

**ORAL QUESTION—JULIE GREEN, MLA YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE**

**QUESTION 763-18(3):  
FINAL REPORT ON NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED  
INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS**

**June 4, 2019**

**MS. GREEN:** Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. My questions are for the Minister responsible for the Status of Women. I understand that she is taking the lead today on questions about the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry. The recommendations in this report, all 231 of them, are wide-ranging and involve almost every part of society and government. I am wondering what kind of an approach the Minister is going to take in analyzing and responding to these recommendations. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Masi. Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

**HON. CAROLINE COCHRANE:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Of course, recognizing that I haven't read the report at all yet, what I am basing my comments on are the recommendations that I heard at the presentation yesterday in Ottawa. What I will be proposing to my colleagues is that we take an interdepartmental approach, that every department have someone on it, and we look at each for the recommendations. Not only would we be looking at an interdepartmental approach, but we also need to work nationally across Canada to work with other provinces and territories and the federal government to review them, to see what we can do independently, as provinces and territories, and also what we will be doing nationally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MS. GREEN:** Thank you to the Minister for that response. The report, of course, I don't expect the Minister to have read it; it is 1,200 pages long. Even the executive summary is 120 pages. One of the things that the report is very strong about is that Indigenous people be part of developing solutions to the problems identified in the report. I would like to ask the Minister how Indigenous organizations will be involved in responding to the report and implementing the recommendations.

**HON. CAROLINE COCHRANE:** We are working with the Northwest Territories Native Women's Association, so we will be working closely with them. They have been involved in the hearings. They have been involved in the inquiry from the very beginning. It would totally disrespectful for us not to include them in our work. The Northwest Territories Native Women's Association represents all Indigenous women in the Northwest Territories.

**MS. GREEN:** One of the things that is really clear about this report is that the recommendations involve all of society and not only women. I am wondering if the Minister will also consider involving Indigenous governments and organizations, such as the intergovernmental council.

**HON. CAROLINE COCHRANE:** I was negligent in my answer before; Native Women's will be an active partner, but we also have bilateral agreements on any issues that affect

Aboriginal governments that they are part of the work that we do. We will commit to actually involving them as well.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Masi. Oral questions. Member for Yellowknife Centre.

**MS. GREEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final question is, of course, this House is scheduled to break this week, and then resume sitting on August the 12<sup>th</sup>. I am wondering, by then, the last sitting before this Assembly adjourns, what the Minister will have in hand by way of a response, so in three months from now. Thank you.

**HON. CAROLINE COCHRANE:** At this point, I can't really give a timeline. I would love to be able to say that we will have a report response back by the end of this Assembly. That would give me great pride as an Indigenous woman to say that. I have to respect the process. It took years for the Commission to actually come up with the recommendation in this inquiry. It would be very disrespectful of me to push this forward and have something done just because I wanted to have it in this Assembly. In saying that and recognizing that we will be working with Indigenous governments and the Native Women's Association, that we need to take the time necessary, I can't give a timeline on that. It would be the time necessary to review it, to be comprehensive, and to provide a thorough review of the recommendations and a response. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.