



July 30, 2025

Chief Pauline Frost
Chair
National Children's Chiefs Commission

Tracy.Lavin@OurChildrenOurWay.ca

Dear Chief Frost:

Thank you for your kind words and thoughtful message of congratulations following my recent appointment as Minister of Indigenous Services. I am truly honoured by this opportunity to serve in such an important role. I am pleased to respond to your correspondence of June 4, 2025, outlining the National Children's Chiefs Commission's perspective on a national agreement on long-term reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program.

Canada remains committed to improving the lives and outcomes of First Nation children and families living on reserve and in the Yukon by addressing the longstanding and systemic inequities in First Nations child and family services and the implementation of Jordan's Principle.

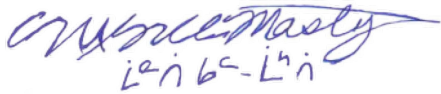
As you know, on February 26, 2025 Canada was able to sign a nine-year, \$8.5 billion Ontario Final Agreement on Long-Term Reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program with the Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation, both parties to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal complaint. This agreement represents the Ontario share of the \$47.8 billion national final agreement that had been rejected at the Assembly of First Nations Special Chiefs Assembly in October 2024.

As we await the decision of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, and until the Tribunal approves a long-term approach for the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle, Canada will continue to implement the many reforms that have been brought to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle since 2016, including those subject to Tribunal orders. These reforms include significant and sustained funding increases for First Nations Child and Family Services prevention services and programs, First Nation representative services, post-majority support services for youth up to the age of 26 years, and additional support to First Nations for housing.

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Canada is resolute in supporting First Nations in their aspiration towards self-determination and to building strong nation-to-nation relationships. Within this context, Indigenous Services Canada will continue to focus on those reforms to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program that will enhance greater First Nation control and decision-making. Such reforms will support Canada's efforts to address the discrimination identified by the Tribunal and prevent its recurrence, and create positive conditions for First Nations to achieve their aspirations towards self-determination.

Your sincerely,



The Honourable Mandy Gull-Masty, P.C., M.P.