

**From:** Ballard, Donna  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 1:46 PM  
**To:** Battcock, Paula  
**Subject:** FW: IRT Meeting - Supporting Documents  
**Attachments:** Main IRT Meeting (40).zip; IRT Meeting October 2020 Action Items.pdf

**Importance:** High

Can you print all this off for me please.

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 12:33 PM  
**To:** Ballard, Donna [REDACTED] >  
**Subject:** FW: IRT Meeting - Supporting Documents  
**Importance:** High



Roxanne Dyson  
 Operations Manager  
 Innu Round Table Secretariat  
 Sheshatshiu, NL

P: [REDACTED]  
 C: [REDACTED]  
 F: [REDACTED]  
 E: [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED] a>  
**Sent:** June 8, 2021 11:45 AM  
**To:** 'Steven Joudry' [REDACTED]; 'John Higham' [REDACTED]; 'Judith Rae' [REDACTED]; 'Gough, Pam (SAC/ISC)' [REDACTED]; 'Tom Keagan' [REDACTED]; 'Chief Eugene Hart' [REDACTED]; 'John Nui' [REDACTED]; 'Etienne Rich' [REDACTED]; 'MaryAnn Nui' [REDACTED]; 'Heather Brown' [REDACTED]; 'Maclean, Shaun' [REDACTED]; 'Clemens-Spurrell, Linda' [REDACTED]; 'MacIsaac, Jillian (AADNC/AANDC)' [REDACTED]; 'Kelly, Tara' [REDACTED];

**Subject:** IRT Meeting - Supporting Documents

**Importance:** High

Good Day,

Please see the attached documents for the IRT Meeting for Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Also, below is the zoom invite. If you have any questions please let me know. If I missed anyone on this email can you forward it along.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98939939666?pwd=dVpaMEJDbEUxaStLNjY5M29MSEJXdz09>

Meeting ID: 989 3993 9666

Passcode: 740843

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,98939939666#,,,,\*740843# US (San Jose)

+19292056099,,98939939666#,,,,\*740843# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 989 3993 9666

Passcode: 740843

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ad1r0GIAMl>

Roxanne

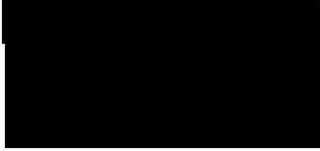


Roxanne Dyson

Operations Manager

Innu Round Table Secretariat

Sheshatshiu, NL





**Innu Round Table Secretariat**  
**Forecast Revenue/Expenditure Plan 2021-2022**  
 2021-06-01

## Revenue

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### ISC - INAC

IRT Funds (Tripartite Forum and Sub-committees)	\$ 400,000
IRT Secretariat (Governance)	\$ 190,000
Income Support Operations	\$ 475,000
Income Support Operations - Covid	\$ -
CYFS Operations - Prevention Services	\$ 4,200,900
Income Support - Client Benefits*	\$ 2,558,987
CWJI SW Education Program	\$ 104,500
Innu Law	\$ 359,657
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,289,044</b>

### ISC - FNIHB

Health Capacity Development Proposals 2020-2021 (Ongoing)	\$ 194,579
IRT Health Coordinator	\$ 124,500
Community Systems & Wellness Navigator	\$ 118,150
Innu Child Health Coordinator	\$ 190,943
Health Administrator	\$ 63,751
Operation of IMC	\$ 30,000
Midwifery Projects	\$ 95,260
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 817,183</b>

### Total Revenue

**\$ 9,106,227**

## Forecast Expenditures

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Salary/Employment Costs	\$ 3,358,812
Professional Fees/Contracts-Projects/Training	\$ 1,000,000
Travel (Meetings, Training, Cap Dev, Service Del, Relocation)	\$ 321,541
Office Rent/Space/Phones	\$ 325,000
Office Supplies/Equipment	\$ 315,000
Meetings (Facilities/Service)	\$ 368,436
Computer/IT Support and Equipment	\$ 248,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 86,540
Prevention Programming	\$ 350,000
Income Support Clients*	\$ 3,300,000
	<b>\$ 9,673,329</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>-\$ 567,102</b>

Prevention Funding of \$478,000.00 re-directed to SIFN for 4 SW positions with Social Health

LITH Funding of \$268,575.00 redirected to MIFN for MCH/MHA

LITH Funding of \$520,000.00 redirected to SIFN for MCH/MHA



6 May 2021

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**Innu Round Table Meeting #29**  
**St. John's, NL**  
**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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**St. John's Convention Centre**

<b>COFFEE/TEA</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
<b>1. Public Health Guidelines Overview</b>	<b>9:00</b>
<b>2. Introductions - All</b>	<b>9:05</b>
<b>3. Review Agenda (Transition) – Chair</b>	<b>9:15</b>
<b>4. Brief Opening Comments from IRT Members:</b>	<b>9:20</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Innu Nation</li> <li>○ SIFN</li> <li>○ MIFN</li> <li>○ Indigenous Services Canada</li> <li>○ Province of NL</li> <li>○ FSR</li> </ul>	
<b>5. Coronavirus Pandemic Update</b>	<b>9:50</b>
<b>6. Review Notes/Decisions/Action Items from Previous Meeting:</b>	<b>10:00</b>
<b>7. Action List Update:</b>	<b>10:10</b>
<b>a. IRTS Management Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Funding 2021/2022</li> <li>○ Organizational Changes</li> </ul>	
<b>b. Justice Sub-Committee</b>	<b>10:20</b>
<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>	<b>10:30</b>
<b>c. Health Update</b>	<b>10:45</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Status of Multi Year Workplan – Capacity Development</li> <li>○ Update from IMC/Health Committee</li> <li>○ FNIHB Report</li> </ul>	
<b>LUNCH (Provided)</b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>
<b>d. Child Youth &amp; Family Services (NL/Innu/ISC)</b>	<b>1:00</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sub-Committee Update (including Placement Homes)</li> <li>○ Prevention Services Agency Update</li> <li>○ Status of Inquiry</li> </ul>	
<b>8. IRT Terms of Reference Review – Proposed Changes</b>	<b>2:00</b>
<b>9. Other Business (All)</b>	<b>3:00</b>
<b>10. Review Next Steps/Action Items</b>	<b>3:15</b>
<b>11. Next IRT Meeting (All)</b>	<b>3:20</b>
<b>12. Education Meeting/MTIE</b>	<b>3:30</b>

Conference Line: 1-855-342-6455

Conference ID: 6125045

Zoom Meeting ID:

Passcode:



Updated: June 2021

**Action Items**  
**Innu Round Table Meeting #28 - October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**St. John's, NL**

**Action Items – J&P Committee**

- Federal representatives (coordinated by ISC/Tom Keagan) to provide more detailed advice on potential programs and processes that would assist the Innu in advancing the work on both parties.

*Note: J&P Committee conducted virtual meeting (27 participants) May 27<sup>th</sup>. Follow up meeting scheduled for July 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss accessing new Federal programs for Policing and Restorative Justice. Community operational issues discussed separately with NL.*

**Action Items – CYFS**

- Complete the review and final drafting of the protocol shared by the IRT with CSSD.  
*Note: Completed June 3, 2021*
- Establish three separate working groups in distinct policy areas that Innu identify as creating barriers to meaningful Innu prevention and support work
  - a) Child protection records check process;
  - b) The significant foster home approval process to allow interim approvals in emergency placement situations to avoid out of community placements;
  - c) Cultural connections clan court document and template.

*Note: Innu-CSSD policy group established: discussions ongoing with regard to items(a) and (c). Discussions under (b) are now an Innu priority*

- Undertake out-of-community placement reviews of the individual children currently in out-of-community placements, having established in advance an understanding as to how recommendations will be addressed.

*Note: Natuashish review preparations have been completed and individual case specific reviews to begin June 2021. Sheshatshit review is a focus for August-September 2021.*

**Action Items – Health**

- IRT Sec to coordinate Capacity Development Proposal and LITHP funding reallocation for submission to FNIHB.

*Note: Funding has been reallocated to SIFN and MIFN to support mental health & addictions and community programming.*

*Proposal submitted to ISC and approved for 2021/2022. Multiyear funding proposal in development.*

**Action Items – Terms of Reference**

- John Higham to seek elected Innu Leaderships' vision for the future of IRT.

*Note: Leadership meeting held with members of SIFN, MIFN and Innu Nation April 15, 2021 in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Proposed changes to be tabled at Main IRT Meeting.*



## INNU ROUND TABLE SECRETARIAT OPERATION WORKPLAN 2021-2022

Dated: May 2021

### BACKGROUND

The Innu Round Table Secretariat (IRT Sec) is the implementation arm of the Round Table. It is the collective organization of the Mushuau Innu First Nation (MIFN), the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation (SIFN), and the Innu Nation. It was created for coordinated administration of common priorities including capacity development, devolution of programs, and managing the tripartite process with Canada and the province of Newfoundland & Labrador (NL). The central functions of the IRT Sec are to:

- Provide the coordination, support and administration for the Innu Round Table where the three parties (Innu, Canada, Province of NL) are represented.
- Provide the support and management services for the IRT Sec Board.
- Coordinate and oversee the social program devolution planning and implementation (Income Support and CYFS).
- Coordinate and oversee the sub-committee work of the IRT.
- Act as the coordinating body for capacity development initiatives.

Success in many areas of its mandate resulted in gradual expansion of staff and functions. IRT now oversees multiple ongoing projects and services as well as short term projects and contracts as directed. The IRT Secretariat is managed by an Executive Director who has overall responsibility for managing staff, resources, projects and contracts while also ensuring the Board receives what it requires to fulfill its governance responsibilities.

The Workplan for 2021 has been significantly impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic and public health protocols which have restricted operations and activities.

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
<b>1. IRT Sec Inc Corporate Framework</b>			
	1.1 Update Board Appointments pursuant to Bylaw #1 and Incorporation requirements.	Ongoing	Deputy Grand Chief Mary Ann Nui appointed as chair October 2020.
	1.2 Complete Annual Members Meeting	June 2021	Postponed twice due to Covid. Planned for June 2021.
	1.3 File Corporate Reports and Updates pursuant to regulations	Nov 2021	Complete
	1.4 Operate within funding levels and meet budget/financial management targets	January 2021	Forecasts filed at each IRT Mtg, reports submitted to funders as required. IS Forecast submitted to ISC on an ongoing basis. Additional funding received as required.
	1.5 Conduct Review of Finance, and Human Resources policies.	Mar 2021	HR Policy approved and signed December 2020. Financial policies under review and draft ready for board approval.
	2.1 Update organization chart and contact list.	Mar 2021	Regular updates with new staff and changes.
	2.2 Maintain accurate financial authorities and signing officers	Mar 2021	New Board Resolutions on Signing authorities in place/updated.
	2.3 Coordinate services for Innu Round Table Meetings	Mar 2021	Meeting #27 conducted October Oct 6-8, 2020 in St John's. Scheduled February 2021 Mtg postponed due to Covid. Next IRT Mtg (#28) scheduled for June 8-10, 2021 in St. John's NL.

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
<b>2. Round Table Secretariat business functions and operations</b>	2.4 Maintain IRT Sec website	June 2021	Website ( <a href="http://www.irtsec.ca">www.irtsec.ca</a> ) operational.
	2.5 Manage funding agreement with ISC	May 2021	Partial Agreement and cashflow in place for 2021/2022. \$490,000 yet to be included in agreement.
	2.6 Manage funding agreement with ISC-FNIHB.	July 2021	Agreement Approved for 2021/2022. Awaiting agreement and funds.
	2.7 Establish new lease agreement with SIFN for office space.	July 2020	IRT Sec expanding operations to use extra office space vacated by SIFN Fin. Renovations completed Sept 2020. IRT Sec offices fully operational on site. Lease agreement in place.
	2.8 Maintain accurate financial records and processes.	April 2021	Financial Services agreement with SIFN ended March 31, 2021. IRT now operating own financial department with CFO, AP and Payroll staffed.
	2.9 Renew agreement with MIFN regarding office space in Natuashish for IRT Sec program functions.	April 2021	Service Agreement renewed. New office space secured in Natuashish April 2021. Awaiting new service agreement.
	2.10 Conduct training for IRT Staff	Ongoing	Arete Training, Office training, Covid 19, Mental Health First Aid training completed.
	2.11 Additional Staffing Actions	April 2021	In Progress - Ongoing
	2.12 Coordinate review of IRT Terms of Reference	April 2021	Leadership meeting held April 2021 to discuss draft Terms of Reference and next steps with partners.
	2.13 Establish separate Finance Dept. for IRT.	April 2021	Complete

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
<b>3. Management oversight for Income Support Program</b>	3.1 Establish 2021-2022 operating budget and delivery plan.	April 2021	Operating budget and agreement in place for 2021/2022.
	3.2 Implement funding agreement with ISC for Program Delivery.	Apr 2021	Client Benefits agreement and budget in place for 2021/2022.
	3.3 Finalize Income Support Policy and Procedures Manuals.	August 2021	In progress.
	3.4 Establish Client Appeal Process	April 2021	Interim appeal process outlines levels of appeals (CSM, ED, Leadership)
	3.5 Review progress with Active Measures (Integrated Case Management)	April 2021	Case management/Employment Services ongoing. Integrated case manager in place.
	3.6 Review Service Delivery organization, staffing and approach for Natuashish.	April 2021	CLO position staffed full time in Natuashish.
	3.7 Operate the IRT/Income Support Sub-Committee and complete objectives for 2021/2022	April 2021	Regular sub-committee meetings ongoing, major objectives progressing for 2021/2022
	3.8 Implement Innu Law on Income Support to include exemptions	June 2020	Innu Income Support Law approved by SIFN/MIFN. NL Regulation exemption approved by Province and supported by ISC. Cabinet approval complete. Changes implemented effective July 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2020.

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
<b>4. Management and Coordination of CYFS Prevention Operations and Indigenous Representatives</b>	4.1 Assist MIFN and SIFN with implementation of Working Relationship Agreement (WRA) including participation and coordination for Joint Committees.	April 2021	Ongoing throughout the year.
	4.2 Develop, in collaboration with NL/CSSD an information sharing protocol to update and replace the WRA of 2015	June 2021	Complete
	4.3 Implement and manage CYFS Prevention Services Agency programs and services, including Innu Representatives	April 2021	Ongoing throughout the year.
	4.4 Support the understanding and implementation of new prov legislation as well as undertake identified policy changes in collaboration with NL/CSSD.	April 2021	Ongoing throughout the year.
	4.5 Support implementation of public inquiry process	June 2021	Start date and duration uncertain.
	4.6 Coordinate the development and capacity building of the Innu Child and Family Prevention Services Agency and multi-year plan for implementation within the contractual process of strategic planning and change management.	April 2022	Internal planning process underway to build structure, operations and funding to support agency status. Additional positions approved and filled in Sheshatshiu and Natuashish. Advertisement for Agency Director published. Multi-year funding approved for next two years.
	4.7 Coordinate the Innu jurisdiction initiative and development of an Innu Law on CYFS.	April 2022	Funding approved for 2021/2022. Innu Law Coordinator position staffed May 2021.
	4.8 Coordinate proposals and implementation of CYFS Placement Planning Capacity Building in SIFN and MIFN.	Apr 2022	Ongoing throughout the year.
	4.9 Operate the IRT/CYFS Sub-Committee and complete objectives for 2021/2022	April 2022	Ongoing throughout the year.

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
	4.10 Develop capacity building plan with MUN re: Social Work Education Program	April 2022	Funding approved for 2020/2021 – carried forward
<b>5. Coordinate Health Committee and Manage Capacity Development Initiatives</b>	5.1 Complete review of 2020/2021 projects and submit reports to ISC/FNIHB.	Jun 2021	Reports due July 2021. Carry Forward funds will be used towards completion of multi-year funding proposal.
	5.2 Establish budget for ongoing projects in 2020/21.	April 2021	2021/2022 funding proposal approved. Awaiting agreement and funds.
	5.3 Coordinate Capacity Development Plan and Proposals for 2022 onwards.	August 2021	Multi-year Cap Dev Framework in development.
	5.4 Implement and manage approved projects for 2021/2022	April 2022	Ongoing
	5.5 Develop plan to extend Innu Child Health Coord role	June 2020	Confirmed as part of IRT ongoing cap dev initiatives.
	5.6 Implement plan for Innu Mid-Wifery Initiative	June 2021	Three Year plan developed and funding confirmed. Part-time Midwife Consultant hired and contract signed Sept 2020. Approval received to have end date of project extended from March 31, 2022 to September 2022.
	5.7 Operate IMC and work groups	Apr 2022	Ongoing. New structure being implemented after Feb 2020 Health Forum.
<b>6. Establish IRT Justice</b>	6.1 Coordinate with Innu Lands Right Table the establishment of a joint justice and policing committee.	June 2021	J&P Planning team meets by conf call when possible. Work continues on priority J&P objectives.

<i>Task Element</i>	<i>Main Activities</i>	<i>Target Date</i>	<i>Status/Comments</i>
<b>&amp; Policing Sub-Committee</b>	6.2 Finalize Terms of Reference for IRT approval	Apr 2020	Draft TOR prepared and distributed to parties, but committee stalled due to lack for funding.
	6.3 Establish workplan of priority J&P items to address and develop solutions.	Oct 2021	Priority workplan in place to focus on Policing and Restorative justice. Community work completed remotely. J&P Committee conducted virtual Meeting 27 May. Follow up meetings scheduled with NL on June 7 <sup>th</sup> and full J&P on July 7 <sup>th</sup> .
	6.4 Coordinate development of Innu self-Administered Police force.	Oct 2021	Initial concept paper developed with internal resources and OKT Law. Positive feedback from Fed/Prov officials. Awaiting new Fed program to support the initiative.
	6.5 Coordinate development of Innu Restorative Justice plan/proposal.	Oct 2021	Limited scope work completed with internal resources. Community engagement completed and outline proposal for Innu Healing Path Court developed, shared with Fed/prov and discussed at J&P Committee. Awaiting identification of funding source.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(IRT Sec Executive Director)

\_\_\_\_\_  
June 1, 2021  
(Date)



## IRT TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW

Innu Leadership Meeting, April 15, 2021

### What's in these materials?

- Overview
- 1. Focusing IRT Meetings
- 2. Building in Internal Time
- 3. Committees
- 4. Other
- Full **new** proposed draft Terms of Reference
- Full **old** Terms of Reference (a draft adopted in principle in 2012)

## OVERVIEW

The **Innu Round Table trilateral process** provides a regular forum to discuss issues about current services, and practical ways of changing them for the better. It is an Innu-led process, involving meetings with the Province and Canada.

The IRT came about because of the need to have a forum that can discuss more immediate issues in practical ways. In contrast, the land rights and self-government table is about recognizing rights over the long term. The IRT modified earlier processes to become more Innu-led.

Note that the IRT trilateral process is distinct from the IRT Secretariat.

Where does the IRT Secretariat fit into this? The Innu Round Table Secretariat is an Innu corporation (not trilateral). It was incorporated in 2014. It provides assistance to the Innu Round Table trilateral process. Plus, it works with MIFN and SIFN on capacity building initiatives, and has taken on direct joint delivery of certain services according to MIFN and SIFN's direction.

Note that this Terms of Reference review is for the *trilateral process*, not the Secretariat as a corporation.

The Innu Round Table started in 2012. Before then, delivery of K-12 education was already devolved from the province in 2009 as a top Innu priority. Over these last 9 years, the IRT process has seen several successes, including:

- growth in funding and Innu programming in health and healing;
- the devolution of Income Support delivery from the province (2016), bringing much needed basic income to many more Innu families;
- a new Innu sector in child, youth and family services (“CYFS”), including Innu prevention services, Innu Representatives, and the Innu placement facilities, all created in the last 4 years (2017-current); and
- after much delay, the start of a Justice & Policing committee (2018).

These are worthy successes. At the same time, there may be room for improvement.

Last year, the representatives to the IRT started a review of the trilateral terms of reference. IRT Secretariat has assisted with this review, by gathering information and considering feedback. We have put together these preliminary ideas to make the IRT trilateral process more effective, for Innu leadership’s consideration.

