

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ATLANTIC DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW NETWORK

# BETWEEN

The Government of New Brunswick, as represented by the Premier of the Province;

# **AND**

The Government of Prince Edward Island, as represented by the Premier of the Province;

# **AND**

The Government of Nova Scotia, as represented by the Premier of the Province;

# **AND**

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, as represented by the Premier of the Province.

WHEREAS the Premiers of the governments of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador are unanimous in their desire to cooperate for the benefit of the residents of Atlantic Canada:

AND WHEREAS the Council of Atlantic Premiers' mandate includes the objective of coordination of joint activity in areas of mutual agreement, including but not limited to social cooperation;

AND WHEREAS the occurrence of domestic homicide is a matter of concern for the four Atlantic provinces and their governments are committed to ensuring all residents can live their lives safely and free from violence;

AND WHEREAS each province has its own unique systems for responding to, preventing and learning from deaths when they occur;

NOW THEREFORE, the four provinces agree to the establishment of an Atlantic Domestic Homicide Review Network (ADHRN).

### MANDATE

With the broad aim of prevention, the Atlantic Domestic Homicide Review Network (hereinafter referred to as the "Network") will leverage regional expertise to analyze with a diversity lens aggregate data, policies and practices relevant to domestic homicides in the Atlantic Region and will make joint recommendations to provincial governments for system improvements.

### IN RESPECT OF THE ABOVE

- 1. The Network will undertake the following:
  - 1.1. identify improvements in systemic responses to the contributing factors to domestic homicide as well as inform the approaches to case reviews within each jurisdiction;
  - 1.2. promote cross-collaboration between government agencies, and provide a focal point for gathering input from non-government agencies and individuals;
  - 1.3. promote opportunities to hear from agencies and individuals whose work and lived experiences will provide important context in determining priority areas for intervention to improve service delivery, particularly for vulnerable groups;
  - 1.4. create partnerships with research and academic organizations and organizations working in the field of domestic homicide prevention and response for the purpose of identifying system improvements in the region;
  - 1.5. serve to raise the profile of the ongoing work within the region that addresses the issue of domestic homicide and serves to increase transparency and promote public confidence in domestic homicide reviews;
  - 1.6. provide value to the four Atlantic provinces and their residents by increasing the knowledge of and evidence base for the issue of Domestic Homicide in the

- region, and Inform improvements to service delivery and prevention efforts across the region;
- 1.7. make joint recommendations to provincial governments for system improvements; and
- 1.8. promote the use of gender, diversity, and intersectional analysis in all its work, paying close attention to the specific needs of higher risk and marginalized populations, including indigenous, people with disabilities, racialized, and 2SLGBTQQIA.
- 2. Each Premier will appoint members to the Network.
- 3. The Network will appoint a Chair from within the membership. The Chair will rotate annually between the four provinces represented.
- 4. The Network will establish Terms of Reference to guide its functioning and operations.
- 5. The network will ensure its operations are focused on meaningful outcomes for the Atlantic region. The Network will evaluate and measure on a regular basis its activities and their outcomes with a view to ensuring its goals and objectives are met.
- 6. Administrative and logistical support for the Network will be provided by the Council of Atlantic Premiers Secretariat.
- 7. Funding for joint initiatives of the Network will be cost-shared by participating jurisdictions on a per capita basis.
- 8. The parties agree to review this agreement three years following the date of signing.

The parties	hereto	have 2020,	executed	this	Agreement	on	the	28	day	of

Hon. Blaine Higgs, Premier of New Brunswick	
Signed on behalf of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador by:	
Dunken	
Hon. Dwight Ball, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador  Signed on behalf of the Province of Nova Scotla by:	
Hon. Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia	
Signed on behalf of the Province of Prince Edward Island by:	
Danie	
Hon. Dennis King, Premier of Prince Edward Island	

4|Page

Signed on behalf of the Province of New Brunswick by: