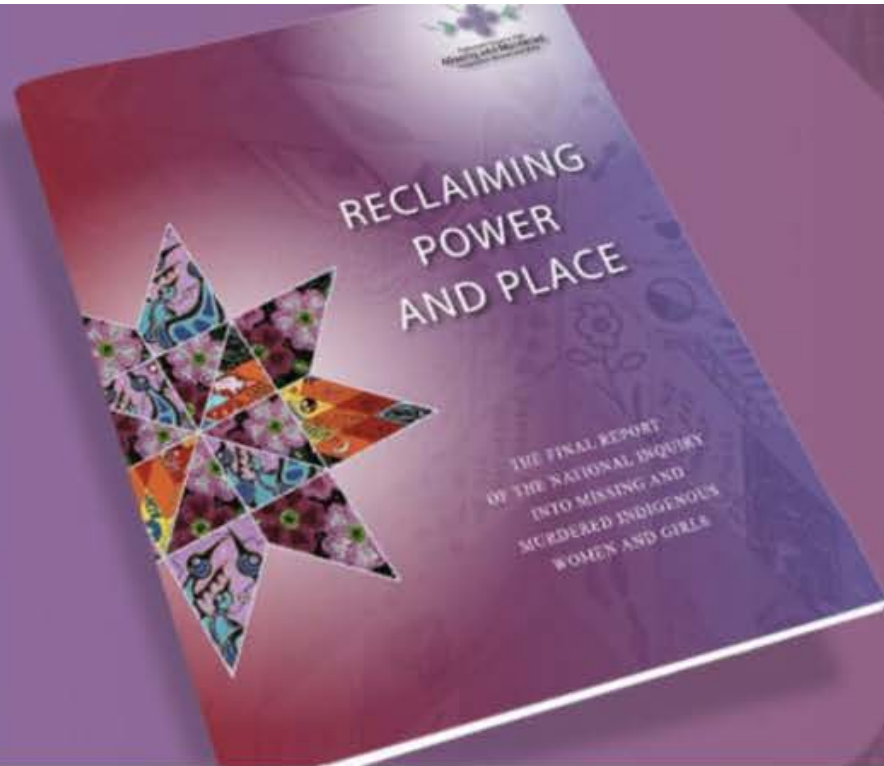


City's Role in Implementing the Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into MMIWG – Update

Report Back to Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee

Indigenous Affairs Office
February 11th, 2020

Co-presented by:
Lauren Kimura, IAO
Mandy Wesley, LL.B.



Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Read the Final Report
and Calls for Justice >

<https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/final-report/>

Background

On June 18th, 2019 City Council requested:

The Mayor, the City Manager and the Manager, Indigenous Affairs Office, in partnership with relevant staff and the Indigenous community, including the Aboriginal Affairs Committee and the broader Indigenous community, to consult on the **role and responsibilities of the municipal government** in the action in hand re: implementation of recommendations of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and that the City Manager report back to the Aboriginal Affairs Committee in the first quarter of 2020.

Agenda

1. What We Have Done
2. What We Heard from Community
3. What We Heard from City Staff
4. Next Steps
5. Questions & Feedback

What We Have Done

- ✓ Sept. 2019 Planning & Project Initiation
- ✓ Oct. 2019 Introduced Project to TASSC
- ✓ Sept. – Oct. 2019 Review and Analysis of the Calls for Justice
- ✓ Sept. – Dec. 2019 Summary of Existing City Actions and Potential Enhancements - Survey and Interviews with City Divisions
- ✓ Nov. – Dec. 2019 Preparation for Community Engagement
- ✓ Jan. 2020 Engagement Event with Indigenous Community
- ✓ Jan. 2020 Interdivisional City Staff Meeting

The City of Toronto – Listening to Community

- January 8, 2020 – ½ day gathering hosted by Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre
- City of Toronto met with Indigenous community members, Indigenous service providers, affected families of MMIWG and survivors of violence, to discuss how to actionize the Calls for Justice.
- Event led by Mandy Wesley and shaped in consultation with Elder Wanda Whitebird
- Full engagement report in Appendix

What We Heard - Current Services and Supports for MMIWG Affected Family Members and Survivors of Violence in GTA

“Toronto is the best city for services” - Frances Sanderson, Executive Director of Nishnawbe Homes

“We already have many of the solutions. Almost all of the Calls for Justice require appropriate and adequate funding as these are human rights-based issues. We need...substantive equality.”

