



Saskatchewan First Nations
Family and Community Institute

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Saskatchewan First Nations Child Welfare Engagement Project 2017 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Engagement Project?

The Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute (SFNFCI) is conducting research throughout Saskatchewan to learn more about the First Nations child welfare system from April 19 to June 2, 2017. Information is being collected by: surveys, one on one interviews, and focus groups. Any information you provide will be used to inform options for change to the child welfare system.

The First Nations research team is working with the FNCFS agencies to schedule visits to their communities to speak with youth, families, FNCFS staff, board members, service providers, and Elders within the data collection period.

Who is involved in the research project?

Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute received the funds to conduct a research project on informing options for change to the child welfare system in January 2017. The research project has an advisory committee of First Nations Child and Family Service (FNCFS) Agency Executive Directors and representatives from Federation of Sovereign Indian Nations (FSIN), Indigenous Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and Ministry of Social Services (MSS). The group meets bi-weekly to guide the project.

Please note the Federation of Sovereign Indian Nations (FSIN) is responsible for engaging First Nations political leadership. SFNFCI is working collaboratively with FSIN to minimize duplication and support the sharing of pertinent project information that can contribute to a collective voice on options for reform in Saskatchewan.

What are the ethics of the research project?

Your participation is anonymous and confidential. When it comes time to draft the final report, no names will be used, so please express your opinions freely. The project research activities of the SFNFCI have been approved and are supported by the SFNFCI board of directors. Ethics for the research project are aligned with the SFNFCI mission, vision, values and principles and the OCAP principles of research including Ownership, Control, Access and Possession.

What happens to all the research information?

All the research information will be analyzed and reported only in terms of themes and trends of participants who report similar perceptions on informing options for First Nations child welfare. During the research project, the data is kept in secure storage on SFNFCI office computer systems and/or in locked filing cabinets in staff offices accessible only to the research team and supervisor. The anonymous, aggregated data will be stored for one year on an electronic system, at which time, it will be permanently erased.

The final report will be reviewed by the Engagement research advisory committee and Executive Directors of the Saskatchewan First Nations Child and Family Services agencies. The report will then be forwarded to the SFNFCI board of directors for approval. Then the document will be forwarded to the financial sponsor for the project, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). As well a copy of the report will be posted on www.sfnfci.ca.

How do I participate in the research project?

Participation in this research project is completely voluntary. Each person can participate by:

- 1) Filling out a survey, found on our website: <http://www.sfnfci.ca/pages/child-welfare-reform.html>
- 2) Attending a focus group in your region. Contact Donna Heimbecker for dates and events in your area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT PLEASE CONTACT:

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