The key question today is: **What would make the IRT trilateral process more effective?**

The next page summarizes our suggestions:

## SUGGESTIONS:



**1. Focus** meeting time on ***strategic items*** for discussion and decision-making.

Former Grand Chief Gregory Rich said at an IRT meeting last year: “The pace of our discussions is too slow.” We can increase the pace by doing updates in other ways, and focusing trilateral meeting time more carefully.



**2. Build in better** opportunities for ***internal discussion in advance*** of trilateral meetings.

An advance meeting would help us identify priorities for a focused, strategic agenda. Innu staff need time to update Innu leadership and discuss items together. It could also help everyone be more prepared for trilateral meetings.



**3. Adjust the Committees.**

Include a trilateral Education Committee. We can also cross out a general “capacity” committee that is no longer operating. Allow committees the flexibility to meet outside of the trip for the main meeting, and to consider meeting more or less often. Encourage committees to be specific about the items they need “bring forward” for discussion at the main meeting.



**4. Update and tighten up** other areas of the Terms of Reference.

Ensure other pieces are up to date and make sense in today’s circumstances.

The following pages go through some more specifics for Innu leadership to provide feedback and direction.

## TOPIC ONE: Focusing IRT Meetings

The IRT meeting uses a standard agenda. It was designed many years ago, at a time when the IRT Secretariat was new, and Innu needed to address hesitation other parties had about Innu leading healing efforts. For those reasons, it contains extensive reporting on details on all projects and operations. It typically contains:

<p><b>Introductions &amp; Review Agenda</b> <b>Review Notes/Decisions/Action Items from last Meeting</b> <b>Opening Comments from the parties</b></p> <p><b>Health Update</b> IMC and Working Groups Capacity Development Projects update FNIHB Update</p> <p><b>Income Support</b> Sub-Committee update</p> <p><b>Justice &amp; Policing</b> Sub-Committee update</p> <p><b>Child Youth &amp; Family Services</b> Sub-Committee update Update on MEGH and SIM</p> <p><b>IRT Action List Update on Workplan &amp; Financials</b></p> <p><b>New Topics / Announcements / updates</b> <b>Other Business</b> <b>Next IRT Meeting</b></p>
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The sound administrative and financial history of the IRT Secretariat suggests the original reasons for such detailed review no longer apply. Each Innu-delivered program already has extensive reporting and regular communications through their own channels, as does the IRT Secretariat on its own budget.

During this review, many indicated that having Chiefs and senior federal and provincial staff spend time at the Round Table session hearing operational details is no longer a good use of their time. Ensuring the IRT principals can focus on decisions or strategic topics appears to be generally seen as a useful reform.

## Question

- *How can we best maximize time at the IRT meetings to move strategic issues forward?*

## Recommendations

- Avoid or limit updates at the main meetings, except as strictly necessary.
- Consider limiting the length or manner of updates at Committees. Updates are often reported in other ways outside of meeting time.
- Focus the agenda on items requiring strategic discussion or decision-making. This is especially true of the main meetings.
  - An internal Innu meeting well in advance of the main meetings could help identify a proposed agenda, focused on the strategic priorities that need discussion. See Topic 2.
  - Scheduling (most) committee meetings to occur further in advance of the IRT main meeting could help the committees bring forward agenda items to the main meeting. See Topic 3.
- Limiting participants may also help keep meetings focused. The list of core members can be kept focused, with opportunity to invite others. In advance of each meeting, IRT Sec. could help to confirm the presenters and advisors needed in consultation with the parties, and set the length of presentations, based on the agenda for that meeting.

Here is a sample of what a Strategic Agenda for IRT Meetings could look like:

Introductions & Approval of Agenda  
Action Items & Minutes of Last Meeting  
Brief Remarks: Innu; Federal; Provincial; FSR  
Discussion Items: Arising From Committees or Parties  
Other Business / Announcements  
Review New Action Items & Decisions  
Next IRT Meeting

## TOPIC TWO: Internal Innu Meetings

One of the benefits of the IRT meetings is that they provide an opportunity for Innu staff and leadership to get together. We touch base on a variety of issues. Sometimes we can become siloed in our organizations. The IRT meetings provide a way to connect, and to seek leadership direction.

Usually a half-day “Innu Caucus” time occurs immediately before the main meeting. This has been useful.

But often this internal time is rushed. Plus, one of the reasons why Committees spend so much time doing updates, is because sometimes there has been no opportunity to discuss something internally in advance. This restricts the amount of time available for productive trilateral discussion.

Plus, creating a more focused and strategic main meeting will require internal direction in advance about what should be on the agenda.

### Question

- *What is the best way for Innu leadership to be updated by Innu program staff, and to identify strategic issues to move forward?*

### Recommendations

- Hold an internal Innu meeting in advance of the IRT main meeting, e.g. maybe a month in advance. This will provide an opportunity for:
  - Program updates by Innu staff to Innu leadership
  - Connections across Innu staff
  - Identifying what needs to be raised at the main meeting, the goals, and any interim steps that could be taken to prepare in advance

After that meeting, IRT Secretariat could propose the agenda for the main meeting to Canada and NL. IRT Secretariat could also help coordinate who needs to come to the main meeting (e.g. staff in addition to leadership).

- Include Innu caucus time for Committees as well. This could be immediately before a Committee meeting, or on a different day by phone or video.

## TOPIC THREE: Committees

The old Terms of Reference identified five IRT committees, which it sometimes refers to as “committees” and sometimes as “sub-committees”:

1. Justice and Policing Committee
2. Health and Healing Committee
3. Capacity Development Committee
4. Income Support Devolution Committee
5. CYFS Devolution Committee

Justice and Policing has made limited progress. For several years, it did not operate. It is now operating, but unfunded.

Health and Healing is operating through the Innu Minnuinniu Committee (IMC). It has a variety of topics under discussion. Health efforts are being re-engineered now, and recommendations will be forthcoming. We should ensure the new Terms of Reference allow flexibility to adapt to those recommendations.

Early on, the Capacity Development committee offered several cross-sector development opportunities. Later, capacity was built around increased service delivery roles for Innu that were emerging from IRT work. It does not operate anymore, and probably does not make sense to continue listing this.

The Income Support committee succeeded in devolving this program in 2016. It made further gains in 2020 with the Innu Income Support Law, an approach that exempts Innu from NL’s regulations (fixing the Innu Trust clawback issue). With those matters addressed, the program is running very smoothly. There is usually little to discuss at Committee meetings. But issues could arise in the future.

CYFS is an active committee. It usually runs for a half day of committee meeting time, plus spin-offs meetings outside of the committee on various topics. It also usually occupies a sizable portion of time at the main meeting.

### Comments

The active IRT Committees are useful. However, even at Committees, a lot of time is spent on updates, and the time for discussion of key issues gets squeezed. It is

also sometimes hard to make progress on key decisions (in part because time at the main meeting gets squeezed too).

It is worth thinking about how to make each Committee most effective for that topic. Flexibility is important, because what works best for one Committee may not be the same as for another.

For example, CYFS needs to meet pretty often, and has a packed agenda. In contrast, Income Support could probably be reduced to one meeting per year.

