

**Aboriginal Justice Inquiry –
Child Welfare Initiative**

**Summary of the
Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP)
for Restructuring the Child and Family Services
System in Manitoba**

March 2003



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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	•	•	•	•	
2					
Introduction	•	•	•	•	
3					
The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative	4
A New System for Child and Family Services in Manitoba	.	.	.	.	6
Public Feedback Process	.	.	.	.
7					
The Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP)	•	•	•	•	8
Phases and Timelines	.	.	.	.
8					
Overall Timelines for Sub-Projects	.	.	.	.
9					
Descriptions of DIP Sub-Projects	•	•	•	•	
10					
1. Authority Development	•	•	•	•	
10					
Governance Structure for the New System	.	.	.	.	11
2. Service Transition	•	•	•	•	12
A. Authority Determination Process (ADP)	.	.	.	.	12
B. Service Transfers	.	.	.	.
13					
3. Human Resources	•	•	•	•	14
A. Labour Adjustment Strategy	.	.	.	.	14
B. Education and Training	.	.	.	.	15
4. Direct Services	•	•	•	•	16
A. Winnipeg Intake	.	.	.	.	16
B. Non-Winnipeg Intake	.	.	.	.	17
C. Foster Care	.	.	.	.	18
D. Abuse Services	.	.	.	.	18
E. Group 2 Resources	.	.	.	.
19					
F. Office of the Children’s Advocate (OCA)	.	.	.	.	19
5. System Governance and Supports	•	•	•	•	20
A. Executive Support Unit	.	.	.	.	20
B. Leadership Council and Standing Committee	.	.	.	.	21
C. Legislation	.	.	.	.
D. Funding	.	.	.	.
Summary of the Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP)	.	.	.	.	22

Executive Summary

The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI) is an initiative to restructure the child and family services system in Manitoba. The Manitoba Metis Federation, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, and the Province of Manitoba have worked together to develop a new system that recognizes cultural differences and 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 will be much more of a shared responsibility between the Province and Aboriginal peoples. The most fundamental change will be 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 serving Aboriginal people.

All four Authorities and their agencies will provide services throughout the province. Aboriginal children and families will have access to child and family services under the auspices of Aboriginal agencies, no matter where they live in Manitoba.

This booklet provides a summary of the **Detailed Implementation Plan**, or **DIP**. The DIP provides a comprehensive framework for planning and implementing the new system. It is a detailed plan designed to be flexible and responsive to changing circumstances. As such, it is described as a “rolling document” that can be amended based on the consensus of the four partners to the AJI-CWI. There are 21 sub-projects, or major tasks, in the DIP. Summary descriptions of each sub-project are provided in this booklet.

Introduction

The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI) is a joint initiative of the Manitoba Metis Federation, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, and the Province of Manitoba to restructure the child and family services system in Manitoba. The AJI-CWI responds to the need for a 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

This booklet provides a summary of the **Detailed Implementation Plan**, or **DIP**. The DIP describes the numerous steps necessary to complete the process of implementing the new system. The DIP was developed by building on:

- The AJI-CWI Conceptual Plan (August 2001)
- Findings from the AJI-CWI public feedback process, conducted in Autumn 2001
- Ongoing planning among the four partners

This report begins with background information about the AJI-CWI and activities leading up to the development of the DIP.

The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative

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

Commissioned in 1988, the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry (AJI) examined the relationship between the Aboriginal peoples of Manitoba and the justice system. Part of the AJI looked at how Aboriginal people were treated by the child and family services system. The AJI said good work was being done in serving the child and family service needs of people living in on-reserve communities. The work was being done by on-reserve First Nations agencies but these agencies were not allowed to serve people off-reserve.

