



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

## Expression of Interest Call for Proposals

**Health & Cultural Support Services for Individuals Impacted by the  
Child Welfare Reform and Jordan's Principle Settlements**

## Background

As the first and only First Nations Health Authority in Canada, we are transforming health services for First Nations people in BC. Our vision is for healthy, self-determining, and vibrant BC First Nations Children, Families and Communities. The mission of the FNHA is to support BC First Nations individuals, families, and communities to achieve and enjoy the highest level of health and wellness. We aim to improve health and wellness journeys, honor traditions and cultures, and champion First Nations health and wellness within the FNHA organization and with all our partners. For additional information, please visit [www.fnha.ca](http://www.fnha.ca).

In 2007, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society filed a complaint under the Canadian Human Rights Act, alleging the Canadian government of discrimination by underfunding the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program and narrowly applying Jordan's Principle. The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) ruled in their favor in 2016, ordering the Canadian government to reform the FNCFS Program and fully implement Jordan's Principle. In 2019, the CHRT ordered Canada to compensate affected First Nations children and families with forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) each. Two class action lawsuits were also filed, seeking broader compensation. In December 2021, an Agreement-in-Principle was signed, providing \$20 billion in compensation and \$19.807 billion for program reforms. After revisions, the Final Settlement Agreement (FSA) was approved by the AFN and endorsed by the First Nations-in-Assembly in April 2023. The CHRT approved the revised FSA in July 2023, marking a significant step in the compensation process.

On October 24, 2023, the Federal Court of Canada approved the First Nations Child and Family Services, Jordan's Principle, and Trout Class Settlement Agreement. Under the Settlement Agreement, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) made a commitment to ensure that trauma-informed health and cultural support services are available to Class Member(s) and potential Class Member(s) as they navigate the claims process, following the claims process and over the course of their life. The Government of Canada has agreed to pay for mental wellness supports for survivors as they go through the compensation process. In preparation for claimants to begin the claims process, Indigenous Services Canada has funded the FNHA for Health and Cultural Supports and Counselling.

To support class members while they navigate the settlement process, the FNHA will work with First Nations organization(s) to provide health and cultural supports. Counselling services will be provided separately and will *not* be included in this call for proposals. This call for proposals will be open to First Nations organizations across the province, as well as current agreement holders with FNHA. The successful applicant must have the necessary capacity to support the anticipated demand and a pool of cultural supports to draw from. Additionally, support workers must be First Nations and have experience in cultural work and should not require any additional training as part of the proposed work plan. The organization must be available to assist claimants and their families across BC.

# Health and Cultural Support Services Proposal Template

## APPLICANT ORGANIZATION

### Please identify your organization

Requestor Name:		Address:	
Recipient Number:		Tel. Number:	
Organization Type:		Email Address:	

### Please identify a contact person within your organization

First and last name:	
Email Address:	
Title:	

#### **Submissions must include:**

- a completed Application Form signed by an authorized officer of your organization, including a workplan and budget using the included templates, and
- an official letter from your organization agreeing to support the Trauma-Informed Health and Cultural Support Services related to the First Nations Child and Family Services, Jordan's Principle, and Trout Class Settlement Agreement.

## **PART 1: PROPOSAL DETAILS**

### **Trauma-Informed Health and Cultural Support Services**

#### **Objectives:**

Please read the expected objectives and check in each box to confirm that you have read them and agree to fulfill the planned activities to achieve each objective.

- Increase capacity to ensure that trauma-informed health and cultural support services are available to Class Member(s) and potential Class Member(s) both on-reserve and off-reserve; and

- Increase capacity to meet the specific needs of Class Member(s) and potential Class Member(s) seeking trauma-informed health and cultural supports, including supports for children, youth, and families, both on-reserve and off-reserve.

### Eligible activities and services to be provided

Please read the list of eligible services and activities and check the boxes of the services you will provide.

