

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

Task Force Meeting, September 19, 2019

- **Opening**
 - Welcoming remarks to the first quarterly MMIW Task Force meeting
 - Thank you to all whose dedication has allowed us to be here today; and
 - Thank you all for being here and for giving your time and energy to participate in this work
- **Logistical Overview**
 - This Task Force will serve in the following capacities:
 - Advise the commissioner of Public Safety on the issue of MMIW
 - Report to the MN Legislature on recommendations to reduce and end violence against Indigenous women and girls in MN, including members of the two spirit community; and
 - Serve as a liaison between the commissioner, agencies, and organizations that provide legal, social, or other community services
 - Legislative report scope
 - Any necessary lit review;
 - Overview of methodology;
 - Overarching themes;
 - Summary of input collected;
 - Additional sections as deemed necessary or appropriate; and
 - Final recommendations (developed in conjunction with the Task Force)
 - Timeline
 - September 19, 2019: Task Force meeting
 - October and November 2019—sub-committee meetings and data collection
 - December 12, 2019: Task Force meeting
 - January and February 2020—sub-committee meetings and data collection
 - March 5, 2020: Task Force meeting
 - April - July 2020—sub-committee meetings and data collection
 - July 2020—start report
 - August 13, 2020: Task Force meeting
 - September - November 2020—finish report
 - December 15, 2020: Report due to legislature
 - December 2020 - January 2021: legislative hearings
 - Quarterly Task Force meetings are open to the public
 - Department of Public Safety (DPS) will be the point of contact for media; contact DPS for support with any media interaction
 - Structure
 - The Task Force will consist of sub-committees, individual members, and leadership

- Following a tied vote to elect a chair, a unanimous vote elected Patina Park and Rep. Mary Kunesch-Podein as co-chairs; Nicole Matthews will serve as the selected vice-chair
 - Communication
 - Nigel Perrote, Tribal Liaison, MN Department of Public Safety and Task Force coordinator to serve as the main point of contact
 - Most documents will be shared over email
 - Information will be posted to the MMIW Task Force [webpage](#)
- **Group Process**
 - *Group Values:* We want to be sure our work is guided by our values, and not by the positions we hold; Task Force members shared the following values, which will guide our work together:
 - Family, Listener, Interconnectedness, Community, Respect, Redeem, Truth, Peace, Compassion, Safety, Love, Protect, Empathy, Understanding, Protection, Courage, Trust, Love
 - *Group Agreements:* What we need from each other to bring our best selves to this work
 - Open communication
 - Acknowledgement of each other's gifts: wisdom and experiences that we are bringing to this work
 - Listening with deep understanding when someone is sharing
 - Clarity of communication
 - Making space for questions
 - Looking and examining the reaction of opinions in the room and be reflective about it and trying to see another person's lens
 - Forgiveness: if we become passionate and feelings come up, stay truthful and focused on the intent of the work
 - Creating a space within ourselves to be able to listen to each other
 - Creating the space for the missing and murdered women to have space for healing
 - The sense of safety that we are able to speak openly
 - Participation or inclusion: some people are shy and not always the first person to raise their hand; we need to hear those important voices
 - Humor and story-telling: to bring us together where there is disagreement, to find a common space that we can bring laughter
 - Confidentiality: asking permission before sharing information
 - Be courageous: courageous to have difficult conversations and not personalize each story
 - Deeply and responsibly present: being intentional and making time and mind to be here
- **Overview of Research Plan (refer to [attached document](#))**
 - In discussing Wilder's proposed Research Plan, Task Force members shared ideas for specific reports to consider in the literature review and individuals with whom to conduct key informant interviews
 - Task Force members are invited to continue sharing ideas via email

- Review of existing data and gaps: What do we know in Minnesota about who and how many MMIW there are, and what are the gaps within the data systems?
 - A comparison of data is needed to identify gaps (e.g., pertaining to data being kept within tribal nations' own police departments)
 - Task Force will work with the Department of Public Safety and other agencies; Data will be compiled from the Department of Health, medical examiners, law enforcement, etc.
 - Important to get data from Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - BCA makes the data available
 - Restrictions around sharing data vary by dataset
- Task Force will support Department of Public Safety in carrying out tribal consultations
- Prepare report for the legislature which provides actionable recommendations
- **Sub-Committees**
 - Group brainstorming yielded the creation of (3) sub-committees:
 - Data sub-committee
 - Community Impact sub-committee
 - System sub-committee
 - Openness to include others outside of Task Force members in the work and conversation moving forward