


Premier
19-06-20


**Truth and Reconciliation
Commission of Canada:
94 Calls to Action**

**A Status Report for the
Government of Prince Edward Island
June 2020**

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Introduction..... | 3 |
| Legacy..... | 4 |
| Child Welfare..... | 4 |
| Education..... | 7 |
| Language and Culture..... | 10 |
| Health..... | 12 |
| Justice..... | 16 |
| Reconciliation..... | 26 |
| Canadian Governments and the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People</i> | 26 |
| Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation..... | 27 |
| Settlement Agreement Parties and the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i> | 28 |
| Equity for Aboriginal People in the Legal System..... | 29 |
| National Council for Reconciliation..... | 30 |
| Professional Development and Training for Public Servants..... | 32 |
| Church Apologies and Reconciliation..... | 32 |
| Education for reconciliation..... | 33 |
| Youth Programs..... | 36 |
| Museums and Archives..... | 36 |
| Missing Children and Burial Information..... | 37 |
| National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation..... | 38 |
| Commemoration..... | 39 |
| Media and Reconciliation..... | 40 |
| Sports and Reconciliation..... | 41 |
| Business and Reconciliation..... | 42 |
| Newcomers to Canada..... | 43 |

Introduction

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its final report on December 15, 2015 after hearing statements from survivors and family members of residential schools across Canada. There are 94 Calls to Action calling on all levels of government to work collaboratively to make a tangible difference in the lives of Indigenous peoples. This report, which brings together the collective and collaborative work undertaken across the Government of Prince Edward Island, affirms that everyone has a role to play and that the Calls to Action are rooted in historical and complex issues that require immediate attention and a long-term vision.

On November 26, 2019, during the 1st Session of the 66th General Assembly of the Prince Edward Island Legislative Assembly, Motion 41 was passed urging government to establish an advisory committee to oversee the work of implementing and honouring the Calls to Action of the TRC and the Calls for Justice of the MMIWG. Since their release in 2015, the Indigenous Relations Secretariat has maintained an evergreen status report on the Truth and Reconciliation Report's Calls to Action, which was tabled in the PEI legislature for the first time in June 2019. This status report serves as an update to that work.

We recognize that the profound and lasting societal change contemplated by the Calls to Action take time and commitment. Above all, it depends on strengthening our collective resolve to deliver the change we want to see in our society and that these realizations will require time.

We are proud to share this status report and look forward to a continued future in which the Province, alongside the Lennox Island and Abegweit First Nations, and Indigenous organizations, is a leader in realizing the change we envision together.

1. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to commit to reducing the number of Aboriginal children in care by:

i. Monitoring and assessing neglect investigations.

The Government of Prince Edward Island is solely responsible for the delivery of all Child Protection Services pursuant to the *Child Protection Act*, which includes all Indigenous children and families living on-reserve and off-reserve.

The Director of Child Protection is required to provide all notifications involving the delivery of Child Protection Services for Indigenous children to the Designated Representative of the Band as defined in the *Child Protection Act* or as defined in *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families*.

The Director of Child Protection is required to consult and collaborate with the Designated Representative of the Band as defined in the *Child Protection Act* or as defined in *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* in developing a plan of care for the child.

ii. Providing adequate resources to enable Aboriginal communities and child-welfare organizations to keep Aboriginal families together where it is safe to do so, and to keep children in culturally appropriate environments, regardless of where they reside.

The Department of Social Development and Housing, Child Protection Services program, works in partnership with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI (MCPEI), Child & Family Services program.

In 2013, a protocol entitled "*Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI Child & Family Services and Department of Community Services & Seniors (changed to Family & Human Service May 2015) Child Protection Services Protocol: A Collaborative Approach for Child Protection Services to PEI First Nations Children and Families*", was developed to ensure that Child Protection Services provided to Prince Edward Island's First Nation children and families are delivered in a manner that preserves and promotes the Indigenous cultural identity of children and families. The protocol also recognizes that Child Protection Services of PEI consult and collaborate with the First Nations on decisions regarding PEI's First Nations children involved with Child Protection Services.

The Department of Social Development and Housing continues efforts to actively recruit and retain Indigenous Foster Parents. The Director of Child & Family Services for the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI is a member of the Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention Committee of Child Protection Services.

iii. Ensuring that social workers and others who conduct child-welfare investigations are properly educated and trained about the history and impacts of residential schools.

The Department of Social Development and Housing, Child & Family Services, continues to collaborate with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI to develop and provide training for employees of Child & Family Services to include family service workers, child protection youth workers, child protection social workers, child protection supervisors, residential services (group home) youth workers and supervisors, and senior management of Child & Family Services. This training includes continued education and engagement specific to the history and impacts of residential schools.

This training is integrated into the core training which is required for all new child protection social workers and is open to family service workers and youth workers. The training is developed in collaboration with the Director of Child & Family Services for the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, to include an Elder.

iv. Ensuring that social workers and others who conduct child-welfare investigations are properly educated and trained about the potential for Aboriginal communities and families to provide more appropriate solutions to family healing.

In addition to the response as noted above in 1.iii, a resource entitled "*Aboriginal Cultural Connections: A Child Protection Resource Guide*" was developed in partnership with Prince Edward Island's First Nation leaders, Elders and community representatives. This guide serves as an opportunity to promote understanding and knowledge of the rich Indigenous culture on Prince Edward Island when providing Child Protection Services, either in home or out of home, to Indigenous children and their parents.

v. Requiring that all child-welfare decision makers consider the impact of the residential school experience on children and their caregivers.

The impact of the residential school experience on Indigenous children and their caregivers is an ongoing consideration in the delivery of Child Protection Services on Prince Edward Island.

Additional examples of the ongoing collaboration between Child Protection Services and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island include, but are not limited to:

- The Director of Child & Family Services for the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI consults with the Director of Child Protection, Director of Child & Family Services, Provincial Manager of Child Protection or Provincial Manager of Children's Services to discuss and review service delivery impacts in a timely manner. This is a truly collaborative relationship that strengthens the delivery of Child Protection Services from the senior management level to all levels of service delivery within the division of Child & Family Services, Department of Social Development and Housing.

- During a relocation of three group homes for children in the legal custody and guardianship of the Director of Child Protection, consultation was held with Prince Edward Island's First Nation leaders in recognition that the properties have historical association to the Catholic Church and educational system. As a result, a collaborative agreement, in recognition of the impact of the residential school experience on children and their caregivers, is maintained wherein none of Prince Edward Island's First Nation children in care will reside in any of the three identified group homes.

2. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the provinces and territories, to prepare and publish annual reports on the number of Aboriginal children (First Nations, Inuit, and Métis) who are in care, compared with non-Aboriginal children, as well as the reasons for apprehension, the total spending on preventive and care services by child-welfare agencies, and the effectiveness of various interventions.

The Government of Prince Edward Island does not report on ethnic origin of children in care. The provincial population is small, and the population of Indigenous persons is low. Reporting on Indigenous children in care could compromise confidentiality.

3. We call upon all levels of government to fully implement Jordan's Principle.

The Government of Prince Edward Island is the first contact to pay for services for all children in the legal custody and guardianship of the Director of Child Protection. As such, compliance and implementation of Jordan's Principle is a non-issue for Child Protection Services in Prince Edward Island.

4. We call upon the federal government to enact Aboriginal child-welfare legislation that establishes national standards for Aboriginal child apprehension and custody cases and includes principles that:

i. Affirm the right of Aboriginal governments to establish and maintain their own child-welfare agencies.

ii. Require all child-welfare agencies and courts to take the residential school legacy into account in their decision making.

iii. Establish, as an important priority, a requirement that placements of Aboriginal children into temporary and permanent care be culturally appropriate.

In January 2020, *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* became law.

The Government of Prince Edward Island has made legislative changes of its own in the current legislation to enhance the delivery of protection services to Indigenous children and families. The

Government of Prince Edward Island is currently reviewing the *Child Protection Act* and will review where changes may be required to strengthen the delivery of protection services to Indigenous children and families.

The Government of Prince Edward Island is solely responsible for the delivery of all child protection services pursuant to the *Child Protection Act*, which includes all Indigenous children and families living on-reserve and off-reserve.

The Director of Child Protection is required to provide all notifications involving the delivery of Child Protection Services for Indigenous children to the designated representative of the band as defined in the *Child Protection Act* or as defined in *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families*.

The Director of Child Protection is required to consult and collaborate with the Designated Representative of the Band as defined in the *Child Protection Act* in developing a plan of care for the child or as defined in *An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families*.

The Government of PEI has hired an Indigenous Program Analyst who will work collaboratively with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI Child & Family Services program and the Native Council of PEI to assist in developing culturally sensitive programs for Indigenous families and children living on and off reserve. This position will assist Child Protection in developing culturally sensitive training for all staff.

The Government of PEI has hired two child protection social workers whose role will be to provide child protection services to Indigenous children and families.

5. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate parenting programs for Aboriginal families.

Culturally appropriate parenting programs for Prince Edward Island's First Nation children and families are provided by the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI (MCPEI) Child & Family Services, through the Mi'kmaq Family PRIDE program.

The MCPEI Family PRIDE program provides prevention and support services to children and families living on reserve in Prince Edward Island. Through the *Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI Child & Family Services and Department of Community Services & Seniors, Child Protection Services Protocol: A Collaborative Approach for Child Protection Services to PEI First Nations Children and Families*, Child Protection Services works collaboratively with the Mi'kmaq Family PRIDE program on behalf of children and families of Prince Edward Island First Nations.

Education

6. We call upon the Government of Canada to repeal Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada.

Section 43 of the Criminal Code of Canada states “Every schoolteacher, parent or person standing in the place of a parent is justified in using force by way of correction toward a pupil or child, as the case may be, who is under his care, if the force does not exceed what is reasonable under the circumstances.” While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

7. We call upon the federal government to develop with Aboriginal groups a joint strategy to eliminate educational and employment gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

8. We call upon the federal government to eliminate the discrepancy in federal education funding for First Nations children being educated on reserves and those First Nations children being educated off reserves.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

9. We call upon the federal government to prepare and publish annual reports comparing funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves, as well as educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

10. We call on the federal government to draft new Aboriginal education legislation with the full participation and informed consent of Aboriginal peoples. The new legislation would include a commitment to sufficient funding and would incorporate the following principles:

i. Providing sufficient funding to close identified educational achievement gaps within one generation.

ii. Improving education attainment levels and success rates.

iii. Developing culturally appropriate curricula.

iv. Protecting the right to Aboriginal languages, including the teaching of Aboriginal languages as credit courses.

v. Enabling parental and community responsibility, control, and accountability, similar to what parents enjoy in public school systems.

vi. Enabling parents to fully participate in the education of their children.

vii. Respecting and honouring Treaty relationships.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

11. We call upon the federal government to provide adequate funding to end the backlog of First Nations students seeking a post-secondary education.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

The Government of Prince Edward Island however does provide three \$1,000 John J. Sark Memorial scholarships annually to Indigenous students at the University of Prince Edward Island.

12. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Aboriginal families.

The PEI Early Learning Framework provides direction for directors and educators in Early Years Centres. It includes a component of culture and heritage as a learning goal. The Early Years Centre on reserve utilizes this framework. The Department of Education and Lifelong Learning is also striving to include mandatory Indigenous content in all new curriculum and adding new resources to existing courses to better represent Indigenous content and voices.

The Public Library Service in Prince Edward Island provides a number of collections that are written, produced, and focused on Indigenous people in a wide variety of areas and formats. These collections are accessible to anyone with a library card, including young Islanders.

Language and Culture

13. We call upon the federal government to acknowledge that Aboriginal rights include Aboriginal language rights.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

14. We call upon the federal government to enact an Aboriginal Languages Act that incorporates the following principles:

i. Aboriginal languages are a fundamental and valued element of Canadian culture and society, and there is an urgency to preserve them.

ii. Aboriginal language rights are reinforced by the Treaties.

iii. The federal government has a responsibility to provide sufficient funds for Aboriginal-language revitalization and preservation.

iv. The preservation, revitalization, and strengthening of Aboriginal languages and cultures are best managed by Aboriginal people and communities. v. Funding for Aboriginal language initiatives must reflect the diversity of Aboriginal languages.

Some of the ways that the Province of PEI continues expressing its commitment to cultural arts that celebrate our local identity include investing in works from Island artists within the Provincial Art bank, and supporting the singing of the national anthem in the Mi'kmaq language in Island schools.

As part of the Provincial 5 Year Cultural Action Plan, the Province will collaborate with Indigenous people to develop learning initiatives about Mi'kmaq history and culture for Islanders and newcomers, including:

- Renewed annual investment in the Provincial Art bank and commitment to having work displayed in public spaces. Establishing new Art bank investment for the acquisition of visual art by Island artists;
- Investment in public art, festivals and events in communities across Prince Edward Island that reflect and celebrate our local identity;
- Supporting Island artists create and disseminate their artwork;
- Supporting the development of Mi'kmaq led business in the creative and applied arts;

The Province has an existing agreement for the distribution of eagle parts with PEI's Indigenous community, providing the materials for cultural or traditional use.

Bill C-91, an *Act Respecting Indigenous Languages*, was introduced and received Royal Assent on June 21, 2019. While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

15. We call upon the federal government to appoint, in consultation with Aboriginal groups, an Aboriginal Languages Commissioner. The commissioner should help promote Aboriginal languages and report on the adequacy of federal funding of Aboriginal-language initiatives.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

16. We call upon post-secondary institutions to create university and college degree and diploma programs in Aboriginal languages.

The University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) has an Indigenous Student Centre on campus called the Mawi'omi Indigenous Student Centre. The Centre provides support for Indigenous students including tutoring and student services. The Mawi'omi Centre also has a Mi'kmaq Elder in Residence, Judy Clark.

In 2019, UPEI added an event called "Mawi'omi on Campus" as part of their new student orientation program. The event included drumming, dancing, and food and provided an opportunity for new students to learn about Mi'kmaq culture and history, as well as the services provided by the Centre.

The University of Prince Edward Island and Holland College do not currently offer degree programs or diplomas in Indigenous languages.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

17. We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.

There is no known instance of a former resident of the Indian residential schools requesting a change of name in PEI. There is a provision under the *Change of Name Act* that allows fees to be waived under certain circumstances. In addition, under the Act, there are restrictions on what names would be allowed as a name, i.e. no symbols, surname and given name are required.

Health

18. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to acknowledge that the current state of Aboriginal health in Canada is a direct result of previous Canadian government policies, including residential schools, and to recognize and implement the health-care rights of Aboriginal people as identified in international law, constitutional law, and under the Treaties.

The Government of PEI is continuously working toward the betterment of Indigenous health care services. Indigenous community members are uniquely at risk, experience different health outcomes and are disproportionately impacted by chronic conditions.

