



PUBLIC NOTICE

Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services

C6 Child Protection Services in Kamloops and Surrounding Area of the Secwepemc Territory

Effective September 2017, Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services (LMO) will achieve full child protection services status and will be responsible for the delivery of child protection services to the Métis population in Kamloops and surrounding area. The work will be carried out in compliance with the provincial *Child, Family and Community Service Act* and *Court Regulations*.

With C6 delegation (Child Protection), which also includes responsibilities under C3 delegation (Voluntary Services) and C4 delegation (Guardianship), LMO assume the responsibility for:

- Receiving, assessing and investigating reports of child abuse and neglect;
- Deciding the most appropriate course of action if a child is deemed in need of protection;
- Where necessary, removing the child and placing the child in care; and
- Obtaining court orders or taking other measures to ensure the ongoing safety and wellbeing of the child.

In addition to our existing support services team, LMO will consist of five delegated child protection workers, a delegated kinship care/resource worker and one team leader. Together, with the support of our Michif Elders Council, our team will ensure that the safety and wellbeing of Métis children and youth are the utmost priority. LMO uses a culturally safe and strength based model of practice which allows LMO to support our Métis children, youth and families in a manner that is sensitive to our historical impacts on families without minimizing children's safety.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Michif Elders Council and Team at LMO, we wish to acknowledge and thank previous Society leadership, the Metis Commission for Children and Families of BC, Metis Nation BC and the Ministry of Children and Family Development for their dedication and support in assisting LMO reclaim the responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of our Métis children, youth and families contribute towards reconciliation in the provincial child welfare system.

For additional information please contact Colleen Lucier, Executive Director, at 250-554-9486 or ed@lmofcs.ca.

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