

Not Responsive

From: Groot, Jeff GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2012 10:18 AM
To: Ritchie, Dave JAG:EX; Loukidelis, David AG:EX; Eastwood, Doug AG:EX; Coburn, Lindsay JAG:EX; Kerr, Carleen JAG:EX; Wolford, Jessica JAG:EX
Cc: Helman, Carolyn GCPE:EX
Subject: Summary of WO

Here's a summary of WO's speech to the Commission. He didn't name the new lawyer or even reference whether it's a man or a woman. I've revised the KMs (attached) to reflect that as well as to make reference to the Native Liaison Society panel that will begin on Apr 2 when the hearings reconvene.

Wally Oppal:

- Since surprise withdrawal of Gervais, spent great time reflecting
- Heard what Ed John said, and I take him seriously
- This process needs and demands representation from families
- Always have been committed to inclusive process
- Directed counsel to undertake important task to identify new legal counsel
- This independent counsel will be responsible for presenting issues related to aboriginal interests
- Direct commission to stand down for short period until this person has time to become familiar
- Don't want to proceed without new counsel not being familiar with evidence or mandate
- We need an experienced lawyer here now
- Relationship between criminal justice/police and FN communities needs critical examination
- During brief adjournment, Ward will be able to consider disclosure he has requested
- Can't hold up process for extended period, but will stand down til apr 2 to consider new disclosure and identify/appoint/familiarize new counsel
- Schedule:
 - o If panel needs to return, ask that they make themselves available for that purpose
 - o Native liaison panel on apr 2
 - o Commission counsel argument wk of apr 9
 - o Missing women families on apr 16 wk
- Crucial to have counsel in place to present FN issues and confident we will
- Aware of many issues FN want to raise and respectfully acknowledge
- However, this commission has specific mandate bound by
- At its core, this is an inquiry about policy
- Strongly believe all voices are important, but critical
- Believe process should be judged, examined and criticized daily
- Respect that MMI is held to a high standard, and holds itself to that same standard
- End of process need to examine what happened and make recommendations so that mistakes of the past aren't repeated

Vertlieb:

- Identified well-respected, experienced lawyer to meet the mandate
- In process of making arrangements and will have lawyer meet with you
- Working on it actively

Thanks,

Jeff Groot

Communications Director, Ministry of Justice
Government Communications & Public Engagement
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OVERARCHING:

- What happened in British Columbia with these missing women was tragic.
- That's why government created the commission of inquiry a year-and-a-half ago -- to get to the root of what happened to missing women -- Aboriginal or otherwise -- so the mistakes of the past are not repeated.
- In that time, we have provided in excess of \$4.5 million to the Commission, and have expanded its terms of reference to allow both a study and hearing commission to ensure the broadest possible participation
- We have also extended its original deadline by six months so that it will be able to complete its important work.

ABORIGINAL REPRESENTATION:

- By appointing a new lawyer to replace Ms. Gervais, the Commission is taking steps to ensure that Aboriginal interests are represented going forward.
- I am advised that the lawyer that is being considered is well-qualified for the task, and that they are experienced and well-respected in the legal community.
- In addition, Government also continues to pay for counsel for the families of missing and murdered women, many of whom are Aboriginal.
- Commissioner Wally Oppal held seven northern forums to listen to members of Aboriginal communities -- and to hear directly from family members who have been most affected by this tragedy.
 - More than 290 people participated and 80 individuals made submissions at these forums.
- As well, today, he confirmed that when the hearings reconvene, they will begin with the Native Liaison Society panel.
- Beyond that, I think Commissioner Oppal has also made it very clear that you don't have to have a lawyer to participate and you don't have to do a formal presentation to be heard.
 - In fact, I understand the Commission anticipates hearing from a panel of Aboriginal witnesses who will testify about the particular vulnerabilities of Aboriginal women in the Downtown Eastside.
 - They will also speak to difficulties that Aboriginal women may face in their interactions with police in the Downtown Eastside.
- I would hope that any Aboriginal groups that want to be involved will take this opportunity to contact the inquiry and continue to have their say.

