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June 2023 Monthly update

DRAFT – FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Purpose

- This month's update is designed to provide an overview of IFSD's work to undertake research and analysis on the long-term reform of FNCFS.
- IFSD relies on and is grateful for the contributions of First Nations and FNCFS agencies that help to shape this work. This would not be possible without your willingness to share information, time, and experiences with IFSD.
- IFSD has had the pleasure of discussing interim findings and meeting with First Nations and FNCFS agencies across Canada in a variety of forums, e.g., regional gatherings, one-on-one discussions, workshops, etc.
- The findings, analysis, and tools that result from IFSD's Phase 3 work on FNCFS, are intended to support First Nations, First Nations leadership, FNCFS agencies, and the parties to the CHRT order.

What is IFSD?

- The Institute of Fiscal Studies and Democracy (IFSD) is an independent self-funded research consulting firm hosted at the University of Ottawa.
- IFSD was established by Kevin Page, Canada's first Parliamentary Budget Officer.
- IFSD specializes in solving complex problems and providing decision-support in Canada and other countries, with a public finance tool set.

Why is IFSD working on FNCFS Reform?

- Since 2018, IFSD has been working at the request of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and Caring Society on First Nations Child and Family Services reform (FNCFS).
- This work is intended to support First Nations, First Nations leadership, FNCFS agencies, and the parties as recognized under the 2022 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) 8 ruling.
- As a research consulting firm, IFSD does not have decision-making authority.
- IFSD provides monthly updates on the progress of its work in FNCFS. To receive the updates via email contact info@ifsd.ca or access them on the project website www.ifsd.ca/fncfs

IFSD's projects on FNCFS

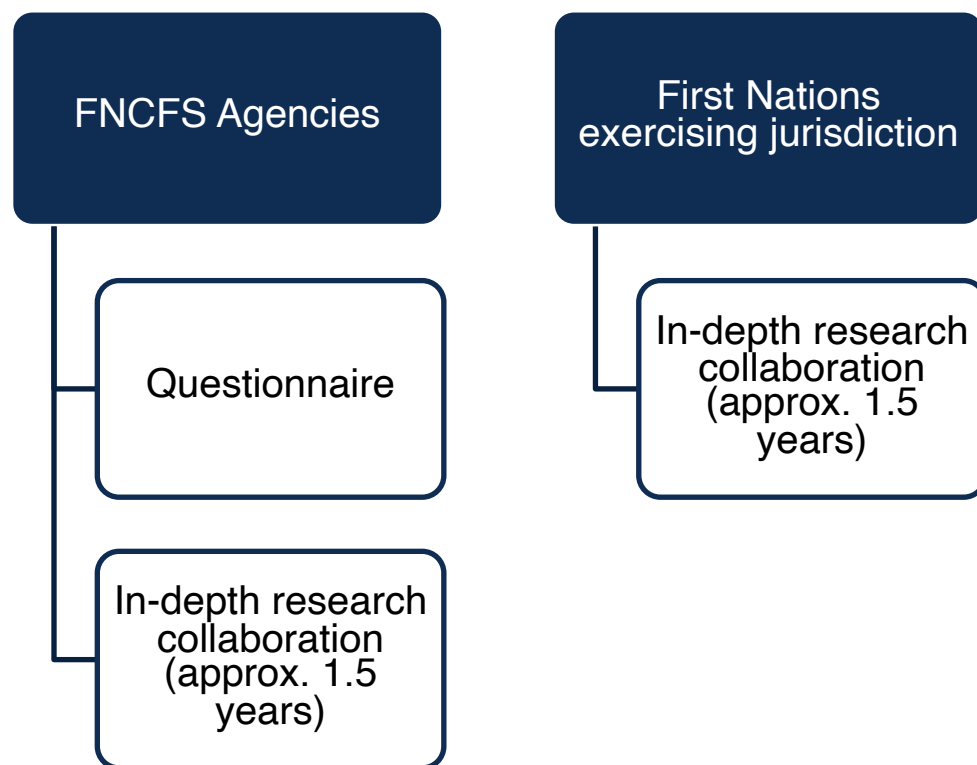
Component	Phase 3 (Contract holder: AFN)
Goal/purpose	Test and model the approach from Phase 2, (with refinements), into First Nation and agency specific delivery models, to build tools and setup First Nations and FNCFS agencies for success in transition.
IFSD's mandate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Close data gaps, e.g., capital needs, baselines – Model and test the proposed funding approach – Refine and test the Measuring to Thrive framework – Enhance fiscal certainty and planning tools
Approach	Bottom-up; questionnaire (FNCFS agencies); in-depth collaboration (1.5 years) from 20 collaborators (First Nations and FNCFS agencies); research and analysis; expert support
Project end	March 2024 (project end); final report to follow in early 2025 *Monthly updates are provided

IFSD's projects on FNCFS (cont.)

Component	Phase 3 (Contract holder: AFN)
Expected outputs	<p>Provide accessible and free consulting-like research to support transition and implementation of a reformed FNCFS program, with consideration of the different starting points of FNCFS development within agencies and communities.</p> <p>With 20 collaborators, model and pilot the funding approach, Measuring to Thrive framework, transition, and other considerations.</p> <p>The tools and lessons captured from this work (with the permission of collaborators) will be shared for use by First Nations leadership, First Nations, and FNCFS agencies to nurture their reflections, advocacy, and planning in FNCFS.</p>
Project website	www.ifsd.ca/FNCFS

Who is IFSD working with and how?

- IFSD is working with First Nations exercising jurisdiction and FNCFS agencies (for Phase 3) through a mix of tools and approaches, e.g., questionnaire, workshops, in-depth collaboration, as appropriate based on IFSD's mandate and research requirements.



Where can I find more information on Phase 3?

- IFSD shares its interim research findings and project progress in its monthly updates. To receive the updates via email contact info@ifsd.ca or access them on the project website www.ifsd.ca/fncfs.

Component	Phase 3 (Contract holder: AFN)	Where can I find additional information on Phase 3 interim findings?
IFSD's mandate	– Close data gaps, e.g., capital needs, baselines	Capital needs initial summary FNCFS questionnaire 2022 analysis
	– Model and test the proposed funding approach	Funding approach considerations Funding components overview
	– Refine and test the Measuring to Thrive framework	November 2022 Measuring to Thrive workshop summary
	– Enhance fiscal certainty and planning tools	IFSD is preparing transition framework and tools Transition Framework Note: national estimates of the FNCFS program are anticipated in Fall 2023 using IFSD's proposed funding approach

Get in touch

Helaina Gaspard, Ph.D.

Email: helaina.gaspard@ifsd.ca

Institute of Fiscal Studies and Democracy (IFSD)

University of Ottawa

www.ifsd.ca/fncfs