



## **Child and Family Services Standing Committee Summary of Activities 2023/24**

The role of the Standing Committee is set out in section 30(2) of The Child and Family Services Authorities Act, which states: The Standing Committee is to serve as an advisory body to the authorities and the government and is responsible for facilitating cooperation and coordination in the provision of services under this Act.

In 2023/24, Standing Committee held six (6) full-day and 2 half-day meetings that focused on the development of an approach to support further devolution of Child and Family Services (CFS) that aligns with coordination of service delivery with Indigenous Governing Bodies (IGB's) and Indigenous Service Providers (ISPs), while also supporting and collaborating with CFS agencies and each other on adapting the provincial service delivery structure, disseminating information, and improving processes.

### **Adapting the Provincial CFS System**

With a focus on placement priority and preparation of the Manitoba Métis Federation enacting child and family services law, Standing Committee continues to work to address policy and operational implications related to case transfers from Indigenous jurisdiction.

### **Information Dissemination**

Bill 32 (An Act Respecting Child and Family Services (Indigenous Jurisdiction and Related Amendments) received Royal Assent on May 30, 2023. Some portions came into force immediately while others are to be proclaimed at a future date, (primarily the new customary and kinship care agreements). To support a common understanding, Standing Committee worked towards disseminating information to the CFS Authorities and agencies summarizing the changes.

### **Process Improvement**

A number of working groups completed projects to help improve existing processes.

Standing Committee will continue to discuss the implications of An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth, and families; and how jurisdictional transition affects current and future practice. This will remain as a standing item on the Standing Committee agenda to ensure transparency, consistency in interpretation and practices related to compliance with the Federal Act and seamless service delivery for children in the province.