



December 1, 2015

**Dear Colleagues:**

Re: Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child and Family Services

We can confirm that the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal is expecting to release its decision on this historic case soon and I continue to feel optimistic about the outcome for children.

However, it is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of one of the Tribunal members, Mr. Bélanger, on November 27, 2015. The Tribunal has assured the parties that the ruling will be released despite this tragic event and I hope all of you will join us in sending prayers and condolences to Mr. Bélanger's family and to his colleagues at the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

Mr. Bélanger was a man of great integrity, kindness and dedication and I was comforted to know that the sacred story of our children was placed before him and the other two members of the panel for their deliberation.

I will continue to keep you informed of any developments and I thank you for your support and guidance in this important case.

Respectfully,

Cindy Blackstock  
Executive Director  
First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada