



**FOLLOW-UP TO THE RESPONSES
TO THE CALLS FOR JUSTICE OF THE QUÉBEC REPORT
OF THE NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED
INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS (NIMMIWG)**

PROGRESS REPORT

MAY 2024

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CALLS FOR JUSTICE – THE QUÉBEC REPORT OF THE NIMMIWG

	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
1	Establish an independent mechanism to report annually to the National Assembly of Québec on the implementation of the Calls for justice included in this and other reports of the Final Report.	<p>The Secrétariat aux relations avec les Premières Nations et les Inuit (SRPNI)</p> <p>The Québec government is not prioritizing the establishment of an independent mechanism as contemplated in the Call to Action. Instead, it intends to report transparently on the implementation of the Calls for Justice of the NIMMIWG addressed to it.</p> <p>Moreover, the Protecteur du citoyen established a team dedicated to relations with members of the First Nations and Inuit and is currently working on the follow-up to the Viens Commission's calls to action, which may overlap with the NIMMIWG's calls to justice.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
2	<p>That the Québec government and the Indigenous governments promptly collaborate with Québec Indigenous women and girls, including the members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, to establish an action plan to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence toward them.</p> <p>Participate in the development and the implementation of a National Action Plan, as outlined in Call for Justice 1.1 in the National Report.</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 86</p>	<p>The Secrétariat aux relations avec les Premières Nations et les Inuit (SRPNI)</p> <p><i>The 2022-2027 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Wellness of the First Nations and Inuit</i> contains the government priorities to be implemented in collaboration with the First Nations and the Inuit, including Indigenous women’s organizations. One of the priorities pinpointed focuses on the challenges and issues that Indigenous women are facing, including several initiatives to combat violence.</p> <p>The Government of Québec is in dialogue with and participates in the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, as well as the roundtables of Indigenous leaders and representatives and federal-provincial-territorial ministers on missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people convened by Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.</p> <p>Québec supports the common goal of combatting violence against Indigenous women and girls and is implementing provincial measures to this effect within the scope of its jurisdiction, as indicated in this document. The Government of Québec also supports the idea of a Canada-wide action plan, as long as it is developed in collaboration with all partners.</p> <p>The Secrétariat à la condition féminine (SCF)</p> <p><i>La Stratégie gouvernementale intégrée pour contrer la violence sexuelle, la violence conjugale et Rebâtir la confiance 2022-2027</i> (SCF) presents 11 initiatives to meet the specific needs of First Nations and Inuit women and girls. <i>La Stratégie gouvernementale pour l'égalité entre les femmes et les hommes 2022-2027</i> includes four initiatives aimed at First Nations and Inuit women and girls. One initiative seeks to encourage and promote egalitarian relationships between First Nations and Inuit women and men in Québec.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>2 (cont'd)</p>		<p>The Ministère de la Justice (MJQ)</p> <p>In the context of the adoption in 2021-2022 of priority actions to combat femicides, the MJQ is jointly carrying out with the SCF a measure aimed at the rehabilitation of individuals grappling with violent behaviour. The portion of the measure under the responsibility of the MJQ is partly funded through the budget allowance related to the <i>Plan d'action gouvernemental en matière de violence conjugale 2018-2023</i> pour l'adoption de mesures propres aux milieux autochtones (\$14 million for the period 2018-2023) and the budget allowance to implement the recommendations of the commissions of inquiry (\$200 million for the period 2020-2025). Four proposals of services to counteract conjugal and domestic violence in Indigenous communities were selected in 2021-2022, and one targeted call for proposals was conducted in 2022-2023. Three initiatives were funded in the wake of the last call for proposals.</p> <p>To provide a framework for granting this funding, a support program was created, called the Programme de soutien aux services pour contrer la violence conjugale et familiale en milieu autochtone. In 2023-24, the program funded six service proposals to combat domestic and family violence.</p> <p>To contribute to reducing violence toward Indigenous women, the MJQ has carried out the following initiatives since 2019 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support for a legal information project aimed at Indigenous women on recourse and resources in the realm of sexual assault. The project, launched in 2019 by Quebec Native Women (QNW) should be completed in the fall of 2023 ; • measures to make emergency financial assistance available to Indigenous people ; • funding for Indigenous victim support services ; • the elaboration for the interveners from the specialized court of specific training devoted to the context of conjugal and domestic violence and sexual abuse in the Indigenous communities.



