

OVERVIEW: IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN IN CARE

Issue:

At the August meeting of Canada's Premiers, Premier Robert R. McLeod, together with Manitoba's Minister of Family Services, Kerri Irvin-Ross, were tasked with working with appropriate provincial and territorial Ministers to share information on potential solutions to mitigate child protection concerns resulting in a reduction in the number of Aboriginal children in child welfare systems across Canada and improve outcomes for Aboriginal children in care. Premier Christy Clark would also assist in guiding this work.

Overview:

Following these meetings, Premiers identified ministers, some within the social services forum and some within the Aboriginal Affairs forum, to work with Premier McLeod and Minister Irvin-Ross to identify child welfare practices, solutions and strategies that have proven effective at reducing the number of Aboriginal children in care and improving the outcomes for Aboriginal children in care and to report back to Canada's Premiers on this work when Premiers next meet in July 2015.

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Private Outcomes:

A report back will be prepared for review at the 2015 meeting of Canada's Premiers in Newfoundland.



Assembly of First Nations
55 Metcalfe Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L5
Phone: 613-241-6789, ext. 225
Fax: 613-241-5808

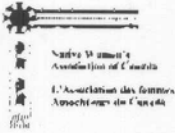
TO: The Honourable Christy Clarke **Fax: 250-387-0087**
Fax:

FR: AFN National Chief et al **Date: 27 January/15**
Pages: 4 (incl cover)

Re: National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

<u>Urgent</u>	for Review	Please Comment	Please Reply
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Original to follow by mail.



January 26, 2015

Premiers:

RE: Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

On behalf of our organizations, thank you for your continued support for a National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, as you committed to at our annual pre-Council of the Federation (COF) meeting in August 2014. We also extend our appreciation for your, and/or your designated Minister's, commitment to participate in the roundtable scheduled for February 27, 2015 at the Victoria Ballroom at the Ottawa Marriot Hotel.

With the assistance of senior officials from several of your jurisdictions, we are pleased to advise that the planning and logistics for the roundtable are well in hand. We expect to be in a position to share a framework and agenda in the near future. We also anticipate a positive response regarding federal participation in the roundtable shortly.

As we are sure you can appreciate, hosting a successful event of this nature will be a significant and costly undertaking. We have estimated the cost of the roundtable to be \$200,000. This includes the logistic costs for the roundtable itself, travel for up to ten delegates from each of our organizations, and costs to support the role of families of missing and murdered Indigenous women leading up to and during the roundtable. A detailed budget is attached:

Given the limited resources of the National Aboriginal Organizations, as part of this budget we are requesting a financial contribution of \$15,000 from each province and territory to assist in offsetting the cost of the roundtable. We intend to also seek a financial commitment from the Federal government once their participation is confirmed.

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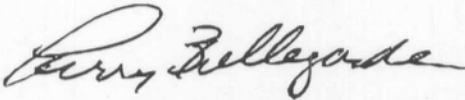
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For any questions or to confirm your contribution, please contact Claudette Dumont-Smith, Executive Director, Native Women's Association of Canada at (613) 722-3033 ext. 223 or cdumontsmith@nwac.ca.

We look forward to hearing a positive response from you in the near future.

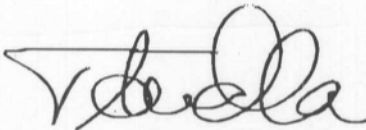
Sincerely,



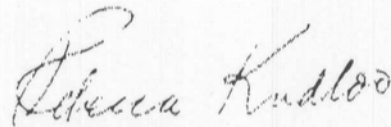
National Chief Perry Bellegarde
Assembly of First Nations



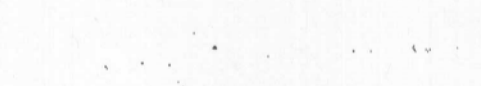
President Michèle Taïna Audette
Native Women's Association of Canada



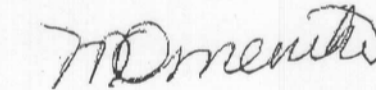
President Terry Audla
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami



President Rebecca Kudloo
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada



National Chief Betty Ann Lavallée
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples



President Melanie Omeniho
Women of the Métis Nation and on behalf
of the Métis National Council

