

July 2013

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.



STAFF

Tischa Stefanowski,
Executive Director

Karen Chamakese,
Executive Assistant,
Finance Officer

Dean Weenie,
Project Manager

Shelley Thomas Prokop,
Policy Analyst

INSTITUTE AGM

Thursday, August 29.
10:00 am.

Travelodge Hotel,
Saskatoon.

OFFICE CLOSURE

August 5 - Civic Holiday Stat
September 2 - Labour Day Stat

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The research department activities are underway! Three main project's are being worked on this summer: First Nation Group Home (FNGH) core competencies, FNGH Customary Standards of Care (CSC) Review, and Culturally Relevant Practice. Each of the projects has a working group guiding the efforts and progress.

In the efforts to improve the quality of services provided to First Nations children and youth in a group home setting, the core competencies project goals are to identify, develop, and deliver core competencies for FNGH staff. At their June 2013 meeting, the project working group identified eight core competencies. This summer the Institute is exploring curriculum with educational institutions. The goal is to have the curriculum developed and a pilot delivery by January 2014.

The Customary Standards of Care was completed in September 2009 and was approved by the FSIN, at the Chiefs Assembly February 2011. Since this time there have been developments in the field and changes to provincial policy, hence, the document requires revision. Many of the same people that developed the document comprise the project working group. Dates for section reviews have been set with the intention to complete the review by December 2013 and start the appropriate vetting processes. The Institute is spending the summer developing tools for the review process.

The cultural competence project is now called Culturally Relevant Practice. The name was changed to reflect the intent and the understanding of the project. The Institute is spending the summer having conversations with FNCFS Agency representatives on their understanding of Culturally Relevant Practice within their respective programs. The goal is to complete the report by September with recommendations for further work in the area.

Thank you for the commitment and guidance of the project working groups, they are critical to the success of the projects.

CARF ACCREDITATION INFORMATION SESSIONS

The Institute has met with Dan Stavert of CARF Canada to confirm dates for information sessions for the Agencies and Group Homes interested in pre-assessment and technical support sessions. For more information contact Dean Weenie. The dates are as follows:

North Battleford

October 8—10, 2013
BTC CFS
Onion Lake Group Home
Agency Chiefs Group Home

Prince Albert

November 5—7, 2013
Sturgeon Lake CFS
Montreal Lake CFS
PAGC Group Home

Yorkton

January 14—16, 2014
Yorkton CFS
Touchwood CFS

TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Financial Standards Working Group

- Thursday, September 5
- 9:00am – 4:30pm
- Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

Basic Board Training

- September 10 - 12
- Sept. 10: 1:00 – 4:00, 11 & 12: 9:00am – 4:00pm
- Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

First Nations Group Home Projects Working Group

- Tuesday, September 17
- 9:30am – 4:30pm
- Institute Boardroom, Saskatoon

HR Policy Forum 1

- Wednesday, September 18
- 10:00am – 3:00pm
- Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

First Nations Group Home Managers Network Meeting

- Thursday, September 19
- 9:00am – 4:30pm
- Office of the Treaty Commissioner, Saskatoon

Supervisors Forum

- Wednesday, September 25
- 9:30am – 3:30pm
- Travelodge Hotel, Saskatoon

Advanced Board Training

- October 1 – 3
- Oct.1: 1:00pm-4:00pm, 2&3: 9:00am – 4:00pm
- Best Western Hotel Idylwyld, Saskatoon

For information & to register for training contact: dean.weenie@firstnationsfamilyinstitute.ca

PREVENTION MATTERS CONFERENCE

The Prevention Institute is holding their conference October 2, 3 & 4 at Teachers Credit Union Place, Saskatoon. More information can be found on their website at: skprevention.ca/prevention-matters-2013/