

APPENDICES

Appendix I

CANADA'S NEW GOVERNMENT DELIVERS HELP TO FIRST NATIONS SHELTERS

OTTAWA, ONTARIO (October 24, 2006) - The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians, the Honourable Jim Prentice today announced a one-time investment of \$6 million for 2006-07 to address the immediate needs of existing shelters and help First Nations communities improve family violence prevention programs and services.

"To help address the often difficult situations faced by First Nation women, I am announcing that an additional \$6 million will be available this year to help ensure that the network of 35 INAC funded family violence shelters are better equipped to provide much-needed services to women and children on reserve," said Minister Prentice.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's (INAC) Family Prevention Program has an annual budget of about \$18.5 million. This includes funding for a network of 35 shelters across Canada of approximately \$11.5 million per year and about \$7 million per year for community-driven family violence prevention projects in First Nations communities. The new funding will be used to help address the need for adequate shelter program operations.

"We need to invest in our future - a future that will see First Nations women and their families enjoy a safe and secure home environment," said Minister Prentice. He added: "These investments will be used to support resources such as staff training, direct client costs such as food and bedding, facility costs such as insurance and cleaning supplies and administrative costs such as office supplies"

In the coming months, INAC will continue to work with partners like the National Aboriginal Circle Against Family Violence, Native Women's Association of Canada and the Assembly of First Nations, provinces and territories to provide a coordinated approach to the prevention of family violence. The department will continue to work with the Federal Family Violence Initiative, including the Aboriginal Working Group on Family Violence co-chaired by the Status of Women Canada and the Federal Family Violence Initiative Federal/Provincial/Territorial Working Group, to ensure a coordinated approach to programs and initiatives across all levels of government.

"I share with National Aboriginal leaders, the vision of empowering First Nations communities so that they may develop community-based approaches that will help lead to concrete changes to address the root causes of family violence. Addressing these issues will lead to safe and healthy individuals and sustainable First Nations communities," Minister Prentice said.

For further information, please contact:

Media Relations INAC
(819) 953-1160 (819) 953-1160

BACKGROUND

Family Violence Prevention Program

The Family Violence Prevention Program is one component of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's priority for Women, Children and Families. The program provides operational funding for a network of 35 shelters, and supports community-based prevention projects. Approximately 265 First Nations communities are served by the shelters. Each year, approximately 1,900 women and 2,300 children access those services.

There are two main components to INAC's Family Violence Prevention Program. These include:

Shelters

Shelters for First Nations women and children are important for their safety and well-being in family violence crisis situations.

INAC provides operational funding to a network of 35 shelters used by First Nations women who ordinarily live on-reserve. The Family Violence Prevention Program provides approximately \$18.5 million in annual operational funding to support 35 shelters, serving approximately 265 First Nation communities, and provides \$7M to support community-based prevention projects.

Prevention Projects

To receive Family Violence Prevention federal project funding, community-based projects must be aimed at reducing the incidence of violence on reserve.

The anticipated result of the Family Violence Prevention Program is a reduction in family violence and a more secure family environment for children on-reserve, by providing family violence prevention and protection services.

The Department works with stakeholders such as the National Aboriginal Circle Against Family Violence, the Native Women's Association of Canada, the Assembly of First Nations, provinces and territories, and other government departments such as Status of Women Canada on the coordination of family violence programming to better protect the interests of Aboriginal women, children and families.

For further information visit: [Family Violence Prevention Program for First Nations](#)