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March 23, 2026

Canadian Human Rights Tribunal
c/o Judy Dubois, Registry Officer
240 Sparks Street, 6th Floor West
Ottawa, ON K1A 1J4

Dear Ms. Dubois:

Re: First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada et al. v. Attorney General of Canada (CHRT File T1340/7008) – Nishnawbe Aski Nation Comments re. March 6, 2026 Caring Society Letter and CMCC

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (“NAN”) writes in response to the Caring Society’s March 6, 2026, correspondence regarding the upcoming Case Management Conference Call (“CMCC”).

At this time, NAN understands that the Caring Society has raised issues relating to the relationship between Jordan’s Principle reform and broader First Nations Child and Family Services program reform, as well as next steps in the proceeding. However, as noted in Chief of Ontario’s March 23, 2026, letter, it remains unclear what specific relief the Caring Society is seeking, or what process it is proposing. NAN similarly seeks clarification on these points.

For additional context, NAN participated in the negotiation and mediation processes arising from the Tribunal’s decision in 2025 CHRT 6. In NAN’s experience, those processes did not result in meaningful progress. They also required significant time and resources, which, as the Tribunal is well aware, are limited for the Tribunal level and for the First Nations parties. At the same time, delays continue to negatively affect First Nations children, families, and service providers in NAN territory.

NAN remains open to listening, participating, and engaging constructively in discussions before the Tribunal. At the same time, NAN leadership has directed a focus on advancing a NAN-specific, regional approach to reform. In these circumstances, NAN considers that the appropriate path forward, including process, is for the Tribunal to determine. NAN does not seek to prescribe that process but offers its prior experience as a relevant consideration. While past mediation efforts have not been successful from NAN’s perspective, NAN remains willing to listen and participate in good faith.

NAN reserves the right to make further submissions once there is greater clarity regarding the scope and process of the matters proposed by the Caring Society.

Yours very truly,

Julian N. Falconer

