



February 1, 2018

**** We are sharing this information with all IROs/PTOs; Chiefs; Tribal Councils; Service Coordinators and Service Coordination organizations; Nursing Stations; Health Centres; Child and Family Service Agencies who are involved in this initiative. ****

Today, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal released its ruling on First Nations Child and Family Services, which may impact your organization and the First Nations children and youth you serve

Pursuant to the ruling, Canada is required to:

... fund actual costs of mental health for services to First Nations children and youth in Ontario with CFI [Child First Initiative] or otherwise retroactively to January 26, 2016, by February 15, 2018. [para 426]

We are writing to advise you of this ruling pertaining to **First Nations children and youth (0-18 years of age) in Ontario**, and to seek your support in ensuring that any mental health expenses you incurred, for which you did not receive any government funding, are reimbursed as described in section 5 of the attached Reimbursement Form for Mental Health Services – CHRT Order par. 426. Expenses could include service provider costs, transportation to access services for the child or youth, escort services or other forms of supports.

To determine actual costs, we are requesting that you submit **any out-of-pocket costs for the provision of mental health services** for the period of **January 26, 2016 to February 1, 2018** by providing us with supporting documentation, as outlined in section 4 of the attached Reimbursement Form for Mental Health Services – CHRT Order par. 426.

Should you incur additional costs related to preparing your submission for retroactive expenses, such as book-keeping, accounting, etc., please submit these along with your request for retroactive expenses.

Please send us your request for reimbursement **by February 15, 2018** if possible. Should you require more time to gather the documentation and evidence of costs, it will be provided. If you cannot meet the February 15, 2018 deadline, it will not be a barrier to getting your reimbursement. Canada commits to process these payments no later than 15 business days after receipt of the documentation of expenses.

To simplify and expedite the reimbursement, please use the attached form(s) and return to the Ontario Regional Jordan's Principle address below. You may wish to contact the Focal Points who are available to help:

Email: Ontariojordanprinciple-principlejordanlontario@hc-sc.gc.ca

Phone: Vanessa Follon (613) 613-862-5418 or Amanda Mitchell (613) 864-7666

We also encourage you and your organization to share this email with others who may be affected by this ruling, including any First Nations children, their families or guardians.

Respectfully,



Lori Doran
Acting Regional Executive



Anne Scotton
Regional Director General

Indigenous Services Canada
Ontario Region