

Aboriginal Justice Inquiry - Child Welfare Initiative



Options for Foster Care Providers

Central Region

April 2004



Central Region Map

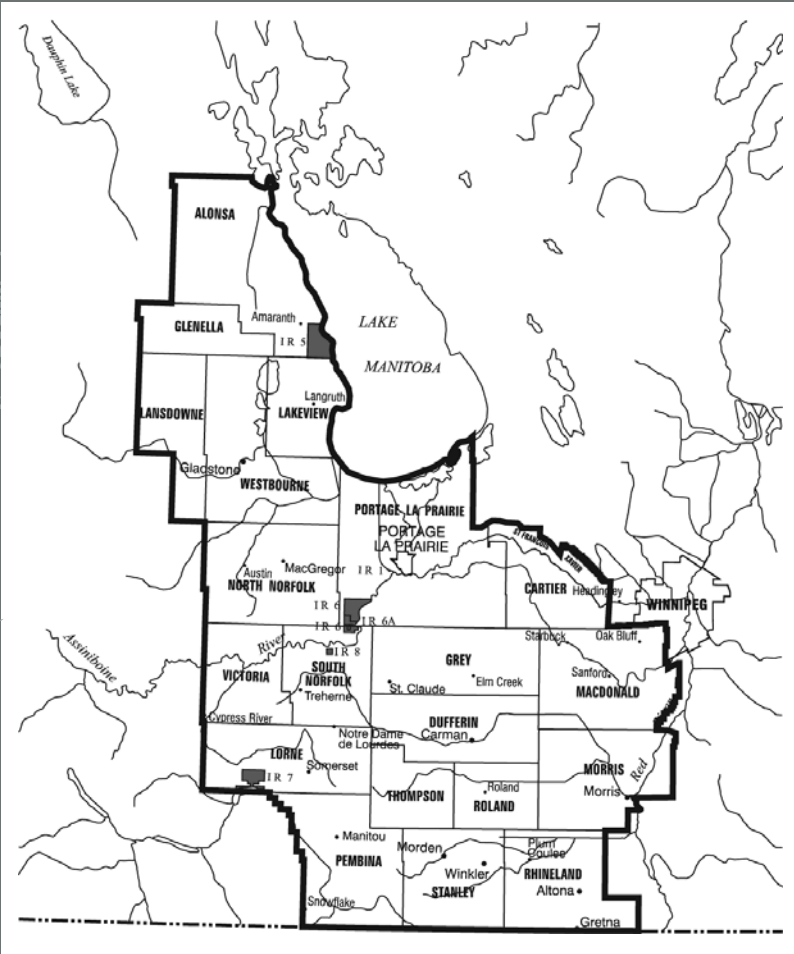




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THE AJI-CWI: A New Approach to Child and Family Services in Manitoba

The child and family services system works to protect children at risk of abuse or neglect. It supports and strengthens the well-being of families, especially those experiencing difficulties in caring for their children.

Child and family services in Manitoba is currently undergoing a major restructuring through an initiative called The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry-Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI).

The AJI-CWI is a joint initiative of four parties:

- ◆ Manitoba Metis Federation
- ◆ Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
- ◆ Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak
- ◆ Province of Manitoba

The parties have worked together to develop a new system that:

- ◆ recognizes and respects the cultural diversity of Manitoba
- ◆ returns to First Nations and Metis peoples the right to develop and control the delivery of their own child and family services

In the new system, the delivery of child and family services is a shared responsibility between the Province of Manitoba and Aboriginal peoples. The most fundamental change is the delegation of responsibility for the delivery of child and family services from the Province to four new child and family services Authorities, three of which are Aboriginal Authorities.



The four new Authorities are:

- ◆ Metis Child and Family Services Authority
- ◆ First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority
- ◆ First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority
- ◆ General Child and Family Services Authority

This change is legislated through *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act* of the Province of Manitoba, proclaimed November 24, 2003.

Upon completion of the restructuring (being implemented on a region-by-region basis), all four Authorities and their agencies will provide services throughout the province. Aboriginal children and families will have access to culturally appropriate child and family services through Aboriginal agencies, no matter where they live in Manitoba.

Vision Statement

A child and family services system that recognizes and supports the rights of children to develop within safe and healthy families and communities, and recognizes that First Nations and Metis peoples have unique authority, rights and responsibilities to honour and care for their children.

Mission Statement

To have a jointly coordinated child and family services system that recognizes the distinct rights and authorities of First Nations and Metis peoples and the general population to control and deliver their own child and family services province-wide; that is community-based; and reflects and incorporates the cultures of First Nations, Metis and the general population respectively.



New Arrangements for Foster Care Providers

Foster families are an essential resource in the restructured child and family services system. There are, however, new arrangements for foster care being introduced as part of the restructuring of the system.

General Licensing Arrangements

Licensing of foster homes will continue to be the responsibility of agencies, subject to province-wide regulations and standards. A major change being introduced is that agencies will now be able to license foster homes anywhere they choose throughout the province. As licensing arrangements will no longer need to be based on geography, foster families will be able to choose the agency from which they would like to request a licence. However, each foster home can hold a licence from only one agency and a family can have only one foster home application active at any given time.

A registry will be developed to track applications and licences. All foster family licence renewals are to be done by the current licensing agency, unless otherwise agreed to by the agencies and foster home involved.

Management and Support

The agency that licenses a foster home will be responsible for supporting and managing that home. The exceptions to this are foster homes that are currently managed by non-mandated child and family service agencies. Arrangements for these particular foster homes are not changing at this time but will be reviewed later in the AJI-CWI process.



Sharing Arrangements

Sharing arrangements will be developed by each Authority to allow agencies access to foster care spaces in homes licensed by other agencies. As such, foster families licensed by one agency will not be prevented from providing care for another agency. Subject to these protocols, however, the licensing agency (in consultation with the foster home) will be responsible for approving all placement decisions.

Implementation

The new foster care arrangements are being introduced in the province on a region-by-region basis. This began in the Interlake in late November 2003 and introduction in other regions is scheduled throughout 2004. Detailed information and supports are being made available to foster families in each region as implementation takes place.

The introduction of these changes will begin in the Central region in April 2004. A coordinated approach is being used to support existing foster families in making licensing decisions throughout implementation.

Starting the first day when cases are transferred in Central, foster families will have up to three months to decide which agency to apply to for licensing when their current licence expires. Once this three month period is over, a process will be in place to facilitate licensing by either the existing or an alternate agency.

The existing licensing agency will be responsible for renewals for foster families whose current licence expires before the end of this three month period. A change in licensing agencies would be processed the next time their licence expires, unless otherwise agreed to by the agencies and the foster family involved.



Implementation and Places of Safety

At the time of case transfers, some children will be in the care of a Place of Safety home. If the family providing the Place of Safety decides to become a foster family, they will need to decide which agency they wish to apply to for licensing.

Foster Care Rates

Special rates currently being paid to foster families will be maintained for six months from the date of the case transfer of any particular child. During this time, there will be no decrease to the special rates paid to the existing foster home. Any increase will be based on sound case planning. If a placement change is made during this time, this provision does not apply.



Authorities and Agencies Serving the Central Region

Five agencies from the four Authorities will be the primary service providers in the region:

Metis Authority

- ◆ Metis Child, Family and Community Services

Southern First Nations Authority

- ◆ Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services
- ◆ Intertribal Child and Family Services
- ◆ West Region Child and Family Services

Northern First Nations Authority

- ◆ Services provided through service agreements with other Authorities

General Authority

- ◆ Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba

The following pages provide summaries of the foster care arrangements for each Authority and a brief profile on each of the five agencies listed above.

Please note that child and family services may be provided by other agencies in the province, but the five profiled in this booklet have primary responsibility in the Central region.

A map depicting the geographic region of Central is provided on the inside front cover of this booklet.



Metis Child and Family Services Authority



On behalf of the Metis Child and Family Services Authority (MCFS) and the Metis Child, Family and Community Services Agency (MCFCS) I wish to extend greetings to individuals in Manitoba's Central Region. As many are aware, the past year has been extremely busy for the Board and staff of MCFS and MCFCS as we plan for the opening of the first Metis-specific agency in the province.

