



October 25, 2024

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indigenous Services
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H4

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), I am writing to you regarding the results of the Special Chiefs Assembly on the long-term reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program held on October 16-18, 2024.

I would like to start by thanking you for the good work that we have achieved together on this file. While there were many Chiefs in support of the Draft Agreement on Long-Term Reform of the FNCFS Program, ultimately it was rejected by First Nations-in-Assembly stating that more work is needed.

During the Assembly, the First Nations-in-Assembly provided us a new mandate to move forward via Resolution #60/2024, *Addressing Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle*, and Draft Resolution #04/2024, *Meaningful Consultation on Long-Term Reform of First Nations Child and Family Services*.

These resolutions reject the Draft Agreement and provide us with a new mandate, and direction on reforms, including a new governance structure to oversee the reform. The resolutions call for extensive engagements, revised negotiation processes, and funding principles to be embedded in the process and revised Draft Agreement. Through these resolutions, we call on Canada to obtain a new negotiation mandate aligned with the resolutions and provide the resources to advance the work.

We look forward to advancing this work in a collaborative way, keeping our children at the forefront. We would appreciate a response from you in the coming week.

Megwetch,

Cindy Woodhouse

Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak
National Chief
Assembly of First Nations

Encl. Resolution #60/2024, *Addressing Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle*, and Resolution #04/2024, *Meaningful Consultation on Long-Term Reform of First Nations Child and Family Services*.

c.c.: AFN Executive Committee