

Artist: Trina Williams, Ktunaxa Citizen and a member of the Lower Kootenay Community

# January 2013 – March 31, 2015 Report of the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women

Submitted to the Honourable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation



March 31, 2015

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Honourable John Rustad Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation PO BOX 9051 STN PROV GOVT Victoria BC V8W 9E2

### Dear Minister Rustad:

I am pleased to present you with a Report of the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women (MACAW).

The Report contains a summary of MACAW's activities, publications, projects, and collaborations with government, Aboriginal organizations and Aboriginal communities from January 2013 to March 31, 2015.

We appreciate your on-going support and dedication, and look forward to continuing to work collaboratively to improve the lives of Aboriginal women.

Sincerely,

Chastity Davis Chair, MACAW



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## Chairperson's Message



### [Greeting]:

I am pleased to present the *Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women January 2013 – March 31, 2015 Report,* outlining achievements ending March 31, 2015.

The report outlines the MACAW's work to provide advice to government on how to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal women in BC.

Amongst the many positive outcomes from January 2013 to March 2015, the following must be highlighted:

- The MACAW successfully obtained political endorsement for a *Declaration to Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls*. On June 13, 2014, Aboriginal leadership and the Government of British Columbia signed a *Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls* (MOU). A Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table is being developed to implement the objectives of the MOU.
- The MACAW launched the second year of the "Giving Voice Project" in support of community engaged and led action. To date, over \$400,000 has been granted to fifty communities and organizations to "Give Voice" to issues of violence and abuse, identify champions, build partnerships, engage community, and initiate community mobilization and implementation projects.

The MACAW remains committed to strengthening our capacity to help address the complex issues related to violence in the lives of Aboriginal women and girls. Funding was secured in 2014/15 for independent Secretariat support for the work of the MACAW and the Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table.

I am very grateful to all of the women on the Council for their commitment to working in partnership to improve the lives of our women, including our former members Wendy Grant-John (past Chair), Charlene Belleau, and Kim Baird. I also want to acknowledge the many other women and Aboriginal organizations and communities who are also working to achieve safe and healthy communities.

Working in partnership, we will make a difference for all of our women.

# Part I - Background

### **MACAW's Mandate**

The MACAW was established in 2011 to provide advice to government on how to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal women across British Columbia, and to address the social and economic challenges that expose Aboriginal women and girls to violence.

The following Vision, Mission and Principles guide the MACAW in fulfilling its mandate.

### **MACAW's Vision**

A world where all Aboriginal people live free of violence and are empowered to achieve their full human potential.

### **MACAW's Mission**

MACAW will work with Aboriginal leaders, all levels of government and other partners to encourage development and implementation of ongoing and culturally appropriate approaches to:

- Prevent all forms of violence;
- Increase access for victims and perpetrators of violence to a full range of services; and
- Strengthen the implementation of laws, policies and programs to end violence.

## **MACAW's Principles**

MACAW's guiding principles include:

### Community-Driven and Community-Based

The voices of Aboriginal women, men and children must be heard and this will ensure that strategies and initiatives are truly responsive, services are accessible and, where appropriate, community based.

### Integrity

Drawing on Aboriginal cultures and traditions is essential to creating culturally appropriate policy and programs.

### Partnership

Collaboration, partnership and coordination at the community, regional, provincial and federal levels is needed to end violence.

#### Awareness

Sharing our knowledge, history, skills and understanding will build support and momentum for ending violence.

### Safety

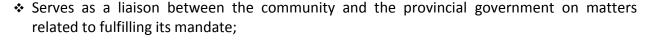
Special attention must be made to ensure that all services and supports for Aboriginal women and girls are provided in ways that support their physical and emotional safety.

### Part I – Background continued

# Committed to creating healthy and safe communities for Aboriginal women and their families, the MACAW:

- Works to ensure policies, programs, initiatives and legislation reflect Aboriginal input and are culturally appropriate;
- Conducts research and analysis and offers recommendations to government, collaborators and partners;
- Seeks input from women and their families to identify issues of concern;
- Reaches out to local and community-based service providers and women's groups;
- Supports coordinated and collaborative approaches and efforts;





- Supports community-owned, community-driven and community-based strategies;
- Supports solution-driven action;
- Advocates for formal support for Aboriginal-led strategies to heal people and communities and build pathways towards needed resources;
- Advocates for access to support, programs and opportunities for rural, remote, urban, onreserve and off-reserve communities;
- Advocates for the creation of safe places for Aboriginal women and children;
- Supports initiatives that promote self-esteem and cultural awareness, prevention and early intervention, and healing and wellness;
- Documents and shares stories and best practices;
- Promotes public awareness and education about root causes affecting the quality of life for Aboriginal women and their families;
- Undertakes approved initiatives as requested.



### Part I – Background continued

### Meet the MACAW

The MACAW is comprised of a Chair, Vice-Chair and eight Members from across British Columbia (including one position designated for an Elder).

The Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation appoints members for a term of up to 2 years. Members are selected based on criteria of diversity, experience and regional representation.

The MACAW reports to government through the Honorable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (see Appendix I for a link to MACAW's Terms of Reference).

The MACAW's Chair is paid remuneration according to Ministry of Finance guidelines<sup>1</sup>. The Chair has opted to donate any remuneration received to support Aboriginal women and girls. MACAW members provide their services voluntarily and without remuneration, except for expenses incurred in the course of attending MACAW-related meetings and conducting MACAW-related business.

The MACAW is supported by a Secretariat jointly funded by the Ministries of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, Justice, and Children and Family Development.

"The women who sit on the Aboriginal Women's Advisory Council are accomplished, respected, strong women who understand the underlying historic and systemic issues that continue to permeate the lives of Aboriginal women and girls. Preventing and addressing violence requires supports for healing, changing behaviors and attitudes, as well as the commitment and cooperation of our communities and all levels of government.

Collectively we can ensure that all Aboriginal people live in safety, optimal health and well-being."

