

**IN THE MATTER OF: APPLICATION TO COMPEL THE INCLUSION
OF CHILD WELFARE/CHILD PROTECTION/
CHILDREN IN CARE INTO THE GOVERNMENT
SERVICES INSTITUTIONAL HEARING OF THE
NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND
MURDERED WOMEN AND GIRLS**

AFFIDAVIT OF CORA MORGAN
Affirmed the 18th day of May, 2018

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1. I am the First Nations Family Advocate of the First Nations Family Advocate Office of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (the “FNFAO-AMC”) and have personal knowledge of the matters and facts referred to, except where they are stated to be based on information and belief, in which case I believe them to be true.
2. Prior to my appointment as the First Nations Family Advocate, I spent much of my career in Employment and Training and Economic Development. I developed numerous training initiatives, business start-ups, programs and services, and spent numerous years working in the area of Restorative Justice, including as the Executive Director of Onashowewin Justice Circle.
3. I have always been committed to understanding the inter-generational effects of the Indian Residential School system on First Nations. While working within the justice system, I could see the direct lines between the trauma of residential schools, the child welfare system and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (“MMIWG”) in Manitoba.

FNFAO-AMC Background

4. The FNFAO-AMC is an office of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (the “AMC”) which opened on June 1, 2015. My role as First Nations Family Advocate is the first of its kind in Canada. My tasks involve but are not limited to providing advocacy and support to families, assisting with the development of case plans, as well as offering referrals to service providers and legal counsel.
5. Our office is intended to be an added mechanism to assist the AMC in implementing the recommendations of the *Bringing our Children Home* Report and to ensure that in doing so, support is offered directly to children and families. This Report is attached as Exhibit “A” to this affidavit.
6. Since opening our doors in June 2015, the FNFAO-AMC has provided services to over 850 families who are fighting to have their children returned to their homes or communities. More families, parents and grandparents continually seek the services of the FNFAO-AMC and demand for services is continually growing.
7. In addition to working directly with families we also regularly work with Elders and Knowledge Holders (“EKH”), including Grandmothers because EKH are integral to providing children with the teaching and ways of knowing to develop concrete understandings of their culture, community and individual identity as a First Nations person.

8. We understand from the EKH that First Nations children must be ensured safe and quality care as well as knowledge, teaching and access to:
 - a) family;
 - b) community;
 - c) cultural ceremonial ways;
 - d) connection/purpose in life;
 - e) ancestral lands;
 - f) ancestral waters;
 - g) way of life;
 - h) education; and
 - i) protection within and outside of their First Nation.
9. At FNFAO-AMC we also engage in work on systemic child welfare issues. For example, in September 2016 and in response to a resolution passed by the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly supporting regional engagement on First Nations Child and Family Services, the FNFAO-AMC was responsible for holding engagement sessions across Manitoba.
10. Keewaywin: Our Way Home, Manitoba First Nations Engagement was the final report that resulted from our efforts. It was reviewed and approved by the AMC Executive Council of Chiefs in September 2017 and is attached to this affidavit as Exhibit “B”.
11. In working with families, EKH, and through significant community engagement, the FNFAO-AMC has developed an expertise in the current structure and realities of the child welfare system in Manitoba.

Child Welfare is a Root Cause of MMIWG

12. Since our inception, the FNFAO-AMC has been involved in attending and participating in internal AMC meetings and planning relating to MMIWG. I have personally attended many of these meetings as our office has observed the real life impacts of the systemic issues within the child welfare system and the resulting negative impacts on First Nations women and girls.
13. The rates at which First Nations children are being taken from their families has reached crisis levels both in Manitoba and in Canada. We have observed that when children do not have access to their family and way of life, it has a negative impacts on the mental health of the children and their families. First Nations children and families have shared with us the significant grief they have felt due to the loss of connection when they are separated by the child welfare system.
14. The child welfare system is the new residential school. In addition to forcibly removing children from their families, communities, and culture - it is a direct path to MMIWG. First Nations children in the foster care are vulnerable to sexual and physical abuse. We have heard first-hand stories of First Nations girls who have placed themselves at risk and been sexually exploited in order to purchase their basic necessities such as clothing and food. We also know that First Nations girls in the child-welfare system are often targeted by predators due to their unique vulnerabilities.
15. Addressing MMIWG in Manitoba and in Canada will require significant change in our child welfare system to reduce the number of First Nations

children in care. The FNFAO-AMC believes that true reform of the child welfare system, including the reassertion of Indigenous nations' jurisdiction over child welfare is necessary. This includes a revitalization and codification of First Nations own laws relating to families and children. Western laws have failed to respect First Nation laws and understandings relating to keeping children and families safe.

16. While there exists some research into the current conditions of First Nations children in care and the impacts of residential schools on First Nations culture, languages and identities - there is very little information available from a First Nations perspective on how we should move forward to address the epidemic of First Nations children in care.

Child Welfare is a Main Area of Focus for AMC's Participation in the Inquiry

17. The Affidavit of Marcel Balfour affirmed May 1, 2017 and filed with the National Inquiry on May 1, 2017 (the "May 1st Affidavit") outlines the unique position held by AMC and the assistance it could bring to the mandate and work of the Commissioners. The May 1st Affidavit also identified the subject areas that AMC intended to address if granted standing in the National Inquiry. The first area identified was:

- a. Child welfare and apprehension, and the ways in which these issues relate to individuals and systemic violence within First Nation families.

The Commission Has Excluded a Critical Root Cause of MMIWG

18. On March 6th 2018, Chief Commissioner Marion Buller of the MMIWG National Inquiry wrote by letter to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, requesting an extension of 24 months and an additional funding up to \$50 million for the Inquiry. As one of the reasons for the request, Chief Commissioner Buller stated that "Regional Institutional and Expert hearings will not be possible and therefore will limit the availability of information on topics such as [...] child welfare." Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit "C" is a copy of Chief Commissioner Buller's letter.

19. On March 26th 2018, Ms Christa Big Canoe, MMIWG Commission Counsel, wrote by e-mail to all parties with standing in Part II- Institutional Hearings stating that it will be holding two Institutional hearings in the coming months – (1) Government Services and (2) Policing Practices. The email indicated that the Government Services hearing would be using an interactive webinar based platform at the end of April or beginning of May. The hearing on Policing practices would be held in person in Regina in mid to late June 2018. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit "D" is a copy of Ms Big Canoe's email correspondence.

20. On March 29th 2018, Ms Big Canoe corresponded by e-mail to all parties with standing in Part III- Expert Hearings stating that there will be two Expert Hearings in the coming month – (1) Human Rights Frameworks and (2) Racism. The email indicated that Human Rights Frameworks Hearing would be held in-person in Québec City and that the hearing on Racism

would be using an interactive webinar platform. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “E” is a copy of Ms Big Canoe’s email correspondence.

21. On April 12th 2018, Ms Big Canoe wrote to all parties with Standing in Part II of the National Inquiry to confirm that the Institutional Hearing into Government Services would be held from May 28th-June 1st 2018 via WebEx for hearings and the Institutional Hearing into Police Policies and Practices would be held in Regina (Saskatchewan) from June 25th-29th 2018. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “F” is a copy of Ms Big Canoe’s email correspondence.

22. On April 12th 2018, Ms Big Canoe, MMIWG Commission Counsel wrote to all parties with standing in Part III of the National Inquiry into MMIWG to confirm that the Expert Hearing into the Human Rights Framework would be held from May 14th-18th 2018 in Québec City and the Expert Hearing into Racism would be held via WebEx from June 11th-15th 2018. Ms Big Canoe also wrote that the Human Rights hearing will focus on “right to highest attainable standard of health; the right to adequate food, housing and social security; the right to equal protection under the law; the right to take part in public affairs; the right to participate in cultural life; the rights to life liberty and security of the person.” It also stated that the hearing into Racism will “explore the discrimination that creates vulnerable circumstances that increase violence or diminish safety for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ. This will include looking into racism in services that Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ access and discuss solutions.” Attached to my

affidavit and marked as Exhibit “G” is a copy of Ms Big Canoe’s email correspondence.

23. On April 12th 2018, as a response to this e-mail, Ms. Barbara Mysko, Senior Crown Counsel for the Government of Saskatchewan, wrote to Ms. Big Canoe with a copy of the correspondence to all Parties with Standing in Part III of the Hearing asking for clarification about whether Ms. Big Canoe’s email reflected an “expansion of the mandate for the government services hearing beyond health, victim services, and child welfare”. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “H” is a copy of Ms Mysko’s email correspondence.

24. As a response, on April 12th 2018, Ms Big Canoe wrote to Ms. Mysko copying all parties with Standing in Part III of the Hearing stating that her email did “not reflect an expansion of the mandate for the Government Services Institutional Hearing per se.” Ms. Big Canoe further stated that “[d]uring our conversations on the teleconference, I acknowledged that Child Welfare is a massive topic/issue that could take an entire week’s worth of hearings and still we would only likely scratch the surface.” In this email, Ms Big Canoe stated that she received “refined instructions” from the Commissioners about covering the issue of child welfare services. Specifically, she stated that “[t]he Commissioners do not think we can adequately cover the huge topic of child welfare services to include all of the cross-cutting perspectives and raise the issues in one panel of a hearing.” In her email, Ms Big Canoe stated that “[i]n an extension scenario this would be one of the priority topics to cover as a week-long hearing if we can add more Institutional Hearings in any timeframe granted.” She continues by

stating that “the Commissioners do believe that it is important to include Child Welfare Services as background context, to recognize the breakdown of family structure via residential schools, the scoop and ongoing removals, and that this has led to lack of safety for Indigenous families.” Ms Big Canoe concluded that “rather than have witnesses on a panel to identify this information that is highly acknowledged, researched and written about extensively in readily available reports, it can be context as it relates to other services.” Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “I” is a copy of Ms Big Canoe’s email correspondence.

25. On April 20th 2018, Ms Shelby Thomas, Commission Counsel, wrote by email to all parties with standing in Part II of the hearings indicating that the Government Services and Police Practices and Policies hearings will be five days in length and that they would both be conducted as in-person hearings. The email stated that the Government Services hearing will be held from May 28th - June 1st 2018 and the Police Practices and Policies hearing will be held from June 25th - June 29th, 2018 in Regina (SK). Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “J” is a copy of Ms Thomas’ email correspondence.

26. On April 20th 2018, Ms Thomas wrote to the parties with standing in Part III of the Inquiry changing the Human Rights Framework hearing from a five day to a four day hearing, being held in Québec City (Québec). In this email, Ms Thomas also clarified that the Racism Expert hearing would be changed from a five day to a three day hearing. In this email, Commission Counsel also confirmed that the hearing into Racism would be held in person (in Toronto, Ontario) rather than being conducted by using the Webinar/WebEX

platform. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “K” is a copy of Ms Thomas’ email correspondence.

27. On May 9th 2018, Ms Thomas wrote by email to all the parties with standing in Part II confirming the location for the Institutional Government Services hearing. In her email, Ms Thomas stated that the Government Services hearing will be held from May 28th to June 1st 2018 in Calgary Alberta. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “L” is a copy of Ms Thomas’ email correspondence.

28. On May 16th 2018, Ms Joëlle Pastora Sala, counsel to the AMC, wrote to Commission counsel requesting clarification about whether an expert on children in care/ child welfare would be included in the Institutional Government Services Hearing and whether there would be opportunities to ask questions relating to Indigenous children and youth in the child welfare system. Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “M” is a copy of Ms Pastora Sala’s email correspondence.

29. As a response, on May 16th 2018, Ms. Meredith Porter, Commission Counsel, responded to Ms Pastora Sala by stating that “[t]he Government Services Institutional Hearing will deal with the issue of human trafficking, including youth as young as 13 yrs. but will not touch on child welfare in the context of CFS services for children in care, in-home services, kinship care, or at risk of apprehension etc.” Attached to my affidavit and marked as Exhibit “N” is a copy of Ms Porter’s email correspondence

30. On May 16th 2018, at a meeting with the First Nations Women’s Council of the AMC, I received direct instructions from the Council to file a motion

with respect to the failure to meaningfully include child welfare in Parts II and III of the National Inquiry into MMIWG.

31. Based on our experience, knowledge and direction of the First Nations Women's Council, we believe the Commissioners for the MMIWG National Inquiry have an obligation to meaningfully consider the direct correlation between child welfare and MMIWG.

32. I make this affidavit bona fide.

AFFIRMED BEFORE me at the City)
of Winnipeg, in the Province of)
Manitoba, this [18] day of May, 2018.)
)
)



A [Commissioner for Oaths / Notary
Public] in and for the Province of
Manitoba



CORA MORGAN

This is exhibit " A " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 20 18

Hoppe Riff

Bringing Our Children Home

Report and Recommendations

June 2014



Executive Summary

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs explored the child welfare system in Manitoba from the perspective of the people who must deal with the system directly including children (now adults), parents, grandparents, workers, and support service organizations that are established to help the people.

Through a two-day Open Citizens Forum along with numerous video and written submissions, personal heartfelt and often traumatic stories have been shared. These stories illustrate the devastating impact that the policies and practices of the current child welfare system are having on the First Nations children and families in Manitoba. In witnessing the expression of actual experiences of children and parents and how the system has affected their lives, it can be concluded that the current approach merely deals with the symptoms of the deeper underlying challenges in people's lives. The implementation of all recommendations put forth by Justice Hughes in "The Legacy of Phoenix Sinclair: Achieving the Best for All Children" might make slight improvements within current system practice but the fact remains that the legacy of the Manitoba Child Welfare System is an extension of the cultural genocide experienced by the Residential School years and Sixties Scoop.

The real life impacts of the current child welfare system informs us that a lot of resources are being put into a failing system. Based on the outcomes that are a result of being involved in the child welfare system, it can be concluded that system practices must change immediately. Further to this, there are critical system additions required including, family support, advocacy, and intensive holistic healing opportunities.

Overall, there must be a transition to a First Nations System that is based on the original systems of child rearing, education, and nurturance of individual spirit. Resources must be used in appropriate ways to break the existing cycle to restore spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being.

The only way out of the current child welfare crisis is to develop a completely new system based on the First Nations principles of: love, compassion, respect, and dignity. With the guidance of the First Nations Elders and Grandmothers, clear direction on how to do this will come from a higher power of Spirit. In order for this new path to be successful, it will be imperative for First Nations to never compromise the long-term goals of "Bringing Our Children Home".

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Introduction

In March 2014, the Chiefs in Assembly supported a resolution (Mar-14.06) “to hold and participate in a Special Chiefs Assembly, and an Open Forum for Concerned First Nations citizens, on the topic of First Nations Families and Children Welfare”.

The purpose of the resolution was to provide a voice to those impacted by Child Welfare and to provide First Nations an opportunity to develop a response to the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry Report.

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs hosted an Open Forum on May 1st in Winnipeg and May 13th in Thompson. AMC Grand Chief Derek Nepinak and others identified on the listening panel heard directly in testimonies from over 90 parents, grandparents, workers, and individuals who grew up in the care of the CFS system. The submissions included verbal, written, video and one-on-one interviews. There were 216 individuals who attended the forum.

A strategic planning session was held on May 29th, 2014 to review findings from the forum and to develop recommendations to present to the Chiefs in Assembly June 10 & 11th, 2014.

What did we hear?

From Children...

- Children are being told they cannot be with their mom and dad or grandparents.
- Children in Care contemplate suicide because they don't feel connected to anything/anyone and many have been abused in foster care.
- Many children of the Sixties Scoop are having children who become involved with the system.
- Children are growing up alone, isolated, feeling abandoned; feeling like nobody cares about them. Once a child becomes a teenager, they often experience even greater instability, moving from group home to hotel room to short term foster home. Children will run away frequently, always in search of their parents. They refuse to give up on being reconnected to their family.
- The child's education suffers once in care. No supports to help them understand what's happening or what's going to happen. The lack of stability in placements results in constantly changing schools. Moving from foster home to foster home does not allow for parental involvement with education.

- Parents hear about their children self-destructing, there is a lot of anger that children live with from being in a system where they have no control/choices. Expressing this anger often results in incarceration.
- Children in care stated that they learned to defend themselves at an early age, and not to trust anyone, which made it difficult to establish supportive relationships later in life.

From Parents ...

- Mothers asked for help only to have their hearts ripped apart.
- Many parents go to the agency seeking help and are told they must sign a Voluntary Placement Agreement in order to receive help. Many children become Permanent Wards after because the parents' plea for help is used against them to justify apprehensions and orders to keep children in care.
- Parents are impacted by their involvement with CFS, due to the loss of their children and the loss of their role as a parent, many experience depression, anger, feelings of worthlessness, and anxiety. Creates more challenges and barriers in getting their kids back.
- Some women have started a support group for parents who have had involvement with CFS. CFS treatment of parents is traumatizing. It often leads to a cycle of substance use as a means of coping. Parents are prone to becoming depressed, angry, and self-destructive. Even when parents meet the requirements CFS sets, CFS blocks their re-unification with their children.
- The agency has a policy to intervene if someone reports parents to CFS, they automatically apprehend instead of working with the family. The agencies have no process to determine what is true, many people expressed that their children were taken due to false allegations that were never corroborated.
- The agencies create records about people that label them as unfit, incapable of parenting, or uncooperative with no formal assessments, just personal judgments.
- Parents and grandparents have sent items with their children to promote cultural identity which have been returned because the foster parents don't support "that stuff". Children are immersed in foreign languages in foster homes with no opportunity to learn their own.
- There are many threats happening, parents and children are fearful. NO respectful communication, no compassion.
- Parents are often told "they will never see their child again if they don't agree to the order"

- Foster homes are being protected and enhanced with resources and funding while families are being destroyed.

From Grandparents...

- Grandparents have an integral role in maintaining the family bond and connection
- Many grandparents have stepped up to care for their children when the parents are struggling.
- Grandparents are starting to be treated the same way as parents, no trust, no accommodations, no support to keep children with their families.

From Workers...

- Youth in care will often have contact with the law. When they get angry or upset, the CFS policies leave it to the RCMP deal with them. If they direct their anger at workers or direct it into alcohol & drugs, they get passed off to the police. Youth run away to be with their family or don't go back to their homes, CFS does nothing to ensure their safety and after 24 hr reports them to the police. This results in unnecessary involvement with the justice system.
- Sometimes the agencies prescribe things for parents to comply with that don't even exist i.e. parents required to secure a 3 bedroom apartment on a social assistance budget (based on one single person) becomes impossible, and delays or forfeits earlier re- unification.
- Youth in care staying in Manitoba Youth Centre because they have nowhere to put them.
- Parents with multiple children in care often have a different worker for each child and a different case plan to comply with and in some instances different CFS agencies.
- There is not much monitoring in the system, little effort into ensuring that siblings remain connected even though they are all in the system.
- There are many workers in the system who did not do their own healing and this impacts their ability to help and support families.

A social worker explains that "When you work in CFS, you become very powerful. You forget that you have emotions. Your spirit shuts down. You lose all concepts and become disconnected from families and communities (we have to stop putting our people in these

positions). I had to do therapy and start my own healing from the work I was involved in. I don't do that work anymore".

Impacts

- Children continue to experience mental, emotional, spiritual, physical, and sexual abuse in the system. There are no protective measures.
- Parents are denied visitation without explanation, leaving them to feel more desperate, depressed, and hopeless.
- Continuation of Indian Residential School and Sixties Scoop mandate to remove children from their families, community and culture. Disconnections are created, and more families are torn apart by the system.
- Parents have been told they weren't good enough for so long. They have been silenced by shame, guilt, and low self-esteem. Actually, fighting the system, insisting on their children being returned and being denied after meeting all CFS requirements, drives people to desperation – then they are labeled "crazy".
- The voices of young adults who grew up in the system and parents and grandparents currently dealing with the system are breaking through, speaking up, expressing the value they have of themselves and the never ending love they have for their children. They don't want to give up even though they are being told from workers, agencies, authorities, lawyers, and even family to just give up.
- There is a reoccurring cycle of substance abuse, dysfunctional relationships, and losing children to the system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #1: Focus on Model of Care based on Prevention

Many have referred to the current CFS system as a continuation of IRS and the Sixties Scoop. This was first cited by Judge Kimmelman in 1971. The children and families who have provided testimonies attested to this as well. Over decades, the Government of Canada and Province of Manitoba have created places to destroy our people, they must now be held accountable to help us create places to restore the peace and harmony amongst our people.

Child welfare is not only a First Nations issue it is an issue for everyone. Investments must be redirected to support a model of care based on prevention, strengthening families and reunification rather than apprehension.

Separation of families. I look at it like the braid has been broken. The connection from mothers and daughters and grandmothers, we need to keep that bond.

I wish there were family support workers that could work with the families when they are breaking down. Why can't you do this before children go into foster homes?

We need our own child welfare system not a system that was handed down to us, we need to set up our own regulations, and we need healing with the family...the only time you can get help is if you put your child in care...

Recommendation #1:

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly adopt the priority of Re-unification and Strengthening of Families the first and prior choice for CFS with understanding child safety is paramount. ONLY once all alternatives have been exhausted would any removal from extended family and community be considered; and that

The AMC Grand Chief and Chiefs in Assembly meet with Premier of Manitoba to:

- **Establish an immediate end to the CFS system as it currently functions.**
- **Reorganize the Leadership Council with equitable decision making at the table, with 80% First Nations representation at the decision making table to reflect the proportion of First Nations children and families currently impacted by the system.**
- **Establish a Youth Advisory Council within each of the existing Authorities to advise on policy change, system enhancements, and decision-making to ensure the needs of the youth are being met.**
- **Change funding models to support a model of care focused on prevention, strengthening families and reunification rather than apprehension.**

Recommendation #2: Establish a First Nations Advocate for Families

Involvement with CFS creates numerous challenges to maintain healthy relationships within the family unit. This further supports the importance of supporting family connections. Interactions with agency workers and lawyers create heightened levels of tension and stress for all people involved. There is an immediate need to implement accountability protocols for the interpersonal communication and interactions that take place among agencies, courts, and families that are based on First Nations cultural values of respect, compassion, and dignity.

I never wanted this. My daughter was sick, not curable until nowadays. The agency felt I would never be able to get her back. I listened to agencies and doctors. I missed most of her life because of this. I gave her up to a medical foster home. I have lived angry and heartbroken.

Feel so dehumanized, if I would have known that my kid would have been taken away just for asking for help, I would have never asked for help.

We need to take care of the spirit of the people and the families. There is a need for ceremonies a need for medicines.

We need to have these kinds of forums with the families. When the mothers speak the truth listen to them, don't hold their truth against them. We need to hear them, see them and believe them.

CFS Act controlled act has so much power and control it needs to be dismantled and start something new. We need to start a child advocacy unit to work with the families.

Recommendation #2:

Establish an Office of the First Nations Family Advocate that will challenge the system to address unethical practices and decisions enforced upon families or decisions that contribute to negative impacts on the child's spiritual, emotional, mental, or physical well-being and safety. In addition, the First Nations Family Advocates will work with children and families currently involved with CFS to ensure:

- **Children are not placed in care for experiencing unique needs due to medical, behavioral, or mental health reasons.**
- **Children who have been through a traumatic experience receive full supports for a minimum period of one year before any consideration of Voluntary Placement Agreements with CFS agencies.**
- **Advocacy for children and families to receive other services within and external to the community.**
- **Family reunification by providing guidance and support to parents on their healing path.**
- **Access to healing supports for children and other family members to deal with system involvement and support families to move forward together.**

Recommendation #3: Protect Cultural Identity

The first six years of education are the most important in teaching a child who they are. First Nations have the knowledge and carry the gifts to help children to understand their identity, language, and culture. This must be the first and immediate priority to ensure that the young ones, wherever they may be physically, are being supported spiritually, emotionally, and mentally to understand who they are and where they come from.

The Elders and Grandmothers are integral to providing children with these teachings and ways of knowing to develop a concrete understanding of their culture, community, and individual identity. It will be important to identify all people that need to work together on implementing this as well as the people that need to support this recommendation.

Because of my CFS experience, I did not know where I was from.

I was a young child that was taken by CFS from my grandparents, due to they were living the traditional life style. Those people determined that it was the wrong way to raise the child and so they took us away.

CFS destroyed my spirit.

When I was 8 years old my grandfather gave me my Spirit Name. From that point on I knew I would be okay.

