

Office of the Provincial Advisor Supported Child Development

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September 30, 2009

Dear SCD and ASCD Colleagues,

Yesterday the Provincial Office of MCFD delivered some extremely disappointing news to the Provincial Steering Committee for Supported Child Development. MCFD announced that they will not be renewing the SCD Provincial Office contract and have provided one month notice to October 31, 2009.

Many of you have contacted me to gather more information regarding this decision and to inquire about the structure that MCFD will be moving towards. As MCFD has not provided any further information, I am not able to answer those questions. Many questions still prevail regarding their vision of this structure.

The damaging impact to SCD and particularly emerging Aboriginal SCD programs across the province is at the forefront of my mind. Over the next week I will be working with the Regional Advisors and other Provincial Offices to identify recommendations for regional structures to ensure that core aspects such as access to program information and resources, community capacity building, communication, support, and training continue.

I am deeply concerned with the time frame given and will be advocating for additional time to complete projects and follow through with commitments already made. I am advocating for a three months to extend the work of the Provincial Advisor to December 31, 2009.

It also saddens me to inform you that the Provincial Office of Infant Development Programs has also been notified that their contract will not be renewed although they have been given three months notice to December 31, 2009. Also affected is the Provincial Office of Aboriginal Infant Development who received six months notice to March 31, 2010.

I regret having to share this information with you by letter but wanted to insure that you are informed of this decision. Please contact me if you have any additional questions at this time. Please know that I am committed to providing you with updated information and advocating on behalf of children and families that SCD and ASCD service providers through this difficult process.

Sincerely,

Tanya Brown
Provincial Advisor
Supported Child Development