

WHAT WE HEARD FROM SURVIVORS

Developing Canada's National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence

March 2021

Key Messages

Many survivors, especially racialized survivors, face discrimination and racism from the police and do not want to report gender-based violence because they do not trust the police and fear the police.



The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges faced by survivors and increased their risk of violence due to isolation with abusers.



A lack of social and affordable housing options makes it difficult for women to leave an abusive situation and establish independence.



“There is a real lack of wrap around care for survivors facing multiple barriers, so survivors repeatedly fall through the cracks. Case management and one-stop shop agencies in which survivors can walk into one building and have all of their related needs met is very necessary.”

Opportunities

Create community-based hubs where there are multiple services in one location for survivors.



“Use restorative justice models centred in Indigenous practices to deal with issues of violence in communities instead of one singular approach led by the racist legal system in Canada.”



Increase the availability of affordable housing for survivors and create programs that support survivors into home ownership.



Give survivors decision-making and leadership roles in the development and implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence.

