

**Human Rights Council – 33<sup>rd</sup> Session**  
**Items 3 & 5 Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on**  
**Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**  
September 20, 2016

Canada expresses its appreciation to both the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism for their important work in promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous peoples, and we thank them for their presentations.

We welcome the review of EMRIP's mandate and believe it must be strengthened to enhance its independence and effectiveness; to improve its coordination with other mechanisms and organizations; and to ensure that it has a real impact on the ground in achieving the ends of UNDRIP, which Canada has committed to fully implement.

Canada also welcomes EMRIP's thematic study this year on the "right to health and indigenous peoples" and was pleased to support the Expert Seminar on this issue in Montreal, Canada in February 2016. We look forward to ongoing cooperation with the renewed EMRIP.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her report on international investment agreements, and we welcome her decision to address her next report on the impact of environmental conservation measures on Indigenous peoples.

We also thank the Special Rapporteur for her attention to the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, and her participation in January 2016 in the Ottawa symposium on this important issue. We welcomed the opportunity to hear your views on how Canada could most effectively undertake a National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls – that National Inquiry is now underway. Canada is committed to real reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and the Inquiry is an important step toward addressing the unacceptable rates of violence against Indigenous women and girls.

EMRIP, we appreciate that your study on the "right to health and indigenous peoples" had a focus on women's health, including highlighting the health-related impacts of violence against women, such as injuries, sexually transmitted infections, and substance dependence. Are there best practices you could share by countries, Indigenous communities or other stakeholders on how to address this particular issue?