



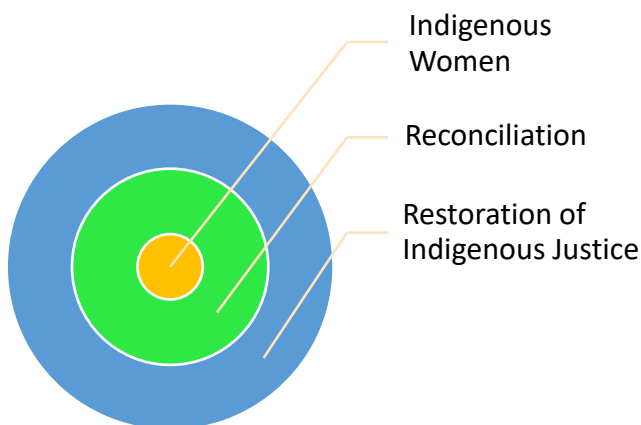
MVAEC WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE

"Our goal is to have healthy, vibrant and self-sustaining urban indigenous women contributing to our traditional and cultural well-being of our urban community, our children's children, and to society." **Diana Day, Lead Matriarch, Pacific Association of First Nations Women.**

"We need support systems for all our Urban Indigenous Women that empowers, creates safety and security, and is equitable with our men." **Jenna Forbes, E.D., Vancouver Aboriginal Transformative Justice Services Society.**

Our Urban Indigenous Women face many socio-economic barriers based upon the effects of colonization. We continue to deal with the many atrocities against women; sexual exploitation, violence, racism, discrimination, economic inequity, marginalization and poverty; and very little seemed to be done about it. We fear for our safety on a daily basis and have to constantly be competing to survive the legal, health, housing and economic systems. Like our brothers and families, we have come to the urban centers with high hopes for higher educational opportunities, better health care, affordable suitable family housing and economic opportunities, but it continues to be such a struggle to survive.

The strong and intelligent Indigenous women who are executive directors in the MVAEC community, are uniquely poised to lead reconciliation. Restoring Indigenous justice for women, men, children, and Two-Spirit people.



Indigenous Women in Leadership

Action #1: Design an MVAEC Communications Strategy that promotes the leadership of Indigenous women who are executive directors in the MVAEC community. Balancing out leadership needs, gaps in funding and services, but most importantly Indigenous women's achievements.

Action #2: Create a community forum where women, men, and Two-Spirit people gather to encourage the leadership of young Indigenous women. Presenting healthy relationships between the masculine, feminine, and non-binary.

Reconciliation with Indigenous Women and the Restoration of Indigenous Justice

Action #1: Design an MVAEC strategy to increase the community safety experienced by Urban Indigenous women.

Action #2: Critically reflect on the way's women have witnessed organizations work on meeting the TRC 94 Calls to Action in their lives. Document the gaps that have persisted in actions, and increased barriers to women achieving the calls to action.

Action #3: Integrate into MVAEC strategies the **2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action: Ending Violence Against Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People.**

We honour our grandmothers, mothers, daughters, sisters, aunties, cousins, friends, and Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual Plus (2SLGBTQQIA+) people who have gone missing or have been murdered, as well as the survivors of gender- and race-based violence and the families whose lives have been altered forever. Our work is guided by your voices – we will always remember.