources and our experiences so as to end violence against Indigenous women and girls.”

Saskatchewan Minister of Justice and Attorney General Gordon Wyant: “I’m proud of the services offered in Saskatchewan to help address violence against Aboriginal women and girls, as well as initiatives geared towards prevention and awareness. We recognize that more needs to be done and by working together, we can share ideas and develop appropriate responses to reduce the risk of violence against Aboriginal women across the country.”

Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski: “On behalf of the Government of Yukon and all Yukoners, I reaffirm our commitment to preventing violence against Aboriginal women and girls. I also want to acknowledge the strength and resilience of the family members who attended the roundtable, and the determination of everyone here to create communities where Aboriginal women and girls are safe.”

-30-

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Gathering of Family Members of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Thursday, February 26th, 2015
Delta Hotel
Ottawa, Ontario

On February 26th, a gathering of family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls will be held in Ottawa, Ontario. This Family Gathering is in advance of two other related events taking place on February 27th, also in Ottawa, Ontario: the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) and the Peoples’ Gathering.

The National Roundtable, taking place on the same day as the Peoples’ Gathering, is a working meeting among delegates from Federal, Provincial and Territorial Governments and National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs), to develop and act upon coordinated solutions to end violence against Indigenous women and girls.

The Peoples’ Gathering is in response to the great interest generated around the National MMIWG Roundtable with the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Governments and NAOs; it provides a venue for public discussion and recommendations for action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls. It is open to all those who want to contribute to the dialogue and will be webcast for those unable to attend in person.

During the Family Gathering, four representatives will be selected among the families to act as ceremonial witnesses to the National Roundtable. As overall space is limited, all NAOs are working together to ensure the voice of the families are heard and are convening a gathering of family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in advance of the National Roundtable. The Family Gathering:

- Puts families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls first.
- Enables real dialogue between family members on solutions to end violence against Indigenous Women and Girls.
- Supports family members of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in developing a presentation to the National Roundtable.
HOW CAN I ATTEND?
- This gathering is for family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Any family member is welcome and encouraged to attend.
- If you are a family member and plan to attend, we ask that you pre-register for this gathering to assist in meeting planning such as meals and health supports.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
- Registration is FREE.
- The following information will be collected on the registration form: Name of MMIWG, name of family member(s), your contact information, and medical/dietary considerations.
- For more information please contact: Irene Goodwin, Director Violence Prevention & Response, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples at i.goodwin@abo-peoples.org or telephone at 613-747-6022.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHEN I ATTEND?
The Family Gathering is based on the following considerations:
- Family members of MMIWG have a right to be included in matters that impact them and their loved ones.
- Family members of MMIWG need the time to discuss materials to be presented or deliberated upon at the National Roundtable, provide recommendations on needed solutions and how these can be moved forward.
- Family members will develop recommendations in three key areas to bring to the National Roundtable:
  1. Prevention and Awareness
  2. Community Safety Plans and Protocols
  3. Policing Measures and Justice Responses
- Family members of MMIWG will select among themselves ceremonial witnesses to attend and speak at the National Roundtable and the Peoples’ Gathering.

WHO ELSE MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE?
- Health supports
- Elders
- Facilitator(s)
- Family support person - Family members may bring a support person into the room with them.

ARE OBSERVERS ALLOWED?
- This is for MMIWG family members and their family support person; observers are not allowed.
- Individuals, organizations, and media will be asked to respect the need for family members to meet with each other.
- The general public and media are welcome to attend and participate in the open Peoples’ Gathering that will take place at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario on February 27, 2015.

WHAT IS A CEREMONIAL WITNESS?
- Four ceremonial witnesses will be selected to attend the National Roundtable, one from each of the four directions.
- The witnesses will share the vision of the families to the National Roundtable and will observe,
provide reflections and report on the discussions.

- The families will have the opportunity to select ceremonial witnesses to the National Roundtable during this gathering.

