

## **NATIONAL INUIT ACTION PLAN**

on Missing and Murdered Inuit Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**







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Inuit women and girls who are missing or have been murdered are grandmothers, mothers, sisters, daughters, nieces, cousins and aunts. They are friends, relatives, colleagues, and members of our community, and each tragic loss impacts our entire society. The unacceptable number of Inuit women and girls who are missing or have been murdered is largely a symptom of the relatively high prevalence of domestic violence and abuse experienced by Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people and their children. This violence is itself a symptom of avoidable systemic problems that must be curbed.

Preventing violence against Inuit women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people requires governments and Inuit to break intergenerational cycles of violence by addressing the systemic challenges known to increase the likelihood of violence. Despite being well documented, systemic challenges persist that have disproportionately negative impacts on the most vulnerable members of our society, and these challenges include the Inuit Nunangat housing crisis, limited access to emergency shelters and other safe spaces, and limited access to the tools, services and resources that we know are needed to support healing and healthy relationships.

The National Inuit Action Plan on Missing and Murdered Inuit Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People is a chapter within the 2021 *Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan: Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People.* It instructs governments, Inuit Land Claim Organizations and other represented bodies on the National Inuit Working Group on Missing and Murdered Inuit Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People on how to move forward with implementing the 46 Inuit-specific Calls for Justice provided in *Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.* Actions are organized into 14 themes and are further broken down into federal-, provincial/territorial-, and Inuit-led actions, depending on the areas of jurisdiction and authorities implicated by the action.

The National Inuit Action Plan was developed by the Inuit Working Group. The 10-member Working Group was co-chaired by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada. It consisted of representatives from Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Makivik Corporation, and Nunatsiavut Government. Members also included representatives from four community-based organizations: Family and Survivors Circle, Tungasuvvingat Inuit, AnanauKatiget Tumingit, and Saturviit Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik.

Governments and Inuit Land Claims Organizations (ILCOs) must lead implementation of the National Inuit Action Plan by utilizing a rights-based approach to implementation. Government-led actions must be led principally by the Government of Canada, Government of the Northwest Territories, Government of Nunavut, Government of Quebec and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Other provinces with Inuit populations must also lead implementation of certain actions in relation to urban Inuit populations.

Inuit-led actions must be led principally by the four ILCOs, comprised of Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Makivik Corporation and Nunatsiavut Government. The invaluable leadership of Inuit advocacy and service delivery organizations has strengthened the National Inuit Action Plan. The expertise of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, Family and Survivors Circle, Tungasuvvingat Inuit, AnanauKatiget Tumingit, and Saturviit Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik will inform and contribute to the successful implementation of the National Inuit Action Plan.

Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are strong and resilient. Our people are entitled to the same standards of safety, health, education, justice and physical, emotional, economic, social and cultural security enjoyed by all Canadians. Today our reality is very different. The National Inuit Action Plan will address the gaping inequalities faced by Inuit with concrete, timely and measurable positive changes. Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people must achieve substantive equality. We deserve nothing less.

Ms. Rassi Nashalik lights the qulliq at the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry hearings in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.



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