



First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority

Media Release

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The First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority recognizes and applauds the landmark decision of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

The CHRT decision found that Ottawa provided flawed and inequitable funding for child welfare services on reserve. The result has been direct discrimination against the approx. 163,000 First Nation children and their families living on reserve. This shortfall in funding impacted the ability of the FNCFS agencies to deliver preventive and support services to families on reserve.

“We hope this puts an end to the inequalities in First Nation children’s services. Including fundamental factors like education, health, housing and clean water,” said Northern Authority CEO, Ron Monias. “We believe that this long term underfunding and subsequent lack of community based resources has led to a steady stream of children being removed from their families and extended families.”

“After a complete review of the decision we will look at the remedies put forth and see where they can be implemented within our agencies and apply much needed resources towards benefiting our children and their families,” added Monias.

The First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority, the seven mandated agencies and the communities will now have the opportunity to continue on the pathway of designing and implementing increased and enhanced early intervention and prevention services for children and families.

We would also like to acknowledge the persistence and dedication of the Assembly of First Nations, the Caring Society, the First Nations child welfare agencies across Canada and the legal teams involved in this nine year struggle. Their commitment has been immense and their vision and actions will be shared with First Nations communities across Canada.

For more information please contact:

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