



Review of the *Child and Family Services Act*

What are the ‘best interests’ of our children?

The NWT *Child and Family Services Act* says that child protection and welfare laws should be interpreted with the ‘best interests of the child’ and well-being of families and communities in mind.

A review of the *Child and Family Services Act* is currently being carried out by the Standing Committee on Social Programs, chaired by Mr. Tom Bealieu.

The Committee is interested in your input and would like to know:

Do you think that the Act is protecting the best interests of children and families in the NWT?

Public discussions will be held in the following communities:

	Date	Time	Venue
Yellowknife	Tuesday, April 6	7:00 pm	Northern United Place Auditorium
Ndilo	Thursday, April 8	7:00 pm	K’alemi Dene School Gymnasium
Lutselk’e	Monday, April 12	7:00 pm	Zah Lockhart Hall and Council Chambers
Hay River	Tuesday, April 13	7:00 pm	Ptarmigan Inn Banquet Room
Fort Liard	Wednesday, April 14	7:00 pm	Fort Liard Community Hall
Fort Simpson	Thursday, April 15	7:00 pm	Thomas Simpson School Gymnasium
Inuvik	Monday, April 19	7:00 pm	Ingamo Hall
Fort McPherson	Tuesday, April 20	7:00 pm	Council Chambers
Ulukhaktok	Wednesday, April 21	7:00 pm	Ulukhaktok Katimavik
Tulita	Thursday, April 22	7:00 pm	Arthur Mendo Memorial Hall

The Committee will be joined by some of the following Child Welfare experts:

- **Cindy Blackstock**, Executive Director, First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada;
- **Sharon Sutherland**, Assistant Professor at the University of B.C. and Child Protection Mediator;
- **Bruce MacLaurin**, University of Calgary Assistant Professor, Canadian Incidence Study;
- **Plus** prominent local practitioners.

Copies of the *Act* are available on the Department of Justice web site at www.justice.gov.nt.ca, under the ‘Legislation’ link.

For questions or to get further information, contact:

Gail Bennet, Committee Clerk

Legislative Assembly of the NWT

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If you wish to use any of the official languages of the Northwest Territories other than English, please contact the Committee Clerk.