Parents have to try and make sure the children aren't lost and know that someone is thinking of them". It's important to maintain contact by writing letters, sending pictures, explaining to the child who their siblings are and where they are. It's important for parents not to lose their role and to try and maintain that role with the children.

Recommendation #3:

That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs engage the Elders, Grandmothers, and Youth to further define the First Nations Rights of the Child and determine the best methods to reach out to the children right now; and that

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct every organization, school, youth initiative, community program, as well as all services and supports provided to First Nations children, youth, and families to respect and uphold the First Nations Rights of the Child as determined by the Elders, Grandmothers and Youth.

Recommendation #4: Re-learn Traditional Parenting Ways

It is time to recognize that First Nations are responsible for their own people when it comes to restoring the traditional ways of parenting that were taken away through IRS, Sixties Scoop, Child Welfare and the intergenerational impacts. The Open Forum has indicated that the child welfare system has failed and continues to fail First Nations people. First Nations have to reclaim the rights and responsibility for their children, and prevent a foreign system from taking away any more children. The parents and grandparents have to be prepared to become mentors to learn from the past and help the younger ones entrenched within the systems of CFS and justice.

I was not enough; I could not take care of them. That's the message the system sends.

What I needed was to be taught how to be a mom. I don't know my children and grandchildren, as a mother should. What I needed when I was being abused was support and not to have my children ripped away. I needed to be able to heal together with my children. What I needed was the help to take care of my child not to have to give my child up. I needed to be able to access the services with my child.

[As a child previously in care]...I placed my son in care when he was 2. All I wanted was help from the system. I felt alone, I knew I needed to finish my education to make my life better for my children as I am a single parent. My son was placed when he was 2 and now he's 17.

Recommendation #4:

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly uphold the Ogitchitakwewak Kaykikaywin and the Role of the Ogitchitakweg and supporting the establishment of a formal Grandmothers Council that will reclaim these important roles and share the teachings with every First Nation community; and that

All First Nations members take back responsibility for teaching the children, youth, young mothers, young fathers, and parents to care for all children based on the original ways.

This effort will require planning, development, and coordination of appropriate activities within the communities to support families in reclaiming responsibility for the children and learning the original ways of parenting focused on protecting and loving our children.

Recommendation #5: Respond to the Youth Voice

Once in the system, both parents and youth adopt destructive coping mechanisms that lead them on a path to repeating the cycle in future generations of children. Our children are overwhelmed with temptations to destroy their life. First Nations must take the time to hear from the young people and identify what specific interventions they need to understand the environments in which they live, how to cope with these environments, and how to evolve and grow in a positive and balanced way.

At 14, I was dealing with addictions. I found myself contemplating suicide. I was a true runaway and became homeless. I wanted to die because I was dead inside.

I was an alcoholic at 15. My breaking point was when I was 30.

We need to listen to the children; we need to listen to the children that have been affected instead of calling them rebellious.

I was an alcoholic at 15. My son is an addict, my daughter is an addict, and I have to deal with this situation because of the broken spirit.

CFS need to work quickly to reunite families and to ensure the youth have their cultural identity. I know people who have done everything asked of them and still can't get their children back and they are angry and frustrated and they end up giving up going back to addictions.

My son was in a foster home, he drank lots. I didn't really know him. He's doing time now. He was in a foster home then ended up in jail. He's only 25. I talk to him now and then and try to encourage him to be strong.

I am basically a file.

Recommendation #5:

That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, in cooperation with the Manitoba First Nations Youth Advisory Committee carry out consultation with the young people to identify ways to meet their spiritual, emotional, physical, mental, social, and environmental needs: and that

Every First Nations bring together community-based resources including the Leadership, Elders and Grandmothers, Education, Social Assistance, Housing, and Child Welfare to explore alternatives for young people in the community that will meet the needs identified and focus on:

- **Collaboration**
- **Resource Sharing**
- **Communication**
- **Volunteering**

Recommendation #6: Promote First Nations Solutions to Keep Children Home

It is very difficult and in some instances impossible, to find placements within the community, based on the standards set out for foster home requirements. The communities must take a proactive role in finding ways to keep children within the community. However, it becomes very difficult for parents to get healthy when their child(ren) is/are 500 miles away. Maintaining the child in the community could positively impact the issues of negative coping strategies of parents while ensuring children remain connected to their families and communities.

No matter what my parents have done to me mentally, emotionally, and spiritually I still love them [parents].

CFS told me I couldn't be with my mom. It destroyed me. I absolutely cringed at the workers, they ripped my mothers heart out when she only asked for help.

Personally, the lies and the promises "you will see your mom, your grandmother again". They killed my spirit through those lies.

They are too hasty taking children away, no matter what the children love their families and their parents, they need the connection. I don't like the rules and regulations i.e. Number of bedrooms. I loved the comfort sleeping with my siblings and parents. Its such a foreign value to enforce, against our ways.

I needed to be at home, I wish someone could have taken care of us at home.

One of the obstacles was sporadic education, with grade 5 education at age 16. I had a learning disability. I was diagnosed with ADD at 13. Due to my multiple placements hard to get the education I needed. Due to multiple placements it was hard to receive supports consistently.

Recommendation #6:

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the Authorities and Agencies to develop new service delivery models, examining models such as Customary Care, Receiving Homes, and Family Healing Homes, to have children remain in the community with a focus on ensuring:

- **Culture and Identity**
- **Family access**
- **Education**
- **Social Networks**
- **Connectivity**
- **Regular Visitations with parents, grandparents, extended family & siblings**

Recommendation #7: Transition to A First Nations System For Child And Family Services

All First Nations organizations must come together to develop and communicate new messages to move beyond negativity, blame, and conflict and restore peace, harmony and cooperation. Positive messaging will bring together everyone that needs to be involved to restore the children to the centre and design a First Nations System for Child and Family Services.

It will be critical to develop professional standards for workers to ensure they are supported to serve as mentors and helpers; and treat families in ways that uphold their human rights and reflect respect, compassion and dignity.

As a worker I know I have not done what I was able to do because I wasn't allowed to; we need to create the change we need to do. Let's try to dissolve the need for CFS within 2 generations, I do not believe it works, it is infested, too many problems, too much history, destroying people that is in the system.

The system has gotten worse. As workers and agencies our hands are tied tighter than they have ever been, we cannot be human beings helping other human beings.

The "[As First Nation workers]...every time we take children away from the land we destroy their spirit".

We need to spend more time keeping the families together, how we are going to get rid of CFS and get the families back the way they were. I hear those little children crying they want the parents, their families, and grandparents. Parents need to step up and make changes but they need support to do it.

Recommendation #7:

That the Grand Chief meet with University of Manitoba President to support the Indigenous Social Work program, according to initiatives being proposed by Michael Hart (University of Manitoba Professor, Canada Research Chair in Social Work and Indigenous Knowledge) and by the Aboriginal Social Workers organization; and that

The Chiefs-in-Assembly support the establishment of the College of Aboriginal Social Workers to ensure the Social Work Profession Act reflects the First Nations perspective, beliefs, values and practices in the Code of Ethics adopted.

Recommendation #8: Revitalize Original Systems of Life-long Supports

Children are being traumatized by “help”. Services must be provided for the family unit with specific services to each family member. There is a strong and immediate need for healing centres in the community, a place where all people have ready access to their traditional practices, cultural ceremonies, land-based teachings/skills development, and related healing interventions (Cree, Dene, Dakota, Oji-Cree, and Ojibway).

The Grandmother Turtle Lodge in Sagkeeng First Nation will be the first of its kind, a made-in-Manitoba model focusing on Land-based Education, Traditional Parenting, Wellness Healing, and Revitalization of Cultural Identity for all people. This is a model that can support all communities to provide life-long supports.

I needed to be visited even to see my parents, even if they are in no condition to visit, I needed to hear the voice of my parents, have pictures of my parent.

No matter what, I always loved my parents.

I'm a mother and I forgot how because I was separated from my children for so long. I tried so hard, and I will continue to try hard. I will not give up.

Recommendation #8:

Short-Term: The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs facilitate all existing resources to come together with the guidance and support of Elders and Grandmothers to plan, develop and implement collaborative supports that will help parents and children to meet their spiritual, emotional, physical, and mental needs, for example:

- FAS Prevention and Support
- Mental Wellness Services and Support
- Family/Community Supports in the home so parents can focus on healing without losing their children
- Land-based education and family services
- Long-term programs for Indian Residential School survivors and Sixties Scoop survivors and intergenerational survivors that includes healing, coping, and re-connection with self, family, community, and culture.

Medium Term: That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs work with the CFS Agencies to ensure all policies and practices reflect the importance of family connections. This will require collaborating among community based projects plus redirection of Enhancement funds to orient and support such collaboration.

Long Term: That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba work on establishing healing centre hubs, building on the Grandmother Turtle Lodge model, so that every community has ready access to cultural healing interventions.

Recommendation #9: Focus on First Nations Social Determinants of Health

Poverty can no longer be a justification for destroying families. The standards imposed unilaterally by Provincial systems make it impossible for families to meet due to their standard of living. First Nations must promote their own standards for the well-being and safety of families. In addition, families need to be housed in supportive environments and provided with comprehensive supportive services.

Need to help the parents; housing is one of the biggest challenges of our people.

I had a one-bedroom apartment which was not good enough to get her back. I found out I couldn't have her back until I found a 2-bedroom apartment.

Some women just give up. The Ochiwewaywin Program helped me. It's so hard to find housing up north, especially with parents trying to get their children back from CFS.

Recommendation #9:

That First Nations leadership adapt Housing Policies to meet family reunification needs first and to keep children in the community; and that

The Chiefs-in-Assembly support the expansion of the Eagle Urban Transition Centre to include supports for youth and families involved with Child Welfare and to establish an Eagle Urban Transition Centre in Northern Manitoba inclusive of all services.

Recommendation #10: Revolutionize Justice System Practices

The Child welfare system is endorsed by the justice system. The formal legal system is part of the structure but disconnected from the purpose – to minimize any negative impact of a child being removed from their home. Communities are left out of the process and children do not have a voice at hearings. There needs to be a decision making process in which the community is empowered to develop alternative case plans and care for the child.

I didn't feel my lawyer was on my side.

Youth in care, are being charged as a result of being in care. The children in care have no voice, not control over their own lives, no one is listening to them.

There would be less apprehensions is people had lawyers to go up against the agency. The agencies pay their lawyers good money to keep children in care.

There is no support structure in place for the supposed accused.

My recommendation is that you form a committee to come up with a way to support parents to get a lawyer, if they have the money. There would be less apprehensions is people had lawyers to go up against the agency.

Recommendation #10:

That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs examine legislation such as Ontario which recognizes “Customary Care” by First Nations in their Child and Family Services Act and Saskatchewan to see how it is working and how it is supporting communities to reclaim responsibility for the children, and prepare options for Leadership to pursue; and

That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, in partnership with the University of Manitoba Centre for Human Rights Research, evaluate the Legal Aid system in relation to the services provided for First Nations clients dealing with child welfare.

This is exhibit " B " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 20 18

Katie Dy



Keewaywin: Our Way Home
— MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT —

Keewaywin Engagement Manitoba First Nations Child and Family Services Reform

Final Report – September 2017

PREPARED BY:



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS



Abinoojig Biciwewag
First Nations
Family Advocate Office
"Bringing Our Children Home"

GRANDMOTHERS COUNCIL STATEMENT OF ACTION ON CHILD WELFARE

OGITCHITAKWEWAK KAGIIKWENAN

The gift of creation gifted to women by our Creator is a shared blessing and a responsibility, a responsibility to and for the future of our nations and a responsibility to care for, love and teach our children and grandchildren. These teachings provided by our Creator and our Mother Earth can only be taught by our mother.

1. We the grandmothers of our nations honour the gift, blessing and responsibility of life through our children and grandchildren and our responsibility to insure that our life as a people through our children is honoured and nurtured. We honour the laws of our language, culture, ceremonies and the natural laws of our land that guide our life—a life filled with beauty, responsibilities and purpose.
2. We the grandmothers of our people, with the support of our men, will not allow the removal of our children from our families and our nations.
3. We the grandmothers will gather the grandmothers of our nations. Through prayer, we will define the actions and processes necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of our children.
4. We honour this gift of life and our responsibility for our nations and stand together in unity and in strength with the gifts of language and ceremony provided by our Creator to take up our role as life givers, mothers, aunties and grandmothers. No external entity shall be allowed to remove our gifts from the shelter and love of our homes and nations.
5. Tunkasila, we humbly ask for your guidance, your blessing and your strength. Pidamiya ye, Mitakuye Owasin.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report contains the results of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs First Nations Family Advocate Office *Keewaywin: Our Way Home, Manitoba First Nations Engagement on First Nations Child and Family Services*. The report contains the main findings and recommendations from engagement sessions and meetings.

Responding to the highest child apprehension rate in Canada, Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly supported a resolution to hold a Special Chiefs Assembly and open forums for concerned First Nation citizens on the topic of First Nation families and child welfare. The forum report and its 10 recommendations revealed the current child welfare system in Manitoba is simply an extension of cultural genocide practices found in the residential school system and 60s Scoop. Following review of the report, Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly directed the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to develop an action plan to implement report recommendations.

Adding to the mounting argument that the First Nations Child and Family Services Program is flawed are the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action relating directly to child welfare reform and the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal decision ordering Canada to reform the discriminatory First Nations Child and Family Services Program.

The Government of Canada accepted the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ruling and in the 2016 budget proposed \$634.8 million over five years to support frontline service providers and ensure continued availability of protection and prevention services to First Nation children and families as the Government of Canada engages with partners to seek input into program reform requirements.

The *Keewaywin: Our Way Home, Manitoba First Nations Engagement* is a First-Nations-led initiative to develop First Nations Child and Family Services reform options that respond to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal decision, Canada's acceptance of the Tribunal's decision, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action related to child welfare and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs resolutions related to child-welfare reform.

To remedy the current child welfare system, First Nations must take the lead in designing and implementing a system based on First Nation original systems of child rearing in order to break cycles of past failed child-welfare policy. Government must find the political will to tackle larger issues such as poverty and a discriminatory system that contribute to unacceptable high numbers of Indigenous children in Child and Family Services care.

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs First Nations Family Advocate Office is confident report recommendations can be used to develop a range of First-Nation-led options to reform the First Nations Child and Family Services Program.



Keewaywin: Our Way Home
— MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT —





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INTRODUCTION

Manitoba has the highest child apprehension rate in Canada with over 11,000 children in Child and Family Services (CFS) care—90 percent of the children are Indigenous. In response to this staggering number, Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly supported a resolution to hold a Special Chiefs' Assembly and open forums for concerned First Nation citizens on the topic of First Nation families and child welfare. The assembly and forum provided First Nations an opportunity to respond to the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry Report and to raise concerns about the child welfare system in Manitoba. Two forums, one held in Winnipeg and the other held in Thompson, Manitoba, in May 2014, were followed by a strategic planning session to review forum findings and to develop recommendations. *The Bringing Our Children Home* (BOCH) Report and its 10 recommendations were presented to Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly in June 2014 (see *Appendix A—BOCH Report Recommendations*).

The BOCH Report revealed the current child welfare system merely deals with the symptoms of deeper underlying challenges in people's lives, large amounts of resources feed a failed system, system practices must immediately change and critical system additions must include family support, advocacy and intensive healing opportunities. The report concluded the current child welfare system in Manitoba is simply an extension of cultural genocide practices found in the residential school system and 60s Scoop. Following review of the report, Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly directed the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) by certified resolution to develop an action plan to implement BOCH Report recommendations.

On October 15, 2014, AMC, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO), the Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO) and the Manitoba Region of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) signed an Agreement on Collaborative Action to begin deconstructing the current child welfare "industry of apprehension." The agreement tasked those involved with implementation of the BOCH Report and its 10 recommendations, stating the "Protection of children and families of the Manitoba First Nations and bringing to an end the current CFS system in Manitoba are of the highest priority." The AMC, MKO, SCO and Manitoba Region of AFN agree that families, extended families and communities of Manitoba First Nations are the safest and most secure places to raise and nurture the children of Manitoba First Nations. This vision directly contrasts historical Indigenous child-welfare policies, such as the residential school system and the 60s Scoop, and directly contrasts present-day CFS system policies.

"The willingness of people will make CFS reform a success."

Adding to the mounting argument that the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program is flawed are two recent developments:

- In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its final report with the first five of their 94 Calls to Action relating directly to child-welfare reform.
- In January 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) decision *First Nations Child and*



Family Caring Society of Canada (FNCFS) et al. v. Attorney General of Canada ordered Canada to reform the discriminatory FNCFS Program. Additionally, Canada was ordered to stop applying a limited and discriminatory definition of Jordan's Principle (JP) and to implement JP fully.

The Government of Canada accepted the CHRT ruling and in the 2016 budget proposed \$634.8 million over five years to support frontline service providers and ensure continued availability of protection and prevention services to First Nation children and families as the Government of Canada engages with partners to seek input into program reform requirements.

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

Minister, Carolyn Bennett, agreed the child welfare system requires reform and has committed to this reform by creating an "Indigenous Framework on Early Learning and Child Care" following further consultation with First Nations, Inuit and Métis stakeholders.

The AMC is a member of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) on FNCFS, which has representatives from FNCFS agencies, northern and southern authorities, MKO, SCO, Manitoba and Canada. At a July 2016 RAC meeting, Canada announced that it had funding available for regional FNCFS Program reform. As a result, members of RAC developed a regional engagement work plan.

The AMC made a submission for regional engagement on FNCFS reform that included engaging on JP. However,

INAC stated that the JP component could not be included

because Health Canada was

administering funds for regional engagement on JP under the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB).

With a renewed relationship and the government's commitment to child-welfare reform in mind, in September 2016, Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly passed *Resolution-16.08 re: Regional Engagement on First Nations Child and Family Services*. The resolution states that Chiefs-in-Assembly support

"Indigenous and Non-Indigenous communities need to work together. I loved the engagement sessions!"



the AMC Secretariat to conduct regional engagement on FNCFS and that AMC, MKO and SCO work together on the engagement through the Technical Advisory Group on Children and Families identified in the *Agreement on Collaborative Action Concerning BOCH and Achieving the Reunification and Strengthening of First Nation Families*. The Chiefs Task Force on Child and Family Matters would provide oversight of engagement.

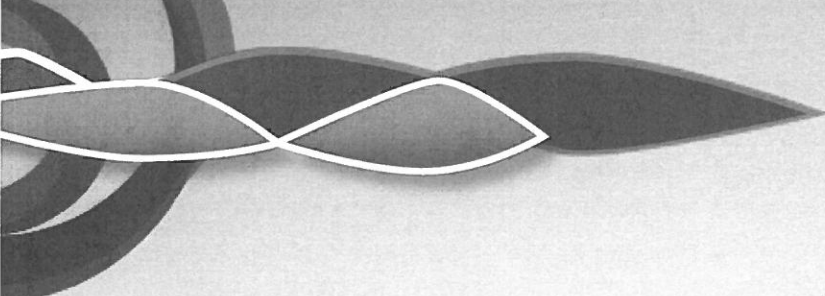
The *Keewaywin: Our Way Home, Manitoba First Nations Engagement* is a First-Nations-led initiative to develop FNCFS reform options that respond to the CHRT decision, Canada's acceptance of the Tribunal decision, the TRC Calls to Action relating to child welfare and AMC resolutions directly related to child-welfare reform. Engagement sessions involved First Nations citizens and leadership, FNCFS agencies and authorities and other key stakeholders, such as provincial and federal governments. During the engagement sessions, existing regional reports and recommendations were considered, including the BOCH Report and the Province of Manitoba's Hughes Inquiry Report and AMR Planning & Consulting Report.

Engagement sessions began December 2016 and ended June 2017. The project plan included engagement sessions in 20 First Nations, four town hall sessions and a youth session, which were open to the public and communicated through social media. Additionally, two CFS agency/authority sessions, where over seventy staff from CFS agencies/authorities attended, provincial and federal government sessions and meetings with the Chiefs Task Force on Child and Family Matters and Grandmothers and Grandfathers were completed.

The completion of planned engagement sessions and meetings presented a challenge due to time constraints. First Nation engagement sessions were scheduled and rescheduled; however, the AMC First Nations Family Advocate Office successfully maintained a rigorous schedule and managed to complete all planned engagement sessions and meetings within the time identified in the proposal.

Manitoba has 64 First Nations, 63 of which are AMC members. However, only 20 First Nations





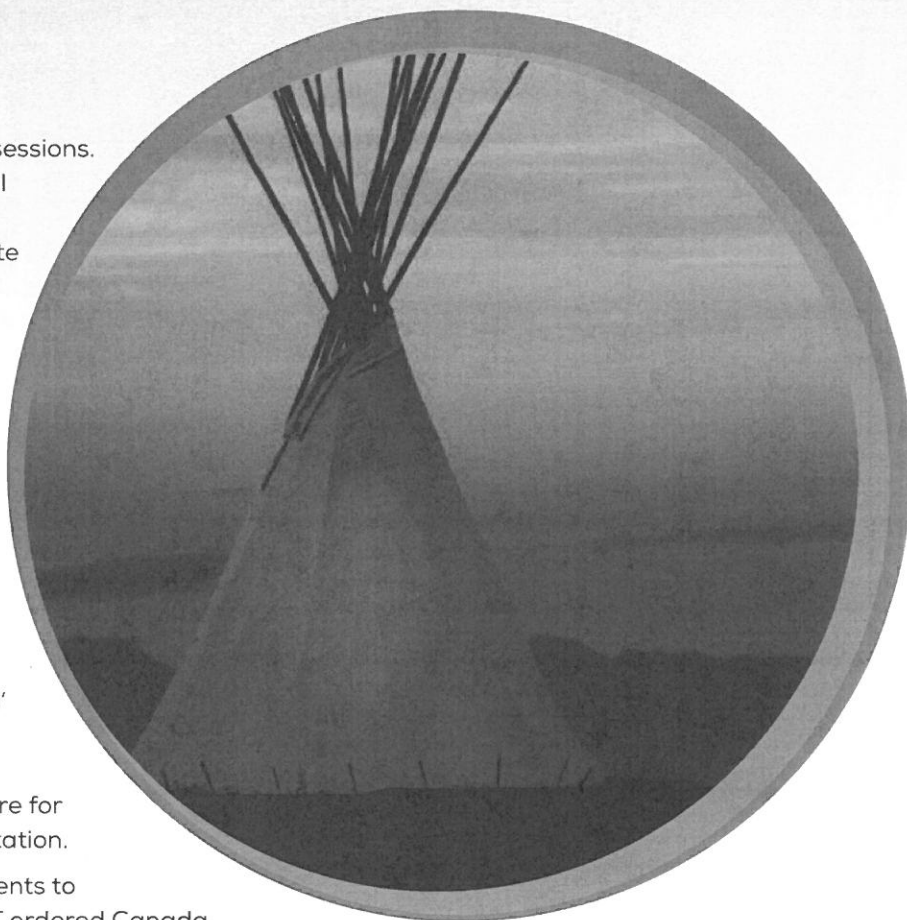
participated in the engagement sessions. The AMC FNFAO received several requests from additional First Nations that wanted to participate in engagement sessions and received several requests from First Nations requesting further engagement in order to continue the dialogue on FNCFS reform. However, this was not possible due to time and funding constraints. Nevertheless, the AMC FNFAO is certain the sample size of engagement sessions and meetings is broad enough to represent Manitoba First Nations' issues, concerns, and proposed approaches in order to provide Canada with a good overall picture for FNCFS reform and JP implementation.

The TRC called upon all governments to implement JP fully, and the CHRT ordered Canada

"Thank you for bringing this project up North. It will be beneficial for our First Nation people and service workers in all areas."

to stop applying a limited and discriminatory definition of JP and to implement JP fully. In response, the federal government announced new funding to implement a "new approach" to JP in July 2016 to assess children's needs and ensure they are responded to quickly. While political will to respond to the CHRT ruling was welcomed, the new approach proposed was a unilateral decision—First Nations were not involved. The AMC proposed Manitoba First Nation input be included in the government's new approach, starting with a forum on JP. See forum recommendations in *Appendix B—Jordan's Principle Forum—First Nations Designing Full Implementation*.

At the November 28, 2016, AMC Executive Council of Chiefs (ECC) meeting, the ECC was asked to consider that the AMC conduct regional engagement on JP because it will already be regionally engaging on the FNCFS Program. Implementation of JP is intimately connected to FNCFS reform as many children on reserve are placed in care in order to receive services. Additionally, the AMC would be able to leverage



"I've learnt that Jordan's Principle is not only for children with severe medical issues but also includes children with learning and mental disabilities."

FNCFS engagement (i.e. have leadership meet and discuss FNCFS and JP at the same meetings: Chiefs Review Committee; ECC; Chiefs-in-Assembly), and the AMC's mandate to engage on FNCFS reform is broad enough to ensure JP will apply to education, child welfare, health, childcare and recreation, language and culture.

In response to the CHRT Decision, Canada will fund implementation of JP through Health Canada, FNIHB. The funding through FNIHB for JP engagement covered four engagement sessions. However, a JP component was included in all FNCFS

regional engagement sessions and meetings to offer a broader range of input for JP implementation.

The report recommendations from the JP Implementation Regional Engagement sessions are available in *Appendix C—Jordan's Principle Implementation Regional Engagement Report Recommendations*.

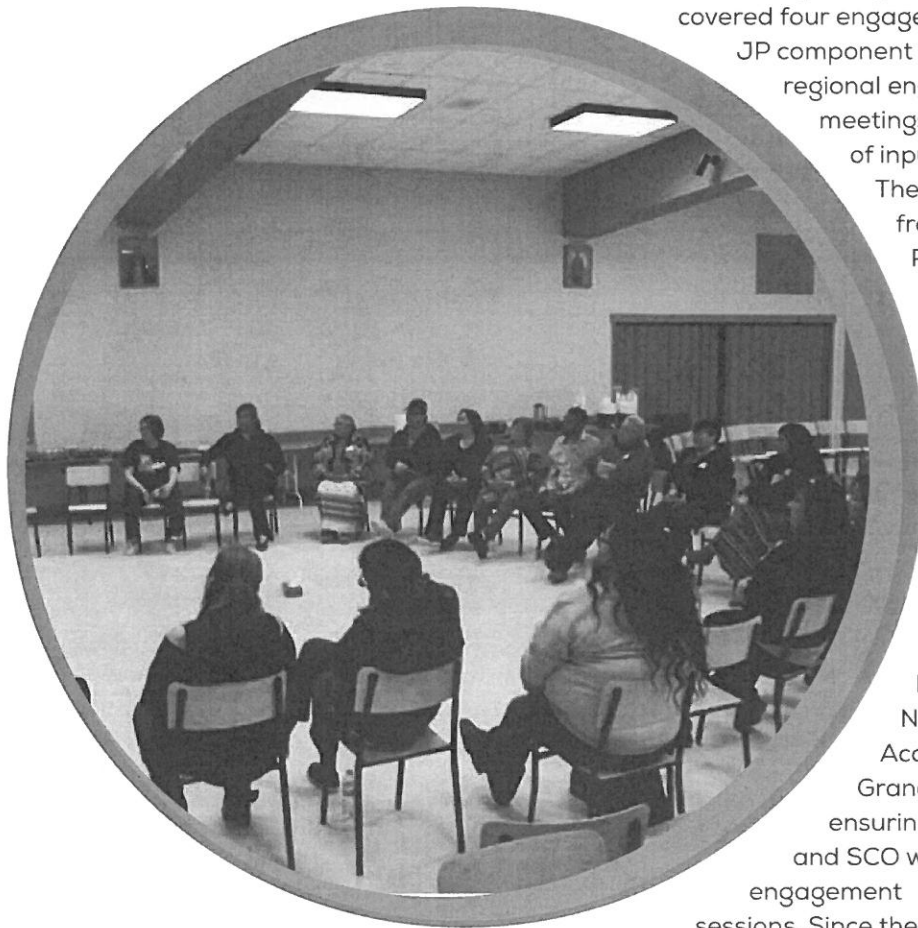
At a February 24, 2017, meeting of the Three Grand Chiefs, the importance of staff from each organization working together when engaging Manitoba First Nations, consistent with the November 2011 Political Unity Accord, was reiterated. As a result, Grand Chief Nepinak committed to ensuring a representative from MKO and SCO would participate in all future

engagement

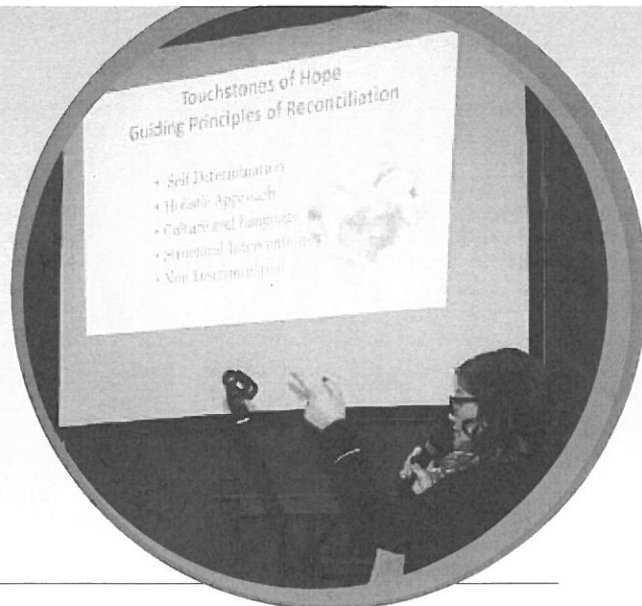
sessions. Since then, AMC has invited MKO and

SCO representatives to participate. Additionally, the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (FNHSSM) and Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) were invited to participate in regional engagement meetings.

"My people have a role to play in building the dream and making it a reality."



ENGAGEMENT PROCESS



The approach to regional engagement on FNCFS reform followed *Reconciliation in Child Welfare: Touchstones of Hope for Indigenous Children, Youth and Families* (Touchstones of Hope) developed by Cindy Blackstock of the FNCFCS and others.

In addition to using the *Touchstones of Hope* toolkit, *Keewawaywin* engagement facilitators incorporated the “*Planning for Alternative Tomorrows with Hope*” (PATH) planning tool to help participants reflect upon where they are in terms of their current goals and dreams, their uniqueness, attributes and strengths and their aspirations for the future. During the PATH exercise, participants reflected upon the statement: “Indigenous children will be safe and living with dignity and respect, when...”



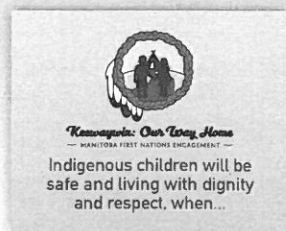
TOUCHSTONES OF HOPE

Touchstones of Hope is a set of principles that guide the reconciliation process by fostering relationship building and providing opportunities to have respectful and truthful conversations about child welfare in order to create a new reality for Indigenous children. This includes concrete next steps for moving forward together so that all Indigenous children are healthy and living with dignity and respect. The engagement team participated in “train-the-trainer” for *Touchstones of Hope* in order to engage both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people effectively in a process of reconciliation through:

- *Truth Telling*—telling the story of child welfare as it has affected Indigenous children, youth and families;
- *Acknowledging*—learning from the past, seeing one another with new understanding, and recognizing the need to move forward on a new path;
- *Restoring*—doing what we can to redress the harm and making changes to ensure it does not happen again; and
- *Relating*—working together respectfully to design, implement and monitor the new child welfare system.

Participants were asked to share how they saw FNCFS reform implemented through the five principles of *Touchstones of Hope* and what it would mean for Indigenous communities.

The *Touchstones of Hope* principles include self-determination, culture and language, holistic approach, structural intervention and non-discrimination. *Touchstones of Hope* participants work on these guiding principles themselves; it is a self-driven sustainable practice. The *Touchstones of Hope* toolkit is a workable resource that people can implement in their own communities.



THE PATH EXERCISE

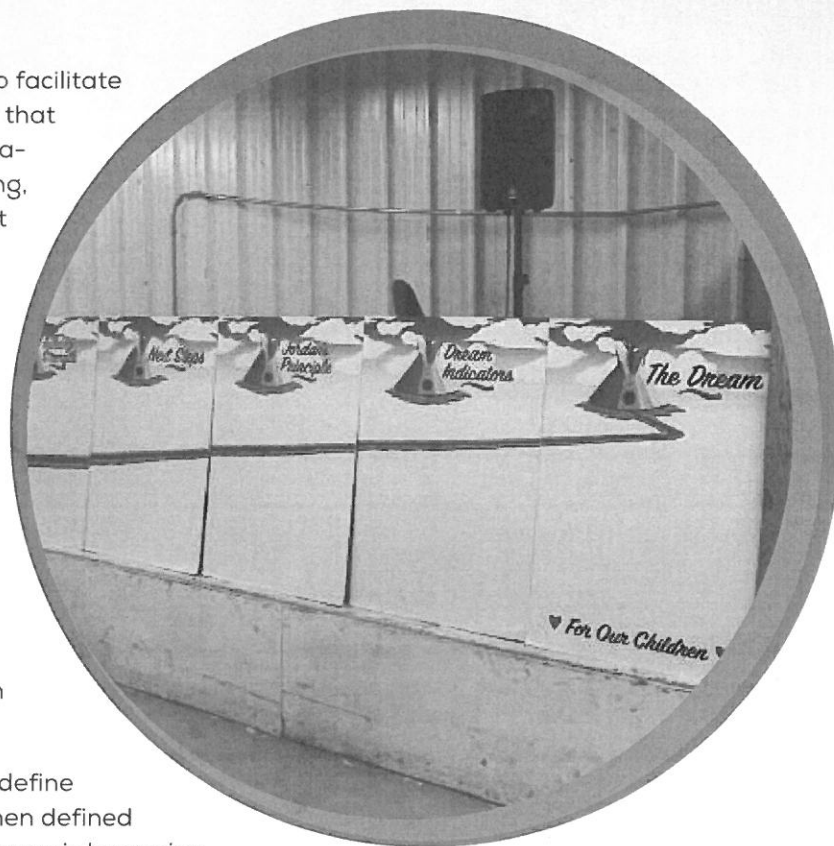
The PATH uses pictures and graphics to facilitate an alternative way of viewing what it is that participants want to achieve. It is a data-gathering tool that promotes storytelling, critical analysis and active engagement from participants. In the group process, participants discover ways to move toward a positive and possible goal by enrolling others, building strength and finding a workable strategy. The PATH process uses the following steps:

1. The dream
2. Dream indicators
3. Where are things now?
4. Who needs to enroll in the process?
5. Building strength to reach the dream
6. Short-term goals

Participants used the PATH process to define their dreams for FNCFS reform. They then defined first indicators that would show their dream is becoming a reality. With goals and goal benchmarks set, participants

“Ask your children about their dreams.”

then discussed their current state—where things are now. The next step in the PATH process involved defining who will need to enroll in order to achieve their dreams. Participants then defined how to build and sustain strength over time as they work towards achieving their dreams. The final step involved identifying short-term goals that will help them to realize their dreams for FNCFS reform.



ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

- Brochet
- Lac Brochet
- Skownan First Nation
- Rolling River First Nation
- Pine Creek First Nation
- Norway House Cree Nation
- Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation
- Split Lake Cree Nation
- Cross Lake Band of Indians
- Opaskwayak Cree Nation town hall
- Swan Lake First Nation
- Sandy Bay First Nation



- God's Lake First Nation
- Bloodvein First Nation
- Hollow Water First Nation
- Swan Lake First Nation
- Sayisi Dene First Nation
- Sakgeeng First Nation
- Fox Lake Cree Nation
- Long Plain, Dakota Tipi, Dakota Plains
- Youth

- Southern Authority
- Northern Authority
- Federal government
- Provincial government
- Winnipeg town hall
- Brandon town hall
- Thompson town hall
- Misipawistik Cree Nation

"It has been years since we sat in a circle as a community; we're grateful for the engagement session."

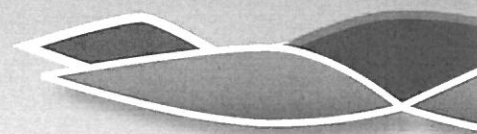
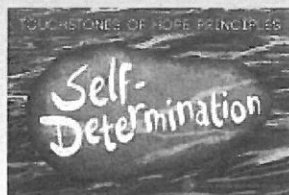


ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS

The project included the following engagement meetings:

- Chiefs Task Force on Child and Family Matters, including AMC First Nations Women's Committee
- Elders Gathering
- Grandmothers Council





PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

Data from both the *Touchstones of Hope* and PATH exercises is organized into the following categories.

- Holistic approach
- Structural interventions
- Non-discrimination
- Leadership, governance and self-determination, policies and laws and legislation
- Culture, language and traditions and traditional skill building
- Community-based programming and services, education and employment and training
- Sports and recreation, arts and music
- Housing, infrastructure and transportation
- Community relationships and connectedness
- Community healing and wellness, health and medicine (western model)



HOLISTIC APPROACH

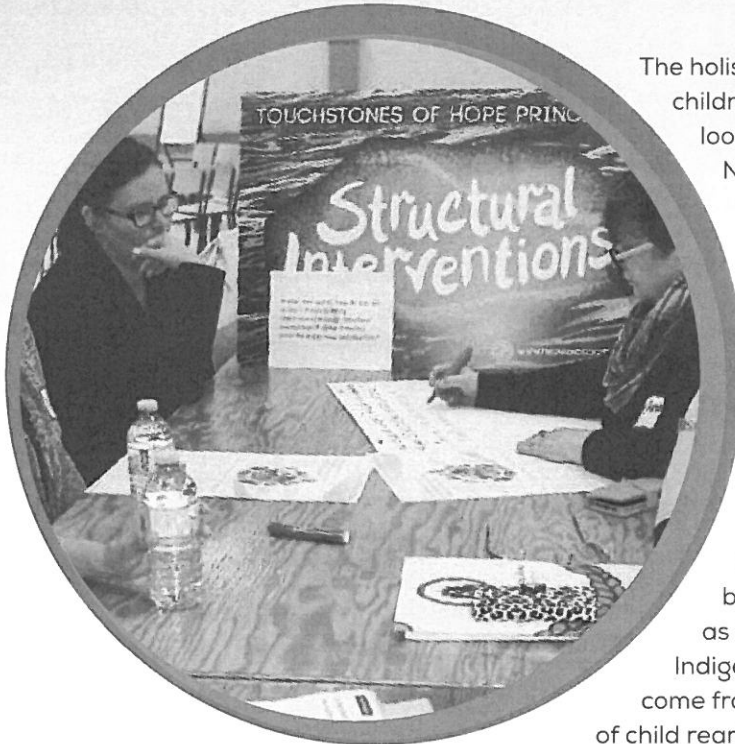
A holistic approach to FNCFS reform means involving the whole system, foregoing working in silos, to ensure government departments such as health, education, housing, finance and CFS, First Nation organizations, First Nation leadership and community members tasked with caring for

"Live as a community and work as a team."

First Nation children in CFS care in any capacity work together to achieve successful FNCFS reform. Involve the entire family (child, parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, Elders) to support the child

and family. It takes a community to raise a child. Additionally, reform options must include programs and services that meet the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual needs of the child.





The holistic approach to FNCFS reform means returning children to the center of our community and always looking after the needs of children first. First Nation citizens must learn about the cultural traditions and family roles practiced before colonization. There is a lack of good parenting in our communities. We must teach right from wrong, instilling discipline to raise and correct our children versus passing on the abusive parenting ways taught to generations of our children in residential schools.

Our Elders and traditional knowledge keepers will teach our children about their culture, language and identity. They will influence child upbringing and instill values and beliefs such as the central role of Grandmothers as caregivers. Our children will learn to respect Indigenous ways of life and value the teachings that come from living their Indigenous identities. Other forms of child rearing were forced upon Indigenous people, and now, family and community healing through our own ways must begin in order to undo years of damage caused by failed child-welfare policy.

A holistic approach must include client information sharing between CFS, education, justice, health professionals and First Nation support resources to ensure everybody tasked with caring for our children is fully informed about their needs.

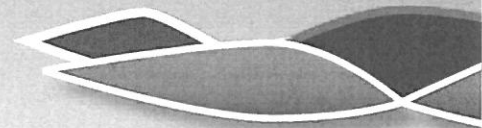
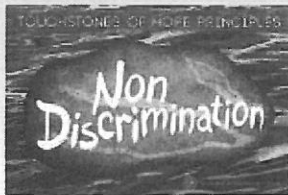


STRUCTURAL INTERVENTIONS

Structural intervention in the context of FNCFS reform means changing the ways in which the FNCFS Program is delivered.

The primary structural intervention in relation to FNCFS reform is reclaiming jurisdiction of our children. First Nations never conceded jurisdiction of our children. This was taken from us through years of purposeful, adversarial and invasive government Indigenous child welfare policies. First Nations must lead child-welfare reform with reform options informed, mandated, designed and implemented by First Nations and First Nation leadership and citizens. Reform options must include structures and policies that prioritize prevention and effort must be made to avoid apprehension at all costs. The current CFS system in Manitoba incentivizes child apprehension. This is no longer a viable model.

“Change must happen to ensure the existence of our future generations of First Nations. It was a great engagement session.”



Children returning to our communities must be provided ongoing mental health services and supports to address any trauma and abuse that led to apprehension, trauma and abuse suffered while in CFS care and trauma experienced due to family breakup. Children need mental health supports and services to help them integrate back into their First Nation successfully, especially after prolonged CFS apprehension. The family unit must be nurtured once a child returns.

Funding for prevention efforts must flow unfiltered to frontline workers and directly to the programs and services that support children. Prevention dollars must be used to suit each First Nation's unique needs; pre-described solutions do not work and will not work. First Nation citizens living on reserve must be trained to provide these programs and services.

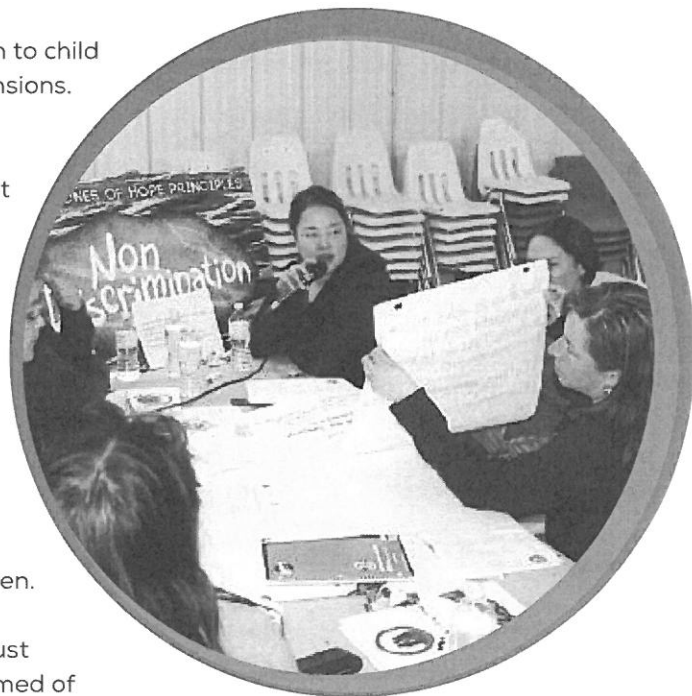


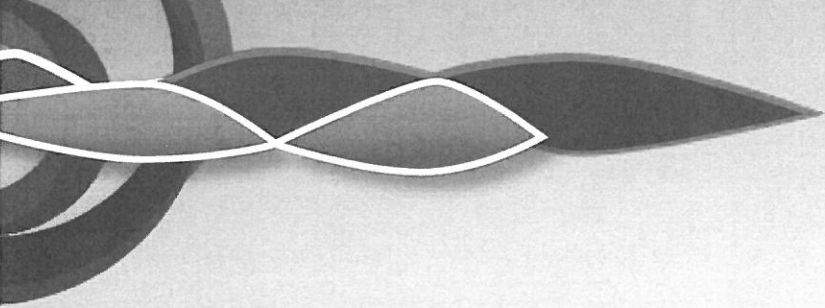
NON-DISCRIMINATION

One of the most discriminatory practice in relation to child welfare policies is intergenerational CFS apprehensions. Historical CFS involvement should never be used against an individual who grew up in CFS care. There exists a general prejudice against expectant mothers who have other children in care, who have had other children previously in care or who were previously in CFS care themselves. This prejudice reveals itself in the high number of birth alerts with at least one newborn seized by CFS every day.

Expectant mothers having any prior involvement with CFS are deemed unfit to parent without first assessing actual circumstances and current ability to provide healthy parenting and a safe home for their children. Many expectant mothers are not even aware of birth alerts for their newborn child. Birth alerts must be transparent; expectant mothers must be informed of the alert prior to giving birth. This gives the mother a chance to seek and access support services prior to giving birth to ensure their child remains with them or other family members and in their home communities. There must be a shift in policy from automatic apprehension to prevention and family restoration.

Child welfare agencies located on First Nations receive less funding than child welfare agencies located in municipal settings, even though the needs for child welfare on First Nations is greater. With JP implementation intimately connected to CFS reform, adequate medical supports and services must be provided for all children living on reserves, especially children with special needs, and federal and provincial government wrangling over who pays for medical supports and services must stop. The standards for the right to health care and child welfare services should not be lower because a child lives on reserve.





Voluntary placement of Indigenous children into CFS care to receive medical supports and services through the province is a human rights violation—just societies do not require parents, families and First Nations to surrender their children to strangers in order to receive these services. Non-Indigenous

“Let’s make Jordan’s Principle successful for the little boy Jordan who got this all started.”

children living in cities receive these same services without having to pay the enormous price of surrendering their children into CFS care. This is just one glaring example of discrimination against Indigenous children present in the current CFS system.

The CHRT ordered Canada to implement the full meaning and scope of JP—this includes providing equal funding for education and school programs for all First Nation children attending schools on reserve in comparison to the funding children receive while attending municipal schools. Additionally, there must be a government change in funding

to allow for K-12 First Nation schools. Many First Nation youth have no choice but to leave their communities in order to receive a high school education. Surrendering children into the care of strangers just to receive an education is a continuation of residential school policy. Indigenous children paid an enormous price in the form of loss of culture and language and disconnection from their family and First Nations while they attended school away from their homes in government instituted residential schools. Today, Indigenous youth attending high school away from their First Nations experience these same losses.

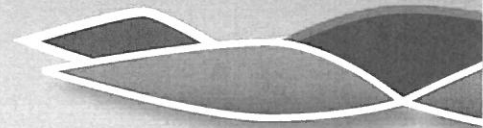


LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION, POLICIES AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION

Self-determination in relation to FNCFS reform means not having to convince any federal or provincial government what needs to be done in our First Nations or what is best for our First Nations. Self-determined Indigenous people will not have to fight government in order to live our Indigenous lives and will not have to fight government in order to have our voices heard. Guidance from government is acceptable; however, imposed federal and provincial laws or solutions must not supersede First-Nation-developed laws and protocols when considering FNCFS reform.

Honouring the original treaties, including returning lands, resource sharing and recognition of self-determination and the treaty right to health will remedy the inherent poverty found in First Nations. First Nations are not an economically poor people once Canada decides to honour their treaty obligations and repeal Indian Act legislation specifically designed to oppress First Nations. Having our own resources and being able to generate our own income will help us to create the systems and supports we need and desire. Independence from government-controlled funding is needed.

The TRC Calls to Action relating to child welfare have not been fully implemented; they must be addressed at a much quicker rate. Implement the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Child Welfare Initiative and Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry recommendations. The state of Indigenous child welfare today is a result of colonization and its policy for Indigenous people. Indigenous children, through government policy, have become commodities that feed several other systems besides the child welfare system, including the EIA, health and justice systems.

