A Prayer for Our Sisters

Creator, when we were born you gave the gift of life. Today, we are gathered here to stand up and remember Métis, First Nations and Inuit sisters, mothers, daughters, grannies, aunties, nieces and friends who are impacted by all forms of violence and abuse, including those that have gone missing.

Creator, lift the veil of denial, ambivalence, ignorance and attitudes of uncaring and help us find our loved ones. We do not know where they are or if they are alive or dead. Help us to bring each of our sisters, mothers, daughters, grannies, aunties, nieces and friends home.

Creator, as we remember the women we must also remember their loved ones. Our families and communities are in pain. Give us the strength and comfort during these dark times. When we tell our stories, open the ears of the listeners so it touches their hearts and calls them to action.

Creator, give the wisdom and courage to our leaders, lawmakers, police and anyone who is called to help a woman who is suffering abuse or violence, or who has gone missing. May they see she is a woman who has loved ones, is a member of our community, and not first look to see if fault can be found on the woman.

Creator, we now turn our prayers to the men. In order for the violence against our women to stop our men need to resume the role of taking care of and protecting their mothers, sisters, daughters, grannies, aunties and spouses.

Give the men who have abused the strength, clarity and courage to admit their harm, seek help and change. For the men who have harmed or killed a missing woman, we pray the guilt will cause them to come forward so she may be reunited with her family and put to rest in a proper manner to allow her Spirit to be at peace.

Finally Great Spirit, we pray for all women who give us the wisdom, strength and courage to stand up for ourselves and make a commitment to end violence and abuse, in all of its forms. We pray that if there are women with us today, who are in harm’s way, that you place helpers in their lives and place courage in their hearts to find safety and to know safety is their inherent right.

Marsi, Migwich, Merci, Amen

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Gifted to the MNO by Senator Reta Gordon