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>2 (cont'd)</p>		<p>These initiatives also respond to Call for Justice 6.</p> <p>The Ministère de la Sécurité publique (MSP)</p> <p>Under measure 1.1.9 of <i>The 2017-2022 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit</i>, the MSP has supported QNW to establish and implement local action plans to counteract sexual violence.</p> <p>In the context of the 2021-2026 priority actions to counteract conjugal violence and femicides, on June 3, 2021, the Québec government announced \$9.8 million in funding to add to staff on Indigenous police forces (IPFs) devoted to conjugal violence and ensure better care for victims and enhanced surveillance of offenders at all stages in the continuum of interventions.</p> <p>As of January 25, 2023, 15 agreements had been concluded with the IPFs under this initiative.</p> <p>Through the additional funding obtained in the context of <i>The 2022-2027 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Wellness of the First Nations and Inuit</i> and the <i>Stratégie gouvernementale intégrée pour contrer la violence sexuelle, la violence conjugale et Rebâtir la confiance 2022 - 2027</i>, starting in 2023-2024, the MSP will broaden the mandate of the new staff to include responsibility for sexual violence cases. It will also offer a greater number of communities staff specializing in spousal and sexual assault.</p> <p>These initiatives also respond to Call for Justice 6.</p> <p>Furthermore, on December 3, 2021, the MSP unveiled the <i>Plan d'action gouvernemental 2021-2026 en réponse aux recommandations de la Commission spéciale sur l'exploitation sexuelle des mineurs : Briser le cycle de l'exploitation sexuelle</i>. Under the action plan, a public awareness-raising campaign was launched in 2022 to foster a change of attitude and seek widespread mobilization to combat sexual violence. The First Nations and Inuit "I'm not for sale" campaign was launched on March 4, 2024. Developed in collaboration with Indigenous organizations, the campaign is available in French, English and several Indigenous languages. Promotional material can be found on the website Quebec.ca. In addition, a second phase of the awareness campaign will target employers and employees in remote areas. Moreover, the MSP will support research projects to better document sexual violence in First Nations and Inuit communities.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
3	<p>Realize and prioritize the implementation of the <i>Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit</i>.</p>	<p>The SRPNI, in collaboration with the government departments and bodies concerned</p> <p>The implementation of the <i>2017-2022 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit</i> ended on March 31, 2022. To pursue its initiatives devoted to significant social and cultural questions, the government renewed its commitment to the First Nations and the Inuit by launching <i>The 2022-2027 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Wellness of the First Nations and Inuit</i> entitled Together for Future Generations, accompanied by a \$141.1-million budget over five years. Meetings are held periodically with Indigenous organizations to take stock of the implementation of the action plan and discuss the optimization of its rollout. As announced in the action plan, the SRPNI and relevant ministries and agencies have been meeting with Indigenous organizations since June 2024 to review the implementation of the action plan and discuss how to optimize it.</p>
4	<p>Establish an independent, multi-jurisdictional civil entity to protect Indigenous citizens, with the mission to protect their rights, receive complaints, investigate, and report on the quality of the public services provided to the members of the Indigenous communities receive, as is proposed in Call for Justice 1.7 in the National Report.</p>	<p>The Québec government is not prioritizing the establishment of an independent, specifically Indigenous civil entity as stipulated in the Call for Justice. However, it should be noted that the Québec Ombudsman, an impartial, independent public entity established in 1968, works with all Quebecers. His mission is to ensure respect for Quebecers' rights in their relations with Québec public services and the integrity of public services, and participate in their enhancement. It has also taken steps to ensure cultural safety for First Nations and Inuit members, through an inclusive and respectful approach.</p> <p>In January 2023, the federal minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada announced the appointment of a ministerial special representative to provide advice and recommendations on the implementation of Call for Justice 1.7 of the NIMMIWG Final Report, specifically to create the position of an Indigenous and human rights ombudsperson. In December 2023, Québec met with Special Representative Jennifer Moore Rattray. Her report was published by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada in May 2024.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
5	<p>Establish a multidisciplinary crisis team devoted to missing Indigenous women and girls, including members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ communities in Québec.</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>To implement recommendation 24 of the Advisory Committee on Police Reality (ACPR), the government announced \$8.37 million over three years in Budget 2022-2023. The funding facilitated the establishment of the Équipe intégrée de coordination des disparitions et enlèvements (EICDE) comprising staff from the Sûreté du Québec (SQ) and the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal. The team has a mandate to coordinate and monitor in the field the cases reported to it by municipal and Indigenous police forces according to established parameters. Its implementation broadens search efforts devoted to abductions and disappearances, especially those involving First Nations and Inuit women and girls. The gradual introduction of the team began on October 1, 2022. The funding will also :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the staff from the Sûreté du Québec and the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM) assigned to disappearances and abductions ; • cover the purchase of a video camera and a thermal imagery system to better equip police officers during search and rescue operations ; • bolster the capacities of the Laboratoire de sciences judiciaires et de médecine légale ; • financially support the activities of the Association des familles de personnes assassinées ou disparues and the Réseau Enfants-Retour, two organizations that support families and the IPFs. <p>To promote the team’s role and services, EICDE has been meeting with all the Indigenous and municipal police forces since 2023. It has met with 19 Indigenous communities in Québec so far. The visits will all be done by the end of 2024.</p> <p>The members of the SQ assigned to the EICDE have received or will receive the following training :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an awareness-raising session devoted to Indigenous realities ; • training on the specific circumstances of the First Nations and the Inuit ; • training devoted to missing persons investigations that includes a section devoted to Indigenous realities (Ontario) ; • training focusing on the introduction to the specific circumstances of Indigenous women.