For more information on the Family Gathering please contact:

_Irene Goodwin, Director Violence Prevention & Response, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples_  
*i.goodwin@abo-peoples.org*, Telephone: 613-747-6022
Appendix C: Peoples’ Gathering Fact Sheet

Peoples’ Gathering

Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls

Friday, February 27th, 2015, 9 am – 5 pm
Carleton University, Residence Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

The Peoples’ Gathering is in response to the great interest generated around the National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Roundtable with the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Governments and National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs). Hosted at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario on February 27th, it provides a venue for public discussion and recommendations for action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls. It is open to all those who are working in this area, who are interested in learning more and who want to contribute to the dialogue. This event will be webcast for those unable to attend in person.

The National Roundtable, taking place on the same day as the Peoples’ Gathering, is a working meeting among delegates from Federal, Provincial and Territorial Governments and NAOs, to develop and act upon coordinated solutions to end violence against Indigenous women and girls.

A closed gathering of family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls will also be held in Ottawa, Ontario on February 26th. This Family Gathering puts families of MMIWG first, enables real dialogue between families on solutions to end violence and supports a space for families to develop a presentation to the National Roundtable.

WHO CAN ATTEND THE PEOPLES’ GATHERING?
- The Peoples’ Gathering is open to all.
- The Peoples’ Gathering will include Elders, Leaders, Health Support, Families of MMIWG.
- The Peoples’ Gathering will be webcast for those unable to attend.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
- Registration is FREE.
- Please contact Gina Doxtator, Assembly of First Nations, at gdoxtator@afn.ca to pre-register. Registration will also take place on site.
WHAT CAN I EXPECT WHEN I ATTEND?

An open and inclusive facilitated dialogue will take place to reflect on solutions and develop recommendations on new and coordinated action to end violence against Indigenous women and girls.

For more information on the Peoples’ Gathering please contact: Gina Doxtator, Assembly of First Nations, at 613-234-6789 ext. 239 or gdoxtator@afn.ca.
Appendix D: National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

**Agenda**

**NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Ottawa Marriott Hotel, 100 Kent St.
Victoria Ballroom, 2nd floor

Registration:
- February 26, 2015, 3:00 – 5:00 pm Ottawa Marriott Hotel lobby
- February 27, 2015, 7:00 – 8:00 am outside Victoria Ballroom (2nd floor)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>February 27, 2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>Breakfast for delegates – Cartier Salon</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15am</td>
<td>Photo Opportunity – Victoria Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Call to order – Victoria Ballroom</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Opening Prayers:</strong> Algonquin Elder Peter Decontie</td>
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<td>Métis Elder Angie Crerar</td>
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<td>Inuit Elder Sally Webster</td>
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<td><strong>Welcome to the Territory:</strong> Chief Gilbert Whiteduck, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabek</td>
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<td>Councillor Ron Bernard, Golden Lake First Nation</td>
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<td><strong>Logistics:</strong> Canadian Intergovernmental Conference Secretariat (CICS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Opening remarks:</strong> Chair Premier Bob McLeod</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction of Moderator Dr. Marie Delorme</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Presentation from Families Gathering</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Four representatives – selected to represent the four directions – will provide general context and reflection on the themes for discussion and recommendations for action from a Families Gathering convened on February 26.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:20am</td>
<td>Theme 1: Prevention and Awareness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Overview of framework area to be provided by Moderator</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Roundtable conversation on pathways to coordinate action</td>
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<td>(all speakers will have 4 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:25am</td>
<td>Health Break</td>
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<td>10:40am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40am</td>
<td>Theme 2: Community Safety</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Overview of framework area to be provided by Moderator</td>
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<td>- Roundtable conversation on pathways to coordinate action</td>
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<td>(all speakers will have 4 minutes)</td>
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<td><strong>Time</strong> February 27, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45am</td>
<td>Lunch – Cartier Salon</td>
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<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>GROUP PHOTO – ROUNDTABLE DELEGATES</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45pm</td>
<td>Theme 3: Policing Measures and Justice Responses</td>
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<td>1:50pm</td>
<td>- Overview of framework area to be provided by Moderator</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50pm</td>
<td>- Roundtable conversation on pathways to coordinate action</td>
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<td>(all speakers will have 4 minutes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50pm</td>
<td>Accountability and Measuring Success</td>
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<td>2:15pm</td>
<td>Discussion: Confirm final Framework</td>
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<td>2:15pm</td>
<td>Health Break</td>
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<td>2:25pm</td>
<td>Reflection from Family Witnesses from the Four Directions</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45pm</td>
<td>Discussion: Confirm final News Release</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Closing Prayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Press Conference – Cartier Salon</td>
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Appendix E: Framework for Action

NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The goals of the National Roundtable are to:

1. Create a dialogue with all levels of government, Indigenous\textsuperscript{1} representatives and families to effectively address the crisis of violence against Indigenous women and girls.
2. Identify solutions and collaborative means of moving them forward, including the ongoing engagement of Indigenous Peoples, families and communities in reducing and eliminating all forms of violence.

The National Roundtable brings together federal, provincial and territorial governments in partnership with National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs) to discuss how best to collaborate and coordinate action to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls, including those cases that result in their murder or disappearance. As noted in the 2014 Federal Action Plan to Address Family Violence and Violent Crimes Against Aboriginal Women and Girls “...no organization or level of government alone can eradicate this violence. This work must be done in partnership across federal organizations, with provinces and territories and through the leadership of Aboriginal communities and organizations.”

All Indigenous women and children have an equal right to live free of violence and all forms of discrimination. In recent years, there have been a number of initiatives aimed at responding to the prevalence of violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the disproportionate rates of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. A variety of responses and actions have been developed by communities and governments, including provincial, territorial, federal and Indigenous governments, however no comprehensive and coordinated response exists. Such a response would bring broader attention, education and focus to prevention and immediate solutions, while enabling local flexibility and decision-making.

\textsuperscript{1} Indigenous refers to Inuit, Métis and First Nations peoples in Canada. Parties to the National Roundtable acknowledge specific needs that arise as a result of urban/rural/northern and on/off reserve-based considerations, Inuit Nunangat considerations, the application of the Indian Act, and gender issues.
To move this dialogue forward and initiate coordinated action, the following three priority areas have been identified for discussion at the National Roundtable to address the disproportionate number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls:

1. Prevention and Awareness
2. Community Safety
3. Policing Measures and Justice Responses

**PRINCIPLES**

There is consensus that additional action must be taken now and increased efforts need to be made to assess our progress while ensuring that everything possible is being done for the safety and security of Indigenous women and girls. The National Roundtable presents a unique opportunity for federal, provincial and territorial governments to come together with NAOs and representatives from the families of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls to move on coordinated actions, prevention and solutions.

It is anticipated that the National Roundtable will result in commitments to prevent, reduce and eliminate violence against Indigenous women and girls, focusing on the three priority areas.

Parties to the National Roundtable believe an important foundation for this Framework is agreement on a set of common principles that guide how the Parties work together to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls. Parties to the National Roundtable endorse the following principles:

**Human Rights**: Violence against Indigenous women and girls implicates numerous human rights including the right to life, to security, to equality and to be free of discrimination.

**Shared responsibility**: Preventing and addressing violence against Indigenous women and children is a shared responsibility, requiring shared commitments across governments and communities.

**Community-based solutions**: Solutions to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls must be community-based and led, recognizing the diversity of community situations, and appropriate support given to building community capacity.

**A focus on healing**: Addressing violence against Indigenous women and children acknowledges the need for improved relationships based on respect and understanding among Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians, and the need for holistic approaches in concert with support for the healing of individuals and communities.

**A collaborative focus**: Indigenous Peoples must be partners in developing and
implementing responses to addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls.

**Bringing about behavioral change:** Addressing and preventing violence against Indigenous women and girls requires a shift in societal attitudes and behaviours, within individuals, institutions and organizations, including men and boys, who are key agents of that change.

**Changing the discourse:** Mobilizing Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to change how we talk about the issues can help re-frame institutional responses, community perspectives and individual attitudes.