**Council Chair, Chastity A. Davis** 



MOU Signing Ceremony, Chief Joe Mathias Centre West Vancouver, BC June 13, 2014 Chastity Davis, MACAW Chairperson (I); Marjorie White, MACAW Elder (r)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Treasury Board Directive 3/11 (Level 1 Advisory Board)

Part I Background – Meet the MACAW continued

### **Advisory Council Members**

Chastity A. Davis, Vancouver - Chairperson

Council term: 2014 - Present



Chastity Davis is the Principal and Lead Consultant with Chastity Davis Consulting. Previously, she was a Key Account Manager with BC Hydro and prior to that, a Project Manager with Refinery Leadership. Active in the community, Ms. Davis is a Director on the Board of the Minerva Foundation, as well as serves as a Council member for the Combining Our Strength Initiative. In the past, Ms. Davis was the Vice President of the Aboriginal Women's Leadership Association of B.C. and is a frequent speaker at events, including the Women's World Conference, National Women's Retreat, Healing Our Spirit

Worldwide, and B.C. Institute of Technology's (BCIT) Aboriginal Alumni. Ms. Davis holds her Diploma in Marketing Management and Professional Sales from BCIT, her Bachelor of Arts in Professional Communications from Royal Roads University, and will be completing her Master of Arts in Intercultural and International Communication in the Spring of 2015 from Royal Roads University.

### Mary Teegee, Takla Lake First Nation - Co-Chair

Council term: 2013 - Present



Mary Teegee is from the Takla Lake First Nation in north-central B.C. She is the Executive Director of Child and Family Services with Carrier Sekani Family Services. Mary provides cross-cultural training to agencies and individuals who offer services to the Carrier Sekani people. She believes that community wellness depends on nurturing tradition, cultural values and the environment.

### Marjorie White, New Westminster - Elder

Council term: 2013 – Present



Marjorie White, a citizen of the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, is an Elder Advisor and former Executive Director of Circle of Eagles Lodge Society. Currently, she serves as Founder and member of the B.C. Association of Friendship Centre Elder Council, past-President of Aboriginal Mother Centre, Senator of the National Association of Friendship Centres, Vice President of Luma Native Housing, Chair of the Vancouver Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee, member of the Pacific Association of First Nation Women, the Vi Fineday Transition Society, Huu-ay-aht Government, and Vancouver Aboriginal Transformative Justice Service Society. Ms. White is the recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee

Commemorative Medal, the International Year of the Volunteer Award from Correctional Services Canada, Women Making a Difference Award from the Vancouver Society of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women, Volunteer Recognition Award from Volunteer Vancouver, the Women of Distinction Award from the YWCA, the Gold Feather Award from the Professional Native Women's Association, and the Courage Award from the Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centres Society, to name a few. In addition, she was previously appointed to the Langara College Board, Citizenship Courts, the Vancouver Police Commission, and the Safer Cities Task Force. Ms. White has two daughters, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

### Part I Background - Meet the MACAW continued

#### Paulette Flamond, Fort St. John – Member

Council term: 2013 - Present



Paulette Flamond, a Métis, has 18 years' experience in business and management, including international business experience. In addition to sitting on several provincial and national boards, Paulette has been the executive director for the Northeast Aboriginal Business Centre for the past 11 years, and currently owns Scoop Boutique, a successful women's clothing store in Fort St. John (www.scoopclothing.ca).

Paulette is a recent graduate of the Ch'nook Aboriginal Management Certificate Program (AMP), as well as Erickson College in Vancouver, where she completed The Art and Science of Coaching program. She is also a graduate of the Native Communications program at MacEwan

University (formerly Grant MacEwan College); holds an associate arts degree; has a Life Skills Certificate from the Life Skills Institute in Edmonton; has completed extensive courses in both social work and business management; and is certified as a Professional Aboriginal Economic Developer by the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO).

In 2009 Paulette was named Economic Developer of the Year by CANDO and was presented with the Aurora Award of Distinction as Aboriginal Woman of the Year from Community Futures Peace Liard. She also received a Northern British Columbia Business & Technology Award in 2011.

Paulette is passionate about the work she does and is inspired to help improve communities and individuals by encouraging wellness, training, and entrepreneurship. She was instrumental in starting Walk in Balance, the first-ever Aboriginal wellness conference in northeastern B.C. As an Aboriginal woman, she is committed to being a leader and role model, and was recently appointed to the Ministry's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women by Mary Polak, B.C.'s former Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation.

# Annita McPhee Council term: 2015 - Present



Annita McPhee is a member of the Tahltan Nation located in Northwestern British Columbia's Stikine Valley. Ms. McPhee is dedicated to working to enhance and protect the quality of life for First Nations in Canada and globally. Ms. McPhee also volunteers her time with a number of other organizations, including the International Indigenous Women's Forum and the International Women's Rights Project. Ms. McPhee is former President of the Tahltan Central Council and served 3 terms as Leader of the Tahltan Nation. She served as a board member of the Tahltan Nation Development Corporation from 2004 to 2005, creating policies to support sustainable and responsible development and identifying business development opportunities. From 2001 to 2006, she ran her own

consulting and training company specializing in fundraising and community and economic development for Aboriginal organizations. In early 2012, Ms. McPhee was the first aboriginal woman to be named to the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada's Board of Directors. In 2000, Ms. McPhee was one of nine men and women declared by the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, former Governor General of Canada as a National Native Role Model, a nationwide poster campaign where her life story served as an inspiration for First Nations' youth. In 1999, she was acclaimed one of British Columbia's 25 Brightest Up & Comers by The Province newspaper. In 1998, she was acknowledged for her leadership at law school as a recipient of the Keith Dobson Award and the Bronze Tie Award. She studied Public Relations at the British Columbia Institute of Technology and holds her Bachelor of Social Work and her Bachelor of Laws from the University of Victoria.

### Part I Background – Meet the MACAW continued

### Sophie Pierre, St. Mary's Indian Band – Member

Council term: 2013 - Present



Sophie Pierre is the former Chief Commissioner of the B.C. Treaty Commission. She led the St. Mary's Indian Band for 30 years as elected Chief and was the administrator of the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council for 25 years. She has also served on the boards of many major organizations, including BC Hydro and the First Nations Financial Authority.

### Darlene Shackelly, Kwakiutl First Nation - Member

Council term: 2013 - Present



Darlene Shackelly is a member of the Nooaitch First Nation. Her family origin is from the Kwakwaka'wakw Nation. She has dedicated 32 years to working with the Native Court Worker and Counselling Association of British Columbia, and has been the Executive Director for the past 14 years. Darlene is the author of three women safety guides and sits on many committees to support justice issues that affect Aboriginal people.

#### Barbara M. Ward-Burkitt, Prince George - Member

Council term: 2014 - Present



Barbara Ward-Burkitt is a member of the Fort McKay First Nation and is currently the Executive Director of the Prince George Native Friendship Centre. She has been actively connected in many capacities to the Friendship Centre movement for 43 years. In the past she was a Faculty Mentor in Field Programs at Simon Fraser University and a Native Childcare Worker for the Quesnel School District. Active in her community, Ms. Ward-Burkitt is Vice President of the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and President of Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association. She completed her First Nations Design and Technology Course from Emily Carr Institute of

Art and Design and her Masters of Education Degree from Simon Fraser University. Ms. Ward-Burkitt also holds her Provincial Instructor's Diploma from the Vancouver Community College and her Native Adult Instructor's Diploma from the B.C. Ministry of Education, Skills and Training. Ms. Ward-Burkitt was invested into the Order of British Columbia in 2010.

### Debbie Williams, Cowichan Tribes – Member

2013 – Present



Debbie Williams is the Executive Director of Hiiye'yu Lelum (House of Friendship) Society, the Friendship Centre in Duncan, and brings an urban Aboriginal focus. She has served in this position for 27 years and is the longest-serving Friendship Centre Executive Director in the province. Debbie is a member of Cowichan Tribes, was born and raised in Somena village and carries the traditional name of Lateethiya. She serves on Coast Salish Employment and Training Society Board of Directors and the Makola Housing Society Board of Directors.

### Part I Background - Meet the MACAW continued

Dr. Lorna Williams, Victoria – Member 2014 – Present



Lorna Williams is the current Chair of the First Peoples' Cultural Council. She is a member of the Lil'wat First Nation of Mount Currie. Until her retirement in 2013, she was the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Knowledge and Learning, an Associate Professor in Indigenous Education, Curriculum and Instruction and Linguistics, and former Program Director of Aboriginal Education at the University of Victoria. Before joining the University of Victoria, Ms. Williams worked at the Ministry of Education as Director of the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Branch. Prior to this appointment, she worked as a First Nations Education Specialist with the Vancouver School Board. Ms. Williams received her

Doctorate in Education at the University of Tennessee. She has co-directed a series of videos called *First Nations: The Circle Unbroken* and has written children's books, teachers' guides and developed Lil'wat language curriculum to teach people to read and write the Lil'wat language. Ms. Williams was invested into the Order of British Columbia in 1993 in recognition for her work in education.

### Former MACAW members include:

**Wendy Grant-John, Musqueam Indian Band – Chairperson** 2011 – 2014

**Charlene Belleau, Esketemc First Nation—Member** 2011 - 2014

**Kim Baird, Tsawwassen First Nation—Member** 2011 – 2015

### PART II – MACAW MEETINGS

The MACAW generally meets on a quarterly basis, or as determined by the Chair, and at least twice a year with the Minister. Meetings provide Members with the opportunity to share experiences, knowledge and understanding of issues, and discuss and decide on recommendations to government. Members meet with representatives from provincial ministries and Aboriginal governments, community-based organizations, service providers and members of the community, as well as attend various functions and events on behalf of the MACAW.

The MACAW determines its strategic priorities and activities using an interest-based, collaborative, and consultative process guided by expert input and facilitation. The MACAW anticipates undertaking a Strategic Planning Session in the spring of 2015/16.

## MACAW Meetings - January 2013 - March 31, 2015

- February 13, 2013, Vancouver, BC
- July 11, 2013, Teleconference
- September 16, 2013, Vancouver, BC
- November 7, 2013, Teleconference
- February 21, 2014, Teleconference
- April 2, 2014, Vancouver, BC
- April 28, 2014, Vancouver, BC
- September 10, 2014, Vancouver, BC
- November 4, 2014, Victoria, BC
- November 26, 2014, Teleconference
- February 12-13, 2015, Victoria

MACAW Meeting Highlights are available in Part IV.

## Part III - Strategic Context

The MACAW is mandated to provide advice to government on improving the quality of life for Aboriginal women in BC—this means equality and enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Since its establishment, the MACAW has focused its efforts on addressing an imbalance in these rights that has detracted from quality of life and manifested in violence towards Aboriginal women and girls.

Domestic violence and other forms of violence are not a part of Aboriginal culture. Violence against Aboriginal women is a symptom of enforced colonization and racist legislation and policies intended to make way for an industrial civilization in opposition to Indigenous values and culture. This is borne out in reports and studies which agree that the disproportionate incidence of violence towards Indigenous women and girls in Canada is deeply rooted in the historical treatment and current social and economic conditions of Aboriginal peoples.

