

Tara Petti

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[REDACTED]
Winnipeg, Manitoba
[REDACTED]

Identity

- Member of Peguis First Nation, Manitoba

Qualifications:

- Knowledge and experience working with First Nation communities.
- Extensive experience in research, planning and coordination in a variety of settings for the purpose of system improvement.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Experience in managing multiple projects, timelines and staff teams
- Experience in program evaluation, reviews and report writing.
- Experience in program development, transformative research, professional development, training and mentoring.
- Extensive experience working collaboratively and developing partnerships.

Education:

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) 2025-In Progress
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Supervisor: Dr. Josée Lavoie
Rady Faculty of Health
College of Community and Global Health Sciences

Master of Social Work 2015
University of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta
Advisor: Bruce McLaurin
Research Area: Leadership and Change Management

Bachelor of Social Work 2007
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Stream: Administration

Bachelor of Arts 1997
University of Winnipeg
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Major: Sociology, Criminal Justice

Professional Employment and Consulting:

Independent Consultant (December 2024-Current)

Investigator- Inquiry Respecting the Treatment, Experiences and Outcomes of Innu in the Child Protection System- Government of Newfoundland

- As a contributing and collaborative member of the Investigations Team- Undertaking and completing assigned Investigations, including document reviews, directly engaging with the Families and their relations, using interviews and other forms of information gathering as is needed to acquire a thorough understanding of the systemic issues as experienced by the deceased child and their families.
- Reporting on the results of each Investigation to the Commissioners. Giving evidence on the findings of investigations at a Formal Hearing, or any Investigation proceeding.
- Assisting the Lead Investigator in creating a summary and final report on systemic issues related to the common experiences and unique dynamics identified during investigations

Consultant, RedMane Technology (2020-present)

- Work with First Nation child welfare agencies in the design, implementation of Nation specific customized case management systems.
- Specializing in post implementation adoption, training and Organizational change management strategies.

Expert witness, Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Case (2023-24)

- Expert witness in a human rights case brought by First Nations in Manitoba, calling on the Manitoba and Canadian governments to ensure an immediate end to the unnecessary out of home placement of First Nations children.

Research Coordinator, First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (2020-2022)

Research Project: Supporting the Trajectories of our Spirit

- Under the direction of the Principle Investigator and in collaboration with overall research team, engaging with community research associates and community members to provide input and coordinate the activities of the study
- Work with community advisory circles to develop implementation plan for project in each First Nation
- Train local research associates and establish and implement a work plan that meets the goals and objectives of the study
- Coordinate the collection of data from multiple sites and provide ongoing support to local research assistants
- Coordinate training of Indigenous birth helpers in each community
- Organize community-based workshops, meetings and feedback sessions
- Develop fact sheets, presentations, and summaries of the data

- Develop publications for newsletters, academic journals and conferences
- Coordinate research team meetings

Chief Red Bear Children's Lodge (2023)

Policy Development Specialist

- Development of policies aligned with Nation based law and reflective of community based practices.
- Community engagement strategies to inform policy and practice model.

Independent Consultant (2022-2024)

George Gordon First Nation

- Work with community based steering committee in development of nation based law on child, youth and community wellness.
- Develop and implement community engagement strategies to collect data to inform nation based law and programs.

Instructor, University of Winnipeg (Winter/Spring, 2022-2023)

Faculty of Inner City Studies

- Taught third year undergraduate students course titled "The Inter-Generational Legacy of Residential Schools in Canada"
- Prepared and modified course material for online instruction

Southern First Nations Network of Care (2007-2019)

Chief Executive Officer (2016-2019)

- Work under the direction of the Board of Directors to create and build an innovative and dynamic organization with the responsibility and duty to operationalize key objectives set out in a strategic plan.
- To commit company resources to the achieve the various objectives pursuant to the legislation, the explicit and implicit goals outlined in the bylaws, and in the financial policies approved by the Board
- Responsible for the day to day operation of the organization including organizational development and service delivery, human resource management, financial management, information management, record management and stakeholder and community relations with a high degree of personal and professional standards.

Subject Matter Expert-Curam for Child Welfare Project (2014-2015)

(Secondment)

- Work collaboratively on the Project team with representatives from each Authority and the Provincial government to gather information required for the scoping phase of the Project

Director of Vision Keepers-Quality Assurance (2007-2016)

- Supervise a team of specialists to manage and carry out all required Quality Assurance work under the First Nations of Southern Manitoba

Child & Family Services Authority's current and subsequent operational plans/strategies.

- Coordinating and managing projects and contracts.
- Reviewing agencies that fall under the First Nations of Southern Manitoba CFS Authority; including but not limited to operational reviews, program reviews and child death reviews.
- Assist individuals and teams in documenting, standardizing and sharing improvements across the organization.
- Work with management and boards on broad strategic implications to instill quality concepts in the workplace.
- Provide administrative support to Agencies undergoing reviews.