*These principles underlie recent work as noted in the reports cited in this Framework document that have identified paths forward in developing community-based approaches to ending violence against Indigenous women and girls.*

**PATHWAYS FORWARD**

As a result of the National Roundtable, each federal, provincial and territorial government and each NAO will coordinate efforts toward tangible and immediate actions in each of the priority areas. Together this will constitute a shared national commitment to increased, ongoing collaboration with the development of regionally and community-based and community-driven solutions to prevent and address violence against Indigenous women and girls.

Parties to the National Roundtable have agreed to improve coordination and collaboration across sectors, and amongst each other, along the following high-level pathways, recognizing these areas are fundamentally interconnected and must not be viewed in isolation.

Discussion continues among Parties to the National Roundtable on specific examples of how these pathways can be implemented. Means and processes for implementation will vary based on relationships and priorities among Indigenous communities and organizations and provincial, territorial and federal governments.

**Prevention and Awareness**

- Raising public awareness aimed at changing attitudes that devalue Indigenous women and girls and the contributions of Indigenous Peoples as an educational tool for violence prevention.
- Reducing the marginalization of Indigenous women and girls by improving socio-economic development and outcomes.
- Improving prevention and responses to violence within intimate relationships and families.
Community Safety

- Supporting Indigenous communities, organizations and individuals to develop safety initiatives that respond to their unique cultural, traditional and socio-economic needs and realities.
- Engaging communities, governments, organizations and institutions, in supporting prevention, action, and intervention when violence has occurred.
- Supporting and addressing safety and healing of individuals, families and communities.

Policing Measures and Justice Responses

- Improving the relationship between justice sector professionals, including police, and Indigenous Peoples and strengthening community-based policing in Indigenous communities.
- Identifying strategies within the justice system to protect and assist Indigenous women and girls who are victims of violence.

FOLLOW-UP AND SHARING OF OUTCOMES

All Parties to the National Roundtable commit to continuing to work together in coordinating action to prevent and end violence against Indigenous women and girls. To further solidify these efforts a 2nd National Roundtable will be held by the end of 2016 to discuss progress and continue dialogue on efforts underway and areas for further focus. All Parties commit to work directly with Indigenous communities and organizations to move forward on these priorities and in preparation for the 2nd National Roundtable.

Public accountability is paramount to the continued progress in addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Accordingly, Parties to the National Roundtable commit to using their respective reporting and accountability mechanisms to report on their activities and progress and will increase efforts at enhanced public reporting, and sharing information on effective collaboration efforts both within and across jurisdictions, organizations and communities.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

It is well understood there are complex and long-standing underlying issues that have brought us to where we are today in respect of the disproportionate levels of violence against Indigenous women and girls which perpetuate this critical situation. Indigenous women and girls are three times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women and this violence results in more serious harm. In May 2014, the RCMP released a National Operational Overview on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women. The research
identified 1,181 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canadian police databases between 1980 and 2012; of those 1,017 were murdered, and there are 164 investigations of missing Aboriginal women dating back to 1952.

Indigenous Peoples are not a homogeneous group culturally, traditionally or geographically. Diversity and distinctions exist between and within First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples based on a number of factors including language, cultural beliefs, social structures, geography, governance structures and the existence of Treaties and other agreements with the Crown in some areas. This means effective solutions must be community-based and community-driven. In recognition of this diversity and differences in documented outcomes for various First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples, special attention needs to be given to the development of responses that reflect these differences. Additionally, the varying needs and perspectives of women, youth, Elders, urban, northern and remote populations must also be taken into account. The safety and well-being of Indigenous women and girls is integral to ensuring healthy and prosperous Indigenous families, communities and nations within Canada. There is no more important role for governments or the state than protecting citizens. Equally, there is no more important role for families or communities than keeping each other safe and promoting safety.

Numerous reports, forums and inquiries have brought attention to this issue, including the seminal Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (1996), the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry, (1999), Amnesty International’s Stolen Sisters Report (2004), the BC Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (2012), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights report on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Canada (2014) and each of the reports from the National Aboriginal Women’s Summits 2007-2014.

