



NORTH CENTRAL ALBERTA
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AUTHORITY



July 13, 2009

Governance Agreement signed between Métis Nation of Alberta and North Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority (Region 7)

Working toward a better future for Alberta's Métis children, youth and families

North Central Alberta... On June 30, representatives from the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA) and North Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority (Region 7) met in Edmonton to sign a joint Governance Agreement with the commitment to work together to support Métis children, youth and families in Alberta.

Based on guiding principles in the provincial agreement, this Governance Agreement is tailored to support cooperation and collaboration at the local level in the geographical area of Region 7. It sets out a beneficial working relationship to better enable both organizations to work together in supporting Métis children and youth.

"By signing this Governance Agreement the MNA and Region 7 acknowledge the importance in having a close working relationship in order to do what is best for Métis children in this province," said Audrey Poitras, MNA President.

"I am very excited that this positive working arrangement will promote good outcomes for Métis children and youth that reflect the cultural values and heritage of the Métis people," said Audrey Franklin, Aboriginal Co-Chair for the Authority. "This Agreement represents the keen desire of our Board to work in close partnership with the Métis Nation of Alberta to help meet the needs of their children and youth."



Pictured above: North Central Alberta CFSA Co-Chair, Brian Broughton, MNA Minister of Children and Youth Services, Bev Weber, and North Central Alberta CFSA Aboriginal Co-Chair, Audrey Franklin (seated), MNA Children's Services Manager, Jo-Ann Woloshyniuk and North Central Alberta CFSA CEO, David Rideout (standing).

Staff within each organization will develop a plan to further clarify roles, partnership initiatives and working relationships. They will then provide a progress report on that work to their respective governing bodies twice a year.

The MNA has a long history in Alberta since its inception in 1928. It is the representative voice to over 40,000 members in Alberta. The organization provides Métis people an opportunity to participate in government's policy and decision making process, and most importantly promote and facilitate the advancement of Métis people through the pursuit of self-reliance, self-determination and self-management.

North Central Alberta Child & Family Services Authority, Region 7 was established to provide supports and services to children, youth and families within the geographical boundaries that include points from the British Columbia border to the Saskatchewan border, stretching from Jasper to Cold Lake, and from Onoway north to Chipewyan Lake in the central part of the region.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Charity Wallace, Communications
North Central Alberta
Child and Family Services Authority
780-305-2439

Monique Devlin, Communications
Métis Nation of Alberta
780-455-2200 ext. 283
780-453-0283 (after hours)

To call toll-free within Alberta dial 310-0000.