

Ontario Joint Gathering

Session Title & Presenter: Social, Health, Child & Family Services, Education Facilitated by Lee Cranton, FNIHB, and Michael O'Byrne, ARDG, ISC ON	
Date & Time: May 3, 2018 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	
What Was Heard (Key Points)	Action Items
<p>CAPITAL/INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for capital/infrastructure funding to accompany social funding and programming. There has been new government funding made available for child and family services and mental health programming and services, but there is not nearly enough funding for capital, or an acknowledgement of the need to consider that when programs and initiatives are funded. Urgent need for capital funding and facilities to house workers and for delivery of services. • Issue was elucidated when one First Nation noted that it had received funding for a mental health worker to address suicide crisis in the community and that it had to give up the First Nation's governance room for use by the mental health worker. Said it will do what it has to for the community's mental health. • Inquiry about whether funding available to support non-Western, holistic healing centre and land-based healing programming. <p>CANADIAN HUMAN RIGHTS TRIBUNAL (CHRT) BAND REPRESENTATIVES REIMBURSEMENTS AND FUNDING GOING FORWARD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that not all First Nations have made claims. Expressed that there is some confusion about how to make claims, whether there is funding for only retroactive costs or if funding will be provided for current/ongoing costs of Band Representatives, and what is the plan going forward. 	<p>CAPITAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal staff/Canada to consider and integrate capital needs into programming work plans. <p>CHRT BAND REPRESENTATIVES REIMBURSEMENTS AND FUNDING GOING FORWARD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department will continue to communicate additional information to First Nations with respect to Band Representatives funding reimbursements, per the February 2018 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders, including: additional explanation on reimbursement claims; how to claim for current actuals; and information on the way forward plan for developing a new program to support Band Representatives in Ontario First Nations. • Canada will engage with First Nations, not only with Indigenous Representative Organizations ("PTOs") on the development of a new Band Representatives

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FUNDING:

- First Nations need stable, predictable funding.
- Various ideas suggested, including departmental promissory notes so First Nations can access bank funding to address their priorities. Mention of need to acknowledge escalator costs in project funding approvals.
- Expressed that the Federal schools in Ontario are not funded enough, not enough Post-Secondary funding
- First Nations need higher, appropriate levels of funding.
- Need long-term funding – not having to do proposals every year.
- There is a range of resources and programs available at the federal and provincial level, but are difficult to access. Challenge with how to access different sources of funding.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

- Additional funding needed.
- Eliminate the requirement that that members need to live in Canada for 12 months in order to receive funding. Asked this be raised during the Post-Secondary Program Review.
- Bimose Tribal Council noted it had been denied Education Partnerships Program funding repeatedly; asked why?

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMMING:

- Need for programs to address gaps.
- Departmental staff mentioned Jordan's Principle – A Child First Initiative may be a source of funding support.
- Issue that there are two to three year waiting lists for children's mental health services.

program in Ontario.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:

- Committed to bring back to senior officials and during the review of request to eliminate the requirement that that members need to live in Canada for 12 months in order to receive federal Post-Secondary Support funding.
- Committed to raise issue with Education Partnership Program staff for follow-up.

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OTHER COMMENTS:

- **Chiefs expressed that they want to be heard, asked how they will be heard today?**
- **Need for Public Service staff to hear directly from the children, youth, families who have been through child welfare system. Need to hear their stories.**
- **Concerned about bureaucrats taking messages back to the Minister, saying that they should be dealing with the Minister directly. Also noted that this Joint Gathering should not be considered as formal engagement.**
- **Mention of use of word 'reconciliation' being a shield for the genocide carried out by the Government of Canada.**
- **With respect to the Rights Recognition Framework, asked how people on the ground will be consulted?**