“...We can't give two people the same services and expect the same outcomes. Someone who starts at a deficit may need more support...We need increased resources, capacity and services in order to get Indigenous people to an equal level.”

- Christa Big Canoe, Legal Director, Aboriginal Legal Services and lead Legal Counsel with the MMIWG National Inquiry

What We Heard - Key Issues with Current Services & Supports in GTA

- Substantive equality
- Under-policing and TPS perpetuating harm
- Lack of access to land for ceremonial healing
- Lack of safe spaces for active users
- Lack of safe supportive housing
- Working as a Collective for the betterment of the community

What We Heard – Recommendations from Engagement

- 1) Long-term adequate funding of services and supports for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA persons;
- 2) Anti-racism education/training that focuses on the experiences of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA persons;
- 3) Safe Access to Lands and Space for Ceremony; and
- 4) Real, Meaningful Participation in Decision-making Processes

What We Heard from City Staff – Priorities for Future Action

Core Themes from Staff	Alignment to Community Recommendations
<p>Increasing support for Indigenous-led services</p> <p>Human-trafficking</p> <p>Anti-violence</p> <p>Long-term and sustained funding</p>	<p>Long-term & adequate funding</p>
<p>MMIWG2S-related education/training</p> <p>Public education campaign</p>	<p>Anti-racism education & training</p>
<p>Indigenous place-making and culture</p>	<p>Access to land & ceremony</p>
<p>Meaningful engagement</p> <p>Full Partnership/co-leadership</p> <p>Indigenous recruitment and retention</p>	<p>Real/meaningful participation</p>

What We Heard from City Staff – Opportunities to Enhance Work in Progress

Meaningful participation of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA

- Gender Equity Strategy & Office
- LGBTQ2S+ Advisory
- Strategic Recruitment - Diversity Hiring Action Plan
- Youth Development Unit

Supporting Indigenous Community Organizations

- EDC - Indigenous Grants Program – reducing administrative barriers
- SDFA – Explore / enhance Indigenous funding models in co-development with community
- Community Benefits Framework / Social Procurement Program – support for Indigenous vendors / Indigenous women-owned businesses

Mechanisms for specific consideration of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA & Calls for Justice

- HousingTO / SSHA Indigenous funding set-asides
- Indigenous Poverty Reduction Strategy
- Toronto Urban Health Fund – Indigenous Stream
- TPH's Intimate Partner Violence, Gender-Based Violence, and Community Violence Working Groups
- TPS's Aboriginal Peacekeeping Unit / Missing Person's Unit
- Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group
- Trans, Non-Binary and Two-Spirit Service Plan
- Data for Equity Strategy – Indigenous Data Governance
- Indigenous Cultural Competency Training 2.0

What's Next?

- **Feedback** from Aboriginal Affairs Committee: Feb 2020
- **Report back** to community on engagement report: Feb – Mar 2020
- Broader **consultation** with individual organizations as requested
- Work with leadership of key divisions re: **immediate enhancements** to work-in-progress: Feb – Apr 2020
- Draft **staff report with recommendations**: Feb – Mar 2020
- Draft report & recommendations presented back to **AAAC and/or TASSC** for feedback: Mar – Apr 2020
- Final recommendations/actions and budget ask can be **included in IAO Strategic Plan** to Council or at next AAC meeting as a standalone report

Feedback and Discussion

- **Next steps and directions**
- **MMIWG task-force for implementation and oversight**

Appendix A – City of Toronto MMIWG Survey Results

Appendix B – Analysis of the Calls for Justice and City Actions

Appendix C – Answering the Calls: MMIWG Engagement Report (Draft)

**Miigwetch, Nia:Wen,
Marsi, Anusheek,
Nakummek**

Thank you

For more information:

Lauren Kimura

Urban Fellow, Indigenous Affairs Office

416-392-4548

Lauren.Kimura@Toronto.ca

Selina Young

Director, Indigenous Affairs Office

416-392-8936

Selina.Young@Toronto.ca

Mandy Wesley, LL.B.

Mandy.Wesley@gmail.com