



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS  
312-345 Chief Alex Thomas Way  
Kamloops, BC V2H 1H1  
Office: (250) 828 - 9757 Fax: (250) 828 - 9893  
[www.bcafn.ca](http://www.bcafn.ca)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

### **BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS PARTICIPATES AT THE NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MMIWG**

**(Coast Salish Territory, Vancouver, BC – April 4, 2018)** – Today, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls began community hearings in Coast Salish Territory (Greater Vancouver region). Community hearings of the Truth Gathering Process in Vancouver is set to start today and end on April 8, 2018. It is expected that over 100 family members and survivors are expected to share their truths.

BCAFN Board Director and BC Female Representative, Chief Marilyn Slett from Heiltsuk First Nation is set to address the Commissioners on Thursday April 5. “BC First Nations leadership is largely supportive of the work of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and having this opportunity for families and survivors to tell their stories is a fundamental and central piece to the work of the Inquiry. The resiliency and strength I have witnessed, reflects the hope I have for our communities and families to work with the Inquiry and others to address systemic causes behind the violence that Indigenous women and girls face on a daily basis,” stated Chief Marilyn Slett.

“I look forward to hearing the outcomes and recommendations of the National Inquiry and I call on the Federal and Provincial Governments and the justice and social institutions in our country to implement concrete actions flowing from the inquiry. The safety and security of Indigenous women and girls must be prioritized and there must be full implementation of the recommendations to ensure transformative change for Indigenous women and girls and ultimately for our communities,” BC Regional Chief Terry Teegee concluded.

#### **For further information, contact:**

Regional Chief Terry Teegee  
BC Assembly of First Nations  
(250) 299-2030

#honouringourancestors

