#### **EDUCATION & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

Evaluation of the Mid-Term National Review for the Strategic Evaluation of the Enhanced Prevention Focussed Approach for the First Nation Child and Family Services Program

APPROVAL DATE: 09/23/11			
PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION PLAN	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM RESPONSE
Increase linkages with relevant federal and provincial ministries to address how governments can assist agencies in improving service delivery on reserve, as well as work with provincial governments to improve the cultural appropriateness of services off reserve.	While continuing to work collaboratively with relevant federal and provincial ministries through existing tripartite tables, bi-lateral forums and other communication opportunities, AANDC HQ and Regions will explore the feasibility of Federal/Provincial/Territorial working groups as a means to facilitate the sharing of best practices and collaboration between all levels of government. Sharing best practices on-reserve will be done in an attempt to assist the provinces in their development of policies regarding culturally appropriate services off-reserve.	June 2012	Update/Rationale: As of 22/02/2013:  AANDC is working with Tripartite Tables in the Regions to address how both federal and provincial governments can assist in improving service delivery on reserve including cultural appropriateness of services.  For example, AANDC has been meeting with Alberta FNCFS agency Directors, First Nation PTOs, and the province to discuss challenges and strengths within the CFS program. Work will continue on both a strengthened tripartite engagement process and a bilateral accountability framework aimed at improving services and results for First Nation children in Alberta.  As well, in Nova Scotia, a tripartite Executive Steering Committee meets regularly to understand the continuum of provincial services, as well as provincial staffing standards to ensure better response times. The tripartite committee is in the process of having a consultant conduct an organizational review and provide coaching for the development of a new Business Plan. This will support operational effectiveness and enhance service delivery in the one FNCFS Agency in Nova Scotia.  All jurisdictions transitioned to EPFA are based on tripartite frameworks, and these tripartite groups comprised of First Nations, and Provincial and Federal officials, continue to meet regularly in order to ensure FNCFS Agencies are aware of provincial trends and training sessions. Annually updated Business Plans are a requirement of funding agreements between AANDC and FNCFS Agencies, and

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			these are reviewed and approved by the respective province before being accepted by AANDC.
			AES: Closed
2. Encourage consistent follow- up tripartite discussions in every region to address issues as they arise and work collaboratively with all parties to resolve them.	AANDC Headquarters and Regional offices recognize the challenges of consistent follow-up and will explore the feasibility of developing an approach of proactively addressing these challenges, as agreed upon by relevant stakeholders.	March 2013	Update/Rationale As of 31/03/2013:  Ongoing tripartite meetings take place in all six EPFA jurisdictions to monitor progress. Tripartite meetings took place in British Columbia in January 2013 to update the 2008 framework for the implementation of EPFA. Tripartite meetings were held in January 2013 in Nova Scotia to continue the monitoring of implementation of EPFA. Tripartite meetings took place in Manitoba in March 2013 to discuss the development of a data sharing agreement.  Tripartite meetings were held in Alberta in January and March 2013 to discuss a tripartite engagement process and to continue the monitoring of the implementation of EPFA. Regular tripartite
			meetings also take place in Saskatchewan and PEI.  AES: Closed
3. Ensure clear and continuous information sharing between AANDC Headquarters and Regional offices so that all parties are informed of decision-	AANDC has already been made aware of the challenges of information sharing between AANDC Regions and HQ. Within the	September 2012	Status: Completed - Closed  Update/Rationale: As of 30/09/2012:

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making processes and potential issues coming from the regions.	last six months AANDC has begun to improve upon these challenges by scheduling monthly meetings for FNCFS staff as well as scheduling monthly meetings between Regional staff and Regional Director Generals. In 1 years time AANDC will re-evaluate how these meetings have improved information sharing between Regions and HQ and make any necessary adjustments or improvements as required.		Bi-lateral conference calls with regions continue to take place on a regular basis. Monthly conference calls continue to be held between HQ FNCFS program staff and their regional counterparts, and the SPPB DG and ARDGs on all Branch issues.  In addition, FNCFS had a face-to-face meeting with regional counterparts in May 2012. This meeting targeted program management issues such as risk-based reporting and Data Collection Instruments, and policy issues such as targeted funding/unexpended funds and program terms and conditions.  A Branch-wide email inquiry address is now in place; this address is provided for AANDC regional staff requiring clarification on respective program policies or management practices from SPPB. HQ responses and clarifications are stored in a repository that is available to all regional and HQ users.  These forums continue to improve the flow of information between FNCFS HQ and regions.  AES: Closed
4. Increase capacity of First Nations agencies by developing/updating tools (i.e. manuals, guidelines, templates, etc.) and by providing training as appropriate to assist them in meeting AANDC reporting requirements and in being more	The Operations and Quality Management directorate of SPPB has been developing and updating tools, manuals, guidelines and templates in order to enhance compliance and reduce reporting burden in	March 2012 & ongoing	Status: Request to close  Update/Rationale: As of 31/12/2014:  National Compliance Tools were finalized for FNCFS. Compliance Pilot Projects were undertaken in Saskatchewan in November 2014. Tools are being amended to address outcomes of Pilot Projects.

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ne regions and agencies. hese documents will be ompleted and shared with egions and recipients by on n as-built-basis starting in		
nctober 2011 with final implementation scheduled by March 31, 2012.  In AANDC department wide apacity development initiative is currently being eveloped that will help dentify ways in which to inhance capacity within First lations communities. Initiative AANDC will assess inkages that could trengthen First Nation apacity under the FNCFS	March 2012	AANDC is meeting with the Capacity Building Working Group in January 2015. Further deliverables and outcomes will be discussed.
he 5-year Business Plans re a required mechanism or funding under EPFA in esponse to improving ccountability within the NCFS Program. AANDC will eview the existing Business lan template and make	April 2014	FNCFS Program has developed a draft Business Plan Template. The template is being revised through a National Working Group and is expected to be completed for approval in February 2015. The agencies' Final Report is also being revised into a template. The reporting cycle has been amended to facilitate the agencies' reporting requirements.  When new tools and or documentation are being developed and or updated, training is offered in each region by FNCFS regional
tre ap ro he re or esp cc No evi	engthen First Nation pacity under the FNCFS gram.  e 5-year Business Plans a required mechanism funding under EPFA in poonse to improving ountability within the CFS Program. AANDC will liew the existing Business in template and make diffications as needed, in	engthen First Nation pacity under the FNCFS gram.  2 5-year Business Plans a required mechanism funding under EPFA in poonse to improving ountability within the CFS Program. AANDC will iew the existing Business in template and make

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	departmental-wide exercise of implementing the Policy on Transfer Payments and reducing the overall		agencies directors or by advising agencies directors of regional officials availabilities should they require assistance.
	recipient reporting burden.		AES: Close - Fully Implemented.