

**Myth:** **This is a new deal.**

**Fact:** This is the same deal outlined in the Provisional Final Agreement (FA). The Ontario Agreement represents the regional implementation of what was already agreed upon by the Chiefs-in-Assembly within Ontario.

**Myth:** **Chiefs in Ontario are disregarding national processes.**

**Fact:** Chiefs in Ontario have provided a clear and strong regional mandate to pursue the Ontario Agreement, which respects First Nations' jurisdiction and decision-making over child welfare. This approach upholds First Nations sovereignty and is in line with the Chiefs of Ontario's resolution to prioritize regional needs.

**Myth:** **Off-reserve funding is being removed.**

**Fact:** Off-reserve funding was never included in the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) litigation and, therefore, falls outside the scope of this agreement. Advocacy for off-reserve funding is being addressed through the reform of the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement (IWA) and Jordan's Principle.

**Myth:** **There is time to negotiate a better deal.**

**Fact:** There is no time to delay. An entire generation of children has already aged out of care since this process began in 2006. With potential changes in the federal government, urgent action is required to secure the necessary reforms and support for First Nations children and families.

**Myth:** The funding model is rigid and does not account for unique community needs.

**Fact:** The reformed funding model provides stability and flexibility, including provisions for reallocation and carry-forward. This ensures that cost fluctuations caused by remoteness and inflation can be addressed effectively.

**Myth:** Agencies are not accountable to First Nations.

**Fact:** The agreement strengthens agency accountability to First Nations, ensuring that services are culturally appropriate, effective, and tailored to the unique needs of each community.

It also recognizes First Nations as essential service providers and leaders in child and family services. A key priority of the agreement remains reducing the number of First Nations children in the care of provincially mandated agencies.

**Myth:** First Nations exercising jurisdiction under Bill C-92 are left unsupported.

**Fact:** The agreement includes a safety net to ensure First Nations exercising jurisdiction under Bill C-92 receive the support necessary to implement their mandates successfully.

**Myth:** There is no provision for unexpected needs or crises.

**Fact:** A pathway exists for First Nations to request additional funding in response to unforeseen circumstances, ensuring they can address emergencies or unexpected challenges.

**Myth:** The agreement does not allow for periodic review and adjustment.

**Fact:** The effectiveness of the reformed FNCFS Program will be reviewed at the five-year mark and before the end of the 9-year period to ensure it continues to meet the needs of First Nations children and families.



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