



**Keewatin Tribal Council
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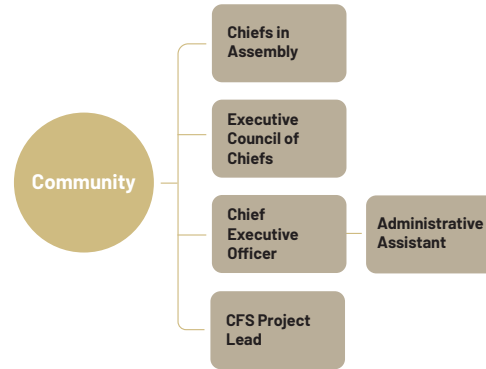
Keewatin Tribal Council

Keewatin Tribal Council represents eleven member communities located in Northern Manitoba. The mandate of KTC is to promote, advance and protect the interests of its eleven member First Nations, and is intended to maintain, strengthen, enhance, lobby for and defend the rights of northern Manitoba First Nations people within its jurisdiction. KTC maintains an office in Thompson with a sub-office in Winnipeg.

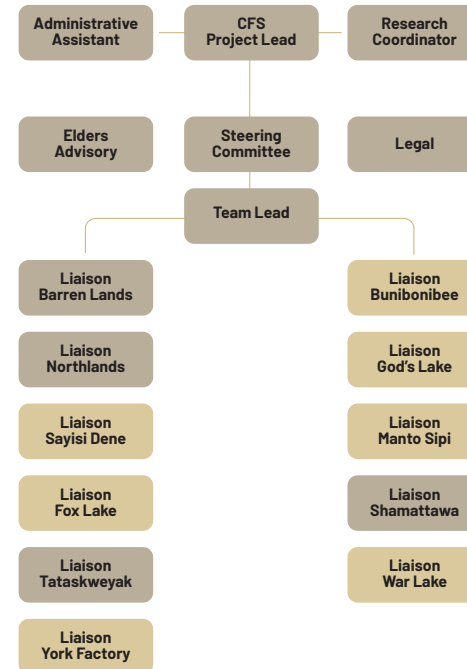
The Keewatin Tribal Council consists of the following member First Nations:



Leadership and Management



Organizational Chart



**Steering Committee/
Elders Advisory**

Provide recommendations and input to guide the Law creation process.

- Advise on aspects of the project.
- Participate/assist in community engagement activities.
- Represent their community at the Committee Level.
- Report back to the community.



**Keewatin
Tribal Council**



C. 24 (Bill C-92) Project





KTC C. 24 (Bill C-92) Project

Goals:

- To develop a CFS Law, policies, procedure and outline of practices that are reflective of the Nations KTC serves, taking into consideration their unique community and cultural practices.
- To develop a CFS Law that will supersede current Federal and Provincial CFS Law
- To ensure that the distinct Inineu and Dene Nations are recognized and reflected within the legislation.
- To ensure the natural laws of the KTC Nations are recognized.
- To a establish a KTC CFS Governing body.

Purpose of the KTC C. 24 Project:

Engage with community members and leadership to obtain input, recommendations and guidance on the CFS law creation process. Consultation will occur by way of community member representation on a Steering and Elders Advisory Committee, as well as through community information sessions, activities, sharing circles, conferences and retreats.

C. 24 (Bill C-92) An Act Respecting First Nation, Inuit and Metis Children, Youth and Families

It recognizes a simple truth: one size does not fit all when it comes to Indigenous child and family services. Under Bill C-92, Indigenous communities and groups will be free to develop policies and laws based on their particular histories, cultures, and circumstances. Groups are free to move at their own pace to implement and enforce these policies and laws. Through the Act, national principles such as the best interests of the child, cultural continuity, and substantive equality have been established to help guide the provision of Indigenous child and family services. The Act also enables Indigenous groups and communities to transition toward exercising partial or full jurisdiction over child and family services at



a pace that they choose. It is also consistent with the Government of Canada's commitments to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action, and the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The purpose of this Act is to:

- Affirm the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services;
- Establish national principles such as best interests of the child, cultural continuity and substantive equality to guide the provision of child and family services in relation to Indigenous children; and
- Contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Act provides an opportunity for Indigenous peoples to choose their own solutions for their children and families.

Priority given to preventative care

The Act emphasizes the need for the system to shift from apprehension to prevention, with priority given to services that promote preventive care to support families. It gives priority to services like prenatal care and support to parents. The Act also clearly indicates that no Indigenous child should be apprehended solely on the basis or as a result of his or her socioeconomic conditions, including poverty, lack of housing or related infrastructure, or state of health of the child's parent or care provider.

Keeping Indigenous children and families together

The Act seeks to preserve a child's connection to his or her family, community and culture. As such, it provides order of placement of an Indigenous child only when apprehension is in the best interest of that child:

Principle 1: Best Interests if the Child

The best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in making decisions or the taking of actions in the context of the provisions of child and family services in relation to an Indigenous child and, in the case of decisions or action related to child apprehension the best interests of the child must be the paramount consideration.

Primary consideration:

- Must be given to the child's safety, security and well-being as well as to relationships with their families, culture and communities

Example of factors to be considered:

- The child's heritage;
- The child's needs in relation to developmental age and stage;
- The nature of the child's relationship with parents and other family;
- Importance of preserving culture, and connections to language and territory;
- Other considerations.

Principle 2: Cultural Continuity

- Cultural continuity is essential to the well-being of a child, a family and an Indigenous group, community or people;
- The child best interests are promoted when the child remains with family or in the community;
- Child and family services cannot be provided in a manner that contributes to further assimilation of a group;
- The region, language, cultures, practices, customs, traditions, ceremonies and knowledge of a people need to be considered and is integral to cultural continuity.

Principle 3: Substantive Equality

- The rights and distinct needs of a child with a disability should be taken into consideration, to promote the child's participation, to the same extent as other children in activities related to their family, community or people;
- The child and the child's family must be able to exercise their rights, including the right to have his or her views and preferences considered in decisions, without discrimination;
- A jurisdictional issue (federal or provincial) must not result in a gap in services provided.



Multi-Year, Phased Project Plan:

- Project will take place over 3-5 years and will be re-evaluated annually.
- Information packages/reports will be provided to community members of the participating Nations.

Phase 1

Foundational/Technical

- Research, agency relations, formation/selection/training of staff, Steering Committee, Elder Advisory, legal processes, conference #1 planning/preparation/implementation, and so on.

Phase 2

Implementation/Engagement

- Ongoing activities from Phase 1, established and trained Staff/Steering Committee, initiation of community activities, conference planning/preparation/implementation, and so on.

Phase 3

Monitoring/Evaluation

- Ongoing activities from Phase 2, monitor, assess and evaluate project, continue engagement process, plan and prepare ratification ceremonies, and so on.

Phase 4

Ratification/Closing

- Plan and prepare individual community ratification ceremonies, formal application of CFS Law