We are working to close the gap in health outcomes and support the provision of quality care including:

- Health PEI diabetes educators from primary care provide service to Indigenous communities to help improve diabetes related health outcomes.
- To support the continuing professional development of Indigenous healthcare providers, staff from Indigenous Health Centres are invited to participate in Health PEI primary care educational and training opportunities provided by the Chief Public Health Office.
 - This training includes any new updates on immunization rates, vaccine indications, vaccine administration, storage, safety, and supply. Previous in-service days have included education and training on strategies to address vaccine hesitancy with clients.
- The Wellness Grant Program is an annual program, which provides funding to support community based health promotion initiatives and projects. Mi'kmaq First Nations and other Indigenous organizations are eligible applicants for this program. Past programs have included "Mind, Body & Spirit: Healing Through the Medicine Wheel" and "Slow Cooked Dreams: Abegweit Wellness Centre Cooking Classes".
- Health promoters from the Chief Public Health Office work with Indigenous peoples across PEI to encourage healthy lifestyles and safe behaviours through building healthy environments and strengthening community capacity and action.
- On Lennox Island, a mental health walk-in clinic is provided by Health PEI every Thursday afternoon. A mental health clinician from Community Mental Health West provides this service for Lennox Island residents.
- In Abegweit, Health PEI partners with the Health Centre to build mental health capacity and support linkages with Health PEI services. Throughout the summer of 2019, Health PEI also provided mental health first aid training for the health centre staff.

- There are two mental health therapists that regularly go to both First Nations Health Centers. In Abegweit First Nation, this support is used to help provide clinical supervision to their to mental health therapists, consult with those therapists and other staff, and provide any other assistance necessary. On Lennox Island First Nation, a mental health therapist is on reserve weekly to provide support in case consultation and run a walk-in clinic.
- Health PEI has met with the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI about building a sweat lodge on the Provincial Addictions Treatment Facility grounds. This ceremony would be facilitated by the elders and would include both clients and community members. COVID has prevented this at this time but work will proceed once possible.

19. We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal peoples, to establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and to publish annual progress reports and assess long term trends. Such efforts would focus on indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.

Under the 2007 Partnership Agreement, a Health Policy and Planning Forum was established with representatives from the provincial and federal government and the Mi'kmaq of PEI. The Forum established work plan priorities including oral health, home care, mental health and addictions, electronic health records, and healthy weights in children, and these work plan priorities have been pursued through the creation of working groups with both government and First Nations representation. While this Call to Action is not directed at the Government of PEI, we will continue to monitor its implementation.

In the areas of both primary care and mental health and addictions, bilateral agreements between the Government of PEI and the Island's two First Nations bands are being pursued to formalize and enhance the provision of care.

Mental Health and Addictions has continued the practice of engaging with both Abegweit and Lennox Island First Nations to partner to provide services to residents of both First Nations. Specifically, two mental health therapists regularly go to both First Nations Health Centers.

With the Abegweit First Nation, this support is used to help provide clinical supervision to their to mental health therapists, consult with those therapists and other staff, and provide any other assistance necessary. With Lennox Island First Nation, a mental health therapist goes there weekly to provide support in case consultation and run a walk-in clinic (prior to COVID-19). In Lennox Island, addictions staff have had regular hours at the health center prior to COVID-19 (this will presumably restart when the health center reopens).

20. In order to address the jurisdictional disputes concerning Aboriginal people who do not reside on reserves, we call upon the federal government to recognize, respect, and address the distinct health needs of the Métis, Inuit, and off-reserve Aboriginal peoples.

While this Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation. However, Health PEI delivers health care services to all Islanders regardless of race or ethnicity.

21. We call upon the federal government to provide sustainable funding for existing and new Aboriginal healing centres to address the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual harms caused by residential schools, and to ensure that the funding of healing centres in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories is a priority.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

22. We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health-care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients.

With respect to cultural healing practices of Indigenous peoples, direction has been provided to sites to consider alternative methods and other elements on a case-by-case basis, depending on the request of individuals and families while factoring risks.

In the area of Mental Health and Addictions, staff going to both reserves have been involved directly in some healing practices. These have included assisting with a photo project and with a First Nations critical incident stress debriefing model, called Wampum CISM. Both of these are considered to be culturally grounded practices.

The primary care and chronic disease unit will also be required to report on incoming Accreditation Canada Standard to ensure a safe, non-judgmental space is created for clients to discuss traditional/ complementary or alternative medicine, when the client wishes to discuss such options as part of their care.

23. We call upon all levels of government to:

i. Increase the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the health-care field.

ii. Ensure the retention of Aboriginal health-care providers in Aboriginal communities.

iii. Provide cultural competency training for all healthcare professionals.

Health PEI coordinates the Indigenous Cultural Awareness, Sensitivity and Competency training sessions through their primary care and chronic disease unit.

The training focuses on the historical, political, and cultural issues that impact the health of Indigenous peoples, as well as Indigenous concepts of healing and health.

The content of the training was designed in partnership with Abegweit First Nation, Lennox Island First Nation, the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, Native Council of PEI, and the Aboriginal Women's Association of PEI.

The training is delivered over 3.5 days and is co-facilitated by an MCPEI representative and a professional facilitator.

To date, approximately 220 HPEI clinicians and others have taken training sessions.

The Diversity Employment Program, administered by the Public Service Commission (PSC), has been in existence for over a decade. The PSC encourages departments and agencies to identify potential employment opportunities, including casual and temporary positions, for qualified candidates from designated groups who are registered in the PSC diversity inventory. The diversity program can also refer diversity group applicants, who meet job requirements, to departments for term positions for which they qualify.

Community Health Division

The Community Health division continues to provide Indigenous cultural training sessions, both awareness and sensitivity, for health care professionals. This program was developed in partnership with five Indigenous organizations.

First Nations Health Center mental health staff are also able to access staff training directly from the mental health and addictions training calendar. For some, this has included mental health first aid and dialectical behavioral training (DBT). Feedback on these has been quite positive.

Corporate Services / Human Resources

Health PEI is committed to policy that guarantees and facilitates fairness and equity in dealing with the diversity among Health PEI employees, clients and general public.

Health PEI believes that every employee, client, or other persons associated with its operations has a right to equal treatment with respect to all services, programs, employment, goods and facilities provided by Health PEI, without discrimination and free from harassment.

24. We call upon medical and nursing schools in Canada to require all students to take a course dealing with Aboriginal health issues, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, and Indigenous teachings and practices. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

The Nursing program at the University of Prince Edward Island offers a 3rd year courses on culture in nursing. The course focuses on multi-cultural awareness and recognition of specific health care beliefs and values, exploring the role of the nurse within each country's health care system, and participating in a cultural immersion experience. Opportunities are provided to allow students to achieve a better understanding of cultural similarities and differences in a selected setting.

25. We call upon the federal government to establish a written policy that reaffirms the independence of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to investigate crimes in which the government has its own interest as a potential or real party in civil litigation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Justice

26. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to review and amend their respective statutes of limitations to ensure that they conform to the principle that governments and other entities cannot rely on limitation defences to defend legal actions of historical abuse brought by Aboriginal people.

The Government of PEI is currently reviewing this issue at this time.

27. We call upon the Federation of Law Societies of Canada to ensure that lawyers receive appropriate cultural competency training, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal– Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

The Law Society of PEI has established a Call to Action committee and has partnered with a branch of the Canadian Bar Association to begin the process of building cultural awareness in the Island legal community. To date, sessions have been developed with the help of the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI and there is an Indigenous representative on the committee. The mandate of the committee is to provide education and other specific ideas identified in the TRC report to ensure members of the Law Society are receiving up to date information and education.

28. We call upon law schools in Canada to require all law students to take a course in Aboriginal people and the law, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and antiracism.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, and the University of Prince Edward Island or Holland College do not have a law school in place, we continue to monitor any developments toward its implementation.

29. We call upon the parties and, in particular, the federal government, to work collaboratively with plaintiffs not included in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement to have disputed legal issues determined expeditiously on an agreed set of facts.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

30. We call upon federal, provincial, and territorial governments to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in custody over the next decade, and to issue detailed annual reports that monitor and evaluate progress in doing so.

The issue of overrepresentation of Indigenous people is an issue that the Government of PEI continues to monitor and ensure culturally-responsive programming/initiatives are in place.

Engagement with Police

Ongoing training is in place with the Atlantic Police Academy that provides workshops regarding Mi'kmaq history and current Indigenous-specific information. This training is led by the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI. This training ensures that new police officers understand the impacts of residential schooling and other experiences of our Indigenous communities to better inform their work.

The partnership between police and Indigenous community is important. Police representatives (municipal and RCMP) sit on the Indigenous Justice Advisory Committee and attend annual workshops/forums i.e. Indigenous Justice Forum.

Indigenous Justice Program

PEI, Justice Canada, and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI are a part of a tripartite agreement to fund the Indigenous Justice Program (IJP). The agreement was renewed in Spring 2017 and has an ongoing mandate. The Province continues to support the IJP and the important work it does

in providing culturally specific, holistic programming to Indigenous people, including those living on and off reserve on a status blind basis, that are in conflict with the law.

In 2019, the Province increased its funding to MCPEI's IJP to better support the important, culturally relevant justice services MCPEI provides, in particular upstream, crime prevention activities.

Among the services offered by the MCPEI IJP, the Indigenous Justice Circles led by trained Circle Keepers are of note.

Circle Keepers are trained to facilitate the following processes:

- Conflict-Resolution Circles
- Early Intervention Circles
- Sentencing Circles
- Healing Circles

The IJP is administered by MCPEI and advised by an Indigenous Advisory Committee made up of representatives appointed from three Indigenous organizations and bands: the Lennox Island First Nation, the Abegweit First Nation, and the Aboriginal Women's Association. Representatives from the RCMP, Charlottetown Police, Federal and Provincial Governments also sit on the Advisory Council.

The IJP has improved and strengthened mutual understanding of Indigenous people and the justice system through both training and cross-cultural sharing and continues to work to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in contact with the justice system.

Community and Correctional Services Division

Community and Correctional Services, in partnership with Information Technology Service Systems, are building an automated offender management information system, which will allow the division to track and analyze offender data in a manner that simply hasn't been possible to date. This will assist the Department of Justice and Public Safety monitor and evaluate progress in reducing the overrepresentation of Indigenous offenders in custody. A challenge does remain in understanding the true numbers as data collection relies on self-reporting.

Indigenous Caseworker

The Community and Correctional Services staff, in concert with the Division's indigenous case worker and MCPEI's Indigenous Justice Program, offer effective community-based alternatives including an Alternative Measures Program, and working in collaboration with the Indigenous Justice Program to ensure individuals have access to/awareness of sentencing and healing circles and restorative justice forums.

The Indigenous case worker facilitates access to Elders in the community with Indigenous offenders who request this support. This includes arranging visits to the provincial correctional centre and ensuring that Elders are available.

Engagement with the Atlantic Police Academy

Training is in place with Atlantic Police Academy and the PEI Law Society to provide workshops regarding Mi'kmaq history and current Indigenous- specific information. This ensures that professionals understand the history and impacts of residential schooling and the experiences of our Indigenous counterparts to better inform their work.

Gladue Reports

In 2018, JPS and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI (MCPEI) entered into a MOU to confirm the submission of Gladue Reports to the Courts. Gladue Reports are outlined in s. 217 in the Criminal Code and grant Indigenous people in conflict with the law the right to request a Gladue Report, which outlines their background/history, and any contributing factors that resulted in them engaging in unlawful activity. Gladue Reports are submitted to the judge who is required to consider the Gladue factors prior to sentencing an Indigenous person. The Province currently contracts MCPEI for a fee for service to draft Gladue Reports.

Eagle Feather Initiative

In Fall 2019, the Province amended the *Evidence Act* and made necessary amendments to this legislation to ensure that the use of an eagle feather can be used when an Indigenous person is making an oath or affirmation.

The intention is that an eagle feather will be provided in every courthouse and police detachment across the province and available for accused, victims, witnesses and their families.

The Province will work alongside MCPEI and the RCMP to carry out future aspects of this work.

31. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to provide sufficient and stable funding to implement and evaluate community sanctions that will provide realistic alternatives to imprisonment for Aboriginal offenders and respond to the underlying causes of offending.

Community and Correctional Services

Community and Correctional Services currently has a range of community-based sanctions available. The Community and Correctional services staff, in concert with the indigenous case worker, endeavors to offer effective community based alternatives including an Alternative Measures Program and restorative justice forums.

Programs and services within the Community and Correctional Services division are monitored and evaluated regularly.

Sentencing Circles through the Indigenous Justice Program

Through the tripartite agreement between the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, the Province and Justice Canada, the Indigenous Justice Program's Circle Keepers are trained to facilitate Sentencing Circles which aim to take into consideration the needs and circumstances of the offender, the victims and community when determining sentencing options.

The IJP submits data to Justice Canada through the Final Annual Report. Justice Canada's Research and Evaluation team monitors and evaluates findings at a national level on an ongoing basis.

Gladue Reports

As mentioned above, the Province contracts the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI to draft and submit Gladue Reports to the Court. In August 2018, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed which confirmed this partnership.

32. We call upon the federal government to amend the Criminal Code to allow trial judges, upon giving reasons, to depart from mandatory minimum sentences and restrictions on the use of conditional sentences.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

33. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to recognize as a high priority the need to address and prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and to develop, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, FASD preventive programs that can be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.

Community and Correctional Services provides support to clients with FASD through the Division's Indigenous Case Worker who has received Divisional training on FASD interventions and worked with the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association to adapt programming.

34. We call upon the governments of Canada, the provinces, and territories to undertake reforms to the criminal justice system to better address the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), including:

i. Providing increased community resources and powers for courts to ensure that FASD is properly diagnosed, and that appropriate community supports are in place for those with FASD.

ii. Enacting statutory exemptions from mandatory minimum sentences of imprisonment for offenders affected by FASD.

iii. Providing community, correctional, and parole resources to maximize the ability of people with FASD to live in the community.

iv. Adopting appropriate evaluation mechanisms to measure the effectiveness of such programs and ensure community safety.

The Criminal Code of Canada governs sentencing provisions and can only be amended through federal legislative reform. The Province is responsible for the delivery of community and correctional services to offenders. Parole supervision is a Correctional Service Canada responsibility.

Community and Correctional Services is committed to evaluation of programs and services to ensure effectiveness.

35. We call upon the federal government to eliminate barriers to the creation of additional Aboriginal healing lodges within the federal correctional system.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Community and Correctional Services, in partnership with representatives from the Indigenous community, constructed a sweat lodge at the PEI Youth Centre for use by youth and adult offenders. Although this sweat lodge is not in operation at this time, the Division is hopeful to work with the Indigenous community again in the future and explore options to re construct a sweat lodge again for both youth and adults.

36. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to work with Aboriginal communities to provide culturally relevant services to inmates on issues such as substance abuse, family and domestic violence, and overcoming the experience of having been sexually abused.

In 2018, MCPEI started a Reintegration Program to support federally sentenced Indigenous offenders reintegrate back into their community using a restorative justice approach. This includes ensuring culturally relevant support/healing is available to individuals to ensure successful return to community, to identify services/resources needed to support individual (i.e. housing, mental health, employment etc.) The Province provides in kind support to this program and sits on the program Steering Committee.

The Province is in the initial stages of exploring options for an Indigenous Court Work Program. This program is cost shared with Justice Canada and is focused on providing support and navigation to Indigenous people in the formal justice court process.

In collaboration with the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association, Native Council of PEI and the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI, the Province is engaged in research to define and examine the root causes and experiences of violence against Indigenous women and girls in the Province. The April 2018 report "*Understanding Violence Against indigenous Women in PEI and the Supports They Need in Prince Edward Island*" included recommendations which have been reviewed and considered by the committee, and have formed the basis for a number of project initiatives.

Community and Correctional Services has recently introduced the Integrated Correctional Program Model (ICPM), based on Correctional Service Canada's (CSC) most effective offender programs, which target the multiple risk factors that most offenders have in an efficient, comprehensive way.

37. We call upon the federal government to provide more supports for Aboriginal programming in halfway houses and parole services.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

38. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal youth in custody over the next decade.

Indigenous Justice Program (for Youth)

The tripartite agreement to support the Indigenous Justice Program is available to youth, living on and off reserve and is offered on a status blind basis.

Gladue Reports

Gladue Reports are outlined in s. 217 in the Criminal Code and grant Indigenous people in conflict with the law the right to request a Gladue Report, which outlines their background/history, and any contributing factors that resulted in them engaging in unlawful activity. Gladue Reports are submitted to the Judge who is required to consider the Gladue factors prior to sentencing an Indigenous person, including a youth.

As mentioned, the Province currently contracts MCPEI for a fee for service to draft Gladue Reports.

Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Protocol

Acknowledging that children in care are often more vulnerable to be involved in the criminal justice system, there are efforts to address the role of Child Protection and support coordination and communication with the Indigenous community on matters regarding the safety and wellbeing of Indigenous children. .

The Provincial Child Sexual Abuse Protocol, which was originally implemented in 2013, involves six government departments, all Island police services and both First Nations. All partners signed on to the protocol to support an integrated, collaborative response to child sexual abuse. The provisions related to Indigenous communities were designed to ensure that services are delivered in a manner that preserves and promotes the Indigenous cultural identity of children and families. It also recognizes that Child Protection Services of PEI consult and collaborate with the Indigenous community on decisions regarding PEI's Indigenous children involved with Child Protection Services.

39. We call upon the federal government to develop a national plan to collect and publish data on the criminal victimization of Aboriginal people, including data related to homicide and family violence victimization.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation and ensuring we are working at the provincial level to be responsive to this issue.

40. We call on all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, to create adequately funded and accessible Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms.

Through the provincial Victim Services program, Indigenous victims of crime in PEI have access to all the same services as other victims of crime, such as but not limited to information about the justice system, court preparation, emotional support and short term counseling, help to prepare a victim impact statement, criminal injuries compensation, and help for victims of family violence.

Victim Services participated in research on "Mapping the Needs and Assets of Aboriginal People in the Justice System in PEI" published in 2012.

Victim Services is actively involved in various government initiatives with the goal of supporting Indigenous people in Prince Edward Island.

In 2017, in collaboration with the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association, Native Council of PEI and MCPEI, the Province, led by the Indigenous Relations Secretariat, engaged in research to define and examine the root causes and experiences of violence against Indigenous women and girls in the Province.

With the launch of the National Inquiry, funding was announced for Provincial and Territorial Victim Services to establish Family Information Liaison Units (FILUs) within their Victim Services Divisions for the duration of the Inquiry (up to March 31, 2019, and a further extension to March 31, 2023).

The FILU unit also complements and works collaboratively with other existing mechanisms that assist families and victims. Follow up on the research report will continue in partnership with government and indigenous organizations. Funding has been provided by the PEI FILU to a number of Indigenous organizations (AWA, Native Council of PEI, and MCPEI) for projects that have come forward through follow up from the recommendations of the April 2018 Conference Board of Canada report "Understanding Violence Against Indigenous Women and the Supports they need in Prince Edward Island".

Project funding has been provided to Indigenous organizations specifically to address violence against Indigenous women and girls:

- Abegweit Mi'kmaq Nation Wellness Centre received funding for a project "Reclaiming cultural connection and healing through traditional dance". This was a 10 week program (January to March, 2019) with weekly dance sessions targeting children and youth up to age 30, but open to all community members.
- The FILU partnered with the Interministerial Women's Secretariat to fund a project of the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association "Finding Our Way Through Prevention and Knowledge". The project is designed to raise awareness about violence against women while providing a safe environment to receive information about available programs, services and cultural knowledge sessions.
- MCPEI received funding to develop a "PEI Missing Indigenous Persons Tool Kit – A Guide for Families and Communities". This will assist in responding in a case of a missing or murdered Indigenous person.
- Aboriginal Women's Association received funding through the Interministerial Women's Secretariat and FILU to supportively engage the Indigenous women's community in PEI to enhance awareness and social action on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Final Report's Calls for Justice. The project intends to positively impact and benefit the equality of all Indigenous women in PEI, while providing a supported approach to engagement that holistically reduces barriers, is culturally appropriate, increases awareness, constructively educates, enhances capacity, and promotes positive social action that affects women's health, legal, economic, and social equality in the province.
-

41. We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal organizations, to appoint a public inquiry into the causes of, and remedies for, the disproportionate victimization of Aboriginal women and girls. The inquiry's mandate would include:

i. Investigation into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.

ii. Links to the intergenerational legacy of residential schools.

The Premier of Prince Edward Island along with Premiers from all provinces and territories all supported the National Indigenous Organizations call for the federal government to support a national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women.

In 2017, the Province provided funding support for representatives from Indigenous organizations to attend National Indigenous Women's Summit in Toronto, March 2017.

With the launch of the National Inquiry, funding was announced for Provincial and Territorial Victim Services to establish Family Information Liaison Units (FILUs) within their Victim Services Divisions for the duration of the Inquiry. A further extension has been announced to March 31, 2023.

The PEI Department of Justice and Public Safety accessed this federal funding to establish the PEI Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU) within Victims Services to provide a centralized, coordinated mechanism for family members of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls to access requested information related to the loss of their loved one.

In total, the Unit has worked closely with 14 families, which included 21 individuals. In regard to the National Inquiry hearings, support was provided during the registration process, as well as direct support to 7 families (13 individuals) who participated and gave testimony at the National Inquiry hearings in Moncton, N.B in February 2018.

Testimony was given in relation to cases involving a missing or murdered person, as well as situations of violence, and deaths with unresolved questions). PEI FILU staff attended the hearings with families and provided additional health supports.

In 2020 the Interministerial Women's Secretariat (IWS) and Victims Services will support work directly related to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The PEI Aboriginal Women's Association received \$20,380 from IWS and \$5000 from the Victim Services Family Information Liaison Unit to supportively engage the Indigenous women's community in PEI to enhance awareness and social action on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Final Report's Calls for Justice. The project intends to positively impact and benefit the equality of all Indigenous women in PEI, while providing a supported approach to engagement that holistically reduces barriers, is culturally appropriate, increases awareness, constructively educates, enhances capacity, and promotes positive social action that affects women's health, legal, economic, and social equality in the province.

The Indigenous Relations Secretariat also provides annual support of \$20,000 to the PEI Aboriginal Women's Association in implementing its programs and services for Indigenous women on PEI.

Other funds through the Cultural Support Fund have been provided to:

- AWA to help support the Sisters in Spirit Vigil;
- Native Council of PEI to support the after care plan of an MMIWG family member;
- and to individual MMIWG individuals and families to help support after care plans.

The 231 Calls for Justice will require exhaustive analysis and delineation on jurisdictional roles and responsibilities. A whole of government approach is needed given the impacts reaching every government department and agency. As of March 2020, the Indigenous Relations Secretariat, Interministerial Women's Secretariat and Victim Services have created an interdepartmental committee to coordinate a provincial response to the report recommendations. PEI is also participating on a federal, provincial and territorial Working Group to coordinate on national action.

42. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to commit to the recognition and implementation of Aboriginal justice systems in a manner consistent with the Treaty and Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples, the Constitution Act, 1982, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, endorsed by Canada in November 2012.

The Province of PEI proudly supports reconciliation in the justice area, involving culturally relevant, holistic approaches to justice and community healing. The Province works together with the PEI Mi'kmaq in supporting initiatives like the MCPEI's Indigenous Justice Program to ensure that flexible and responsive justice related services are in place that promote favourable, long-term change for Indigenous and non-Indigenous Islanders alike.

Reconciliation

Canadian Governments and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People*

43. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.

In 2010, the Government of Canada was one of four countries that voted against the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; however, in 2012 the federal government joined other countries in supporting the declaration, stating it was an aspirational document.

The Government of PEI will continue to monitor federal developments and remain responsive to any information exchange opportunities. It is important that we are well informed and have a clear understanding of how Lennox Island and Abegweit First Nations view this document. Our

intention is to work with the Mi'kmaq to achieve a collaborative, fact based approach with obtainable goals.

44. We call upon the Government of Canada to develop a national action plan, strategies, and other concrete measures to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In 2010, the Government of Canada was one of four countries that voted against the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; however, in 2012 the federal government joined other countries in supporting the declaration, stating it was an aspirational document. While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation

45. We call upon the Government of Canada, on behalf of all Canadians, to jointly develop with Aboriginal peoples a Royal Proclamation of Reconciliation to be issued by the Crown. The proclamation would build on the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and the Treaty of Niagara of 1764, and reaffirm the nation-to-nation relationship between Aboriginal peoples and the Crown. The proclamation would include, but not be limited to, the following commitments:

i. Repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius.

ii. Adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.

iii. Renew or establish Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future.

iv. Reconcile Aboriginal and Crown constitutional and legal orders to ensure that Aboriginal peoples are full partners in Confederation, including the recognition and integration of Indigenous laws and legal traditions in negotiation and implementation processes involving Treaties, land claims, and other constructive agreements.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

46. We call upon the parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement to develop and sign a Covenant of Reconciliation that would identify principles for working collaboratively to advance reconciliation in Canadian society, and that would include, but not be limited to:

i. Reaffirmation of the parties' commitment to reconciliation.

ii. Repudiation of concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and the reformation of laws, governance structures, and policies within their respective institutions that continue to rely on such concepts.

iii. Full adoption and implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.

iv. Support for the renewal or establishment of Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future.

v. Enabling those excluded from the Settlement Agreement to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.

vi. Enabling additional parties to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

47. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts.

The Government of Prince Edward Island has aligned its processes to be consistent with the Supreme Court of Canada's guidance on the honour of the Crown and the Crown's duty to consult.

The Province endorses the objective of "reconciliation", as articulated by the Supreme Court of Canada. The Province does not rely on the doctrines of discovery or *terra nullius*, and recognized that prior to the arrival of Europeans in North America, the land was already occupied by distinctive aboriginal societies. The Province is actively working to advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, including through the signing of a Framework Agreement with Canada and the Mi'kmaq of PEI.

Settlement Agreement Parties and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

48. We call upon the church parties to the Settlement Agreement, and all other faith groups and interfaith social justice groups in Canada who have not already done so, to formally adopt and comply with the principles, norms, and standards of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for reconciliation. This would include, but not be limited to, the following commitments:

i. Ensuring that their institutions, policies, programs, and practices comply with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

ii. Respecting Indigenous peoples' right to self-determination in spiritual matters, including the right to practice, develop, and teach their own spiritual and religious traditions, customs, and ceremonies, consistent with Article 12:1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

iii. Engaging in ongoing public dialogue and actions to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

iv. Issuing a statement no later than March 31, 2016, from all religious denominations and faith groups, as to how they will implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

49. We call upon all religious denominations and faith groups who have not already done so to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Equity for Aboriginal People in the Legal System

50. In keeping with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, we call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal organizations, to fund the establishment of Indigenous law institutes for the development, use, and understanding of Indigenous laws and access to justice in accordance with the unique cultures of Aboriginal peoples in Canada.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

51. We call upon the Government of Canada, as an obligation of its fiduciary responsibility, to develop a policy of transparency by publishing legal opinions it develops and upon which it acts or intends to act, in regard to the scope and extent of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

The Government of Prince Edward Island seeks to engage with Indigenous peoples through productive relationships rather than litigation. The Province's goal, consistent with the guidance of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Chippewas of the Thames First Nation v. Enbridge Pipelines*

Inc., 2017 SCC 41, is to promote mutual understanding during consultation, rather than receding behind legal opinions and positions.

The Province also recognizes that from time to time, the pursuit of reconciliation will require the preparation of legal opinions and the participation of the courts. These activities are not, in and of themselves, inconsistent with the pursuit of reconciliation or maintaining the honour of the Crown.

52. We call upon the Government of Canada, provincial and territorial governments, and the courts to adopt the following legal principles:

i. Aboriginal title claims are accepted once the Aboriginal claimant has established occupation over a particular territory at a particular point in time.

ii. Once Aboriginal title has been established, the burden of proving any limitation on any rights arising from the existence of that title shifts to the party asserting such a limitation.

In the Framework Agreement signed between the Province, Canada and the Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island, the parties agreed to discuss various rights-based matters. The Province believes that discussion and negotiation is the preferred means of addressing legal uncertainty and promoting reconciliation.

National Council for Reconciliation

53. We call upon the Parliament of Canada, in consultation and collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to enact legislation to establish a National Council for Reconciliation. The legislation would establish the council as an independent, national, oversight body with membership jointly appointed by the Government of Canada and national Aboriginal organizations, and consisting of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal members.

Its mandate would include, but not be limited to, the following:

i. Monitor, evaluate, and report annually to Parliament and the people of Canada on the Government of

Canada's post-apology progress on reconciliation to ensure that government accountability for reconciling the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and the Crown is maintained in the coming years.

ii. Monitor, evaluate, and report to Parliament and the people of Canada on reconciliation progress across all levels and sectors of Canadian society, including the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

iii. Develop and implement a multi-year National Action Plan for Reconciliation, which includes research and policy development, public education programs, and resources.

iv. Promote public dialogue, public/private partnerships, and public initiatives for reconciliation.

The Indigenous Relations Secretariat established a Reconciliation Coordinator position to monitor and report annually on the status of the Government of PEI's implementation of the Calls to Action.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

54. We call upon the Government of Canada to provide multi-year funding for the National Council for Reconciliation to ensure that it has the financial, human, and technical resources required to conduct its work, including the endowment of a National Reconciliation Trust to advance the cause of reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

55. We call upon all levels of government to provide annual reports or any current data requested by the National Council for Reconciliation so that it can report on the progress towards reconciliation. The reports or data would include, but not be limited to:

i. The number of Aboriginal children—including Métis and Inuit children—in care, compared with non-Aboriginal children, the reasons for apprehension, and the total spending on preventive and care services by child-welfare agencies.

ii. Comparative funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves.

iii. The educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people.

iv. Progress on closing the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in a number of health indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.

v. Progress on eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in youth custody over the next decade.

The Government of PEI can provide annual reports upon request by the National Council for Reconciliation, however the province does not report on the number of Indigenous children in care due to concerns of confidentiality.

56. We call upon the prime minister of Canada to formally respond to the report of the National Council for Reconciliation by issuing an annual “State of Aboriginal Peoples” report, which would outline the government’s plans for advancing the cause of reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Professional Development and Training for Public Servants

57. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

The Government of PEI’s Indigenous Relations Secretariat, in partnership the Mi’kmaq Confederacy of PEI, presents a three module certificate program for provincial employees. The first unit is on Mi’kmaq history, unit 2 is on contemporary Mi’kmaq society and unit 3 is on the legal duty to consult Indigenous people. The sessions are offered twice per year.

Church Apologies and Reconciliation

58. We call upon the Pope to issue an apology to Survivors, their families, and communities for the Roman Catholic Church’s role in the spiritual, cultural, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children in Catholic-run residential schools. We call for that apology to be similar to the 2010 apology issued to Irish victims of abuse and to occur within one year of the issuing of this Report and to be delivered by the Pope in Canada.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

59. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church’s role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

60. We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, Survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of residential schools and the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

61. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement, in collaboration with Survivors and representatives of Aboriginal organizations, to establish permanent funding to Aboriginal people for:

- i. Community-controlled healing and reconciliation projects.*
- ii. Community-controlled culture- and language revitalization projects.*
- iii. Community-controlled education and relationship building projects.*
- iv. Regional dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth to discuss Indigenous spirituality, self-determination, and reconciliation.*

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Education for reconciliation

62. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to:

- i. Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students.*
- ii. Provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.*
- iii. Provide the necessary funding to Aboriginal schools to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in classrooms.*
- iv. Establish senior-level positions in government at the assistant deputy minister level or higher dedicated to Aboriginal content in education.*

In PEI, K-12 social studies curricula (English and French) include over 100 outcomes either directly or indirectly related to Indigenous content. This includes significant sections related to Indigenous content. Content related to residential schools is introduced at grade 7 and 8.

Every year, all PEI schools participate in Orange Shirt Day and National Indigenous History Month. These offer teachable moments to provide learning experiences to raise awareness in our schools.

In the English programs, the Grade 9 and 10 Social Studies "Human Rights Unit" explores the Residential Schools legacy. These lessons explore issues, e.g., intergenerational impacts, systemic racism, missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, poverty, educational gaps, and reconciliation).

Preliminary work has begun on the renewal of the Intermediate Social Studies Curriculum. This new curriculum will include units of learning on pre-contact Indigenous culture and will tell the story of our indigenous partners in the building of the Canadian Identity.

In the French programs, the Grade 10 History courses include content such as Residential Schools, intergenerational impacts and reconciliation specific outcomes, which are mandatory for all French students.

A two- day cultural exchange between grade 5 students of École Évangéline and grade 5/6 students from John J. Sark. School was scheduled to take place in April 2020. This has since been postponed due to COVID-19.

There is a new French Law program that will be implemented in 2021 will include content relating to Indigenous restorative justice. A representative from the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island met with the curriculum renewal committee members to share information. A new French Sociology program that will be implemented in 2021 will include content relating to colonial policies and their impacts.

All students graduating from UPEI's B.Ed. program must take 449 Intro to Indigenous Education. This was once made optional, but is now a requirement.

The online learning module called "Four Seasons of Reconciliation", available in both English and French is available to any educator in the PEI school system. This is a professional learning certificate that provides a historical perspective for teaching Indigenous ways of being. This professional development opportunity is being offered to Island teachers as part of our provincial learning days. Although the modules are designed for teachers and civil servants, there is a unit of study with lesson plans that go with it for teachers to utilize in their classrooms.

In November 2019, the Indigenous Education Committee, made up of representation from the Department of Education and Lifelong Learning, Public Schools Branch, and Indigenous partners, met to address issues of concern in Island schools from the Indigenous community. The committee will continue its mandate to identify and monitor successes, as well as the gaps that currently exist for Indigenous learners in the early childhood sector, the K-12 education system, in post-secondary institutions, as well as other adult training opportunities. It is the goal of the committee to implement these successes province wide if possible; and to address the gaps by putting in place plans, resources, supports and initiatives to address those gaps.

63. We call upon the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to maintain an annual commitment to Aboriginal education issues, including:

i. Developing and implementing Kindergarten to Grade Twelve curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools.

ii. Sharing information and best practices on teaching curriculum related to residential schools and Aboriginal history.

iii. Building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.

iv. Identifying teacher-training needs relating to the above.

The Council of Ministers of Education Canada (CMEC) introduced a three-year strategic plan, The CMEC Indigenous Education Plan 2019-22. This plan identifies four priority areas:

1. Supporting Indigenous student success and well-being in education;
2. Mobilizing and disseminating provincial/territorial and international successful practices and proven actions to improve Indigenous education;
3. Teaching excellence in Indigenous education; and
4. Revitalizing Indigenous languages and strengthening Indigenous culture and identity through education.

While this call to action is not directed at the Government of PEI, we will monitor its implementation.

64. We call upon all levels of government that provide public funds to denominational schools to require such schools to provide an education on comparative religious studies, which must include a segment on Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and practices developed in collaboration with Aboriginal Elders.

The Department of Education and Lifelong Learning provides access to teaching resources and professional development for the teachers at the two private (faith based) schools on PEI but does not provide funding.

65. We call upon the federal government, through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, post-secondary institutions and educators, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and its partner institutions, to establish a national research program with multi-year funding to advance understanding of reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Youth Programs

66. We call upon the federal government to establish multiyear funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Museums and Archives

67. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Museums Association to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of museum policies and best practices to determine the level of compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to make recommendations.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

68. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, and the Canadian Museums Association to mark the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation in 2017 by establishing a dedicated national funding program for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

69. We call upon Library and Archives Canada to:

i. Fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Joint-Orontlicher Principles, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.

ii. Ensure that its record holdings related to residential schools are accessible to the public.

iii. Commit more resources to its public education materials and programming on residential schools.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

70. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Association of Archivists to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of archival policies and best practices to:

i. Determine the level of compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Joint-Orontlicher Principles, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.

ii. Produce a report with recommendations for full implementation of these international mechanisms as a reconciliation framework for Canadian archives.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Missing Children and Burial Information

71. We call upon all chief coroners and provincial vital statistics agencies that have not provided to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada their records on the deaths of Aboriginal children in the care of residential school authorities to make these documents available to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

There were no residential schools located on PEI, therefore, no burial missing children or burial information exists.

72. We call upon the federal government to allocate sufficient resources to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to allow it to develop and maintain the National Residential School Student Death Register established by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

73. We call upon the federal government to work with churches, Aboriginal communities, and former residential school students to establish and maintain an online registry of residential school cemeteries, including, where possible, plot maps showing the location of deceased residential school children.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

74. We call upon the federal government to work with the churches and Aboriginal community leaders to inform the families of children who died at residential schools of the child's burial location, and to respond to families' wishes for appropriate commemoration ceremonies and markers, and reburial in home communities where requested.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

75. We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children.

There were no residential schools located on PEI, therefore, no burial missing children or burial information exists.

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

76. We call upon the parties engaged in the work of documenting, maintaining, commemorating, and protecting residential school cemeteries to adopt strategies in accordance with the following principles:

- i. The Aboriginal community most affected shall lead the development of such strategies.*
- ii. Information shall be sought from residential school Survivors and other Knowledge Keepers in the development of such strategies.*
- iii. Aboriginal protocols shall be respected before any potentially invasive technical inspection and investigation of a cemetery site.*

There are no residential school cemeteries on PEI. PEI will monitor progress on this call to action.

77. We call upon provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

There are no known documents within the PEI Public Archives related to the Indian Residential Schools.

78. We call upon the Government of Canada to commit to making a funding contribution of \$10 million over seven years to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, plus an additional

amount to assist communities to research and produce histories of their own residential school experience and their involvement in truth, healing, and reconciliation.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Commemoration

79. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal organizations, and the arts community, to develop a reconciliation framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration. This would include, but not be limited to:

i. Amending the Historic Sites and Monuments Act to include First Nations, Inuit, and Métis representation on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and its Secretariat.

ii. Revising the policies, criteria, and practices of the National Program of Historical Commemoration to integrate Indigenous history, heritage values, and memory practices into Canada's national heritage and history.

iii. Developing and implementing a national heritage plan and strategy for commemorating residential school sites, the history and legacy of residential schools, and the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada's history.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

80. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

81. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Survivors and their organizations, and other parties to the Settlement Agreement, to commission and install a publicly accessible, highly visible, Residential Schools National Monument in the city of Ottawa to honour Survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

82. We call upon provincial and territorial governments, in collaboration with Survivors and their organizations, and other parties to the Settlement Agreement, to commission and install a publicly

accessible, highly visible, Residential Schools Monument in each capital city to honour Survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.

The Government of PEI is exploring opportunities to implement this Call to Action.

83. We call upon the Canada Council for the Arts to establish, as a funding priority, a strategy for Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to undertake collaborative projects and produce works that contribute to the reconciliation process.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Media and Reconciliation

84. We call upon the federal government to restore and increase funding to the CBC/Radio-Canada, to enable Canada's national public broadcaster to support reconciliation, and be properly reflective of the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to:

i. Increasing Aboriginal programming, including Aboriginal-language speakers.

ii. Increasing equitable access for Aboriginal peoples to jobs, leadership positions, and professional development opportunities within the organization.

iii. Continuing to provide dedicated news coverage and online public information resources on issues of concern to Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians, including the history and legacy of residential schools and the reconciliation process.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

85. We call upon the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, as an independent non-profit broadcaster with programming by, for, and about Aboriginal peoples, to support reconciliation, including but not limited to:

i. Continuing to provide leadership in programming and organizational culture that reflects the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples.

ii. Continuing to develop media initiatives that inform and educate the Canadian public, and connect Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

86. We call upon Canadian journalism programs and media schools to require education for all students on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools,

the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Sports and Reconciliation

87. We call upon all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, sports halls of fame, and other relevant organizations, to provide public education that tells the national story of Aboriginal athletes in history.

There are three Indigenous Hall of Fame members (John Paul, Barney Francis and Michael Thomas). All distance runners, and three of our most heralded athletes.

The province assisted the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI documentary on Island Indigenous athletes about four years ago, and have been advising on the Michael Thomas run that takes place in Stratford each year.

88. We call upon all levels of government to take action to ensure long-term Aboriginal athlete development and growth, and continued support for the North American Indigenous Games, including funding to host the games and for provincial and territorial team preparation and travel.

The Province has provided \$153,140 in 2020-21 as part of the Sport Bilateral to the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI for the PEI Aboriginal Sport Circle. This includes:

- The Mi'kmaq Confederacy received \$50,000 to support Indigenous communities and individuals for sport opportunities that will have a direct impact on enhancing athlete, coaching, officiating, and or volunteer development. The funding supports partnerships and engagement that will enhance activities in each stage of long-term athlete development for Indigenous sport.
 - The Confederacy established an Aboriginal Sport Circle Advisory Committee that includes representatives from Lennox Island and Abegweit Band Councils, as well as the Native Council of PEI. The Mi'kmaq Confederacy hires a coordinator to assist with moving Indigenous sport development forward within the Province.
- Funding of \$103,140 was also distributed to strengthen Indigenous leadership within the PEI Aboriginal Sport Circle, and to increase culturally relevant sport programming for Indigenous, including preparation and training for the North American Indigenous Games.

89. We call upon the federal government to amend the Physical Activity and Sport Act to support reconciliation by ensuring that policies to promote physical activity as a fundamental element of health and well-being, reduce barriers to sports participation, increase the pursuit of excellence in sport, and build capacity in the Canadian sport system, are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

90. We call upon the federal government to ensure that national sports policies, programs, and initiatives are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to, establishing:

i. In collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, stable funding for, and access to, community sports programs that reflect the diverse cultures and traditional sporting activities of Aboriginal peoples.

ii. An elite athlete development program for Aboriginal athletes.

iii. Programs for coaches, trainers, and sports officials that are culturally relevant for Aboriginal peoples.

iv. Anti-racism awareness and training programs.

The Province has provided \$153,140 in 2020-21 as part of the Sport Bilateral to the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI for the PEI Aboriginal Sport Circle. This includes:

- The Mi'kmaq Confederacy received \$50,000 to support Indigenous communities and individuals for sport opportunities that will have a direct impact on enhancing athlete, coaching, officiating, and or volunteer development. The funding supports partnerships and engagement that will enhance activities in each stage of long-term athlete development for Indigenous sport.
 - The Confederacy established an Aboriginal Sport Circle Advisory Committee that includes representatives from Lennox Island and Abegweit Band Councils, as well as the Native Council of PEI. The Mi'kmaq Confederacy hires a coordinator to assist with moving Indigenous sport development forward within the Province. Funding of \$103,140 was also distributed to strengthen Indigenous leadership within the PEI Aboriginal Sport Circle, and to increase culturally relevant sport programming for Indigenous, including preparation and training for the North American Indigenous Games.

91. We call upon the officials and host countries of international sporting events such as the Olympics, Pan Am, and Commonwealth games to ensure that Indigenous peoples' territorial protocols are respected, and local Indigenous communities are engaged in all aspects of planning and participating in such events.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

Business and Reconciliation

92. We call upon the corporate sector in Canada to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a reconciliation framework and to apply its principles, norms, and standards to corporate policy and core operational activities involving Indigenous peoples and their lands and resources. This would include, but not be limited to, the following:

i. Commit to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.

ii. Ensure that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects.

iii. Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

The Call to Action is not directed at the Government of PEI.

The Government of Prince Edward Island has aligned its own processes to be consistent with the Supreme Court of Canada's guidance on the honour of the Crown and the Crown's duty to consult. These processes are focused on reconciliation, including the protection of Indigenous interests. While consultation does not provide a veto to the Indigenous party, the process seeks to understand potentially adverse effects on Indigenous peoples and to ensure the Crown's actions are honourable, including where appropriate through the provision of accommodations.

The Government of PEI encourages increased collaboration and partnership between First Nations and private enterprise to enhance economic development opportunities in the province.

Newcomers to Canada

93. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the national Aboriginal organizations, to revise the information kit for newcomers to Canada and its citizenship test to reflect a more inclusive history of the diverse Aboriginal peoples of Canada, including information about the Treaties and the history of residential schools.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.

94. We call upon the Government of Canada to replace the Oath of Citizenship with the following:

I swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada including Treaties with Indigenous Peoples, and fulfill my duties as a Canadian citizen.

While the Call to Action is not directed to the Government of PEI, we will monitor developments toward its implementation.