If pressed:

- The Commission's first term of reference is specifically to inquire into how the missing women investigations were conducted -- and this is not yet complete.
- While the inquiry is not tasked with looking at the larger focus of systemic Aboriginal issues, I know Commissioner Oppal is fully aware of the expectations that it hear the voices of Aboriginal people within the terms of reference.

- In fact, as of the first week in March, the Inquiry had heard from more non-police witnesses (18) than police witnesses (13), including at least six witnesses of Aboriginal background.
- I am confident Commissioner Oppal will take any other steps necessary to fulfill the Inquiry's mandate within the terms of reference.

If pressed about cost:

- We are not anticipating any increase in Inquiry costs as a result of a new lawyer being appointed to replace Ms. Gervais.
- However, it is up to the Commissioner to advise government if the costs of the Inquiry are expected to change because of the appointment of the new lawyer or for any other reason.

TIMING:

- I, like all British Columbians, am eager for the Inquiry to fulfill its mandate and come back with recommendations to ensure this tragic situation never happens again.
- While I understand that the hearings part of the Commission had already been scheduled to take off next week for spring break, I am advised that work on the Inquiry will still proceed while the Commission retains a lawyer to represent Aboriginal interests and that person becomes familiar with the file.
- I would expect that, even though the hearings will not proceed during these two weeks, Commission staff will be continuing to collate testimony and do other work, including plan for the upcoming panels on policing and other issues.
- B.C. has already granted the Commission a six month extension beyond its original mandate in order for it to complete its important work.
- That said, I am pleased the Commissioner is looking at innovative ways to ensure timeliness, while still adhering to his mandate.
 - Specifically, I'm advised the Commission's recent move to a 'panel model' of receiving evidence will help avoid repetitive testimony.
- At the end of the day, it is the Commissioner who is independent and at liberty to design the most effective procedure that will help ensure he fulfills his mandate by the agreed upon deadline already in place.

If pressed:

- Commissioner Oppal has not asked for another extension, and it is still my expectation that he fulfill his mandate within the timeframe we have agreed upon.

Not Responsive

From: Helman, Carolyn GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 11:38 AM
To: Ritchie, Dave JAG:EX; Kerr, Carleen JAG:EX; Welford, Jessica JAG:EX; Coburn, Lindsay JAG:EX
Cc: Groot, Jeff GCPE:EX; Adair, Marisa GCPE:EX
Subject: Missing women's Inquiry

MWI HAD A NEW RELEASE AT 10:30 A.M. ANNOUNCING THE COUNSEL REPLACING GERVAIS. HERE'S THE IN, ALSO CUT AND PASTED FOR BB, AND NR BELOW.

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- I am pleased that Commissioner Wally Oppal has appointed two well-respected lawyers to represent Aboriginal interests at the inquiry.
- Both Suzanne Narbone and Elizabeth Hunt are well-qualified for the task, and experienced in Aboriginal concerns.
- Government continues to pay for counsel for the families of missing and murdered women, many of whom are Aboriginal.
- Commissioner Wally Oppal held seven northern forums to listen to members of Aboriginal communities – and to hear directly from family members who have been most affected by this tragedy.
 - More than 290 people participated and 80 individuals made submissions at these forums.
- Beyond that, I think Commissioner Oppal has also made it very clear that you don't have to have a lawyer to participate and you don't have to do a formal presentation to be heard.
 - In fact, I understand the commission anticipates hearing from a panel of Aboriginal witnesses who will testify about the particular vulnerabilities of Aboriginal women in the Downtown Eastside.
 - They will also speak to difficulties that Aboriginal women may face in their interactions with police in the Downtown Eastside.
- I would hope that any Aboriginal groups that want to be involved will take this opportunity to contact the Inquiry and continue to have their say.

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- While the inquiry is not tasked with looking at the larger focus of systemic Aboriginal issues, I know Commissioner Oppal is fully aware of the expectations that it hear the voices of Aboriginal people within the terms of reference.

- In fact, as of the first week in March, the inquiry had heard from more non-police witnesses (18) than police witnesses (13), including at least six witnesses of Aboriginal background.
- I am confident Commissioner Oppal will take any other steps necessary to fulfill the inquiry's mandate within the terms of reference.

If pressed about cost:

- We have not been advised by the commissioner of any cost changes as a result of the appointments of the lawyers.

