

# Indigenous Child and Family Service Newsletter

Ministry of Children and Family Development | September 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**

## Discussion Paper Lays Groundwork for Conversations on Jurisdiction Funding Model

You will soon receive a formal letter of invitation to participate in the co-development of a funding model for child and family services jurisdiction. The discussion paper, "Building a Funding Model to Support First Nations Jurisdiction over Child and Family Services in B.C.", is intended to facilitate discussion and co-development of the model.

In addition, we are planning engagement sessions from September through November 2023. This process will ultimately lead to a BC-specific funding model to support the exercise of First Nations jurisdiction over child and family services.

### Engagement Opportunity

- To participate in co-development or for more information, please contact Andrew Hutton:  
andrew.hutton@gov.bc.ca  
by September 29, 2023

## Legislative Amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)*

Engagement is underway on legislative amendments to the CFCSA to be introduced in spring 2024. These amendments will address the need for procedural safeguards respecting the powers of both a CFCSA director and an Indigenous authority to compel information from public bodies to deliver child and family services.

The ministry is also proposing changes to the CFCSA to resolve a small number of immediate issues impacting Indigenous jurisdiction over child and family services. Initial policy engagement has taken place, and the legislative development phase will occur in September. We will notify you prior to engagements on legislative drafting.

Find more information by searching "Policy, Practice, Regulation Changes and Legislative Amendments" on [gov.bc.ca](http://gov.bc.ca).

### Engagement Opportunity

- To participate in engagement, please contact: shelly.atkinson@gov.bc.ca

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

## Children and Youth with Support Needs Services (CYSN Services)

To ensure we understand the unique needs and priorities of different communities, engagement continues through the following pathways:

- First Nations-led engagement with community. Capacity funding to support First Nations engaging on children with support needs is available. To express interest in accessing this funding, please email [MCF.CYSNengage@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MCF.CYSNengage@gov.bc.ca).
- Survey and focus group sessions, led by Reciprocal Consulting Inc. This engagement includes Métis, urban Indigenous Peoples, Inuit, Black, Immigrant, English as a learned language, and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. If your organization is interested in co-facilitating a session, or if you are interested in participating, please contact [Kylee@ReciprocalConsulting.ca](mailto:Kylee@ReciprocalConsulting.ca). The survey link will be posted on [engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc) this fall.
- Ministry-led engagement with First Nations Rights and Titleholders. Check out [engage.gov.bc.ca](https://engage.gov.bc.ca) over the coming months to see upcoming engagement sessions and summaries from previous engagement sessions.

### Engagement Opportunities

- For information, contact: [mcf.cysnengage@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mcf.cysnengage@gov.bc.ca)
- Find engagement details at [engage.gov.bc.ca](https://engage.gov.bc.ca)
- Search “CYSN engagement updates” on [gov.bc.ca](https://gov.bc.ca) for more details

## Social Work Oversight Update

The ministry has reviewed and analyzed the engagement input received over the last year and is preparing a What We Heard report, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

Before finalizing this report, we have invited those who attended an engagement session or provided their email through the social worker survey to attend a validation session. At these sessions, participants will be asked to provide feedback on the emerging themes of the report. Thank you for your continued participation and partnership!

### For More Information

- Sign up for updates by emailing: [MCF.SocialWorkEngagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MCF.SocialWorkEngagement@gov.bc.ca)
- To learn more, visit: [engage.gov.bc.ca/socialworkoversight](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/socialworkoversight)

## We Want to Hear From You

Do you have feedback about  
this newsletter?  
We would love to hear it!  
Send it to us at

[mcf.engagement@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mcf.engagement@gov.bc.ca)

