



Government of Prince Edward Island

Key Highlights

Recognizing that Indigenous voices and perspectives must be centered in the work of responding to the MMIWG Calls for Justice, the Government of PEI has prioritized developing a process that is Indigenous-led and informed. This has included the creation of an Indigenous Working Group with representatives from First Nations and Indigenous organizations across the Island. The Indigenous Working Group meets regularly and provides important feedback and guidance that informs the priorities that the Government of PEI sets to address the Calls for Justice.

The Province has also established an Interdepartmental Working Group with representatives from every government department that work collaboratively to share information and identify opportunities to respond to the Calls for Justice through programs and policies in their departments. This has resulted in a cross-government approach that has supported the implementation of new initiatives that advance the Calls for Justice.

The key successes highlighted below are not an exhaustive representation of the significant work being done to respond to the Calls for Justice in PEI. They are reflective of the priorities identified through meetings held with the Indigenous Working Group over the past year and the efforts of the Interdepartmental Working Group to respond to these priorities.



Progress/Successes

Education/Training

The province previously committed to making its cultural training mandatory for all new and existing public service employees. As part of this committee, the Province held an Indigenous Speakers Series during the month of October for public service employees to commemorate Mi'kmaq History Month. This work is ongoing and, with the guidance of the MMIWG Indigenous Working Group, a new training program will be fully implemented in Summer 2022.

Health

The Indigenous Working Group advocated for an Indigenous Health Navigator on PEI. Steps are now being taken to establish this position within our provincial health care system. This navigator will help the Indigenous population in PEI to access the health services they need.

Housing

Safety and security are important to achieve better outcomes for Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people. They facilitate an environment of healing and provide stability, leading to positive impacts in all aspects of life. Establishing a dedicated stream of funding available to support Indigenous housing in PEI would ensure that extra supports are provided to develop culturally appropriate housing services for Indigenous people in PEI. The Government of PEI is proud to announce a \$500,000 fund specifically for Indigenous housing initiatives. This funding will help support projects that help address safety and security, key themes in the MMIWG Calls for Justice.



Support for MMIWG Work in Communities

The Government of PEI is pleased to have established an annual MMIWG fund of \$250,000 to strengthen the capacity of the Indigenous Working Group to participate in the ongoing work related to MMIWG and the Calls for Justice. This fund provides \$50,000 to each First Nation and Indigenous organization represented on the MMIWG Indigenous Working Group (comprised of the Aboriginal Women's Association, Lennox Island First Nation, Abegweit First Nation, Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, and the Native Council of PEI) to ensure that representatives can continue to engage meaningfully in their communities and provide guidance to the Government of PEI.

Next Steps/Priorities

The Government of PEI's immediate focus is shifting to new priorities established from dialogue with Indigenous partners. The Province will continue to work with the Indigenous Working Group to identify priorities and inform the actions that government is taking to advance the Calls for Justice.

The Government of PEI recognizes the commitment that participation in the Indigenous Working Group takes and the important work that the First Nations and Indigenous organizations are doing to address the Calls for Justice. We are committed to supporting the Indigenous Working Group so its members can continue to provide guidance to the Province and pursue projects that help address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit (2S) people. Through in-kind support and ongoing conversation with members of the Working Group, to Province is open to receiving feedback from the committee to advance the work of the MMIWG file.

The Government of PEI has committed to tabling annual status reports on the progress being made to implement the Calls for Justice across government. It has thus far tabled two MMIWG status reports and is tabling the third such report before the end of the Spring 2022 Legislature session.

Reports/Publications

Link is not yet available as report has not been tabled, but it should be available the week of May 9

