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# National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Presented for Information  
Edmonton Police Commission

September 21, 2017  
Inspector Carlos Cardoso



# MMIWG Mandate

(Missing Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls)

- The MMIWG Commission was formed in response to an RCMP report released in 2014 which identified that there were over 1000 reported homicides and missing persons involving Indigenous female victims between 1980 to 2012.
- In August of 2016 the MMIWG Commission was directed to examine and report on the systemic causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls in Canada by looking at patterns and underlying factors.



# EPS Response

- A working group was formed in February of 2016.
- Initiated the review of 190 unsolved homicides and 91 missing person files in an effort to identify those relating to Indigenous females.
- Homicide Section Team Commander assigned to oversee the reviews.



# MMIWG Files

- (10) Homicide files ranging from 1977 to 2011 with (11) Indigenous female victims identified.
- An additional (9) investigations were assessed for potential inclusion in the review after being introduced by family, media, and open source searches; only (1) of which was found to be within scope and was included in the review.
- (10) Missing Person files ranging from 1988 to 2015 involving Indigenous females were identified.



# The Review Process

- The review process involved:
  - Complete file reviews conducted by Subject Matter Experts.
  - Tasks were identified.
  - Family contact through Victim Services Unit and investigators.
  - Consultation with the RCMP Lab about the potential for additional testing or re-testing of exhibits in Homicide files.



# Status of Files

- All (11) homicide and (10) missing person files were completely reviewed.
- All tasks on missing person files substantially completed.
- Tasks on (5) of the (11) homicide files substantially completed; (1) of which resulted in a charge of Second Degree Murder being laid.
- There are currently (30) identified tasks that remain outstanding on the remaining (6) homicide files.



# Resource Commitments

- The Team Commander and the assigned Primary Investigators from both Homicide and Missing Persons were assigned the MMIWG portfolio in addition to their regular duties.
- To date there have been (6) members who have completed secondments to assist with the MMIWG review.
- It is anticipated that there will be future secondments made to assist with the completion of the remaining outstanding tasks.



# Potential Challenges

- Dependent on the direction from the MMIWG Commission, it should be anticipated that there may be additional resource demands with respect to:
  - Disclosure of investigations to the MMIWG Commission and / or other police agencies; and
  - Independent review of investigations received from other police agencies.





# Moving Forward

- The Edmonton Police Service is waiting for the MMIWG Commission to provide direction as to how we will be engaged in this process as the inquiry moves forward.
- In the interim, efforts will continue to complete the outstanding tasks on the identified files.