**Media Statement
March 21, 2012**

Appointment of Independent Counsel presenting issues related to Aboriginal interests announced

(Information attributable to Mr. Art Vertlieb, Q.C., Commission Counsel)

Commissioner Wally Oppal has appointed lawyers Suzette Narbonne and Elizabeth Hunt as Independent Co-Counsel to present issues related to Aboriginal interests. Commissioner Oppal believes that this role is crucial to ensure that Aboriginal interests are presented at the Inquiry.

Both Ms. Narbonne and Ms. Hunt are respected, experienced legal professionals. Commissioner Oppal has every confidence in each lawyer's ability.

Suzette Narbonne Biography

Ms. Narbonne started her legal career as a staff lawyer with Legal Aid Manitoba in The Pas, Manitoba. She was called to the Bar in Manitoba in June 1989 and in British Columbia in May 1995, when she moved to Prince Rupert. She lived in Prince Rupert until January 2011. She now makes her home in Gibsons, B.C., where she continues as a sole practitioner, primarily in the fields of criminal law and human rights.

While in Prince Rupert, Ms. Narbonne was on the executive of the Rupert Runners and was actively involved with other non-profit organizations. She was recognized for her community service in Prince Rupert County by the Canadian Bar Association, B.C. branch, in 2008.

Ms. Narbonne served as a governor of the Law Foundation of British Columbia for six years (2003 to 2009). She served on the following committees during her terms: Child Welfare, Funding Strategies, New Grants, New Initiatives, and Special Needs Fund (Chair). She served as a Benchler of the Law Society of British Columbia from September 2009 to December 2011. She was appointed to the board of the Legal Services Society in May of 2011.

Elizabeth Hunt Biography

Ms. Hunt is a lawyer and a member of the Kwakiutl Nation. Her practice areas include aboriginal law, specifically treaty negotiations, residential school claims, corporate and commercial, intellectual property, wills and estates as it relates to Aboriginal interests. She has also been a sessional professor at Thompson Rivers University and University of Victoria. Ms. Hunt has a long history of volunteerism with children and youth in the community. She is a member of the Equity and Diversity Committee of the Law Society of British Columbia.

Ms. Hunt was called to the Bar in B.C. in 1995 and started her career as an associate at the law firms of Mandell Pinder and Cook Roberts. She has been a sole practitioner for the past several years.

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ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry: Justice

Date: March 21, 2012

Minister Responsible: Shirley Bond

Missing Women Commission of Inquiry – Aboriginal Representation

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

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- Government continues to pay for counsel for the families of missing and murdered women, many of whom are Aboriginal.
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- I am confident Commissioner Oppal will take any other steps necessary to fulfill the inquiry's mandate within the terms of reference.

If pressed about cost:

- We have not been advised by the commissioner of any cost changes as a result of the appointments of the lawyers.

ADVICE TO MINISTER

KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

- On March 21 Commissioner Wally Oppal announced the appointment of lawyers Suzanne Narbone and Elizabeth Hunt as Independent Co-Counsel to present issues related to Aboriginal interests following the March 21, 2012
- This follows the March 5 resignation of lawyer Robyn Gervais who said she resigned because of the "delay in calling for Aboriginal witnesses, the failure to provide adequate hearing time for Aboriginal panels."
- On March 12th, Commissioner Wally Oppal directed the hearings of the inquiry to stand down until April 2, to permit time to appoint a new independent counsel to present issues related to Aboriginal interests at the inquiry, as well as to give the appointee time to become familiar with the file.
- In addition, it will give time to lawyer Cameron Ward, who represents the families of victims, to review requested documents prior to his examination of upcoming witnesses during the week of April 16.
- When the hearings reconvene, they will begin with the Native Liaison Society panel.
- Along with Jason Gratl (DTES), Ms. Gervais was among two independent lawyers appointed by Mr. Oppal last year. At the time of the appointments, the commission also announced two other prominent lawyers, Bryan Baynham, QC, and Darrell Roberts, QC, would participate pro bono in support of Ms. Gervais. Mr. Baynham no longer has this support role and Mr. Roberts is representing one of the families.
- While Mr. Gratl says he's been working with some of those groups, Ms. Gervais told the inquiry she had received little input from Aboriginal groups.
- As of March 7, there had been more non-police witnesses (18) than police witnesses (13).
- Of these, there have been six Aboriginal witnesses (as of Mar. 6/12): s.22

