

Exploring a Coordinated Approach to Indigenous Early Years

Moving forward with a coordinated approach to Indigenous early years investments and policies—one that supports nation-based decision making.

Presented by:

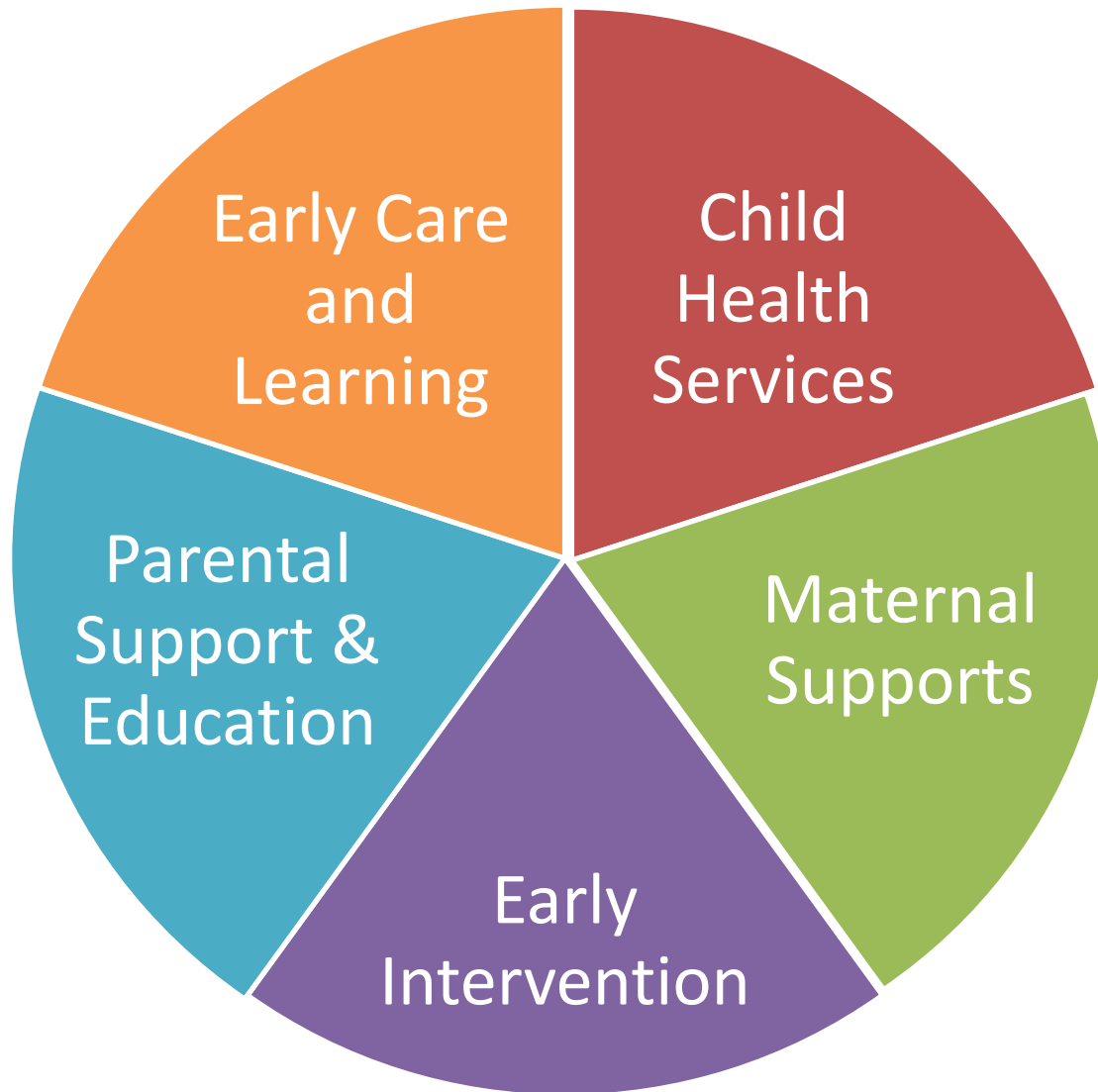
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Purpose/Overview of Presentation:

- Explore how we can support the transition to a more *simplified, coordinated* approach to investment and services in the early years
- *Envisioning the Future*-What we have heard from communities
- A focus on priorities for *action*

Key Prevention Services:



CONTEXT: Why Now?

