

16 days of action (English)

November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. It also kicks off the global 16 days of activism to end gender-based violence campaign, which runs until World Human Rights Day on December 10th.

Many violence against women advocates in Ontario are using these 16 days to call for implementation of the CKW inquest recommendations.

Working collaboratively, a number of women's shelters in northern Ontario and Luke's Place have developed a tool for organizations or individuals looking for inquest-related messages to use on social media, at events or otherwise during the 16 days.

We have created infographics for 16 of the 86 recommendations, which contain a brief commentary on the recommendation as well as suggestions for where advocacy could be directed and some links to other information and tools.

We hope you will find them helpful.

Infographics

16 Days of Activism

16 of the 86 Recommendations from the June Inquest into the triple femicide of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam



Recommendation #1

Formally declare intimate partner violence as an epidemic.

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is the most common form of violence against women in the world, with nearly 1 in 3 women age 15 or older experiencing physical or sexual IPV. Intimate Partner Violence occurs in all settings, amongst all socioeconomic, religious and cultural groups. A recent Statistics Canada Report reveals the 7th consecutive year of gradual increase in intimate partner violence.



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IPV is a PREVENTABLE PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC

COST

\$0.00 to declare IPV an epidemic.

Implementing programming to give the declaration meaning will require a financial commitment.

\$7.4 billion per year to do nothing.

CALL FOR ACTION:

- Community & Regional Officers of Health;
- Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health;
- Canada's Chief Medical Officer of Health ;
- Federal & Provincial Politicians.



For more information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

Government of Canada legislation targets intimate-partner violence - Canada.ca

Victims of police-reported family and intimate partner violence in Canada, 2021 (statcan.gc.ca)



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Recommendation #4

Create the role of a survivor advocate to advocate on behalf of survivors regarding their experience in the justice system.

The legal systems women are engaged with when they leave an abuser are complicated. Systems often do not communicate or share information with one another, and decisions and orders made in one may conflict with decisions and orders made in the other. Any survivor, but especially those dealing with trauma, can feel overwhelmed by the complexity, lack of clarity and the many decisions they have to make. A survivor advocate would provide system navigation and could advocate with systems when requested to do so by survivors, thus reducing their trauma, by making the process smoother. This could lead to better outcomes.



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**A SURVIVOR
ADVOCATE
would provide
system
navigation and
could advocate
with systems
when requested
to do so by
survivors.**

CALL FOR ACTION:

- Ontario Attorney General Doug Downey
- Victims and Vulnerable Persons Division, Ministry of the Attorney General
- NDP Justice critic, Kristyn Wong-Tam.



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

Microsoft Word - Family Law Interim Report - February 2012 - 01
30 12 - FINAL - for web (oalth.ca)

https://lukesplace.ca/pdf/It_Shouldnt_Be_This_Hard.pdf



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Recommendation #5

Create a provincial implementation committee to ensure the recommendations from this inquest are comprehensively considered.

Currently, inquest recommendations are non-binding and there is no external oversight of implementation. An implementation committee consisting of an equal number of senior members of relevant government ministries and community IPV experts, chaired by an independent IPV expert with the freedom to speak publicly about progress made or not made would create much-needed transparency and accountability, which would then encourage comprehensive consideration and potential implementation of recommendations.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Premier Doug Ford
- Chief Coroner Dr. Dirk Huyer
- NDP Women's issues critic Jill Andrew
- NDP Justice critic, Kristyn Wong-Tam.



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.oaith.ca/assets/files/Publications/Hadley-Jury-Recommendations.pdf>



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Recommendation #7

Address IPV issues using an all-of-government approach.

There is no quick or simple solution to IPV. The only effective way to address and eradicate it is to use a multi-pronged approach. Within government, this includes ensuring that all relevant ministries are involved and that efforts are coordinated and information shared across those ministries and with federal, provincial and territorial government partners.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Premier Doug Ford
- Attorney General Doug Downey
- Minister of Health Sylvia Jones
- Minister of Education Stephen Lecce
- Minister of Children, Community and Social Services Merrilee Fullerton
- Associate Minister for Women's Social and Economic Opportunity Charmain Williams
- NDP House Leader Peggy Sattler



For more
information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://nationalactionplan.ca/>



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Recommendation #40

Encourage that IPV be integrated into every municipality's community safety and well-being plan.