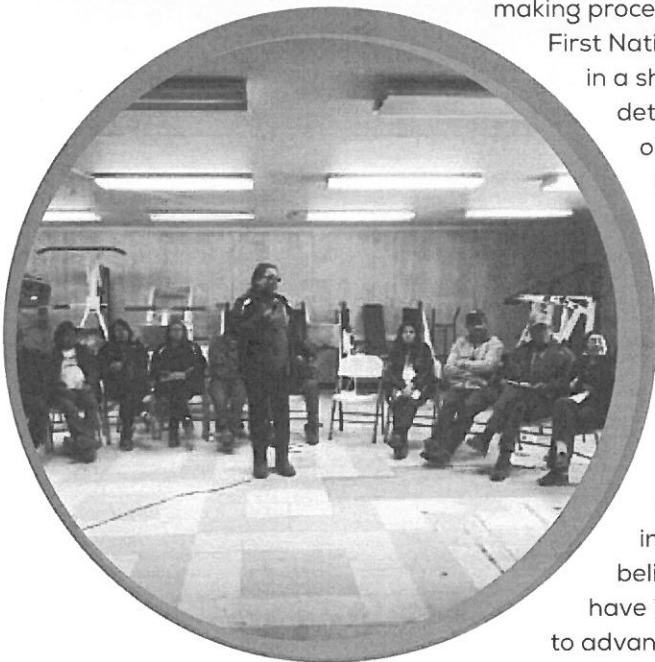


First Nation leadership must be involved in FNCFS reform decision-making processes, advocating for the programs and services First Nation children living on and off reserve require in a shared vision with First Nation citizens. Self-determination in FNCFS means reviving and creating our own systems that are free from government control—our Elder’s Council and our own justice system—and involves creating our own laws that directly relate to caring for our children. This includes areas such as family law, justice, health services and FNCFS.

Drafting FNCFS reform into First Nation constitutions is a step toward building the dream of self-determination in caring for our children. Self-determination allows us to create our own FNCFS policy that

incorporates our cultural beliefs, values and ethics. We have inherent rights that we need to advance to exercise jurisdiction of our children.

“Each child is a gift from the Creator.”



Self-determination in FNCFS reform involves decision making by the First Nation and between First Nation citizens, especially those citizens directly affected by current FNCFS policies. It must be a grassroots initiative. First Nations must establish our own FNCFS Act and develop our own FNCFS governing board that focuses on prevention. An ombudsman must be created to oversee all aspects of FNCFS. Promotion of these processes is a responsibility of First Nation leadership to their citizens. Success of FNCFS reform must be measured through an Indigenous perspective instead of a western perspective.

Indigenous people have lost our identities because of residential schools, the 60s scoop and non-kin foster care. Indigenous people must practice our own parenting values, culture and ethics; this is the basis for returning self-determination to child welfare. Strength will come from reclaiming our Indigenous identities and will help us take the lead in reforming FNCFS policies.

Current FNCFS policy undermines Indigenous ways of child rearing. Kinship or customary care, with healthy grandparents, Elders, extended family and community members taking central roles in caring for children, is a practice that past and current child-welfare policies have not embraced as a solution for caring for Indigenous children. Self-determination in the context of FNCFS reform means making a concerted effort to place children in CFS care with kin and in Indigenous foster homes and making efforts to keep children in their home First Nations so that they remain surrounded by their language, culture and family. Customary adoption must be implemented.

The western child-welfare policies and court processes have not worked. If parents or families are facing child apprehension, remove the court approach process, there is value in restorative justice



options to promote family reunification. If children must go into care, eliminate permanent custody laws—provide some hope for parents to start living healthy lives. Every one of our parents deserves the chance to have their children returned to them. Apprehended children must be returned to either their parents or extended family members—customary care must be implemented.

If children live in unsafe conditions, where parental fitness is questionable, remove the parents from the home, not the children. Study Misipawistik and Nisichawayasihk models. Adults can adapt to this change easier than children can—children require stability and familiar surroundings to thrive.

Remove external policies and standards developed by governments—something as simple as allowing children that are being apprehended to have their own personal belongings in a backpack is one small gesture that can minimize an unjust and cruel system. Create mechanisms to ensure false parental fitness accusations never result in child apprehension.

One notable issue on First Nations is the inability to certify First Nation citizens as foster parents because of prior police records. There must be a program in place to pardon police records to allow more First Nation citizens to qualify as foster parents provided reformation is established and police records are not related to child endangerment. Subsidies to complete pardon applications should be a part of this program.

Our youth in the justice system may benefit from proper diagnosis prior to being placed in the justice system. The justice system must be educated about children and young adults with special needs. It must respect and understand that certain behaviors and life situations arise that directly relate to their special needs. Additionally, youth in care often live difficult lives, the Gladue Report for child welfare must be considered when First Nation youth in care are involved with the justice system.

“Get involved with youth and give them a voice.”

The child welfare system should provide assistance and support to help keep First Nation families together and advocate for children and young adults instead of being so quick to apprehend children who simply need medical care or whose parents struggle with lack of employment opportunities and therefore poverty. Social assistance payments must reflect the needs and location of the community. Food prices are higher in most northern First Nations and limit First Nation access to healthy, quality food.

Voluntary surrender of First Nation children into CFS care just to access medical services and resources in cities is no longer a viable solution for children with special needs; there are too many Indigenous children unnecessarily surrendered into CFS care. This is a violation of human rights, and it is synonymous with residential school policy that stated in order for Indigenous children to receive an education they must be surrender into the control of strangers.



Make JP a law in Canada. Bureaucratic red tape between governments prevent children from receiving proper and timely care and should never be the reason a child's care is delayed or denied.

"Jordan's Principle is a much needed program; I'm so happy that it's here."

Children should have access to resources and services whether they live on or off reserve. Federal and provincial funding commitments must be shared equally, keeping families together by providing children with special needs access to medical services and supports on reserve. Provide children with special needs medical services and supports

throughout their lives; children with special needs become adults with special needs and care must continue beyond the age of 18 and throughout their lives.

Most First Nation citizens said, "They are doing what they can right now to support children with special needs with the limited resources available to them." However, with First Nation citizenship growing, the increase of children with special needs growing and funding dollars stagnant, their ability to meet the needs of their First Nation citizens is becoming unmanageable. Funding dollars for JP programs and services must begin to flow and funding must go directly to First Nations to implement the programs and services they know they need. However, some First Nations indicated they are already seeing many improvements in such a short amount of time since the JP Child First Initiative was announced.

Many First Nations expressed the need for more autonomy in terms of how government funding is spent and on what programs and services it is spent on, indicating that the data from these engagement sessions must have weight when First Nations begin implementing their plans for FNCFS reform. First Nations know their unique needs and have the creativity to meet those needs. Forum participants indicated that once autonomy in terms of funding is realized, this is when differences in First Nation capacity growth will be seen.

Our own First Nation citizens must be trained in all health, social services, justice and education professions serving in First Nations. First Nation citizens have a much better understanding of their First Nation's needs and possess a higher degree of cultural sensitivity and empathy because this is their lived reality, which allows them to offer the best possible care for Indigenous children.

The Manitoba CFS Act and all its policies and procedures must be examined to determine how it has created over 11,000 children in CFS care. First Nations expressed the need for a file audit of all FNCFS agencies.

First Nations who have Band Council Resolutions requiring removal of the parents from the home instead of removing children from the home indicate this program is successful. Family Enhancement Programs, where children apprehended by CFS go to foster homes in neighboring communities are also having positive outcomes. Children remain in familiar environments, avoiding moves to cities.





CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND TRADITIONS AND TRADITIONAL SKILL BUILDING

Instill in our First Nation citizens that we are not a defeated people—this includes teaching our citizens that our traditional ways of life still exist and have value. It means revitalizing our languages, teaching the relationship language has in forming identity and returning to our traditional teachings and ceremonies, including first rites of passage ceremonies for boys and girls.

A great effort was made through the residential school and 60s Scoop eras to eliminate Indigenous languages and culture; the same effort must be made to preserve, restore and promote Indigenous languages and culture. Our cultural teachings and languages must be practiced and taught at home and throughout the community and in schools, with programs and services established for children in their early learning years. Our children must be immersed in our ways just as our children were immersed in European ways during the residential school and 60s Scoop eras. This provides a good foundation for identity.

Additionally, Indigenous children who are placed in non-Indigenous foster homes have very few opportunities to learn or practice their culture and language. If non-Indigenous foster homes are the only option, exposure to Indigenous culture and language learning opportunities must be a priority.

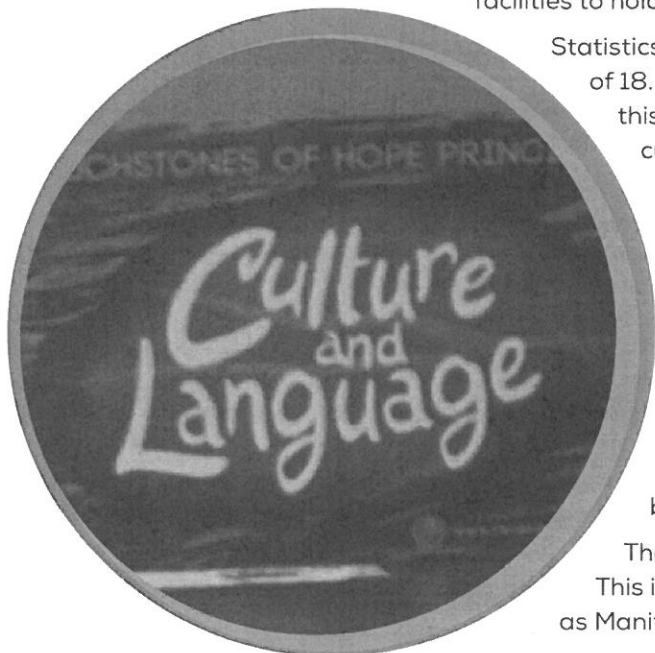
Revitalizing Indigenous culture and language requires adequate funding to develop language and cultural programming in our schools, on our First Nations and in urban centres, including cultural camps and Elder visits to schools, as well as adequate transportation to and from cultural activities and adequate facilities to hold events.

“We have strong Elders in our community who want to pass down the culture and language to the younger generation.”

Statistics show that half of the Indigenous population is under the age of 18. If funding for language and culture programs is prioritized, this represents a huge opportunity to revitalize Indigenous culture and language in generations of our children.

First Nation citizens must be educated about the impacts of the Indian Residential School System and the real-life influence these impacts have on how First Nation citizens parent today. First Nation citizens who lost their culture and language while attending residential school need to be re-taught traditional ways. We need to return to our roots of caring for and supporting one another. This includes relearning the roles of men, women, parents and children—values that were lost when family units were broken apart because of past child-welfare policy.

The dream for FNCFS reform is a zero apprehension rate. This involves reinstating the role of grandparents and Elders as Manitoba First Nations implement customary care. Rely on





grandparents and extended family to care for children when parents are not able to care for their children. Keep our families together. Providing more resources and support for families to keep children at home is the ideal solution in contrast to removing children from their homes, communities and everything familiar to them and placing them under the control of a system that most likely will not provide the nurturing that only kin can provide. If children have no grandparent support, create an "Adopt-a-Grandparent" program so no child or youth grows up without the unique support and love only grandparents can provide.

Cultural summer and winter camps to teach fishing, horseback riding, canoeing, berry picking, medicine picking, trapping, smoking and tanning hides and to provide access to sweat lodges on ceremonial sites will restore our children's identity. For children with mobility issues, build specially designed cabins, boats and snowmobiles to meet those needs so all children can participate in the cultural camps.

Provide cultural and traditional-care planning from prenatal to birth through a community-birthing centre and provide midwifery care to ensure mothers no longer have to leave their First Nation to give birth. Instead, mothers will be in their own homes, with their family members and surrounded by traditional family practices.

**"I want to see the dream;
I want to see the future
for our children."**

First Nation languages on reserve are still used and traditional culture is still practiced. Train fluent First Nation citizens for CFS advocacy roles and employ First Nation citizens for cultural roles to make good use of human resource personnel on reserve and create employment opportunities. Many First Nation citizens know how to use the resources provided by the land and these skills must be taught to successive generations. While traditional culture is still practiced on many First Nations, there is a need to build a permanent healing lodge and/or cultural centre on every First Nation to ensure traditional ways flourish.

Indigenous children surrendered into CFS care often experience culture shock, loss of identity, culture and language and disconnection from their family and First Nation. For those families who have been affected by child apprehension, it is imperative to work closely with the families and extended family members as a whole unit to create or recreate healthy family units.



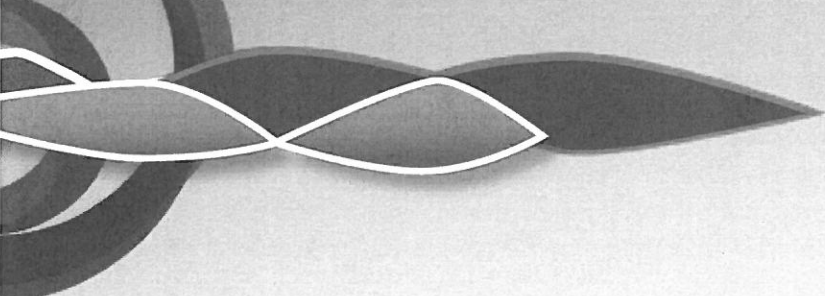
COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Community-based healing programs and land-based therapy will provide an opportunity for families to reconnect. Offer addictions awareness and mental health workshops.

Establish a 24-hour crisis centre or family centre where children can go if their home environment is unstable. Focus on providing resources for treatment of substance abuse, recreation facilities and parenting classes. Offer planned parenting classes and prenatal support through the centre and in high schools; teenage pregnancy is a reality in our communities.

Create a support network for youth suspended from school. Establish recreational programming to





keep youth occupied and provide life skills classes to empower our youth to make positive life choices. Offer babysitting and food handler certification. Create job placement opportunities, education opportunities and treatment options for our youth involved in the justice system. Involvement with the justice system at a young age should not relegate our youth to “hopeless case status.”

Provide supports for youth aging out of care. Many youth participants expressed the need for job training, life skills training, food assistance and housing assistance. Being raised in an institutionalized setting, often moved from group home to group home or foster parent home to foster parent home, does not provide youth with the necessary life skills or parenting skills needed to live successful adult lives. The age for CFS care should be raised to 25.



Identify personnel shortages in education, health, justice and social services and train First Nation citizens in these specialized fields to build capacity in First Nations. The education system and its institutions play a role in promoting and offering career and professional development options to ensure our community members become trained, qualified professionals, technicians, educational assistants etc. Find ways to encourage First Nation graduates to return to their First Nations to occupy these specialized fields. Creating a First Nations specialized resource pool and addressing lower salaries on reserve will assist in recruiting and retaining highly skilled and qualified professionals.

Non-Indigenous people working in child welfare working in our First Nations must have knowledge of First Nation cultural traditions and languages in order to provide the best service possible. Governments need to factor in culture and language requirements in education and training programs. The education curriculum must change to reflect Indigenous history, incorporate Indigenous values, culture and language and incorporate life skills training. For remote communities the need for online learning opportunities is essential, which requires reliable internet services and current computer technology.

There is an increase in mental health issues, ADD, FASD, ADHD and autism diagnoses in First Nation children. Diagnosing children early is critical in order to meet their needs with the appropriate

**“Excellent information.
Grateful to have this
program in our community
for children with disabilities.”**

resources and services and to assist them with the challenges they face. Currently, many First Nations do not have access to in-person psychologist visits to address the growing mental health issues on First Nations. This service is only available through Tele-health, and parents of children with mental health issues have stated Tele-health is ineffective in meeting their child’s needs.

Specialized education and training is needed for parents, foster parents and anyone who works with,



teaches and/or cares for our diagnosed children and youth to ensure they understand the best way to care for and interact with our children and youth. Creating a parent council in schools for parents with children with special needs and parental support groups will offer children with these diagnoses additional support to help them reach their full potential.

Schools must offer special education programs and services to assist children struggling with these diagnoses to ensure children receive an equitable education. Provide specialized teaching resources, materials and technology in daycares and schools in order to teach children with these diagnoses effectively. This includes computer access, specialized computer programs for the hearing impaired, Braille readers, sensory classes and sign language programs.

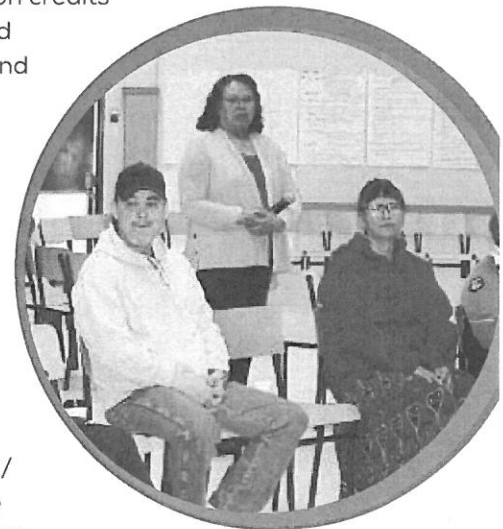
An education campaign, awareness training, social media campaign and resource guide would help community members, parents, foster parents, peers and teachers understand the needs of children with autism, ADD, ADHD and FASD. Currently, children with undiagnosed autism, ADD, ADHD and FASD disorders are being suspended from school, and they are not allowed to re-enroll because behavioral issues tied to their disorders are simply dismissed as rebellion or poor behavior.

An education campaign will promote understanding and encourage empathy for children with these diagnoses but will also assist caregivers and teachers in identifying these disorders in children. High school students could work with special needs children to earn education credits and create a culture of empathy within schools. This includes mentorship and apprenticeship training for young people to work alongside children, youth and adults living with special needs.

For JP implementation, an area directly tied to FNCFS reform, First Nations expressed concerns about accessing funding, whether it is because of JPI Program miscommunication, lack of proposal writing capacity, bureaucratic red tape or funding for medical supports, services and programs not flowing directly to First Nations and instead flowing to the rehab centre in Winnipeg. To realize the dream of JP implementation, funding dollars must flow directly to First Nations to implement the programs and services they need most. This means better communication about processes is needed and help in securing funding dollars is needed.

Many First Nations have positive community programs being developed and/or already operating, such as midwifery and parenting programs to educate parents on the effects of Indian Residential School. Generations of First Nation parents did not learn parenting skills while attending residential schools with the lack of parenting skills passed down to successive generations.

Prevention funding must flow directly and unfiltered to the support programs and services that support First Nation children. First Nations know their unique and specific needs; support them in meeting these needs. Foster homes located on reserve are a necessary prevention need.





SPORTS AND RECREATION, ARTS AND MUSIC

Every First nation expressed the need for a rehabilitation centre, family-oriented recreation centre, swimming pool, playground, Skate Park, sports field, theatre and a gym with proper equipment. Family culture camps, dance and art classes, drum groups and powwow singing are opportunities to introduce healthy activities into the family dynamic. A Big Brother or Big Sister program would provide mentorship opportunities for youth.

Subsidize extracurricular programs for First Nation children.

Organize culture camps, land-based learning, sports camps, family outings, youth groups, life skills programs—programs to keep children constructively occupied and that foster the parent-child relationship.

Additionally, parents of children with special needs are financially strained, and providing extracurricular activity is not possible in most instances. Providing some financial assistance in the form of subsidy will provide children with special needs opportunities to engage in fun, therapeutic and life-affirming activities.

Many First Nations listed numerous community events related to recreation, arts and music. There is no lack of ideas and First Nations are using the limited resources they have to offer their children, youth and all citizens life-affirming activities. It is imperative to support this creativity.

"I hope to see the Dream come true and reshape our community."

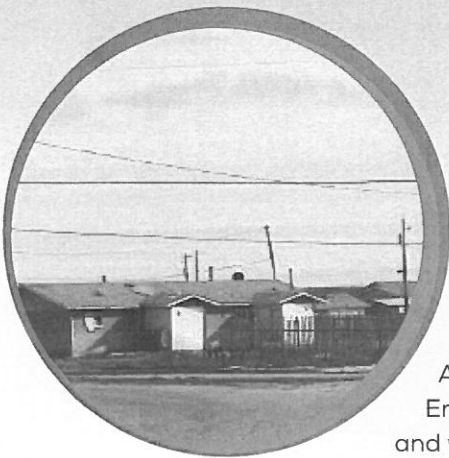


HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION

Housing on First nations is substandard with water, sewer and other public utilities unavailable in many First Nation homes. Addressing housing shortages, housing quality and water quality are critical infrastructure improvements needed on almost every First Nation. Medical issues arise from overcrowding, poor water quality and lack of sewer systems. First Nation children are apprehended by CFS due to housing shortages and lack of quality housing on reserves. Poverty should never be the reason a child is apprehended by CFS.

Addressing on-reserve housing issues also includes building retrofitted homes and group homes to meet the special medical needs for children covered under JP. Children must have access to special lifts at home, motorized wheelchairs and other equipment to improve quality of life and to ensure they are not surrendered into CFS care just to receive medical supports and services. Community buildings require better accessibility for children and First Nation members with mobility issues. This includes elevator access for multiple-floor buildings and wheelchair accessibility for all community buildings and school entrances.

Most First Nations lack basic infrastructure, such as paved roads and walkways and road maintenance, creating further mobility issues for children and youth with special needs that require specialized devices to assist with their mobility. Handi-transit public transportation and wheelchair accessible school buses are essential in providing children with special needs the freedom to live outside of the four walls of their home. Handi-transit would be available for children attending medical appointments, participating in programs and accessing services, including shopping and play outings.



Airports, ambulance service, fire prevention services, law enforcement and Emergency Medical Responders, cell phone and internet service, fire station and water truck services—basic services most municipalities have access to—are visibly absent in most First Nations

Establish a family healing centre on every First Nation, where families who need extra support can stay for short periods while they learn healthy family dynamics and parenting skills and heal from any past trauma. Establish crisis phone lines through the centre. With the rise of mental health issues on First Nations, 24-hour group homes, homeless shelters, housing for independent living for both youth and adults living with mental health issues are needed. Establish Bear Clan patrols in communities and announce youth missing on the radio—simple supports that will show our children that we care.

Establish a Habitat for Humanity program on First nations. It cannot be stressed enough that quality and sufficient housing is grossly inadequate. Families living in overcrowded and poor-quality housing become subject to CFS authority scrutiny. Poverty should never be the reason children are apprehended by CFS. Children removed from their homes by CFS due to poverty conditions receive more funding for their cost of living when placed in provincial foster care. It is an unjust system that penalizes First Nation parents for poverty while flowing funding to foster parents in municipal settings once children are apprehended by CFS.

Some First Nations have Healing Lodges; however, these need to be open 24 hours, which requires staffing capability.

Churches in some First Nations are empty most of the time. This represents an opportunity for First Nations to work with church clergy to find ways to utilize the building more efficiently, while building and strengthening this relationship.



COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTEDNESS

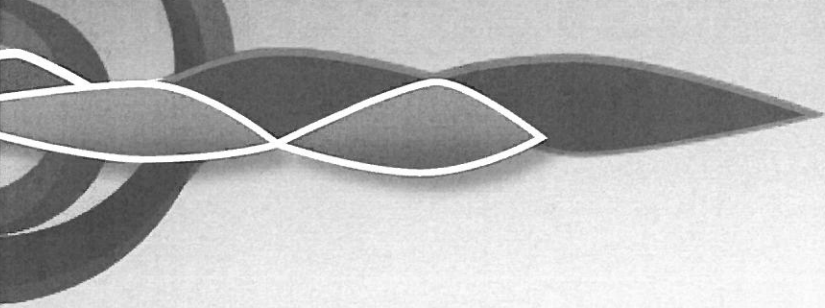
If our children do need to go into care, we nurture the parent-foster parent relationship, allowing children to see their parents often while in care. If multiple children from a family do need to go into care, we keep siblings together to maintain some form of family unit and provide emotional supports during those stressful times.

If parents need support, we support them. We nurture strength by teaching the traditional roles of men and women within the family and community and we teach them self-care. We do our best to remove alcohol and drugs from the family dynamic to keep our children safe. We teach parents that being at home and spending quality time with their children, playing and interacting with them, will build their children up and empower them. We teach proper parenting and provide discipline teachings for parents and young adults, where saying “no” and setting boundaries will not be viewed as wrong.

Reform for FNCFS must include working with families instead of against them. This includes early prevention measures and encouraging new mothers, prenatal care and in-home care and visits. This includes building trust at the individual and community level between CFS agencies and families. There

“Very informative. Keep up the good work! There is help out there; we just have to ask and research.”





exists a deep distrust of CFS that is inconsistent with an agency tasked with prevention and child welfare. Building this relationship means understanding and accepting peoples faults, while still offering support no matter how flawed their parenting skills are. The high number of birth alerts in Manitoba indicates this system is broken. The system incentivizes apprehension, while it should be incentivizing prevention.