The establishment of MCFCS has been a longstanding dream within the Metis community and it was with great excitement and enthusiasm that we received the formal mandate from the Province of Manitoba to deliver child and family services province-wide on September 13, 2003 and subsequently, Proclamation of *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act* on November 24, 2003. While these events were major milestones for the Metis Authority and agency, we continue to focus our attention and efforts on preparing for the opening of the agency through detailed planning and development to ensure we are adequately prepared to begin delivering mandated services to families.

We are currently planning to develop services in five stages. In each stage, services will be developed in an area or region of Manitoba. Our initial focus will be the set-up of services in Winnipeg. MCFCS will have a single-agency structure with a head office located in Winnipeg. Although the majority of administrative tasks will be managed centrally through the head office, services will be developed and provided on a regional basis.



MCFCS plans to have the capacity to deliver services directly to children and families throughout Central Manitoba.

Considerable effort has been dedicated to the development of an alternative care program that matches the philosophy of MCFCS. Ensuring that children are cared for by qualified, compassionate and nurturing care providers is critical in situations where children require a place of safety. Foster parents are a critical resource to the child and family services system and as such we place a great deal of confidence and trust in them. Our program will ensure adequate supports are in place for these critical resources.

We are excited about the months ahead and we look forward to working with individuals, families, and organizations as we implement our mandate and work to roll out services throughout the province.

Nelson Mayer
Chief Executive Officer,
Metis Child and Family Services Authority
Telephone: (204) 949-0220



Metis Child, Family and Community Services

At the time this booklet was printed, the Metis Child, Family and Community Services Agency (MCFCS) was not yet providing direct service to families. We are currently preparing for the opening of the agency through detailed planning and development to ensure we are adequately prepared to begin delivering mandated services to families. The following provides an overview of our philosophy, as well as our approach to service delivery.



MCFCS believes in a holistic approach in working with children and families. We recognize that children require a permanent, stable, safe and nurturing environment where they receive adequate nutrition, shelter and clothing. As well, a child's unique strengths and needs must be assessed and attended to in order to maximize the child's emotional, social, academic, spiritual and cultural growth.

Overriding all these needs is the firm belief that maintaining family and community connections and decision-making power within the community is essential to healthy child development. Children must be provided with the skills necessary to access resources and maintain and build relationships to make a healthy transition into adulthood.

Our efforts are intended to serve the best interests of children, families and communities. MCFCS strives to support and strengthen Metis, Non-status and Inuit families. Our focus is to promote the health and well-being of our Metis children and families by building on the capacity of our Metis communities through the provision of culturally based programs and services.

We will accomplish this by ensuring our programs are responsive and accountable to the communities we serve. We will offer an alternative method of intervention and prevention that is holistic and family centred. We believe that involvement of family and



community is essential when working with children who are at risk of entering the child welfare system.

MCFCS plans to provide the following types of Alternative Care arrangements:

- ◆ Extended Family Placements by way of a licensing process
- ◆ Licensed Alternative Care Homes (no relationship with a particular child) within a specific community to maintain the child's connections with the birth family
- ◆ Treatment or Specialized Alternative Care arrangements for children with special needs

MCFCS has developed a number of programs and services designed specifically for care providers, including:

- ◆ Cultural Orientation Training to encourage cultural sensitivity
- ◆ Training to address specific behavioral difficulties (ie. FASD, ADD, ADHD, ODD, caring for medical needs children etc.)
- ◆ Connecting and bridging relationships with birth family members

MCFCS will provide ongoing support and supervision to all placement resources.

We look forward to the future where we will all work together to build stronger families and communities.

Contact Information:

DIRECTOR: Dorothy McLoughlin

Office:

Metis Child, Family and Community Services
127-150 Henry Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 0J7
Ph: (204) 949-0220 Fax: (204) 984-9487
E-mail: info@metiscfs.mb.ca



First Nations of Southern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority

In 2000, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, on behalf of the southern First Nations, signed an historic agreement with the Province of Manitoba to begin the process of restoring responsibility to First Nations for child and family services to their children and families living off reserve. While this initiative does not restore jurisdiction over child welfare to First Nations, it is a significant step towards that goal.

First Nations of southern Manitoba have been providing child and family services to their own people living on reserve for over twenty years. With the proclamation of *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act*, First Nations are able to begin providing these same services to all of their citizens, wherever they live in Manitoba.

