5 May 2024

<your address and postcode>

Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

The Honourable Gary Anandasangaree MP

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario,

Canada K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Anandasangaree,

I am a <fill in something about yourself here to make your message unique> and a member of the United Church of Canada. I am writing to you as part of Amnesty International’s campaign to urge the Government of Canada to make good on its promises for reconciliation and right action.

The rate of homicide for Indigenous women is four times that of non-Indigenous women in Canada. Half of Indigenous women have experienced assault, compared with a third of non-Indigenous women. Indigenous women are four times more likely to experience violence and twice as likely to experience intimate-partner violence, compared with non-indigenous women. Indigenous women, girls and 2-spirit people who protest to defend lands and water in Canada are subjected to violence, such that in 2023, the UN special rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples expressed grave concern over the ongoing criminalization of Indigenous land and water defenders.

We welcome the National Action Plan and the explicit plans to address the calls for action that are detailed on the GoC website. However, we are concerned that this is too little, too late, and that stronger, more specific plans to end violence are needed now.

Specifically, I stand with the Assembly of First Nations in calling on Canada to take direct action against violence against women, girls and 2-spirit people, and to fund Indigenous-led resources for healing. We ask that you redouble your efforts to develop robust, detailed implementation plans responding to the 231 Calls for Justice, that are locally adapted and distinctions-based, while also ensuring that all Indigenous women, girls, and two-spirit people have access to the same level of services no matter where in Canada they live.

Many thanks for your urgent attention to these concerns,

Yours sincerely,

<your name and credentials>