The AJI report of 1991 said the non-Aboriginal system did not serve Aboriginal peoples well. It recommended a number of changes:

- Establish the Office of the Child Protector to protect the interests of children, to investigate any complaint into the practices of any child welfare agency, and to be responsible to the Legislature. (*The Office of the Children's Advocate was established in 1992 and made responsible to the Legislature in 1998.*)
- Provide Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal child and family services agencies with sufficient resources to enable them to provide a full range of direct and preventive services mandated by *The Child and Family Services Act*.
- Ensure that the federal and provincial governments provide resources to Aboriginal agencies to develop policies, standards, protocols and procedures, and to develop computer systems that will permit them to communicate effectively, track cases, and share information.
- Amend Principle 11 of *The Child and Family Services Act* to read: "Aboriginal people are entitled to the provision of child and family services in a manner which respects their unique status, and their cultural and linguistic heritage."
- Establish a mandated province-wide Metis agency.
- Expand the authority of existing Indian agencies to enable them to offer services to band members living off-reserve.
- Establish an Aboriginal child and family services agency in the city of Winnipeg to handle all Aboriginal cases.

In 1999, the Province of Manitoba established the Aboriginal Justice Implementation Commission. It recommended that the Province sign an agreement with the First Nations and Metis political leadership to develop a plan for Aboriginal agencies to serve Aboriginal peoples throughout Manitoba.

This recommendation was acted on in 2000, when the Province, Metis, and First Nations leaders signed agreements which led to the creation of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI): an initiative to restructure the child and family services system in Manitoba. Work on the plan began in August 2000. Vision and mission statements were drafted to guide the development of the new system.

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.

A New System for Child and Family Services in Manitoba

In the new child and family services system, the delivery of services will be much more of a shared responsibility between the Province 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 serving Aboriginal people in Manitoba. The 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 (for all other families)

All four Authorities and their agencies will provide service throughout the province. Aboriginal children and families will have access to child and family services under the auspices of Aboriginal agencies no matter where they live in Manitoba.

The Authorities in the new system will work together to make sure people receive services in a timely and efficient way, leaving no child at risk. Under the new system:

- The Province approves and provides funding to the Authorities and serves as the final level of appeal in certain matters. The Province maintains ultimate responsibility for the safety and protection of children in Manitoba, and for the overall child and family services system.
- Authorities design and manage the delivery of child and family services throughout the province, and provide funding to agencies which qualify to deliver services. Authorities will be the primary liaison between agencies and the Province.
- Working in partnership, the Province of Manitoba and the Aboriginal Authorities design laws, policies and standards.
- Agencies work together with the Authorities and the Province of Manitoba in delivering child and family services. Agencies are directly accountable to the Authorities.

Public Feedback Process

In 2001, the partners to the AJI-CWI developed the Conceptual Plan for the Initiative. A 34-page booklet based on the Conceptual Plan and called *Promise of Hope: Commitment to Change* was released to the public in August 2001. A feedback process was then conducted to give Manitobans the opportunity to respond to the vision described in *Promise of Hope*.

A summary report of the public's response was written and published in January 2002. It reported that:

“Strong and widespread support was expressed for the overall vision for a restructured child and family services system as described in *Promise of Hope: Commitment to Change*. Almost all participants felt the proposed changes would contribute to a more responsive child and family services system and were long overdue.”

Manitobans also expressed a number of concerns about the process for implementing the AJI-CWI, which the partners have taken into consideration in developing the Detailed Implementation Plan.

The Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP)

The DIP is a “rolling document” that provides the comprehensive framework for planning and implementing the new system. The understanding that the DIP is a “rolling document” acknowledges that it will need to be amended from time to time to reflect changing circumstances. Any changes or amendments are to be made through consensus among all four partners.

The original DIP is a highly technical document consisting of over 200 pages. There are 21 sub-projects, or major tasks, in the DIP. In this summary of the DIP, the sub-projects are presented in five categories (see page 9). There is a summary description of each sub-project with the following information:

- Overall timelines for sub-projects (see page 9)
- A brief explanation about each sub-project
- The goal of each sub-project
- Major milestones for each sub-project

Phases and Timelines

The AJI-CWI was developed as a five-phase plan:

- **Phase 1 – September 2000 to December 2000**
Proposals and recommendations for an initial draft plan
- **Phase 2 – January 2001 to July 2001**
Completion of the AJI-CWI Conceptual Plan
- **Phase 3 – August 2001 to April 2003**
Completion of the public feedback process, development of the Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP), and transition into Phase 4
- **Phase 4 – February 2003 to March 2004**
Plan substantially implemented
- **Phase 5 – April 2004 to October 2004**
Stabilization of changes implemented

The support by the AJI-CWI Executive Committee for the DIP as a rolling document marks the transition into Phase 4.

