National Inquiry MMIWG2S—Oral Submission

Truth and Reconciliation
Action #41  MMIWG2S
Quebec City, QC
Friday, December 14th, 2018
Joanna Miller Peace Award 1st recipients Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik ~ 2013
Consultation With Families

- Iskwewuk over the 13 years have exercised Reconciliation, TRC #41 with non-indigenous, families of MMIWG2S, and various stakeholders in the City of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Canada

- Iskwewuk takes extremely delicate steps in creating trust, safety, to the families of MMIWG2S during a time of true trauma

12/7/2018
Monument Unveiling with Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould (Saskatoon) & NI MMIWG2S Round Table (Vancouver)

12/7/2018
• Iskwewuk over the years accepted and continues to accept offers to speak at churches, rallies, vigils, memorials, conferences, national women’s gatherings, an international events such as Healing Our Spirits World Wide
• This includes attended court proceedings and collaborating with other CBO and NGO’s
Core IE, Family, Posters, IE Event

"Honouring our Sisters & Brothers"
14th Annual Memorial Walk
THURSDAY JUNE 14TH, 2018
OPENING CEREMONY AT 10 a.m.
at Prince Albert City Hall, 1004 Central Avenue
PRINCE ALBERT GRAND COUNCIL WOMEN'S COMMISSION
To honour the lives of First Nations women and men who have gone missing or whose lives have been tragically lost to violence.

LUNCH TO BE SERVED AT 12:30 PM
at the Empire Alive First Memorial Gymnasium - 1001 - 23rd St. W.
To donate please contact Shirley Henderson at 306-560-0199 or Shirley Henderson at 306-368-0401

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10TH Annual SISTERS IN SPIRIT National Vigil
"Supporting the families through the national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018
WHITE BUFFALO YOUTH
LODGING
403 20TH STREET WEST
Saskatoon, SK, S7L 0E9

Hosted by Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik

For more information, please contact Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik at 306-354-1600 or 306-354-1589.
Policy Change Arguments?

- Iskwewuk members who are Liberal Party members advocate from Saskatoon West Federal Liberal Association since 2013 with PM candidate Justin Trudeau in Saskatoon, and in Whitehorse the same year.
- Iskwewuk provided Minister Bennett and Minister Wilson-Raybould with a Letter of Intent for national Inquiry at Pre-Inquiry Saskatoon, 2016.
Advocating Inquiry & Pre-Inquiry Meet

12/7/2018
• Access to justice for Families of MMIWG1
• Families experience of treatment by RCMP after reporting MMIWG2S
• Families experiences of Search Process
• System racism and barriers for Aboriginal women wanting to further their education, employment and training funding
• Human Rights Watch Report Sask Police Allegations of Abuse
Awareness and Education

- Iskwewuk spend many hours pay attention to developments since the Launch, in particular their website (www.mmiwg-ffada.com)
- At this time Iskwewuk began to construct what we saw unfolding as structures

12/7/2018
Amnesty International Group 33, families at Launch, Research visit, Grief and Loss event
What was happening in Saskatchewan?

- Iskwewuk wrote to Minister of Justice Gord Wyant (2017) asking about participating in Advisory to no avail (Letter received)
- Saskatchewan was provided with one Family Information Liaison Unit (aka FILUs) stationed in Regina, and FSIN (2 field workers)
Advocacy from UN with Dr. Alaa Murabit, and Amnesty Campaign
Measuring Change in the Media

- Iskwewuk engages in every request for interviews with media, tv, radio, print on MMIWG2S
- In Saskatoon there are more positive reflections of the missing as loved and missed
CBC, Rawlco Radio, National Post, Global and Mail, Star Phoenix, Global News, CTV, the National, steady Saskatoon media watch on MMIWG2S


Federal ministers in Saskatoon for MMIW pre-inquiry

Minister Carolyn Bennett and Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould listened to families, survivors.