Attachment (*National Roundtable Budget*)

c. Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Aboriginal Affairs

<p align="center">NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE AND FAMILY GATHERING DAY FEBRUARY 26 AND 27, 2015 OTTAWA, CANADA</p>

1.	Translation/equipment		\$0.00 (provided by CICS)
2.	Two Facilitator/Moderator (Family gathering and roundtable) (includes preparatory meeting & travel)		\$28,000.00
3.	Two Elders (honorarium, travel, accommodation)	x 2 days	\$4,000.00
4.	Transcriber/s (Family Gathering) Development of Family Gathering Summary Report	1 days	\$4,000.00
5.	Delegate travel/accommodations (5 NAO's) (\$20,000.00 per NAO's)		\$100,000.00
6.	Webcasting		\$3,000.00
7.	Site/Venue (2 sites) (includes cost of one day CICS set-up)	x 2 days	\$12,000.00
8.	Refreshments x 2 days \$14. x 200 x 4 breaks	2 days (4breaks)	\$11,200.00
9.	Lunch x 2 days \$50. x 200 x 2		\$20,000.00
10.	Final report/Dissemination/Translation	Total Estimate	\$15,000.00
			<u><u>\$197,200.00</u></u>

BREVIER
OFFICE OF THE
TAM 5 J 5012
CONFIDENTIAL

**Agenda
Item**

**NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON MISSING AND MURDERED ABORIGINAL
WOMEN (NT)**

Issue: National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women

Anticipated Outcome:

At the CoF table: Northwest Territories will provide an update on preparations for the Roundtable, which is scheduled for February 27, 2015 in Ottawa.

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Recommended BC Position

BC is well-positioned to participate in the Roundtable, given its commitment to creating safety and well-being for Aboriginal women and girls.

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Position of Other Jurisdictions

At the August 2014 meeting of Premiers and National Aboriginal Organizations, all provinces and territories supported the NAOs' call for a national inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.

In the absence of support from the federal government for a national public inquiry, Premiers and National Aboriginal Leaders also proposed a National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women following their August 2014 meeting.

Key Points

- Stopping violence is a shared responsibility, with shared accountabilities.
- The Roundtable will create an important opportunity for dialogue on coordinated action to prevent and address violence against Aboriginal women.
- Our government is committed to creating a legacy of safety for vulnerable women in BC by working to change the systemic issues that lead to this violence.
- The Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women (the Council) has provided a set of recommendations to government for stopping violence against Aboriginal women in their report, *Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women* (2013).
- We've started working on the immediate actions the Council prioritized, including signing, with Aboriginal leadership, the

Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Ending Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls (MOU) on June, 2014.

Background and Analysis

- The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) is leading the planning group for the Roundtable, scheduled for February 27, 2015 in Ottawa.

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BC Efforts to Address Violence

- Key efforts to improve the safety and well-being of Aboriginal women and girls in BC include:
 - signing the MOU regarding stopping violence against Aboriginal women and girls and forming the MOU Joint Partners' Table;
 - providing community grants through the Giving Voice initiative;
 - *British Columbia's Provincial Domestic Violence Plan* was publicly released February 2014 and includes a focused Aboriginal Response. The Plan lays out a three-year action and funding framework including a \$2M investment for development and delivery of programs specifically for Aboriginal women, men, children and youth who have been or are at risk of being impacted by domestic violence (includes potential abusers/perpetrators).
 - *BC's Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking*, which focuses on preventing and addressing trafficking of youth for sexual exploitation; vulnerable workers; and the domestic trafficking of Aboriginal youth and women.

Council of the Federation – January 29-30, 2015

- In addition, the final status report on the recommendations from the *Missing Women's Commission of Inquiry* was released on December 4, 2014. The Province has acted on over 75 per cent of the recommendations to date.
- Government has introduced an enhanced flagging system in the Integrated Justice Information Database (JUSTIN) to improve the identification of files involving child victims. This was completed as a commitment in the *Taking Action Report*.
- The Province has also committed to developing a long-term strategy to ensure women, including Aboriginal and vulnerable women, have the supports they need to prevent violence, escape from violent situations, and recover from victimization. The *Violence Free BC* strategy is intended to act as a blueprint, tying together existing initiatives in the area of violence against women, and identifying priorities for continued action and renewed response.
- The Moosehide Campaign, initiated by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres as an outcome of the 2011 National Aboriginal Women's Forum, is achieving growing success (February 2015).