



## NEWS RELEASE

### National Inquiry offers support for community gatherings and events

**Vancouver, March 8, 2019** --- The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls today announced it is offering funding assistance for organizations to host community gatherings and events to further the healing of families and survivors of violence and to mark the occasion of the end of the National Inquiry's mandate.

"We've heard from families across the country, from our Grandmothers, Elders and working groups that there is a desire for communities to come together to commemorate the conclusion of the Truth Gathering process and the delivery of the Final Report," said Chief Commissioner Marion Buller. "We are pleased to support local events that will bring First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities together for the benefit of those affected by the national tragedy of missing and murdered indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people."

Indigenous-led organizations and organizations with a demonstrated commitment to supporting families of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people are invited to submit an Expression of Interest application by April 2, 2019 for funding up to a maximum of \$25,000.

"There is a recognition that healing needs to take place at the individual and community level," said Commissioner Brian Eyolfson. "We know how much the support of the community means to families and survivors, and the positive difference it can make in the healing process. Facilitating this is really an extension of our aftercare support services mandate."

Examples of eligible events may include feasts, traditional ceremonies, healing events and gatherings. Events must occur after funding approval and by June 30, 2019, the end of the National Inquiry's mandate.

"The National Inquiry exists because families advocated for it for years," said Commissioner Qajaq Robinson. "It's only fitting that they are able to commemorate the conclusion of the process."

On April 30, 2019, the Commissioners will release the National Inquiry's Final Report. The report will deliver concrete recommendations that will enhance and ensure the safety of First Nations, Metis and Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA individuals.

"As we consulted across the country, we saw that communities are still fractured from the effects of racism and colonialism," said Commissioner Michèle Audette. "With the release of the Final Report and its recommendations, we support communities to mark a new way forward. We cannot change the past, but we can work together to shape a better future and a new Canada."

A complete application form can be found [here](#) on the National Inquiry's website.

-30-

Released by: National Inquiry Communications

Email: [media@mmiwg-ffada.ca](mailto:media@mmiwg-ffada.ca)