Education has been left on its own without a committee. It has no regular trilateral forum available. K-12 Education has a successful Innu corporation to deliver the service, MTIE. But over time, many have noticed the need for a trilateral forum to remain connected. MTIE has expressed interest in participating at IRT, and has occasionally started joining the end of IRT meetings in order to access a trilateral table with senior representatives of the Innu, provincial and federal governments. An opportunity for trilateral discussion could help move forward issues like funding, curriculum, staffing, and more.

Adding a committee for Education could also take a lifetime education approach, beyond K-12. It could help make progress on issues beyond K-12 education that are not getting the attention they need, such as day care (early childhood education), post-secondary education, and adult basic education.

**Questions:**

- *What do you think about adding an Education Committee?*
- *Do we know when the Health committee recommendations will be made?*
- *Should we say anything about how often Committees meet and when, or leave it totally flexible?*

**Recommendations:**

- Add an Education Committee, providing a trilateral forum for discussion of education issues through the life course (early childhood, K-12, post-secondary, adult). MTIE would participate, among others.
- Allow flexibility on how often Committees meet, and when.
- Remove the Capacity Development Committee, which no longer operates.
- Use the term “Committee” consistently, rather than “sub-Committee”.

## **TOPIC FOUR: FSR and Other Matters**

### **The Federal Special Representative (FSR)**

When setting up the original IRT, the Innu wanted to include an annual meeting of Chiefs with federal and provincial Ministers. The federal Minister indicated they could not accept more annual commitments, but suggested the Minister could appoint a Federal Special Representative who would have a direct mandate from, and communication with, the Minister's office. Innu leaders agreed.

Technically, the FSR is a federal contract with a specific federal mandate detailed in that contract. The position went unfilled for some time, and the Innu advocated for its return, and for who should fill it. Innu leadership have pushed for the current FSR, Eric Maldoff, and likely want to ensure that the updated Terms of Reference provide a strong basis for his role.

The old Terms of Reference frame the FSR's role as "an observer". Is that what we want? Or something more active?

### **Updated Participant Names**

Departmental names have changed; these can be updated.

### **Other Updates**

Other minor updates could help ensure flow and clarity of the text in line with current functioning.

### **Recommendations:**

- Make clear that Innu are to be consulted on who fills the FSR role.
- Ensure the FSR is invited to participate, not just observe.
- Update departmental names.
- Consider other minor updates as needed.

**How might the IRT Terms of Reference be changed by these Recommendations?**

This is a suggested new text based on the recommendations above. The original IRT Terms of Reference (2012) follows after, for reference.

**Innu of Labrador - Newfoundland & Labrador - Canada****Innu Round Table Terms of Reference**

**INTERNAL DRAFT** proposed April 2021

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**Purpose**

1. These terms of reference set out structures and processes of the Innu Round Table, a trilateral table with the objectives of improving health, healing and wellbeing in the Innu communities, strengthening relationships and cooperative decision-making between the parties, and ensuring Innu leadership set priorities.

**Mandate**

2. The mandate of the Innu Round Table is to:
  - a. facilitate Innu priority setting, service integration, and community-based plans and actions, maximizing Innu control;
  - b. work openly, respectfully and cooperatively with each other in the interests of improving services and wellbeing in the Innu communities;
  - c. ensure candid discussions that build operational consensus and collaboration on major activities;
  - d. convene Committees and Task Forces as required to address issues;
  - e. maximize access to and collaboration with all related federal and provincial programs and services;
  - f. seek to sustain progress and develop the basis for a healthy long term intergovernmental relationship;
  - g. ensure communication of progress; and
  - h. such other matters that the parties may agree to consider from time to time.

**Parties & Participation**

3. The parties to the Innu Round Table tripartite process are:
  - a. The Labrador Innu represented by the Innu Nation, Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, and the Mushuau Innu First Nation;

- b. The Government of Canada; and
- c. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

#### 4. Members

Members should attend all meetings of the Innu Round Table to the extent possible and are considered at the meetings as the official representatives of that party. The Members are:

- Grand Chief of the Innu Nation
- Deputy Grand Chief of the Innu Nation
- Chief of Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation
- Chief of Mushuau Innu First Nation
  
- Indigenous Services Canada - Atlantic Regional Director General
- Indigenous Services Canada - First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) – Atlantic Regional Executive
- Federal Special Representative
  
- NL Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs Secretariat – ADM for Indigenous Affairs
- NL Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development – ADM for Child & Youth Protection
- A third ADM from a relevant NL Department may attend as a member, such as the Department of Health and Community Services or Department of Justice and Public and Safety

#### 5. Chair

The Executive Director of the IRT Secretariat acts as Chair for the Innu Round Table meetings, or as the parties may decide.

#### 6. Federal Special Representative

A Federal Special Representative (FSR) is to be retained by Canada in consultation with Innu leadership, to provide effective and current feedback and advice to the federal Minister of Indigenous Services, and to participate in the Innu Round Table process.

#### 7. Other Attendees

Additional people may be invited by members or by the Chair to attend meetings as necessary. While other government participants are expected to cover their own costs, members inviting Innu guests should ensure their costs can be covered prior to invitations being issued.

## Supports

8. The Innu Round Table will be supported by the Innu Round Table Secretariat Inc. The Secretariat is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the trilateral process, including:
  - a. Facilitating the process and the discussion at meetings;
  - b. Setting the schedule and agenda for meetings;
  - c. Producing a Record of Decisions & Action Items from meetings;
  - d. Following up with the parties in between meetings as to the carrying out of decisions and action items; and,
  - e. Addressing issues and problems as they may arise.
9. The Secretariat may consult any of the Innu Round Table members as required.
10. The Secretariat will help maintain accountability among the parties, and accountability for its own activities, with respect to Innu Round Table decisions, action items, and deliverables.
11. Canada is responsible for funding the Secretariat to provide the supports to the trilateral process outlined in these Terms of Reference, and the Secretariat is responsible for reporting to Canada on that funding according to the agreements in place.

## Committees and Task Forces

12. The following committees are convened by the Innu Round Table to provide ongoing focus and detail to issues under each theme:
  - a. Justice and Policing Committee
  - b. Health and Healing Committee (Innu Minnuinniun Committee)
  - c. Income Support Committee
  - d. CYFS Committee (Child, Youth and Family Services)
  - e. Education Committee
13. Committees may be added or deleted by resolution of the Innu Round Table.
14. The Secretariat will advise who will chair each committee. Typically this will be a senior staff person within an Innu organization.
15. Each Committee is responsible to:
  - a. Identify how often it will meet and when;
  - b. Consider issues within that sector, including the issues it may identify and any issues referred to it by the Innu Round Table;

- c. Where appropriate, develop plans for improved program delivery, particularly plans that enhance Innu control;
  - d. Report to the Innu Round Table with recommendations, options, updates or concerns that should be considered by the Innu Round Table, at least annually; and
  - e. Report to the IRT Secretariat on its workplan and budget to fulfil its mandate, at least annually.
16. Committees are free to hold meetings in the manner they choose (e.g. in-person, virtual, phone, etc.), and to organize themselves internally as they may determine (e.g. working groups, etc.).
  17. The Innu Round Table may also establish short-term task forces by resolution.
  18. Support services to the committees and to any task forces will be provided by the Secretariat. Meeting arrangements and records will be facilitated by the Secretariat in consultation with the committee chairs. The Secretariat will also maintain copies of all final documents of each committee.

