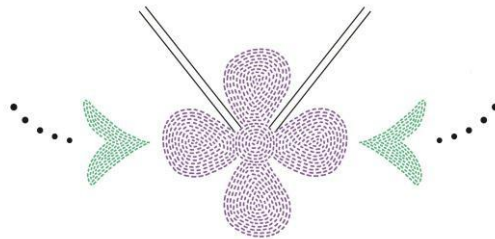


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale  
sur les femmes et les filles  
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered I  
ndigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-Gathering Process  
Part 1 Statement Gathering  
Vancouver, British Columbia**



**PUBLIC**

**Friday November 16, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 552**

**Caitlin Hendrickson**

**Statement gathered by  
Chief Commissioner Marion Buller**

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November 16, 2018

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Documents submitted with testimony: none.

Recommendations: PUBLIC

1. Education about Indigenous history, issues, and culture needs to be mandatory in all levels of education, at age appropriate levels (kindergarten, elementary, secondary, and post-secondary).
2. Real effort must be made at the government level to address policy issues with all social welfare systems. Assessments need to be Indigenous focused, intergenerational-trauma aware and empathetic, and services need to be geared towards addressing the root trauma issues not just the superficial issues.
3. Funding and support to eliminated barriers to education for more Indigenous workers to enter the fields of social welfare and other helping professions.
4. Better funded agencies to support workers to prevent burnout (more workers to prevent higher than standard caseload numbers, better pre-burnout intervention, better employee assistance programs, better extended benefits, equity and parity with the mainstream colonial systems).
5. Better holistic treatment options for families, both in urban areas and rural. Not just drug and alcohol, but complex trauma treatment and other mental health treatments.

6. Investigations into the health care systems to identify need for policy change and address systemic racism and their involvement with the colonial movement. (Coerced adoptions, coerced sterilizations, lack of consent for medical procedures).
7. Investigations into child welfare systems, improvement to permanency planning to support the cultural identity of the child and community/family connections.
8. More funding into kinship care, custom adoptions, and supportive intervention preventing children from coming into care.
9. Improved comprehensive plans of care for children in care and better trained foster parents with better mandatory cultural training and to better uphold the rights of the child in care.
10. Mandatory education for all people in social welfare and helping professions. Not just "cultural sensitivity" training, but real participation in education around Indigenous systemic issues, cultural practices, eliminating barriers and stereotypes, trauma-informed care, and appropriate language/interactional training. All social workers, police officers, lawyers, medical professionals, outreach workers, income assistance workers, employment assistance workers, etc.