



What is Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention?

Prevention activities in the context of First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) are broadly defined as activities that address community, family, and child risk factors, and generally build resilience among children, families, and First Nations. Reform of the FNCFS Program aims to address the root causes of involvement with FNCFS through funding to support primary and secondary prevention activities.

Best practices in prevention typically involve three levels of services: (1) Primary (Community-centered) prevention; (2) Secondary (Family-centered) prevention; and (3) Tertiary (individual-centered) prevention. First Nations are funded to provide primary and secondary prevention services aimed at mitigating the drivers of the overrepresentation of First Nations children in child welfare. However, First Nations may determine that the agency is best suited to provide those services and flow their funds to the agency accordingly. Only FNCFS Agencies will be provided with tertiary prevention funding to provide services such as least disruptive measures.



What is Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention?

PRIMARY

Primary prevention is a public health approach to educate and provide services to the community in order to promote family wellness and to prevent child maltreatment, including:

- ✓ Ongoing education around traditional child caring approaches
- ✓ Classes and workshops on family well-being and preservation
- ✓ Cultural and recreational activities for families and children

SECONDARY

Secondary prevention services are intended to assist families who are at higher risk of involvement with child and family services. These services are part of the continuum of least disruptive measures, including:

- ✓ Parent mentoring
- ✓ Parenting skills programs
- ✓ In-home supports
- ✓ Respite care
- ✓ Mental health counselling
- ✓ Mediation of disputes
- ✓ Food vouchers
- ✓ Clothing

TERTIARY

Tertiary prevention involves least disruptive measures for families where a child has been identified as experiencing maltreatment or at high risk for becoming involved with child and family services. Tertiary prevention is also provided to families who have a child in care with the goal of family reunification, including:

- ✓ Reducing exposure to intimate partner violence
- ✓ Caregiver capacity enhancement services
- ✓ Individual restorative justice services

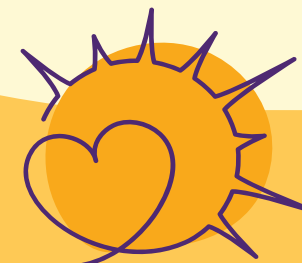
Prevention Services in the Draft Agreement


To distinguish between the prevention funding allocated to First Nations and the agency, the Draft Agreement uses the broad term “Prevention” to describe primary and secondary prevention services. Agencies are able to provide least disruptive measures as part of their overall protection services. However, agencies will also receive tertiary prevention to complement a wider array of “least disruptive measure” like services.

Prevention funding will be allocated directly to First Nations to develop and administer primary and secondary prevention. A First Nation may choose to instruct Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to direct some or all of its prevention funding to an affiliated FNCFS agency or service provider if they so choose. Prevention funding under the Draft Agreement is funded on a per capita basis and adjusted annually by the First Nations population on-reserve, on Crown Land, or in the Yukon recorded in the Indian Registration System as of September 30th of the previous year. Prevention for the fiscal year 2024-25 will be funded at \$2,603.55 per person, with a minimum of \$75,000.00 to ensure that First Nations with smaller populations have adequate funding to offer prevention activities. These funds will be adjusted annually for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure that funding keeps up with the costs of goods and services. Prevention funding is also subject to upward funding adjustments to account for the costs of delivering services in remote First Nations.


First Nations have been receiving some prevention funds under 2022 CHRT 8, which ordered Canada to fund prevention on reserve starting at \$2,500 per capita: \$2,603.55 represents funding amount adjusted for inflation for the fiscal year 2024-25.

Prevention also includes least disruptive measures (sometimes referred to as least intrusive measures or family enhancement services under various provincial or territorial legislation), which are tertiary prevention services provided by agencies. Least disruptive measures include actions or services that agencies are mandated by provincial or Yukon legislation to provide in order to prevent family separation or promote reunification, as well as to mitigate risk of child maltreatment or harm. FNCFS agencies will receive funding for their provincial/territorial mandated prevention activities under the expenditure category of least disruptive measures in their baseline funding (see baseline funding information sheet). As least disruptive measures generally require intensive interventions provided by one or more child and family professionals working under clinical supervision, only agencies will be funded for these activities.





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These funds will be **adjusted annually for inflation** using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure that funding keeps up with the costs of goods and services.

Questions? Write to social.development@afn.ca

Disclaimer: There may be some variation in how prevention funds are allocated across jurisdictions based on provincial/territorial legislation.

