



Annual Review 2020-2021

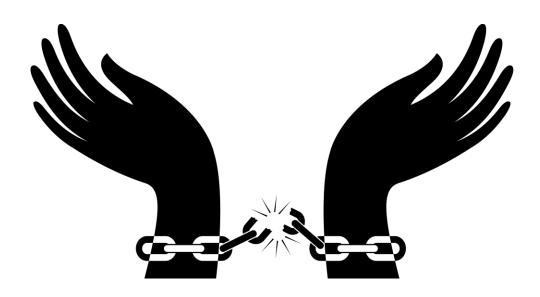


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Report from APPG Co-chairs

Our parliamentary group has made an outstanding team effort this year to publicly advocate for the importance of combating the sexual exploitation of minors. I am grateful to be supported by my fellow APPG co-chairs in promoting Bill S-216, the Modern Slavery Act, which is moving forward in the Senate and in the public eye.

JULIE MIVILLE-DECHÊNE – Independent Senators Group Independent Senator for Quebec



I am grateful to be supported by my fellow APPG Co-Chairs in promoting S-216, The Modern Slavery Act, which is moving forward in the Senate and the public eye by dint of the hard work of Senator Julie Miville-Dechêne. Congratulations to the outstanding team which has also brought to public and parliamentary attention the issue of sexual exploitation of women and children, and human trafficking.

JOHN MCKAY – Liberal Party Member of Parliament for Scarborough-Guildwood



Wow. It has been a busy and successful year for the APPG. Trafficking and exploitation didn't stop and neither did we. While a great deal of uncertainty still exists, I am proud of how the APPG never got distracted and continued to press on. Big highlight for me was securing official recognition in Parliament of Canada's National Human Trafficking Awareness Day this year. The APPG is making a difference in the fight against human trafficking in Canada and abroad and I look forward to continuing our work in this new Parliament to advance solutions.

ARNOLD VIERSEN – Conservative Party
Member of Parliament for Peace River – Westlock



As Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on the Status of Women, it will always be very important for me to represent the issues of human trafficking and modern slavery on my committee. The work done by the all-party group is important because the end of the current pandemic will not stop this problem and we will have to continue to be proactive in order to propose solutions for this problem that is unfortunately still far too present in our societies.





Partnership with the International Justice and Human Rights Clinic

The activities of the APPG to End Modern Slavery are supported by a partnership with the Allard School of Law's International Justice and Human Rights Clinic at the University of British Columbia.

The Allard International Justice and Human Rights Clinic gives upper-year law students at the Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia, the opportunity to work on pressing human rights and global justice concerns through hands-on work on international cases and projects. Students gain experience applying international human rights law, international criminal law and/or international humanitarian law working on specific cases with a range of international justice organizations, including international criminal courts and tribunals, United Nations human rights bodies and international non-governmental organizations. The clinic also works with Canadian domestic bodies concerned with human rights issues. Students clinicians join the clinic for two consecutive academic terms, receiving credit towards their law degree.

Anti-human trafficking work has been a central focus of the IJHR Clinic's work since its inception in 2014. The Clinic Director has researched and written on human trafficking laws and policies since 2009.

NICOLE A. BARRETT – Director International Justice and Human Rights Clinic



Purpose of the APPG to End Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking

The End Modern Slavery Group shall:

- 1. Ensure that the Government of Canada does all that it can to prevent and protect civilian populations from modern slavery, increase prosecution of traffickers, and build partnerships with various organizations;
- 2. Increase the flow of information and analysis to Parliamentarians about modern slavery;
- 3. Promote understanding of the importance of long-term approaches to prevention of slavery; and
- 4. Engage in communication and collaboration with like-minded bodies in civil society and other Parliaments in order to:
 - a. Exchange information about strategies for the prevention of modern slavery;
 - b. Work in conjunction with the United Nations Special Advisor to Fight Human Trafficking, the International Criminal Court, and other organizations working in the field of slavery prevention.

2020-2021 Membership

First Name	Last Name	Parliamentarian	Party
Kim	Pate	Senator	ISG
Colin	Carrie	MP	Conservative
Bev	Busson	Senator	ISG
Tom	Kmiec	MP	Conservative
Elizabeth	May	MP	Green
Judy	Sgro	MP	Liberal
Rachael	Harder	MP	Conservative
Salma	Ataullahjan	Senator	Conservative
Yvonne	Boyer	Senator	ISG
Ratna	Omidvar	Senator	ISG
Michael	Barrett	MP	CPC
Tako	van Popta	MP	Conservative
Pierre-Hugues	Boisvenu	Senator	Conservative
Ziad	Aboultaif	MP	Conservative
Nancy	Hartling	Senator	ISG
Tony	Loffreda	Senator	ISG
Nelly	Shin	MP	Conservative
Julie	Miville-Dechêne	Senator	ISG
Andréanne	Larouche	MP	BQ
Kate	Young	MP	Liberal
Karen	Vecchio	MP	Conservative
Garnett	Genuis	MP	Conservative
Rosmarie	Falk	MP	Conservative
Gerald	Soroka	MP	Conservative
Wanda Thomas	Bernard	Senator	ISG
Tamara	Jansen	MP	Conservative
Ted	Falk	MP	Conservative
Kerry	Diotte	MP	Conservative
Daniel	Christmas	Senator	ISG
Kelly	Block	MP	Conservative
John	McKay	MP	Liberal
Jasraj S	Hallan	MP	Conservative
Arnold	Viersen	MP	Conservative
Marilou	McPhedran	Senator	ISG
Patti	LaBoucane-Benson	Senator	Non-affiliated
Iqra	Khalid	MP	Liberal
Heather	McPherson	MP	NDP
Sameer	Zuberi	MP	Liberal

2020-2021 Activities

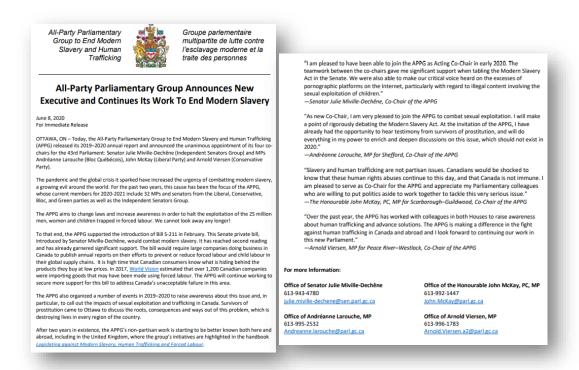
AGM - May 2020

Due to the impact of Covid-19, the APPG did not hold an in-person AGM last year. APPG members agreed to have the APPG co-chairs and budget approved through an electronic affirmation. This was completed during the month of May.

New APPG Co-Chairs Announced – June 8, 2020

On June 8, the APPG announced the unanimous appointment of its four co-chairs for the 43rd Parliament: Senator Julie Miville-Dechêne (Independent Senators Group) and MPs Andréanne Larouche (Bloc Québécois), John McKay (Liberal Party) and Arnold Viersen (Conservative Party).

The APPG also highlighted the introduction of Bill S-211 in February 2020. This Senate private bill, introduced by Co-chair Senator Miville-Dechêne, would combat modern slavery.



APPG Co-Chair Meetings - Year-Round

The APPG co-chairs met by Zoom monthly over the past year to coordinate group activities and efforts to advance anti-trafficking legislation in Parliament.



Regular News Updates - Year-Round

The APPG to End Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, sends regular updates to its members on human trafficking including a Monthly Media Scan and the latest data and reports on human trafficking.

Date	Location	Province	Article	
1-Jun		NS	The summer of fear: How a wanted man preyed on children	
3-Jun		Canada	Police co-ordination still lacking a year after inquiry report on missing and murdered Indigenous women	
3-Jun	Ottawa	ON	Federal delay of MMIWG action plan sparks dismay ahead of inquiry anniversary	
3-Jun	High Level	AB	High Level RCMP lay drug and human trafficking charges following series of arrests	
3-Jun	La Crete	AB	La Crete man charged with human trafficking of a minor	
4-Jun	Grande Prairie	AB	Faith column: Learning about human trafficking	
11-Jun	Truro	NS	Advocates say youth shelter in Truro would protect teens from human trafficking	
11-Jun	Vancouver	ВС	Two pimps, claiming ex-Vancouver cop tainted their convictions, get bail pending appeals	
11-Jun	Toronto	ON	HUNTER: Women breaking the glass ceiling in sex trafficking	
11-Jun	Montreal	QC	Plus d'un million de signataires réclament la fermeture de Pornhub	
12-Jun	Toronto	ON	Toronto police officer charged in underage sex trafficking investigation	
12-Jun	Montreal	QC	Festival Grand Prix Formule 1: silence radio sur la rue Crescent	
13-Jun	Vancouver	ВС	Une victime dénonce la libération sous caution de ses proxénètes	
13-Jun	Vancouver	ВС	Victim of Vancouver pimps denounces decision to release them on bail as 'nonsense'	
15-Jun		QC & ON	Probe into death of sex worker suspended due to pandemic, say Correctional Service officials	
15-Jun		MB	Peter Nygard companies seek Manitoba court order preventing receiver from providing privileged documents	
15-Jun	Saguenay	QC	Sept hommes, dont l'athlète Yvan Truchon, accusés en lien avec la prostitution juvénile	

Meeting with Courage for Freedom – July 29, 2020

On July 29, the co-chairs met virtually with the founder and board of Courage for Freedom to learn about #ProjectMapleLeaf.

The original Project OnRoute was Ontario's first provincial human trafficking awareness campaign. The campaign was organized by Courage for Freedom and belongs to minor aged victim survivors who created media ads about the realities of human trafficking. These ads gained 2 million screen

impressions at the 20 ONroute locations in Ontario over a 30-day period.

This project was developed without support from the federal or provincial government, relying solely on community partners and volunteers across the province.

In 2020, the campaign expanded across the nation and was rebranded as #ProjectMapleLeaf.



Re-introduction of the Modern Slavery Act – October 29, 2020

APPG co-chairs announced in a press release the tabling of Bill S-216, the Modern Slavery Act, by Senator Miville-Dechêne in the Senate. This crucial bill, formerly numbered S-211, was debated in the Upper House in 2020 before dying on the Order paper when Parliament prorogued in August.

Launch of APPG Website and Twitter - October 2020

The new APPG website can be found at: https://endmodernslavery.ca/ A mirror French site is in the works.

The APPG joined Twitter in October with two handles, one for tweets in English and one for tweets in French.



Follow on Twitter

English: @EndSlaveryCA French: @AbolirEsclavage

Letter to Justice Minister on MindGeek - November 25, 2020

On November 25, many members of the APPG co-signed a letter with representation across four parties to the Minister of Justice asking why MindGeek/Pornhub continued to operate with impunity and profit off content featuring child sexual assault, rape, and other harmful acts. This letter preceded the December 4 New York Times expose on MindGeek by Nicolas Kristof and asked the Minister to review Canadian laws. Minister Lametti replied on January 21, 2021 and indicated that Canada had a 'robust framework'.



November 25, 2020

Hon. David Lametti, PC, MP Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Minister.

On this International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, we want to follow up on our March 9, 2020 letter to the Prime Minister in which we called for action to protect women and youth, particularly those who are victims of child sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and sexual assault, from further exploitation online.

To this end, we highlighted Pornhub, which is owned by Montréal-based MindGeek, and the largest website in the world producing, making available and distributing sexually explicit content, with 42 billion visits and 6.8 million videos uploaded per year.

Over the past two years, MindGeck has received international attention due to the real exploitation of women and minors featured in some of the content that they publish and sell on Pornhub and other subsidiary websites. While MindGeek is not the only company that engages in these exploitative practices, it is by far the largest.

In 2019, the Sunday Times UK found "dozens" of illegal videos of child sexual exploitation on Pornhub within "minutes". Some of the illegal content had been on the platform for more than three years Other journalists have highlighted additional examples of content featuring victims of child sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and sexual assault being published on Pornhub. Most recently, Quebec journalist Martin

Patriquin published an expose on racist and exploitive content he found on MindGeek websites

Further, many victims now are speaking out and sharing horrific stories of their videos of child abuse, sexual assault and sex trafficking being posted on Pornhub and available to all for download. For some, their pleas to have the videos removed are ignored by Pornhub for months or years. Even when the videos are removed, it many cases it is only hours or days before their exploitation is uploaded again. This is because MindGeek is not required to verify the age or consent of those portrayed in content that is uploaded to their websites

