
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. 67/2019

TITLE:	Development and Implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA
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SUBJECT:	Safety and Security of Indigenous Women and Girls
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MOVED BY:	Chief Alvin Francis, Nekaneet First Nation, SK
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SECONDED BY:	Chief Melvin Hardy, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay), ON
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DECISION:	Carried by Consensus
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WHEREAS:

- A. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) states:
- Article 7 (1): Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
 - Article 7 (2): Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.
 - 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.
- B. The Government of Canada launched the independent National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (National Inquiry) in August 2016. The National Inquiry released its Final Report entitled *Reclaiming Power and Place* on June 3, 2019.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 25th day of July 2019 in Fredericton, New Brunswick

PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF

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- C. The Final Report explores the many intersectional issues which contribute to the national tragedy of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The Final Report also contains 4 overarching findings relating to rights recognition, justice, security, health and wellness, and over 230 *Calls for Justice* which include recommendations to governments, institutions, industries, service providers, partners and to all Canadians.
- D. AFN Resolution 37/2014, *Support for Families First*, mandates the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to:
- i. call for the adoption of a national First Nations consensus based on the made in Manitoba Families First initiative to honour the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) and involve and support their families first, and to collaborate on immediate actions and systematic change;
 - ii. recognize that any process including roundtable or inquiry must listen and hear the voices of the families of MMIWG, adequately support families and communities in their healing journeys, and honour the MMIWG; and
 - iii. recognize that a one-day roundtable on MMIWG is not sufficient.
- E. In June 2019, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) advised that it would be undertaking a Regional Roundtable process for developing and implementing a National Action Plan on violence against Indigenous Women Girls and 2SLGBTQQA.
- F. CIRNA further advised that the Minister would be appointing an individual to oversee the implementation of the National Inquiry's Final Report Calls for Justice and the development and implementation of a National Action Plan.
- G. CIRNA must not make unilateral decisions regarding the engagement process for the development and implementation of a National Action Plan. There must be transparency with regard to whom the federal government is engaging with for the development and implementation of a National Action Plan and how its decisions are being made.

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

1. Call upon the Federal government to ensure that all engagement on a National Action Plan be carried out using the "Families First" approach.

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2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to seek out appropriate funding and resources for the Women's Council to:
 - a. attend and participate in all Roundtable meetings in every region; and
 - b. co-ordinate its own engagement with First Nations on a National Action Plan.
3. Direct the AFN to develop its own First Nations led National Action Plan with input from the regions and First Nation survivors, families and the First Nations Coalition for Grassroots Families and advocate for all governments to adopt it.
4. Call upon the federal government to ensure that AFN Women's Council participates in the selection process for any representative appointed to implement the National Inquiry's Final Report *Calls for Justice*; including the development and implementation of a National Action Plan.
5. Direct the AFN to ensure the First Nations Action Plan is respectful of any Nation, women, or regional-led processes in regard to their planning.

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