### **Process**

19. It is agreed that each party will work in an expeditious and cooperative manner to help ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the Innu Round Table.
20. Meetings of the Innu Round Table will be held three times per year unless the parties otherwise agree, and a schedule of meeting dates is to be established in advance.
21. Meetings of the Innu Round Table are intended to be held in person, rotating between Labrador, St. John's and Ottawa. If required, conference or video conference calls may be scheduled between in-person meetings, or in exceptional circumstance, in place of in-person meeting.
22. The parties recognize that Innu caucus meetings are an important part of the process and will generally occur in advance of Innu Round Table meetings and committee meetings.
23. The Secretariat will coordinate all communications and meetings, and is responsible for circulating a proposed agenda in advance of each meeting.

**Innu of Labrador - Newfoundland & Labrador - Canada****Innu Round Table Terms of Reference**

DRAFT 6 AS ADOPTED IN PRINCIPLE Dec 2012

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**Purpose**

1. These terms of reference set out structures and processes of the Innu Round Table in order to enhance its effectiveness in achieving the common objectives of the participants to improve health and healing in the Innu communities and to strengthening the tri-partite relationship and co-operative decision making between the Parties, while ensuring Innu leadership set priorities.

**Mandate**

2. The mandate of the Innu Round Table is to:
  - 2.1. Facilitate Innu priority setting, service integration, and community-based healing plans and actions;
  - 2.2. ensure candid discussions that build operational consensus and collaboration on major activities;
  - 2.3. approve workplans based on available funding
  - 2.4. approve and resource Committees and Task Forces as required to address Issues;
  - 2.5. maximize access to and collaboration with, all related federal and provincial programs and services;
  - 2.6. seek to sustain progress and develop the basis for a healthy long term intergovernmental relationship;
  - 2.7. ensure measurement, reporting and communication of progress and;
  - 2.8. such other matters that the Parties may agree to consider from time to time.

**Membership**

3. The parties to the Round Table tripartite are:
  - a. The Labrador Innu represented by the Innu Nation, Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, and the Mushuau Innu First Nation,
  - b. Canada, represented by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) and Health Canada. Other federal departments, may be added as required;
  - c. Newfoundland and Labrador represented by the Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat, and the Department of Health and Community Services. Other provincial departments may be added as required.

#### 4. Permanent Members:

Each Party will designate in writing to the other Parties, the names of their Permanent Members on the Innu Round Table, and of any changes to those delegates. Permanent Members of the Round Table will be eligible to attend all meetings of the Round Table. Positions designated for Permanent Members include:

- 4.1. *Innu of Labrador*
  - Grand Chief of the Innu Nation
  - Deputy Grand Chief of the Innu Nation
  - Chief - Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation
  - Chief - Mushuau Innu First Nation
  - Advisors to the First Nations (2 per First Nation)
- 4.2. *Canada*
  - Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development* Canada- Atlantic Region (1)
  - Health Canada/First Nation & Inuit Health - Atlantic Region (1)
  - Staff observers (1 per department)
- 4.3. *Newfoundland Labrador*
  - Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat (1)
  - Department of Health and Community Services (1)
  - Staff observers (1per department)
- 4.4. *Others*
  - Co-Chairs of Round Table Sub-Committees
  - Innu Advisory Services Senior staff person

A Federal Special Representative (FSR) is an observer to the Innu Round Table. The FSR is to be advised of, and can attend, any meeting convened to further its progress. The FSR mandate is to provide effective and current feedback to the three federal ministers of Health, AANDC, and Intergovernmental Affairs.

#### 5. Invited Members

Additional people may be invited by permanent members or the Round Table Chair to attend meetings of the Round Table when a relevant item within their mandate is on the agenda. While other government participants are expected to cover their own costs, members inviting Innu guests should ensure their costs can be covered prior to invitations being issued.

**Chair**

6. The Innu will appoint a chairperson for Round Table meetings.

**Round Table Supports**

7. The Innu Round Table will be supported by a Round Table Secretariat housed within the Innu Advisory Services Inc. (Tribal Council). The Secretariat is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the Round Table process, including:
  - 7.1. Facilitating the Round Table process;
  - 7.2. Setting the schedule and agenda for Round Table meetings;
  - 7.3. Producing a Record of Decisions from Round Table meeting;
  - 7.4. Overseeing & Monitoring the carrying out of Round Table decisions; and,
  - 7.5. Addressing issues and problems as they may arise.
8. The Round Table Secretariat may consult any of the Round Table members for guidance, on questions of clarity, intent, and administrative matters that will arise between Round Table meetings. Secretariat staff may meet in person or consult by conference call as required to meet its support mandate to the Round Table.
9. The Round Table Secretariat will report at each Round Table meeting on the accountability of the Parties with respect to Round Table decisions, direction for action, and deliverables.

**Sub-Committees and Task Forces**

10. The Round Table may establish thematic sub-committees or short-term task forces by resolution, to provide a focus and detail to issues raised by the Round Table.
11. Each sub-committee established by the Round Table will be provided with a written mandate that was approved by the Round Table and will be responsible to:
  - 11.1. Develop for the approval of Round Table a workplan and budget on how it will work to fulfil its mandate;
  - 11.2. Consider issues referred to it and to report back in writing to the Round Table with options and recommendations related to those issues; and,
  - 11.3. Where appropriate to the mandate of the sub-committee, develop a capacity plan for improved program delivery or enhanced Innu Control.

12. The intent is that an Innu person Chair each sub-committee, though with agreement of all parties on the sub-committee, another person may be appointed as Chair.
13. Round Table meeting agendas will include an update on each sub-committee which the Chair is expected to provide.
14. Secretariat services to sub-committees will be provided by the Round Table Secretariat.
15. Each sub-committee meeting will be determined by Committee members with reference to their workplan. Meeting arrangements and records will be facilitated by the Secretariat. The secretariat will also maintain copies of all final documents of each sub-committee.
16. Sub-committees planned to be addressed by Round Table upon adoption of these Terms of Reference include:
  - 16.1. Justice and Policing Committee
  - 16.2. Health and Healing Committee
  - 16.3. Capacity Development Committee
  - 16.4. Income Support Devolution Committee
  - 16.5. CYFS Devolution Committee
17. Sub-committees and Task Forces established by Round Table can be concluded at any time by resolution of the Round Table.