The community of caregivers also includes foster parents and CFS workers and these relationships must be nurtured. Adversarial dynamics in child welfare create poor outcomes for our children, families and communities. CFS workers carry heavy caseloads that have been described as unmanageable. This personnel shortage must be addressed and caseloads must have a reasonable maximum. CFS workers require support from First Nation leadership, government, families and First Nation citizens, and they require collaboration with other departments such as health, education, justice and social services to their jobs properly.

Educate foster parents about caring for children with special needs. Provide resources to foster parents who care for children with special needs or those with disabilities affecting physical and developmental learning.

Caring for children with special needs requires community involvement. First Nations in close proximity to one another would benefit from yearly gatherings, where parents, caregivers and teachers who work with special needs children learn about caring for, teaching and supporting the children and where they can receive support themselves because sometimes caring for children with special needs can overwhelm an individual.

Caregivers for children with special needs are asking for help. First Nation parents with limited resources are fighting to keep their children at home and fighting to avoid voluntary placements of their children into CFS care in order to receive medical services. Funding for parents or caregivers for medical transportation, meals and support dollars—the same monies provided to foster parents if children are surrendered into municipal CFS care—must be directed to parents of children with special needs instead. Keep families together. Respite, homecare visits, home care medical training, counselling and community supports must be put in place to help parents in their fight to keep their children, understanding that sometimes, at home and surrounded by kin is the best environment for children regardless of less than perfect conditions.

Prevention must always supersede apprehension. Circle-of-Care models of care where the community, grandparents and extended family take care of children or help take care of children will help in preventing the high number of First Nation children voluntarily surrendered into CFS care to access medical services. Grandparents must have rights to the children in their families. If children must be placed into foster homes, information sharing between parents, grandparents and foster parents needs improvement.

Build community programs that unite First Nation citizens towards the common goal of meeting the immediate needs of

“Customary care will keep First Nation children with their families and communities and this will help preserve values and beliefs.”



the First Nations and their children. This includes programs to keep youth occupied such as cooking classes, building community gardens and chicken coops and developing a community freezer where traditional harvested food will help address the issue of food insecurity. Develop healthy snack programs in schools.

Community relationship and connectedness means building a safety net and support system for parents under CFS scrutiny. This requires reviving traditional practices such as customary care and creating Grandmother Councils in each First Nation, where the council will have active participation and ability to rightfully intervene and offer support services in all pending CFS apprehension orders. Apprehension orders must be transparent. Give parents and families a chance to seek and access help before any child apprehension occurs.

The foster care program presents numerous challenges for First Nation parents, and it must be reviewed. The foster parent-CFS agency-parent relationship must be improved. Foster parents have more parental rights than the biological parents. Often, biological parents are purposely denied access to their children, with parental visits often cancelled with no accountability for foster parents. If parents or families have concerns about the wellbeing of their children in care, there is no advocate available to help address their concerns. Parents require a CFS Advocate to help them navigate the system. This includes an advocate for grandparents, extended family and fathers struggling with the CFS system to gain parental rights to children.



COMMUNITY HEALING AND WELLNESS, HEALTH AND MEDICINE (WESTERN MODEL)

Northern isolated Manitoba First Nations are often the last to have access to services and resources, and many First Nations expressed concerns with cutbacks in FNIHB medical coverage.

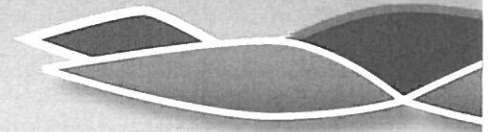
Protect the treaty right to medical services, which includes reevaluating services provided by FNIHB and addressing funding cuts by FNIHB. The first indication that the treaty right to medical services is being honoured is building medical facilities in every First Nation that include emergency medical services, medical labs, dialysis units and rehabilitation services and that are staffed with full-time medical professionals.

Proper and timely professional assessments are needed to offer early diagnosis and to understand and establish the needs of the child so they can access services quickly. Medical assessment teams and medical service providers coming into First Nations must visit First Nations more than once per week or twice per month; First Nations require full-time doctors and medical professionals.

Doctors are too quick to prescribe drugs for mental health issues instead of addressing the root cause, and too often, young people are not being properly diagnosed.

Provide children with special needs access to animal therapy programs and provide trained service animals to offer comfort, companionship and protection for the child.





COMMUNITY HEALING AND WELLNESS, HEALTH AND MEDICINE (WESTERN MODEL)

- Nurses
- Health care professionals
- Regional Health Authority
- Psychologists
- Doctors
- Facilitators for parents



SHORT-TERM GOALS

Participants identified short-term goals that will help them move towards successful FNCFS reform.

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION, POLICIES AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION

Create a CFS committee comprised of educators, leaders, service providers, Elders and youth and have monthly meetings, moving towards incorporating the FNCFS reform "Dream" into community planning. Assign responsibility to First Nation citizens to work towards implementing parts of "The Dream."

Develop a youth chief and council, parent council and Elder council to inform FNCFS reform options.

Start compiling data about each First Nation's child welfare needs and create a central database for this information, including children covered under JP.

Network and collaborate with other First Nations who have successful programs and services in place to gather ideas and best practices. Form a committee to oversee projects, programs and services. Gather a list of all funding agencies for different programs and services.

Collaborate with AMC, MKO and SCO in implementing FNCFS reform.

"Thank you for helping, encouraging and sharing ideas for the betterment of our children. Great informative workshop!"

CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND TRADITIONS AND TRADITIONAL SKILL BUILDING

Develop a holistic healing strategy built from First Nation culture and involving Elders for guidance and support. Use an existing facility for a Traditional Healing Centre until permanent structures can be built on all First Nations.

Establish mechanisms such as Grandmother Councils to implement kinship care on all First Nations. Current child welfare policy dismisses kinship care as a viable solution to the child welfare crisis on First Nations. There must be equal respect for traditional teaching and practitioners, including equal pay for traditional medical practitioners in comparison to western medical practitioners.

Create an Elders list and protocol and create a volunteer program for youth, where Elders work with youth to mentor, teach life skills and teach traditional parenting and traditional cultural practices.

Create an "Adopt-a-Grandparent" program to work with parent and families in caring for children and youth.



COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMMING AND SERVICES, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Start support groups and sharing and healing circles for parents with children in CFS care. Involve people with prior experience in dealing with the system, such as adults previously in care. The current CFS system can often times be adversarial and intimidating, and parents with children in CFS care need support as they navigate the system.

This requires providing education material and workshops to teach parents about their rights and to teach parents how to navigate the CFS system successfully as they move towards family reunification. Parents must be informed about CFS worker roles, responsibilities and limitations, as well as all CFS system laws and policies.

Identify the professionals needed on First Nations, educating First Nation citizens in these professions and then retaining First Nation post-secondary graduates to work in First Nations. Develop a statistics database to identify children with needs defined under JP and to identify children and parents who may need extra family support to mitigate CFS scrutiny, forecasting future program and services needs based on these statistics and implementing those programs and services needed.

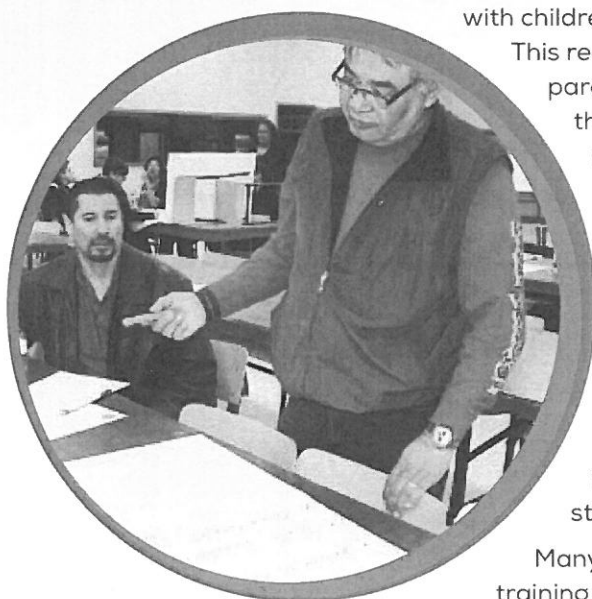
Many First Nations expressed the need for proposal writers and training in proposal writing. Effectively accessing funds and supports for community plans and programs can be hindered without this skill. Building this strength will provide First Nations opportunities to move to the next level in their community plans.

Begin planning for cultural camps, family and couple retreats, life skills programs, planned parenting and maternal health classes, parenting classes and support groups, addictions treatment services and designate a safe space for kids in existing community buildings.

Invite different facilitators to First Nations for train-the-trainer workshops and provide health care aid and home care worker training for First Nation citizens. Hold annual career fairs with professionally employed First Nation citizens who have completed their education and who are working in their career of choice—have them share their success stories. Provide youth and adults resume writing workshops and post-secondary education information sessions.

Re-establish a youth council and youth support network to find ways youth and youth with special needs can contribute to their First Nation. Create volunteer opportunities for youth to work with children, youth and adults with special needs. Provide life skills classes, such as cooking, budgeting and hands-on parenting, utilizing First Nation citizens to provide the services.

Establish an advocacy role for parents involved in the CFS system and community outreach worker for parents of children with special needs. Create awareness of individuals with disabilities—a campaign on acceptance and inclusion and create an education resource to inform parents of their rights and how to navigate the CFS system successfully.



COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTEDNESS

Participants expressed the need to create a newsletter to share information about the *Keewaywin* Engagement Sessions and its outcomes as Manitoba First Nations move towards FNCFS reform. The AMC FNFAO scheduled engagement sessions in 20 First Nations. While this was sufficient to gather data, it is not sufficient in terms of information sharing for the additional 43 First Nations advocated for under AMC. First Nations expressed the need for the engagement teams to return to their First Nations for follow up on engagement session outcomes. They also expressed the need to include the 43 other First Nations advocated for under AMC in engagement session planning.

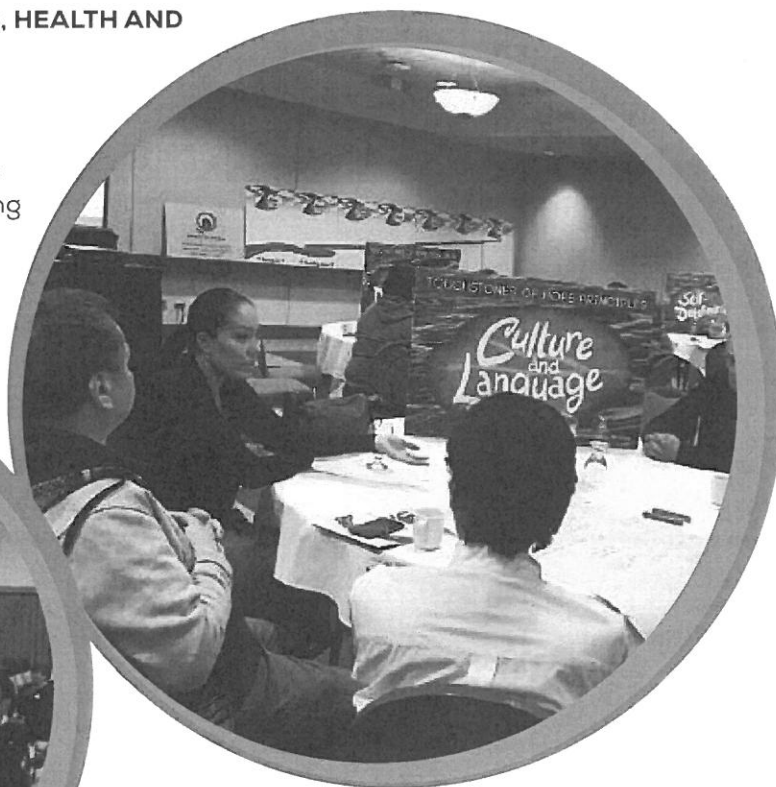
Build strong family foundations, defining the roles and responsibilities of men/women, family and community members with knowledge from Elders.

Hold annual volunteer appreciation award ceremonies and community feasts to honour volunteers.

Share the FNCFS Dream in schools and engage area municipality government in the PATH process.

COMMUNITY HEALING AND WELLNESS, HEALTH AND MEDICINE (WESTERN MODEL)

Spiritual services are needed in hospitals and health care centres 24 hours a day. Additionally, awareness campaigns about mental health wellness/emotional wellbeing can be provided in health centres and hospitals. Understanding these issues is the first step in tackling them.



RESULTS SUMMARY

Where are Things Now?

- ▶ Involve the Whole System-Forego Working in Silos
- ▶ Revitalize Cultural Traditions & Family Roles
- ▶ Reclaim Child Welfare Jurisdiction
- ▶ Focus on Prevention Rather than Apprehension
- ▶ Change FNCFS Funding Model that Incentivizes Apprehension
- ▶ Birth Alert Transparency
- ▶ End Discriminatory Newborn Apprehension
- ▶ Communication Campaign for FNCFS Reform Issues
- ▶ Traditional Healing Lodges
- ▶ Culture & Language Camps
- ▶ No Loss of our Children Due to Inability to Access Health Services & Supports in First Nations

Short-term Immediate Actions

- ▶ Create Elder's List & Protocol
- ▶ Begin Planning Cultural Camps
- ▶ Study Misipawistik & Nisichawayasihk First Nation FNCFS Models
- ▶ Establish Grandmother Councils on Every First Nation
- ▶ Incorporate the FNCFS Dream in Community Planning
- ▶ Network & Collaborate With Other First Nations Successfully Implementing FNCFS Reform and JP Implementation
- ▶ Proposal Writing & Applying for Jordan's Principle Funding
- ▶ Establish CFS Advocates on Each First Nation
- ▶ Awareness Campaigns of Autism, ADHD & FASD
- ▶ Midwifery Programs
- ▶ Increased Annual Funding for Recreation, Sports, Arts & Music Programs
- ▶ Parenting Programs
- ▶ Prenatal Support Programs
- ▶ Establish Customary/Kinship Care
- ▶ Empowering & Encouraging Youth, Building on their Gifts Through Sports
- ▶ Elder & Youth Mentorship Program
- ▶ Develop Community Gardens & Freezers to Address Food Insecurity
- ▶ Develop Music Therapy & Animal Therapy Programs on First Nations

RESPECT

Community Relationships and Connectedness

Sports, Recreation, Arts & Music

HUMILITY

HONESTY

- ▶ Establish K-12 Schools on Every First Nation
- ▶ Making Jordan's Principle Law in Canada & Drafting Jordan's Principal & FNCFS Reform into First Nations Constitutions
- ▶ Honour Original Treaties & Repeal Indian Act
- ▶ Revitalize Indigenous Language & Culture



OUR GOAL

**Indigenous Children Will
Be Living With Dignity
And Respect When...**

LOVE

**Leadership, Governance
& Self-determination,
Policies, Laws &
Legislation**



**Housing,
Infrastructure &
Transportation**

COURAGE

TRUTH

**Community
Healing &
Wellness, Health
& Medicine
(Western Model)**

WISDOM

**Community-based
Programming & Services,
Education, Employment and
Training**

**RED
ROAD
TO
HEALING**

- ▶ Resource Sharing & Recognition of Self-Determination
- ▶ 24-Hour Crisis Centre
- ▶ Change Education Curriculum to Reflect to Reflect Indigenous History
- ▶ Community Members Certified in Various Health Fields and Specializations
- ▶ Raise CFS Care to Age 25

- ▶ Independent Housing
- ▶ Jordan's Principle Centre of Excellence
- ▶ Develop First Nation Laws & Protocols for FNCFS Reform
- ▶ Develop FNCFS Governing Board & Create an Ombudsman
- ▶ Revive & Create Our Own Systems i.e. Family Law, Justice, Health & CFS
- ▶ Creation of First Nations Specialized Resource Pool & Addressing On/Off Reserve Salary Gaps
- ▶ Permanent Federal Government Funding for Jordan's Principal Child First Initiative
- ▶ Infrastructure in Every First Nation to House Programs & Services Offered Through Jordan's Principle Child First Initiative
- ▶ Infrastructure in Every First Nation to Remedy Substandard Housing & Minimize Child Apprehension Due to Poverty



CONCLUSIONS

The staggering numbers of Indigenous children in CFS care indicates a failing FNCFS system whose preference, it appears, is the easy solution of child apprehension, rather than the more difficult and costly solutions needed to prevent child apprehension at all costs.

Children born into poverty, children with complex medical needs and children whose parents have had prior involvement with CFS are often apprehended first. In Manitoba, 76 percent of children on reserve live below the poverty line. This indicates poverty is one root cause for the high numbers of Indigenous children in CFS care.

Honouring the original treaties, including returning lands, resource sharing and recognition of self-determination and the treaty right to health will remedy the inherent poverty found in First Nations.

The high number of children in CFS care may be due to, in part, a system that incentivizes apprehension. Higher numbers of children in care translates into increased funding dollars. This may create a conflict of interest for agencies tasked with both child apprehension and prevention.

The high number of Indigenous children in CFS care is symptomatic of years of failed provincial and federal child welfare policies that have denied Indigenous people the right to care for our own children for far too long and that have caused irreparable harm in First Nations and to family units. Western child-welfare policies have not worked and do not work.

The state of Indigenous child welfare today is a result of colonization and its policy for Indigenous people. Indigenous children have become commodities that feed several other systems besides the child welfare system, including the EIA, health and justice systems.

Practicing our own parenting values, culture and ethics and enacting our own child protection laws provide the basis for reclaiming self-determination in caring for our children. Customary care practices will ensure our children stay with their families and remain connected to their language and culture.

Federal funding dollars for First Nations is inadequate. Education quality, health services quality and availability, recreation, cultural and social program quality and availability and community infrastructure suffer as a result. This amounts to discrimination, the outcome of which is higher rates of poverty and increased child apprehension rates.

The TRC Calls to Action relating to child welfare, the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Child Welfare Initiative and the Phoenix Sinclair Inquiry recommendations must be implemented at a quicker rate.

An adversarial relationship exists between First Nation parents and the child welfare entity. This may be due, in part, to past and present child-welfare policy that never was completely altruistic.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Restore First Nation jurisdiction of children.
2. Deconstruct a child welfare system whose preference is the easy solution of child apprehension, rather than the more difficult solutions needed to prevent child apprehension at all costs.
3. Provide basic human rights to Indigenous children and families living on reserve in terms of adequate housing, medical services, community resources and education and employment opportunities.
4. Establish customary care/kinship care in all communities to ensure Indigenous children in need of CFS protection stay with their families and in their communities.
5. Establish a Grandmothers Council in each community to take an active role in FNCFS reform and in implementing and guiding development of customary/kinship care.
6. Restore traditional culture practices and language in our families and communities
7. Change justice system practices to include restorative justice options.
8. Eliminate poverty on reserves to prevent, in part, the high numbers of Indigenous children in CFS care.
9. Inject infrastructure funding for all First Nation communities –poverty is one root cause for the high number of Indigenous in care.
10. Design a new funding model to support a model of care based on prevention, reunification and strengthening of families.
11. Funnel prevention dollars towards bodies independent of the CFS system to minimize any real or perceived conflict of interest in agencies tasked with both child apprehension and child protection.
12. Direct prevention funding dollars to Manitoba First Nations, rather than to agencies, to allow communities to build their visions for child welfare that focus on models of care based on prevention, reunification and strengthening of families.
13. First Nations must take the lead in designing and implementing a system based on First Nation original systems of child rearing, education and nurturing of spirit in order to break cycles of past failed child-welfare policy and to restore spiritual, physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.
14. Develop a range of First-Nation-led options to reform FNCFS using recommendations contained in this report.



APPENDIX A — BOCH REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Change funding models to support a model of care based on prevention and strengthening and reunification of families, rather than apprehension.
 - Reunification and strengthening of families is the first priority for CFS with the understanding that child safety is paramount. Only once all alternatives have been exhausted will any removal from extended family and community be considered.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish an immediate end to the CFS system as it currently functions.
 - Reorganize the Leadership Council with equitable decision-making at the table, with 80 percent First Nations representation at the decision-making table to reflect the proportion of First Nations children and families currently impacted by the system.
 - Establish a Youth Advisory Council within each of the existing Authorities to advise on policy change, system enhancements and decision making to ensure youth needs are met.
 - Change funding models to support a model of care focused on prevention.
2. Establish a First Nations advocate for families to:
 - Ensure children are not placed in care for experiencing unique needs due to medical, behavioral or mental health reasons;
 - Ensure children who have been through traumatic experiences receive full supports for a minimum of one year before any consideration of Voluntary Placement Agreements with CFS agencies;
 - Advocate for children and families to receive other services within and external to the community;
 - Ensure family reunification by providing guidance and support to parents on their healing path; and
 - Ensure access to healing supports for children and other family members to deal with CFS system involvement and to help support families to move forward together.
 3. Protect cultural identity
 - Engage Elders, Grandmothers and youth to further define the First Nations Rights of the Child and determine the best methods to reach out to children.
 - Direct every organization, school, youth initiative, community program, as well as all services and supports provided to First Nations children, youth and families to respect and uphold the First Nations Rights of the Child as determined by our Elders, Grandmothers and youth.

4. Relearn traditional parenting ways

- Uphold Ogitchitakwewak Kaykikaywin and the role of the Ogitchitakweg and support the establishment of a formal Grandmothers Council that will reclaim these important roles and share the teachings with every First Nation community.
- All First Nations members take back responsibility for teaching our children, youth, young mothers, young fathers and parents to care for all children based on original ways.
- This effort will require planning, development and coordination of appropriate activities within our communities to support families in reclaiming responsibility for our children and learning our original ways of parenting that are focused on protecting and loving our children.

5. Respond to the youth voice

- The AMC and Manitoba First Nations Youth Advisory Committee carry out consultation with young people to identify ways to meet their spiritual, emotional, physical, mental, social and environment needs.
- Every First Nation bring together community-based resources including leadership, Elders, Grandmothers, Education, Social Assistance, Housing and Child Welfare to explore alternatives for young people in the community that will meet the needs identified and focus on collaboration, resource sharing, communication and volunteering.

6. Promote First Nations solutions to keep children home

- Mandate authorities and agencies to develop new service-delivery models such as Customary Care, Receiving Homes and Family Healing Homes to ensure children remain in the community. These will focus on culture and identity, family access, education, social networks, connectivity and regular visits with parents, grandparents, extended family and siblings.

7. Transition to a First Nation system for CFS

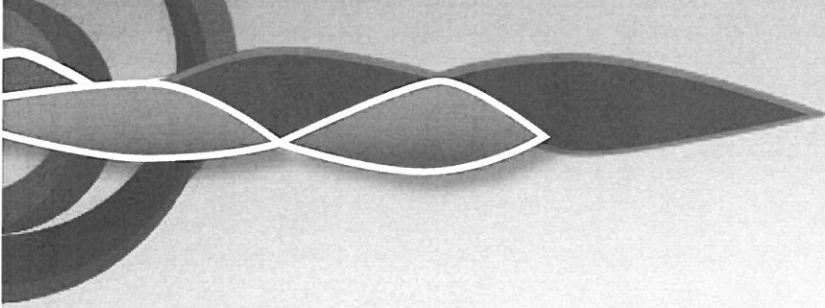
- That the Grand Chief meet with the University of Manitoba President to support the Indigenous Social Work program according to initiatives being proposed by Michael Hart (University of Manitoba professor, Canada research Chair in Social Work and Indigenous Knowledge) and by the Aboriginal Social Workers organizations.
- Support the establishment of the College of Aboriginal Social Workers to ensure the Social Work Profession Act reflects First Nations perspectives, beliefs, values and practices in the Code of Ethics adopted.

8. Revitalize original systems of lifelong supports

SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

- The AMC facilitates all existing resources to come together with the guidance and support of Elders and Grandmothers to plan, develop and implement collaborative supports that will help parents and children to meet their spiritual, emotional, physical and mental health needs, such as:



- 
- FAS prevention and support;
 - Mental Wellness services and support;
 - Family/community supports in the home so parents can focus on healing after losing their children;
 - Land-based education and family services; and
 - Long-term programs for Indian Residential School, 60s Scoop and intergenerational survivors that include healing, coping and reconnection with self, family, community and culture.

MID-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

- The AMC work with CFS agencies to ensure all policies and practices reflect the importance of family connections. This will require collaboration between community-based project and redirection of Enhancement Funds to orient and support such collaboration.

LONG-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

- The AMC and First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba work on establishing healing centre hubs, building on the Grandmother Turtle Lodge so that every community has access to cultural healing interventions.

9. Focus on First Nation determinants of health

- First Nations leadership adapt housing policies to meet family reunification needs first and to keep children in the community.
- Support the expansion of the Eagle Urban Transition Centre to include supports for youth and families involved with CFS and to establish an Eagle Urban Transition Centre in Northern Manitoba inclusive of all services.

10. Revolutionize justice system practices

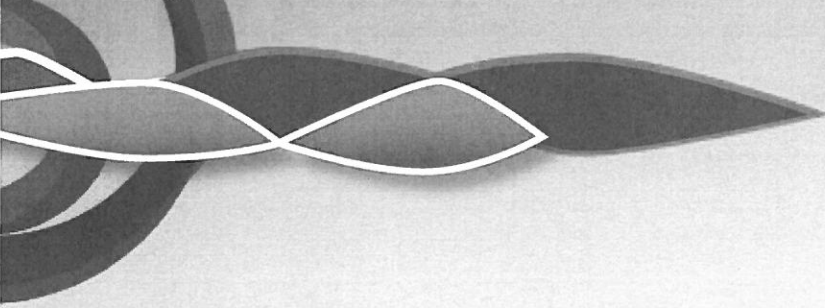
- Examine legislation such as in Ontario, which recognizes Customary Care by First Nations in their CFS Act and Saskatchewan to see how it is working and how it is supporting communities to reclaim responsibility for their children and prepare options for leadership to pursue.
- The AMC collaborate with the University of Manitoba Centre for Human Rights Research and evaluate the legal aid system in relation to the services provided to First Nations clients dealing with CFS.

APPENDIX B — JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE FORUM— FIRST NATIONS DESIGNING FULL IMPLEMENTATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. First Nations must undertake further discussions, especially to obtain feedback and input from families, on the design and full implementation of JP by building upon findings outlined in this report, including:
 - Report guidelines and principles, as well as service and capacity needs;
 - Options for service organizations able to manage an added mandate to fill service gaps on an immediate or short-term basis, including creation of boards;
 - Different perspectives on the need to create a new First Nations entity designed to implement JP;
 - Further discussions on Interdepartmental relationships within First Nations and with provincial and federal governments, as well as on interjurisdictional relationships are required because they are dependent upon what governance and service delivery of JP implementation looks like. Key features of these relationships provided in this report can be considered and built upon in those discussions; and
 - Payment, billing, and funding matters require further discussion because they too are dependent upon what governance and service delivery of JP implementation looks like. Key features of these relationships can be considered and built upon. This includes reviewing existing funding models of INAC and FNIHB, developing First Nations financial institutions and channeling funds in our control, establishing an aggregate funding entity, developing a First Nations centralized JP finance system and developing a First Nations compliance policy to align with JP.
2. Northern service delivery opportunities and specific concerns from Island Lake First Nations are considered and addressed in JP implementation.
3. First Nations immediate political action regarding the majority of federal funding going to RCC based on contravention of First Nations fundamental vision of full JP implementation.
4. Opportunities for First Nations to revise their proposals under the JP-CFI Initiative.
5. Addressing services gaps and the need for full JP implementation requires an understanding of the inextricable connection between services and infrastructure (including facilities, equipment and supplies).



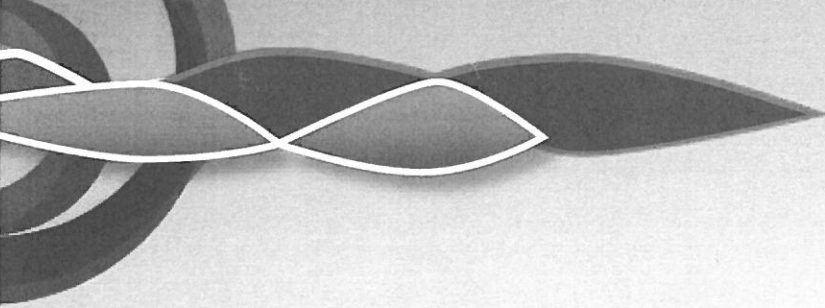
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6. Recognize First Nations capacity strengths and that they are critical elements in JP implementation. Capacity that is lacking should not signify an inability to implement JP but should instead be viewed as an opportunity for governments to address gaps and make necessary investments for the full realization of First Nations' capabilities.
 7. That INAC, FNIHB and other key resources be a part of further discussions to provide answers for our concerns. This could be particularly helpful in addressing third party management and co-management issues.
 8. That AMC make this report and all other pertinent information available to all First Nations communities and provide ongoing sessions until First Nations funds are realized.

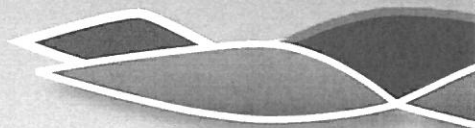
APPENDIX C —

JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Restore First Nations' jurisdiction of children, especially in areas such as family law, health services and social services, and draft JP implementation into First Nation constitutions.
2. Deconstruct a child welfare system whose preference is the easy solution of child apprehension, rather than the more difficult and costly solutions needed to prevent child apprehension at all costs.
3. Establish a JP resource, program and service medical centre in each First Nation to build capacity and to equip First Nations as they seek to end voluntary surrender of children into CFS care related to receipt of medical services.
4. First Nations take the lead in designing and implementing a JP system based on First Nation original systems of child rearing, education and nurturing of spirit in order to promote spiritual, physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.
5. Educate and train First Nation people living on First Nations, establishing a professional workforce dedicated to caring for and providing services for children with special needs. Until this capacity is built, ensure non-Indigenous service providers have knowledge of First Nation cultural practices and languages.
6. Create an education and awareness campaign about the challenges children with special needs face and how to best care for them and create a resource booklet outlining how to navigate the CFS system and access supports and services under the JP program.
7. Provide basic human rights to Indigenous children and families living on reserve in terms of adequate housing, medical services, resources and education and employment opportunities.
8. Inject infrastructure funding for all First Nations—poverty is one root cause for the high number of Indigenous children in care.
9. Funnel prevention dollars towards bodies independent of the CFS system to minimize any real or perceived conflict of interest in agencies tasked with both child apprehension and child protection.
10. Design a new funding model to support a model of care based on prevention, reunification and strengthening of families, directing prevention funding dollars to Manitoba First Nations, rather than to agencies, to allow First Nations to build their visions for JP implementation.



- 
11. Establish customary care/kinship care in all First Nations to ensure Indigenous children stay with their families and in their First Nations.
 12. Develop a range of First-Nation-led options to implement JP using recommendations contained in this report.





Asinowung Bijiweung
First Nations
Family Advocate Office
"Bringing Our Children Home"

First Nations Family Advocate

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firstnationsfamilyadvocate.com



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

This is exhibit " C " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 20 18

Notary Public



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



March 6th, 2018

The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, M.D., P.C., M.P.
Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
10 Wellington Street, 21st floor
Gatineau QC K1A 0H4

Dear Minister Bennett:

The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (National Inquiry) is requesting that you approve the revision of the Terms of Reference to grant an extension of 24 months and the submission of the Final Report on November 1, 2020. We are asking the federal government for additional funding up to \$50 million. If the extension is approved we will work with government officials to fine-tune the amount needed.

We firmly believe that an additional two years is required to do justice to our critically important mandate in a trauma-informed and culturally appropriate way that demonstrates the importance of engagement. We have heard from many families and survivors who have been able to share their truths and be heard in the safe space the National Inquiry created, a space not traditionally held by Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals. We encourage Canada to support the healing of families and survivors and their engagement in our processes.

We have expended a significant effort in the past year and a half responding to the needs and expectations of families, survivors and communities, and holding Community Hearings in a manner that draws out strong evidence and promotes healing. Without an extension, the number of stories the National Inquiry will receive from families and survivors will be limited and not every person who wants to share their truth will be heard. There are 630 families and survivors who have registered to share their truths with us who have not yet been heard. It is important to emphasize that as time passes this number increases. Moreover, the sheer number of First Nation, Inuit, Métis and urban Indigenous communities challenges our ability to hear the voices of those who want to share their truth with us and whose voices will be lost and silenced.

The additional time would ensure that all families and survivors who wish to talk to the Commissioners or to a Statement Gatherer can do so and that their recommendations for change could be considered for inclusion in our Final Report. It will also allow us time to more thoroughly engage with 2SLGBTQ people and to reach vulnerable Indigenous women and girls including those who are incarcerated, homeless and trafficked.

Time and resource constraints make it challenging for us to collect the comprehensive and in-depth evidence essential to our mandate. It has been difficult to obtain critical regional institutional and expert evidence, conduct the expansive research needed and hold additional Hearings, roundtables and colloquia that would yield valuable information.

As is often common with commissions of inquiry we faced many unforeseen challenges. We tried to hit the ground running and underestimated the infrastructure and resources required. There are several key expenditures that were not included in government's original costing and as a result we are projecting a deficit for the next fiscal year. We are working with government to find solutions to such challenges.



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



Our aim is to produce a Final Report that, amongst other things:

- fills critical knowledge gaps, highlights the realities of Inuit, Métis, First Nations women and girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals that have previously been ignored, and creates a living legacy of their contributions and wisdom;
- serves as a tool to support self-determination and reconciliation; and
- makes recommendations that all levels of government can adopt.

What We Have Accomplished

The National Inquiry provides a strong national platform and a safe space for Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals to share their truths in a meaningful and inclusive way. As of March 2, 2018, the National Inquiry has held 11 Community Hearings, 5 Statement Gathering events across the country and one Expert Hearing. We have heard from 763 witnesses. We have held 134 public hearings, 103 in-camera hearings and our team of Statement Gatherers has collected an additional 276 statements. We have received 45 Artistic expressions.

The public testimonies are live streamed on social media and through media outlets and are available in both of Canada's official languages. This access increases the awareness of and educates the public about the issues that are at the core of our mandate and the realities facing Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals. We will explore other ways of engaging with the public to inspire empathy with Indigenous women and girls and understanding of their strength and resilience. We will distribute broadly the public recordings of hearings and reach out to media outlets to work with them on possible primetime programming.

To hear as many perspectives as possible, we continue to meet with Elders, survivors, families, coalitions and Indigenous leadership across the country. We hold regular calls and meetings with NFAC. NFAC is comprised of advocates for missing or murdered loved ones and survivors who come from diverse nations, regions and communities across the country. They are critical partners who guide us in our work.

It is imperative that our work and recommendations be informed by the perspectives of the Inuit, the Métis and Indigenous women and girls living in Québec. Our work as it relates to the Inuit is guided by our Inuit staff and two high-profile Inuit Advisors. An Inuit Advisory Committee, with participants from the regions of Inuit Nunangat as well as Inuit living in urban centers, is being convened and will be available to us during the current mandate. A Métis Advisory Committee is being established and will be available to us during the current mandate so that we can meaningfully and proactively engage with and learn from Métis, Elders and Youth. Equally important is to have the experiences of Indigenous women and girls living in Québec. Our work as it pertains to them is supported by our Indigenous staff living in Québec and a Québec Advisory Committee that will be available to guide us during our current mandate. However, our ability to obtain the maximum benefit from the guidance of these Advisory Committees is limited by the timeframe of our current mandate.

Limitations of the Current Mandate

We are committed to fulfilling our mandate in a manner that will lead to effective recommendations. However, the current mandate does not allow for the intensity of engagement required to get the outcomes the National Inquiry is looking for.

Our Women and Girls are Sacred / Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



Without an extension, the evidence the National Inquiry collects will be curtailed. There are hundreds of families and survivors registered to testify who we will not be able to hear from including Indigenous women and girls who are incarcerated, homeless, involved in the sex trade, being trafficked or are living in violent circumstances.

The current mandate restricts our ability to be inclusive and engage fully with the Métis, Youth, 2SLGBTQ individuals and French-speaking Indigenous women and girls living in Québec whose input would contribute to more all-encompassing recommendations.

Regional Institutional and Expert hearings will not be possible and therefore will limit the availability of information on topics such as policing, criminal justice, healthcare, addictions, child welfare, victim services, education, coroners and the media. A small number of Institutional and Expert Hearings will take place on subjects such as human rights and racism and two National Institutional Hearings on policing and government policy and services will be held. Consequently opportunities to identify regionally based systemic problems and barriers attributable to the division of legislative powers in Canada will be lost

Work has begun to create a forensic file review team to conduct an analytic audit of a representative sample of police files, court and prosecution files. Its mandate is to identify systemic problems and areas of weakness and make recommendations to improve investigations, outcomes and relationships between police, prosecution and families and survivors. The team will begin its work during our current mandate, but the number of files it will review will be limited weakening its findings and proposals.

Our research team will not be able to commission new projects or conduct original research. Many of the reports listed in the Terms of Reference are dated or lack a gendered perspective or Indigenous knowledge; relying too heavily on them will lessen the value of our work. Moreover, they lack a distinctions-based lens, which has resulted in gaps as they relate to Inuit and Métis women and girls as well as the experiences of Indigenous women and girls living in Québec.

The National Inquiry has recently begun to enter data and records into our electronic document management system. Additional time would allow for the collection of a greater volume and diversity of records and data that would be entered into this document management system enhancing our ability to conduct more robust analysis and evidence based reports.

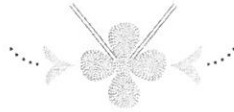
The Need for an Extension

If granted an extension the National Inquiry will hold additional Community Hearings and statement gathering activities in a number of regions where currently we lack a presence and where an urgent demand exists. For example a coalition of five Toronto-based Indigenous organizations has requested that a Community Hearing be held in Toronto. We understand that the Coalition is aware of about 50 cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in the Greater Toronto Area.

The National Inquiry will be able to reach out to vulnerable populations whose perspectives are necessary to the fulfillment of our mandate, for example incarcerated Indigenous women and girls. We will reach out to organizations such as the Elizabeth Fry Society to help gather their truths and with the cooperation from Correctional Service of Canada, we hope to hold a Community Hearing in a women's penitentiary. A mandate extension will give us the time to establish advisory bodies involving Indigenous youth and 2SLGBTQ individuals.



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



An extension will allow us to hold four additional National Institutional Hearings, four additional National Expert Hearings and ten to 13 Regional Institutional Hearings. These additional hearings will enable us to explore issues that include human trafficking and sexual exploitation, institutionalization of Indigenous women and girls, and the provision and availability of health care and addiction services. Regional Institutional and Expert Hearings would capture regional and distinctions based specificities with respect to the causes of violence and solutions required to end that violence.

Because the Inquiry is national in scope, its research needs to reflect the cultural and regional diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, perspectives and experiences. With a two year extension the National Inquiry will commission external experts to conduct research projects, called Avenues of Investigation, which focus on the experiences of Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals and their strength.

These commissioned Avenues of Investigation will be on the topics of: *The Criminal Justice System, Policing, Prosecution, Judiciary, Corrections, Probation and Parole, Judicial Interim Release & Coroner Practices; Institutional Systems of Colonial Violence and Freedom from it as a Political, Economic and Social Right; Violence and Indigenous Women, Girls & 2SLGBTQ People; and Media, Advocacy and Action for Change: Evaluating National Inquiry Calls to Action.*

The Avenues of Investigation will include literature reviews and consider information from the evidence from survivors and families, Expert and Institutional Hearings, and the forensic file review. Following each Avenue of Investigation, in accordance with sections g (i & ii) of our Terms of Reference, one or more roundtables will be held to bring together families, survivors, experts, and academics to brainstorm, identify systemic problems and make recommendations for our Final Report.

Our research team will conduct original research into priority areas such as case studies of successful grassroots programs; Canadian legislation such as the *Indian Act* and sections 91(24) and 35 of the Constitution; the experiences of Inuit, Métis, 2SLGBTQ individuals and Indigenous women and girls living in Québec; and the reports set out in Manitoba's Order in Council.

Data collected from all sources will be analyzed through a decolonizing, culturally-specific, gendered and rights-based approach that situates Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ people as holders of constitutional, human and Treaty rights that continue to be violated.

If granted only a one year extension much of this work could be done but we believe that two years is needed to do all the work that needs to be done and to do it well. It is important to understand that, in our view, any extension of less than two years would severely limit the value of our work.

Recommendation

Our work is not yet done. As the National Inquiry continues to shed light into these dark places, it aims to take immediate action to respond to this ongoing national crisis. With an additional two years, the National Inquiry will have a true understanding of its causes and will be able to present practical recommendations that will lead to the safety, security, and health of future generations of Indigenous women and girls, and 2SLGBTQ people.



National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées



The National Inquiry wants to give life to the information it gathers and identify pragmatic solutions to be implemented. In order to deliver on this critical piece of our mandate we need the time and resources to do the research, hear from the experts, hold the requisite Institutional and Expert Hearings, host the roundtables, collect the stories, conduct the analysis of all the information we receive, and validate and build support for our findings and recommendations.

Given the grave circumstances of our Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ people and the necessity to address these harms, we are hopeful that an extension to December 31, 2020 will be granted so that we can meet the expectations for what this National Inquiry was set up to accomplish.

If you approve an extension, our staff will work with your officials to determine what resources will be required for the period from April 1 to December 31, 2018 and the extended period.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to a favourable response from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Marion R. Buller
Chief Commissioner

Michèle Audette
Commissioner

Brian Eyolfson
Commissioner

Qajaq Robinson
Commissioner

The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

This is exhibit " D " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 20 18

Katie Kelly

Subject: The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: teleconference invitation regarding Institutional Hearings

From: "Christa Big Canoe" <c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

Date: 26/03/18 10:07 PM

To: <e_hill@lao.on.ca>, <smontour@ganohkwasra.com>, <fayblaney01@gmail.com>, <lbroda@saskadvocate.ca>, <aneve@amnesty.ca>, <alanapahpasay@gmail.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <pcorrin@majorlaw.ca>, <jmcgregor@afn.ca>, <me.bordeleau@videotron.ca>, <mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com>, <marcel.balfour@gmail.com>, <jopas@legalaids.mb.ca>, <tstevens@ancfsao.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <josien@awotaan.org>, <director@bwss.org>, <micheal@bccla.org>, <kcordero@bcfed.ca>, <keith.cameron@bcgeu.ca>, <peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca>, <jmalloy@capg.ca>, <communications@fafia-afal.org>, <shelagh.day@gmail.com>, <info@cwpcsp.ca>, <ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca>, <kathleen.llewellyn-thomas@vancouver.ca>, <martine.b.cote@lacles.org>, <cblackst@fncaringssociety.com>, <harmony.johnson@fnha.ca>, <info@fnhc.ca>, <gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca>, <doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca>, <taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca>, <jean.walters@gov.bc.ca>, <anne.turley@justice.gc.ca>, <heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca>, <richard.williams@gnb.ca>, <heather.hobart@gnb.ca>, <maya.hamou@gnb.ca>, <iantucker@gov.nl.ca>, <toddstanley@gov.nl.ca>, <tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca>, <edward.gores@novascotia.ca>, <sshaddock@gov.nu.ca>, <ablondin@gov.nu.ca>, <Julian.Roy@ontario.ca>, <Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca>, <rmdemone@gov.pe.ca>, <marie-eve.theriault@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca>, <kylie.head@gov.sk.ca>, <eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca>, <lisa@ngariss.com>, <d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <kitkat10101@gmail.com>, <jlynne53@shaw.ca>, <nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <rvenne@iaaw.ca>, <eford@itk.ca>, <laws@northwestel.net>, <mwalker@lawc.on.ca>, <dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com>, <jbarlow@jerchlalaw.com>, <jwheeler@jerchlalaw.com>, <executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca>, <pcorrin@majorlaw.ca>, <david.masakeyash@mishkeegogamang.ca>, <llspillett@kanikanichihk.ca>, <nswappie@naskapi.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <lgroulx@nwac.ca>, <jbrennan@nwac.ca>, <jlord@nwac.ca>, <caroline@dragontoner.ca>, <chief@nbpc.org>, <chiefconrad@ncns.ca>, <nawn@nf.aibn.com>, <odellepik@gmail.com>, <nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com>, <clarkscott00@hotmail.com>, <kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com>, <michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com>, <dwall@nunatukavut.ca>, <chartrand_brenda@hotmail.com>, <jcherry@bell.net>, <v.mach101@gmail.com>, <ckrahn@ofifc.org>, <rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <kate.hodgson@vancouver.ca>, <tohearn@pauktuutit.ca>.

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<momeniho@telus.net>, "Jean Teillet" <JTeillet@PSTLaw.ca>, <info@leaf.ca>
CC: "Jennifer Cox" <j.cox@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, "Calvin Wong" <c.wong@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

La traduction française suit ci-dessous.

Dear Colleagues,

I am emailing you because you are, or represent, a party to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls that has Standing for Part II- Institutional Hearings. The National Inquiry will be holding two Institutional hearings in the coming months. Each hearing will be both National and all Regions. Calling of these hearings as both National and all Regions, ensures that any party with Part II standing can participate in the hearings. One of the two hearings will be leveraging technology and utilizing interactive Webinar and the other will be in-person.

The anticipated timeframe for holding an Institutional Hearing on Government Services using interactive webinar based platform will be at the end of April or beginning of May. The second Institutional hearing will be on Policing practices held in person in Regina, Saskatchewan in mid to late June 2018.

I am emailing to invite you to join one of the teleconferences so that we can share information on the upcoming Institutional Hearings including the issues and topical approach to the hearings. We can also begin discussing how we can collaboratively ensure collection of evidence, recommendations and calling of appropriate witnesses.

We are hosting a number of teleconferences so that parties in different time zones can access a call. Please advise if you require us to designate another call time with French interpretation services and we will set another teleconference. The times to join a call are listed below. You can choose to attend one that suits your best availability.

Thursday March 29, 2018 at 9:30am EDT for one hour

Thursday March 29, 2018 at 1:00pm EDT for one hour
Tuesday April 3, 2018 at 4:00pm EDT for one hour

The call in information to access any of these information meetings is:

Toll-Free: 1-877-413- 4781
Conference ID: 5255295

Thank you for your time and attention to this email.

Cher collègues,

Je vous écris le présent courriel puisque vous êtes, ou vous représentez, une partie ayant la qualité pour agir au sein de l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones assassinées et disparues. En effet, l'Enquête nationale tiendra au cours des prochains mois deux audiences institutionnelles. Chacune des audiences seront qualifiées de *nationales et toutes régions* et ceci, afin que toutes les parties ayant la qualité pour agir *Partie 2* puissent y participer. Une des deux audiences s'effectuera avec la technologie du Web, sous forme de Webinaire et l'autre, en personne.

Nous anticipons de tenir la première audience qui porterait sur les services gouver

Par conséquent, je vous envoie le présent courriel afin de vous inviter à participer à un appel conférence afin de partager les informations en prévision des audiences institutionnelles, incluant les enjeux et les approches desdites audiences. Également, nous pourrions discuter de quelle façon nous pourrions collaborer dans la cueillette de preuve, recommandations et le choix des témoins appropriés.

Nous offrons différentes conférences afin que toutes les parties, étant dans des fuseaux horaires différents, puissent y accéder. Je vous invite à nous faire part si vous avez besoin que nous fixions une conférence téléphonique de plus avec un service d'interprétation en Français et nous vous accommoderons le tout. Les dates et heures pour joindre un appel conférence sont les suivantes. Vous pouvez choisir lequel convient mieux à votre disponibilité.

Jeudi, le 29 mars 2018 à 9 :30 HE, pour une durée d'une heure
Jeudi, le 29 mars 2018 à 13 :00 HE, pour une durée d'une heure
Mardi, le 3 avril 2018 à 16 :00 HE, pour une durée d'une heure

Voici les coordonnées pour accéder aux conférences téléphoniques ci-haut

mentionnées :

Sans frais : 1-877-413-4781
ID de la conférence : 5255295

Merci de votre temps et attention au présent courriel.

