

Decision/Direction Note
Office of Women and Gender Equality

Title: 2024-2025 Pillar Three Funding under the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence

s.29(1)(a)

Decision/Direction Required:

- [REDACTED]

Background and Current Status:

- In 2023, Newfoundland and Labrador negotiated a \$13.6 million four-year bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada through the GBV-NAP (2023-24: \$2.60M; 2024-25: \$3.65M; 2025-26: \$3.65M; 2026-27: \$3.65M).
- The Province is required to match the Federal contribution annually, which means in 2023-24 over \$5.2 million was spent on gender-based violence. For the duration of the bilateral agreement, more than \$27.2 million will be spent by the Province to end gender-based violence.
- Built on existing Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FP/T) approaches and strategies, GBV-NAP is the first FP/T strategic framework for action, within and across jurisdictions, to support GBV victims, survivors and their families, no matter where they live. It affirms a common vision, principles, and goals for GBV response, foundationally rooted in engagement, data mobilization and research, and frontline expertise that support evidence-based policy and program development.
- The GBV-NAP's five pillars identify existing challenges and opportunities for action where FP/T governments can advance work: **Pillar One:** *Support for victims, survivors, and their families*; **Pillar Two:** *Prevention*; **Pillar Three:** *Responsive justice system*; **Pillar Four:** *Implementing Indigenous-led approaches*; and **Pillar Five:** *Social infrastructure and enabling environment*.
- Pillar Three focuses on the justice system responses related to GBV and the need to address underlying intersectional factors that result in individuals experiencing bias and re-traumatization within the justice process. Stakeholders have called for more information to be provided to victims and survivors, as well as more effective family justice system responses to GBV that are trauma and violence-informed that promote outcomes that protect the safety of all family members.
- In 2023-24, over 30 organizations received GBV-NAP funding, with \$37,400 allocated under Pillar Three to LifeWiseNL, in partnership with John Howard Society NL, for *Men Empowering Men* focused on engaging perpetrators of GBV in programming and peer support services designed to disrupt cycles of offending.

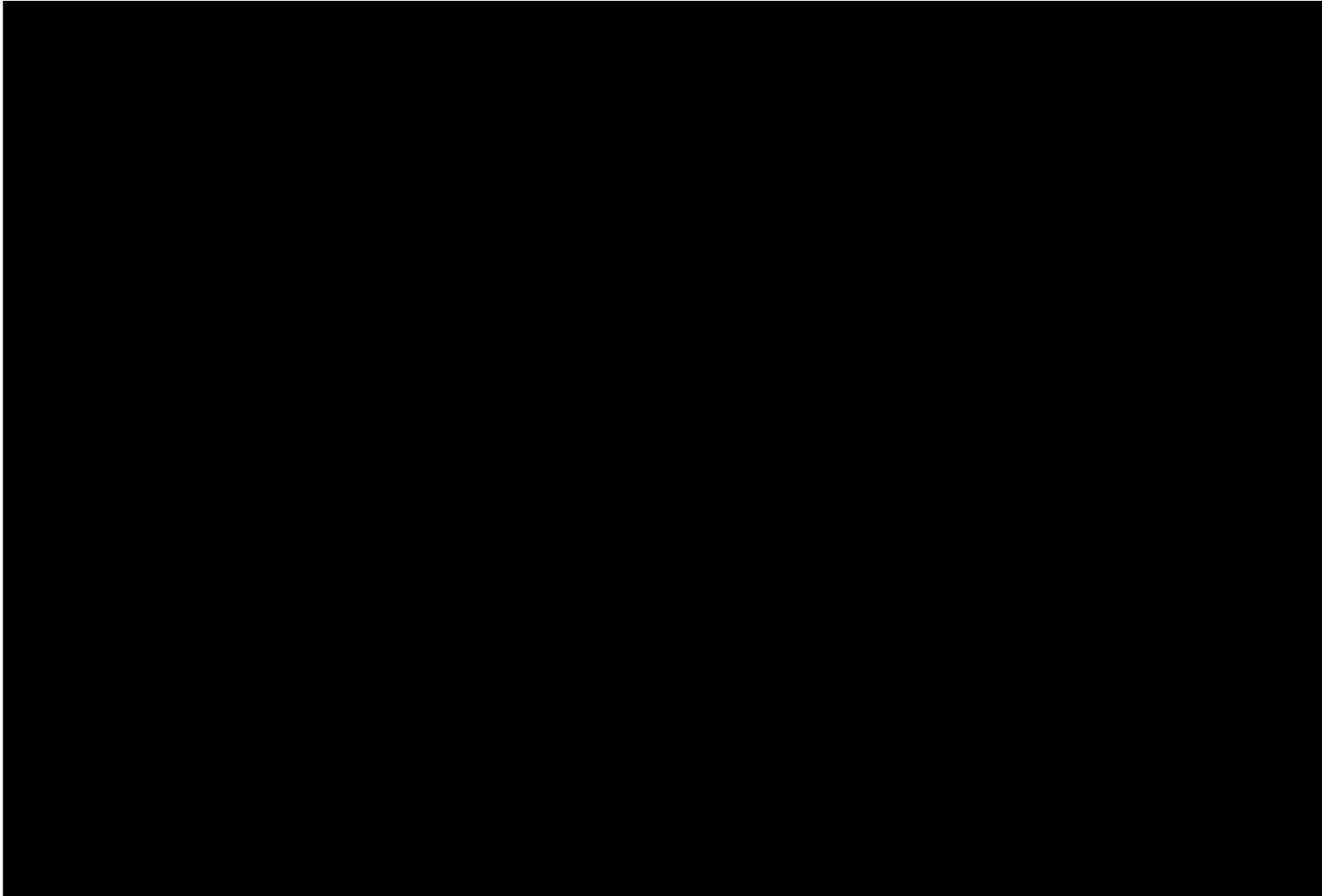
Analysis:

- GBV disproportionately affects women and girls. Certain populations, such as Indigenous women and girls, Black and racialized women, women living in Northern, rural, and remote communities, non-status and temporary status migrants, immigrants and refugees, individuals, people with disabilities, children, and youth, 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, and seniors, experience excessively high rates of GBV.
- The Provincial Action Network on the Status of Women (PANSOW) released a report, "Seeds of Change: Community Perspectives on Gender-Based Violence Advocacy and Action in Newfoundland and Labrador", on March 8, 2024, that provides 88 recommendations for action including under Pillar Three. The section on Pillar Three: Responsive Justice System highlights

trauma-informed approaches for perpetrators of violence to reduce recidivism as a critical step forward.

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Prepared/Approved by:
Ministerial Approval:

June 3, 2024

E. Christy/C. Ennis-Williams
Received from Honourable Pam Parsons

s.29(1)(a)

Decision/Direction Note
Office of Women and Gender Equality

Title: 2024-2025 Quadrangle NL Funding under the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence

Decision/Direction Required:

- [REDACTED]

Background and Current Status:

s.29(1)(a)

- In 2023, Newfoundland and Labrador negotiated a \$13.6 million four-year bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada through the GBV-NAP (2023-24: \$2.60M; 2024-25: \$3.65M; 2025-26: \$3.65M; 2026-27: \$3.65M).
- The Province is required to match the Federal contribution annually, which means in 2023-24 over \$5.2 million was spent on gender-based violence. For the duration of the bilateral agreement, more than \$27.2 million will be spent by the Province to end gender-based violence.
- Built on existing Federal-Provincial/Territorial (FP/T) approaches and strategies, GBV-NAP is the first FP/T strategic framework for action, within and across jurisdictions, to support GBV victims, survivors and their families, no matter where they live. It affirms a common vision, principles, and goals for GBV response, foundationally rooted in engagement, data mobilization and research, and frontline expertise that support evidence-based policy and program development.
- The GBV-NAP's five pillars identify existing challenges and opportunities for action where FP/T governments can advance work: **Pillar One:** *Support for victims, survivors, and their families*; **Pillar Two:** *Prevention*; **Pillar Three:** *Responsive justice system*; **Pillar Four:** *Implementing Indigenous-led approaches*; and **Pillar Five:** *Social infrastructure and enabling environment*.
- In 2023-24, over 30 organizations received GBV-NAP funding, with Quadrangle NL receiving \$45,000 under Pillar Two and \$155,000 under Pillar Five.
- Pillar Two emphasizes primary prevention approaches that address the root causes of GBV to stop violence before it occurs. Prevention work must occur in a range of contexts – in private spaces; public spaces; community spaces; workplaces; educational settings of all types, including post-secondary institutions; and online settings.
- Pillar Five refers to health and social programs, services, and support, including childcare, long-term care, and GBV services. Social infrastructure investments can include, but are not limited to, supporting parents in taking leave; providing care support for children, families, seniors, and communities; providing socioeconomic benefits for those in need; providing wrap-around services; increasing culturally and socially relevant trauma and violence-informed support and services, particularly for those living in rural, remote, and northern areas; and providing a range of housing options.
- The three priority areas under all pillars of the GBV-NAP are focused on increasing prevention efforts, reaching underserved and/or most at-risk populations and stabilizing the GBV sector.

Analysis:

- GBV disproportionately affects women and girls. Certain populations, such as Indigenous women and girls, Black and racialized women, women living in Northern, rural, and remote communities,

non-status and temporary status migrants, immigrants and refugees, individuals, people with disabilities, children, and youth, 2SLGBTQQIA+ individuals, and seniors, experience excessively high rates of GBV.

- In February 2022, the Community-Based Research Centre, in partnership with Quadrangle NL, conducted a community consultation and survey on what actions are needed to address issues surrounding the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community. As a result of this process, 25 recommendations were made in the areas of health, education, employment and trauma-informed programming and services that offer a safe space for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community.
- While GBV occurs across all socio-economic groups, populations who already experience socio-economic inequities, such as the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community (for example, poverty, homelessness, inequitable access to health care and social services) are at a greater risk of experiencing GBV. Challenging the normalization of GBV and addressing systemic inequities are both important steps to addressing its root causes.
- Funding investments for Quadrangle NL acknowledge the development of integrated, victim/survivor-centred models of care to meet the needs of those who are at risk of GBV or underserved when they experience these forms of violence. GBV-NAP funding in 2023-24 included provincial outreach and peer support services across the province through enhanced and new partnership development with government and community organizations as well as a dedicated resource centre with wrap-around services that provides opportunities and options for those who are at risk of experiencing, or have experienced GBV to make choices, ensuring that no one is left behind, no matter where they live.

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