- Aboriginal women are nearly three times more likely than non-Aboriginal women to report being a victim of a violent crime; whether perpetrated by a stranger or by a spouse.<sup>ii</sup>
- Aboriginal women face more severe incidences of violence. A recent Statistics Canada report suggests that the national homicide rate for Indigenous women is at least seven times higher than for non-Indigenous women. iii
- Police-recorded incidents of Aboriginal female homicides and unresolved missing Aboriginal females total 1,181 - 164 missing and 1,017 homicide victims.<sup>iv</sup>

A desire to address the root causes and social and economic challenges revealed by these troubling statistics motivated the Province of BC and the Native Women's Association of Canada to co-host the *Collaboration to End Violence: National Aboriginal Women's Forum* in June 2011. The outcomes of the Forum reinforced the need for a holistic and community-driven network of responses, with strengthened relationships and improved accountability. Former Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister Mary Polak responded by establishing the MACAW in 2011.

# Part IV - Strategic Priorities of MACAW

The MACAW held its first Strategic Planning Session on March 27, 2012. Seven priorities were identified and recommended as the basis for an Action Plan to be delivered over the next two years, with the caveat that "many of the activities could and in many cases should extend well beyond the two years, that a number of 'early wins' for communities and government could be realized, and that the Council may still develop further recommendations for action over time."

These priorities included:

- 1. Developing a Holistic Model for addressing and ending violence;
- 2. Giving Voice hosting community forums for women in community;
- 3. Ensuring commitment and ownership from both the Province and Aboriginal leadership;
- 4. Developing partnerships;
- 5. Focusing on men;
- 6. Developing education and awareness materials; and
- 7. Implementing a communication plan and framework to communicate the work of the MACAW.

A link to the MACAW Strategic Planning Session is available in Appendix II.

# Part V – Key Accomplishments

# Direction to Government on Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women in BC

A key task under the MACAW's Terms of Reference is to provide advice to government to ensure programs supporting Aboriginal women will respond to their needs, build on effective practices and success, and be supported by key partners. In May 2013, the MACAW undertook a Dialogue Session that included representatives from the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, Ministry of Justice, and Steven Point (in his former role as the Chair of the Advisory Committee on the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women). Based on input from the Dialogue Session and additional research, the MACAW submitted its *Direction to Government on Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women in* BC to Minister Rustad on September 16, 2013. "Taking Action" is the MACAW's advice to government on actions it must take to fulfill the vision of a life free of violence for Aboriginal women and girls.

"Taking Action" contains 8 strategic directions with 27 recommendations and calls on the Province to immediately:

- Sign an Aboriginal-Government Leadership Memorandum of Understanding;
- Establish a Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table of Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women; and,
- Establish a Secretariat to support the activities of the Council and the Joint Partners Table.

The MACAW's Direction to Government on Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women in BC report is available in Appendix III.

Part V – Key Accomplishments continued

# "Taking Action" contains 8 Strategic Directions and 27 recommendations for government:

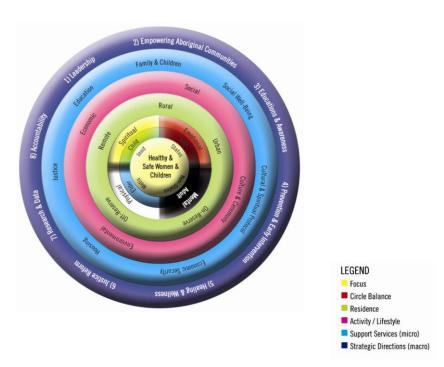
Strategic Direction	Goal	Actions	Time
1. Leadership	To support all leaders to utilize a principle-based approach as outlined in "Taking Action"	1.1 Re-Affirm Commitment	Short
		1.2 Memorandum of Understanding	Short
		1.3 Political Mandate	Short
		1.4 Legislation	Mid
2. Empower Aboriginal Communities	To allow communities to design, implement, and evaluate the necessary programs and services required to stop violence against Aboriginal women.	2.1 Provincial Skills Development	Mid
		2.2 Flexible Funding	Short
3. Education and	To provide all citizens in British	3.1 Provincial Public Awareness Campaign	Short
Awareness	Columbia with the information and tools to stop violence against Aboriginal women.	3.2 Aboriginal Awareness Campaign	Short
		3.3 Provincial Youth Forum	Short
4. Prevention and	To develop a coordinated and pro- active approach to preventing violence against Aboriginal women.	4.1 Children and Youth Resources	Short
Early Intervention		4.2 Poverty Reduction Strategy	Mid
		4.3 Health Services Access	Mid
5. Healing and	To ensure investment in healing and wellness is effective and culturally appropriate.	5.1 Independent Program Review	Short
Wellness		5.2 Service Provider Aboriginal Training	Mid
		5.3 Healing and Wellness Support for Men	Mid
		5.4 Mental Health Treatment Services	Mid
6. Justice Reform	To ensure the justice system is responsive to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal people.	6.1 Working Group	Short
		6.2 Justice System Review	Short
7. Research and Data	To support Aboriginal organizations and communities to undertake comprehensive research, data collection and analysis on issues related to stopping violence against Aboriginal women to inform policy, programs, and services.	7.1 Cost/Benefit Analysis	Short
		7.2 Research Funding	Mid
		7.3 Environmental Assessment/ Gap Analysis	Short
		7.4 Best Practices	Short
		7.5 Options for Restorative Justice Resolution	Mid
8. Accountability	To demonstrate that the provincial government is committed to creating healthy and safe communities for Aboriginal women	8.1 Secretariat for Aboriginal Women	Mid
		8.2 Annual Forum	Short
		8.3 Legislative Requirements	Mid
	through a principle-based approach.	8.4 ADM Committee	Short

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Short-term = 0-1 year Mid-term = 2-5 years

Part V—Key Accomplishments continued

### The MACAW's Holistic Model for addressing and ending violence

The MACAW identified development of a Holistic Model as a Strategic Priority because a holistic approach will be required to address and end violence. The Holistic Action Circle conveys the interconnectedness of everything and the importance of balance and harmony. It is intended as an effective guide to government and service providers to ensure women and children are at the centre living in safe and healthy communities. Surrounding women and children are the supports and systems required to create this safe environment. The outer ring elements are the MACAW's strategic directions.