Miigwech, Respectfully,

Christa Big Canoe,

Commission Counsel, MMIWG-FFADA

c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca

416.268.4133

Website <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

A national, toll-free support line is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please call 1-844-413-6649 if you or someone you know is triggered and needs help or support.

"Our Women and Girls are Sacred" / "Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées"

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This is exhibit " E " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 20 18

Kathie Alf

Subject: The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: teleconference invitation regarding Expert Hearings

From: "Christa Big Canoe" <c.bigcanoe@mimiwg-ffada.ca>

Date: 29/03/18 06:43 AM

To: <e_hill@lao.on.ca>, <smontour@ganohkwasra.com>, <fayblaney01@gmail.com>, <lbroda@saskadvocate.ca>, <aneve@amnesty.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <jmcgregor@afn.ca>, <me.bordeleau@videotron.ca>, <mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com>, <marcel.balfour@gmail.com>, <jopas@legalaids.mb.ca>, <tstevens@ancfsao.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <josien@awotaan.org>, <director@bwss.org>, <micheal@bccla.org>, <joanne@bcth.ca>, <peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca>, <jmalloy@capg.ca>, <communications@afia-afal.org>, <shelagh.day@gmail.com>, <info@cwpcsp.ca>, <ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca>, <martine.b.cote@lacles.org>, <center@dewc.ca>, <hwalia8@gmail.com>, <clmaloney@eastlink.ca>, <porteous@endingviolence.org>, <buchholz@endingviolence.org>, <info@fnhc.ca>, <gignoo@nbn.net.nb.ca>, <doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca>, <taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca>, <jean.walters@gov.bc.ca>, <anne.turley@justice.gc.ca>, <heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca>, <richard.williams@gnb.ca>, <heather.hobart@gnb.ca>, <maya.hamou@gnb.ca>, <iantucker@gov.nl.ca>, <toddstanley@gov.nl.ca>, <tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca>, <edward.gores@novascotia.ca>, <sshaddock@gov.nu.ca>, <ablondin@gov.nu.ca>, <Julian.Roy@ontario.ca>, <Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca>, <rmthemone@gov.pe.ca>, <marie-eve.theriault@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca>, <kylie.head@gov.sk.ca>, <eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca>, <deiff@hrw.org>, <d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <kitkat10101@gmail.com>, <jlynne53@shaw.ca>, <nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <eford@itk.ca>, <iskwewuk2014@gmail.com>, <dro6439@gmail.com>, <dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com>, <jbarlow@jerchlaw.com>, <jwheeler@jerchlaw.com>, <executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca>, <llspillett@kanikanichik.ca>, <lgroulx@nwac.ca>, <jbrennan@nwac.ca>, <jlord@nwac.ca>, <caroline@dragontoner.ca>, <nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com>, <clarkscott00@hotmail.com>, <kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com>, <michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com>, <dwall@nunatukavut.ca>, <rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <tohearn@pauktuutit.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <eric.lepine@elepine.ca>, <marymark@pakushipu.net>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <judyhughes@live.ca>, <kswan@reginapolice.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <jloiselle@ville.montreal.qc.ca>, <dlawrance@siouxlookout.ca>, <jp.levesque@thunderbaypolice.ca>, <edwardm@stockwoods.ca>, <sylvie.hauth@thunderbaypolice.ca>, <marianne.wright@torontopolice.on.ca>, <dgcachneepineskum@nan.on.ca>, <reception@treaty3.ca>, <rachel@ubcic.bc.ca>, <hillak@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca>,

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CC: <j.cox@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, "Calvin Wong" <c.wong@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

La traduction française suit ci-dessous.

Dear Colleagues,

I am emailing you because you are, or represent, a party to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls that has Standing for Part III- Expert Hearings. The National Inquiry will be holding two Expert Hearings in the coming months. Each hearing will be both National and all Regions. Calling of these hearings as both National and all Regions, ensure that any party with Part III standing can participate in the hearings. One of the two hearings will be leveraging technology and utilizing interactive Webinar and the other will be in-person.

The anticipated timeframe for holding an in-person Hearing on Human Rights Frameworks in Quebec City, Quebec is the third week of May 2018 and the second expert hearing on Racism will be using interactive webinar based platform is anticipated to be scheduled at the end of May or beginning of June.

I am emailing to invite you to join one of the teleconferences so that we can share information on the upcoming Expert Hearings including the issues and topical approach to the hearings. We can also begin discussing how we can collaboratively ensure collection of evidence, recommendations and calling of appropriate witnesses.

We are hosting a couple of preliminary teleconferences so that parties in different time zones can access a call. Please advise if you require us to designate another call time with French interpretation services and we will set another teleconference. The times to join a call are listed below. You can choose to attend one that suits your best availability.

Monday April 9, 2018 at 10:00am EST for one hour
Tuesday April 10, 2018 at 4:00pm EST for one hour

The call in information to access any of these information meetings is:

Toll-Free: 1-877-413- 4781

Conference ID: 5255295

Thank you for your time and attention to this email.

Cher collègues,

Je vous écris le présent courriel puisque vous êtes, ou vous représentez, une partie

Le calendrier prévu pour la tenue d'une audience en personne sur les droits de la personne à Québec (Québec) est la troisième semaine de mai 2018 et la deuxième audience d'experts sur le racisme sous forme de Webinaire est prévu pour la fin du mois de mai ou début de juin.

Par conséquent, je vous envoie le présent courriel afin de vous inviter à participer à un appel conférence afin de partager les informations en prévision des audiences d'experts, incluant les enjeux et les approches desdites audiences. Également, nous pourrions discuter de quelle façon nous pourrions collaborer dans la cueillette de preuve, recommandations et le choix des témoins appropriés.

Nous organisons quelques téléconférences préliminaires afin que les parties dans différents fuseaux horaires puissent avoir accès à un appel. Je vous invite à nous faire part si vous avez besoin que nous fixions une conférence téléphonique de plus avec un service d'interprétation en Français et nous vous accommoderons le tout. Les dates et heures pour joindre un appel conférence sont les suivantes. Vous pouvez choisir lequel convient mieux à votre disponibilité.

Jeudi, le 29 mars 2018 à 15 :00 HE, pour une durée d'une heure
Lundi, le 9 avril 2018 à 10 :00 HE
Mardi, le 10 avril 2018 à 11 :00 HE

Voici les coordonnées pour accéder aux conférences téléphoniques ci-haut mentionnées :

Sans frais : 1-877-413-4781
ID de la conférence : 5255295

Merci de votre temps et attention au présent courriel.

Miigwech, Respectfully,

Christa Big Canoe,

Commission Counsel, MMIWG-FFADA

c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca

416.268.4133

Website <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

A national, toll-free support line is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please call 1-844-413-6649 if you or someone you know is triggered and needs help or support.

"Our Women and Girls are Sacred" / "Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées"

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This is exhibit " F " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Katie [Signature]

Subject: Dates for the upcoming Institutional Hearing for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

From: "Christa Big Canoe" <c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

Date: 12/04/18 06:23 AM

To: <e_hill@lao.on.ca>, <smontour@ganohkwasra.com>, <fayblaney01@gmail.com>, <lbroda@saskadvocate.ca>, <aneve@amnesty.ca>, <alanapahpasay@gmail.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <pcorrin@majorlaw.ca>, <jmcgregor@afn.ca>, <me.bordeleau@videotron.ca>, <mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com>, <marcel.balfour@gmail.com>, <jopas@legalaids.mb.ca>, <tstevens@ancfsao.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <josien@awotaan.org>, <director@bwss.org>, <micheal@bccla.org>, <kcordero@bcfed.ca>, <keith.cameron@bcgeu.ca>, <peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca>, <jmalloy@capg.ca>, <communications@fafia-afal.org>, <shelagh.day@gmail.com>, <info@cwpcsp.ca>, <ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca>, <kathleen.llewellyn-thomas@vancouver.ca>, <martine.b.cote@lacles.org>, <harmony.johnson@fnha.ca>, <info@fnhc.ca>, <gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca>, <doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca>, <taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca>, <jean.walters@gov.bc.ca>, <anne.turley@justice.gc.ca>, <heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca>, <richard.williams@gnb.ca>, <heather.hobart@gnb.ca>, <maya.hamou@gnb.ca>, <iantucker@gov.nl.ca>, <toddstanley@gov.nl.ca>, <tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca>, <edward.gores@novascotia.ca>, <sshaddock@gov.nu.ca>, <ablondin@gov.nu.ca>, <Julian.Roy@ontario.ca>, <Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca>, <rmдемone@gov.pe.ca>, <pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca>, <kylie.head@gov.sk.ca>, <eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca>, <lisa@ngariss.com>, <d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <kitkat10101@gmail.com>, <jlynn53@shaw.ca>, <nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <rvenne@iaaw.ca>, <eford@itk.ca>, <laws@northwestel.net>, <mwalker@lawc.on.ca>, <dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com>, <jbarlow@jerchlawa.com>, <jwheeler@jerchlawa.com>, <executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca>, <pcorrin@majorlaw.ca>, <david.masakeyash@mishkeegogamang.ca>, <llspillett@kanikanichihk.ca>, <nswappie@naskapi.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <lgroulx@nwac.ca>, <jbrennan@nwac.ca>, <caroline@dragontoner.ca>, <chief@nbpc.org>, <chiefconrad@ncns.ca>, <nawn@nf.aibn.com>, <odellepike@gmail.com>, <nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com>, <clarkscott00@hotmail.com>, <kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com>, <michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com>, <dwall@nunatukavut.ca>, <chartrand_brenda@hotmail.com>, <jcherry@bell.net>, <v.mach101@gmail.com>, <ckrahn@ofifc.org>, <rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <kate.hodgson@vancouver.ca>, <tohearn@pauktuutit.ca>.

<symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <jennifer.breakspear@phs.ca>,
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<marymark@pakushipu.net>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>,
<anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <judyhughes@live.ca>,
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<rachel@ubcic.bc.ca>, <hillak@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca>,
<kpacey@pivotlegal.org>, <legal@westcoastleaf.org>,
<kcarswell@winnipeg.ca>, <momeniho@telus.net>, "Jean Teillet"
<JTeillet@PSTLaw.ca>, <fraser@fraseradvocacy.com>, "Martha Loon"
<mloon@nan.on.ca>, <info@leaf.ca>, <h.morrison@leaf.ca>,
<AWinterburn@PSTLaw.ca>, <andre.fauteux@justice.gouv.qc.ca>,
<jacques.pregent@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <marie-
paule.boucher@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Andreane.Lesperance@mce.gouv.qc.ca>,
<anny.bernier@dpcp.gouv.qc.ca>, <krystyno@falconers.ca>,
<nancyp@gov.nl.ca>, <Fancy.Poitras@fnha.ca>, <Fia.Jampolsky@gov.yk.ca>,
<vlomax@nwac.ca>
CC: <s.thomas@mimiwg-ffada.ca>, <t.barnett@mimiwg-ffada.ca>,
<m.khoury@mimiwg-ffada.ca>

La traduction française suit ci-dessous.

Confidential correspondence intended for Parties with Standing in Part 2 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you today to advise you of the upcoming dates for the two upcoming Institutional hearings. They are scheduled for:

- **May 28- June 1, 2018** via WebEx for hearings in relation to Government Services;
- **June 25-29, 2018** in Regina, Saskatchewan for hearings in relation to Police Policies and Practices

As per our information teleconferences, these areas will be limited in scope in that the Government Services hearing will focus on responding to or addressing issues of violence or safety outside of Policing. The second Institutional hearing will focus on Police policies and practices on violence response and violence prevention; policies, practices, training in relation to serving Indigenous community, and women and girls.

There will be further correspondence but we wanted to release these dates to everyone as a priority. The next communications will include draft minutes from the recent teleconferences; request to confirm and update contact information for each party; request for parties to share their recommendations with other parties. We are currently looking into setting up a share platform to minimize email traffic and will be providing more information on such a platform so that people can access the shared information.

It is important that we confirm email and contact information for both this purpose and for setting up

WebEx access for any of the parties with standing. Maryiam Khoury will be assisting in confirming this information. She is copied on this email. Also Shelby Thomas and Thomas Barnett are also copied and are Commission Counsel that will be assisting parties with standing in relation to questions, information and process moving forward.

Thank you for your time and attention to this email.

Informations confidentielles destinées aux parties ayant qualité pour agir dans les audiences de la Partie II de l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées.

Chers/chères collègues,

Je me permets de vous écrire aujourd'hui afin de vous informer de la tenue des deux prochaines audiences institutionnelles qui sont prévues aux dates suivantes :

- **28 mai au 1^{er} juin 2018** via WebEx pour les audiences qui porteront sur les services gouvernementaux;
- **25 au 29 juin 2018** à Régina, en Saskatchewan, pour les audiences qui porteront sur les services de police et les pratiques policières.

Tel que discuté lors de la téléconférence, ces sujets seront limités afin de se concentrer, lors de la première audience, sur les services gouvernementaux ciblant les réponses institutionnelles et la manière dont sont traités les problèmes liés à la violence ou à la sécurité (excluant les forces policières). La deuxième audience institutionnelle se concentrera sur les politiques policières et les pratiques policières dans les cas de violence et de la prévention à la violence; des politiques, des pratiques; des formations dispensées sur la prestation de services aux communautés autochtones et les femmes et les filles.

D'autres informations suivront sous peu, mais nous voulions tout de même vous faire parvenir ces informations de manière prioritaire. Les prochaines communications incluront le projet de procès-verbal de la dernière téléconférence, une demande de confirmation et de mise à jour des coordonnées des parties ayant qualité pour agir et une demande aux parties de partager leurs recommandations avec les autres parties. Nous sommes actuellement en train d'évaluer la possibilité de mettre en place une plateforme qui permettrait de minimiser le haut volume de courriels. Nous serons en mesure de vous faire parvenir davantage d'informations sur cette plateforme et comment il sera possible d'accéder à ces informations partagées prochainement.

Il est ainsi important de confirmer les coordonnées et les adresses courriel afin de mettre en place les accès WEBex pour les parties ayant qualité pour agir. Maryam Khoury, mise en copie conforme de ce courriel, recueillera et confirmera ces informations. Me Shelby

Thomas et Me Thomas Barnett, également en copie conforme de ce courriel, seront responsables d'assister les parties ayant qualité pour agir et de répondre aux éventuelles questions, d'envoyer les informations et de s'assurer que le processus aille de l'avant.

Je vous remercie de votre temps et de l'attention portée à ce courriel.

Miigwech, Respectfully,

Christa Big Canoe,

Commission Counsel, MMIWG-FFADA

c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca

416.268.4133

Website <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

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This is exhibit " 9 " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Katie P. [Signature]

Subject: Dates for the upcoming Expert Hearings for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

From: "Christa Big Canoe" <c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

Date: 12/04/18 10:15 AM

To: <e_hill@lao.on.ca>, <smontour@ganohkwasra.com>, <fayblaney01@gmail.com>, <lbroda@saskadvocate.ca>, <aneve@amnesty.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <jmcgregor@afn.ca>, <me.bordeleau@videotron.ca>, <mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com>, <marcel.balfour@gmail.com>, <jopas@legalaids.mb.ca>, <tstevens@ancfsao.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <josien@awotaan.org>, <director@bwss.org>, <micheal@bccla.org>, <joanne@bcth.ca>, <peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca>, <jmalloy@capg.ca>, <communications@afia-afal.org>, <shelagh.day@gmail.com>, <info@cwpcsp.ca>, <ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca>, <martine.b.cote@lacles.org>, <center@dewc.ca>, <hwalia8@gmail.com>, <Cheryl.maloney@eastlink.ca>, <porteous@endingviolence.org>, <buchholz@endingviolence.org>, <info@fnhc.ca>, <gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca>, <doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca>, <taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca>, <jean.walters@gov.bc.ca>, <anne.turley@justice.gc.ca>, <heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca>, <richard.williams@gnb.ca>, <heather.hobart@gnb.ca>, <maya.hamou@gnb.ca>, <iantucker@gov.nl.ca>, <toddstanley@gov.nl.ca>, <tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca>, <edward.gores@novascotia.ca>, <sshaddock@gov.nu.ca>, <ablondin@gov.nu.ca>, <Julian.Roy@ontario.ca>, <Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca>, <rmdemone@gov.pe.ca>, <pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca>, <kylie.head@gov.sk.ca>, <eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca>, <deiff@hrw.org>, <d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <kitkat10101@gmail.com>, <jlynn53@shaw.ca>, <nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <eford@itk.ca>, <iskwewuk2014@gmail.com>, <dro6439@gmail.com>, <dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com>, <jbarlow@jerchlaws.com>, <jwheeler@jerchlaws.com>, <executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca>, <llspillett@kanikanichihk.ca>, <lgroulx@nwac.ca>, <jbrennan@nwac.ca>, <jlord@nwac.ca>, <caroline@dragontoner.ca>, <nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com>, <clarkscott00@hotmail.com>, <kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com>, <michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com>, <dwall@nunatukavut.ca>, <rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <tohearn@pauktuutit.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <eric.lepine@elepine.ca>, <marymark@pakushipu.net>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <judyhughes@live.ca>, <kswan@reginapolice.ca>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <jloiselle@ville.montreal.qc.ca>, <dlawrance@siouxlookout.ca>, <jp.levesque@thunderbaypolice.ca>, <edwardm@stockwoods.ca>, <sylvie.hauth@thunderbaypolice.ca>, <marianne.wright@torontopolice.on.ca>, <dgcachneepineskum@nan.on.ca>, <reception@treaty3.ca>, <rachel@ubcic.bc.ca>, <hillak@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca>.

<legal@westcoastleaf.org>, <westcoastpayroll@gmail.com>, <kcarswell@winnipeg.ca>, <momeniho@telus.net>, "Jean Teillet" <JTeillet@PSTLaw.ca>, <womentransformingcities@gmail.com>, <fraser@fraseradvocacy.com>, <info@leaf.ca>, <h.morrison@leaf.ca>, <AWinterburn@PSTLaw.ca>, <andre.fauteux@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <jacques.pregent@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <marie-paule.boucher@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, <Andreane.Lesperance@mce.gouv.qc.ca>, <anny.bernier@dpcp.gouv.qc.ca>, <krystyno@falconers.ca>, <nancyp@gov.nl.ca>, <Fia.Jampolsky@gov.yk.ca>, <vlomax@nwac.ca>, <tiffanyod@stockwoods.ca>
CC: <s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <t.barnett@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <m.khoury@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

La traduction française suit ci-dessous.

Confidential correspondence intended for Parties with Standing in Part 3 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you today to advise you of the upcoming dates for the two upcoming Expert hearings. They are scheduled for:

- **May 14-18, 2018-** Human Rights Framework, in person in Quebec City, QC
- **June 11-15, 2017-** Hearing on Racism, via WebEx

As per our information teleconferences, the first hearing will focus on the human rights and Indigenous rights of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ individuals as rights holders and how the State (and other duty-bearers) respect, protect and fulfil those rights. The types of rights to explore can include but I not limited to:

- right to highest attainable standard of health
- right to adequate food, housing and social security
- right to equal protection under the law
- right to take part in public affairs
- right to participate in cultural life
- rights to life liberty and security of the person

The Human Rights Framework hearing will also look at both domestic and International instruments, process and solutions to these issues. The Hearing on Racism will explore the discrimination that creates vulnerable circumstances that increase violence or diminish safety for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ. This will include looking into racism in services that Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQ access and discuss solutions.

There will be further correspondence but we wanted to release these dates to everyone as a priority. The next communications will include draft minutes from the recent teleconferences; request to confirm and update contact information for each party; request for parties to share their recommendations with other parties. We are currently looking into setting up a share platform to minimize email traffic and will be providing more information on such a platform so that people can access the shared information.

It is important that we confirm email and contact information for both this purpose and for setting up WebEx access for any of the parties with standing. Maryiam Khoury will be assisting in confirming this information. She is copied on this email. Also Shelby Thomas and Thomas Barnett are also copied and are Commission Counsel that will be assisting parties with standing in relation to questions, information and process moving forward.

Thank you for your time and attention to this email.

Informations confidentielles destinées aux parties ayant qualité pour agir dans les audiences de la Partie III de l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées.

Chers/chères collègues,

Je me permets de vous écrire aujourd'hui afin de vous informer de la tenue des deux prochaines audiences d'experts qui sont prévues aux dates suivantes :

- **14-18 mai 2018** – Audience sur le cadre des droits de l'homme, en personne à Québec, Qc;
- **11-15 juin 2018** – Audience sur le racisme, via WebEx.

Tel que discuté lors de la téléconférence, la première audience portera sur les droits de l'homme et les droits autochtones des femmes, filles et 2SLGBTQ en tant que détenteurs de droits et comment l'État (et tous ceux à qui incombent la réalisation de ces droits) se doit de respecter, protéger et réaliser ses droits. Les catégories de droits qui seront discutés inclus, mais ne sont pas limités à :

- le droit de jouir du meilleur état de santé possible;
- le droit à une nourriture suffisante, à un logement suffisant et à la sécurité sociale;
- le droit de jouir d'une protection égale devant la loi;
- le droit de prendre part aux affaires publiques;
- le droit de participer aux affaires culturelles;
- le droit à la liberté et la sécurité de sa personne.

L'audience sur le cadre des droits de l'homme examinera également les instruments

juridiques nationaux et internationaux ainsi que les processus et solutions à ces problématiques. L'audience sur le racisme examinera le thème de la discrimination qui tend à créer des situations de vulnérabilité qui augmentent la violence et diminuent la sécurité des femmes et des filles autochtones et 2SLGBTQ. Il sera également discuté du thème du racisme dans les services dont les femmes, les filles autochtones et 2SLGBTQ ont accès et les solutions à ces problématiques.

D'autres informations suivront sous peu, mais nous voulions tout de même vous faire parvenir ces informations de manière prioritaire. Les prochaines communications incluront le projet de procès-verbal de la dernière téléconférence, une demande de confirmation et de mise à jour des coordonnées des parties ayant qualité pour agir et une demande aux parties de partager leurs recommandations avec les autres parties. Nous sommes actuellement en train d'évaluer la possibilité de mettre en place une plateforme qui permettrait de minimiser le haut volume de courriels. Nous serons en mesure de vous faire parvenir davantage d'informations sur cette plateforme et comment il sera possible d'accéder à ces informations partagées prochainement.

Il est ainsi important de confirmer les coordonnées et les adresses courriel afin de mettre en place les accès WEBex pour les parties ayant qualité pour agir. Maryam Khoury, mise en copie conforme de ce courriel, recueillera et confirmera ces informations. Me Shelby Thomas et Me Thomas Barnett, également en copie conforme de ce courriel, seront responsables d'assister les parties ayant qualité pour agir et de répondre aux éventuelles questions, d'envoyer les informations et de s'assurer que le processus aille de l'avant.

Je vous remercie de votre temps et de l'attention portée à ce courriel.

Miigwech, Respectfully,

Christa Big Canoe,

Commission Counsel, MMIWG-FFADA

c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca

416.268.4133

Website <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

A national, toll-free support line is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please call 1-844-413-6649 if you or someone you know is triggered and needs help or support.

"Our Women and Girls are Sacred" / "Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées"

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Dates for the upcoming Expert Hearings for the N...

