



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy for Deepening Knowledge of Indigenous Child and Youth Service Providers

AFABC and IPS – June 2021

Background

In February 2021, AFABC and IPS proposed to MCFD a partnership that would support Indigenous communities to find loving connections for children in care. This was loosely based on a 2017 pilot project implemented by AFABC, funded by MCFD. MCFD has indicated that it would be interested to learn more about this proposal after the design has been further elaborated. To facilitate a design process, AFABC has secured two small grants from the Vancouver Foundation and Victoria Foundation, both of which are focused on exploring how AFABC could most effectively support Indigenous-led organizations. Key questions underpinning the Vancouver Foundation proposal were:

- How can AFABC develop the cultural competence to better support Indigenous adoptive and permanency families?
- How can the sector better support non-Indigenous families who adopt Indigenous children and youth?
- Given the painful history of adoption across Indigenous communities, what role, if any, can existing adoption and permanency organizations play to support Indigenous adoptive and permanency families?
- How can existing adoption and permanency organizations work with the DAAs in areas such as specific topics, technologies, or processes?
- Is there a way that we, an organization that traditionally has focused on adoption supports and services, not systemic advocacy, or change, can help with the broader issues?



Project Deliverable

AFABC and IPS will be hiring a consultant to deliver a report (both a Word document narrative and a summary PowerPoint presentation) that analyzes the current landscape of Indigenous Child and Youth Service Providers, reflecting on their opportunities, challenges, and need for support, while offering a series of recommendations on how AFABC and IPS could provide support.

Project Process

While there is scope for the consultant to work together with AFABC and IPS to further refine the project process, some potential key activities include:

1. Desk review of the landscape in British Columbia of Indigenous Child and Youth serving organizations, particularly those with a mandate to assist with the matching of children in care with adult guardians. This review should outline the mandate, location, and staff size of these organizations, and provide some reflection on their opportunities and challenges.
2. Desk review of AFABC documentation and interviews with select AFABC staff to understand the services currently being provided by the organization and the community it serves.
3. Creating and administering a survey for a sample (size of sample to be determined) of Indigenous Child and Youth serving organizations, seeking to further understand their challenges and potential needs for support.
4. Conducting virtual interviews with a small sub-set of larger Indigenous organizations.
5. Facilitating a short workshop with IPS and AFABC to reflect on the findings of the survey.
6. Drafting a report summarizing findings and creating a set of recommendations for AFABC and IPS moving forward.

Timeline

This project should commence in June and be completed by September.

Budget

The project budget should not exceed \$9,000 (we estimate that the project should take no more than 20 working days).



Management

The consultant will be contracted by IPS and will report to designated personnel within IPS as well as the Manager for Family Recruitment with AFABC.

Application Process

Please send your CV and a brief cover letter explaining your motivation and qualifications to take on this assignment to: RachelleD@ipsociety.ca and ccoons@bcadoption.com.

Applications should be received by 5:00pm on July 9, 2021.