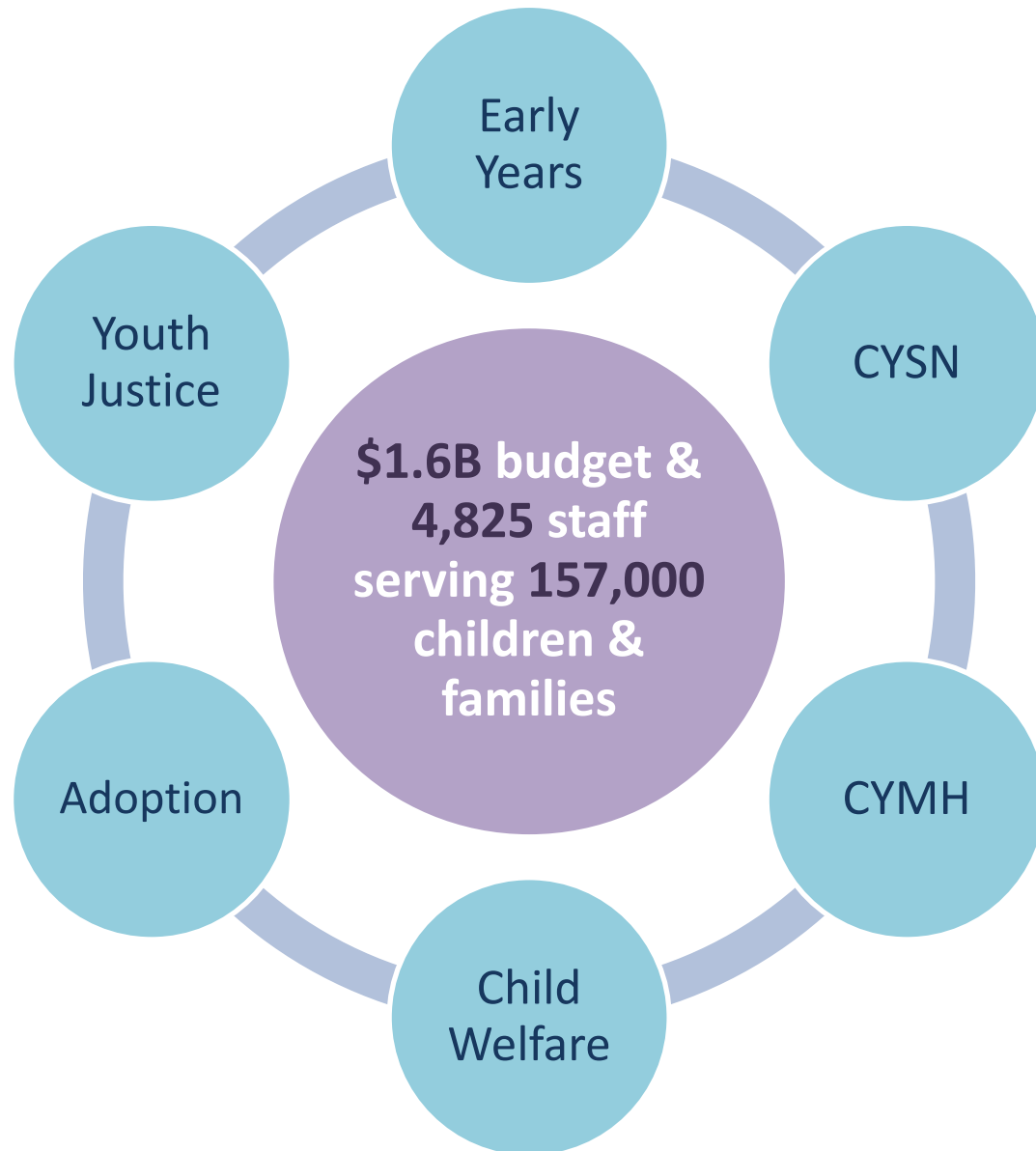


Charting our Direction

Ministry of Children & Family Development
Multi-Year Action Plan
2017-2020



Our Organization – MCFD



Our Partners:

- **24** Delegated Aboriginal Agencies
- **~ 5400** Contracted Community Service Providers including **~ 3000** Foster Homes

FNHC Vancouver Island



2 Service Delivery Areas

South Vancouver Island

North Vancouver Island

6 Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

K'wak'walat'si
(Namgis) Child &
Family Services

Kwumut Lelum Child
& Family Services

Lalum'utul'Smun'eem
Child & Family
Services

NIŁ TU,O Child &
Family Services

Usma Nuu-Chah-
Nulth Family & Child
Services

Surrounded by Cedar
Child & Family
Services

Children in Care:

- **1,680** Children and Youth in Care in the region
 - **1,093** of these are Indigenous Children & Youth
 - **457** served by a DAA

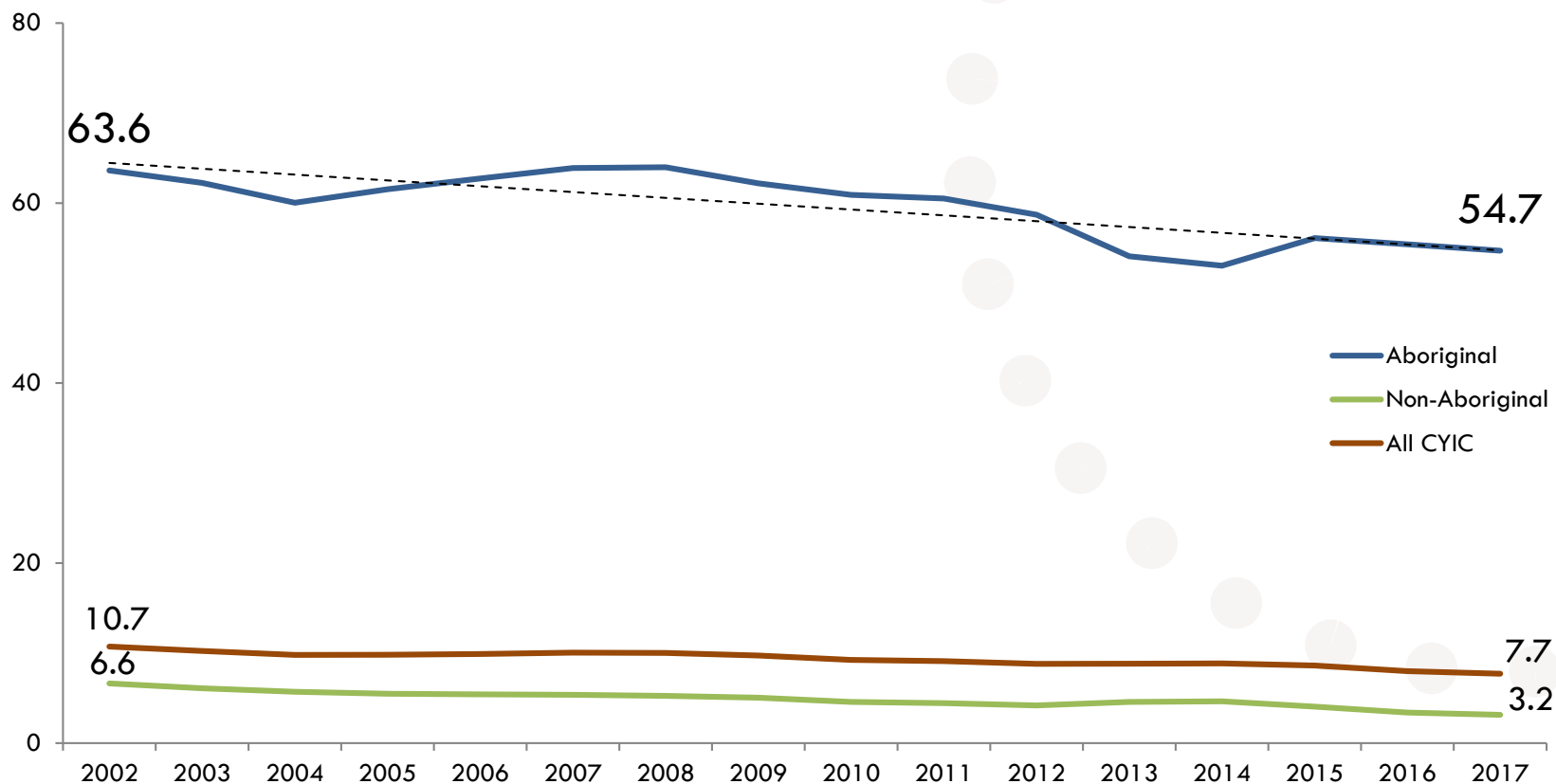
Our Staff:

- **279** MCFD staff in the region
- **98** DAA Staff in the region

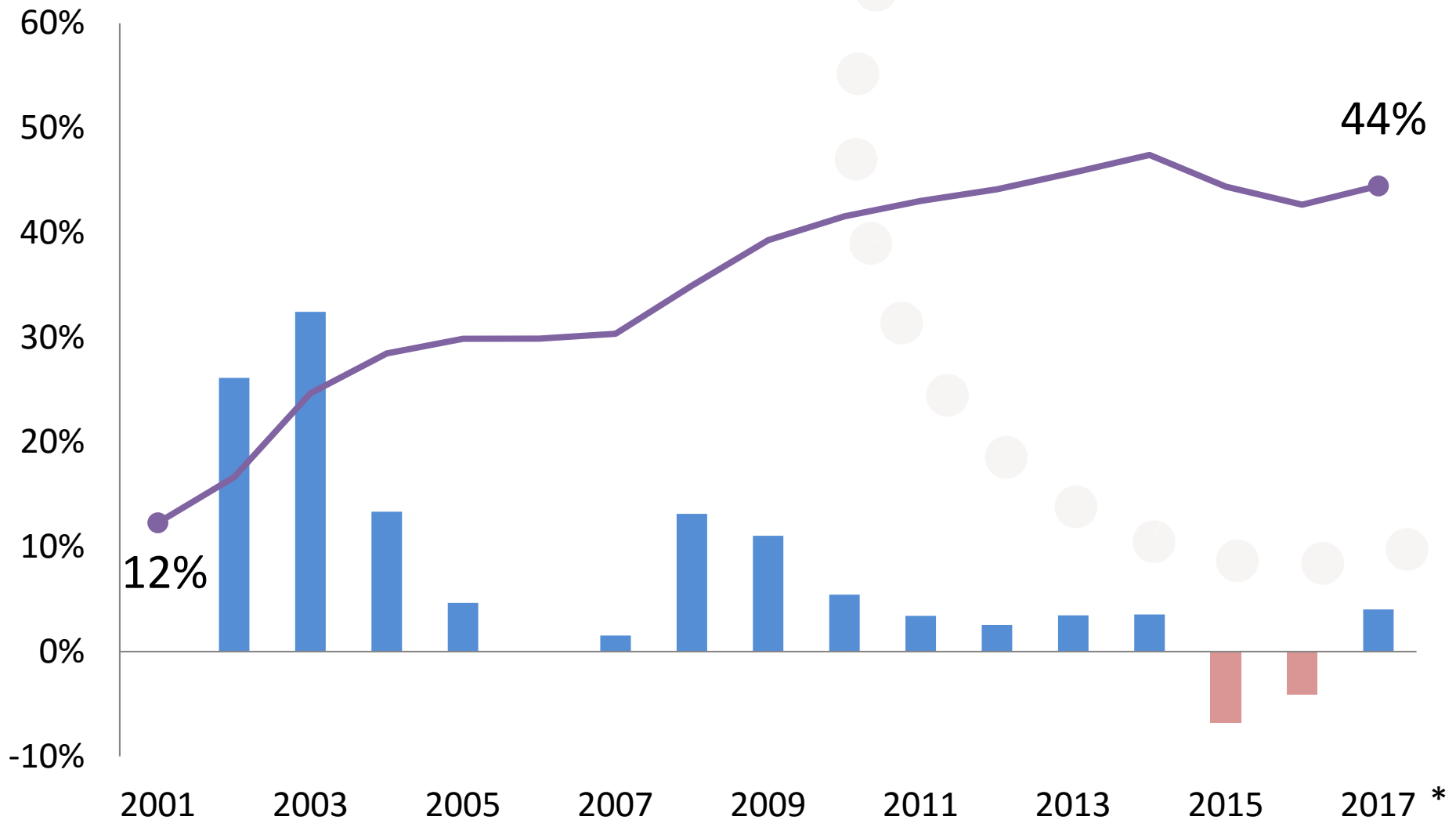
Vancouver Island Region – At a Glance

	Total	South Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Number of CYIC	1,680	763	918
Number of Indigenous CYIC	1,093	480	614
CYIC Rate/1,000 Pop*	12.6	9.9	16.3
Indigenous CYIC Rate/1,000 Pop*	67.3	64.7	69.5
Number of CCO (subset of CYIC)	884	420	464
Number of Indigenous CCO (subset of CYIC)	630	281	349

Where We Are Today – Fewer Children & Youth in Care

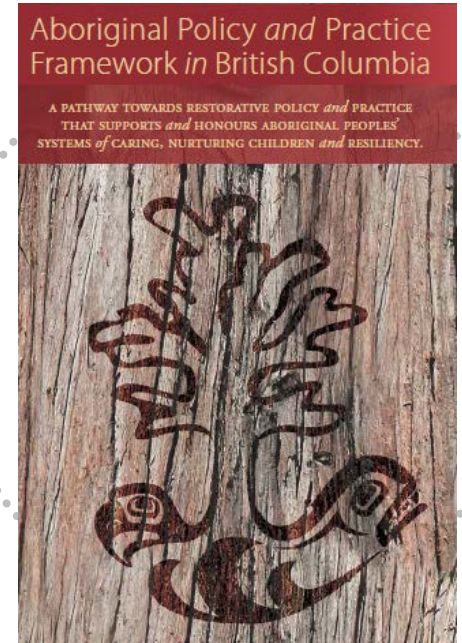


Expanding the Role of DAAs Across the Province Year Over Year



Indigenous Focus - Reconciliation

- Foundational to everything we do –
We have applied an Indigenous lens to all practice, policy and planning through *Aboriginal Practice and Policy Framework*
- We are strengthening partnerships in each region – reconciliation plans, partnership protocols & regular meetings
- We are providing \$6.4M in direct funding to First Nations (\$30K per community) to support the delivery of community based prevention and family support services
- We are engaging provincial and federal government partners through the Tri-Partite First Nations Children and Families Working Group



Local Initiatives with Indigenous Communities

- MCFD leadership meeting regularly with leadership from Indigenous communities and agencies:
 - Discussions include how we can strengthen relationships and provide flexible service delivery to meet the unique needs of communities.
- Protocols exist in most communities and nations throughout the SDAs, with more being developed or updated on an ongoing basis.

Multi Year Action Plan: Goals and Objectives

Goal

The number of children and youth in care, and particularly the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and youth in the child welfare system, will be reduced

Children and youth are supported to reach their potential and grow up as successful young adults, able to contribute to the economy of British Columbia

Youth in care, or formerly in care, have improved well-being outcomes

Objective

- Children and youth will be supported to safely remain with their families, extended families or be placed in permanent homes that promote a connectedness to their culture

- Collaborate with our partners to develop integrated, community based child and family services

- Enhance services, supports and systems to better serve all children and youth and their families and to improve outcomes for children and youth in care

Investment Strategy



- Budget 2017:
\$70.1M for GCEJ
Recommendations

Towards a Coordinated Approach to Indigenous Early Years

Investing in Early Years Services **increases well-being** and **reduces vulnerabilities** that hinder development.



well-being and long-term outcomes



Vulnerabilities

However, *gaps in services* have been identified.

In response to this, we are now taking action to:

- Invest in some immediate service gaps AND
- Support a more streamlined and integrated service model over the long term.

Finding Permanency

Improving permanency planning to find culturally safe and caring homes for Indigenous children & youth in care

Progress:

- Permanency Policy was effective June 30, 2017. Permanency review committees and tables continue to guide permanency planning in the Kootenay and Thompson Cariboo Shuswap SDAs
- Custom Adoption: Process to establish Indigenous Advisory Circle has begun
 - Custom Adoption Project will deepen current understanding of traditional custom adoption in BC through collaboration with Indigenous communities. This will align to the APPF. Guided by this understanding, policy and legislation may be developed to improve support for custom adoption.

System of Care Redesign

Designing an appropriate and effective out of home system of care that encompasses all residential services and supports

Progress:

- Consultation on development of a System of Caring future state, including requested systemic changes and harmonization of financial assistance
- Caregiver Training – Kinship Care training developed and piloted and includes Indigenous content

Youth Transitions

Providing appropriate supports to ensure that youth are prepared for independence once they transition from care to adulthood

Progress:

- New funding (\$24.2M) for family preservation initiatives and services, including supports to out-of-care providers and transitioning youth
- Recent expansion to Youth Transition initiatives through increased staff complement and provincial tuition waivers

Prevention – Strengthening Supports to First Nations Communities & Métis Agencies

Providing direct support for Indigenous children, youth and families to ensure that children can safely remain with their parents

Progress:

- Approved \$6.4M in direct funding to First Nations and Métis (\$30K per community/Métis agencies) to support the delivery of community based prevention and family support services
- Strengthened partnerships through reconciliation plans, updated protocol agreements and regular meetings

Collaboration

Building and maintaining strategic relationships with partners to ensure effective service delivery across the province

Progress:

- Developing a plain language guide to family and community rights when involved in CFCSA matters.
- Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group – Jurisdiction over Indigenous Child Welfare:
 - MOU signed with Wet'suwet'en
 - Service Agreement signed with Splatstin
 - Revising the TOR with Métis Working Table
- Jordan's Principle - Jordan's Principle Tripartite Working Circle, with representatives from the provincial government, BC First Nations Health Authority and the Federal Government will develop a provincial approach to implementing actions in Canadian Human Rights Tribunal ruling

Next Steps

1. Continue implementation of strategic initiatives
2. Continue work to implement the work of Special Advisor, Grand Chief Ed John
3. Update the Multi Year Action Plan by end of March, 2018