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
5 (cont'd)		<p><i>The Act to Assist in Locating Missing Persons</i> was assented to on October 5, 2023 ; its provisions are now in force. This law is intended to make it easier for police officers to obtain information concerning missing persons and, if these latter are underage or considered to be vulnerable, the person accompanying them. To this end, the Act stipulates that a judge of the Court of Québec or a presiding justice of the peace can, at the request of a police officer, order the communication of certain information concerning a missing person or the person accompanying such a person. It also enables the judge or presiding justice of the peace to grant at the request of a police officer authorization to enter a site, including a residential building. It stipulates that no one is exempt from complying with an order handed down pursuant to the Act because the information and documents to be communicated are protected by professional secrecy or may incriminate or expose the individual to any procedure or penalty. It enables a police force director to communicate certain information to the public if necessary to help find a missing person or when the missing person is found.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
6	<p>Fund the establishment and long-term operation of culturally appropriate resources, such as healing lodges, culturally appropriate shelters and halfway houses, for Indigenous women and girls, including members of 2SLGBTQIA communities, in urban areas and in all Indigenous communities throughout Quebec</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 93</p>	<p>The Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)</p> <p>The implementation of the cultural safety approach in the health and social services network (HSSN) with the partners (collaboration with the First Nations and the Inuit (FNI), the MSSS, and the establishments - MSSS, \$15 million for the period 2020-2025).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2020-2025 comprehensive implementation plan was elaborated in collaboration with the advisory committee on cultural safety (training, the assignment of liaison officers and navigators, support for good practices, and the adaptation of the conditions stipulated in the health and social services network complaint examination system). • The needs have been evaluated of Indigenous women who are conjugal violence victims and their children exposed to violence in the realm of housing resources in urban environments (MSSS). This evaluation may guide the elaboration of measures with a view to adapting or developing the resources necessary to respond to the victims' needs (a commitment in <i>the 2022-2027 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Wellness of the First Nations and Inuit</i>). • Access has been broadened to culturally reassuring frontline services for Indigenous populations in urban environments, especially in Indigenous friendship centres. <p>The MSP</p> <p>Agreement with the Kapatakan Gilles Jourdain Community Residential Centre (CRC) situated in Maliotenam, which has 18 residence rooms and offers First Nations women and men culturally adapted rehabilitation programs.</p> <p>The MSP also has agreements in place to reserve a number of spots with several CRFs located in urban areas. These CRFs work with Indigenous organizations to offer their residents culturally adapted and safe services. Two—one in the Montréal area and the other in Québec City—cater exclusively to women. The Indigenous component of the program to prevent the sexual exploitation of young people, Programme de prévention et d'intervention en matière d'exploitation sexuelle des jeunes, provides funding to four organizations offering culturally adapted services to Indigenous people :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the La Tuque Native Friendship Centre ; • the Val-d'Or Native Friendship Centre ; • QNW ; • the SPVM (Programme Les Survivantes – Autochtone).



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>6 (cont'd)</p>		<p>The SCF</p> <p>The SCF launched the 2021-2022 call for proposals : sexual abuse and conjugal and family violence in an indigenous context. This call for proposals sought concrete responses to the problems of sexual violence and conjugal and domestic violence in Indigenous communities. A \$5.4-million budget allowance was initially planned for the call for proposals. In light of the enthusiastic response of Indigenous organizations and partners, the SRPNI added \$6 million from the funds granted to respond to the recommendations of the commissions of inquiry in order to fund a greater number of projects. Since March 2022, 30 projects have been funded under this call for proposals.</p> <p>As part of the provincial strategy against sexual violence, the <i>Stratégie gouvernementale intégrée pour contrer la violence sexuelle, la violence conjugale et Rebâtir la confiance 2022-2027</i>, six new projects addressing sexual, domestic and family violence in Indigenous settings were announced for 2023–2024, for a total of \$1.8 million.</p> <p>The Ministère de la Justice (MJQ)</p> <p>In the context of the adoption in 2021-2022 of priority actions to combat femicides, the MJQ is jointly carrying out with the SCF a measure aimed at the rehabilitation of individuals grappling with violent behaviour. The portion of the measure under the responsibility of the MJQ is partly funded through the budget allowance related to the <i>Plan d'action gouvernemental en matière de violence conjugale 2018-2023 pour l'adoption de mesures propres aux milieux autochtones</i> (\$14 million for the period 2018-2023) and the budget allowance to implement the recommendations of the commissions of inquiry (\$200 million for the period 2020-2025). To provide a framework for granting this funding, a support program was created, called the Programme de soutien aux services pour contrer la violence conjugale et familiale en milieu autochtone. In 2023–2024, the program funded six service proposals to fight domestic and family violence.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>6 (cont'd)</p>		<p>The Société d’habitation du Québec (SHQ)</p> <p>Funding for a housing project for Indigenous women and children who are the victims of domestic violence was announced in March 2022. The Maison communautaire Missinak received \$3 million in financial assistance. Of this amount, \$1 million comes from the \$200-million budget granted to the SRPNI to implement the recommendations of the commissions of inquiry. The shelter for Indigenous women and children who are victims of violence opened its doors in April 2024.</p> <p>What is more, the SHQ and the SRPNI have contributed financially to a 23-unit second phase housing project for Indigenous women in the Native Women’s Shelter of Montreal, slated to open in 2023.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Fund and disseminate the awareness-raising campaigns elaborated by Indigenous organizations to prevent, denounce, de-normalize, and address violence against Indigenous women and girls, including the members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ in Québec.</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 20</p>	<p>The SRPNI, in collaboration with the SCF</p> <p>In June 2022, the SRPNI, in collaboration with the SCF, conducted an awareness campaign focusing on conjugal and domestic violence in First Nations and Inuit communities, elaborated in collaboration with Indigenous partners.</p> <p>A third phase of this campaign is planned for 2025 and will be led by the SCF, in partnership with the SRPNI.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
8	<p>Fully train Quebec based public service workers so that they can adapt their interventions to the socio-cultural realities of Indigenous people and the particular challenges faced by them</p> <p>Related recommendations : CERP 25 and 26</p>	<p>The SRPNI</p> <p>Two training programs devoted to Indigenous realities are offered to Québec public service employees. The SRPNI offers monthly training on work in Indigenous affairs, which has reached 2 926 people. The SRPNI and the MJQ developed the second program, offered online, focusing on awareness of Indigenous realities. All told, roughly 3 720 people have received this training in government departments and bodies.</p> <p>The MSSS</p> <p>Implement the cultural safety approach in HSSN with the partners (collaboration with the FNI, the MSSS, and the establishments - MSSS, \$15 million for the period 2020-2025).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2020-2025 comprehensive implementation plan, elaborated in collaboration with the advisory committee on cultural safety (training, the assignment of liaison officers and navigators, support for good practices, and the adaptation of the conditions stipulated in the health and social services network complaint examination system). • Training : as of December 31, 2022, 242 139 employees in the HSSN had completed general training on awareness of Indigenous realities (82 %). <p>Bill 32, <i>An Act to Establish the Cultural Safety Approach within the Health and Social Services Network</i>, also calls for all HSSS personnel to receive mandatory training on First Nations and Inuit culture and history. In September 2024, Bill 32 was returned for detailed study by the Committee on Institutions with a view to its adoption.</p> <p>The MJQ</p> <p>Training is under development focusing specifically on justice-related questions and aimed at heightening awareness among the interveners in the judicial system who work in the Indigenous context. What is more, additional training focusing specifically on conjugal and domestic violence and sexual violence in Indigenous communities was made available to social-legal interveners in April 2023 for the purposes of launching the pilot projects of the specialized court.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