In addition to publishing videos of child abuse, sexual assault and sex trafficking, Pornhub also publishes videos that portray:

- · misogynistic and gendered-based violence
- explicit racism and hate speech minors
- voveurism and intimate images

Many of these examples are captured under existing Criminal Code provisions such as:

- sl62 Printing, publication, etc., of voyeuristic recordings
 sl62.1 Publication, etc., of an intimate image without cor
 sl63 Obscene materials & publication
 sl63.1 Child Pornography

However, to date, not a single charge has ever been laid against MindGeek or any online company. This lack of action by Canada's justice system allows for MindGeek and similar companies to profit from exploitation, violence and racism with impunity.

In addition to the lack of enforcement, we remain equally concerned with the ambiguity in the law with respect to the lack of consent to sexual activity in pornography, and discriminatory or prejudicial attitudes towards minorities in sexually explicit material, particularly when it rises to the level of hate speech.

, the undersigned Senators and Members of Parliament, are appalled at the lack of enforce ice system and seek clarification on the following:

- Does the Criminal Code adequately prohibit the publishing and/or selling of sexually explicit material featuring all forms of rexploitation, voyeurism and infinitate images, racism and portrayal of misogynis and gendered-based violence, minors, incest and non-consent.
- 2. If so, what is preventing the lack of enforcer
- 3. If not, would the Government of Canada introduce the necessary legislation to address these gaps?

We are committed to working with your government to protect women and youth and addressing this issue in a timely manner

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter

Rachael Harder, MP

John McKay, MP Scarborough—Guildwood

Dr. Colin Carrie, MP

Glen Motz, MP Medicine Hat – Cardston – Warner

Ted Falk, MP

Gerald Soroka, MP Yellowhead Damien Kurek, MP

Martin Shields, MP Bow River

Elizabeth May, MP

Virtual Human Trafficking Briefing – December 2, 2020

As part of the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery on December 2nd, the APPG to End Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking was pleased to host a virtual briefing on modern day slavery in Canada for Senators, MPs, and their staff. Presentations were provided by Canada's Special Advisor to Combat Human Trafficking, Shirley Cuillierrier and RCMP Cpl Jennifer Botham and followed by a Q&A session. Over 80 Senators, MPs, and staff joined the virtual briefing.





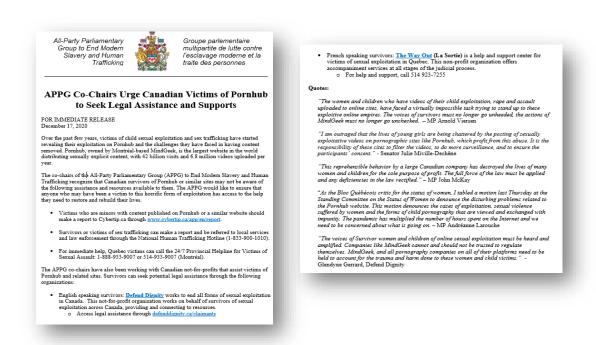
International Day for the Abolition of Slavery - December 2, 2020

The APPG co-chairs created a bilingual awareness video to highlight the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery and Bill S-216, the Modern Slavery Act.



Support for Victims of Pornhub - December 17, 2020

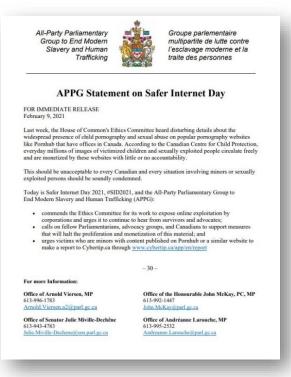
With the international coverage of the exploitation on MindGeek's Pornhub site, co-chairs of the APPG recognized that many Canadian survivors of Pornhub or similar sites may not be aware of the assistance and resources available to them. As such, the co-chairs worked with NGOs to line up all forms of assistance to both French and English speaking survivors and sent out a press release to highlight these resources for survivors.