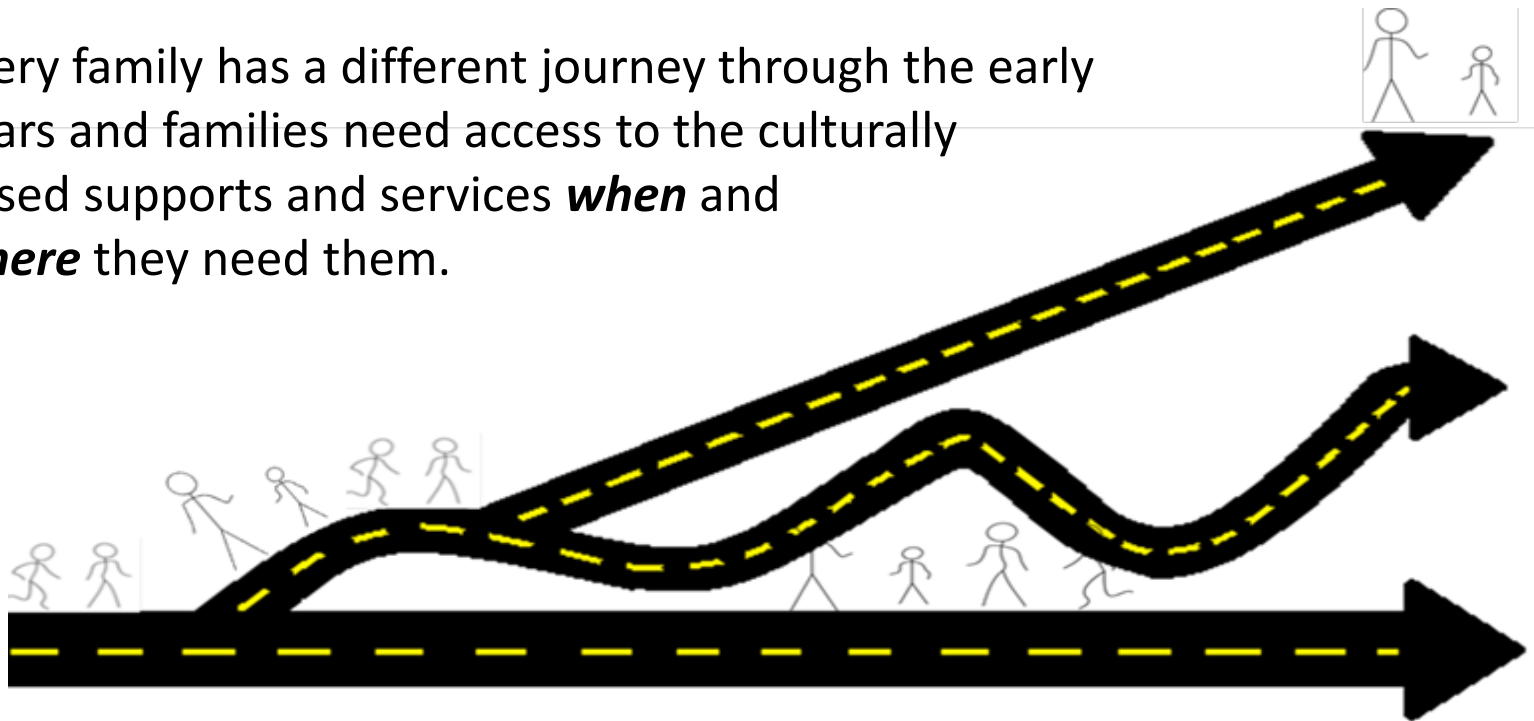
KEY DRIVERS FOR THIS WORK:

- Grand Chief Ed John's Final Report – calls for the **expansion** of early years programs with multi-year funding and for a focus on prevention and family preservation
- MCFD Multi-Year Action Plan 2017-2020 – places priority on **prevention** and early intervention, family preservation, and enhanced services and supports
- Work at the national, nation, and provincial level to determine early learning and child care frameworks to guide investment under the Indigenous ELCC.
- Work of First Nations Health Council to prioritize social determinants of health – 2017 Spring Caucus regional sessions underscored the importance of the **early years**.
- **Opportunity** to improve our coordination of programs and services to ensure we **maximize** new and existing resources and support **First Nations interests to design and deliver services to reflect their priorities/needs**.

CONTEXT: Early Years – an Important Investment:

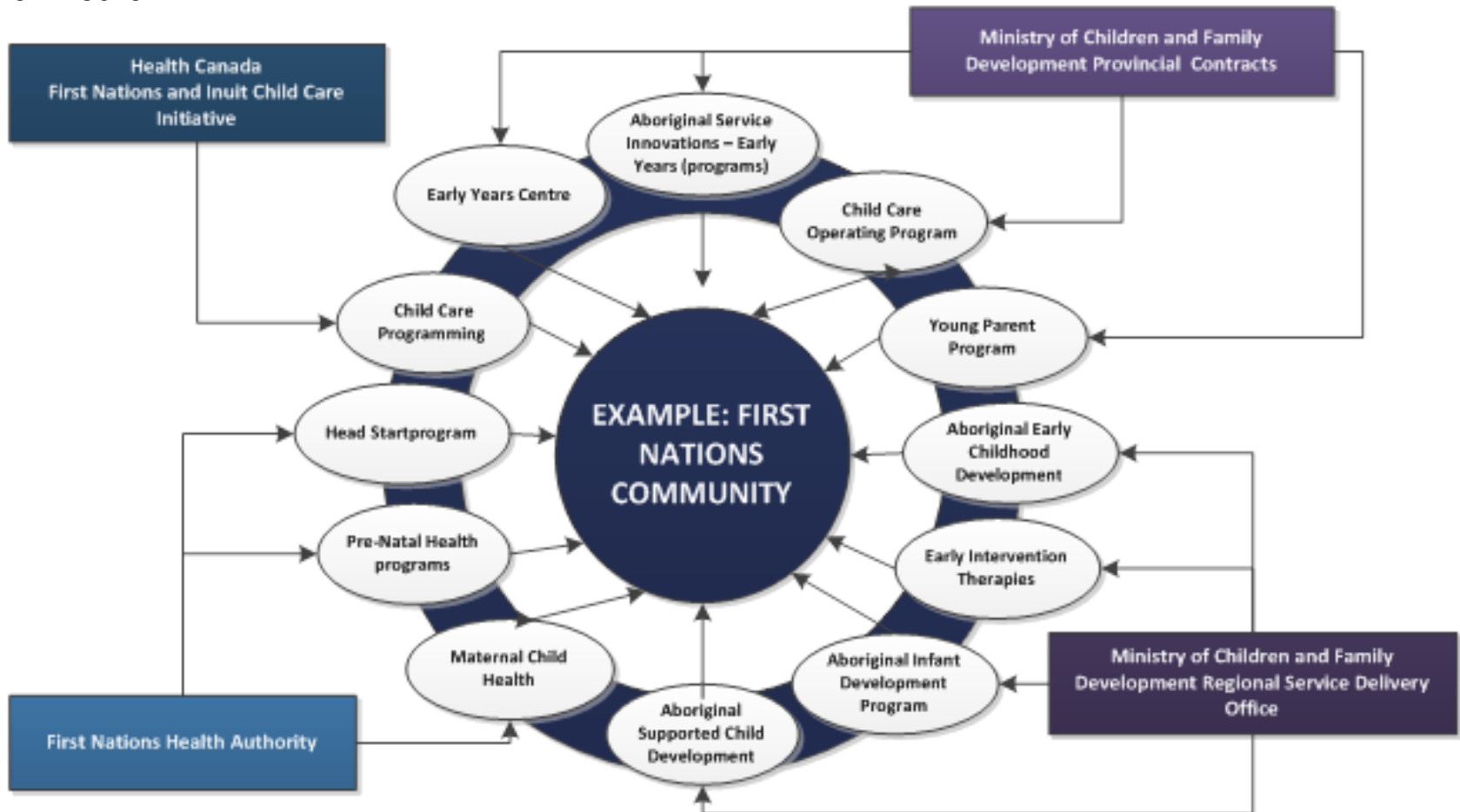
Culturally based ‘early years’ services are known to demonstrate positive returns for individuals, families and communities – including positively influencing family preservation, long term health and educational outcomes, and mental health trajectories.

Every family has a different journey through the early years and families need access to the culturally based supports and services *when* and *where* they need them.