Jurisdictions and Indigenous communities have responded with a range of activities. Additionally, there are a number of cross-jurisdictional efforts underway to address violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada. Frameworks have been developed by the Aboriginal Affairs Ministers and National Aboriginal Leaders Working Group (Framework for Coordinating Action to End Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls), the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Ministers of Justice and Public Safety (Draft Justice Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls) and the FPT Forum of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women endorsed the Iqaluit Declaration in 2007 to address violence against Aboriginal women.

## Appendix F: List of Roundtable Participants

**NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS OTTAWA, ONTARIO**

**FEBRUARY 27, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROVINCE/TERRITORY</th>
<th>DELEGATES</th>
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</table>
| British Columbia   | - Hon. John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
- Carolyn Campbell, Chief of Staff  
- Chastity Davis, Chair, Minister’s Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women  
- Clara Morin-Dal Col, Métis Nation British Columbia  
- Laurel Nash, A/Assistant Deputy Minister  
- Jodi-Lyn Newnham, Senior Advisor  
- Sherri Lee, Senior Advisor  
- Lorelei Williams, Family Member  
- Ernie Crey, Family Member  
- Judy Maas, Family Member |
| Alberta             | - Pearl Calahasen, Legislative Secretary for Aboriginal Education, Job Skills and Training  
- Tracy Balash, Assistant Deputy Minister, Aboriginal Women’s Initiatives and Research  
- Bruce Tait, Executive Director, Federal-Provincial Relations  
- Chief Steve Courtoreille, Mikisew Cree First Nation  
- Vivian Tuccaro, Family Member |
| Saskatchewan        | - Hon. Gordon Wyant, Q.C., Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
- Mary Donlevy-Konkin, Q.C. Chief of Staff  
- Kevin Fenwick, Q.C., Deputy Minister and Deputy Attorney General  
- Chief Marie-Anne Daywalker Pelletier, Okanese First Nation  
- Judy Hughes, Saskatchewan Aboriginal Women’s Circle Corporation |
| Manitoba            | - Hon. Greg Selinger, Premier  
- Hon James Allum, Minister of Justice  
- Nahanni Fontaine, Special Advisor on Aboriginal Women’s Issues  
- Glen Lewis, Executive Director of Policing Services and Public Safety  
- Darlene Osborne, Family Member  
- Barbara Houle, Family Member  
- Bernadette Smith, Family Member  
- Shauna Fontaine, Southern Chiefs’ Organization  
- Chief Cathy Merrick, Pimicikamak First Nation  
- Chief Francine Meeches, Swan Lake First Nation |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Representatives</th>
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</table>
| Ontario          | **Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Premier**  
- Hon. Tracy MacCharles, Minister Responsible for Women’s Issues  
- Hon. David Zimmer, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs  
- Hon. Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Justice  
- Sylvia Maracle, Executive Director, Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres  
- Karen Loran, Chief, Independent First Nations Alliance  
- Karen Kejick, Counsellor/Family Representative  
- Rose Corbiere, Ontario Native Women’s Association  
- Sharon Johnson, Family Representative  
- Jennifer Lord, Métis Nation Ontario |
| Québec           | **Hon. Geoffrey Kelley, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs**  
- **Hon. Stéphanie Vallée, Minister of Justice and Minister of Status of Women**  
- Annie St-Onge, Assistant to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs  
- Isabelle Sabourin, Assistant to the Minister of Justice  
- Josée Nérin, Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat  
- Jeannie Nuktie, Saturviit Inuit Women’s Association  
- Laurie Odjick, Family Member  
- Marie-Hélène Tremblay, Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat  
- Viviane Michel, President, Québec Native Women’s Association  
- Ghislain Picard, AFN Regional Chief |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | **Hon. Judy Manning, Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Minister responsible for the Status of Women**  
- Aubrey Gover, Deputy Minister, Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs  
- Marilyn Field, Deputy Minister, Women’s Policy Office  
- Fiona Langor, Director of Policy, Justice and Public Safety  
- Luke Joyce, Communications Director, Justice and Public Safety |
| New Brunswick    | **Hon. Ed Doherty, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs**  
- Patrick Francis, Deputy Minister, Aboriginal Affairs  
- Norma Dubé, Assistant Deputy Minister, Women’s Equality Branch  
- Chief Rebecca Knockwood, Fort Folly First Nation  
- Chief Candice Paul, St. Mary’s First Nation  
- Kim Nash McKinley, Co-Chair, Voice Of BN Women Consensus-Building Forum  
- Jennifer Coleman, AFN Chiefs  
- Cecelia Brooks, AFN Chiefs  
- Shelley Germain, Executive Director, Gignoo House  