Safer Internet Day – February 9, 2021

On February 9, the APPG released a statement to mark Safer Internet Day and highlight the recent House of Commons Ethics Committee meetings on MindGeek. The statement:

- commends the Ethics Committee for its work to expose online exploitation by corporations and urges it to continue to hear from survivors and advocates;
- calls on fellow Parliamentarians, advocacy groups, and Canadians to support measures that will halt the proliferation and monetization of this material; and
- urges victims who are minors with content published on Pornhub or a similar website to make a report to Cybertip.ca through www.cybertip.ca/app/en/report



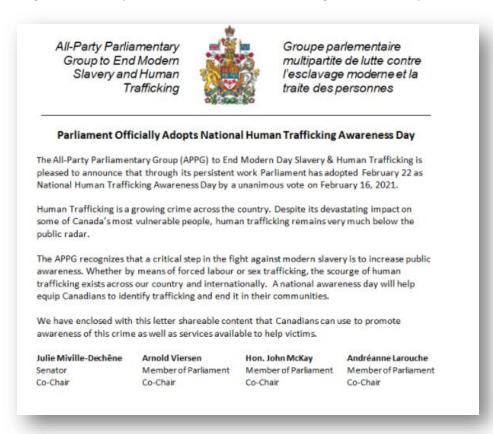
National Human Trafficking Awareness Day - February 22, 2021

For three years the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) to End Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking has tabled motions urging Parliament to recognize February 22 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. This date commemorates February 22, 2007 when the House of Commons unanimously condemned human trafficking.

This year there were motions on the Order Paper to recognize February 22 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day tabled by APPG co-chairs MP Arnold Viersen (CPC) and MP John McKay (LPC), and APPG member MP Heather McPherson (NDP) and jointly seconded by Co-chair MP Andréanne Larouche (BQ).

The APPG called on all Members of Parliament to support motions in the House to recognize February 22, 2021 as Canada's first National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

On February 15, the House of Commons adopted a motion from the Standing Committee on Status of Women that recognized February 22 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.

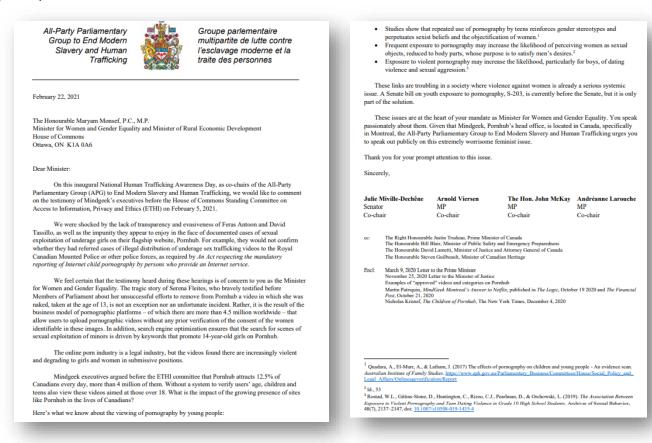


"I actually cried because of what this means to validate a victimsurvivor experience, what families have gone through, to say Canada cares was the most important message I took away."

Kelly Franklin, a survivor and founder of Courage for Freedom

Letter to Minister for Women & Gender Equality - February 22, 2021

On February 22, the APPG co-chairs sent a letter to the Minister for Women and Gender Equality regarding the testimony of MindGeek's executives as well as survivors. The co-chairs highlighted the links between the viewing of pornography by young people and growing violence against women. The letter noted these issues were at the heart of the Minister's mandate and urges her to speak out publicly on this feminist issue.



Briefing from CCEHT on Human Trafficking Corridors - March 4, 2021

In March, the APPG co-chairs had a virtual briefing from The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking about their new report on transportation corridors in Canada used to exploit and control their victims.

Human Trafficking Corridors in Canada, is a first-ever study of human trafficking transportation corridors in the country, notes that human traffickers benefit from primary transportation routes across the country to maximize profit within commercial sex markets and to avoid being caught by law enforcement and potentially imprisoned. These routes – identified by law enforcement, frontline service delivery agencies and the media – also allow human traffickers to exert control over victims and ensure that the victim has limited opportunities for escaping or evading their trafficker.



Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking.

Le centre canadien pour mettre fin à la traite des personnes.