CONTEXT: Current Lay-of-the-Land

While gaps in services provide one barrier, the **way** government funds and delivers its programs and services can also make accessing and delivering programs more difficult.



Envisioning the future – where we think community may want to go:

Where we ARE:

- X Gaps in service
- X Competitive funding practices
- X Multiple funding streams that are disjointed
- X Levels of government working in silos
- X Contract deliverables guide spending vs. community needs
- X Little flexibility for community-driven decision making
- X Burdensome reporting requirements
- X A focus on outputs vs. meaningful outcomes

Where we WANT TO BE:

- ✓ Services are integrated and streamlined
- ✓ Funding is sustainable and flexible
- ✓ Reporting is focused on outcomes vs. outputs
- ✓ Funding is allocated without a competitive process that furthers the divide between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots'
- ✓ Gaps in service are addressed
- ✓ Communities are supported to guide investments based on local priorities
- ✓ Families are supported with the supports they need to be well

How do we get there: (two tracks of work)

We are proposing we work on two tracks:

**Invest in immediate
service gaps**



**Take action to support
integrated services
over longer-term**



DISCUSSION: Simplifying, Coordinating, Streamlining

Overarching Consideration: how we can support the transition to a more simplified, coordinated approach to investment and services in the early years?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How can we simplify this landscape for communities?**
- 2. How do we support those communities that are ready to deliver services and those communities that are building the capacity to deliver services?**
- 3. Where do we start – what are your priorities for action for the short, medium and long term?**

Recommended priorities from regional FNHC sessions

- IMMEDIATELY Expand AHS to include child care, family support and early intervention
- Language, culture, family and Elder involvement
- We need ECD resources in our communities
- Focus on capacity building
- Need to address ECE wages
- Funds for Indigenous children need to go to Indigenous organizations to deliver services
- Licensing barriers (lived experiences to be recognized)
- Infrastructure and transportation to be part of solution

Appendix -Reports Summarized and Themed:

Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification - From Root Causes to Root Solutions (2016)
Promising Practices in First Nations and Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Programs (2015)
A Blanket Approach: Protecting the Future of First Nations Child Development, Learning and Care (2015)
An Environmental Scan of Public Policy and Programs for Young Aboriginal Children In BC: A Cold Wind Blows (2014)
Indigenous Wise Best Practices: For Early Childhood Development Programs (2015)
The BC First Nations Early Childhood Development Framework (2011)
BC Aboriginal Child Care Society: What is Early Childhood Development? – A Discussion Paper (2010)
Creating Pathways for the Dreams of Our Children: An Aboriginal Early Years Five Year Strategic Plan (2009)
Consensus Paper - BC First Nations perspectives on a new Health Governance Arrangement (2011)
Making Children a Priority – A Report on the Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Community Engagement Project (2005)
Early Years Planning in BC: Conversations with First Nations, Métis and Aboriginal Partners (2017)
Growing Up Healthy – A resource booklet about healthy children for First Nations and Métis parents in BC (2013)
Planning for the Seasons – An Aboriginal Early Years Strategic Planning Resource (2011) BCACCS - AECD Mapping Project Community Stakeholder Survey (2013)
Ministry of Children and Family Development Multi-Year Action Plan 2017-2020
United Way of Lower Mainland, Statement of Reconciliation
Aboriginal Engagement and Strategy Framework (2015)
Aboriginal Equity and Inclusion Policy Lens (2014)
Applying the Aboriginal Equity and Inclusion Policy Lens
Memorandum of Understanding between Government of British Columbia and First Nations Health Council – A Regional Engagement Process and Partnership to Develop a Shared Ten-Year Social Determinants Strategy for First Nations Peoples in BC (2016)
Letter from First Nations Health Council to BC First Nations Chiefs and Leaders re Memorandum of Understanding on the Social Determinants of Health (2016)
Metis Nation Relationship Accord II (2016)
Improving Employment Outcomes for Off-Reserve Aboriginal People Protocol Agreement between the B.C. Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the Province of British Columbia (2014)
Recognition and Reconciliation Protocol on First Nations Children, Youth and Families between The Province of British Columbia and the First Nations Leadership Council (2009)
Transformative Change Accord between Government of British Columbia and Government of Canada and The Leadership Council (2005)
Child and Family Response, East Fraser Aboriginal Communities (2017)
Reporting Template for Aboriginal Reconciliation (2017)
Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework (2015)