



May 8, 2015

BC1168

Dear Chief and Council:

I am writing to inform you about upcoming changes to the services delivered by the First Nations Social Development Society on behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

The Government of Canada is committed to supporting First Nation communities in their efforts to improve the lives of individuals and families living on reserve. After careful consideration, the Department has identified alternative options for more effective delivery of the services currently provided by the First Nation Social Development Society: (1) Persons with Disabilities Program and Monthly Nutritional Supplement Program; (2) training for band social development workers; and (3) Income Assistance policy support.

Beginning on July 1, 2015, the Persons with Disabilities and Monthly Nutritional Supplement Program will be administered by the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society. This organization has an existing relationship with the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation and employs case workers who work directly with individuals to assist them in accessing the services they need. Further details on the transition, including contact information for the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society, will be provided in the next few weeks.

Effective October 1, 2015, all Income Assistance Policy support services provided to band social development workers, including training, policy clarification services and the provision of resources and tools, will be transferred to other organizations or managed directly by the Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. The Department will be providing appropriate contact information to band social development workers at a later date.

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I am confident the decision to pursue alternate delivery options for the social services funded by the Department will result in more effective service to your First Nation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact William McArthur, Manager, Social Programs, at (604) 666-5185, or by email at William.McArthur@aandc.gc.ca.

I trust this information has been of assistance.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Magnuson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "M".

Eric Magnuson
Regional Director General
British Columbia Region
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