

Saskatchewan Child and Youth Agenda

The Métis Nation-Saskatchewan (MN-S) recognizes our critical role in the Saskatchewan Child and Youth Agenda. MN-S acknowledges that the Child and Youth Agenda requires an ongoing concerted effort and involvement with our Affiliates, Metis communities and Metis right-holders concerning the safety and well-being of our children. To fulfill this responsibility MN-S will be creating a Metis community consultation process. MN-S is also looking forward to a newly established Leadership Table and Senior Official Table that will provide a forum for us to bring forward issues and concerns from our communities.

The first significant step in this process was realized on August 12, 2011 by a MN-S, President-Robert Doucette signing a historical Letters of Understanding (LOUs) between the Minister of Social Services (MSS) and MN-S pledging to renew the child welfare system. The LOU confirms that MN-S and MSS will work together as partners to change the child welfare system for the long-term benefit and well-being of Métis children and families. The next steps will involve developing agreed upon detailed plans outlining to the fundamental change we envision.

MN-S has also created a new position to support the Child and Youth Agenda. The position is responsible for:

- Research existing child welfare models with which to inform a Saskatchewan model;
- Create an MN-S Child and Youth Agenda Framework;
- Consult with Métis citizens, youth and Elders from all regions of the province, as well as Métis and non-Métis academics and advisors, etc., to provide input into an MN-S Child and Youth Agenda.

In the development of a communications and information dissemination strategy for the MN-S Child and Youth Agenda, Stan will:

- Liaise with internal MN-S departments and affiliates to create communication linkages between MN-S Ministries, departments and affiliates to ensure the timely and consistent sharing of information;
- Coordinate meetings and collaborate with MN-S Ministers who will participate in an inter-ministry consultative process for moving forward on the Saskatchewan Child and Youth Agenda;
- Coordinate meetings and collaborate with MN-S departments and affiliate technicians who will participate on a provincial working table for moving ahead on the Saskatchewan Child and Youth Agenda