The Safer Ontario Act 2018 requires municipalities to create plans that address social risks leading to crime and having a negative impact on the well-being of community members. Finding ways to raise awareness about IPV and integrated, coordinated community-based responses to it would reduce risks and create an increased sense of safety and well-being for those victimized by IPV as well as for the entire community.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Mayors and municipal councillors
- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark



For more information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/community-safety-and-well-being-planning-framework-booklet-3-shared-commitment-ontario/section-6-toolkit-community-safety-and-well-being-planning>



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Recommendation #48

Recognize that the implementation of the recommendations will require a significant financial investment and commit to provide such funding.

It won't be cheap to implement the recommendations from the CKW inquest. The provincial government needs to recognize the seriousness of IPV and femicide in Ontario, just as it recognized the seriousness of COVID-19, and commit adequate, ongoing funding embedded in the province's budget to ensure that implementation is meaningful. This includes the provision of adequate and stable funding for organizations providing IPV services.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- President of Treasury Board Prabmeet Sarkaria
- Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy
- NDP Finance Critic Catherine Fyfe



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/fv-vf/rr12_7/p0.html
<https://policyalternatives.ca/newsroom/updates/violence-against-women-absence-data-and-national-strategy-costs-us-all>



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Recommendation #21

Develop a plan for enhanced second-stage housing for IPV survivors.

Shelters offer important crisis housing and supports for IPV survivors and their children. Many women require ongoing housing support, including safe, affordable accommodation with onsite assistance available, for a period of time after they leave shelter, where they can become increasingly independent. Without this support, women and their children can find themselves returning to unsafe situations. Ontario's current supply of second stage housing is inadequate to meet the need.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark
- NDP Housing Critic Jessica Bell



For more information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://endvaw.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Second-Stage-Shelters-Full-Report.pdf>



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Recommendation #25 & 26

Build on existing age-appropriate education programs for primary and secondary schools as well as universities and colleges, using IPV professionals and specially trained teachers.

IPV prevention has to start with children. Age-appropriate programs from kindergarten to post-secondary education can teach kids and young people how to recognize healthy relationships, what coercive control is, what common risk factors for abuse are and how to make plans to be safe and manage risk. These programs should be developed and delivered by community-based IPV workers whenever possible or by teachers who have been specially trained to talk about IPV.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Minister of Education Stephen Lecce
- Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop
- Municipal boards of education



For more
information visit:



<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

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Recommendation #35

Address barriers and create opportunities and pathways to services for IPV perpetrators that can be accessed in the community.

Keeping survivors safe from ongoing abuse by perpetrators of IPV includes ensuring that perpetrators have access to the services they need. This includes elimination of barriers that can make it difficult for perpetrators to find the services they need, creating more opportunities and pathways for them to engage, and ensuring that referrals to services and programs are made as early as possible. It is critical that services and programs require perpetrators to be accountable for their abusive behaviours.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Minister of Children, Community and Social Services Merrilee Fullerton
- Minister of Health Sylvia Jones
- NDP MCCSS Critic Monique Taylor



For more
information visit:



<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

Programming Responses for Intimate Partner Violence
(justice.gc.ca)

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Recommendation #42

Co-train justice system personnel and IPV service providers on the risk assessment framework and tools.

Different situations require different risk assessment tools; however, it is important for those working within the justice system and those working in the community to understand and share a common framework within which they use those different tools so that the information gathered can be used across sectors. That framework needs to centre survivor safety and autonomy. The best way to create shared understandings is through a co-training model.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Attorney General Doug Downey



For more information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/cj-jp/fv-vf/rr12_8/rr12_8.pdf

http://cdhpi.ca/sites/cdhpi.ca/files/Brief_2_Final_2.pdf



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Recommendation #46

Study the best approach for permitting disclosure of information about a perpetrator's history of IPV and the potential risk to new and future partners (Clare's Law).

Information is critical for effective safety planning. Often, the initial warning signs of IPV are difficult to detect and, by the time a woman realizes she is in an unsafe situation, it is difficult for her to get out. Intimate partner violence disclosure protocols – already implemented in three other provinces – allow potential victims to ask for and receive information about a partner's IPV history and permit police to release this information on their own initiative. Ontario should consider the best approach to developing such a protocol.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Chief Coroner of Ontario Dirk Huyer
- Information and Privacy Commissioner Patricia Kosseim
- Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/justice-crime-and-the-law/victims-of-crime-and-abuse/clares-law>

<https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-42/session-1/bill-274>



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Recommendation #47

Set up IPV Registry for repeat IPV offenders similar to the Sex Offender Information Registry Act registry.

