

Government of Nunavut

Introduction

The Government of Nunavut is committed to responding to the Calls for Justice made by the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG).

Progress and Key Highlights from June 2022 – 2023

The Government of Nunavut, along with non-profit, municipal, and Inuit-led organizations have worked both individually and collaboratively on efforts to bring awareness to the issue of MMIWG in Nunavut and justice for families.

Qullit Nunavut Status of Women's Council

- Community event for National Day of Action and Awareness of Gender Based Violence Event
- Community event for International Women's Day Event
- Community event for Red Dress Day

Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada and The Law Society of Nunavut

- Pauktuutit and the Law Society of Nunavut partnered to conduct interviews with women with lived experience of violence and focus groups with services providers regarding family violence in Nunavut and gaps in services. The community interviews concluded with a final report published, outlining the need for a more collaborative approach amongst partners.
- Pauktuutit and the Law Society of Nunavut facilitated two roundtable discussions in March and October 2022. This brought together key stakeholders working in the violence sector to discuss and collaborate on the work required to address the gaps and barriers for women and children facing violence.
 - One of the action items out of the roundtable discussions was a community resource book. The Law Society of Nunavut is working in collaboration with The Department of Family Services and Department of Justice to create a territorial wide resource book with its primary focus on supports for women and children fleeing violence.

Government of Nunavut Department of Family Services

- The Department of Family Services, Family Wellness Division provides annual funding to five family safety shelters in Nunavut and three transitional housing units in Iqaluit.
 - The Department of Family Services has continued to increase annual operational funding to the family safety shelters, in recognition of the increased demand for safety, shelter and supportive services for women and children.
- The Department of Family Services provides funding for projects through the Men and Boys, and Women and Girls Grants Initiatives, as well as Youth Initiative Funding. This funding is provided for programs across Nunavut's communities, with a focus on cultural connection, healing, and violence prevention.

Government of Nunavut Department of Justice

- The Department of Justice receives funding through Justice Canada for the development of Family Information Liaison Unit. This program is facilitated by an Information Referral Coordinator who provides services and support to families affected by MMIWG by way of Private Family Healing Sessions, Group Healing Workshops and Celebration of Life Ceremonies.
 - The Information Referral Coordinator, along with Elders and Inuit counselors, organized and facilitated information sharing and family healing sessions with families in several Nunavut communities.
- The Department of Family Services and Department of Justice remain the Government of Nunavut leads on MMIWG work, with support from Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Priorities June 2023 – 2024

The Government of Nunavut is prioritizing working collaboratively with partners and organizations in the areas of MMIWG.

Prioritizations for 2023-2024

- Department of Family Services to increase program funding, supporting cultural connection, healing and violence prevention.
- Department of Family Services has increased annual operational funding for the family safety shelters in the territory, with a focus on building four new family safety shelters.
- The Department of Family Services will continue participating in the PT and FPT working groups on the National Action Plan next steps, and upon invitation, with the Inuit sub-working group.

- Department of Justice to facilitate commemorative community walks in Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay.
- Department of Justice to facilitate workshops across the territory on Traumatic Brain Injury for Intimate Partner Violence victims and continue to support and facilitate regional group healing sessions for MMIWG families.
- Department of Justice to increase funding to support survivors of violence and families affected by MMIWG.
- Qullit Nunavut Status of Women's Council and Pauktuutit to continue in advocacy and campaigning, bringing forth awareness and justice to families of MMIWG.
- The Law Society of Nunavut, the Department of Family Services, and the Department of Justice to continue with Phase Two of the territorial resource book for service providers.
- Departments and Organizations to continue collaborating on addressing the gaps and barriers to better enhance support and services for women.

Linkages to National Action Plan Priorities and Calls For Justice

Eighty five percent of Nunavut's population is Inuit, therefore it is imperative that Inuit voices are at the forefront of decision making. All efforts in supporting survivors, family members and those affected by MMIWG, violence, and colonization are done so through a decolonizing approach.

Closing Statement

The Government of Nunavut supports the important work of the National Inquiry into MMIWG and remains committed to working with federal, provincial/territorial and Nunavut partners to implement the 46 Inuit specific calls to Justice.

Reports and Publications

The Government of Nunavut has hired a consultant for the development of "Aajiqatigiilluta" A Report on the Government of Nunavut's Progress Towards Implementation of Inuit-Specific Calls for Justice on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.