**UPR32**

**Recommendations by Canada for New Zealand’s UPR**

**21 January 2019**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada welcomes the positive steps taken by New Zealand to respond to violence against women, including the adoption of a law providing workplace protections for victims of domestic violence by requiring employers to grant victims up to ten days of paid leave to allow them to escape abusive situations.

Canada recommends that New Zealand:

1. Concentrate its efforts in addressing domestic violence particularly in communities and populations experiencing higher levels of family violence and investigate the discrepancy between the increased incidence of family violence problems and offenses reported, and the downward trending number of apprehensions and prosecutions.
2. Develop, in partnership with Māori, a national strategy or plan of action to align public policy and legislation with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. Reform the law on abortion and take a human rights-based approach by implementing Model ‘A’ from the Law Commission report of October 2018 on ‘alternative approaches to abortion law’.

We are concerned about the levels of repeated violence against women. We urge New Zealand to provide additional funding to community groups and to refuges for women victims of violence and to invest efforts in the prevention of violence, more specifically by promoting the involvement of men and boys.