Quality Assurance Specialist (2007)

- Handling complaints and enquiries.
- Work as a team member with the Quality Assurance Team to develop and implement strategies and work plans to complete the Quality Assurance duties outlined in the Southern Authority Operational Plan, such as but not limited to- Development of agency CFS Committees, development of standards for the local CFS committees, development of a Quality Assurance framework and begin implementation of agency reviews using the framework.
- Establish a report upon completion of a review agencies and development of a remedial plan.
- Assist in the development of a service model.

Peer Reviewed Publications:

Fallon, B., Lefebvre, R., Trocmé, N., Richard, K., Hélie, S., Montgomery, M., Bennett, M., Joh-Carnella, N., Saint-Girons, M., Filippelli, J., MacLaurin, B., Black, T., Esposito, T., King, B., Collin-Vézina, D., Dallaire, R., Gray, R., Levi, J., Orr, M., **Petti, T.**, Thomas Prokop, S., & Soop, S. (2021) Denouncing the Continued Overrepresentation of First Nations Children in Canadian Child Welfare: Findings from the First Nations/Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect-2019. Ontario: Assembly of First Nations.

Caldwell, J, Delaye, A, Esposito, T, **Petti, T**, Black, T, Fallon, B, & Trocmé, N. (2020). "Essential" services, risk, and child protection in the time of COVID-19: An opportunity to prioritize chronic need. *Developmental Child Welfare*. 2. 208-223. 10.1177/2516103220968842.

Kozlowski, A, Sinha, V, **Petti, T** E Flette, E. CWRP Information Sheet #97E. (2012). Montreal, QC: McGill University, Centre for Research on Children and Families.

Sinha, V, Trocmé, N, Fallon, B, MacLaurin, B, Fast, E, Thomas Prokop, S, **Petti, T**, Kozlowski, A, Black, T, Weightman, P, Bennett, M, Formsma, J, Brascoupe, P, O'Brien, S, Flette, E, Gray, R, Lucas, L, Hoey, S, Levi, J, Montgomery, H,

Richard, K.(2011). *Kiskisik Awasisak: Remember the Children. Understanding the Overrepresentation of First Nations Children in the Child Welfare System.* Ontario: Assembly of First Nations.

Confidential Reports (OCAP protected)

Sinha, V. & **Petti, T.** (2024) Reply report: *The out of home placement of First Nations children in Manitoba.* Report prepared for the Public Interest Law Centre and submitted as expert testimony in a Canadian Human Rights Tribunal hearing.

Sinha, V. & **Petti, T.** (2024) *The out of home placement of First Nations children in Manitoba.* Report prepared for the Public Interest Law Centre and submitted as expert testimony in a Canadian Human Rights Tribunal hearing.

Presentations

Petti, T. (2025). *Transforming data collection through technology – What does readiness look like through the lens of data sovereignty and Indigenous child welfare practice.* Presented at the National Gathering of Graduate Students (NGGS); Banff, AB. October 29, 2025.

Petti, T. (2025). *Transforming data collection through technology – What does readiness look like through the lens of data sovereignty and Indigenous child welfare practice.* Oral presentation Presented at the National Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Governance Working Session; Centre for Addictions and Mental Health, Toronto, ON. December 2, 2025.

Fallon, B., **Petti, T.**, Schiffer, J.(2023) *Denouncing the Continued Overrepresentation of First Nations Children in Canadian Child Welfare: Findings from the First Nations/Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect-2019.* Virtually Presented at Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto; Toronto, ON

Petti, T. (2023). *Community Wellness and Engagement.* Presented at The Legacy Bowes Indigenous HR Skill Builders Conference; Winnipeg, MB.

Sinclair, S., **Petti, T.**, Healy, C., McKay, V. Poster: Supporting the Trajectories of Our Spirit: Living Cree Pimatisiwin and Blackfoot Kiipaataapiisiinii (Our Spiritual Way of Life). International meeting on Indigenous Child Health, 2021, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Sinha, V., Bennett, M., Prokop, S., Montgomery, H.M., **Petti, T** (2018) *First Nations Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2019: A national study of child welfare trajectories.* Presented at the Future of Child Welfare in Canada Conference; Calgary, AB.

Fast, E., Petti, T., Thomas Prokop, S., Chabot, M. & Sinha, V. (2010). *The First Nations component of the Canadian Incidence Study: A capacity building approach*. Presented at the National Indian Child Welfare Association Conference; Portland, OR.

Professional Activities:

Committee Member First Nations Incidence Study Advisory Committee	<u>2008-2021</u>
Board Member, Co-Chair Indigenous Committee Child Welfare League of Canada	<u>2018-2026</u>
Committee Member Iskwewak Awetowak Nipocawin (Women Leading Knowledge) - Indigenous Women's Research Institute	2022-present
Fellow, SPECTRUM Manitoba Centre for Health Policy, University of Manitoba	<u>2026-present</u>