- Sharlene Paul, President, Indigenous Women’s Association of the Maliseet and Mi’kmaq Territory |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>- Hon. Joanne Bernard, Minister of Community Services and Status of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Julie Towers, Deputy Minister / CEO, Office of Aboriginal Affairs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Pat Gorham, Director, Advisory Council on the Status of Women</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Denise Moore, Coordinator, Aboriginal and Intergovernmental Relations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Valerie Pottie-Bungay, Executive Director, Policy and Information Management, Department of Justice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Aaron MacMullin, Executive Assistant to Hon. Joanne Bernard</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Cheryl Maloney, President, NS Native Women’s Association</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Pam Glode Desrochers, Executive Director, Nova Scotia Mi’kmaw Native Friendship Centre</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Vanessa Brooks, Family Member</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Jeffrey Cyr, Executive Director, National Association of Friendship Centres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>- Hon. Valerie E. Docherty, Minister of Community Services and Seniors, Minister Responsible for Status of Women</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Teresa Hennebery, Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Dr. Helen Kristmanson, Director, Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat</td>
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<td>- Michelle Harris-Genge, Director, Interministerial Women's Secretariat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Barbara Bernard, Family Member</td>
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<td>- Kindra Bernard, Family Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yukon</td>
<td>- Hon. Darrell Pasloski, Premier</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Jennifer England, Director, Women’s Directorate</td>
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<td>- Kelli Taylor, Director, Aboriginal Relations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Chief Doris Bill, Kwanlin Dun First Nation</td>
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<td>- Chief Carl Sidney, Teslin Tlingit Council</td>
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<td>- Lorraine Netro, Co-Chair, AFN Women’s Council</td>
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<td>- Dorothy Smith, Executive Director, Liard Aboriginal Women’s Society</td>
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<td>- Krista Reid, President, Whitehorse Aboriginal Women’s Circle</td>
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<td>- Marian Horne, President, Yukon Aboriginal Women’s Circle</td>
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<td>- Diane Lilley, Family Member</td>
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<td>Northwest Territories</td>
<td>- Hon. Bob McLeod, Premier</td>
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<td>- Hon. David Ramsay, Minister of Justice</td>
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<td>- Sylvia Haener, Deputy Minister, Justice</td>
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<td>- Martin Goldney, Deputy Minister, Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations</td>
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<td>- Katherine Robinson, Special Advisor to the Minister Responsible for Women</td>
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<td>- Shaun Dean, Director of Cabinet Communications</td>
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<td>- Ryan Strain, Executive Assistant, Minister of Justice</td>
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<td>- Shawn McCann, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst</td>
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<td>- Mike Argue, Senior Policy Advisor</td>
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<td>- Kathy Meyer, Family Member</td>
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<td>Nunavut</td>
<td>Jeannie Ugyuk, Minister of Family Services</td>
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<td>Pat Angnakak, Member of Legislative Assembly</td>
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<td>Jobie Inooya, Executive Assistant to Minister Ugyuk</td>
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<td>Rebekah Williams, Deputy Minister, Family Services</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Sanderson, Deputy Minister, Justice</td>
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<td>William Mackay, Acting Associate Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Affairs</td>
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<td>Susan Woodley, Transboundary Claims Advisor</td>
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<td>Stephen Hendrie, Executive Director, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Sheutiapik, Family Member</td>
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<td>Native Women’s Association of Canada</td>
<td>Dr. Dawn Harvard, Interim President</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pamela Eyles, Board of Directors (British Columbia)</td>
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<td>Dorothy George, Board of Directors (Newfoundland)</td>
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<td>Tori-Lynn Wanotch, Board of Directors-Treasurer</td>
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<td>Elize Hartley, Elder, Board of Directors-Executive Council</td>
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<td>Delilah Saunders, Family Member</td>
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<td>Judy Clark, Board of Directors-Secretary</td>
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<td>Chenise Hache, Board of Directors-Youth (East)</td>
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<td>Claudette Dumont-Smith, Executive Director</td>
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<td>Julie Harper, Family Member</td>
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<td>Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami</td>
