



What is the history of this issue and how does it impact First Nations?

For many years, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) pressed for the establishment of a national inquiry into the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The AFN supported the establishment of a national inquiry which would support families and ensure that all governments and policing services met their obligations to protect the fundamental human rights of Indigenous women and girls. Chiefs-in-Assembly also adopted Resolution 67/2019, *Development and Implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+*, directing the AFN to call upon the federal government to ensure that all engagement on a National Action Plan is carried out using a “Families First” approach, seek resources to develop a First Nations led National Action Plan, and to call upon the federal government to ensure the AFN Women’s Council participates in the selection of any representative appointed to implement the National Inquiry’s Final Report recommendations.

How has the AFN’s recent advocacy affected this area?

The AFN Women’s Council is participating in the work to develop and implement a National Action Plan to end violence against Indigenous women and girls. This important work will ensure that all governments, private sectors, and service providers will implement the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls’ Calls for Justice. The work of implementing the National Inquiry’s *Calls for Justice* is crucial to recognizing and upholding the human rights of First Nations women, girls, and two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual (2SLGBTQIA+) people.

On June 3, 2021 the AFN released a First Nations National Framework Action Plan in response to the 231 Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). The First Nations National Framework Action Plan is entitled “*Breathing Life into the Calls to Justice*” and was developed with direct input from First Nations survivors of gender-based violence and families of missing or murdered loved ones. The First Nations National Framework Action Plan contains sections with action items of national scope devoted to the following chapters: supporting families and survivors, a framework for prevention, and a framework for healing. It also contains action items targeted to the four (4) theme areas from the 231 *Calls for Justice*, they include, Culture as Safety, Health and Wellness, Human Security and Justice.

The First Nations National Framework Action Plan will contribute to the federal government’s MMIWG National Action Plan to End Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls and

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2SLGBTQIA+ people and will be a driving force in the implementation of the 231 *Calls for Justice*. The First Nations National Framework is just one part of the First Nations response to the National Inquiry's 231 *Calls for Justice* with a specific national lens to the identified actions, the framework report will also include regional priority and action plans developed based upon on-going regional engagement. As each regional report is completed, it will be added to this First Nations National Framework as complementary components to help advocate for implementation.

Where do we hope to go in the future?

The AFN believes it is of the utmost importance to raise awareness and to work in partnership with governments to implement action plans, policies, and partnerships as contained in the 231 *Calls for Justice* of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The implementation of the *Calls for Justice* and the National Action Plan will not only promote and ensure the safety and security of First Nations women and girls, but also uphold their important roles in ensuring the continued improvement, growth, and success of all First Nations.