The MACAW's Holistic Action Circle

## **Giving Voice Project**

In 2013, the MACAW launched the *Giving Voice Project*, a Strategic Priority in support of community engaged and led action to address issues of violence in Aboriginal women's lives and communities. The Province provided \$120,000 in funding towards this initiative. The *Giving Voice Project* had two components: community sessions, and a video to highlight the success and impact of community-driven and community-based projects.

Thirteen projects received grants of between \$2,200 to \$6,000 (totaling \$70,405) to provide Aboriginal women, men, youth, and Elders a safe opportunity to give voice to issues of violence and abuse within their lives, their families, and communities; to learn from each other successful strategies to address these issues; and to be inspired to create change.

### Part V—Key Accomplishments – Giving Voice continued

A wide range of projects from across the province were selected, and included arts projects, traditional activities (such as drum-making, storytelling and singing), community workshops, awareness runs, and safety training.

A video highlighting projects funded in 2013 is available in Appendix IV.

In 2014, the MACAW launched its second year of the *Giving Voice Project*. The Province provided \$400,000 in funding towards this initiative. Twenty-five communities and organizations received between \$3,100-\$7,500 each (totaling \$170,000) to implement "Giving Voice" projects over one year (2014-2015), while twelve applicants received between \$13,000-\$15,000 each (totaling just over \$178,000) to support mobilization and implementation projects over two years (2014-2016). The remaining \$50,000 was allocated to host a forum in 2015/16.

A listing highlighting projects funded in 2014 is available in Appendix V.

### Adoption of a Declaration on Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls

As identified in the MACAW's Strategic Priorities, the MACAW recognizes the necessity of commitments from both Aboriginal and Provincial leadership. In the Fall of 2014, the MACAW was successful in having a *Declaration on Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls* endorsed by the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit Society, BC Assembly of First Nations and Métis Nation British Columbia. The Declaration broadly and publicly invites all leaders, communities, organizations and individuals in B.C. who are committed to stopping violence against Aboriginal women to adopt or adapt their own Declaration.

The Declaration on Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls is available in Appendix VI.

# Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls

The MACAW was instrumental in the signing of a *Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls* (MOU) on June 13, 2014, between Premier Clark, Minister John Rustad, Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC), First Nations Summit Task Group, British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BC AFN), and Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC). The MOU commits signatories to taking a focused, collaborative, coordinated approach to address the disproportionate levels of all types of violence experienced by Aboriginal women and girls, and ties into the provincial government's February 2014 throne speech commitment to create a long-term, comprehensive strategy to move towards a violence-free B.C.

The Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls is available in Appendix VII.

Part V—Key Accomplishments continued

### **MOU Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table**

An immediate priority in the MACAW's "Taking Action" report is to establish a MOU Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table (JPT) to implement the objective of the MOU to address disproportionate levels of all types of violence experienced by Aboriginal women and girls. The overarching goal of the JPT is to facilitate collaboration between government and Aboriginal leadership on priorities, core principles, outcomes, and actions needed address the issue of violence against Aboriginal women.

In the fall of 2014, a JPT Technical Working Group (comprised of senior staff from signatory political organizations and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation) was formed to initiate the process. The Technical Working Group has met in 2014 and 2015 to begin to develop the JPT. MACAW's current Chair, Chastity Davis, met with Métis Nation British Columbia on January 30, 2015, and the First Nations Leadership Council (BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs) on March 9, 2015, to discuss commitments in the MOU and next steps with the JPT. This builds on the relationship initiated by former MACAW Chair Wendy Grant-John.

## Part VI – Advisory Role

The MACAW was established to provide advice to government and other organizations on how to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal women in B.C. The MACAW employs an integrated, collaborative and cooperative process to ensure policies; programs and legislation reflect Aboriginal input and are culturally appropriate.

### **Provincial Office of Domestic Violence**

The MACAW continues its advisory role with the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence (PODV), ensuring that special considerations are given to the needs of Aboriginal women and girls. The PODV was announced on March 1, 2012, and became operational on March 26, 2012 in response to recommendations made by the Representative for Children and Youth, Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, in her report *Honouring Kaitlynne, Max and Cordon: Make Their Voices Heard Now* (March 2012). The PODV is the permanent lead for government on strengthening the services and supports available for children and families affected by domestic violence.

In February 2014, the PODV released a three-year comprehensive provincial plan that includes a \$2 Million investment for development and delivery by First Nation communities, Métis agencies and Aboriginal organizations of programs specifically for Aboriginal women, men, children and youth who have been or are at risk of being impacted by domestic violence, including potential abusers and perpetrators. PODV's 3-Year Plan is available at: <a href="http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/podv/pdf/dv">http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/podv/pdf/dv</a> pp part2.pdf. MACAW will continue to work with PODV to discuss engaging Aboriginal women and girls, as well as identifying additional opportunities for increased coordination and collaboration.

### **Violence Free BC Strategy**

The MACAW provided input into the province's Violence Free BC Strategy—a cross-ministry initiative led by the Ministries of Justice; Children and Family Development; and Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. This included attendance at a Violence Free BC dialogue session held on June 24, 2014, in Vancouver with over 60 stakeholders. Participants emphasized the importance of prevention, starting in early childhood.

The province released A Vision for a Violence Free BC: Addressing violence against women in British Columbia, on February 6, 2015. The report establishes the government's vision for collective action and sets a direction for change in pursuing shared goals of preventing violence before it starts, responding effectively when it happens, and helping to rebuild from its impacts.

A Vision for a Violence Free BC is available at:

http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/victimservices/shareddocs/pubs/violence-free-bc.pdf

MACAW will continue to work with partner ministries to action A Vision for a Violence Free BC.

Part VI Advisory Role continued

### Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

The MACAW continues to work with the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General (Justice) to ensure that a more inclusive and culturally responsive approach is taken to address issues of justice and public safety for Aboriginal women and their families in BC.

