

CSDEPJ-P-122



Special Commission on the Rights of the Child and Youth Protection

Presented by: Bella M. Petawabano, Chairperson

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CONSEIL CRI DE LA SANTÉ ET DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DE LA BAIE JAMES CREE BOARD OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES OF JAMES BAY

Social Determinants of Indigenous Health

- Culture
- Self-determination
- Land, Environment, Environmental Stewardship
- Poverty
- Education
- Gender
- Housing
- Family & Child Welfare

Source: An Overview of Current Knowledge of the Social Determinants of Indigenous Health (Commission on Social Determinants of Health, WHO)





Internal Challenges for Youth Protection

- 1. Public services are inconsistent
- 2. First line services
- 3. Services urgently needed
- 4. Young Organization
- 5. Informational Technology

These challenges are being addressed by our SRP



Our action plan

• Culturally safe Front line services is one of our priorities as supported by calls for action of the Commissions

- Programs
- Protocols
- Projects
- Development

• Need of financial support for community organizations as in other regions. Ex: on/off territory



Legislative Initiatives

- Chapter S-5: Act Respecting Health Services and social services for Cree Native Persons
- Bill n°113 : An Act to amend the Civil Code and other legislative provisions as regards adoption and the disclosure of information
- Bill n°130 : An Act to amend certain provisions regarding the clinical organization and management of health and social services institutions
- Bill n°21 : An Act to amend the Professional Code and other legislative provisions in the field of mental health and human relations
- Bill n°99: An Act to amend the Youth Protection Act



Challenges and Recommendations



Challenge 1: Recruiting, hiring and retention of staff

Recommendations:

- 1. Revise the classification of positions; simplify the hiring requirements
- 2. Facilitate the hiring of non-francophone workers (Cree, English)
- 3. Recruitment incentives: working conditions to attract and retain workers
- 4. Training budget to: orient & train, develop skills and knowledge;
- 5. Provide human and financial support for a Program to coach staff (similar program to managers coaching program)
- 6. Establish norms and standards of practice in accordance to the reality of the territory (e.g. caseloads, time frames)
- 7. Bill 21: adapt expectations





Challenge 2: Resources

Recommendation:

- 1. Support Public Health priorities and improve access to services
- 2. Allocation of resources to support cultural adaptation
- 3. Official correspondence in Cree and English
- 4. Specific budget allocations and reporting requirements to be considered in relation to the CBHSSJB organizational structure



Challenge 3: Cree rights and Culture

Recommendations:

- Set up an Inter-ministerial steering task force/table to address Indigenous issues in a timely manner, e.g. to conclude an agreement under art. 37.5
- 2. Indigenous Commission with the same powers as CDPDJ, or minimally, adequate cultural representation at the CDPDJ
- 3. Self-determination











Thank you!