We know that many of those who engage in abusive behaviour are repeat offenders as they move from one relationship to another. Those who have a history of IPV should be identified through a registry system to facilitate information sharing among service providers and to allow potential victims to have access to information about a new partner. This recommendation could be implemented in conjunction with other recommendations intended to facilitate the sharing of information to enhance victim and community safety (recommendations 11, 14, 16, 44, 46, 50, 78).



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Solicitor General Michael Kerzner
- Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/atip/007006-0018-en.shtml>

<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/S-8.7/FullText.html>



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Recommendation #54

Develop an IPV-focused support model for survivors in criminal court similar to the Family Court Support Worker Program.

Over the past decade, the FCSW program has provided invaluable assistance to IPV survivors involved with family court by providing safety planning, system navigation support, accompaniment, help with gathering evidence and referrals to other services. Such assistance, coupled with the services already provided by V/WAP, would be of significant value to survivors who are engaged in the criminal process.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Attorney General Doug Downey
- Victims and Vulnerable Persons Division, Ministry of the Attorney General
- NDP Justice Critic Kristyn Wong-Tam



**For more
information visit:**

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/family-court-support-workers>

<https://owjn.org/2013/06/family-court-support-workers/>



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Recommendation #58

Conduct an independent evidence-based review of mandatory charging, with particular attention to unintended negative consequences.

Since the implementation of mandatory charging policies in Canada 40 years ago, we have seen how problematic they can be for women, who may call the police for assistance but with no intention that their partner be charged. It is time for a review of these policies that explores the unintended negative consequences as well as their effectiveness and considers alternate approaches to ensuring that police response to domestic violence calls is appropriate and survivor-centred.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Federal Minister of Justice David Lametti
- Attorney General Doug Downey



**For more
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<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://ruor.uottawa.ca/bitstream/10393/37546/1/MCP%20Report%20Final%20EN%2014072017.pdf>

https://www.sfu.ca/gsws/community/student-blog/studentblogarchives/Mandatory_Charging_Is_Not_the_Answer.html



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Recommendation #78

Develop a plain language tool to assist IPV professionals make informed decisions about privacy, confidentiality and public safety.

Those working in different sectors do not always agree about what information they can share with one another about IPV victims and perpetrators. This is partly because privacy issues are covered under different pieces of legislation that approach the topic from different perspectives and partly because different service providers have different mandates and internal policies. A plain language guide that clearly sets out what information can be shared, when and with whom, would enhance appropriate information sharing and effective safety planning for survivors and the public.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Information and Privacy Commissioner Patricia Kosseim



For more
information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.ipc.on.ca/privacy-organizations/collection-use-and-disclosure-of-personal-information/>

https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Pamela_Cross-Confidentiality_and_Risk.pdf



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Recommendation #79

Explore adding the term “Femicide” and its definition to the Criminal Code.

Explicitly naming femicide, either as a separate offence or as a form of homicide, would more clearly name the reality of this gender-based form of homicide. It would also facilitate data collection, which would support more effective analysis and system change intended to reduce the rate of femicide. This recommendation could be considered in conjunction with the recommendation to add femicide to the categories of manner of death in inquest verdicts (recommendation 77).



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Federal Minister of Justice David Lametti



For more
information visit:

<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.femicideincanada.ca/courts>

<https://brocku.ca/brock-news/2022/07/adding-femicide-to-canadas-criminal-code-first-step-in-long-road-says-brock-prof/>

<https://readpassage.com/femicide-shouldnt-be-written-into-the-criminal-code/>



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Recommendation #85

Include coercive control as an offence in the Criminal Code.

Making coercive control a criminal offence would help some women whose partners engage in non-physical forms of IPV. However, it also poses some potential challenges in terms of how it would be defined, what kinds of evidence would be required to support a successful prosecution and possible misuse against women. Careful study is needed before any decisions are made to add coercive control to the Criminal Code.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Federal Minister of Justice David Lametti
- Minister for Women's and Gender Equality Marci Ien



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<https://lukesplace.ca/culleton-kuzyk-warmerdam-ckw-inquest-advocacy-toolkit/>

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/432/JUST/Reports/RPII257780/justrp09/justrp09-e.pdf>

<https://lukesplace.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Stopping-Coercive-Control-by-Criminalization-Lukes-Place.pdf>



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Recommendation #86

Reconvene one year following the verdict to discuss the progress in implementing the recommendations.

A gathering of the parties, jury and other interested individuals in June 2023 should encourage those with responsibility for implementing the recommendations to take action in a timely and meaningful manner, knowing a public discussion of the progress that has been made (or not made) is planned.



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CALL FOR ACTION:

- Chief Coroner Dirk Huyer
- Chair, Domestic Violence Death Review Committee Prabhu Rajan



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