### **Justice Summits**

MACAW representatives (Chastity Davis, Mary Teegee) sat on the Steering Committee for the Fourth B.C. Justice Summit "Better Responses to Violence against Women", held in Vancouver November 28-29, 2014. Annita McPhee also attended the Summit. The Summit generated discussion and gathered input on how to work across the sector to collectively improve justice system responses to violence against women, specifically domestic and sexual violence. The Summit also focused on the needs of vulnerable populations, including Aboriginal women. A report of the proceedings, summarizing discussions and recommendations, is available at:

http://www.justicebc.ca/shared/pdfs/FourthSummitReport.pdf

### Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (MWCI)

On December 17, 2012, the Honourable Wally T. Oppal, QC released his report *Forsaken – The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (MWCI Report)*, which examined police investigations conducted between January 1997 and February 2002 into women reported missing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and the circumstances surrounding the decision of the Criminal Justice Branch in January 1998 to stay criminal charges. The report made 63 recommendations to enhance the safety of vulnerable women and improve the initiation and conduct of investigations of missing persons.

On February 2, 2015, MACAW representatives met with the Murdered and Missing Women's Coalition to learn more about each other's role. The Coalition is comprised of a diverse group of community and advocacy groups, Indigenous organizations and family members advancing justice for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, and calling for a national public inquiry leading to a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to address the root and intersecting causes of violence, systemic poverty, racism, sexism and intergenerational abuse.

On February 11, 2015, a MACAW representative met with Justice Officials in Victoria to provide input into drafting Missing Persons Regulations. The regulations are necessary to support BC's <u>Missing Persons Act</u>, which received Royal Assent on March 24, 2014. The Act addresses recommendation 8.1 in the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, which calls for investigative tools to find missing persons sooner.

The Final Status Update Report in Response to: Forsaken—the Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry is available at:

http://www.ag.gov.bc.ca/public inquiries/docs/MWCI Report 2014.pdf

Part VI Advisory Role continued

### National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Women

With the Minister, MACAW's Chair (Chastity Davis) attended the National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, hosted at Carleton University in Ottawa on February 27, 2015. Roundtable ddelegates committed to ongoing dialogue and coordinated action in priority areas, including prevention and awareness, community safety, policing measures and justice responses. Specific outcomes include the commitment to hold a second Roundtable before the end of 2016. BC delegates at the Roundtable participated in a teleconference call on March 4, 2015 to follow up and discuss next steps in B.C., which MACAW looks forward to supporting.

The National Roundtable was organized by the National Aboriginal Organizations, including the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP), Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), the Métis National Council (MNC) and the Native Women's Association (NWAC).

# Federal, Provincial, Territorial (FPT) Draft Justice Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls

The MACAW provided input into a Draft Justice Framework to Address Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls, released in November 2013 by Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice and Public Safety. The framework is focused on the justice system response to violence against Aboriginal women and girls—awareness and education, prevention, intervention and supports, investigation and enforcement, court and sentencing, and follow-up and reintegration—while recognizing that all sectors of government and community partners have a role to play in preventing and responding to the issue. Input is still being collected and will be used to revise the Framework for review at the next Justice Ministers meeting in the fall of 2015.

A FPT Progress Report—Addressing Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls (October 17, 2014) is available at: http://www.scics.gc.ca/english/conferences.asp?a=viewdocument&id=2246

# Part VII – Building MACAW's Capacity

### **Establishing a Secretariat**

As the MACAW has become more established and recognized as an important advisory body to government, the MACAW's work load has been increasing. Establishing a Secretariat was identified as an immediate priority in the MACAW's "Taking Action" report. In the fall of 2014, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation issued a Request for Proposal to house a Secretariat to support the work of the MACAW and the MOU Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table. Among several proposals received, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) was the successful bidder. The Secretariat is currently comprised of one staff member hired on November 4, 2014 to provide administrative, planning, research, reporting and governance support.

### **Communications Strategy**

The MACAW recognizes the importance of ensuring that all communications are well coordinated, effectively managed and responsive to the diverse information needs of Members and internal and external stakeholders. An Introductory PowerPoint Presentation has been generated to "Tell our Story", and communication guidelines and protocols are currently being developed. MACAW's Introductory PowerPoint Presentation is available in Appendix VIII.

# Part VIII – MACAW's Next Steps in 2015/16

### The MACAW looks forward to:

- Working collaboratively and cooperatively with MOU signatories and the Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners' Table (JPT) in the coming year towards achieving the objectives of the MOU, including celebrating the MOU's anniversary on June 13, 2014.
- Continuing its advisory role with the PODV to ensure that special considerations are given to the needs of Aboriginal women and girls.
- Reviewing the Violence Free BC strategy in more detail with Justice and working toward ensuring the development and delivery of culturally responsive and relevant policies, programs and services for Aboriginal women, men and children affected by domestic violence.
- Working with Justice on continued implementation of Missing Women Commission of Inquiry recommendations.
- Implementing the Giving Voice Project in 2015/16.
- Undertaking a Strategic Planning Session in the spring of 2015/16 to identify and prioritize the MACAW's goals and outcomes, develop targets and update our Terms of Reference.
- Holding a forum in Vancouver in 2015/16 to showcase Giving Voice projects and best practices, share ideas, build partnerships and initiate action.

### The MACAW will continue to:

- Follow-up with other ministries to reinforce the importance of working with Aboriginal people, and women in particular, when developing appropriate policies, programs and services.
- Recommend an Aboriginal review of the justice system, given the breadth and depth of Aboriginal interests in and concerns with the justice system.
- Build its capacity towards improving the lives of Aboriginal women in BC.

