

Public Comment for the Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

Background

The Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women was created by the 2019 Minnesota Legislature Special Sessions Laws, Chapter 5, Section 28 to:

Examine systemic causes behind violence that indigenous women and girls experience, including patterns and underlying factors that explain why disproportionately high levels of violence occur against indigenous women and girls, including underlying historical, social, economic, institutional, and cultural factors which may contribute to the violence;

- Examine appropriate methods for tracking and collecting data on violence against indigenous women and girls, including data on missing and murdered indigenous women and girls;
- Report on policies and institutions such as policing, child welfare, coroner practices, and other governmental practices that impact violence against indigenous women and girls and the investigation and prosecution of crimes of gender violence against indigenous people;
- Report on measures necessary to address and reduce violence against indigenous women and girls; and
- Examine measures to help victims, victims' families, and victims' communities prevent and heal from violence that occurs against indigenous women and girls

Guidelines for Submissions

The public is invited to submit written comments to the Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women for inclusion in their consideration of recommendations, which will be included in a report to the Minnesota Legislature in December 2020.

Comments should be directly related to the mandates of the Task Force (shown above) and should provide concrete recommendations that can be acted on by the Minnesota Legislature.

For individuals who are looking for help, resources, or justice related to an act of violence they or someone they love experienced, this is not the appropriate venue to seek that type of support or help. If you need help, please check the following resources:

- Day One – 1-866-223-1111
- Minnesota Crime Victim Support Line – 1-886-385-2699

- StrongHearts Native Helpline – 1-844762-8483
- Tribal and American Indian orgs that support victims and survivors

Your options to submit a public comment to the Task Force:

- You may submit your comments online at:

<https://us1se.voxco.com/SE/1145/MMIWTaskForcePublicCommentWeb/>

- You may email your comments, using the required forma shown below, to:

MMIWTaskForce@wilder.org

- You may call 651-280-2661 to leave a verbal recording of your comments that Wilder Research staff will transcribe and submit with the other written comments.

- At the Task Force meetings on December 12, 2019, and March 5, 2020, there will be opportunities provided for individuals from the public to provide verbal comments in front of the Task Force.

All public comments received by April 26, 2020, will be posted to the Resources page on the Task Force’s website in order to provide transparency. If you do not wish your testimony to be posted, please check the “**DO NOT post comment**” box and your submission will not be placed on the site but will be taken into consideration for the final recommendations and will be available to Task Force members.

Your comments will be sent to and collected by Wilder Research (a contractor that is working with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety). Wilder Research and DPS will compile public comments both through this online form and at Task Force meetings, and will assist in the preparation of recommendations for the Task Force’s report to the Minnesota Legislature.

Please note that the Minnesota Data Practices Act applies to all submitted comments. By submitting public comments, your contact information will become public data.

These guidelines will help us to process your information and include your testimony in the deliberations of the Task Force. We appreciate your participation and cooperation. If you need further clarification, please email your questions to: MMIWTaskForce@wilder.org.

Submission deadline: Please submit all comments by April 26, 2020.

Please list your top three recommendations that you would like to see included in the MMIW Task Force's report to the Minnesota Legislature:

1. (100 word max.):

2. (100 word max.):

3. (100 word max.):

Check this box if you **DO NOT** want your comments to be posted publicly.