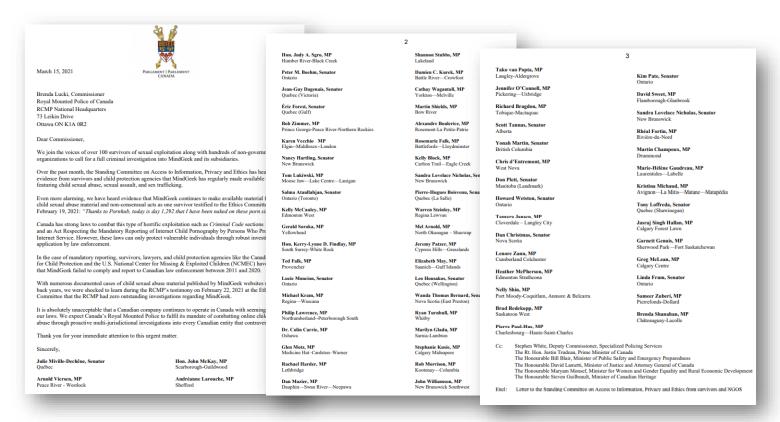
Introduction of Bill S-228 - March 16, 2021

On March 16, APPG member Senator Salma Ataullahjan introduced a Senate Public Bill in the Senate of Canada taking action against perpetrators of human trafficking, in collaboration with APPG member MP Colin Carrie and APPG co-chair Arnold Viersen (Member of Parliament - Peace River-Westlock).

The proposed legislation, Bill S-228, advances a revision to the Criminal Code of Canada that amends the definition of human exploitation to no longer include a requirement to prove a victim's personal fear for safety. The proposed amendment provides a simplified definition that offers victims and Crown prosecutors a better chance at achieving justice and fighting back against modern-day slavery.

Letter to the RCMP Commissioner – March 25, 2021

On March 25, the four APPG co-chairs and over 70 Senators and Members of Parliament from all eight political parties and groups sent a letter to RCMP Commissioner Brenda Lucki to support the 104 survivors and 525 NGOs calling for a full investigation into MindGeek and online exploitation. The RCMP Commissioner provided a comprehensive response to this letter on April 13, 2021 and indicated an investigation was under review.



Modern Slavery Act Moves to Senate Committee – March 30, 2021

One more step towards the imposition of supply chain reporting obligations in Canada was taken on March 30, 2021 when the Modern Slavery Act was referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce for further study.

Ongoing Activities with the International Justice and Human Rights Clinic

In 2020-2021, the International Justice and Human Rights Clinic was engaged with a range of activities to support the APPG's mandate. The team conducted legal research and drafted legal memoranda to support proposed laws addressing modern slavery. Related to labour trafficking, the team drafted a legal memo on Bill S-216, the Modern Slavery Act, and advocated for strengthening the Bill using a range of methods, including legal briefs, meetings with legislators, discussions with civil society leaders, submission of op-eds, and creation of materials for the Clinic's website and social media platforms. The Clinic also continued to monitor related legislation throughout the world, finding the European Union's proposed corporate due diligence legislation the most promising recent development.

The Clinic also published two relevant research reports. The first report, Follow the Money: the Role of Financial Institutions in Canada's Fight Against Human Trafficking, explores the link between human trafficking and money laundering, and identifies ways in which anti-money laundering (AML) regimes can help detect human trafficking in Canada, provide evidence for prosecutions, and disgorge illegal profits from traffickers to help trafficking victims rebuild their lives. The report recommends a series of policy changes for Canadian banks and policymakers to better leverage Canada's AML regime to combat human trafficking.

The second report, Empowering the CORE: Requirements for an Effective Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise, discusses ways to transform the CORE into an effective investigative mechanism to enable Canada to comply with its international human rights obligations related to business. It concludes the CORE would be better equipped to meet its stated mandate to "promote the implementation" of international business and human rights standards if the office had greater independence from government, powers of investigation, such as the ability to compel information and testimony, and the express power to grant a wider array of remedies than those outlined in the current Order in Council. The report also considers various forms of remedies the CORE could offer, including prescriptive action, ongoing monitoring, specifically tailored remedies, community compensation, and removal of government support.

The Clinic team also provided a memo on laws regulating distributors (i.e., internet platforms) of online pornography in response to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to prevent child pornography and other non-consensual sexual material from being uploaded and distributed online. Finally, the team reviewed and updated the APPG website.