# **PART IV—MACAW Meeting Highlights**

### MACAW Meeting Highlights – January 9, 2013 – March 31, 2015

- February 13, 2013, Vancouver, BC –Missing Women Commission of Inquiry Recommendations
  Council welcomed the Honourable Steven Point, Chair of the Advisory Committee on
  government's response to Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (MWCI) Recommendations,
  and representatives from the Ministry of Justice, Provincial Office of Domestic Violence (PODV),
  and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) to discuss opportunities for
  increased coordination and collaboration.
- July 11, 2013 (Teleconference) Giving Voice Video/Finalizing Taking Action Report
- MACAW's Chair (Wendy Grant-John) informed Council that she had met the newly appointed Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, the Honourable John Rustad, by phone (Minister Rustad was appointed on June 10, 2013). Council also discussed production of a Giving Voice video and finalizing the "Taking Action" report.
- August 2013, Vancouver, BC Meeting with the IACHR. Representatives of the Council met with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to provide input on their report, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Canada (2014).
- September 16, 2013, Vancouver, BC Meeting Minister Rustad / "Taking Action"
   Next Steps Council met with Minister Rustad to discuss "Taking Action" next steps, which included drafting an MOU, forming a MOU Joint Aboriginal-Government Partners Table of Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women (Joint Partners' Table), and establishing a Secretariat to support the work of the Council.
- November 7, 2013 (Teleconference) Advising Government/Presenting "Taking Action"
   MARR invited Council to provide input into the Aboriginal Affairs Working Group (AAWG) Draft
   National Framework of Action on Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls in advance of a
   Ministers/ National Aboriginal Organization Leaders meeting on November 18-19, 2013. Justice
   invited Council's input into the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Justice Ministers Draft National
   Justice Strategy in advance of a meeting later that month. Council discussed and agreed to
   accept an invitation received from Police Services to review and provide feedback on the
   development of possible missing persons legislation (as proposed in the BC White Paper on
   Justice Reform: Part Two: A Timely, Balanced Justice System).
- February 21, 2014 (Teleconference) Seeking/Acknowledging Political Commitment
   MACAW's Chair (Wendy Grant-John) indicated that she would be seeking the Premier's support
   for implementing recommendations in the "Taking Action" Report, including signing the MOU
   and establishing a Secretariat. Members discussed plans to draft a resolution for Tribal Council
   Chiefs to demonstrate their support, as well as organize an MOU signing ceremony.
- April 2, 2014, Vancouver, BC Violence Free BC/3-Year Provincial Domestic Violence Plan/ Taking Action Council welcomed representatives from the Ministry of Justice and the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence (PODV). Justice provided an update on the Violence Free BC Strategy, Federal/Provincial/ Territorial Ministers Framework, and progress made on implementing MWCI recommendations, including drafting Missing Persons legislation. PODV briefed Council on its recently released three-year Provincial Domestic Violence Plan and next

- steps. MACAW's Chair (Wendy Grant-John) provided an update on progress made in implementing Taking Action recommendations, including a confirmed date for an MOU signing ceremony (June 13, 2014) and \$400,000 approved for the Giving Voice project.
- April 28, 2014, Vancouver, BC Planning the MOU Signing Ceremony/Secretariat RFP
  With a date set for an MOU signing ceremony, Council discussed next steps, including
  development of an organizational structure and terms of reference for an MOU Joint Partners'
  Table. With funding confirmed for a Secretariat, Council agreed that MARR would manage the
  Request for Proposal (RFP) and contracting process on its behalf.
- September 10, 2014, Vancouver, BC Council Membership/NAWS IV/Forum
   Council welcomed Barb Ward-Burkitt and Lorna Williams as new Members, while sincerely acknowledging outgoing Chair Wendy Grant-John and Member Charlene Belleau for their work on the Council.
- November 4, 2014, Victoria, BC NAWS IV/National Roundtable/Violence Free BC/Council's Role/Secretariat Next Steps
   MARR updated Council on efforts to organize a National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. Justice (attending by conference call) updated the Council on its Violence Free BC strategy and invited input. Council members Mary Teegee and Debbie Williams provided an overview of their participation at NAWS IV in Membertou, Nova Scotia. Council discussed its role in providing advice to government and the Joint Partners' Table. Minister Rustad introduced Council to the Speaker of the Legislature (Linda Reid) and Members shared their motivation for participating on Council.
- November 26, 2014 (Teleconference) Co-Chair Position/Evaluating Giving Voice Proposals/ Council Business/Fourth B.C. Justice Summit

  The Council decided to appoint a Vice-Chair position to support the Chair; Mary Teegee agreed to accept the position. MARR received 164 Giving Voice proposals by the November 14, 2014 closing date.
- February 12-13, 2015, Victoria Moose Hide Campaign/Retirement/National Roundtable
   The MACAW timed its quarterly meeting to coincide with the annual Moose Hide Campaign
   event in Victoria. During the meeting, discussion included the upcoming National Roundtable
   on February 27, 2015 in Ottawa; planning for a Strategic Planning Session in the spring; Council
   quarterly meeting and MOU Anniversary in June; and forum next steps. Chastity updated
   Council on meetings held with Métis Nation BC on January 30, 2015, and the Murdered and
   Missing Women's Coalition on February 2, 2015.