<td>Terry Audla, President , Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami</td>
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<td>Rebecca Kudloo, President, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Sarah Leo, President, Nunatsiavut</td>
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<td>Cathy Towtongie, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated</td>
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<td>Annie Buchan, Vice-President, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Anne Curley, Secretary-Treasurer, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Tracey O’Hearn, Executive Director, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Alyssa Flaherty Spence, Director, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Anna Marie Cartwright, Director, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Charlotte Wolfrey, Director, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada</td>
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<td>Métis National Council</td>
<td>Clément Chartier, President</td>
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<td>Melanie Omeniho, President, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak</td>
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<td>David Chartrand, Vice President, MNC &amp; President, Manitoba Métis Federation</td>
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<td>France Picotte, Chairperson, Métis Nation of Ontario</td>
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<td>Muriel Stanley-Venne, President of Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women</td>
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<td>Angie Crerar, Métis Elder</td>
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<td>Ke Ning, Executive Assistant and Communications Officer</td>
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<td>Laura Langstaff, Métis Advocate</td>
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<td>Wendy Moss, Cornet Consulting &amp; Mediation Inc.</td>
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</table>
| Assembly of First Nations                                      | - Perry Bellegarde, National Chief  
|                                                               | - Therese Villeneuve, Chair, Women’s Council  
|                                                               | - Suzie O’bomsawin, Youth Council  
|                                                               | - Phyllis Googoo, Elders Council  
|                                                               | - Alvin Fiddler, Deputy Grand Chief  
|                                                               | - Denise Stonefish, Chair  
|                                                               | - Michelle Pineault, Family Representative  
|                                                               | - Andrea Colfer, Family Representative  
|                                                               | - Carol Wolfe, Family Representative  
|                                                               | - Rinelle Harper, Family Representative  
| Congress of Aboriginal Peoples                                | - Betty Ann Lavallée, National Chief  
|                                                               | - Ron Swain, National Vice Chief  
|                                                               | - Jim Devoe, Chief Executive Officer  
|                                                               | - Irene Goodwin, Director, Violence Prevention and Response  
|                                                               | - Flora Mesher-Riley, Family Member  
|                                                               | - Jessica Bolduc, National Youth Representative and CAP Board Member  
|                                                               | - Todd Russell, President of NunatuKavut and CAP Board Member  
|                                                               | - Wendy Wetteland, President and Chief, New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council and CAP Board Member  
|                                                               | - Gordon Williams, Elder  
|                                                               | - Robert Bertrand, Grand Chief/President, Alliance Autochtone du Quebec Inc.  

| GOVERNMENT OF CANADA                                         | DELEGATES  
|                                                               | - Hon. Kellie Leitch, Minister of Labour and Minister of Status of Women  
|                                                               | - Hon. Bernard Valcourt, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development  
|                                                               | - Wendy Grant-John  
|                                                               | - Crystal Millard  
|                                                               | - Chris Lydon, Chief of Staff to Minister Leitch  
|                                                               | - Andrea Richer, Director of Communications, Minister Valcourt’s office  
|                                                               | - Melanie Book, Policy and Regional Affairs Advisor, Minister Valcourt’s office  
|                                                               | - Janice Armstrong, Deputy Commissioner, RCMP  
|                                                               | - Meena Ballantyne, Deputy Head, Status of Women Canada  
|                                                               | - Hélène Laurendeau, Associate Deputy Minister, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  