

Family Wellness

Family Support, Family Wellbeing and Band Representative Program



***Fort William
First Nation***

Family Support

Provides family support, prevention and child protection services to Band Members.

Services include:

- Intake, referrals, assessments, planning, advocacy and support.
- Assistance with services throughout the community, both on and off reserve.
- Assistance with navigating resources to benefit and better our families, both traditionally and professionally.
- Prevention programming within the community to create safe and comfortable spaces for members.



Family Wellbeing

- Supports children, individuals, families, and the community by promoting health, safety, and stability
- Uses community-driven and culturally relevant approaches
- Focuses on strengthening families and overall wellbeing



Family Wellbeing Services Include

- Holistic and cultural supports
- Family and individual wellbeing planning
- Support for individuals and families experiencing domestic or family violence
- Intake, planning, implementation, and follow-up services
- Referrals to counselling, victim services, and anti-human trafficking supports



Band Representative Program

- Support First Nations when children, youth, young adults, and families from their community are involved in, or at risk of involvement with, the child and family services system.
- First Nation Representative Services play a critical role in ensuring the rights of First Nations children and youth are respected within the child and family services system.
- Services are defined by First Nations and may include engagement with child and family services providers, as well as participation in child and family service matters under provincial, territorial, and federal laws.



Role & Purpose

First Nation Representative Services

- Act as the main point of contact between the First Nation and child and family services providers
- Exercise the rights and responsibilities of the First Nation under child and family services legislation
- Advocate for the best interests of First Nations children, youth, and families
- Ensure services are culturally appropriate and community-informed



Supporting Children, Youth & Families

- Support children, youth, young adults, and families involved in, or at risk of involvement with, the child and family services system
- Support families and youth living outside their home communities, including across regions and jurisdictions
- Support youth and young adults accessing post-majority and transition services
- Help families access prevention and early support services



Culture, Connection & Reunification

- Ensure services address the real needs of First Nations children and families, including:
 - Cultural identity and traditions
 - Connections to family, community, land, and geography
 - Impacts of historical and ongoing disadvantage
- Facilitate reunification and/or repatriation of children and youth with their family and First Nation(s)
- Support customary care, kinship care, and alternative care arrangements



Advocacy, Planning & Legal Participation

- Participate in child and family services administrative and court proceedings
- Access legal resources to represent the First Nation's interests
- Receive and respond to notices under child and family services legislation
- Provide or arrange alternative dispute resolution, including circle processes and Indigenous approaches



Planning, Agreements & Collaboration

- Participate in the development and monitoring of service plans, including:
 - Child, youth, and family care plans
 - Safety and permanency plans
 - Aftercare and youth transition/post-majority plans
- Monitor agreements related to individual children, youth, and families
- Develop and monitor protocols or service agreements with child and family services providers

