






ENSURING THE WELLBEING of First Nations Young People Aging Out of CHILD WELFARE

Post-majority care means to provide supports and services to young people who are set to age out of the child welfare system so that they continue to be supported as young adults.

KEY FACTS

2022 CHRT 8 ordered Canada to fund, at actual cost, post-majority services as part of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) program to First Nations youth ageing out of FNCFS agencies, and young adults who were formerly in care up to age 26 across all provinces and territories starting April 1, 2022.

1 Target supports at what First Nations young people have identified as needing

-  Ensuring the wellbeing of body, mind, and spirit
-  Having a safe and comfy home
-  (Re)connecting to community, culture, land and language
-  Continuing to go to school and learn
-  Managing money

2 Design culturally relevant supports aimed at meeting young people where they're at

- Youth must have a choice about their readiness to leave care.
- Consider the specific needs of youth who live on- or off-reserve, in urban, rural, or remote communities.
- Honour youth development and identities.
- Their needs and best interests must come first.

4 Things to keep in mind

Post-majority care is made up of an interrelated set of services and supports aimed to ensure young people are connected to a support network. Some things to consider:

- Begin planning post-majority care with a young person before they are set to age out of care and based on their readiness.
- Work with organizations and service providers to ensure that the young person has access to a robust social safety net before, during, and after they age out of care.
 - This may involve working with service providers both within and outside of the community.

What resources are out there?

- The Caring Society Financial Literacy video series:
 - [Part 1: Choosing a bank and opening an account](#)¹
 - [Part 2: Avoiding predatory financial institutions](#)²
 - [Part 3: Protecting yourself from scams](#)³
- A7G: [Children Back, Land Back: A Follow-Up Report of First Nations Youth In Care Advisors](#)⁴
 - Includes guidance and recommendations from Indigenous youth who experienced child welfare on the supports they require as they age out of child welfare.
- A7G: [Justice, Equity and Culture: The First-Ever YICC Gathering of First Nations Youth Advisors](#)⁵
 - Includes recommendations from First Nations youth with lived experience in child welfare on how child welfare must be reformed to meet their needs.
- [Guidelines for Ethical Engagement of Young People](#)⁶
 - This tool can be used to assist organizations in respectfully engaging with young people.
 - It can also be used by young people to determine if the organization or activity they are engaged with meets their needs effectively, respectfully, and meaningfully.

¹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rrl5hC3DbHg>

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CfEbLf5fwo>

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgjmCuPTViE>

⁴ <https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/children-back-land-back-follow-report-first-nations-youth-care-advisors>

⁵ <https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/justice-equity-and-culture-first-ever-yicc-gathering-first-nations-youth-advisors>

⁶ <https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/guidelines-ethical-engagement-young-people>