9	<p>Incorporate in the mandatory curriculum training developed together with Indigenous organizations on the socio-cultural, historical and contemporary realities of Indigenous Peoples</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 22</p>	<p>The Ministère de l'Éducation (MEQ)</p> <p>The MEQ is combining several complementary approaches. First, additions concerning the consideration of Indigenous realities have been made in the <i>Référentiel de compétences professionnelles de la profession enseignante</i> published in 2020.</p> <p>At the same time, the MEQ is planning the gradual integration of content pertaining to the sociocultural, historical, and contemporary realities of the Indigenous peoples in all programs of study where it appears relevant to do so. The MEQ's objective is to foster collaboration with First Nations and Inuit organizations but also to formalize their participation in the deliberations. Moreover, in conjunction with the implementation of an updating process, the MEQ wishes to achieve greater predictability in the programs that it updates and afford the First Nations and the Inuit the time necessary to participate in the deliberations. In this perspective, even before the new program updating process is implemented, the new <i>Culture and Citizenship in Québec Program</i> is, in a manner of speaking, the first study program in which the First Nations and the Inuit have contributed to the content. It is contributing to the general attainment of the objective of Call 9. From the outset, First Nations members and Inuit have been involved in the ongoing review of the <i>Français, langue d'enseignement</i> program, and will be consulted throughout the process.</p> <p>The Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur (MES)</p> <p>With the new human sciences program of study, the colleges must broach First Nations and Inuit realities and perspectives in the analysis of the questions examined in the program of study. This facet of the second goal of the specific training under the program of study was elaborated in collaboration with a teacher from Kiuna College.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
10	<p>Guarantee the permanent provision and availability of victim services in all Indigenous communities and in urban areas</p>	<p>The MJQ</p> <p>The Crime Victims Assistance Centres (CAVAC) network comprises 17 centres, one in Inuit territory and one in Cree territory. The centres offer services in French, English, and certain Indigenous languages (Inuktitut, Cree, Innu, and Algonquin). Some 46 service points offer permanent, mobile, or directly on demand services to the Indigenous communities. The CAVAC network relies on 15 Indigenous interveners and a similar number of non-Indigenous persons who have been made aware of and trained to work with Indigenous victims.</p> <p>An additional budget was granted to the MJQ in 2020 to enhance Indigenous victim support services. The measure was implemented both through additional positions in certain CAVACs and support for the development of services under the responsibility of Indigenous organizations. Accordingly, in 2021-2022, the Council of the Atikamekw Nation received a grant to develop such services and funding to hire interveners devoted to the Indigenous peoples was granted to the CAVAC de l’Abitibi-Témiscamingue, de la Côte-Nord et du Lac-Saint-Jean, and to the Cree and Inuit CAVACs. In 2022-2023, the MJQ granted financial assistance to the community of Akwesasne, the First Peoples Justice Centre of Montreal, and the CAVAC de Montréal to provide services to victims under their responsibility. In 2023-2024, funding continued for CAVAC workers, Akwesasne, the First Peoples Justice Center of Montreal and the Conseil de la Nation Atikamekw.</p> <p>Since the adoption of the <i>Act to assist persons who are victims of criminal offences and to facilitate their recovery</i>, several measures to consider the specific needs of Indigenous victims have been implemented. First, a resource person has been hired to implement the measures, including an information dissemination strategy concerning compensation for crime victims in Indigenous communities. Among the measures to be implemented, mention should be made of the reimbursement of expenses related to culturally relevant healing services for Indigenous peoples who are crime victims.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
11	<p>All the police forces with jurisdiction in Quebec to systematically compile statistics on the number of reported disappearances and offences against the person committed against Indigenous women and girls, including members of 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, and that the Ministère de la Sécurité publique [Ministry of Public Security] publish these statistics on an annual basis.</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>Crime reporting by IPFs is conducted through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey, a program that the federal government administers (Statistics Canada).</p> <p>The MSP is pursuing its discussions with the IPFs to assess the requisite human, physical and informational resources to ensure the transmission of their annual statistical data to the UCR.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
12	<p>Ensure the continuity of the tripartite agreements with Québec’s Indigenous police forces by granting increased, long-term funding to cover all needs, especially as regards staff, training, and equipment.</p> <p>Related recommendations : CERP 31 and 32</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>Negotiations are ongoing in this respect with the federal government and Indigenous authorities.</p> <p>Work is in progress to establish, in collaboration with the Indigenous authorities, a complete status report on the wages paid, infrastructure, equipment available to the IPFs, and the geographic and social realities of the communities that they serve. In light of the observations made, a prioritization plan governing the initiatives aimed at developing the organizational capacity of IPFs in Québec will be elaborated to ensure that the police forces benefit from the necessary resources to provide quality policing services that satisfy their specific needs.</p> <p>Funding established under the tripartite agreements (20 IPFs) is indexed annually by 2.75 %. For the Cree and Naskapi Nations covered by an agreement, specific financial arrangements regarding indexing are stipulated in the agreements (two IPFs).