



Message from the Acting Chief Executive Officer

On behalf of the Northern Authority, I am pleased to share the 3rd edition of the *Messenger*. A special thank you to Candace Donaldson for the previous edition's content on the Tuition Waver, Dream Seekers and Advancing Futures Bursary programs as well as to Ian Ross for his ongoing contributions to the *lighter side*. We trust that you will find this information useful.

Bryan Hart
A/Chief Executive Officer

Statement **MISSION**

Supporting and empowering First Nation child and family services agencies in northern Manitoba to enhance and enrich family life

Update: Status of Administration Order

A new process has been established to address the conditions necessary for the Minister of Families to lift the *Order of Administration* and return governance of the Northern Authority to a fully functioning Board of Directors. This process will be led by a political oversight body and will be assisted by a Joint Working Group (JWG) and a Technical Working Group (TWG). Key process activities include identifying criteria and indicators, developing a work plan, implementing the work plan and communicating progress to stakeholders.

In addition, a three-person Advisory Committee has been appointed by MKO to assist in this process. Comprised of representatives of the future board, members of this Advisory Committee are Sydney Garrioch, Michael Yellowback and Daisy Monias.

The Advisory Committee is expected to provide direction and insight in the areas of governance, by-law development, information management activities and support the Northern Authority in delivering on its mandate. The TWG met on February 1st while the JWG met on March 1st. The TWG is scheduled to meet with the Advisory Committee on March 23rd.

Political Oversight (Project Sponsors)

Grand Chief Sheila North Wilson
Minister Scott Fielding

Joint Working Group

Jay Rodgers, Deputy Minister
Chief Chris Baker, MKO CFS Portfolio Chief
Issie Frost, Northern Authority Administrator

Technical Working Group

Diane Kelly, Assistant Deputy Minister
Joanne Crate, MKO CFS Liaison Officer
Bryan Hart, Northern Authority A./CEO

On the *lighter side*...

Q: What did the moose say when spring finally arrived?

A: Nothing.
Moose can't talk.

Q: What did the pickerel say when he swam into a wall?

A: Damn!
(Just kidding...
Pickerel can't talk either)

Q: What do you call a bear without ears?

A: B's

"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."

AJI-CWI Mission Statement

Northern Authority Update - News

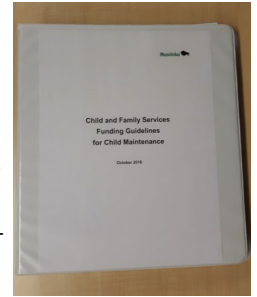
The Northern Authority would like to welcome Chelsea Halcrow (Receptionist) to the organization (Chelsea's first day was March 13th). We would also like to acknowledge the following three individuals for the respective contributions to the organization:

- Bethany Ettawacappo's (Financial Controller) final day was February 28th. The Northern Authority is in the process of recruiting for this position. In the interim period, Bryan Hart will maintain all Chief Financial Officer-related duties.
- Linda Dettanikkeaze-Patterson's (Case Management Specialist) final day was March 10th. The Northern Authority is currently recruiting to fill this position.
- Ramona Pavagadhi's (Collaborative Authority Resource Team representative) secondment ended on March 10th and has returned to ILFNFS. In the interim period, Charity Martin will be taking over all CART-related responsibilities.

We wish Bethany, Ramona and Linda all the best in their respective life journeys.

New Child Maintenance Manual Released!

The updated version of the **Child and Family Services Funding Guideline for Child Maintenance** (dated October 2016) has been released by the province and has been distributed to all agencies.



The Standing Committee has established a new sub-committee called the "Child Maintenance Policy Advisory Committee (CMPAC)". CMPAC responsibilities include: identifying/discussing child maintenance issues that have system-wide implications; identifying/developing policy options and making recommendations on policy changes; and communicating policy changes to all authorities, agencies and other stakeholders. Representation on CMPAC includes four agency members (one from each region), four authority members (one from each authority), INAC (one member), and the provincial CFS Division (two members). CMPAC met on February 27th and a draft terms of reference was discussed. Northern representatives are Bev Bee (Awasis) and Darlene Courchene (Northern Authority). For additional info please contact Darlene at darlenec@northernauthority.ca.



Participants at the February 28 - March 3, 2017 Family Find Boot Camp at Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN)

Thank you OCNCFS!

CALENDAR

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| March 21 | World Social Work Day |
| April 14 | Good Friday |
| April 17 | Easter Monday |
| April 26 | Administrative Professionals Day |
| April 30 | Deadline for agencies to submit annual Strategic Service Plan (SSP) |
| May 30-31 | Child Abuse Coordinator's Conference –Viscount Gort, Winnipeg |
| July 5-6 | Northern Authority Family Enhancement Conference entitled "Restoring Relations"- Thompson, MB |

It's not the water surrounding the boat that sinks it, it's the water that gets into the boat that sinks it. Be aware of your surroundings and what you let into your life, it may weigh you down.