CBC News - Posted Feb 10, 2016 8:49 PM CT | Last Updated February 10, 2016

Sick internal culture' says fired staffer of MMIWG inquiry

Okenay-mi's-Sicotte said she has reached out to inquiry officials and has not yet heard back and said families are worried the recommendations Saskatchewan families made to Gabriel will be followed through or make it up to the commissioners' level.

Sustainable Development Goals – National Implementation Strategy

- MMIWG2S hits 11 out of the 17 Sustainable Goals (SDG National Office open)
- 1.5/7.0 is Canada’s rate, not good whatsoever
- #16 relates to Justice “... provide Justice for all...”
Dr. Alaa Murabit – UN Courageous Conversations on Women

GOAL 16

PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GOOD HEALTH
4. QUALITY EDUCATION
5. GENDER EQUALITY
6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8. GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10. REDUCE INEQUALITIES
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION
13. LIFE ON LAND
14. LIFE BELOW WATER
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. PEACE AND JUSTICE
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Anti-Racism – National Strategy

• The federal government through the Department of Canadian Heritage working to create an anti-racism strategy. Through online survey and holding local consultations with different communities across the country.

• Focusing on three topics: Justice, Employment, and Social Services all part of the MMIWG2S experience

• Canadian consultation population reflections in the wide diversity of ethnicities, cultures, and religions with people from approximately 200 ethnic groups.
In Saskatoon, Cultural Diversity and Race Relations Committee Campaign & Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism **Gary Anandasangaree**
MMIWG2S – Health After Care & FILU

- On June 5th, 2018, the Government of Canada announced it would assist the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) and provide mental health support services to survivors, family members and those affected by the issue of MMIWG from now until June 30, 2020

- Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU) can help you find out information and provide support, FILU is a unit of the Department of Justice’s Victim Services branch
Medicine Wheel Indigenous Knowledge Ways of Health & Prior Approval Form MMIWG2S
MMIWG2S – Memorial Fund

• Meeting with Minister Maryam Monsef, Status of Women & news of $10 M for Memorials

• Federal government establish a *commemoration fund* in collaboration with national and regional Indigenous organizations (including Indigenous women’s organizations) and in partnership with family coalitions, Indigenous artists, and grassroots advocates who have spearheaded commemoration events and initiatives related to missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and LGBTQ2S people
SK Leads Mtg with Minister Maryam Monsef – Summer 2018
#yxe
Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik (Women Walking Together) Recommendations?

- Missing Persons Intake and Risk Assessment RCMP forms in Policing for Missing need revisions with commentary from Inquiry & family experts

- Need a national wide fleet of search and rescue vehicles for Indigenous communities for searches

- A national plan to have MMIWG2S searches be part of Emergency Preparedness Plans, policies, legislation
Search Vehicles in UK
TRC Calls to Action #41

TRC call to action No. 41

"We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal organizations, to appoint a public inquiry into the causes of, and remedies for, the disproportionate victimization of Aboriginal women and girls"

- 41/94

cbc.ca/unreserved

12/7/2018
Missing Indigenous Person’s National Fund

• Government to change or create fund for parents and families of murdered, missing children, youth, adults of Indigenous Persons in Canada

• Federal ombudsman for victims of crime, found the program’s eligibility criteria is found to be so narrow that even those families who clearly ought to qualify may not receive financial help
Child Find
Awards, Media, & IE Circle
**Bills C-215 and Bill C-262 UNDRIP**

- **Bill C-215** An Act to amend the Criminal Code (sentencing for violent offences against Aboriginal women)
- Introduced by Senator Lillian E. Dyck
- A private member's bill aimed at ensuring Canada's laws are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has earned the approval of the House of Commons.
- **Bill C-262**, introduced by New Democrat MP and reconciliation critic Romeo Saganash
Advocacy for Bill C-262
Thank you to National Inquiry Team
Commissioners and Sk Lead Team Members – May, 2018