



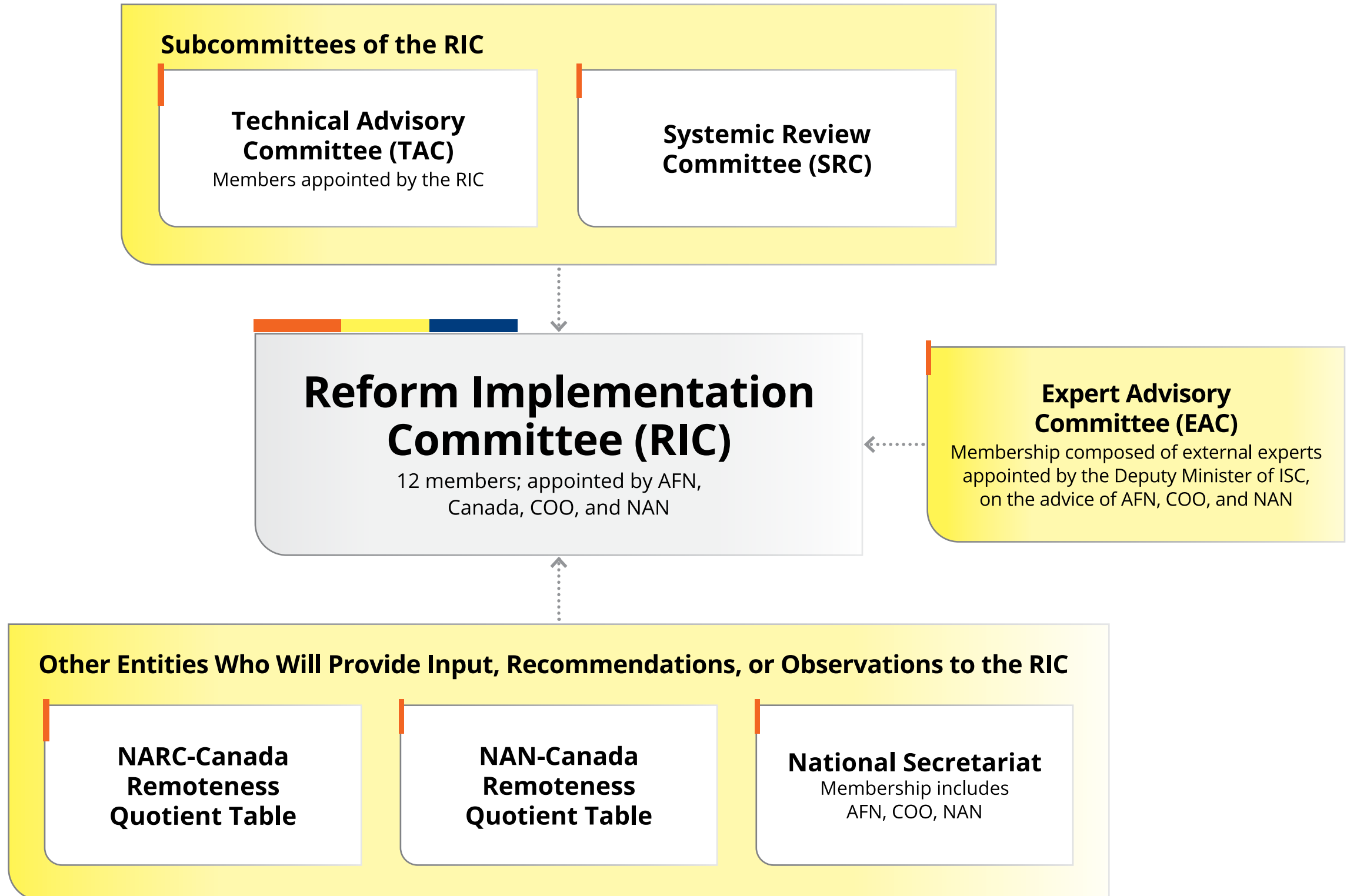
A detailed breakdown of the mandate, membership, responsibilities, reporting, and funding is available on the other side of this document.

Legend

-  Decision making body
-  Advisory body

Glossary

- AFN** Assembly of First Nations
- AIP** Agreement in Principle
- CHRT** Canadian Human Rights Tribunal
- COO** Chiefs of Ontario
- EAC** Expert Advisory Committee
- FNCFS** First Nations Child and Family Services
- FSA** Final Settlement Agreement
- ISC** Indigenous Services Canada
- NAN** Nishnawbe Aski Nation
- NARC** National Assembly of Remote Communities
- RIC** Reform Implementation Committee
- TAC** Technical Advisory Committee
- SRC** Systemic Review Committee



Reform Implementation Committee (RIC)

MANDATE: Oversee and monitor the implementation of the reformed First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program. The RIC can make recommendations to Canada with respect to changes to the Reformed FNCFS Program, except the discipline or removal of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) employees.

MEMBERSHIP: 12 members appointed by the Parties:

- 3 members from Assembly of First Nations, including one Chair;
- 3 members from Chiefs of Ontario;
- 3 members from Nishnawbe Aski Nation;
- 3 members from Canada.

