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**Advisory Council on the
Status of Women**

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**SUBMISSION FROM THE PEI ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN :
Department of Justice and Public Safety Public Consultations**

Sept 4, 2026

The Prince Edward Island Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PEIACSW) is a nine-member, government-appointed arms-length government agency with a mandate to advise government and educate the public on matters that relate to the status of Prince Edward Island women.

The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women acknowledges all women-identifying people in our understanding of “women,” including cis women, trans women, and gender minorities.

We acknowledge that the work of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women takes place on the island district of Epekwitk in Mi’kma’ki, the traditional territory of the Mi’kmaq and their home today and since time immemorial. Epekwitk is covered by the historic treaties of Peace and Friendship.

The PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women (PEIACSW) contributes the following comments to the current Department of Justice and Public Safety public consultation of draft legislation:

Coroners Act

The PEIACSW is encouraged that the PEI government is making domestic violence prevention a priority by mandating investigation of all domestic violence deaths. We support the establishment of expert committees to review and provide recommendations that will help prevent such deaths in the future.

We note that the Nova Scotia [Fatality Investigations Act](#) that governs the implementation of Death Review Committees, defines “domestic violence” in section 39 (1) (c) . Including a similar definition in the proposed PEI Coroners Act would further clarify when investigation is required.

Aligned with [recommendations](#) made by the PEI Child and Youth Advocate, we further call on government to require recommendations made by these expert committees be monitored, and that their implementation status be publicly reported.

We support that a deceased person's nearest relative be able to request an inquiry. Further, provisions should also be included in the act requiring a written response from the coroner be provided in a timely manner, outlining the reasons why a requested inquest will or will not be granted.

Correctional Services Act

The PEIACSW supports the introduction of new regulation-making authority, particularly concerning inmate discipline processes including inmate grievance procedures, and a process for an appeal from a decision made in a disciplinary hearing. It is unclear why the Lieutenant Governor in Council is not required to create regulations for the outlined areas (ie. "shall" rather than "may") as all appear to be integral to the effective and just functioning of correctional facilities. We expect these regulations to be developed and implemented as soon as possible, with provisions to inform new and current inmates about the updated processes.

An Act to Amend the Justice of the Peace Act

The PEIACSW supports the use of gender neutral language throughout the Act.

Please let us know if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,



Hsiao Yu Kate Liu , Chair of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women

cc: Hon. Jenn Redmond, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women
Michelle Harris-Genge, Director of the PEI Interministerial Women's Secretariat
Members and staff of the PEI Advisory Council on the Status of Women