

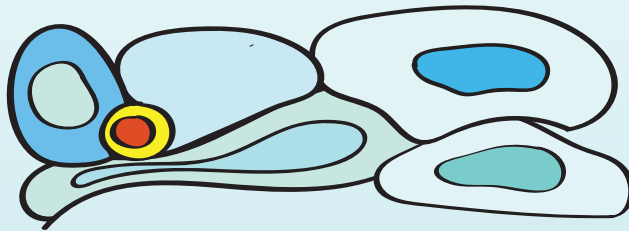


FEMMES AUTOCHTONES DU QUÉBEC INC.
QUEBEC NATIVE WOMEN INC.

AMNISTIE
INTERNATIONALE



WHY DEMAND AN INDEPENDENT PROVINCIAL JUDICIAL INQUIRY ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND POLICE INSTITUTIONS OF QUEBEC?



11 REASONS to hold an independent judicial inquiry in Quebec:

1.

The Government of Quebec is responsible for the provincial police institutions. It therefore has full responsibility to put an end to the systemic discrimination that exist within these institutions.

2.

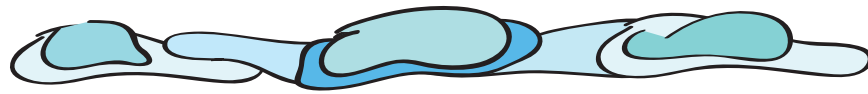
The Government of Quebec has a duty to ensure the safety of all citizens, including Indigenous women, through its police institutions.

3.

The Quebec government's participation in the National Inquiry for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (NIMMIWG) is necessary but not adequate to correct provincial police institutions' operations.

4.

The disappearance or murder of an Indigenous woman is not automatically due or related to police abuse, just as abuse or violence from police forces does not necessarily lead to disappearance or murder. Though they stem from similar systemic problems, these are two different situations, which is each must be investigated separately.



5.

The NIMMIWG mandate is broad considering the period of time allotted to it. Moreover, it does not specifically have jurisdiction to look into police forces' relationship with Indigenous women.

6.

There is a conflict of interest when police investigate the police. From the perspective of both victims and the public, this process lacks legitimacy.

7.

In her final report, independent civilian observer Fannie Lafontaine raised the issue of systemic racism within police institutions. Given the magnitude of the situation, a criminal investigation, which by nature is limited in its powers, was not an appropriate response to Indigenous women's denunciations.

8.

The rejection of almost all denunciations of Indigenous women who have experienced abuse or police violence discourages victims from filing complaints. The Government of Quebec can not give way to impunity.

9.

It is necessary to shed light on the root causes of such allegations of violence and abuse against police officers. Systemic racism must be recognized and fought against because its consequences perpetuate inequalities and injustices.

10.

It is time to put an end to the Government of Quebec's failure to find solutions to improve Indigenous women's sense of safety and dignity. The government must take responsibility.

11.

The year-long mixed police station pilot project in Val-d'Or, an SQ initiative, is welcomed but will not improve the situation in the other communities and cities in Quebec. The government must face and find solutions to systemic racism and discrimination throughout the province.