There are currently 7 mandated First Nations agencies providing a full range of child and family services to 36 southern First Nations. Each of these agencies provides a variety of programs and services designed to meet the needs of the families and children that they serve. These agencies have developed many innovative approaches, designed to support families and protect children, which are based on First Nations culture and customs.

Alternative care for children, including foster care, is one such program area. Over the last 20 years, the agencies have worked with communities and foster families to develop a base of licensed and trained foster parents and alternate care resources. As a result of this work, we are now able to keep First Nations children who are in need of alternate care within their extended families, home communities, and within the Aboriginal community.



Each agency has staff that recruit, license, and train foster parents, and also provide ongoing support to foster homes when children are placed. Foster parents who are interested in getting more information should call the agencies directly. The key contact for each agency with respect to foster care is:

- ◆ Anishinaabe Child and Family Services – Martha Marsden
- ◆ Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services – Bev Flett
- ◆ Intertribal Child and Family Services – Liz Murdoch
- ◆ Peguis Child and Family Services – Rhonda Traverse (Peguis) & Tara Petti (Wpg)
- ◆ Sagkeeng Child and Family Services – Andrea Klyne Lavallee
- ◆ Southeast Child and Family Services – Lloyd Goodmanson
- ◆ West Region Child and Family Services – Angela Everett

You may also contact the Southern First Nations Authority for further information. Please call Louise McKay at (204) 783-9190.

The Southern First Nations Authority is looking forward to working in partnership with the southern First Nations agencies to continue to develop and deliver innovative and progressive alternative care programs, built on First Nations values, respecting First Nations customs and practices, and honouring First Nations children.



Dakota Ojibway Child & Family Services Inc

Dakota Ojibway Child & Family Services provides child and family services to the members of eight First Nation communities in southern Manitoba:

- ◆ Birdtail Sioux Dakota Nation
- ◆ Roseau River First Nation
- ◆ Canupawakpa Dakota Nation
- ◆ Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation
- ◆ Dakota Plains Wahpeton Nation
- ◆ Sioux Valley Dakota Nation
- ◆ Long Plain First Nation
- ◆ Swan Lake First Nation



Our agency motto is "Taking Care Of Our Own"

We operate under the following mission statement:

"Dakota Ojibway Child & Family Services Inc. will ensure the safety and well-being of children by empowering families through community self-determination."

Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services makes every effort to ensure that the provision of Child and Family Services is compatible to the needs of the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council communities. The agency promotes the seven teachings of our culture – Honesty, Wisdom, Respect, Trust, Sharing, Humour and Humility.

Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services has identified the following objectives:

- ◆ To ensure the safety and well-being of children
- ◆ To strengthen and unify families who are members of Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council bands
- ◆ To place Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council children, who are coming into the care of Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services back within their own communities or with other Native families, as directed by the child's band



- ◆ To assist children, who were placed outside their bands and with non-native families prior to the establishment of Dakota Ojibway Child and Family Services, to reconnect and/or return to their families and/or bands
- ◆ To develop preventative services for the prevention of circumstances requiring the protective placement of Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council children
- ◆ To develop community responsibility, through the establishment of Local Child and Family Services Committees, Child Protection Committees and a Council of Elders

Dakota Ojibway Child & Family Services has a responsibility to ensure that all children placed in foster care are provided with a safe and loving environment, which meets the child's emotional, mental, physical, educational, social and cultural needs. Although the agency is committed to placing children with extended family and/or within the community or cultural group, we recognize that some children may require placement in other resources that can meet their particular needs. Foster families are treated as an integral part of the agency team and participate in planning for the children in their care. We provide training for agency foster families and support additional training requests where necessary to meet the needs of the child.

Contact Information:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Bobbi Pompana

Main Office: Long Plain First Nation #6B, Band #237
702 Douglas Street
Brandon, Manitoba R7A 7B2
Ph: (204) 729-3650
Fax: (204) 728-1806
Toll Free: 1-877-508-8289
Emergency After Hours: 1-800-263-6237



Other Offices:

Birdtail Sioux

General Delivery, Beulah, MB. R0M 0B0

Phone: (204) 568-4559 Fax: (204) 568-4556

Canupawakpa

Box 2169, Virden, MB. R0M 2C0

Phone: (204) 854-2920 Fax: (204) 854-2224

Dakota Plains

Box 109, Edwin, MB. R0H 0G0

Phone: (204) 252-3120 Fax: (204) 252-2504

Long Plain

Box 1629, Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 3P1

Phone: (204) 252-2880 Fax: (204) 252-2520

Toll Free: 1-866-549-3300

Roseau River

Box 205, Ginew, MB. R0A 2R0

Phone: (204) 427-2770 Fax: (204) 427-2830

Sandy Bay

Box 105, Marius, MB. R0H 0T0

Phone: (204) 843-2687 Fax: (204) 843-2696

Toll Free: 1-866-235-6968

Sioux Valley

Box 36, Griswold, MB. R0M 0S0

Phone: (204) 855-2415 Fax: (204) 855-2229

Swan Lake

Box 370, Swan Lake, MB. R0G 2S0

Phone: (204) 836-2503 Fax: (204) 836-2388

Winnipeg

Room 500-294 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB. R3C 0B9

Phone: (204) 988-9550 Fax: (204) 988-9552



Intertribal Child and Family Services

Intertribal Child and Family Services provides child and family services to the members of three First Nations communities:

- ◆ Fisher River Cree Nation
- ◆ Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
- ◆ Dakota Tipi First Nation

Our motto is:

Serving the Cree, Ojibway and Dakota First Nations.



We operate under the following mission statement:

To develop support systems that protect children, empower families and strengthen our communities.

Common values of our agency include:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ◆ Acceptance | ◆ Balanced lifestyle |
| ◆ Bonds/Belonging | ◆ Communication |
| ◆ Community roots | ◆ Family differences |
| ◆ Friendship | ◆ Have fun / laughter |
| ◆ Love/Respect/Trust | ◆ Support/Teaching |
| ◆ Value our elders | ◆ Value our history |
| ◆ Working together | |

We believe that fostering involves becoming part of a team of people planning for the best interests of the child. We understand that fostering means learning to cope with the daily stresses and trials of children who need to feel loved and special. To support foster families, we encourage communication between foster parents and our staff, and endeavor to respond quickly and with compassion to any questions and concerns that foster parents have. As well, we provide regular activities and training for foster parents and children to promote physical and emotional well-being.



Contact Information:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Shirley Cochrane

Main Office: Box 358
 Koostatak, MB R0C 1S0
 Ph: (204) 645-2744 Fax: (204) 645-3065
 Toll Free: 1-866-573-4461

Other Offices:

Winnipeg Outreach
Unit 19-399 Berry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6
Ph: (204) 927-2800 Fax: (204) 949-1180
Toll Free: 1-866-573-4460

Kinonjeoshtegon Child and Family
Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation
Box 10
Dallas, MB R0C 0S0
Ph: (204) 394-2281 Fax: (204) 394-2285

Dakota Tipi Child & Family
2020 Dakota Drive
Dakota Tipi, MB R1N 3X6
Ph: (204) 857-4381 Fax: (204) 857-9855



West Region Child and Family Services, Inc.

West Region Child and Family Services Inc., is a mandated First Nation child caring agency which provides child and family services to members of the following first nations:

- ◆ Ebb & Flow
- ◆ Gambler
- ◆ Keeseekoowenin
- ◆ O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi
- ◆ Pine Creek
- ◆ Rolling River
- ◆ Skownan
- ◆ Tootinaowazibeeng
- ◆ Waywayseecappo



Our agency operates under the Mission Statement: “The Protection of Children”.

Our Statement of Purpose: The purpose of the programs and services of WRCFS is to sustain, support and enhance family and community life, thereby maintaining children in their own home, or when necessary, seeking substitute parenting within the family and/or home community if at all possible.

WRCFS carries out *The Child and Family Services Act*, incorporating the traditional beliefs and customs of the native community. A full range of service is provided including statutory services, voluntary services and prevention programs. Each First Nation Community has a field office with a community-based team which includes statutory and prevention resource workers.

Alternate Care Unit: The alternate care unit is a program designed to provide alternative resources for children who are unable to remain in their own homes of origin and who require a safe and



nurturing environment. These resources can be for: emergency placements, short and/or long term placements, Place of Safety designations, semi-independent or independent living arrangements, therapeutic foster homes, group homes, specialized medical homes and adoption.

The primary responsibility of the unit, working closely with community based teams, is to identify and license foster homes within the communities, with extended family for the placement of children. Although recruitment and development of agency resources within the nine First Nation communities is the Alternate Care Unit's principle goal, placement resources off reserve are also considered. Maintaining foster home support and providing regular training opportunities for our foster parents continues to be one of our main objectives within the unit.

Contact Information:

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR:

Stella Bone, BSW, MSW Underway

Main Office: WRCFS Rolling River First Nation Head Office
P.O. Box 280
Erickson, Manitoba
R0J 0P0
Ph: (204) 636-6100 Fax: (204) 636-6158

Other Offices:

Winnipeg:

255 Sherbrook Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2B8

Ph: 985-4050 Fax: 985-4079

Dauphin:

431 Buchanon Avenue, Dauphin, MB

Ph: 622-5200 Fax: 622-5248



Other West Region CFS Offices:

Ebb & Flow First Nation

General Delivery, Ebb & Flow, MB R0L 0R0

Ph: 448-2022 Fax: 448-2790

Gamblers First Nation

General Delivery, Binscarth, MB R0G 0J0

Ph: 532-2549 Fax: 532-2503

Keeseekoowenin First Nation

P.O. Box 25, Elphinstone, MB R0J 0N0

Ph: 625-2088 Fax: 625-2754

O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation

General Delivery, Crane River, MB R0L 0M0

Ph: 732-2635

Pine Creek First Nation

P.O. Box 70, Camperville, MB R0L 0J0

Ph: 524-2128

Rolling River First Nation

P.O. Box 28, Erickson, MB R0J 0P0

Ph: 636-6100 Fax: 636-6158

Skownan First Nation

Health Centre, General Delivery

Skownan, MB R0L 1Y0

Ph: 628-3425 Fax: 628-3593

Tootinaowaziibeeng First Nation

General Delivery, Shortdale, MB R0L 1W0

Ph: 546-2429 Fax: 546-2581

Waywayseecappo First Nation

General Delivery, Waywayseecappo, MB R0J 1S0

Ph: 859-2860 Fax: 859-3164



First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority

The opportunity has been created for First Nations of northern Manitoba child and family service agencies to move closer to attaining full jurisdiction over child and family matters. While the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry - Child Welfare Initiative is not a self-government initiative, it is a process that has extended our mandate to help our families living off-reserve.

One area of service is in foster care. In our northern communities, the existing First Nation child and family service agencies have developed models, such as custom care, community care and alternative programs. These models have been designed to meet the goals and objectives of northern First Nations and the needs of northern First Nation children, with an emphasis on program elements which recognize and support First Nations identity, traditional customs and culture.

With the development of the Northern First Nations Authority and the establishment of service delivery sites off-reserve, the Northern First Nations Authority will support the above principles, but will also be mindful of its relationship to the provincial system and its program and service delivery standards.



While there will be differences between the Northern First Nations Authority and its service delivery system, in terms of roles and responsibilities, there will be commonalities in the areas of philosophy, recruitment, support systems, financial systems, placement protocols, reviews, data and record keeping, registration requirements, and appeal processes. Examples of common elements reflected in the philosophy of most service delivery systems include: “our children are our most precious resource”; “children are our future”; “children are entitled to a safe and healthy environment that is nurturing and protective”; and “keeping families together”.

The Northern First Nations Authority is committed to creating a better system for helping our people.

For more information, please call: (204) 942-1842



General Child and Family Services Authority

The General Child and Family Services Authority (General Authority) has been created as a part of the whole child welfare reform strategy contemplated by the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI). In transitioning responsibility for Aboriginal children and families requiring child welfare services to the First Nations and Metis Authorities, it was recognized that the non-Aboriginal population needed to be served. The design of the new system will see responsibility for all non-Aboriginal permanent wards and those who choose the General Authority as their service provider rest with General Authority agencies.

The General Authority agencies are as follows:

- ◆ Child and Family Services of Western Manitoba
- ◆ Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba
- ◆ Jewish Child and Family Service
- ◆ Churchill Child and Family Services (a program of the Churchill Regional Health Authority)
- ◆ Winnipeg Child and Family Services
- ◆ Rural and Northern Services - Interlake
- ◆ Rural and Northern Services - Eastman
- ◆ Rural and Northern Services - Parkland
- ◆ Rural and Northern Services - Northern

All of these agencies have been in existence for many years and continue to deliver child welfare services in their particular geographical regions. They continue to be responsible for receiving referrals from their communities, investigating child abuse allegations, and providing all services under *The Child and Family Services Act* and *The Adoption Act*, including licensing foster homes.

