

Indigenous Child and Family Service Newsletter

Ministry of Children and Family Development | June 2023



This newsletter is meant to share information and support the ministry's commitment to ongoing consultation and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, partners and governments to develop legislation and services consistent with the provincial *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* as well as the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

We will listen to the children, youth and families we serve, knowing their voices and experiences are central to the creation of services that truly meet their needs.

All dates and timelines may be adjusted if needed

Youth Transitions Regulations

The ministry continues to develop new and improved supports for youth and young adults transitioning to adulthood from care, up to the age of 27. This program is being implemented over three years. It started in 2022 and will continue through 2024.

We are now preparing to develop the regulations required to enable some of these young adult services in consultation and cooperation with First Nation, Métis, and Inuit partners. Contact sam.dauch@gov.bc.ca to get involved.

Introducing SAJE: Youth with lived experience with the government care system, including Indigenous youth, helped develop the new name of this program — Strengthening Abilities and Journeys of Empowerment (SAJE).

Children and Youth with Support Needs

On May 10 the ministry commenced engagement with First Nations Rights and Titleholders to begin co-developing a Children and Youth with Support Needs system that better serves all children and youth, based on their unique needs, and upholds the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. The next sessions will be held virtually via Zoom on June 12 and 27. Contact mcf.cysnengage@gov.bc.ca to participate.

We also invite Métis, urban Indigenous and Inuit Peoples and others to participate in additional engagements, so we can gain input on the service approach based on the unique needs and priorities of various communities. These engagements, led by Reciprocal Consulting Inc., are expected to start in June. Contact teamleads@reciprocalconsulting.ca to get involved.

Engagement Opportunity

- Consultation will begin in June 2023
- For information or to get involved contact Sam Dauch at sam.dauch@gov.bc.ca

Learn more

gov.bc.ca/youthtransitions

Read the News Release

news.gov.bc.ca/28897

Engagement Opportunity

- To get more information contact mcf.cysnengage@gov.bc.ca
- Find details about First Nations engagement opportunities at engage.gov.bc.ca
- Find details about other engagement opportunities at gov.bc.ca/cysn-engagement-updates

To sign up for this newsletter please send your name and email address to mcf.engagement@gov.bc.ca

The Ministry of Children and Family Development gratefully acknowledges that it conducts its work on the territories of Indigenous Peoples throughout British Columbia.