



Council Member Motion

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 8, 2018

To: Committee of the Whole

Date: February 5, 2018

From: Councillor Loveday

Subject: AVICC Motion re: Gender-based Violence Strategy for Youth

AVICC Motion re: Gender-based Violence Strategy for Youth

Whereas children and youth who have been impacted by violence experience devastating and long-ranging mental health, physical health, social and educational impacts.

And whereas the #metoo campaign has recently highlighted gender-based violence as one of the most pervasive forms of violence, taking various forms (e.g. cyber, physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, and economic).

And whereas according to Statistics Canada, young women aged 15 to 17 report the highest rate of gender-based violence amongst all age groups (2,710 per 100,000), and Indigenous, LGBTQ2, and disabled girls experience even higher rates of violence.

And whereas in 2017 the Government of Canada launched *It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence* identifying three priority areas: prevention, engaging men and boys, and support for survivors. To support the strategy, the federal government has committed \$100.9 million over five years, and an additional \$20.7 million per year going forward. While the BC government recently announced \$5 million to assist organizations working to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, there is currently no cohesive provincial strategy in place

And whereas in order to combat gender-based violence among youth in BC and support healthy relationships, healthy families and healthy communities, a provincial strategy is needed. Drawing on the expertise of all relevant Ministries, and building on the resources and strategies identified in the federal strategy, a comprehensive provincial strategy can be a catalyst for positive cultural change.

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC call on the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Child and Family Development, the Ministry of Public Safety, and the Ministry of Mental Health to work together to develop a Gender-Based Violence Prevention Strategy for Youth.

And be it further resolved that AVICC forward this motion on to UBCM for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loveday", written over a horizontal line.

Councillor Loveday