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This is exhibit " H " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Maize Dill

From: Mysko, Barbara JU [mailto:Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca]

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:18 AM

To: Christa Big Canoe; e_hill@lao.on.ca; smontour@ganohkwasra.com; fayblaney01@gmail.com; Broda, Lisa ACY; aneve@amnesty.ca; alanapahpasay@gmail.com; symes@ssmlaw.ca; pcorrin@majorlaw.ca; jmcgregor@afn.ca; me.bordeleau@videotron.ca; mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com; marcel.balfour@gmail.com; jopas@legalaid.mb.ca; tstevens@ancfsao.ca; katherine@henselbarristers.com; josien@awotaan.org; director@bwss.org; micheal@bccla.org; kcordero@bcfed.ca; keith.cameron@bcgeu.ca; peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca; jmalloy@capg.ca; communications@fafia-afal.org; shelagh.day@gmail.com; info@cwpcsp.ca; ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca; kathleen.llewellyn-thomas@vancouver.ca; martine.b.cote@lacles.org; harmony.johnson@fnha.ca; info@fnhc.ca; gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca; doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca; taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca; jean.walters@gov.bc.ca; anne.turley@justice.gc.ca; heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca; richard.williams@gnb.ca; heather.hobart@gnb.ca; maya.hamou@gnb.ca; iantucker@gov.nl.ca; toddstanley@gov.nl.ca; tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca; edward.gores@novascotia.ca; sshaddock@gov.nu.ca; ablondin@gov.nu.ca; Julian.Roy@ontario.ca; Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca; rmdemone@gov.pe.ca; pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca; Head, Kylie JU; eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca; lisa@ngariss.com; d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca; katherine@henselbarristers.com; kitkat10101@gmail.com; jlynne53@shaw.ca; nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca; caroline.briand@cicw.ca; anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca; rvenne@iaaw.ca; eford@itk.ca; laws@northwestel.net; mwalker@lawc.on.ca; dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com; jbarlow@jerchlaw.com; jwheeler@jerchlaw.com; executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca; pcorrin@majorlaw.ca; david.masakeyash@mishkeegogamang.ca; llspillett@kanikanichihk.ca; nswappie@naskapi.ca; caroline.briand@cicw.ca; anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca; lgroulx@nwac.ca; jbrennan@nwac.ca; caroline@dragontoner.ca; chief@nbpc.org; chiefconrad@ncns.ca; nawn@nf.aibn.com; odellepique@gmail.com; nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com; clarkscott00@hotmail.com; kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com; michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com; dwall@nunatukavut.ca; chartrand_brenda@hotmail.com; jcherry@bell.net; v.mach101@gmail.com; ckrahn@ofifc.org; rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com; symes@ssmlaw.ca; kate.hodgson@vancouver.ca; tohearn@pauktuutit.ca; symes@ssmlaw.ca; jennifer.breakspear@phs.ca; eric.lepine@elepine.ca; ebeaudin@rtsis.com; marymark@pakushipu.net; caroline.briand@cicw.ca; anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca; judyhughes@live.ca; kswan@reginapolice.ca; kay.lerat@fsin.com; symes@ssmlaw.ca; jloiselle@ville.montreal.qc.ca; dlawrance@siouxlookout.ca; jp.levesque@thunderbaypolice.ca; edwardm@stockwoods.ca; sylvie.hauth@thunderbaypolice.ca; marianne.wright@torontopolice.on.ca; dgcachneepineskum@nan.on.ca; reception@treaty3.ca; rachel@ubcic.bc.ca; hillak@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca; kpacey@pivotlegal.org; legal@westcoastleaf.org; kcarswell@winnipeg.ca; momeniho@telus.net; Jean Teillet; fraser@fraseradvocacy.com; 'Martha Loon'; info@leaf.ca; h.morrison@leaf.ca; AWinterburn@PSTLaw.ca; andre.fauteux@justice.gouv.qc.ca; jacques.pregent@justice.gouv.qc.ca; marie-paule.boucher@justice.gouv.qc.ca; Andreane.Lesperance@mce.gouv.qc.ca; anny.bernier@dpcp.gouv.qc.ca; krystyno@falconers.ca; nancyp@gov.nl.ca; Fancy.Poitrass@fnha.ca; Fia.Jampolsky@gov.yk.ca; vlomax@nwac.ca

Cc: s.thomas@mimiwg-ffada.ca; t.barnett@mimiwg-ffada.ca; m.khoury@mimiwg-ffada.ca

Subject: RE: Dates for the upcoming Institutional Hearing for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Christa – to be clear, does this reflect an expansion of the mandate for the government services hearing beyond health, victim services, and child welfare, as we were originally told?

Barbara Mysko

Senior Crown Counsel

Constitutional Law Branch

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This is exhibit " I " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Kathy E. Allen

Subject: RE: Dates for the upcoming Institutional Hearing for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

From: "Christa Big Canoe" <c.bigcanoe@mimiwg-ffada.ca>

Date: 12/04/18 12:42 PM

To: "Mysko, Barbara JU" <Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca>, <e_hill@lao.on.ca>, <smontour@ganohkwasra.com>, <fayblaney01@gmail.com>, "Broda, Lisa ACY" <lbroda@saskadvocate.ca>, <aneve@amnesty.ca>, <alanapahpasay@gmail.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <pcorin@majorlaw.ca>, <jmcgregor@afn.ca>, <me.bordeleau@videotron.ca>, <mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com>, <marcel.balfour@gmail.com>, <jopas@legalaids.mb.ca>, <tstevens@ancfsao.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <josien@awotaan.org>, <director@bwss.org>, <micheal@bccla.org>, <kcordero@bcfed.ca>, <keith.cameron@bcgeu.ca>, <peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca>, <jmalloy@capg.ca>, <communications@fafia-afal.org>, <shelagh.day@gmail.com>, <info@cwpcsp.ca>, <ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca>, <kathleen.llewellyn-thomas@vancouver.ca>, <martine.b.cote@lacles.org>, <harmony.johnson@fnha.ca>, <info@fnhc.ca>, <gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca>, <doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca>, <taryn.walsh@gov.bc.ca>, <jean.walters@gov.bc.ca>, <anne.turley@justice.gc.ca>, <heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca>, <richard.williams@gnb.ca>, <heather.hobart@gnb.ca>, <maya.hamou@gnb.ca>, <iantucker@gov.nl.ca>, <toddstanley@gov.nl.ca>, <tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca>, <edward.gores@novascotia.ca>, <sshaddock@gov.nu.ca>, <ablondin@gov.nu.ca>, <Julian.Roy@ontario.ca>, <Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca>, <rmdemone@gov.pe.ca>, <pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca>, "Head, Kylie JU" <kylie.head@gov.sk.ca>, <eden.alexander@gov.yk.ca>, <lisa@ngariss.com>, <d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca>, <katherine@henselbarristers.com>, <kitkat10101@gmail.com>, <jlynn53@shaw.ca>, <nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <rvenne@iaaw.ca>, <eford@itk.ca>, <laws@northwestel.net>, <mwalker@lawc.on.ca>, <dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com>, <jbarlow@jerchlaw.com>, <jwheeler@jerchlaw.com>, <executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca>, <pcorin@majorlaw.ca>, <david.masakeyash@mishkeegogamang.ca>, <llspillett@kanikanichihk.ca>, <nswappie@naskapi.ca>, <caroline.briand@cicw.ca>, <anne.marie.gauthier@cicw.ca>, <lgroulx@nwac.ca>, <jbrennan@nwac.ca>, <caroline@dragontoner.ca>, <chief@nbpc.org>, <chiefconrad@ncns.ca>, <nawn@nf.aibn.com>, <odellepique@gmail.com>, <nf.nativewomen@nf.aibn.com>, <clarkscott00@hotmail.com>, <kaila.deboer@nunatsiavut.com>, <michelle.kinney@nunatsiavut.com>, <dwall@nunatukavut.ca>, <chartrand_brenda@hotmail.com>, <jcherry@bell.net>, <v.mach101@gmail.com>, <ckrahn@ofifc.org>, <rcedwards@edwardshollinger.com>, <symes@ssmlaw.ca>, <kate.hodgson@vancouver.ca>, <tohearn@pauktuutit.ca>,

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CC: <s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <t.barnett@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <m.khoury@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, <m.girard@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

Thank you for your question Barbara.

My below email does not reflect an expansion of the mandate for the Government Services Institutional Hearing per se. During our conversations on the teleconference, I acknowledged that Child Welfare is a massive topic/issue that could take an entire week's worth of hearings and still we would only likely scratch the surface. I have followed up with the Commissioners in relation to the types of issues and services they would like to hear about. As it relates specifically to Child welfare services and issues, I have received some refined instructions.

The Commissioners do not think we can adequately cover the huge topic of child welfare services to include all of the cross-cutting perspectives and raise the issues in one panel of a hearing. Our research team has relied on reports (such as those listed in the TOR and OICs) in the work they have been doing to date and the Commissioners have heard about related issues in the Community hearings from families and survivors. In an extension scenario this would be one of the priority topics to cover as a week-long hearing if we can add more Institutional Hearings in any timeframe granted. However as previously noted and discussed on the teleconferences, we are working within the current mandate and therefore have both time and scope limitations. The Commissioners do believe that it is important to include Child Welfare and Services as background context, to recognize the breakdown of family structure via residential schools, the scoop and on-going removals, and that this has led to lack of safety for Indigenous families. But rather than have witnesses on a panel to identify this information that is highly acknowledged, researched and written about extensively in readily available reports, it can be context as it relates to other services.

Other government services we could consider addressing include: health, including mental health,

education, housing, including access to emergency shelters, safe houses and transition houses, and transportation. Under government services (excluding Police) some key topics that the Commissioner's would like to hear about include: access to food, shelter(housing) and social security, access to physical and mental health supports (especially trauma intervention and treatment), social/economic and cultural support provided to women, children, 2SLGBTQ and families as a whole.

I hope that you find this helpful. We will be setting up further teleconferences on the topics and suggested witnesses for early next week and we can discuss the topic areas in further detail. Further email correspondence and calendar invites will be distributed to part II parties today and tomorrow.

Also, I will provide this email again in French, once it is translated.

Thank you,

Miigwech, Respectfully,

Christa Big Canoe,

Commission Counsel, MMIWG-FFADA

c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca

416.268.4133

Website <http://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca>

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"Our Women and Girls are Sacred" / "Nos femmes et nos filles sont sacrées"

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sworn before me this 18
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Ratp'e Riff

-- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: Confidential correspondence intended fro Parties with Standing in Part 2 Institutional Hearings

Date: Fri, 20 Apr 2018 17:23:01 -0500

From: Shelby Thomas <s.thomas@mmtwg-ffada.ca>

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mloon@nan.on.ca, lisa@weberlaw.ca
CC: 'Christa Big Canoe' <c.bigcanoe@mimiwg-ffada.ca>, t.barnett@mimiwg-ffada.ca

Confidential correspondence intended for Parties with Standing in Part 2 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

Dear counsel and representatives of parties with standing,

We would like to take the time to communicate some new information with you with respect to the upcoming Part 2 Institutional hearings. After deliberating on many concerns and questions that were brought to the Commissioners' attention, they have provided new directions for the upcoming hearings.

We will still be holding two Institutional hearings, one on Government Services and one

on Police Practices and Policies. Both this hearings will be five days in length. The Government Services hearing will be held from May 28th – June 1st, 2018 and the Police Practices and Policies Hearing will be held from June 25th – June 29th, 2018 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Originally, the Government Services hearing was going to be conducted by using the Webinair/WebEX platform. In realizing the need and importance for this hearing and the participation of parties and the public, it has been determined that this platform will not suffice. Therefore, it has been determined that an In Person hearing will be held instead. At this time, we have not confirmed a location for this hearing. As soon as we are aware of the location, we will be in touch.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Shelby Thomas at s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca.

I hope you have a lovely weekend!

Informations confidentielles destinées aux parties ayant qualité pour agir dans les audiences de la Partie 2 de l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées

Chers/chères collègues et représentants des parties ayant qualité pour agir,

Je me permets de vous écrire aujourd'hui afin de vous informer de changements concernant la tenue des deux prochaines audiences institutionnelles. Suite à l'expression de nombreuses questions et préoccupations qui ont été portées à leur attention, les commissaires ont dégagé de nouvelles orientations pour les audiences à venir.

Nous tiendrons comme prévu deux audiences institutionnelles qui dureront chacune cinq jours : l'une sur les services gouvernementaux et l'autre sur les politiques policières et les pratiques policières. L'audience sur les services gouvernementaux se tiendra du 28 mai au 1^{er} juin 2018 et celle sur les politiques policières et les pratiques policières aura lieu du 25 au 29 juin 2018 à Régina, en Saskatchewan.

L'audience sur les services gouvernementaux devait se dérouler via webminaire/WebEx. Après réflexion et dans le but de faciliter la participation des parties et du public, nous avons plutôt convenu d'opter pour une audience en personne. Nous vous communiquerons le lieu de cette audience dès qu'il sera déterminé.

Si vous avez des questions ou des préoccupations, n'hésitez-pas à communiquer avec Shelby Thomas à s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca.

Je vous souhaite une excellente fin de semaine.

Thank you very much, Merci pour votre attention,
Shelby Thomas
Commission Counsel

National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Phone: 1 (431) 334-8941

E-mail: s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca

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sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Kathie Dwy

----- Forwarded Message -----

Subject: Confidential Correspondence for Parties with Standing in Part 3 Expert Hearings

Date: Fri, 20 Apr 2018 17:14:23 -0500

From: Shelby Thomas <s.thomas@mmtwg-ffada.ca>

To: e_hill@lao.on.ca, smontour@ganohkwasra.com, bevkiacobs@gmail.com, fayblaney01@gmail.com, lbroda@saskadvocate.ca, aneve@amnesty.ca, jmcgregor@afn.ca, wina@trudeausioui.com, mbalfour@manitobachiefs.com, marcel.balfour@gmail.com, jopas@legalaids.mb.ca, tstevens@ancfsao.ca, katherine@henselbarristers.com, josephine@henselbarristers.com, josien@awotaan.org, director@bwss.org, micheal@bccla.org, meghan@bccla.org, joanne@bcth.ca, peter.cuthbert@cacp.ca, Ashley.Smith@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca, jmalloy@capg.ca, michelle@brasslaw.ca, communications@fafia-afai.org, shelagh.day@gmail.com, info@cwpcsp.ca, liz@cwpcsp.ca, ppalmater@politics.ryerson.ca, lain.dixon@vancouver.ca, sandra.singh@vancouver.ca, martine.b.cote@lacles.org, center@dewc.ca, hwalia8@gmail.com, cheryl.maloney@eastlink.ca, natalie@cslegal.ca, porteous@endingviolence.org, woods@endingviolence.org, fraser@fraseradvocacy.com, info@fnhc.ca, gignoo@nbnet.nb.ca, doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca, nicole.pfeifer@gov.ab.ca, jean.walters@gov.bc.ca, anne.turley@justice.qc.ca, Anne.McConville@justice.qc.ca, heather.leonoff@gov.mb.ca, Samuel.Thomson@gov.mb.ca, Coral.Lang@gov.mb.ca, Kendra.Jarvinen@gov.mb.ca, heather.hobart@gnb.ca, maya.hamou@gnb.ca, chadblundon@gov.nl.ca, nancyp@gov.nl.ca, tricia_ralph@gov.nt.ca, edward.gores@novascotia.ca, sshaddock@gov.nu.ca, ablondin@gov.nu.ca, Julian.Roy@ontario.ca, Kimberly.Murray@ontario.ca, rmdemone@gov.pe.ca, Andreane.lesperance@mce.gouv.qc.ca, pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca, andre.fauteux@justice.gouv.qc.ca, jacques.pregent@justice.gouv.qc.ca, marie-paule.boucher@justice.gouv.qc.ca, anny.bernier@dpcp.gouv.qc.ca, Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca, kylie.head@gov.sk.ca, Fia.Jampolsky@gov.yk.ca, deiff@hrw.org, d.joneskeeshig@ifn.ca, kitkat10101@gmail.com, caroline.briand@clcw.ca, nancy.jourdain@itum.qc.ca, anne.marie.gauthier@clcw.ca, zarpa@me.com, iskwewuk2014@gmail.com, dro6439@gmail.com, dorothy.smith@mkonorth.com, jbarlow@jerchlawa.com, jwheeler@jerchlawa.com, executivedirector@manitobamoonvoicesinc.ca, llspillet@kanikanichihk.ca, sandraderonde@gmail.com, hilda.anderson.pyrz@mkonorth.com, vlomax@nwac.ca, lgroulx@nwac.ca, jbrennan@nwac.ca, jlord@nwac.ca,

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info@leaf.ca, h.morrison@leaf.ca, k.segal@leaf.ca
CC: 'Christa Big Canoe' <c.bigcanoe@mimiwg-ffada.ca>, t.barnett@mimiwg-ffada.ca

Confidential correspondence intended for Parties with Standing in Part 3 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls:

Dear counsel and representatives of parties with standing,

We would like to take the time to communicate some new information with you with respect to the two upcoming Expert hearings. After deliberating on many concerns and questions that were brought to the Commissioners' attention, they have provided new directions for the upcoming hearings.

We will still be holding two Expert hearings, one on Human Rights Framework and one on Racism. It is important to note that the Human Rights Framework will now be four days, instead of five and will be held from May 14th – 17th, 2018 in Quebec City, QC. Originally, it was thought that we would hold three panels during this hearing. However, now that the hearing is only scheduled for four days, we will only be able to hold two panels.

The Racism Expert hearing will now be three days, instead of five and will be held from June 12th – 14th, 2018. Originally, this hearing was going to be conducted by using the Webinar/WebEX platform. In realizing the need and importance for this hearing and the participation of parties and the public, it has been determined that this platform would not suffice. Therefore, it has been determined that an In Person hearing will be held instead. At this time, we have not confirmed a location for this hearing. As soon as we are aware of the location, we will be in touch.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Shelby Thomas at s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca.

I hope you have a lovely weekend!

Informations confidentielles destinées aux parties ayant qualité pour agir dans les audiences de la Partie 3 de l'Enquête nationale sur les femmes et les filles autochtones disparues et assassinées

Chers/chères collègues et représentants des parties ayant qualité pour agir,

Je me permets de vous écrire aujourd'hui afin de vous informer de changements concernant la tenue des deux prochaines audiences d'experts. Suite à l'expression de nombreuses questions et préoccupations qui ont été portées à leur attention, les commissaires ont dégagé de nouvelles orientations pour les audiences à venir.

Comme prévu initialement, nous tiendrons deux audiences d'experts : l'une sur le cadre des droits de la personne et l'autre sur le racisme. Veuillez noter que l'audience portant sur le cadre des droits de la personne se déroulera dans la ville de Québec du 14 au 17 mai 2018 et durera quatre jours au lieu de cinq. En conséquence, nous ne tiendrons que deux groupes de témoins au lieu des trois initialement prévues.

L'audience d'experts sur le racisme, qui se tiendra du 12 au 14 juin 2018, ne durera que trois jours et non plus cinq comme il avait été prévu au départ. Cette audience devait se dérouler via webinaire/WebEx. Après réflexion et dans le but de faciliter la participation des parties et du public, nous avons plutôt convenu d'opter pour une audience en personne. Nous vous communiquerons le lieu de cette audience dès qu'il sera déterminé.

Si vous avez des questions ou des préoccupations, n'hésitez-pas à communiquer avec Shelby Thomas à s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca.

Je vous souhaite une excellente fin de semaine.

Thank you very much, Merci de votre attention,

Shelby Thomas
Commission Counsel
National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Phone: 1 (431) 334-8941

E-mail: s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca

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This is exhibit " L " referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18
day of May A.D. 2018

Kathie M.

Subject: Confidential information intended for parties with Part 2 Standing in the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Date: Wed, 9 May 2018 10:50:18 -0500

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Confidential information intended for parties with Part 2 Standing in the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Dear Counsel and Representatives of Parties with Part 2 Standing,

I am writing this e-mail to provide you with more information about the upcoming Part 2 Institutional Hearings on Government Services and Police Policies and Practices.

The Government Services Hearing will be held from May 28th to June 1st, 2018 in Calgary, AB at the Sheraton Suites Calgary Eau Claire, 255 Barclay Parade SW, Calgary, AB, T2P 5C2.

The Police Policies and Practices Hearing will be from June 25th to June 29th, 2018 in Regina, SK at The Hotel Saskatchewan, 2125 Victoria Ave, Regina, SK, S4P 0S3.

Following recommendations we have received from Parties with Standing, we are reserving a block of hotel rooms at a discounted price in the venue or near the venue that will be made available to Parties with Standing planning to attend the hearings. I will be sending a link in the future so that you can book a room in this block. There will also be an online registration form to fill out. I will provide this link as well in the future so that you can fill it out.

Please find attached two Notice of Appearances for the aforementioned hearings, if you could confirm your attendance and participation at these hearings by filling them out and sending it to Bryan Zandberg at b.zandberg@mmiwg-ffada.ca, Thomas Barnett at t.barnett@mmiwg-ffada.ca, and myself at s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca, that would be greatly appreciated. We will be establishing a deadline for the receipt of these notices in the future.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your attention to this e-mail.

Thank you very much,

Shelby Thomas
Commission Counsel
National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Phone: 1 (431) 334-8941

E-mail: s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca

There is a toll free crisis line available to you 24 hours a day, please feel free to call 1 (844) 413-6649 if you or anyone you know is triggered and in need of support.

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This is exhibit "m" referred to in
the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18
day of May A.D. 2018

Kathie P. P.

From: Joëlle Pastora Sala

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 12:36

To: Christa Big Canoe; 'Shelby Thomas'; myrnaplante@gmail.com; dro6439@gmail.com; sylve.mccallumrougerie@justice.gc.ca; mmacomber@saskadvocate.ca; cbraun@saskadvocate.ca; gwalen@scharfsteinlaw.com; director@bwss.org; litigation@westcoastleaf.org; exec@westcoastleaf.org

Cc: symes@ssmlaw.ca; zarpa@me.com; vlomax@nwac.ca; Julian.Roy@ontario.ca; sarah.churchill-joly@justice.gc.ca; marie-eve.robillard@justice.gc.ca; cmcynette@onwa.ca; christina@edwardshollinger.com; hillak@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca; laurelm@rapereliefshelter.bc.ca; anny.bernier@dpcp.gouv.qc.ca; Barbara.Mysko@gov.sk.ca; kcarswell@winnipeg.ca; sheribell@winnipeg.ca; doreen.mueller@gov.ab.ca; Kendra.Jarvinen@gov.mb.ca; Ashley.Smith@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca; jmcgregor@afn.ca; swuttke@afn.ca; heather.hobart@gnb.ca; lbroda@saskadvocate.ca; dgcachneepineskum@nan.on.ca; krystyno@falconers.ca; natalie@cslegal.ca; wina@trudeausioui.com; fraser@fraseradvocacy.com; dianematte@videotron.ca; Chantal.Genier@gov.yk.ca; jean.walters@gov.bc.ca; sean.foreman@novascotia.ca; darrin@blainlaw.ca; Emma.Haydon@ontario.ca; marie-helene.tremblay@mce.gouv.qc.ca; mathieul.laine@mce.gouv.qc.ca; Lucien-pierre.bouchard@mce.gouv.qc.ca; Andreane.Lesperance@mce.gouv.qc.ca; pascale.labbe@justice.gouv.qc.ca; fayblaney01@gmail.com; denisespencer@gov.nl.ca; ebeaudin@rtsis.com; darrinblain@icloud.com; emily.arthur@gov.bc.ca; 'Fanny'; m.picard@mimiwg-ffada.ca; v.ford@mimiwg-ffada.ca; 'Marie-Audrey Girard'; 'Bryan Zandberg'; Southall, Anita

Subject: Re: Qualifying this mornings experts

Dear Christa and Shelby,

Can you please confirm whether the upcoming Government Services hearing will include an expert who will be speaking about children in care/ child welfare. In other words, is this panel the only opportunity to ask questions relating to Indigenous children and youth and the child welfare system. Please confirm as soon as possible prior to the commencement of cross examinations so we can meaningfully prepare.

Thanks,

Joëlle

--

Joëlle Pastora Sala
Attorney / Avocate
Public Interest Law Centre / Centre juridique d'intérêt public
200-393 Portage Ave

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the Affidavit of Cora Morgan

sworn before me this 18

day of May A.D. 2018

Katie R. R.

Fwd: RE: Qualifying this mornings experts

Subject:RE: Qualifying this mornings experts

Date:Wed, 16 May 2018 13:15:16 -0400

From:Meredith Porter <m.porter@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

To:'Shelby Thomas' <s.thomas@mmiwg-ffada.ca>, 'Joëlle Pastora Sala' <jopas@legalaide.mb.ca>, 'Christa Big Canoe' <c.bigcanoe@mmiwg-ffada.ca>

Good afternoon,

The Government Services Institutional Hearing will deal with the issue of human trafficking, including youth as young as 13 yrs. but will not touch on child welfare in the context of CFS services for children in care, in-home services, kinship care, or at risk of apprehension, etc.

Meredith Porter

Commission Counsel

MMIWG

(613) 222-5951

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