



First Nations Summit

First Nations Summit Statement re: National Day of Recognition for MMIWG2S+

May 5, 2022

We must continue to work to tear down the broken foundation of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples. It is the systemic failures of the Canada's colonial justice and law enforcement systems that have created an environment that sees Indigenous women, girls and two spirited people continue to suffer disproportionate rates of abuse and violence. Canada committed to implementing the *UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples* which states, '*States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination*' (Article 22). Our grandmothers, mothers, aunts, sisters, friends and communities cannot continue to be victim to further delays.

On today's Red Dress Day – The National Day of Awareness for MMIWG2S+, we must keep in our minds and remember the thousands of women, girls and two spirited who have died at the hands of horrific violence, those who are still listed as missing and those who continue to be victims of violence. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and communities today as they continue to seek justice and answers for the loss of loved ones.

Victims, families and communities deserve concrete actions and systemic change to prevent and finally put an end the disproportionate violence against Indigenous women, girls and two spirited people across Canada.