s.22

- Ms. Gervais was permitted to make arguments to the commissioner and to cross-examine witnesses, which she has done many times since the hearings began in October.
- A disproportionate number of victims were Aboriginal and the inquiry has heard that Aboriginals are disproportionately over-represented in the DTES.
- When the MWI was announced, government also said it would help fund a Native Women's Association of Canada conference to touch on the issues related to the DTES and Aboriginal women, which has occurred.
- Government has also been active in this area through the FPT working group on missing and murdered women, as well as the more recent work addressing the reasons why Aboriginal women and girls are more vulnerable to violence.

BACKGROUND OF NEW LAWYERS

- Suzette Narbonne started her legal career as a staff lawyer with Legal Aid Manitoba in The Pas, Manitoba. She was called to the Bar in Manitoba in June 1989 and in British Columbia in May 1995, when she moved to Prince Rupert. She lived in Prince Rupert until January 2011. She now makes her home in Gibsons, B.C., where she continues as a sole practitioner, primarily in the fields of criminal law and human rights.

While in Prince Rupert, Ms. Narbonne was on the executive of the Rupert Runners and was actively involved with other non-profit organizations. She was recognized for her community service in Prince Rupert County by the Canadian Bar Association, B.C. branch, in 2008.

Ms. Narbonne served as a governor of the Law Foundation of British Columbia for six years (2003 to 2009). She served on the following committees during her terms: Child Welfare, Funding Strategies, New Grants, New Initiatives, and Special Needs Fund (Chair). She served as a Bencher of the Law Society of British Columbia from September 2009 to December 2011. She was appointed to the board of the Legal Services Society in May of 2011.

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Ms. Hunt was called to the Bar in B.C. in 1995 and started her career as an associate at the law firms of Mandell Pinder and Cook Roberts. She has been a sole practitioner for the past several years.

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ADVICE TO MINISTER
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Minister's Office	Program Area	Deputy	Comm. Dir
MO	J. Delich/ W. Jackson Mar. 6 C. Jones Mar. 6		J. Groot Mar. 12 C. Helman Mar. 12

MINISTRY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
JUSTICE SERVICES BRANCH

BRIEFING NOTE

TOPIC: Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (MWCI) Consultation Reports

PURPOSE OF NOTE:

FOR INFORMATION OF: Minister of Justice and Attorney General

MEETING REQUIRED: Yes

ISSUE: Response to the recommendations contained in the MWCI Consultation Reports

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The MWCI released three consultation reports following policy forums that were held in the fall of 2011. The 76 recommendations contained in these reports are not the recommendations of the Commissioner, but are a summary of the presentations made to the policy forums. The recommendations are wide ranging and canvass various parts of the justice system. The Commissioner is asking for feedback on the reports by April 15, 2012, so he can consider all the information when drafting his final report.

s.13, s.14

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

- The MWCI issued three consultation reports in January and February 2012:
 1. Downtown Eastside Consultation Program Report
 2. Standing Together and Moving Forward: Report on the Pre-Hearing Conference in Prince George and the Northern Community Forums
 3. Police Protection of Vulnerable and Marginalized Women
- These reports are consultation reports; essentially summaries of the evidence heard at the various Study Commission forums held in the fall of 2011. The Commissioner has asked for feedback on these reports by April 15, 2012.

- Together, the three reports contain 76 different recommendations; they do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commissioner.
- The MWCI made no attempt to research whether existing programs address the recommendations; it is possible that some of the recommendations made by the various communities are already being addressed.
- Further, the MWCI aimed to fairly represent all of the recommendations put forward to the Commission and did not seek to evaluate, harmonize or prioritize them.
- A cursory review reveals that the majority of recommendations would require significant policy development and allocation of new resources, both human and financial.
- In addition, a fourth report entitled *Municipal Policing in the Lower Mainland District of British Columbia* was issued in the fall 2011 upon which feedback has been requested by April 15th. It is different from the three reports issued in January and February 2012 in that it does not provide any recommendations; it instead provides information on municipal policing in the Lower Mainland of BC and background information on the structure of policing in the province.
- Police Services Division has reviewed this report and has some concerns about its accuracy. As a result Police Services may take the opportunity to provide clarification regarding some of the elements of the report.

s.13, s.14

The 76 recommendations are set out in Appendices A & B.