- Conduct community outreach and workshops to inform claimants and their families about available health and cultural wellness support services offered provincially.
- Provision of mentoring Younger Generation as cultural helpers in health and cultural support organization(s).
- Provide cultural workshops, support groups, community connections and traditional wellness activities provincially for Class Member(s) and potential Class Member(s).
- Virtual Access to Elders: Establish a platform or schedule for Class Members and families to connect with Elders virtually for guidance, storytelling, and traditional teachings.
- Traditional Healing Practices that provide access to traditional healers, medicine makers, or knowledge keepers for guidance on cultural practices, ceremonies, and remedies.
- Host and facilitate virtual and in-person Cultural Knowledge Sharing Circles that facilitate the exchange of cultural knowledge and lived experiences among Class Members and communities.
- Offer Land-Based Activities, workshops and gatherings focused on traditional land-based skills, such as hunting, fishing, plant gathering, and or canoe building, in culturally significant locations.
- Include language revitalization weaved into activities that support First Nations languages.
- Facilitate participation in seasonal ceremonies, coming of age ceremonies and celebrations for Class Members and their families to attend.
- Provide opportunities for traditional arts and crafts, such as beadwork, carving, or regalia-making, led by First Nations artists or artisans.
- Pair youth with Elders for mentorship and cultural learning, fostering intergenerational knowledge transfer.
- Develop a Virtual Cultural Resource Hub: an online portal with videos, guides, and resources on cultural practices, songs, and teachings for Class Members to access.
- Traditional Nutrition and Medicine Workshops for Class Members to learn traditional food and medicine preparation methods and recipes, integrating cultural knowledge about health and nutrition.
- Other activities, services, and deliverables as may reasonably be required by the FNHA from time to time to fulfill the purposes of this Agreement.

### Considerations:

- Due to the specific requirements for traditional First Nations knowledge and practices, only First Nations organizations employing First Nations service providers are eligible to apply. This ensures that services are culturally appropriate and grounded in the lived experiences and knowledge of First Nations communities.
- Available capacity of health and cultural supports across communities, Nations, and the province with the ability to meet demand for individual claimants and their families.

- Health and cultural support workers have all the tools, resources and supportive organizational environment required to provide these services.
- Prior to services start date, service providers will already have trauma-informed experience and training to provide support to Class Members and their families.
- This agreement and the services provided therein will be for a minimum period of one-year – however, due to the ongoing nature of the claims process, health and cultural support services may be required for up to five years.
- The incumbent's role will focus on supporting Class Action Members: children, youth, and their families who are impacted by intergenerational trauma, and may be experiencing complex, and compounded grief, loss and trauma, disintegration and alienation of family, community and culture, and a broad spectrum of challenges rooted in systemic and historical inequities resulting in adverse social determinants of health.
- Recognizing the generational nature of this compensation, mental health and cultural supports will need to be available over the duration of the claims process and flexible to accommodate differing timelines on compensation and support needs as class members reach the age of majority.

**Reporting Requirement(s):**

During every fiscal year, the successful proponent shall provide a narrative quarterly and annual report (Project Annual Report HC-P005) to the FNHA, understanding that reporting requirements will increase in the following fiscal year(s) after the opening of the claims process opens.

**PART 2: BUDGET (January 1, 2025 – January 1, 2026)**

The eligible expenditures identified in these budget categories should be directly related to the activities.

<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual estimated amount</b>	<b>Details/rationale</b>
<b>Personnel</b> (For example: staff salaries and wages, contractor fees)		
<b>Travel/ Accommodations</b> (For example: expenses related to travel to attend workshops and eligible activities, in accordance with the provisions of the <a href="#">National Joint Council Travel Directive</a> )		
<b>Materials and Supplies</b> (For example: office supplies, workshop supplies, traditional medicines, tools, postage, etc.)		
<b>Equipment</b> (For example: office or activity equipment such as cell phone, laptop for employee, etc.)		

<p><b>Rent and Utilities</b> (For example: rental of space for workshop delivery, telephone monthly bill, etc.)</p>		
<p><b>Other – please specify</b> (For example: any other direct or indirect expenses related to the activities that have received the Department’s prior written approval, either through the proposed work plan or budget. This may include training registration fees, membership fees, resources for cultural workshops, ceremonies, surge capacity training, equipment rental, etc.)</p>		
<p><b>Total</b></p>		

**PART 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS**

**PART 4: APPROVAL**

1. Signature of Authorized Officer:

Date:

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***MUST BE SIGNED BY INDIVIDUAL(S) AUTHORIZED TO LEGALLY BIND THE ORGANIZATION***