The RIC will receive input, recommendations, or observations from **the Parties** and **any of the entities listed below**, as well as **any additional successors or additional entities unanimously endorsed by the Parties:**

- Expert Advisory Committee
- NAN-Canada Remoteness Quotient Table
- NARC-Canada Remoteness Quotient Table
- National Secretariat
- Systemic Review Committee
- Technical Advisory Committee

Note: The NAN-Canada Remoteness Quotient Table, the NARC-Canada Remoteness Quotient Table, and National Secretariat are also committees that report to the RIC. None report to the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Oversee and monitor the implementation of the Reformed FNCFS Program and make related recommendations to Canada;
- Support the oversight of the Program Assessment Organization and prepare the Program Assessment Opinions and executive summaries for the Parties and the public;
- Oversee the Expert Advisory Committee (EAC);
- Appoint an independent monitor responsible for monitoring Canada's implementation of the accepted recommendations on the reform of ISC and the efficacy of the reforms;
- Discuss possible solutions in the event that Canada fails to reach agreement with a province or Yukon, except Ontario, on governance and accountability provisions within a federal-provincial or federal-Yukon agreement;

- Receive reports from each of the entities listed below, with the exception of the EAC in relation to the implementation and efficacy of the reformed FNCFS Program; and
- Establish and set the terms of reference for the Systemic Review Committee and Technical Advisory Committee.

REPORTING: The RIC will publish an annual progress report on the implementation of the FSA which will be shared with the Parties before being publicly released. The **RIC's administrative team (composed of ISC staff)** will maintain a repository of Committee documents, including meeting records, presentations, and reports. **All RIC documents and meetings are confidential and members can only share information with the organization that appointed them.**

Note: there is no mention of the RIC being accountable to Chiefs-in-Assembly, though the Parties are instructed to "speak favourably" about the FSA to ensure it is endorsed by First Nations leadership.

RIC FUNDING: Canada will provide \$22.2 million to **the AFN, COO, and NAN** to support their participation in the RIC over the course of the 10-year term. This includes funding for expert advice provision and youth engagement.

Subcommittees of the RIC

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

MANDATE: As a **subcommittee of the RIC**, the TAC's function is to provide technical advice on implementation of the Reformed FNCFS Program to the RIC. The TAC **replaces the National Advisory Committee, following its disbandment by the RIC.**

Guided by the Terms of Reference established by the RIC, the TAC will also facilitate the participation of First Nations youth in and from care to provide input in the implementation of the Reformed FNCFS Program, as well as engage existing regional tripartite and technical tables.

REPORTING: The FSA does not mention any reporting requirements of the TAC.

MEMBERSHIP: Members are appointed by the RIC based on their relevant technical expertise and, if possible, regional diversity. **No member of the RIC shall serve on the TAC.**

TAC FUNDING: Canada will provide \$12.0 million to support the TAC over the course of the 10-year term.

Systemic Review Committee (SRC)

MANDATE: As a **subcommittee of the RIC**, the SRC's function is to review and identify trends, advise the RIC of any concerns, and make recommendations related to the areas below:

- Service Provider Funding Adjustment Requests received by ISC from FNCFS Service Providers and ISC's determination of these requests;
- Claimant Disputes filed with the Dispute Resolution Tribunal and their decisions; and
- Any feedback from Claimants regarding their experiences moving through the Claimant Dispute Process.

REPORTING: The FSA does not mention any reporting requirements of the SRC.

MEMBERSHIP: Not clearly defined in the FSA.

SRC FUNDING: Not defined in the FSA.

Expert Advisory Committee (EAC)

MANDATE: In 2022, the Tribunal ordered the creation of an Expert Advisory Committee to provide guidance and advice on the long-term reform of ISC. **2022 CHRT 8** ordered that the EAC would develop and oversee the implementation of a work plan to prevent the recurrence of discrimination, which Canada would then implement. However, the FSA seeks to end the Tribunal's jurisdiction. This means that if the FSA is approved by the Tribunal or the courts, the Revised FSA will supersede all previous agreements (including the AIP), Terms of Reference for the EAC, and Tribunal orders.

1. Initial Third-Party evaluation: Within the first two years following the approval of the FSA, the EAC will provide advice and guidance on the design and implementation of an independent Third-Party evaluation to support the reform of ISC and any of its successor departments and provide recommendations to the RIC on reforms as part of the approach to stop the discrimination identified by the Tribunal and prevent its recurrence. This will involve working directly with the Third-Party evaluation team in the design, focus, and implementation of the evaluation, monitoring progress, and providing status updates and recommendations to the RIC following the production of the Third-Party evaluation team's report.

2. Interim recommendations: You can read the EAC's interim recommendations in [this report](#).¹

3. Work plan: Following the completion of the Third-Party evaluation, the EAC will develop a work plan as contemplated in 2022 CHRT 8, which includes advice to the RIC as to whether and when future departmental evaluations to support ISC reform should take place. The RIC will then consider this advice before making recommendations to Canada on the reform of ISC.

REPORTING: The EAC reports to the RIC who oversees its mandate and activities. Meeting notes highlighting key discussions and decisions are to be prepared by the ISC Secretariat (composed of ISC employees) to summarize deliberations and recommendations made to the RIC, with final approval from the Co-chairs. **Meeting materials and information are strictly confidential.**

MEMBERSHIP: EAC membership was decided jointly by the Parties to the AIP (AFN, Canada, COO, and NAN) with the aim of ensuring diverse representation from subject matter experts. The EAC consists of 8 to 12 members appointed by the Deputy Minister of ISC based on the recommendation of the Parties. The EAC is co-chaired by a representative from the AFN and ISC. The RIC may terminate an EAC member's membership and make a recommendation for their replacement to the Co-chairs, who will ask the Deputy Minister to appoint.

EAC FUNDING: The FSA does not earmark a specific amount of funding for EAC business; however, broadly speaking, funding for ISC reform is included among the \$24.477 billion Initial Five-Year Funding Period from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2029.

¹ <https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/eac-reform-indigenous-services-canada-summary-report-activities-observations-and>

A **Glossary of terms** is available on the other side of this document.