</p> <p>Furthermore, the tripartite agreements, for which the Québec government is providing 48 % of the funding, can extend up to 10 years, which affords the IPFs predictable funding.</p> <p>Deliberations concerning the recognition of the IPFs as essential services are ongoing at the federal level and the MSP is participating actively on the Assistant Deputy Minister Federal-Provincial-Territorial Committee on Indigenous Policing.</p> <p>Collaboration is ongoing with the Quebec Association of First Nation and Inuit Police Directors (QAFNIPD) and a Political Table comprising the Québec government and the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador (AFNQL) concerning public security was created in 2021-2022, which includes a technical committee focusing on police services.</p> <p>What is more, on December 4, 2020, the Québec government undertook to broaden access among aspiring police officers hired by the IPFs to the Basic Training Program in Police Patrolling by investing \$3.8 million for the period 2021-2025. This enabled several aspiring police officers from the First Nations and Inuit communities to benefit from the government grant to cover initial training fees at the École nationale de police du Québec (ÉNPQ). Accordingly, 21 aspiring police officers have graduated since the measure’s inception in April 2021.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
13	<p>Coordinate between the various police forces to provide Indigenous peoples with access to effective public security services regardless of jurisdictional obstacles.</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>The MSP has carried out several initiatives to promote the enhanced coordination of police forces, some of which are indicated below.</p> <p>Commitments under the 2017-2022 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit :</p> <p>The MSP established a working committee on the training of future Indigenous police officers and police officers working in the Indigenous communities, including training in investigation.</p> <p>The mandate of the committee, which met 31 times between July 19, 2018, and March 31, 2022, is indicated below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster exchanges in the realm of training future Indigenous police officers and police officers working in the Indigenous communities, including ongoing training with a view to increasing the number of Indigenous police officers on the police forces serving such communities and increasing the number of Indigenous students in the police training path. • Reflect on the means of broadening access to police training for the Indigenous peoples. In this analysis, pinpoint obstacles at various levels, such as the language of instruction. • Find solutions in order to better plan needs and facilitate the recruitment of Indigenous students, contribute to their graduation rate, and ensure their continued employment. <p>Spinoff from the working committee’s deliberations includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the adaptation of the training program according to the specific needs and realities of the Cree Nation and its funding by the MES ; • the elaboration of a communications strategy aimed at promoting among the Indigenous peoples Indigenous Police Technology college studies and police work. The campaign was initially launched in French and is now offered in French and in English ; • the MES has provided funding to support Indigenous students in their police training pathway. <p>In June 2024, a working committee was set up specifically to train and recruit Cree police officers.</p> <p>The committee will continue to meet three or four times a year. Discussions will focus on the coordination and rollout of the communications strategy aimed at recruiting future Indigenous police officers and the promotion of the profession.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
13 (cont'd)		<p>Agreement respecting the payment of a grant to the Quebec Association of First Nation and Inuit Police Directors for the period April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2025 (March 31, 2021)</p> <p>This agreement financially supports the QAFNIPD's operations and contributes in passing to the development of the IPFs. Each year it facilitates the realization of measures aimed at enhancing police service delivery in Indigenous communities, especially those identified by the commissions of inquiry, and enables the QAFNIPD to participate on various committees.</p> <p>Agreement respecting the payment of a grant to the Quebec Association of First Nation and Inuit Police Directors to implement and operate a shared support services structure (January 11, 2022)</p> <p>The agreement covers a Québec government grant to the QAFNIPD to establish and operate a shared support services structure with specialized resources that support the IPFs. The funding has enabled the QAFNIPD to hire two operational coordinators, a communications coordinator, and to fill an administrative position. This reinforcement has helped the IPFs to develop and manage their local initiatives through the elaboration of projects to support and make conjugal and domestic violence victims feel more secure.</p> <p>The AFNQL-MSP technical committee</p> <p>The committee first met on May 26, 2022. In the interval leading up to the second meeting on September 22, 2022, a status report was produced on the IPFs, and discussions focussed on the modernization of the Police Act related to the reinforcement of the IPFs and the Government of Canada's proposal to elaborate legislation on First Nations police services. To date, the committee has met five times and adopted a mandate that encompasses three priority issues :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an evaluation of data collection needs focusing on police service infrastructure and funding (status report); • information sharing and discussions on the initiatives undertaken following the publication of reports and follow-up to the recommendations, calls for action, and proposals put forward in the public investigation reports and the deliberations of expert panels ; • proposed policy directions pertaining to legislative amendments to enhance oversight related to public security services for the First Nations.



