

April

2014



## STAFF

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## OFFICE CLOSURE:

**Thursday, April 17, 2014**  
the office will be closed to  
observe the First Nations  
Indian Government Day.

**Friday, April 18, 2014**  
the office is closed for Good  
Friday.

**Monday, April 21, 2014**  
the office is closed for Easter  
Monday.

**Monday, May 19, 2014**  
the office is closed for Victoria  
Day.

# Saskatchewan First Nations Family & Community Institute Inc.

## VISION

*Excellence in Child and Family Services based on First Nations Culture, Traditions, and Knowledge.*

## MISSION

*The Institute will conduct research, deliver training and develop policies and best practice standards to support First Nations Child & Family Services Agencies in Saskatchewan.*

## ANONYMOUS MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

SFNFCI chose to conduct this survey out of a commitment to a member-centered approach and a desire to foster an on-going environment of learning. We thank Raven Sinclair Consulting for collecting this information and provide the report findings.

### Key findings and recommendations from our membership;

1. SFNFCI develop a strategic plan to pursue financial resources, improve public relations, and pursue policy development, in order to become a leader in the areas of: legislative review, organizational development, and financial autonomy; the development of First Nation specific standards, policies, and practices; and the development of First Nation child welfare policy and legislation.
2. The SFNFCI undertake a public relations program with members to develop its identity and profile as a flagship organization for ICFS training and development, and to increase the awareness of Institute purpose, governance, and activities through the strategies most favoured by respondents, including: Newsletter, Email, Website, Internet, and Pamphlets.
3. SFNFCI seek additional funding to enhance its ability to deliver ongoing training and education, and to augment its excellent training program and service delivery portfolio.
4. The SFNFCI build upon the favourable perception towards Institute activities by its members by implementing additional activities, including: Supervisor's forums, Networking groups, Working groups, and Training sessions.
5. The SFNFCI initiate working groups to involve members in governance activities such as policy review and development.
6. The SFNFCI undertake training and education to meet the specific requests of Survey respondents, including: The development of job descriptions and salary grids, Policy development, Analysis of PRIDE – Foster Care Program and its relevance/ value, Protection/Foster Care HRIT, MSS Policy and Procedures Manual clarification, Promoting SDM, Adoption to non-First Nation families consequences and successes, Knowledge about the "I am a Witness" program, MSS/First Nation collaboration in placing children, Legislative Review, Professional Management and Community Development training, HR Policy and Financial Management Policy development, Communication and Team Building, Cultural Principles, and Time Management.
7. SFNFCI develop a cultural practices and protocols policy to ensure that the Institute functions according to cultural principles and protocols in ways that meet the needs of the Institute and its member First Nation organizations.

**THANK YOU** for your feedback. We will report on our progress to these findings and recommendations in our forthcoming newsletters!

# TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For information & to register for training contact: [dean.weenie@firstnationsfamilyinstitute.ca](mailto:dean.weenie@firstnationsfamilyinstitute.ca)

## MEMBER MEETING FEEDBACK

The Institute hosted a Member Meeting on March 5, 2014 in Saskatoon to present and obtain feedback from Member Agencies on the proposed research, training and professional development and strategic partnership opportunities for the 2014-15 fiscal year. There was a great turnout with 13 out of 17 agencies represented, along with the Institute Elder and 5 staff.

An overview of the Institute five year strategic plan was presented with an update of the status of each of the strategic priorities. Each Institute Employee presented proposed activities for their respective departments outlining budget, key activities, measurable outcomes, immediate outcomes/benefits for the 2014-15 fiscal year and longer term outcomes and benefits by delivering the activity.

The Institute Board of Directors and Staff would like to thank the agencies for the discussion and providing direction to the Institute on the areas of urgency, need, priority, as well as committing to participate in the research and professional development activities funded for 2014-15.

## 2014-15 FUNDED ACTIVITIES

The following activities have been approved by our funders to deliver during the 2014-15 fiscal year. The Institute staff are finalizing the 2014-15 Calendar of Events and we will be sharing them regularly through newsletters and emails until we are able to launch our new website that will have a calendar feature with online registration, as well as an option to subscribe to our E-newsletters.