Note: Please see the Glossary at the back of this booklet for information on groups involved in the development of the DIP and on terms used in this booklet.

Overall Timelines for Sub-Projects

Sub-Project	Start Date	Proposed Completion
1. Authority Development		
A. Development of the Metis Authority	Winter 01/02	Spring 2004
B. Development of the First Nations South Authority	Winter 01/02	Spring 2004
C. Development of the First Nations North Authority	Winter 01/02	Spring 2004
D. Development of the General Authority	Winter 01/02	Spring 2003
2. Service Transition		
A. Authority Determination Process (ADP)	Winter 01/02	Spring 2003
B. Service Transfers	Spring 2002	Summer 2004
3. Human Resources		
A. Labour Adjustment Strategy	Autumn 2001	Spring 2004
B. Education and Training	Winter 02/03	Winter 07/08
4. Direct Services		
A. Winnipeg Intake	Winter 02/03	Spring 2004
B. Non-Winnipeg Intake	Autumn 2002	Winter 03/04
C. Foster Care	Spring 2002	Spring 2004
D. Abuse Services	Winter 02/03	Spring 2004
E. Group 2 Resources (Residential Care by External Agencies)	Winter 02/03	Autumn 2005
F. Office of the Children’s Advocate (OCA)	Winter 02/03	Summer 2005
5. System Governance and Supports		
A. Executive Support Unit	Autumn 2002	Summer 2003
B. Partnership Council and Standing Committee	Winter 02/03	Spring 2003
C. Legislation	Spring 2002	Autumn 2004

Note: The timelines above are based on the version of the DIP supported by the AJI-CWI Executive Committee in February 2003. These timelines are subject to change. Selected key milestones may be completed earlier than the proposed completion date for the sub-projects.

Descriptions of DIP Sub-Projects

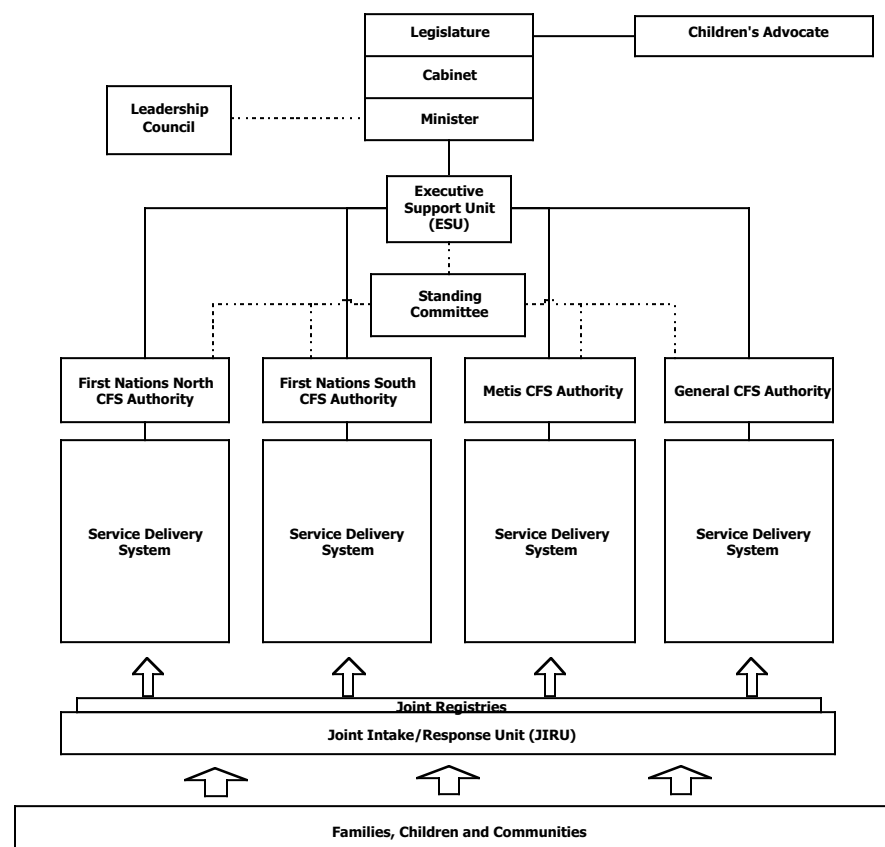
1. Authority Development

Authority Development is the category of sub-projects for creating the four new child and family services Authorities. The development of the Authorities is the key feature of the new system. The Authorities do not deliver services directly, but play an integral role in the coordination of services province-wide and are the governing bodies overseeing these services. The responsibilities of the Authorities include:

- Delegating the mandate for service delivery to their respective service delivery agencies
- Developing policies and procedures
- Assessing needs, setting priorities, planning, funding and service management
- Ensuring that children and families have access to quality services
- Ensuring that policies and standards are followed
- Monitoring and assessing service delivery
- Working with other Authorities, community partners, private bodies and government to coordinate service delivery
- Promoting collaboration and cooperation among communities, service affiliates and Authorities

On June 10, 2002, legislation to create the new Authorities and structure was introduced in the Legislative Assembly. Royal Assent was received on August 9, 2002. *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act* will come into force upon proclamation, which is expected by the summer of 2003. The legislation is an important first step toward the restructured child and family services system.

Governance Structure for the New System



2. Service Transition

Service transition involves the transfer of caseloads and other resources to agencies operating under the new Aboriginal Authorities. A common process called the Authority Determination Process or ADP will be developed to direct children and families involved with child and family services to the most culturally appropriate Authority. The transfer of caseloads, resources, and assets will only occur once the Aboriginal Authorities and agencies are ready to assume these responsibilities.

2A. Authority Determination Process (ADP)

All children and families involved with child and family services for the first time will be guided through a standardized process called the **Authority Determination Process** or **ADP**. The ADP directs children and families to the most culturally appropriate Authority. The ADP will also provide families with an opportunity to select an alternate Authority to be responsible for service provision.

The process involves an interview between a worker and a family. The process will only be undertaken after immediate needs are met and the safety of the child/ren is ensured.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To implement a system and procedure for directing families and clients to the appropriate Authority.

Major Milestones:

- Finalize ADP
- Review current files
- Conduct staff training
- Apply ADP to caseloads
- Tabulate results of ADP application

2B. Service Transfers

This sub-project involves the transfer of cases, resources and assets to agencies operating under the Aboriginal Authorities. Until transferred, services will continue to be provided by the current service provider. Outside of Winnipeg, the transfer of existing cases to the Aboriginal agencies will be done by region. Within Winnipeg, cases will be transferred in blocks, in a sequence to be determined.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To transfer cases, resources, and assets from existing agencies to Aboriginal agencies.

Major Milestones:

- Determine sequence of transfers
- Prepare for caseload transfers
- Prepare for foster care transfers
- Prepare transfer of agency-owned resources
- Transfer caseloads

3. Human Resources

Human resources focuses on staffing adjustments and training required to create a more culturally competent workforce for the new system. Initially, to assist with transferred cases, employees from General Authority agencies will be seconded (loaned) to the Aboriginal agencies. As more Aboriginal people are trained, seconded employees will return to their home agency or be offered reasonable employment in other areas. A training initiative is being developed for a minimum five-year period to provide training for new staff.

3A. Labour Adjustment Strategy (LAS)

The Labour Adjustment Strategy will include two sets of agreements:

- The **Workforce Adjustment Process Guidelines (WFA)** are a set of agreements among non-Aboriginal child and family services agencies, the unions and the staff association representing the employees of these agencies, and the Province of Manitoba. These agreements focus on the roles and responsibilities of employees, employers, and the Province.
- The **Master Human Resources Framework Agreement (MHRA)** is a set of agreements among Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal child welfare agencies and the Province of Manitoba. It focuses on the roles and responsibilities of CFS agencies – both the non-Aboriginal agencies and government which will be seconding employees, and the Aboriginal agencies to which seconded employees will be assigned.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop the process through which staff of the General agencies (including regions) will be seconded to Aboriginal agencies.

Major Milestones:

- Establish Workforce Adjustment Process Guidelines (WFA)
- Establish Master Human Resources Framework Agreement (MHRA)
- Complete workforce inventory
- Implement secondments in conjunction with service transfers

3B. Education and Training

A training initiative is being developed for a minimum five-year period, under the responsibility of a joint training unit, in which all partners will participate. The joint training unit will be responsible for developing a training schedule and curriculum in conjunction with educational institutions. It will also arrange for human and other resources needed to deliver the training.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To establish a training initiative to develop a qualified, culturally competent workforce for child and family services.

Major Milestones:

- Establish training initiative
- Set annual training targets
- Secure funding
- Secure training spots
- Develop curriculum in conjunction with educational institutions
- Deliver training

4. Direct Services

Direct services focuses on the transition of services to children and families. A new intake system will be developed. Teams will be established to coordinate the delivery of foster care, abuse services and other residential care services within the new system.

4A. Winnipeg Intake

A cooperatively managed Joint Intake Response Unit (JIRU) will be established as the primary first point of contact with the child and family services system. The JIRU will operate a common telephone intake service, taking calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All calls to the JIRU will be answered by highly qualified staff.

The JIRU will handle both emergency and non-emergency calls. It will make initial assessments and, depending on the situation, will either deal with the call directly, or refer callers to appropriate services.

The four Authorities will jointly manage the JIRU, but they will choose one agency to operate it. Funding for the JIRU will be based on an annual plan and approved budget. The four Authorities will share the costs for these services equitably. Until the JIRU is operational, intake and after-hours services will continue to be operated by Winnipeg Child and Family Services.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To establish a jointly coordinated 24-hour intake and emergency service which will be managed by the four Authorities and will provide service on behalf of all agencies/offices within Winnipeg.

Major Milestones:

- Establish Joint Management Group
- Define JIRU parameters of service and structure
- Establish host agency
- Develop implementation plan
- Develop funding model
- Develop annual operating plan
- Develop policies and procedures
- Conduct staff orientation and training
- Implement the new system

4B. Non-Winnipeg Intake

This sub-project will coordinate the intake process for areas outside Winnipeg. Agencies will be designated to take calls for each of seven regions in the province. The transfer to the new intake arrangements will be coordinated with service transfers for each region.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To establish designated agencies to offer intake and after-hours services outside the city of Winnipeg. This includes defining the catchment area and implementing the agreed-upon service model of each designated agency.

Major Milestones:

- Designate agencies and define intake regions
- Define parameters of service
- Develop funding model
- Develop policies and procedures
- Develop annual operating plan
- Conduct public awareness campaign
- Formalize agreements among Authorities
- Implement the new system

4C. Foster Care

This sub-project will develop new foster care arrangements in Manitoba. An inventory of foster care resources will be completed, and protocols will be developed to coordinate services under the new system. Whenever possible, foster parents will be included in this developmental process.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To implement new arrangements for a restructured foster care system.

Major Milestones:

- Develop foster home transfer policy
- Design new arrangements for foster care
- Implement new arrangements

4D. Abuse Services

This sub-project focuses on coordinating abuse services within the new system. Abuse investigations will not be transferred while they are in progress.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To design and implement coordinated abuse service systems in Winnipeg and throughout Manitoba.

Major Milestones:

- Set up Winnipeg Abuse Services Design Team
- Develop interim Winnipeg strategy
- Establish new joint abuse investigation model for Winnipeg
- Implement new Winnipeg model
- Set up Abuse Services Design Team for outside Winnipeg
- Develop interim strategy for outside Winnipeg
- Establish joint abuse investigation model for outside Winnipeg
- Implement new model for outside Winnipeg

4E. Group 2 Resources (Residential Care by External Agencies)

Group 2 Resources refers to residential resources operated by external agencies to support children who are not living with their families. These resources provide services to children experiencing serious psychological, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Currently, the Department of Family Services and Housing manages decisions and the financial resources required to place children in these residential care facilities. The Province will meet with the new Authorities regarding long-standing concerns of Aboriginal peoples about the continuing relevance, cultural appropriateness and cost-effectiveness of these services. New organizational and funding relationships could result that more closely reflect the cultural priorities and service objectives of the Authorities.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To establish a process to negotiate the services that fall under Group 2 Resources as defined in the Conceptual Plan.

Major Milestones:

- Establish Terms of Reference for Group 2 Resources
- Develop restructuring plan
- Implement new plan

4F. Office of the Children’s Advocate (OCA)

The Office of the Children’s Advocate is an independent office of the Province, reporting to the Legislative Assembly. Its mandate is to represent the rights, interests, and viewpoints of children and youth who are receiving, or should be receiving, services under *The Child and Family Services Act* and *The Adoption Act*. It is another important service that will need to be coordinated with the new system.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop a proposal to ensure that the OCA and the child and family services Authorities establish organizational and policy environments that are complementary, compatible, and supportive.

Major Milestones:

- Establish Design Team
- Develop and submit a proposal to the Legislative Assembly
- Implement new model

5. System Governance and Supports

System governance and supports covers sub-projects focusing on the transition of system-wide structures to govern and support the delivery of direct services. There are new governance structures being developed to facilitate inter-Authority communication and coordination. The Province and the Aboriginal partners are also working together to develop legislation, funding arrangements, and new information systems to give the Authorities the legal mandate and resources to begin delivering services.

5A. Executive Support Unit

This sub-project focuses on the development and implementation of the Executive Support Unit (ESU). The ESU will act on behalf of the Province to meet its responsibilities, receiving direction from the Minister. It will oversee the establishment of system-wide standards and ensure compliance with these standards. It will also work with and provide supports to each of the Authorities.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To realign functions performed by the Department of Family Services and Housing, to reflect the shift in responsibilities to the new Authorities, and to maintain consistency with *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act*.

Major Milestones:

- Develop operating structures
- Transfer functions to the ESU
- Develop provincial standards and reporting requirements

5B. Leadership Council and Standing Committee

This sub-project focuses on the development of two forums to facilitate ongoing communication among political and executive leaders of the AJI-CWI partners:

- The Leadership Council provides a forum for political leaders from First Nations, Metis, and the Province of Manitoba. It facilitates ongoing and effective collaboration among the Province and Aboriginal leaders - a place for "government-to-government" discussions regarding child and family services issues.
- The Standing Committee provides a forum for executive leaders of the Authorities and the Executive Support Unit (see page 20). Committee members will meet to address system-wide issues, and promote cooperation and collaboration with other systems, such as education, justice, health, and housing.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop the Terms of Reference for the Leadership Council and Standing Committee.

Major Milestones:

- Develop Terms of Reference for the Leadership Council
- Implement the Leadership Council
- Establish the Standing Committee
- Develop Terms of Reference for the Standing Committee

5C. Legislation

This sub-project deals with the development of new legislation for the restructured system. This will include the development of regulations necessary under *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act*, which was recently passed. It will also include the development of new legislation to replace *The Child and Family Services Act* and *The Adoption Act*.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop government legislation for the restructuring of the child and family services system under *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act*.

Major Milestones:

- Draft regulations required for *The Child and Family Services Authorities Act*
- Determine content for new legislation
- Conduct community consultations
- Prepare documents required for the new legislation

5D. Funding

New funding arrangements will be required to support the new child and family services system. Existing funds and resources will be transferred to the new Authorities. In turn, the Authorities will allocate funding and resources to the agencies. Additional one-time funding will be provided to cover a variety of developmental and transitional costs, such as training expenses, transfer of caseloads, and a range of administrative costs.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop interim funding arrangements, secure transition funding, and develop a future funding model as part of the restructuring of the child and family services system.

Major Milestones:

- Define current funding envelope
- Collect information for budgeting
- Develop interim funding model
- Secure transition funding
- Develop new funding model
- Implement new funding model
- Evaluate new funding model

5E. Management Information Systems

Management information systems (MIS) are being designed for the restructured child and family services system so that the four Authorities and agencies can communicate and exchange information through linked, computer-based record-keeping systems. For example, management information systems will have common registries. These will enable authorized staff to check on any previous involvement with the child and family services system, and will facilitate the transfer of cases after initial intake.

Confidentiality and security issues are a primary concern for the design of the system. To protect sensitive and confidential information, the systems will provide access only to authorized users.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To develop information systems for the transition period and for ongoing use after the transition period.

Major Milestones:

- Establish MIS Design Team
- Design and implement interim MIS solutions
- Design and implement long-term MIS solutions

5F. Continuing Common Table

Terms of Reference will be developed for the four Authorities to develop a joint approach and strategy to pursue funding opportunities for child and family services.

Goal of This Sub-Project:

To establish the Terms of Reference for a common approach in relation to other funding sources.

Major Milestones:

- Establish Terms of Reference
- Establish process structures

5G. Change Management

This sub-project involves the provision of supports to implement and coordinate all other sub-projects. A Committee for Change Management involving the four partners has been established to coordinate communications, liaison, and support activities with internal and external stakeholder groups.

Glossary

Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative

A joint initiative of the Province of Manitoba, First Nations, and Metis peoples in Manitoba to restructure the child and family services system. The new system will recognize and respect the cultural diversity of the province's citizens, and return to First Nations and Metis peoples the right to develop and control the delivery of their own child and family services.

Agencies/Offices

Delivery agents for child and family services. An agency is an incorporated body with its own Board of Directors; an office is an operational service site of an agency.

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC)

The provincial political organization representing First Nations in Manitoba. In the AJI-CWI, AMC represents 36 First Nations in southern Manitoba.

Authorities

Corporate bodies that have the authority to administer and delegate responsibilities to child and family services agencies/offices in Manitoba. There are four Authorities for four population groups: Metis; Southern First Nations; Northern First Nations; and the general population.

Authority Determination Process (ADP)

A standardized process to identify the Authority that has jurisdiction for a family and/or child.

Catch Teams

Teams given responsibility for implementing design changes and other plans approved by AJI-CWI partners.

The Child and Family Services Act and The Adoption Act

Existing provincial legislation governing the provision of child welfare services and adoption services respectively in Manitoba.

Common Registry/Registries

Province-wide information systems such as the prior contact registry, child abuse registry, adoption registry, post-adoption registry, child in care registry, etc.

Design Teams

Teams responsible for designing models for specific elements of the new system, such as the JIRU (Joint Intake Response Unit).

Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP)

A comprehensive plan for developing and implementing all elements of the new child and family services system being developed through the AJI-CWI.

Executive Committee

A committee comprised of the leadership of the four AJI-CWI partners (MMF, AMC, MKO, and the Province), which is responsible for overseeing and directing the AJI-CWI as a whole.

Executive Support Unit (ESU)

The Branch of the Department of Family Services and Housing that deals with the administration of relevant child and family services legislation.

Implementation Committee

A sub-committee of the JMC responsible for assisting in the development and implementation of the AJI-CWI. It has six representatives: two each from MMF; First Nations (AMC and MKO); and the Province.

Intake

The process by which a family/child/individual makes initial or subsequent contact with the child and family services system.

Joint Intake Response Unit (JIRU)

A cooperatively managed intake service that acts as the primary first point of contact with the child and family services system.

Joint Management Committee (JMC)

A committee responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of the AJI-CWI. It has nine representatives: three each from First Nations (represented by AMC and MKO); MMF; and the Province.

Leadership Council

A council comprised of political leaders from the Metis, First Nations, and the provincial government.

Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO)

A political organization representing 27 northern First Nations in Manitoba.

Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF)

The political organization which represents and serves the needs of the Metis people of Manitoba.

Standing Committee

A forum for executive leaders of the Authorities and the Executive Support Unit. Committee members meet to address system-wide issues, and promote cooperation and collaboration with other governmental systems, such as education, justice, health, and housing.

For More Information on the AJI-CWI

Internet

Visit the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry – Child Welfare Initiative website at:
<http://www.aji-cwi.mb.ca>

E-mail

Send an e-mail to:
ajicwi@gov.mb.ca

Telephone

AJI-CWI Central Information Line:

In Winnipeg: 945-1183
Outside Winnipeg: 1-866-300-7503 (toll-free)