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>13 (cont'd)</p>		<p>Annual symposium of Indigenous police directors</p> <p>This annual event proposes several talks and emphasizes the work of Indigenous police officers with 15, 20, 30, or 40 years of service. In particular, it affords an opportunity for networking, ongoing training, and discussions between the partners involved in public security. The fifteenth edition was held at the Lévis convention centre from June 11 to 13, 2024. The event was organized by the Quebec Association of First Nation and Inuit Police Directors.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Amend all laws governing the institutions responsible for training police officers and monitoring police work so as to impose the appointment of Indigenous representatives, including the Commission de formation et de recherche of the École nationale de police du Québec and the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes.</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>An Indigenous representative sat on the board of directors of the ENPQ from September 23, 2020, to January 16, 2023. A candidate will be appointed shortly to again fill this position, which was made mandatory by the <i>Act Respecting the Governance of State-owned Enterprises</i>. There has been an Indigenous observer on the ENPQ Training and Research Commission since June 18, 2021, and this representative will be officially appointed in the coming year. Amendments to the Police Act (Bill P-72) now enable the Bureau des enquêtes indépendantes (BEI) to initiate a recruiting campaign aimed at the Indigenous peoples. Accordingly, in 2021-2022 the BEI disseminated a targeted call for applications to recruit investigators from the Indigenous communities. A female investigator, who is a member of the Anicinabe Nation, was hired on August 4, 2023. The BEI also has an Indigenous liaison officer position.</p> <p>In 2024, the BEI will begin holding meetings in Indigenous communities to advertise the position and announce recruitment opportunities for Indigenous investigators and liaison officers.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
15	<p>Train all active police officers and police cadets on the socio-cultural realities of Indigenous people and the particular challenges faced by them, the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, including members of 2SLGBTQIA communities, and the importance of being familiar with the particular reality of each community to which they are assigned (Quebec’s police forces and the École nationale de police du Québec)</p> <p>Related recommendations : CERP 25 and 26</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>Several initiatives were carried out through the teaching activities of the Basic Training Program in Police Patrolling to train aspiring police officers with respect to Indigenous realities :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The learning focused on policing in Indigenous communities that seeks proper intervention by patrol officers in the non-Indigenous police forces working with an Indigenous clientele in urban and semi-urban environments has been completely revised. The 90-minute training session has been offered since February 18, 2002, and since then, 715 aspiring police officers have been trained. • Other learning has been revised to add specific indigeneity to scenarios on intrafamilial violence and systemic profiling. <p>The Basic Training Program in Police Patrolling intended for aspiring Indigenous police officers is adapted to the communities’ needs and is offered in French and in English with the participation of Indigenous trainers. For example, it proposes more solo simulations, additional situation simulation exercises devoted to conjugal violence, suicide, and an intervention involving groups of revellers, training on fingerprinting, and DNA sampling. What is more, students are asked to intervene in a neighbouring Indigenous community to put certain techniques into practice.</p> <p>The first cohort from a training path adapted to the recruiting and workforce retention needs of the Eeyou Eenou Police Force, the Basic Training in Police Patrolling – Alternative Program, began on August 22, 2022. The program, which combines the college training path and that of the Basic Training Program in Police Patrolling of the ÉNPQ and the duties of special constables in the community will satisfy the police force’s expectations and foster the aspiring police officers’ success. Seven candidates completed the first instruction unit and will return for three weeks to the ÉNPQ in the winter of 2023 at the conclusion of their college studies.</p> <p>The ÉNPQ has elaborated two workshops aimed at its staff. A two-hour workshop is offered on an ongoing basis to all staff devoted to awareness of contemporary Indigenous issues. A seven-hour pedagogical workshop focusing on second language training for an Indigenous clientele is offered to all instructors (118 instructors have been trained).</p> <p>The ÉNPQ has added training in French and in English in police refresher training to its online course catalogue in partnership with the Canadian Police Knowledge Network: “Sensibilisation aux autochtones” (“Indigenous Awareness”).</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
16	<p>Hold specialized English training sessions every year and offer specialized training sessions to Indigenous police forces, specifically on investigating (École nationale de police du Québec).</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 30</p>	<p>The MSP</p> <p>The IPFs have access to all refresher training at the ÉNPQ. The training programs are translated on an ongoing basis according to prioritization based on requalification requirements and the training needs expressed by English-speaking IPFs. Agreements have also been concluded with English-speaking training partners such as the Canadian Police Knowledge Network and the Ontario Police College (OPC), which enables the ÉNPQ to offer a more extensive catalogue of training programs in English.</p> <p>The training program “Intervenir en matière de violence conjugale, intrafamiliale et sexuelle – CPA” developed by the ÉNPQ exclusively for the IPFs in collaboration with the Direction des poursuites criminelles et pénales and the MSP, has been translated and is now offered to all Indigenous police officers.</p> <p>Specialized training programs were added in 2022 to the courses offered in English, in particular the Criminal Investigators Training program, a basic 10-day investigation program offered in partnership with the OPC. On September 2, 2022, 15 police officers from Québec English-speaking IPFs completed the program. The police investigators, from the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service, Eeyou Eenou Police Force, Gesgapegiag Police Service, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Police Department, Listuguj Police Department, Nunavik Police Service, and Timiskaming Police Service can now initiate police investigation cases to enable a specialized investigator to pursue and complete the investigation process. In certain cases, they can manage an investigation case in the IPF.</p> <p>In the realm of investigations, the course on the NICHD child interview protocol is also offered in English.</p> <p>Specialized online courses in English have been enhanced with the addition of courses developed by the Canadian Police Knowledge Network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction to human trafficking ; • consent law and common sexual assault myths ; • improving the reporting of cybercrime through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey ; • using a trauma-informed approach.