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Jay Chalke, QC
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date:

Approved by:

David Loukidelis QC
Deputy Attorney General

APPENDIX A: Downtown Eastside Consultation Program Report

Consolidated and Thematically Grouped Recommendations of Participants

RECOMMENDATION		LIKELY RESPONSIBILITY	IMPLEMENTATION COMMENTS	
Restorative Justice				
1	Employ restorative justice measures to improve the relationship between police and community members. Hold meetings with the community regarding the disappearances and deaths of women in the DTES.	Police Services Division Local police departments and RCMP detachments	s.13, s.14	
For Police and Policing				
2	Establish a dedicated unit within the VPD for addressing violence against those in the sex trade, staffed by officers like the Sex Industry Liaison Officer and experiential persons who are familiar with the community, in sufficient number to allow personnel to play an active role in the community and respond to reports.	VPD Police Services Division		
3	Alternately, or additionally, establish and fund a number of community advocate positions to be staffed by experiential persons working as liaisons between the police and the community.	Police Services Division Victim Services		
4	Provide appropriate training for police on issues affecting the wellness and safety of those in the sex trade, with consideration of homelessness, addiction and mental illness. Training should be given by experiential persons or support workers from community organizations.	Local police departments and RCMP		
5	Institute a training program for operators answering 911 and non-emergency calls, including sensitivity training and sexual assault response training, to make operators more supportive and responsive.	Police Services Division		

6	Establish a set of protocols for responding to incidents in the DTES, particularly incidents of violence against those in the sex trade.	Police Services Division Local Police departments and RCMP detachments
7	Establish a protocol similar to the Amber Alert, whereby when a sex trade worker goes missing, police can respond immediately and issue public announcements.	Police Services Division Local Police detachments and RCMP detachments
8	Increase the number of women patrol officers and the number of foot patrols.	Local police departments and RCMP detachments
9	Establish a system whereby police officers stationed in the DTES volunteer at community organizations as a part of their training.	Police Services Division Local police departments and the RCMP
10	Build better relationships through increased familiarity between those in the sex trade and police; encourage foot patrols to keep records of those in the sex trade, separate from and not relating to criminal records.	Local police departments and the RCMP
11	Institute procedures providing police discretion to waive enforcement of outstanding charges against those reporting incidents of violence, and make this policy known to community members.	Police Services Division, police departments, and the RCMP
12	Adopt a uniform policy on policing and sex trade to guide enforcement at all levels within the police force, and ensure that it is adhered to by all officers.	Police Services Division
13	Ensure that officers who abuse their authority are disciplined and that those making complaints are aware of the process and the resolution.	Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner Local police departments and RCMP detachments
14	Clarify policies around enforcement of existing laws regarding the sex trade and drug possession.	Police Services Division Police detachments and RCMP

s.13, s.14

15	Develop programs to increase legal literacy in the community.	Justice Services Branch
16	Increase efforts to charge drug traffickers and pimps for crimes of violence.	Police Services Division Police departments and RCMP
17	Recognize that until adequate protections can be offered to those who are the victims of violence, fear of retribution will always be an obstacle to reporting.	Police Services Division Police departments and RCMP

For improving the safety and wellbeing of those in the sex trade

18	Fund specific positions for experiential and community advocates to act as liaisons and assist those in the sex trade when they engage with the police.	Police Services Division Victim Services
19	Establish a street safety patrol system, so that it is apparent there is a security system at work, particularly on "strolls" or areas where the sex trade is active.	Police Services Division Local police departments and RCMP
20	Improve lighting in areas where the sex trade is active; stop pushing those in the sex trade into areas that are remote and poorly lit.	Local municipalities
21	Expand the existing MAP Van services and provide more vehicles specifically devoted to safety and reporting of crimes.	Local NPOs Ministry of Social Development

