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## Assembly of First Nations

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## Assemblée des Premières Nations

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**ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**July 23, 24 & 25, 2019, FREDERICTON, NB**

**Resolution no. 13/2019**

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**TITLE:** Implementation of Recommendations from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

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**SUBJECT:** MMIWG

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**MOVED BY:** Kukpi7 Judy Wilson, Neskonlith Indian Band, BC

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**SECONDED BY:** Chief Dalton Silver, Sumas First Nation, BC

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**DECISION:** Carried by Consensus

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### WHEREAS:

- A. There is a responsibility by all to redress the systemic racism and to eliminate the gendered colonial violence perpetrated against Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex and asexual (2SLGBTQIA) people within Canada.
- B. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and has, alongside the government of BC committed to implement, affirms:
  - i. Article 21(2): States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.
  - ii. Article 22 (2): States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

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**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 2019 in Fredericton, New Brunswick**

  
**PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF**

**13 – 2019**  
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- C. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has worked with like-minded organizations to take action and bring attention to the critical and devastating issue of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people, including joining the call for a National Inquiry, and has been mandated by the AFN Chiefs to continue this work via Resolutions 57/2017, *Support for National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, 78/2017, *Support for the Extension of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, and has passed critical Resolutions that support and honor Indigenous women and girls including 30/2016, *Declaration to Honour Indigenous Women and Girls*, 4/2014, *Support for First Nation and Federal Government Roundtable on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women*, 36/2014, *Engagement and Representation on National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, and 06/2014, *Protection of Indigenous Women Involved in the Sex Trade*. The AFN has also continuously called for a national action plan to end violence against Indigenous women and girls, as mandated by Resolution 04/2013, *Advancing a National Action Plan to End Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls*.
- D. A National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls ("the National Inquiry") was launched September 1, 2016, with a Terms of Reference to inquire into and report on systemic causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls in Canada, and to report by April 30, 2019. The Inquiry held Part I – Family, Part II – Institutional, and Part III – Expert Hearings, led by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller, and released its final report on June 3, 2019, in Gatineau, QC.
- E. The final report of the National Inquiry included 231 Calls for Justice, which "represent important ways to end the genocide and to transform systemic and societal values that have worked to maintain colonial violence." The first Call for Justice states "We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and Indigenous governments (hereinafter "all governments"), in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, to develop and implement a National Action Plan to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people".
- F. The National Inquiry found that Indigenous women are twelve times more likely to be murdered or to go missing than members of any other demographic group in Canada, and found that the deaths and disappearances constitute genocide, which Indigenous peoples and their allies have known and said for decades.
- G. Indigenous, front-line, grassroots, and women's organizations participated in the movement created by the National Inquiry by producing their own submissions, and reports, which notably included the seminal report prepared by the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre titled *Red Women Rising: Indigenous Women Survivors in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside*, including 200 recommendations.

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**PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:**

1. Fully support the immediate implementation of the Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (“the National Inquiry”) and also the recommendations coming directly from Indigenous, front-line, grassroots, and women’s organizations, and particularly the recommendations from Red Women Rising: Indigenous Women Survivors in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside, including the National Coalition for Grassroots Families.
2. Recognize that the implementation of these recommendations must include the full and meaningful implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ inherent Title and Treaty rights, and the restoration of collective Indigenous women’s rights and governance.
3. Support the call for a “comprehensive national-level integrated action plan to eliminate violence against Indigenous women, girls, trans and two spirit people must address all the socio-economic factors impacting Indigenous women’s, girls’, trans and two-spirit’s safety including equitable access and self-determination over land, culture, language, housing, child care, income security, employment, education, and physical, mental, sexual and spiritual health,” as called for in *Red Women Rising: Indigenous Women Survivors in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside*, along with an appropriate budget and resources, before the fall 2019 federal election.
4. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to work with Indigenous, front-line, grassroots, and women’s organizations, and other like-minded organizations to advocate for the full and immediate, Indigenous-women led implementation of these recommendations.
5. Call upon federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and Indigenous governments (hereinafter “all governments”), in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, to develop and implement a National Action Plan to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQA people.
6. Call upon the federal government to respond to the report by September 6, 2019.

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**PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF**