

## Statement

## Nunavut ministers react to MMIWG Inquiry announcement

August 3, 2016 Iqaluit, NU

Minister responsible for the Status of Women Monica Ell-Kanayuk and Minister of Justice Keith Peterson jointly released the following statement:

"We are pleased that the National Inquiry on Murdered and Missing Women and Girls has been formally announced, and look forward to working with the Commission to move toward understanding this tragic Canadian issue and create systemic changes.

We know that preventing family violence is critical to ensuring the safety of Nunavummiut at home. We will continue to work together to create safe communities that promote respect and healthy relationships. Open dialogue and community-based solutions are key to reducing family violence in our territory.

The appointment of a northerner to the commission is encouraging. However, this is a deeply sensitive issue, and lnuk representation on the commission would have provided balance to directly reflect the culture and experiences of our communities.

The Government of Nunavut supports the families and friends of murdered and missing Inuit women. We encourage your participation in this process, and will assist you through this difficult time."

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Media Contact: Yasmina Pepa Chief, Public Affairs Office of Premier Taptuna 867-222-0961 ypepa@gov.nu.ca

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