### Part X – MACAW Timeline and Relevant Initiatives

- Spring 2013: the MACAW launches the "Giving Voice Project"
- May 2013 (Victoria): the MACAW undertakes a Dialogue Session that includes representatives from the Advisory Committee on the Safety and Security of Vulnerable Women; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; and the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence towards developing its Action Plan for government
- June 10, 2013: John Rustad is appointed Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- September 16, 2013 (Vancouver): the MACAW submits its *Direction to Government on Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women in BC*
- February 5, 2014: the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence releases its three-year \$5.5
  million Provincial Domestic Violence Plan, committing \$2 million to develop and deliver
  programs specifically for Aboriginal women, men and children affected by domestic violence
- February 12, 2014: the BC Government, in its speech from the throne, commits to
  introducing a long-term, comprehensive strategy to move towards a violence-free B.C. and
  ensure women, including Aboriginal and vulnerable women, have the supports they need to
  help prevent violence, to escape from violent situations, and to recover if they have been
  victims of crime.
- March 24, 2014: the Missing Persons Act receives Royal Assent
- Spring 2014: the MACAW drafts a Declaration to Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal
  Women and Girls, which is successfully endorsed by Aboriginal political leadership. The
  Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women
  and Girls (MOU) is signed on June 13, 2014 between the Government of British Columbia
  and Aboriginal leadership
- Fall 2014: a Joint Partners' Table technical working group comprised of staff from MOU signatory organizations is established to initiate action under the MOU
- Fall 2014 (Vancouver): Wendy Grant-John resigns as the Chair of MACAW. Chastity A. Davis, is appointed as the new Chair by the Minister
- October 20-22, 2014 (Membertou, NS): MACAW representatives attend the 4<sup>th</sup> Aboriginal Women's Summit (NAWS IV) on Murdered and Missing Aboriginal Women and Girls. The theme for NAWS IV is *Equity, Empowerment, and Leadership*, and the Summit is focused on the development of a socioeconomic action plan to ensure that Aboriginal women and girls who are victims of violence are no longer caught in poverty
- November 4, 2014 (Victoria): the MACAW and its newly appointed Chair (Chastity Davis) meet with Minister Rustad and are introduced in the Legislature
- November 2014: the MACAW secures 2014/15 provincial funding for Secretariat support for the work of the MACAW
- November 28-29, 2014 (Vancouver): MACAW representatives attend the Fourth B.C. Justice Summit, focused on improving how the justice system responds to violence against women

### **MACAW Timeline and Relevant Initiatives cont'd**

- December 20, 2014: the MACAW launches the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the "Giving Voice Project"
- January 30, 2015 (Victoria): the MACAW Chair (Chastity) meets with Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) President Bruce Dumont and MNBC's Minister of Women and JPT Technical Working Group representative, Clara Morin-Dal Col to follow-up on the commitments in the MOU and determine next steps with the JPT
- February 2, 2015 (Vancouver): the MACAW meets with the Murdered and Missing Women's Coalition
- February 11, 2015 (Victoria): MACAW meets with Justice to provide input into drafting Missing Persons Regulations. The Act addresses recommendation 8.1 in the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, which called for investigative tools to find missing persons sooner
- February 12, 2015 (Victoria): some MACAW members attend an annual Moose Hide Campaign event at the BC Legislature. The Moose Hide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Men standing up against violence towards women and children
- February 25, 2015: the CBC speaks with Minister Rustad, MACAW's Chair (Chastity Davis) and others about action needed to address the issue of missing and murdered Aboriginal women, and the upcoming National Roundtable (<a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/missing-and-murdered-women-solution-includes-grassroots-say-minister-advocate-1.2971077">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/missing-and-murdered-women-solution-includes-grassroots-say-minister-advocate-1.2971077</a>)
- February 27, 2015 (Ottawa): MACAW's Chair (Chastity Davis) attends the 1<sup>st</sup> National Roundtable on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, along with other BC delegates. (March 4, 2015 (Teleconference): BC delegates attend a follow-up teleconference call to discuss their participation in the National Roundtable and next steps in B.C.
- March 9, 2015 (Vancouver): MACAW meets with the First Nations Leadership Council (BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs) to discuss the work of the MACAW and future direction and opportunities

### **APPENDICES**

- Appendix I: MACAW Terms of Reference:
   <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=09821E8953BB4CAC97876249384AED1B">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=09821E8953BB4CAC97876249384AED1B</a>
- Appendix II: MACAW Strategic Planning Session (Jan. 8, 2013 Annual Report Appendix III): http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=253F5E22FF9541C2A489B79C68AED4D3#women
- Appendix III: Direction to Government on Taking Action to End Violence and Improve the Lives of Aboriginal Women in BC: <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=6E3FBA83092947B4BC42BC71A0A19B48">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/topic.page?id=6E3FBA83092947B4BC42BC71A0A19B48</a>
- Appendix IV: 2013 Giving Voice Project Video <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=7qkhm4Vw2zc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=7qkhm4Vw2zc</a>
- Appendix V: 2014 Giving Voice Project News Release:
   <a href="http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news-releases">http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news-releases</a> 2013-2017/2015PREM0006-000148.htm
- Appendix VI: Declaration on Stopping Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls:
   http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/people/aboriginal-peoples/aboriginal-peoples-documents/declaration on stopping violence against aborignal women final 2.pdf
- Appendix VII: Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Stopping Violence Against
   Aboriginal Women and Girls:
   http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/zzzz-to-be-moved/9efbd86da302a0712e6559bdb2c7f9dd/9efbd86da302a0712e6559bdb2c7f9dd/agreements/mou stopping violence against aboriginal women girls.pdf
- Appendix VIII: Introductory MACAW PowerPoint Presentation: available on website <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/people/aboriginal-peoples/aboriginal-peoples-documents/macaw">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/people/aboriginal-peoples/aboriginal-peoples-documents/macaw</a> introductory powerpoint presentation apr 1615 update.pptx

## **REFERENCES**

<sup>i</sup> Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice and Public Safety, Progress Report – Addressing Violence Against Aboriginal Women and Girls (October 17, 2014), <a href="http://www.scics.gc.ca/english/conferences.asp?a=viewdocument&id=2246">http://www.scics.gc.ca/english/conferences.asp?a=viewdocument&id=2246</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> Shannon Brennan, Violent Victimization of Aboriginal Women in the Canadian Provinces (Statistics Canada, May 17, 2011), <a href="www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2011001/article/11439-eng.htm">www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2011001/article/11439-eng.htm</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iii</sup> Vivian O'Donnell and Susan Wallace, Women in Canada: A Gender-based Statistical Report: First Nations, Inuit and Métis Women (Statistics Canada, July 2011), <a href="www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11442-eng.pdf">www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-503-x/2010001/article/11442-eng.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview (RCMP, 2014), <a href="http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/index-eng.htm#ac">http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/pubs/index-eng.htm#ac</a>