

CFUW SUBMISSION UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)

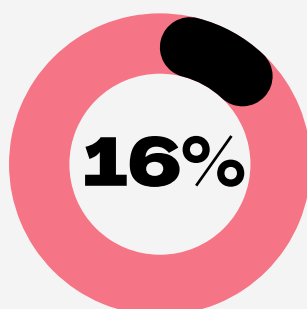
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER OF HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)

A Summary of CFUW findings

On April 5th, 2023, CFUW submitted a review of human rights in Canada to the OHCHR universal periodic review process. The UPR monitors human rights by reviewing countries every five years, receiving input from states, individuals, and civil society. Our research into human rights in Canada revealed that two of the most prominent human rights violations in Canada are **violence against Indigenous women** and **environmental racism**. These two violations are inextricably linked and require systemic change.



Femicide in Canada increased by **27%** in 2022 compared to 2019 ([CFOJA, 2023](#)).



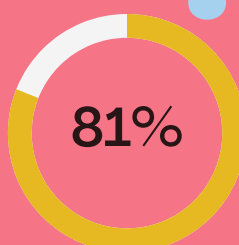
Indigenous women represent **at least 16%** of the homicides. This number is likely higher due to unreported or misreported cases. ([MMIWG, 2019](#)).



One woman or girl is killed every two days in Canada ([CFOJA, 2023](#)).

ADVANCEMENTS

In their last UPR report in 2017, Canada committed to ending **all** of long term boil water advisories by 2021. In 2023, **81%** have ended. We deem this significant progress, and will continue to monitor government actions until this number is 100%.



The government of Canada has committed to a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ National Action Plan, a federal pathway, and significant funding (\$2.2 billion over 5 years and \$160.9 million per year ongoing).

However, we are still missing an implementation plan, and calls for an independent chairperson and secretariat, as well as many more calls for justice, have gone unanswered, and money unspent.

CFUW RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Pass and Implement Bill C-226:** The National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act
- **Ensure the involvement of Indigenous communities** in impact and environmental assessments of natural resource projects
- **Continue to work with Indigenous nations to support agreements of self-governance** and to **transfer the care** of Indigenous children back to Indigenous communities
- **Ratify the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment** (HRC Resolution 48/13)
- **Increase and mobilize funds** for community-based and culturally-appropriate mentorship and housing strategies for Indigenous women and youth, especially those involved in the criminal justice system, and aging out of care.
- **Invest in Indigenous justice systems** to prevent to begin to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in Canadian prisons
- **Treat MMIWG2S like the emergency it is**