



**Press Conference Statement May 4 , 2011 Coalition Against Family Violence c/o Status of Women Council of the NWT, Native Women's Association of the NWT YWCA ,NWT Seniors' Society , Centre for Northern Families**

The Coalition against Family Violence is pleased to present priorities and recommendations that will help address the gaps and enhance services in the area of Family violence. It is the hope of the Coalition against Family Violence that recommended priorities in our document will essentially be the backbone of the upcoming work on Family Violence and Abuse Action Plan 111.

With the NWT Family Violence Acton Plan Phase II coming to an end on March 31, 2012, the Coalition has taken the time to reflect on the progress made to date and identify recommendations for continuous improvement.

The Coalition is seeking funding from not only the GNWT but also funding from foundations , corporations and the federal government to continue and expand on work to address issues on family violence and abuse .

With rates of violence being 5 times the national average, families need programs and services to address issues of family violence and abuse in the NWT.

It is the Coalitions' wish that the following funded services that are currently sun setting be awarded core funding:

Enhancing Services currently funded include:

- Stabilizing Shelters
- Enhancing Community Services
- Offering Programs for men who use violence

Additional Enhanced Services recommended are:

- Delivering a Trauma Recovery Programs for Women
- Supporting the Provision of Safe Homes
- Improving Community Safety

Prevention priorities recommended are:

- Developing Primary prevention strategies for children and youth
- Implementing a holistic Family Support Model

Policy and legislation priorities recommended are:

- Establishing mechanisms to centrally house data collection for Family Violence
- Removing barriers that prevent victims from escaping family violence and abuse
- Implementing Adult Protection for Vulnerable Adults Legislation

Education and Awareness priorities recommended are:

- Delivering a targeted and sustained education and awareness campaign
- Delivering promotion and training activities related to legal remedies
- Broadening education for front line workers
- Evaluating Family Violence programming and services

Training priority recommendation is:

- Implementing Gender Equality training for programs and services

Partnerships and Coordination priority recommended is

- Recruiting and establishing community and regional representation on the Coalition Interagency Groups across the NWT

In order to raise the profile of these recommendations, we welcome inquiries in reference to this document from the Building Our Futures Strategic Committee, individual MLAs, Deputy Ministers, general public, and the media. We need to address family violence and abuse and provide appropriate funding and resources to the recommendations listed above to ensure family violence and abuse remains a priority in the NWT beyond the Phase II Action Plan.

Group statements

Representatives from the Native Women's Association, NWT Seniors' Society, Centre Northern Families and YWCA are available for questions.