

initiatives related to violence against women. The task forces should identify ways to coordinate the sharing of information about the approaches taken at the community and national level and recommend new or enhanced programs to promote economic and social gender equality and prevent violence against women.

- The Royal Commission should be established in a way that ensures women from a broad cross-section of Canadian society will be heard. The hearings should be accessible, informal, and sensitive. They should make allowance for *in camera* sessions, and provide translation, signing and transcribing. The Commission should travel to all regions of the country and conduct outreach to acquire the participation of victims of violence, front-line workers and other professionals and agents in the field. Ongoing, relevant research should be conducted to support the Commission and establish a solid qualitative and quantitative data base on the incidence of violence against women in Canada.