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
<p>16 (cont'd)</p>		<p>Following the Québec government's December 4, 2020, announcement to broaden access by a greater number of Indigenous police officers to professional development training, between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022, 426 registrations were recorded from the 22 IPFs in police professional development, despite a two-month hiatus because of the pandemic. For the period April 1 to December 31, 2022, the ÉNPQ had already recorded 562 registrations in more than 50 courses. Between the announcement and March 31, 2024, a total of 819 people from 22 Indigenous police forces registered for professional development, which includes over 100 different courses, including 16 university courses.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Appoint by election in each Indigenous community in Québec an independent liaison officer tasked with supporting community members in exercising the remedies available when their rights have been violated, and provide this person with specialized training on the realities faced by Indigenous women and girls, including members of 2SLGBTQIA communities ; and that the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec allocate long-term funding to help fulfill this mandate.</p> <p>Related recommendation : CERP 19</p>	<p>This call for action is aimed at the Indigenous communities and the Québec government is not, therefore, prioritizing the call for justice's implementation.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Immediately eliminate all discriminatory elements in the <i>Indian Act</i>, R.S.C. (1985), c. I-5.</p> <p>- Call to the Government of Canada</p>	<p>- Call to the Government of Canada</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
19	<p>Approve and implement the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i> (UNDRIP)</p> <p>Related recommendations CERP 2 and 3</p>	<p>The Québec government is willing to negotiate on an equal footing with the Indigenous nations and communities agreements focusing on themes of shared interest in order to give concrete expression to the principles of the UNDRIP. Such initiatives, some of which are under way, are in keeping with the motions to support the UNDRIP adopted by the National Assembly of Québec in 2019, 2020, and 2021</p>
20	<p>Provide Indigenous families with all the information that it has about children who were apprehended following admission to a hospital or any other health centre in Quebec.</p>	<p>The SRPNI</p> <p>In June 2021, the Québec government had adopted the <i>Act to authorize the communication of personal information to the families of Indigenous children who went missing or died after being admitted to an institution</i> (the Act).</p> <p>The Act came into force on September 1, 2021. It supports families humanely and respectfully in their search for information from health and social services institutions, organizations, or religious congregations. In collaboration with Indigenous organizations, the Québec government wishes to support families in their healing process and foster reconciliation.</p> <p>To support families in their search for information, the Act departs from certain access regimes by allowing the communication of certain personal information concerning a child to the extended family or any significant person. Under certain conditions, the Act also stipulates that the Minister Responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit (the Minister) can investigate an establishment, an organization, or a religious congregation.</p> <p>To ensure full support for families in their search for information, a new Direction de soutien aux familles (DSF) was established in the SRPNI on September 1, 2021. In the nearly three years since the Act came into force, the DSF has worked with Awacak—Petits êtres de lumière to search for 113,204 children. Among other support services, the DSF assists families in every aspect of the search for their family member, coordinates a network of health and social services experts so as to implement the Act, and develops all the processes and partnerships necessary for the case expertise required to apply the Act. The DSF also helps families with their requests for exhumation, as well as with the repatriation, reburial and commemoration of their children.</p> <p>The third annual report on the Act was submitted on April 25, 2024. It was presented to families in the community of Pikogan on April 26, 2024.</p>



	RECOMMENDATIONS	GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES
21	<p>Establish a commission of inquiry on the children taken from Indigenous families in Québec.</p>	<p>The SRPNI</p> <p>The Québec government adopted the Act on June 3, 2021. The new DSF has administered the Act since it came into force on September 1, 2021, working in close collaboration with organizations representing the families.</p> <p>The Minister reports annually to the government on the administration of the Act. The report is presented to the National Assembly and in the Indigenous communities.</p> <p>The monitoring committee on the carrying out of the Act was established in October 2021, comprising the representatives of Indigenous organizations and the opposition parties. The committee has a mandate to monitor the administration of the Act and make recommendations in this respect. A total of five recommendations were issued for 2021–2023, as well as seven additional recommendations for 2023–2024. The annual reports document their implementation.</p> <p>Through these bodies and in keeping with the preamble of the Act, the Québec government is ensuring the full administration of the Act in a spirit of respect for all the needs of the families in their quest for the truth and their healing. By facilitating access to the personal information that it allows the families, the investigative powers attributed to the Minister under certain conditions, and the accountability mechanisms stipulated, the Act thus responds to Call for Justice 21.</p> <p>The Québec government is closely monitoring its administration to make provision, if need be, for other phases in the responses to this Call for Justice, according to the needs that the families express.</p>



**Secrétariat
aux relations avec
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Québec 