

Jordan's Principle Update Indigenous Services Canada and First Nation Health Authority March 2021

We would like to take this opportunity to keep you informed regarding the implementation and ongoing evolution of Jordan's Principle in BC.

Named in memory of Jordan River Anderson, a young boy from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba, Jordan's Principle ensures that all First Nations children can access the products, services and supports they need, when they need them.

Jordan's Principle is a legal requirement resulting from the Orders of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) and is not a program or a policy. There is no end date to Jordan's Principle. While programs and initiatives to support Jordan's Principle may only exist for short periods of time, please be assured that Jordan's Principle will always be there.

The current initiative is aimed at supporting First Nation children who need immediate help while Government of Canada is making long-term changes for the future that will enhance access to services, such as reforming child and family services and working to build better program structures and funding models.

Given that the legal responsibility for the implementation of Jordan's Principle rests with the Government of Canada, the evaluation and determination of all Jordan's Principle requests was transitioned to Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) BC Region on February 15, 2019 from the First Nation Health Authority (FNHA).

ISC and FNHA would like to advise communities of further upcoming changes to the Jordan's Principle service coordination model in BC. The FNHA has determined that it will fully transition out from Jordan's Principle service navigation functions by March 31, 2021 while ISC BC Region has been working with First Nations partners to develop and implement a Jordan's Principle Enhanced Service Coordination model of care that puts First Nation children and families at the centre of service delivery. During the next year, the FNHA will focus on developing a mandate for a made-in-BC children and youth health and wellness service model.

In October 2020, ISC BC Region issued an Expression of Interest (EOI) seeking First Nations and First Nations organizations to host community-based service coordinators and a service coordination hub to provide province-wide support to service coordinators. Since the close of the EOI, ISC BC Region has worked with First Nation groups and relevant organizations to finalize 38 service coordination positions across BC. In addition, the centralized service coordination hub will be hosted by the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society. The Hub will provide ongoing support to service coordinators across the province, develop training tools, be the central keeper of the community of practice, and work with federal, provincial and Indigenous community partners to improve coordination.

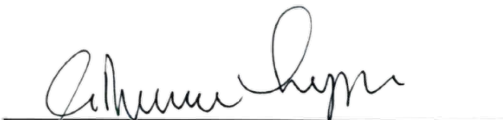
Additional information on the Enhanced Service Coordination model will be provided at the upcoming Jordan's Principle Town Hall on March 17, 2021, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., which is being hosted by the First Nations Leadership Council in partnership with the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and Indigenous Services Canada.

Please be assured that ISC BC Region and the FNHA will continue to work together to support the needs of First Nations' children, families and communities in BC. We would also like to take this opportunity to offer a heartfelt thank you to all who contribute to improving the lives of children and youth.

Thank you,

Catherine Lappe
Regional Director General
Indigenous Services Canada BC Region

Richard Jock
Chief Executive Officer
First Nations Health Authority



Signature

Signature

Date: 12/3/2021

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Indigenous Services
Canada

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First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Submit a Request under Jordan's Principle
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396296543/1582657596387>

ISC BC Region Focal Points
(778) 951-0716 | sac.principedejordancb-bcjordansprinciple.isc@canada.ca;

Jordan's Principle Call Centre: 1-855-JP-CHILD (1-855-572-4453), open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week