



**YUKON  
REGION**

**News Release**  
**A Yukon that Leads**

July 12, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***AFN Yukon Welcomes Final Report on AFN Resolution 13/2020: Becoming  
A Role Model in Ending Sexual Orientation and Gender-Based Discrimination  
Within the Assembly of First Nations***

**Halifax (Kijipuktuk), Nova Scotia – The Assembly of First Nations Yukon Region responds to sensitive findings of AFN Resolution 13 Report, extends support to those harmed, and calls for the work required to heal.**

The findings of a multi-year investigation mandated by AFN Resolution 13/2020 were presented to Chiefs from across Canada during AFN’s 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly on Wednesday, revealing a long-standing organizational culture of sexual misconduct, predatory practice, harassment and discrimination. Chiefs were also provided with recommendations to identify and address the existing violence and create strategies for building a future culture of safety for all at the AFN.

AFN Resolution 13/2020 passed in December 2020 and ordered an independent, fair and impartial review of the AFN to end sexual orientation and gender-based discrimination and all other forms of violence, including sexualized violence, lateral violence, bullying and cyber-bullying within the organization. The resolution, which was seconded by former Kwanlin Dün First Nation Chief Doris Bill, was strongly supported by AFN Yukon Regional Chief Kluane Adamek and several Yukon Chiefs. The investigative review was conducted by a panel of representatives from the AFN National Knowledge Keeper’s Council, Women’s Council and Youth Council, who delivered the presentation to Chiefs-In-Assembly on Wednesday.

“First and foremost, we acknowledge and thank all those who bravely shared their stories with the Panel, and whose traumatic experiences form the foundation of this Report,” Proxy Regional Chief Mary Jane Jim reflected. “I also raise my hands to each of the Panel members for their diligent work, and to Regional Chief Kluane Adamek and former Chief Doris Bill for their leadership in championing Resolution 13 from the very beginning.”

“Now more than ever, we need all leaders to step up and demonstrate that as an organization, the AFN will not tolerate any forms of violence or discrimination against its employees, or anyone. People need to be safe in the workplace, and they need to be safe to be who they are,” said Proxy Regional Chief Jim.

Along with its findings, the Resolution 13 Report acknowledges that the AFN's culture of lateral violence reflects colonial harms associated with intergenerational trauma and abuse inflicted upon First Nations through residential schools, forced assimilation policies, sexual abuse and cultural genocide. Action must be taken to implement the Panel's recommendations towards meaningful systemic change, beginning with immediate changes to the organization's operations and processes.

As an organization, the AFN can and should model progressive and ethical practices to addressing and ending all forms of violence based on the values and interests of First Nations people and cultures. It is everyone's responsibility to acknowledge the colonial traumas that impact our organizations, to bravely stand up against discrimination, and to call for justice for First Nations, for the rest of Canada, and for all people around the world.

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**Support resources are available to those who need them:**

**Hope for Wellness Line:** 1-855-242-3310

**Indian Residential School Survivors Society 24-hour crisis line:** 1 (800) 721-0066

**Women's Transition Home - Kaushee's Place 24/7 Crisis Line:** (867) 633-7720

**Canadian Mental Health Association, Yukon Division Support Line:** (867) 668-6429

**Government of Yukon 24/7 Counselling Line:**

In the Yukon: (867) 668-3327

Outside the Yukon: 1-855-767-7429

For questions about accessing short-term personal and crisis counselling email [HSW.Inquiry@yukon.ca](mailto:HSW.Inquiry@yukon.ca) or phone (867) 667-9419.

**For media requests related to this statement, please contact:**

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