### **Process**

18. It is agreed that each Party will work in an expeditious, co-operative and business-like manner to help ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the Round Table.
19. Meetings of the Round Table will be held quarterly unless the Parties otherwise agree, and a schedule of meeting dates is to be established in advance.
20. If required, conference or video conference calls may be scheduled between in-person meetings.
21. The Round Table Secretariat will coordinate all communications and meetings of the Round Table.
22. Each Round Table agenda will include current information on all sub-committees, task forces, workplans, and budgets.



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**Innu Round Table Meeting #28**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
**St. Johns Convention Centre, St. Johns**

**PARTIES IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Innu:** Grand Chief of Innu Nation, Etienne Rich  
Deputy Grand of Innu Nation, Mary Ann Nui  
Chief of Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation, Eugene Hart  
Chief of Mushuau Innu First Nation, John Nui

**Canada:** Debra Keays-White, FNIHB, Department of Indigenous Services Canada  
Daniel Kumpf, Department of Indigenous Services Canada  
Eric Maldoff, Federal Special Representative

**Province:** Judy White, NL/LAAS  
ADM Paula Walsh, NL/Justice  
ADM Kendra Wright, NL/Justice  
LGH CEO Heather Brown

**Note:** a complete list of participants is attached

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1. **INTRODUCTIONS**

Entrance made by all the leaders and Innu Participants to end Systematic Racism and to show support for Joyce Echaquan, A Quebec Innu who faced racism moments before her death at a Quebec Hospital in September 2020.

June Fry informed all participants on the COVID 19 rules and regulations relating to the IRT Meeting.

Executive Director, Germaine Benuen opened the meeting and explained that the ceremonial entrance is important for everyone to understand that Innu face this type of racism every day.

SIFN Health Director, Mary Pia Benuen shared a story of her struggle against racism and trying to start her Nursing Education many years ago in St John's. She then provided a prayer in Innu Aimun.

Innu Round Table Cultural Dance lead by the leaders. Many participants joined in on this dance.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS 10:00 am**

Round Table Introductions made by all participants. In addition to the main in-person venue some participants were connected by video link, and others were connected by conference call telephone.

3. **REVIEW AGENDA**

Midwifery Project added to the agenda by consensus.

4. **REVIEW NOTES/DECISIONS/ACTION ITEMS PREVIOUS MEETING**

Action Items Reviewed & Approved from Previous IRT Meeting.

5. **OPENING COMMENTS FROM IRT MEMBERS**

**Grand Chief of Innu Nation, Etienne Rich:**

Welcomed all IRT Participants, Partners and Special Representative and made the following points:

- Innu Nation just announced a law suit against Hydro Quebec.
- That what happened to Joyce Echaquan, should never have happened. But racism is still happening.
- We need the child welfare inquiry to be completed. We have worked hard and fought many fights to improve our lives and culture and we will continue to improve as we gain more control over our rights.
- We have made progress at this table and we will continue to make more. We look forward to action items and time frames from this meeting.

**Deputy Grand Chief, Mary Ann Nui:**

Introduced herself and noted this was her first time attending the IRT Meeting in this role. She made the following points:

- That there were a lot of items new for her
- She is looking forward to the IRT updates. IRT has a very good team who are trying their best to be successful and support the Innu families.
- She sees her role as being to represent my people and not back down so that we can find resolutions for important issues.
- As an Innu woman, I plan on bringing great leadership for our people.
- I look forward to working with you all and look forward to today's discussions.

**SIFN Chief, Eugene Hart:**

Congratulated Innu Nation Grand Chief & Deputy Grand Chief on the election results. he also made the following points:

- Noted his support on moving forward with the law suit.
- Thanked everyone for taking the time to recognize Joyce Echaquan.
- Racism exists in many ways -Residential school, the LCC, kids in care, all show it.
- We will continue to fight for our children, our rights and our culture.
- He noted pride in our EPH home and of Education both being run by our own people.
- We need our own police, teachers, and Social Workers in our communities and to work together to make this happen.
- We have accomplished a lot and It's important for our partners to understand how far we have come. I am hoping for a productive meeting today.

**MIFN Chief, John Nui:** Thank you to everyone who is here. He made the following points:

- That it is very important that we are taking the time to remember Joyce today
- We face racism every day, it has not stopped.
- Some of today's agenda items and discussions date right back to 2007.
- We have accomplished a lot over the years but we still have a lot of work to do.
- We need to work together, pursue the follow ups after the meetings, and put the words into action – to make this even more productive.
- We need your help - especially with the youth and in making our community safe and healthy.
- We are building new homes; we have a new youth center and a training center due to open soon.
- The outpost has started and we are happy to see more families are doing the outpost.
- Thank you for attending today and thanks to Germaine for chairing today.

**Dan Kompf, Canada (Video Link):** Thank you to Mary Pia for the prayer and offered congratulations to the new leaders.

- Joining by Zoom speaks to the challenges we are all facing today.
- But we are finding solutions around the pandemic and meetings.
- He commended the leadership on their work during this difficult & challenging 7 months.
- He noted what the progress and priorities are and what the action items are going forward
- He also agreed on the need to report on the action items and timelines in a respectable manner.

**Judy White, Gov NL:**

- Offered congratulations on the elections to the Grand Chief & Deputy Grand Chief and look forward to working with both.
- As an indigenous woman who knows racism is real, I was very moved by your opening this morning and the round dance.

- Provincial Government knows that there is a lot of work to do and we are committed to it.

**Eric Maldoff, Federal Special Representative (by Video Link):**

- Noted the difficulties to have meetings during this time.
- Congratulated the Innu Nation on the election and offered condolences to all those effected by the passing of Joyce.
- Noted that he was asked to get involved with the concerns of the Innu, and things have to move forward.
- He noted some progress but that we need to establish clear priorities.

**Pam Gough on behalf of Debra Keys White:**

- She thanked those who spoke before her, and on the election results
- She noted the recent travel related COVID 19 case in Happy Valley Goose Bay was a reminder that we all need to remain vigilant.
- She commended the efforts in both communities that are delivering essential services and keeping their communities safe.
- It was noted that FNIHB continues to support COVID-19 related health activities, and that any COVID related questions or concerns can go through the COVID-19 email address.
- FNIHB has heard Innu concerns around mental health services for members. I met with leadership at the end of July to discuss the funding, and for the ability to reallocate funding within LITHP envelope, to those priorities.
- Congratulations on identifying HSIF midwifery project. FNIHB will continue to work to support Innu.

**6. ACTION LIST UPDATE:**

**a. IRT Financial Statements – 2020/2021:** Kylie Rose presented the IRT financial statements.

**b. IRT Workplan & Budget:** Kylie Rose presented the IRT Budget & Workplan.

**c. Coronavirus Pandemic Update:** Kylie informed that the IRT offices were shut in March 2020 due to the pandemic. All IRT staff had remote access to work from home. During the course of the pandemic the IRT office underwent renovations; staff were in the office September 2020.

