



## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Holds Hearing in Follow-up to Their Report on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women in BC**

**WHAT:** Public Hearing

**WHEN:** Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. EST (12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. PST)

**WHERE:** Washington, D.C,  
Available Livestream: <http://original.livestream.com/oasenglish2> (Rubén Dario Room)

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) will hold a public hearing during its 157<sup>th</sup> session in Washington, DC, to follow-up to the report the IACHR issued on January 12, 2015 on murdered and missing Indigenous women in British Columbia, Canada. The hearing will last for one hour and be available live stream on <http://original.livestream.com/oasenglish2>. Canadian officials will attend and answer questions from the Commission. Ms. Dubravka Simonovic, current United Nations Rapporteur on Violence against Women, will be participating in the hearing as well. The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) and the Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA) will make a joint 15 minute presentation. Both NWAC and FAFIA are members of the Coalition on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, and the Coalition provided input to the IACHR's report, and is monitoring the public hearing to watch how Canada and British Columbia respond to questions regarding implementation of IACHR recommendations.

### **Speakers include:**

- Dawn Harvard, Native Women's Association of Canada
- Shelagh Day, Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action

- Sharon McIvor, Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action

**For more information contact:**

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For a copy of the IACHR Report on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women in British Columbia, Canada, please visit <http://www.oas.org/en/iachr/reports/pdfs/Indigenous-Women-BC-Canada-en.pdf>

*The Coalition on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls initially came together in response to the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry in British Columbia overseen by Commissioner Wally Oppal. Unfortunately the groups who formed the Coalition were shut out of the inquiry; however, the Coalition continues to meet regularly to pursue justice for murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls and has grown in number and strength.*

Coalition members include:

Amnesty International Canada  
Atira Housing  
Battered Women's Support Services  
BC Assembly of First Nations  
BC Civil Liberties Association  
BC Federation of Labour  
Butterflies in Spirit  
Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action  
Carrier Sekani Tribal Council  
February 14<sup>th</sup> Women's Memorial March Committee  
First Nations Summit  
First United Church  
Jenny Kwan, MP for Vancouver-East  
Melanie Mark, MLA for Vancouver- Mount Pleasant  
Mona Woodward, family member  
Native Women's Association of Canada  
PACE: Providing Alternatives Counselling & Education Society  
PHS Community Services Society  
Pivot Legal Society  
Poverty and Human Rights Centre  
RainCity Housing  
Union of BC Indian Chiefs  
Vancouver Aboriginal Community Policing Centre Society  
Vancouver Council of Women  
Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter  
West Coast LEAF  
WISH Drop-in Centre Society  
Women Against Violence Against Women