The role of the General Authority is as articulated in *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act* but generally is as follows:



- ◆ To ensure that child and family services are delivered through a network of agencies to all children and families falling under the jurisdiction of the General Authority who require these services
- ◆ To advocate for the delivery of high quality services throughout the General Authority agencies
- ◆ To fund the agencies under its jurisdiction for regional and community based programs and services
- ◆ To ensure compliance with legislation, regulations and standards

The General Authority is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Minister of Family Services and Housing for the Province of Manitoba. The Board is a governance Board which takes the lead role with the General Authority in promoting and supporting innovative programs within the agencies.

The AJI-CWI has created a unique opportunity for all Authorities and service providers to examine critically all of the assumptions behind the traditional delivery of child welfare in this province. The General Authority too takes this opportunity. With the leadership of the General Authority and the continued work of the agencies, the future of services to children and families will be reformed and enhanced. The well being of all children living in the province continues to be the prime directive for all of child welfare practitioners. Innovative and creative alternatives to the more traditional delivery of services is what is driving the whole system under this initiative....we need to preserve what is good for children and change what doesn't work anymore.

For more information contact:

Dennis H. Schellenberg

Chief Executive Officer

(204) 984-9360 or

Toll Free: 1-866-803-2814



Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba

Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba is a private non-profit agency established in 1934. The agency is responsible for the delivery of services under *The Child and Family Services Act* and *The Adoption Act of Manitoba*.



The agency's Vision Statement is *"healthy children, healthy families, healthy communities"*. Its Missions Statement is...

Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba is dedicated to working in partnership with the community to provide a range of services focused on the well being of children and families.

Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba is committed to supporting and building on family strengths through education, advocacy and intervention.

Along with a group of dedicated and experienced staff, foster parents work hard to ensure the best outcomes for children who enter the care of the agency. Foster families who wish to be licensed by the agency are required to undergo an in-depth home study and orientation and have the opportunity for on-going training and support.

Because not all families have the same interests and not all children have the same needs, the agency operates a number of different programs, one or more of which may interest families who apply. Receiving Assessment Foster Homes provide short-term placements for children who come into the care of the agency on an emergency basis.

Regular Foster Homes provide longer-term care for children of all ages and levels of needs. Special Initiative Homes provide longer-term care for adolescents who face many challenges. Respite Homes provide short-term care for other foster parents or for parents who require a break from their daily parenting. Together they form a continuum of care that has allowed the agency to maintain over 95% of the children in its care outside of residential facilities.



The agency has an active Foster Parent Support Group operating in part of the region and supports all efforts of foster parents to come together for their own mutual benefit.

Child and Family Services of Central Manitoba looks forward to a continued strong and positive relationship with all of the agencies operating in the region as the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry-Child Welfare Initiative unfolds.

Contact Information:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Janet Shindle

Main Office: 25-3rd Street S.E.
Portage la Prairie MB R1N 1N1
Ph: (204)-857-8751 Fax: (204)-239-1413

Other Offices:

Carman Sub-office
11 - 2nd Street SW
Carman MB
Ph: (204)745-6405 Fax(204)745-3558

Morden Sub-Office
160 Stephen Street
Morden MB
Ph: (204)822-7403 Fax(204)822-7404

Winkler Sub-Office
204 Main Street
Winkler MB
Ph: (204)331-5040 Fax(204)331-5046



DO YOU

Want more information?

Have any concerns?

If you want more information before you make a decision regarding the new foster care arrangements, please speak to your worker. If you prefer, you can also call any of the Child and Family Services Authorities during regular office hours:

Metis Child and Family Services Authority
(204) 949-0220

First Nations of Southern Manitoba
Child and Family Services Authority
(204) 783-9190
Toll Free: 1-800-665-5762

First Nations of Northern Manitoba
Child and Family Services Authority
(204) 942-1842

General Child and Family Services Authority
(204) 984-9360
Toll Free 1-866-803-2814

OR:

Visit the web site:

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