s.13, s.14

22	<p>Make the existing Red Light Alerts more effective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update Red Light Alerts more frequently, and encourage sex trade workers to report all bad dates. - Have police hand out Red Light Alerts. - Put the Red Light Alerts online, possibly in a database format. - Setup a system whereby Red Light Alerts can be emailed or sent out in mass text messages. - Issue Red Light Alerts for bad dates reported by male and transgendered sex trade workers and indoor workers. - Have a regular segment on television publicizing information in the Red Light Alerts, or include Red Light Alert information in Crime Stoppers public service announcements. 	Local police departments and RCMP detachments
23	Start a program to distribute signaling devices containing a GPS locator that could be worn as jewelry or in clothing to those in the sex trade, so that they can activate the device and notify the police that they are in trouble.	Local police departments and RCMP
24	Distribute more recycled phones enabled for 911 calls.	Local police departments and RCMP detachments
25	Place emergency phones, or more payable phones enabled for 911 calls, in the DTES.	City of Vancouver
26	Establish a 24-hour women-only drop-in centre in the DTES.	Ministry of Social Development
27	Establish drop-in centres that serve the needs of men and transgendered people in the sex trade.	Ministry of Social Development
28	Create a database to which those in the sex trade can voluntarily submit such identifying information as names and pictures, with known contacts, to assist in the event that they are believed to be missing.	Local police departments and RCMP detachments

s.13, s.14

29	Continue to provide support for existing multi-stakeholder programs, such as Living in Community, devoted to creating coordinated community and law enforcement responses to the sex trade.	Police Services Ministry of Social Development Vancouver Coastal Health VPD City of Vancouver Local NPOs
30	Fund more support programs for those in the sex trade, including both harm reduction and exit programs.	Victim Services
For improving the safety and wellbeing of street-engaged youth		
31	Establish programs that recognize the special needs and vulnerabilities of youth in the sex trade; provide counseling for those who have experienced childhood sexual abuse, including in foster care.	Ministry of Children and Family Development Ministry of Health
32	Provide realistic and appropriate housing, income support and training programs for youth as an alternative to the sex trade.	Ministry of Energy and Mines (Minister Responsible for Housing) Ministry of Social Development Ministry of Children and Family Development
33	Establish housing for youth outside of areas with a high incidence of drug use and street level violence, recognizing that a zero-tolerance policy with regard to the sex trade engagement and drug use may not be realistic for street-engaged youth transitioning out.	Ministry of Energy and Mines (Minister Responsible for Housing) Ministry of Children and Family Development
34	Improve the screening of foster care families to reduce the incidence of child abuse in care; provide better supports to low income families to reduce the number of child apprehensions.	Ministry of Children and Family Development Ministry of Social Development
Social and institutional policy and program recommendations		
35	Enhance programs to deal with mental health issues in the DTES.	Ministry of Health

s.13, s.14

36	Develop mental health programs specifically to address PTSD and sexual trauma for DTES residents, particularly those in the sex trade.	Ministry of Health
37	Develop special counseling programs for women coping with child apprehensions as a result of street engagement.	Ministry of Children and Family Development
38	Develop and fund more drug treatment programs and open more drug and alcohol detoxification beds for women.	Ministry of Health
39	Open more safe injection sites.	Ministry of Health
40	Create more low-barrier low-income housing, particularly for women, with particular attention to the needs of women currently living in emergency housing.	Ministry of Energy and Mines (Minister Responsible for Housing)
41	Increase welfare rates and develop better social assistance programs to give those in the sex trade other options for economic support.	Ministry of Social Development

s.13, s.14

APPENDIX B: Standing Together and Moving Forward: Report on the Pre-Hearing Conference in Prince George and the Northern Community Forums

Consolidated and Thematically Grouped Recommendations of Participants

RECOMMENDATION		Responsibility	Implementation Comments
Implement Highway of Tears Symposium Recommendations			
1	33 recommendations were developed during the Symposium in which 500 people from across the region participated. These need to be funded and implemented as soon as possible	Various organizations	
2	A Highway of Tears inquiry is necessary to review and update information from the 2006 Symposium	Justice Services Branch	
Contributing to healing and reconciliation			
3	If families wish to do so, there should be funding for them to visit the Pickton farm to participate in their own cultural healing, so that they can free the spirit	Victim Services	
4	Families who have been affected by what is happening on Highway 16 need to have their voices heard	Justice Services Branch	s.13, s.14
5	More culturally appropriate short and long term counseling services should be provided to family members of victims	Victims Services	
Strengthening the RAMP-Community Relationship			
6	Steps must be taken to ensure that youth have a better attitude towards the RCMP (suggestions included: playing sports together, and holding ceremonies and potlatches)	Local RCMP detachments	

7	More cross-cultural workshops should be held with the RCMP and on a more regular basis	Local RCMP detachments
8	RCMP officers should stay in the community for longer periods of time	RCMP
9	RCMP, teachers, courts, and those dealing with incarcerated community members need to understand fully the history of First Nations people so they can understand why First Nations people are struggling and trying to deal with their issues; gaining trust will be a slow process	RCMP Ministry of Education Court Services Branch Corrections Branch Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
10	Systemic racism within the RCMP must be addressed	RCMP
Taking measures to protect girls and young women from predators		
11	The RCMP should prioritize prevention measures, this requires a better understanding of the communities	RCMP
12	Public transportation must be improved on a priority basis; transit must be safe	Local municipalities
13	Services should be provided to communities so that homes are safe	MCFD?
14	There should be more preventative program funding	Ministry of Social Development
15	Programs should be instituted to promote equality across the board, to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal women and children	Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ministry of Social Development Ministry of Children and Families Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

s.13, s.14

16	Security video cameras should be placed in high risk places for hitchhiking	Local municipalities Local RCMP
17	More education/awareness programs for young persons are needed, including in schools, and should be delivered in an engaging manner	Local school boards Local RCMP Local municipalities
18	More community-based workshops on the issue of safety on Highway 16 are needed	Local RCMP Local municipalities
19	The RCMP should share more information about the various hitchhiking incidents so people know what vehicles or areas to be concerned about	Local RCMP
20	A "Shadowing Approach to the Highway 16 dangers" should be employed: If we see people on Highway 16, we should have a community system to get their information and get someone to pick them up and take them to where they need to go	Local municipalities Local RCMP Local community organizations
21	Follow up should be used. A community member who sees a young person hitchhiking should tell the hitchhiker they will check back with them in one weeks' time. The person should call the hitchhiker in a week to ask if they have been hitchhiking in order to encourage honesty, communication and awareness	Local municipalities Local RCMP Local community organizations
22	Youth should be involved in coming up with recommendations to prevent violence and increase safety. They know their situation and have lots of practical ideas	Local municipalities Local RCMP Local community organizations
Improving the initiation and conduct of missing person investigations		
23	An Amber Alert system should be implemented	RCMP
24	Road blocks should be set up when a person is first reported missing	Local RCMP
25	Protocols should be established between the police and communities for emergency response and searches	Local municipalities RCMP

s.13, s.14

26	Community resources should be used more wisely to assist in investigations	Local municipalities Local RCMP
27	When a member of our community goes missing we need a place where we can all gather together to work on searching strategies	Local municipalities
a	We need vehicles to help people gather together	Local municipalities
b	We need more communication	Local municipalities Local RCMP
c	We need a plan for when someone goes missing including who to contact and how to get the word out there. We need help and suggestions on how to do this	Local municipalities RCMP
d	Even if the RCMP does not believe a person is actually missing we still need to bring attention to this and make everyone aware	Local municipalities RCMP
28	RCMP should re-establish communication with families of victims	RCMP
29	More information sharing is needed between the police and the families/communities	RCMP
30	Missing person cases need to be taken more seriously right from the beginning	RCMP
31	The RCMP and the coroner's office need a central database in order to cross-reference data files. Databases should be national and provincial	RCMP Provincial Coroners Offices

s.13, s.14

32	There should be a process for fast-tracking DNA testing, We need to have inter-jurisdictional agreements in place to facilitate this (provincial, national, international)	RCMP Provincial Coroners Offices Police Services Division
33	More RCMP officers should be trained to deal with homicides	RCMP
34	More RCMP staffing and resources are required to carry out effective investigations	RCMP
35	A specialized RCMP unit is needed for homicide serial killers and missing men and women.	RCMP

s.13, s.14