**d. Income Support:**

**Program Delivery:**

The program issued emergency food vouchers to additional community members during the pandemic. COVID has created higher costs, needs, and supports. The deficit is understood and being discussed with ISC.

IS expenditures are forecasted to reach approximately \$3.2M for fiscal year 2020-2021.

The province adopted a new regulation in June recognizing that its Income and Employment Support Regulations “do not apply to federally funded income support programs administered by or on behalf of Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation and Mushuau Innu First Nation on reserves. “ Innu Trust payments will no longer be clawed back from IS benefits. The addition of the Cost-of-Living Allowance was applied to Sheshatshiu clients in July 2020.

**e. Health Update:**

All groups were slowed by Pandemic.

A video chronicling an Innu-midwifery led birth was provided by the mother Thea Penashue. There was sound support for the effort and it was asked that the group continue to try to map out how midwifery birth might be made a regular choice for future Innu births.

Chiefs indicated great concern over COVID threats and the lack of local resources to lower risks and address any impacts. It was noted that anxiety and mental health issues are creating higher drug and alcohol usage.

Steve presented an IMC update on behalf of Annie Picard. Follow up from the Feb 2020 Health Forum is underway and plans are being developed for video and conf call meetings for the IMC and Working Groups. The status report for the Health Capacity Development Projects was also presented - Ongoing initiatives for 20/21 are continuing and priority work is underway to complete the two major projects from 19/20 that were halted due to the pandemic. Additional projects are being proposed for the remainder of 20/21 to position some important work to implement the comprehensive capacity development framework with a multi-year approach starting in 2021/22. Following a discussion on overall LITHP funding between the Chiefs and Debra Keays-White, a plan is being proposed to reallocate some funds to community-based health programs.

**ACTION:**

- ***IRT Sec to coordinate Capacity Development proposal and LITHP funding reallocation for submission to FNIHB.***

**f. Justice Sub- Committee**

There was much discussion on the lack of progress in this area. Judith & Steve highlighted the status of work in advancing the two main priorities. A tripartite working group with the FSR is being organized on exploring and planning a Self-administered Policing. Recent federal public announcements have indicated more support may be under consideration in this area. The Innu team is working to confirm working group representatives. On Restorative Justice, the Innu team is working to complete initial fact gathering information and priorities from both Sheshatshiu and Natuashish. The session was completed with SIFN representatives in August. The session was delayed in Natuashish and is being reorganized now with the community representatives.

**ACTION:**

- ***Federal representatives (coordinated by ISC/Tom Keagan) to provide more detailed advice on potential programs and processes that would assist the Innu in advancing the work on both priorities.***

**Child Youth & Family Services (NL/Innu/ISC)**

Committee update:

A “to do” list of action items was generated at the committee meeting and to accomplish the desired outcomes genuine collaboration between CSSD and the IRT is required.

Three “to do” actions were highlighted:

1. Complete the review and final drafting of the “protocol” shared by the IRT with CSSD in early spring with the goal to replace the now outdated 2015 Working Relationship Agreement. To this end the Innu and CSSD have scheduled three meetings through October.
2. Establish three separate working groups in distinct policy areas that Innu identify as creating barriers to meaningful Innu prevention and support work;
  - a) child protection records check process
  - b) the significant other foster home approval process to allow interim approvals in emergency placement situations to avoid out of community placements
  - c) cultural connections plan court document and template
3. Undertake out-of-community placement reviews of the 80 individual children currently in out-of- community placements, having established in advance an understanding as to how recommendations will be addressed

Updates were provided on the status of group homes and emergency placements in both communities.

The Committee is working on:

1. revisions to the protocol between NL and the Innu;
2. creating 3 Innu-NL working groups on: cultural connections; foster placement and; foster safety check requirements and;
3. making plans for returning children on the out of community list.

**7. EDUCATION UPDATE**

This was added to the agenda by consensus and K Davis described:

COVID funds allowed safe opening of schools; Full Staffing levels achieved; all housing is occupied; could hire special ed teachers but have no residence options; some capital improvements are scheduled in both schools; transformation funding talks continue; K4 is creating space issues; an organizational review is to be considered by the Board soon.

Chief Hart noted a letter on a separate elementary school was expected and asked when it could be expected.

**ACTION: ISC RDG to look into the topic**

**8. IRT TERMS OF REFERENCE – STATUS OF REVIEW**

John Higham described the background to the IRT assigning the review effort to a 3-member working group. Federal and provincial staff both had some internal talks, while elections and COVID measures had not allowed Innu Leadership input as yet. The working group agreed that Innu leadership should establish where it sees the IRT heading and that should be the basis for any discussion of changes.

**ACTION: John Higham to seek elected Innu leaderships' vision for the future of IRT.**

**9. OTHER BUSINESS (ALL)**

**10. NEXT IRT MEETING**

**The Next IRT meeting is scheduled to take place in Halifax on February 4<sup>th</sup> 2021.**

Attachments:

Agenda

List of Participants

IRT Sec Operational Workplan

IRT Sec Financial Reports

SIM Status Report

MEGH Presentation

IRT Capacity Development Status Reports

**Innu Round Table Meeting 28  
Participants**

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Kathleen Benuen	MIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Joanne Cotter	Gov NL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Debra Keys-White	FNIHB	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Judy White	Gov NL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Linda Clemens Spurrell	Gov NL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Edward Nuna	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Lyla Andrew	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kylie Rose	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Germaine Benuen	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Roxanne Dyson	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
June Fry	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Thea Penashue	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Steve Joudry	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mary Pia Benuen	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Eugene Hart	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Helen Aster	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
David Penashue	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mary Ann Nui	Innu Nation/IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mary Ann Tshakapesh	MIFN/MEGH Inc	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Janet Bellefluer	SIM	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Pauline Rich	EPH – Natuashish	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kendra Wright	Gov NL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
John Nui	MIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Etienne Rich	Innu Nation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Katjc Schiffer-Graham	Canada	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Melinda Gogerly	Aurelia	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
John Higham	CHIGNETO	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jackie Whelan	CSSD	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Anastasia Qupee	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Alicia Chaulk	IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Nympha Byrne	MIFN/MEGH Inc	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Michelle Hawco	SIM	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Mary Lucy Dicker	MIFN/IRT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Reuben Pillay	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Donna Paddon	Innu Nation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jennifer Barnes	Gov NL	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Amanda Rich	SIM	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Kanani Davis	MTIE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Pamela Gough	ISC-FNHIB	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Karen Penunsi	SIFN	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

<b>ZOOM ATTENDEES</b>			
Kim Duggan	DOJ		
Forrest McWade	ISC		
Jillian Maclsaac	ISC		
Natalie Levesque	ISC		
Judith Rae	OKT		
Eric Maldoff	FSR		
Heather Brown	LGH		
Dan Kumpf	ISC		
Jeff Cole	ISC		
Theresa Joudrie	ISC		
Tom Keagan	ISC		