

07/25/2019 THU 16:29 FAX 17094788859 Mushuau Innu First Nation

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Resolution # 2019-003**IRT Secretariat Board Resolution: Innu Prevention Services**

Resolved by a quorum of the Board of Directors of the Innu Round Table Secretariat at a duly convened meeting on July 15, 2019.

WHEREAS:

- A. Innu have an urgent need for full access to high-quality, culturally-based prevention services to promote the health and preservation of Innu families and the well-being of their children.
- B. The Articles of Incorporation of the Labrador Innu Round Table Secretariat Inc. ("IRT Secretariat") provide that the purposes of the corporation include, as authorized by Mushuau Innu First Nation ("MIFN") and Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation ("SIFN"),
 - a. "to provide devolution planning and coordination of services of the Child Youth & Family Services program" [1.3(c)],
 - b. "to provide administration, management, and/or delivery of other programs and services" [1.3(d)], and
 - c. "to provide services" to MIFN, SIFN and their members in the areas of "First Nation governance, capacity development, program planning and community planning" [1.3(e)].
- C. IRT Secretariat is currently providing prevention services to Innu children and families with the approval of SIFN and MIFN, since federal funding for those services began in 2016-17. However the funding is not yet sufficient to reach all families in need or provide all needed services.
- D. MIFN and SIFN have, by resolutions, authorized the IRT Secretariat to deliver prevention services to Innu children and families, and have designated the IRT Secretariat as their agency for that purpose.
- E. This resolution is intended to provide further structure and guidance on Innu Prevention Services for purposes of transparency, accountability and clarity.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. **Agency Status:** The IRT Secretariat accepts its role as the agency of SIFN and MIFN for providing Prevention Services to Innu children and families. It is a pre-delegated agency not undertaking protection services at this time.

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2. **Name of the program:** With the approval of the Board, the IRT Secretariat may update the program name from "prevention services" to an Innu-aimun name or other name, if desired. This document will use the term **Prevention Services** for the time being.
3. **Staff lead:** The IRT Secretariat Executive Director shall ensure that the Innu Prevention Services program is led by a qualified full-time employee with experience in Innu child and family services issues. The staff lead shall, in cooperation with the Executive Director, ensure that other appropriate staff are hired and supervised, and ensure that Innu Prevention Services operate in accordance with this resolution, Innu needs, First Nation choices, funding requirements, and IRT Secretariat board directions.
4. **Innu Care Approach:** The service model for Innu Prevention Services is the Innu Care Approach.
- The Innu Care Approach flows from Innu traditions and cannot be fully written. But it may be explained and elaborated in various guides, policies, posters, images, videos or other materials. *A Guide to the Innu Care Approach* has been published by the IRT Secretariat in Dec 2017 and is available on our website:
<http://www.irtcc.ca/2016/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/A-Guide-to-the-Innu-Care-Approach-Dec-2017.pdf>
 - Generally, the Innu Care Approach is the approach used by Innu to care for children in a good way. It focuses not just on the child, but on the supports that surround the child like a strong tent. It is briefly summarized below:

INNU CARE APPROACH

Supports surround the child:

- ❖ Nutshimit
- ❖ Parents
- ❖ Extended Family
- ❖ Community
- ❖ Innu Values
- ❖ Integrated Innu Services
- ❖ Culture & Language
- ❖ Elders



5. **Goals:** The 3 goals of Innu

Prevention Services are to:

- Prevent Innu children from coming into care.
- Help transition Innu children in care back home to their community and/or family.
- Enhance the lives of Innu children and families.

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- 6. Coordination & Support:** The IRT Secretariat is committed to the importance of coordination among Innu service providers, and to supporting the growth of services at the First Nation level. A number of services that support children and families are provided at the First Nation level, and we will coordinate with those service providers to create a seamless, integrated network care for Innu children and families. We will support First Nations to continue developing their mix of services in the way that they choose. The delivery of Innu Prevention services will remain flexible according to the choices and needs of each community.
- 7. Activities:** The activities undertaken by Innu Prevention Services will evolve as the program grows. Feedback will be gathered on a regular basis from staff, the First Nations, community members and other partners to continue adjusting and developing programming components. Activities may include but are not limited to the following examples:
- contributing to case planning, in interaction with the Province's assigned workers and with Innu Representatives as the representative program develops;
 - parent and family support work;
 - connecting with and reintegrating children placed out of their community;
 - supporting the growth of a full range of culturally appropriate Innu local services;
 - promoting awareness and understanding among community members and all service providers; and
 - helping to implement Innu restorative justice and diversion from court programs, and linking to court justice systems as needed.

Dated at: Sheshatshiu, NL this 15th day of July, 2019.


Eugene Hart


John Sui


Laureen Ashini


Nachele Poker


Etienne Rich

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