



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



Introducing the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Logo

August 28, 2017 VANCOUVER – Today we unveil the final design for the logo used by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Since the launch of the National Inquiry in September 2016, the development of a brand and a logo that honours all Indigenous people in our country has been an ongoing project for the Commissioners and staff. The logo will serve to help establish the National Inquiry's identity and tell the public who we are and who we represent.

The logo chosen to represent the National Inquiry revisits the traditional roots of female Indigenous expression and empowerment. There is not one particular image that represents all Indigenous people. This is why the combination of three symbols representing First Nations, Metis and Inuit traditions was vital to us.

"While it was a hard decision to choose one design to represent the National Inquiry, we are so encouraged by the careful thought and artistry put into the logo by Meky Ottawa. Her design combines the traditional symbols of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit women and leaves a strong sense of empowerment in all of us. We thank everyone at Beesum Communications for their valuable insight and artistic expression," Chief Commissioner Buller said.

First Nations women have always been story tellers through the shell work, beadwork and weaving patterns they have passed down from generation to generation. While design differs across the nation, floral prints are often used by First Nations women on custom made regalia and ceremonial outfits including on footwear such as moccasins. The vamp, where the beadwork is laid out is considered to be the most sacred piece of a moccasin.

The National Inquiry honours Metis women by using "dot art" within the flower and leaves of our logo. This traditional practice emphasizes symmetry, balance, and harmony. The use of the connected lines also represents our interconnectedness to each other.

The black lines and dots that tie it all together represent the traditional tattoos of Inuit women. A girl was often gifted with a tattoo to mark her entrance of coming into womanhood. Many of the designs symbolize the womb, feminine empowerment, and family.

Lead artist Meky Ottawa did an excellent job by weaving the symbols together and honours all Indigenous women, girls, and LGBTQ2S in this simple yet elegant piece of art.

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Our Women and Girls are Sacred / Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées