



**Michif Child  $\infty$   
Family Services**



# *Annual Report*

*April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021*



## *Vision Statement*

Métis and Inuit families and communities are nurtured through love, respect, honour, strength and heritage within their distinctive cultures.

## *Mission Statement*

Métis and Inuit families and communities have the right and responsibility to care for children within their cultures. Michif Child and Family Services will work to strengthen the capacity of families to care for children through culturally relevant community-based programs. We believe in the inherent strength of our families and in the need to build on the capacity of our community to care for and nurture our children.

## *Guiding Principles*

- Métis families and communities are cornerstones of the Métis Nation and the service delivery system must reflect the vision.
- The family is the center of Inuit culture and cooperation and sharing is a basic principle in Inuit society.
- Responsibility for decision-making regarding Métis and Inuit children lies with the family, extended family and community whenever possible.
- The organizational structure promotes and supports community governance at all levels.
- The service delivery system will encompass both formal and informal elements.
- The service delivery system must be operated in an efficient and effective manner.
- The service delivery system will be outcome-based and will reflect the core founding principles of Michif Child and Family Services.



**Michif Child ∞  
Family Services**

***Michif Child and Family Services Board***

- Celesta Badger      Chairperson
- Echo Finlay      Vice Chairperson
- Jeannette Brown-Porter      Treasurer
- Ethel McKay      Director
- Eldon Campbell      Elder

***Executive Director***

Margaret Marin

***Management***

- Quinton Sanderson      Director of Service
- Kisty Argue      Director of Service
- Jared Folkerts      Director of Service
- Anthea Tomchuk      Executive Assistant

***Supervisors***

- Nina Crawford      Resources
- Angie Kuzyk and  
Stephanie Tokarchuk      Dauphin Region
- Kayla Pasternak      The Pas Region
- Echo Harkiss      Swan River Region
- Kisty Argue      Brandon Region
- Lindsay Loewen      Portage La Prairie Region
- Edgar Moses      CART

***Board of Directors***



***Celesta Badger***  
(Chair)



***Marguerite Bagley***  
(Ex-Officio)



***Echo Finlay***  
(Vice Chair)



***Ethel McKay***  
(Director)



***Jeanette  
Brown-Porter***  
(Acting-Treasurer)



***Eldon Campbell***  
(Elder)





## Message from President David Chartrand

*Manitoba Métis Federation*

The Red River Métis deeply value our children, families, as well as community connections. From a young age we are taught to maintain relationships built within the home as well as our villages. It is with these principles in mind that we continue to actively work in the best interests of our children, youth, and families – as we have for over 30 years. With the passing of An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families we can now use this hands-on experience to build a new, distinctly Red River Métis, child and family services system for our families.

Over the past year, we have been working towards a Coordination Agreement that will fully return the jurisdiction of our children and families to the Red River Métis. We have worked through a number of delays from both levels of government, including the Manitoba Government's position that they came to the discussions only as "observers" with no mandate to enter into an agreement with us. We are pleased to share that, as of August 2021, this mandate has been given to Manitoba's staff and we can now fully continue our discussions with Canada and Manitoba.

While the discussions at that table continue, the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) has been engaging and consulting with our Citizens to ensure our Community has input as to what this system will look like, including the laws and programs that are currently being developed.

Also over this past year, on July 6, 2021, the MMF signed a landmark Métis Self-Government agreement that immediately recognizes the MMF as the existing government of the Red River Métis – also known as the Manitoba Métis – which is the origin and core of the Métis Nation. Though we have always maintained that we are the government of the Red River Métis, this recognition agreement will open many new doors for the MMF. These are exciting times for your Métis Government as we continue to build upon the legacy of Louis Riel and other leaders that have come before us.

Of course, none of this work and progress would be possible without the hard work of Michif Child and Family Services Board Of Directors and staff. I sincerely thank everyone for their hard work and dedication.

I would also like to thank Minister Mona Buors and Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard as well as Chairperson Celesta Church for their leadership and guidance as we continue forward, building a system for the Métis, by the Métis.

President David Chartrand,  
*LL.D(hon.), O.M.*



# Message from the Minister and Associate Minister

As Minister of Métis Child and Family Services, I am proud that Michif Child and Family Services (MCFS) has been able to sustain their important work despite the challenges that have been pushed on us by COVID-19. We recognize that this Pandemic has created stress at home and in the workplace. We recognize the extra effort made by front-line workers to keep us going through these challenging times.

The Red River Métis has always valued forming a strong connection with those in our families and others in our community. It is with this in mind that we knew we had to act fast on the implementation of the new, ground-breaking, federal CFS legislation.

As I have reported in recent years, the work to implement An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families continues to move forward. Currently, the Manitoba Métis Federation is in discussions with the governments of Canada and Manitoba to fully transfer the jurisdiction and authority to care for our children back to us, the Red River Métis. Separate from these discussions, we are also consulting with our Citizens to ensure our Community has input as to what this system will look like, including the laws that are currently being developed.

We are in an exciting and new era of CFS.

Of course, all of this work and progress would not be possible without the efforts of the MCFS staff, led by Executive Director Maggie Marin. I sincerely thank each and every one for their diligent work and dedication to their field. I, and Associate Minister Remillard, would like to also commend Chairperson Celesta Church as well as the rest of the MCFS Board of Directors for all the hard work and wisdom as we move forward to a new future for the Red River Métis.

Merci,

Mona Buors  
*Minister of Metis CFS*



Mona Buors  
*Minister of Métis CFS*



JoAnne Remillard  
*Associate Minister of  
Métis CFS*

# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

## *Metis Child & Family Services Authority*

On behalf of the Metis Child and Family Services Authority and our Board of Directors, I applaud the Michif Child and Family Services Agency for their continued hard work and their ingenuity as we faced a global pandemic.

Child and family services is a very difficult field to work in. Michif Child and Family Services Agency and the staff have been able to find ways to deliver these services to children, youth and families during an unprecedented time through creativity, patience, and perseverance.

I would like to thank the dedicated staff at the agency who went above and beyond to ensure uninterrupted service, whether it was to support children and youth at home to enable them to continue with their studies via remote learning, finding ways to continue visits between parents and children when the world was in lockdown, or delivering services to youth who were aging out of the CFS system during COVID-19.

A special thank you to Maggie Marin, Executive Director, your management team, and the Board of Directors who worked tirelessly when faced with new challenges every day over this past year.

Respectfully,

Karla Hildebrand-Eden  
*Chief Executive Officer*



# Message from the Board Chairperson

## *Metis Child & Family Services Authority*

Wow! 10 years... this is the 10th Annual Michif Child and Family Services (MCFS) report. Many thanks from the MCFS Board of Directors for reading the 2020-2021 annual report. Our Manitoba Métis Government came into child welfare with the hopes that the amount of kids in care would continually decrease until they could close the doors on all agencies and children and families would be together. In Manitoba, there are more kids in care than ever before. Families continually face challenges such as: COVID-19, social media, mental health struggles, addictions, housing, health care, livable wages, and past trauma that is now being recognized. We must take time to recognize the children and families for everything they are living through.

The Michif Agency is widespread throughout the province and covers more geographical area than any other agency. Maggie Marin, Executive Director who has been with the Agency for 5 years, has guided the agency and staff through many obstacles and continues to advocate for families and employees alike. The Michif Agency staff have shown extreme resilience, creativity, and collaboration. There are many staff who have reached years of service milestones who care whole heartedly for the communities and families they work with. The MCFS Board of Directors thanks you!

Our leadership; The Manitoba Métis Government, President David Chartrand, Minister Mona Bours and Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard, Metis CFS Authority, newly appointed CEO Karla Hildebrand-Eden, and Elders ensure the voices of Métis and Inuit culture are heard. Keeping children safe is the most important matter. Healing families and communities continues to be advocated for. Our Métis Government ensures Métis and Inuit children and families are cared for.

The Michif and Metis CFS Agency work closely together to share resources, ideas, and programs. This close working relationship proves to be beneficial for keeping families within communities and culture.

Again, The Michif Board of Directors thanks you for your time reviewing this report. The Michif Board of Director and staff strive to provide the best care and services for our children, families, and communities!

Celesta Badger  
*Board Chairperson*



# Message from the Executive Director

## Michif Child & Family Services

The 2020-21 calendar year presented a series of challenges unlike any that we have experienced in the history of our organization.

With COVID-19 affecting every region of Manitoba, and with provincial regulations limiting the scope of programs and services that we were able to offer, the staff in our Agencies had to find unique and creative ways to continue working with our families.

Our focus throughout the year was on Keeping Connections with:

- our staff,
- our families and
- our children and youth.

This was most definitely not an easy task, and staff in all Agencies had to rethink the way we delivered all of our services – including our face-to-face meetings and our family visits.

We cannot state enough how proud we are of all the staff and volunteers for the way they have accepted this challenge and ensured that throughout 2020 we were able to maintain the same standard of quality care. Throughout the process, our main focus has been on keeping families connected during this difficult time.

But we are also pleased to say that 2020-21 wasn't just about surviving as an Agency during the Pandemic. In 2020-21 our team was able to introduce new programs, experience successes with existing families, and create connections within the community that will help us in our prevention and care approach.

While 2020-21 was challenging time for everyone concerned, But we believe that we were able to rise to the challenge! We are excited to show in this report how our team was successful in maintaining the connections we have built in the communities, and we are looking forward to building on those successes in the coming years.

I would like to acknowledge our Michif Board of Directors for their continued support, guidance and providing the agency leadership as a whole. As we move forward I would like to acknowledge President David Chartrand, Minister Mona Buors, Associate Minister JoAnne Remillard and our Métis Government, who continue to work tirelessly for our Métis and Inuit families and communities.



Maggie Marin  
Executive Director



# Michif Child ∞ Family Services

## Dauphin

### Executive Director Location

505 Main Street South  
Dauphin, MB R7N 1L3  
204-638-7896  
Toll Free: 1-877-676-7921

### Dauphin Intake

Toll Free: 1-866-834-4242



Michif Child ∞  
Family Services

## Sub-Offices

### Dauphin

611 Main Street North  
Dauphin, MB R7N1E2  
204-622-3520

202 Main Street South  
Dauphin, MB R7N 1K5  
204-622-3520

### The Pas

456 Fischer Avenue  
P.O. Box 1288  
The Pas, MB R9A 1L2  
204-627-2060  
Toll Free: 1-877-676-7921

### Swan River

605 Main Street  
Swan River, MB R0L1Z0  
204-734-3974  
Toll Free: 1-877-676-7920

## Thompson

309-83 Churchill Drive  
Thompson, MB R8N0L6  
204-677-0120  
Toll Free: 1-877-257-4972

## Brandon

141 Rosser Avenue  
Brandon MB R7A0J6  
204-727-8540

## Portage la Prairie

27 Royal Road South  
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 1T8  
204-239-8720

## Shelters

### Dauphin

Four Winds  
Northern Lights  
Sunrise House

### Brandon

Little Moccasins Lodge

## Dauphin - Parkland Region

I am pleased to say that our unit has been fully staffed for the entire year. We have six Family Service workers and one admin person. This past year our unit was able to utilize a “Floater”; which is a new position within our Agency. The “Floater” was able to help out our unit tremendously especially in the area of paperwork.

Our unit was able to implement two new programs for the Agency. These programs, the CART and the Family Enhancement program, are voluntary services/supports that we offer to our clients, and over the year, they have helped us support many of our clients. We are happy that we can refer our clients to these new programs that our Agency has to offer.

We are also very excited to announce that we have been able to rescind a couple of Permanent Orders. Both staff and families have worked hard to make this happen. It is always our goal to keep families together and are happy we were able to reunite these families.

We are thrilled to share that every Child in Care was able to receive a laptop. This has made it much more accessible for family visits via ZOOM and has assisted in school work as well. The Children had big smiles when they received their gift from the Agency.

This year we received funding through a Support Family Fund which was available to our families who have open Protection or Voluntary file. Some families received up to \$1,000.00 for items such as bikes, camping equipment, play structures, scooters etc. All families were extremely grateful for this gift.

The pandemic did change how we conduct our face-to-face and family visits; and I want to commend my team on working hard to keep families connected during this difficult time. Our team did our best to assist families to continue to keep our children and their families in touch.

I am very proud to lead this group of hard-working, dedicated, supportive staff. We continue to strive to meet and exceed Agency expectations in relation to our Agency Mission, Vision Statements and the Guiding Principles. Throughout the year, my team have ensured that the families, children and youth we work with are treated with dignity, respect, empathy and integrity.

Angie Kuzyk  
*Family Services Supervisor*



# Parkland Region Designated Intake Agency (DIA)

This past year has been one of challenges for everyone and our Designated Intake Agency was no exception. Our unit had many new workers starting in March of last year who have worked their first year in the child and family services field during a pandemic, which is no easy feat. I am proud to say that the Intake team has faced the many challenges this pandemic has thrown our way with patience and understanding.

Intake has placed a focus on talking with all of the families we come in contact with about how they have been coping during the pandemic and ensuring that all are aware of the community resources in their area, should they require extra support during this time. Over the course of the year, we have seen an increase in reports of children not attending school and have worked with families to ensure they are accessing education for their children in a way that meets the needs of their family.

Our Afterhours unit continues to provide support to all families throughout the designated intake jurisdiction. We currently have one full-time Afterhours Coordinator, and three casual Coordinators. Family Service Workers and Intake Workers continue to assist Afterhours Coordinators on dispatch and fielding emergency calls.

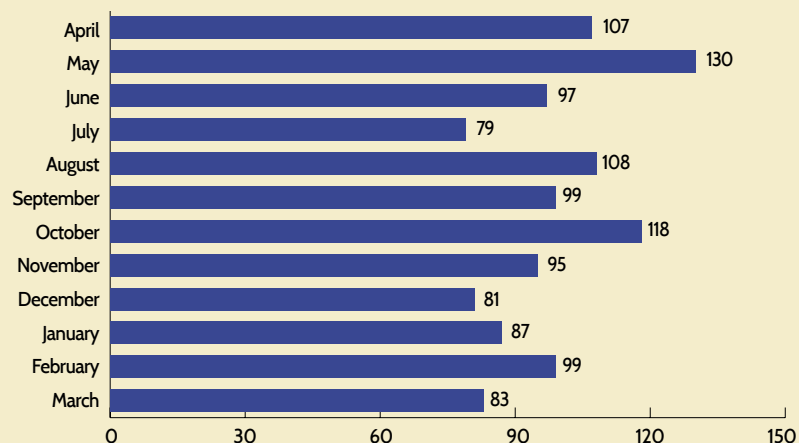
Our Child Abuse Coordinator, Nick Searle, has continued to conduct abuse investigations for the agency and manage the Child Abuse Committee, as well as assisting with courtesy interviews for other agencies who do not have trained interviewers on staff.

I would like to thank all of the DIA staff for the continued dedication and support that they show to the children and families that our Agency serves. I am very proud of the hard work and commitment that all of my staff have shown over the course of this year.

Denise Tomkins  
Designated Intake



*Intake Volumes (March 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021 fiscal year)*



**Total Intake Volume: 1183 for fiscal year**  
**Serving all four Authorities in the geographic area.**

## Swan River - Parkland Region

I want to begin this report by officially offering our best wishes to Denise Rodgers in her future endeavours. Denise left the Agency as Supervisor in the Swan River office in October 2020. We all appreciate her hard work navigating the Swan River office through some very difficult times.

We are grateful for the allocation of an additional Family Service Worker position to the team and the reduction in case counts that accompanied that appointment. This new position facilitated the return of Chris Thompson to the Agency and we have enjoyed his presence in the office.

Looking back at 2020, this has been a year of relative stability for the unit, and I am grateful for the current team members who through their passion and dedication have been instrumental in building a positive team atmosphere.



Like the rest of the Agency, the Swan River team has handled the changes brought to us by the COVID-19 pandemic, and its accompanying restrictions, with great adaptability and dedication to our children, youth, and families. While we grieve the loss of many of our Agency traditions such as Agency Day, CIC Christmas parties, and team days; we also marvel at the way technology has allowed us to adapt our practices so that we can continue to do our work as required, even if it looks a bit different.

Swan River staff were also excited to be a part of the design and implementation of the new case management system, Michif Kashkihtaaw. We have begun to see increased efficiency in many of our processes and workflows. We look forward to even more functionalities being added in the years to come.

As an office, we look forward with anticipation to the full realization of an Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families and impact that the transformation of our Métis child welfare system will have on the children, youth, and families we work with.

Thank you,

Jared Folkerts

*Director of Service/Acting Supervisor*



# The Pas and Thompson Regions

While it has been quite the year, The Pas and Thompson unit continues to provide consistent and supportive strength-based services to our children and families. There have been many adjustments in how we deliver our services due to current Public Health orders, but technology and PPE have certainly assisted us in ensuring service delivery continues.

The past year has been difficult staffing the North, specifically The Pas, but the Thompson unit has stepped up to assist with the day-to-day operations. Other service regions within the Agency have also provided the support required to ensure our clients receive continued services.

Many of our clients received extra support due to COVID-19, which allowed the clients to receive hampers, groceries, and cleaning supplies, in the hopes of reducing the stress of living in a pandemic. Many of our clients also received extra funds through a grant the Agency received from the Children's Aid Foundation that provided an opportunity for our families to purchase outdoor items that would create a safe place for families to stay active while abiding by the current public health orders. The extra supports provided to our families was greatly appreciated by all.

We continue to support all our youth who are currently on Agreement with Young Adults, to ensure they receive the independent living skills they require to be able to live successfully on their own. There continues to be a shortage of housing in The Pas and this has created a concern for the Agency, as we have children wanting to live independently in their home community while still being supported by the Agency. We continue to advocate for our youth and build supports around them so when they leave care, they have confidence to take on the world.

Our northern offices continue to be dedicated to the children and families we serve and look forward to all the changes to come.

Kisty Argue  
*Director of Service/Acting Supervisor*



## Portage la Prairie - Southwest Region

Our office consists of three family service workers, one resource development worker, a Michif Spirit worker, and an Administrative Assistant. We have the privilege of working with a very well-established team, with no worker turnover or vacant positions occurring in the last year. This stability enables the unit to develop and pursue long term performance goals, with a focus on best practices, to ensure we were providing quality service delivery to our children and families.

This year, due to the pandemic, we were presented with many challenges and were required to adapt to our constantly changing reality. Staff were forced to find creative ways to connect with families and conduct visits, while keeping themselves, and the client's we serve, safe. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Portage la Prairie staff for demonstrating flexibility, resiliency, and patience when responding to these continuous process changes, while at the same time ensuring that protocols were met with diligence and professionalism. At the same time, with reduced community resources and programming for the clients, our workers also demonstrated incredible creativity in helping to bridge that service gap for families.

I am very proud of the work and effort that the Portage team put in this year. They were successful in helping us meet our high level of compliance and service expectations, while at the same time respecting our mission and vision statement, and guiding principles.

The Portage la Prairie unit continues to focus on family connection and kinship relationships, keeping it at the forefront of our case planning. Although the pandemic presented some challenges affecting the consistency of family visits, our office was able to focus on exploring alternate family connections. We also put an effort into arranging these contacts, acknowledging the positive affect these can have on the children we work alongside.

- One of the highlights of this last year was the launch of our new database, Michif Kashkihtaaw. This system was based on the needs of the agency, allowing for a more structured and focused data collection.
- Another highlight was the new technology provided to the agency, including cellphones and laptops, which gave us the opportunity to work remotely, and stay engaged and connected with our families while in the field.

- We have started to utilize the apartment space that exists upstairs in our office building, providing a safe home for a mother and her child, and removing the barrier of obtaining affordable housing that is needed to successfully care for her child.
- Unfortunately, our highly anticipated Christmas party had to be cancelled this past year, but we still had the opportunity to hand deliver a gift to all our children in care.

Our ability to further develop our relationship and rapport with the children and families we work with has increased because we continue to operate with a stable team. Engaging in service planning without a change in the staff has led to consistency and has developed trust in the team. More importantly, the consistency in staff has enabled us to establish mutual respect, kindness, and empathy with the families and children we work with, which has led to more effective case planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with Métis and Inuit families during this past year, it has been a privilege.

Lindsay Loewen  
*Family Services Supervisor*



## *Brandon - Southwest Region*

The year 2020 was a bit of a whirlwind, but the Brandon unit overcame all obstacles and dealt with challenges head on. There have been many adjustments in how we deliver our services due to current Public Health orders, but technology and PPE has allowed staff to continue to deliver all necessary services.

This past year we have had many new staff members join our team but each one has shown dedication within their role and excitement to learn all aspects of child welfare. A fifth family service worker position was created for the Brandon office to create smaller caseloads and an increased ability to dedicate time providing direct service to our clients. We are very fortunate to have all position filled by staff members who operate alongside our Mission and Vision.

Over the last year, Michif Kashkihtaaw was created with the input of various employees across the Agency, and it officially went live in late 2020. This system has allowed many of our programs and services to be streamlined and it has enabled us to create a more user-friendly way to manage files on a daily basis. The Brandon team has appreciated the new system and continue to use it to its full capacity.

The Brandon team has shown continued dedication and strives to provide consistent support and guidance to the families we serve. We look forward to the year ahead and will be focusing our efforts to ensure prevention services are at the forefront of all the work we do.

Kisty Argue  
*Director of Service/ Acting Supervisor*





# Resource/Kinship Department

The Resource Staff has worked very hard this year to keep in touch with our foster and kinship families, supporting the children in our care during the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. While they were not always able to go out to see families or go into their homes, they kept in touch through a variety of ways (phone, text, zoom, internet, street and on the deck meetings). One of the creative ways that our team found to stay in touch was by arranging a meeting in a parking lot, where each stayed in their vehicles and remained six feet apart.

Over the year, the department supported between 130 - 150 foster and kinship homes all over the province; often having to travel quite a distance to see them. We recognize the hard work that our foster parents do and that it is not always easy; but we were able to give them a small token of our thanks after Foster Family week in October.

Resource also manages the Comfort Kit program for the agency and we gave out 78 Kits between 2019 and early 2021. These were distributed to children who were entering care for the first time. These are different for each age group and are provided to give the child/youth extra comfort and increase their well-being. Each kit always includes a blanket, a stuffed animal and age-related activities. To go with our Comfort Kits, the ladies group from the Swan River Valley Mennonite Church donated several handmade baby quilts and burp cloths that we put in the infant packages. Finally, to prevent children from carrying their possessions in garbage bags, we ensure that all Comfort Kits contain some form of suitcase.

Nina Crawford  
Resource Supervisor



*Baby quilts donated by women's group.*



*Comfort kits ready for distribution.*

# Métis Community Addictions Recovery Team (C.A.R.T.)

The CART pilot program brings together Addictions Foundations of Manitoba (AFM), Prairie Mountain Health and Child and Family Services under one roof, and the program has been very successful in supporting parents in their recovery from substance abuse and mental health challenges.

The dedicated team of two case managers, two peer mentors, one administrator, one AFM Worker and one Community Mental Health Worker, all value the work they do for the families and communities:

- Parents are referred to AFM and Mental Health services in a timely fashion.
- The Case Managers make frequent contact with families and prompt family engagement in designing case plans.
- Peer mentors build trusting relationships with families, offer supports such as childcare and transportation, life skills training such as budgeting and healthy eating habits.
- Mentoring encourages and enables families to continue in their recovery journey from mental health and addictions challenges.



Our collaborative approach in working with families and their community supports, enables us to design safety plans that ensure the children remain in their home with their parents during their engagement with the program. This approach has been instrumental in avoiding the need to place children in Agency care. And because of this, the CART program is happy to note that since its inception, no child has been placed in Agency care.

The CART office in Dauphin has been equipped with a well-furnished counselling room that brings comfort to our families during their counselling session. The facility also has a play area for children.

Overall, the program has eliminated the main barriers that families face in their quest and journey to recover from the unique challenges they face. Our Agency is pleased to have had the opportunity to implement this pilot program on behalf of the Province of Manitoba.

Edgar Moses  
*Program Supervisor*

# Michif Shelters

Agency shelters have continued to offer safe environment for children whenever the need arises. Our Child and Youth Care Workers take pride in the work they do in comforting and caring for children during their temporary stay in the shelters. Despite the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic that has led to a reduction of services within our communities, the staff have continued to engage the children in various programs and activities to ensure the children are enjoying their time at the shelter.

Staff have also participated in cultural and trauma informed training, geared towards learning the culture of the children who are attending the shelters. And they continue to work towards making culturally responsive decisions based on their interactions with the children and their knowledge of their culture. The program plan is to send staff for more trainings to equip them with the skills necessary skills to support the children in the best way possible.

Our facilities have recently received new equipment (furniture and play equipment) to help us make the shelters more comfortable for the children.

The shelters also recently received donation from the COVID-19 Children's Aid Fund, and this money was used to purchase more sporting and play equipment.

Edgar Moses  
*Program Supervisor*





## Feature Story: Michif Spirit Program

My siblings and I were placed in CFS Care at a very young age. We were temporarily adopted but returned to foster care a few years later. I ended up in a group home with an amazing Foster Dad until the age of 19. Sadly, my Foster Dad passed away shortly after my high school graduation.

Although I had graduated, I felt like my world was crushed. I did not know where I wanted to be or what I wanted for a career. I did not know how to live on my own or how to be a contributing member to society.

I was very thankful to have the support from a local farmer and his wife who was also my school teacher. They took me into their home and offered me employment on their farm. As time passed, I grew into their family. They call me and treat me as their own son, and my family as part of theirs. This is where I was introduced into the heavy construction field and began working in the Aggregate Crushing Field with big mobile equipment. This career took me away from home for extended periods of time, away from my wife and son. I found great interest in servicing and repairing this equipment and it was then that I decided to look into going back to school.

I called the Michif CFS office in Dauphin hoping to find supports that would help me with post secondary education funding.

My information was passed onto Myrna Lavallée, Michif CFS Youth Spirit Worker who provided me with several support options for post secondary funding. Myrna was there to assist and support me on my journey. She has been the most caring, super smart, great hearted, all around amazing person who has been one of my biggest supports to me and my family throughout school and beyond.

In September 2020, I was enrolled as a full time student at Assiniboine Community College Lens Evan Centre for the Heavy Equipment Technician Program in Brandon. This possible through receiving the amazing support from Myrna, funding supports through the Manitoba Métis Federation Southwest Regional Office, the acceptance into the Tuition Waiver Program at Assiniboine Community College, and the countless support from my family and friends.

In May 2021, I completed and graduated from the Heavy Equipment Technician Program with Distinction and have been employed by Mazergroup – New Holland in Hartney, MB as a Level 1 Agriculture Service Technician.

I am continuing my training by gaining hours of experience needed to reach my next level and will continue until I have achieved my Journeyman Red Seal as an Agriculture Technician.

Throughout my schooling I have received the Voices Scholarship, Toromont Cat Leadership Award, ACC One to Watch Award along with being selected to receive the Advancing Futures Bursary from Advancing Futures Program.

This has been the biggest, most exciting, rewarding and amazing experience that my family and I have encountered while making changes for the betterment of our lives. It would not have been possible without the supports that we were provided by all these incredible people and programs.

I cannot thank everyone enough for investing their time and resources in me in order to have this unbelievable once in a lifetime chance to better myself and create a better future for my family.

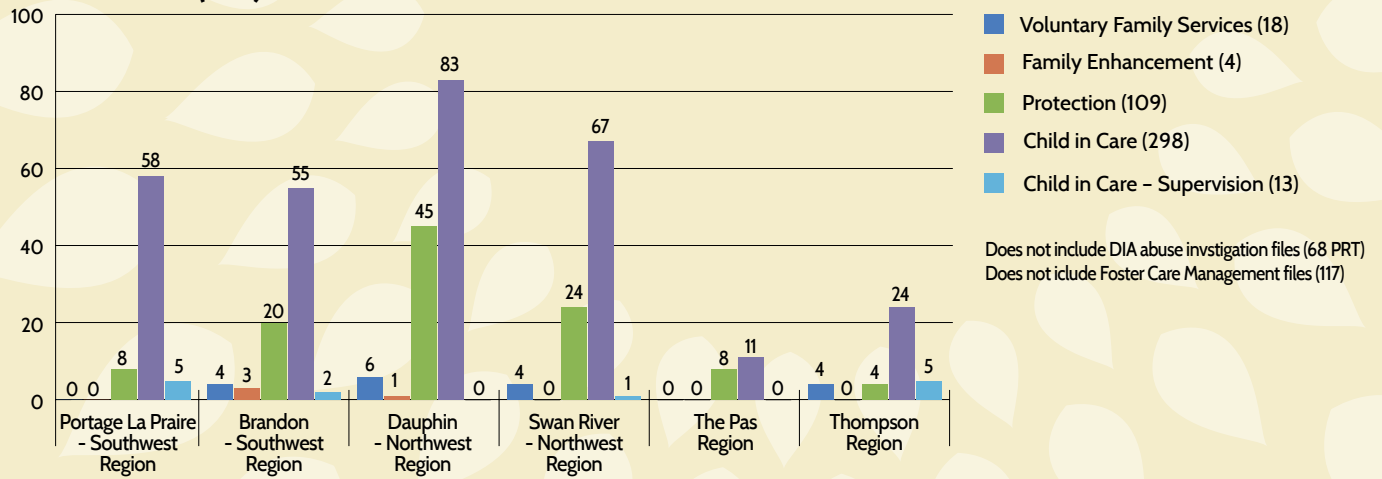
Thank you.

Nic

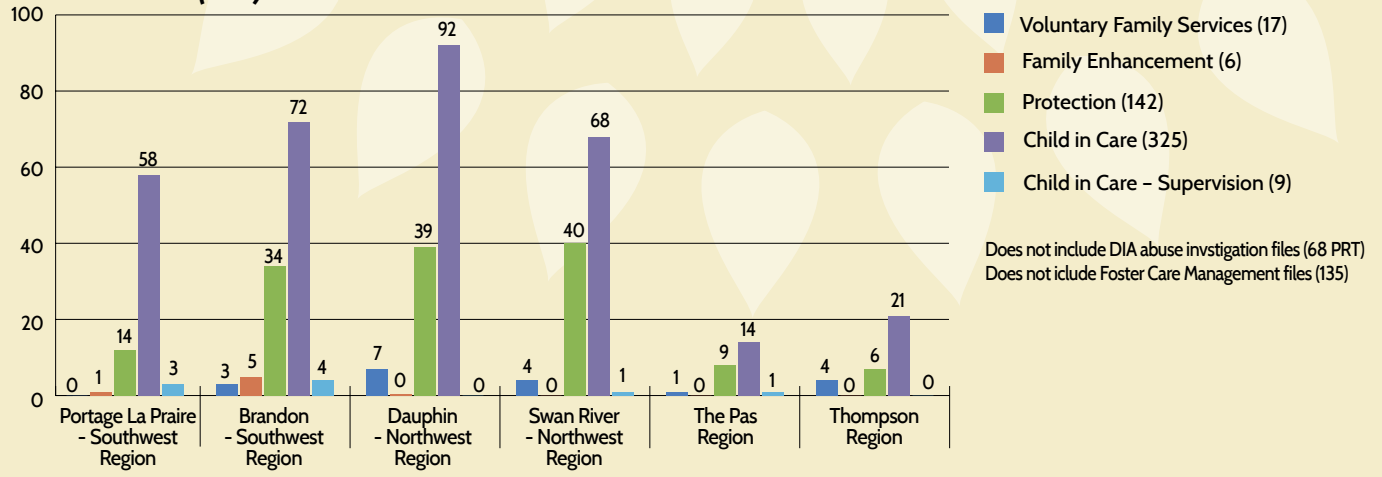
# Agency Statistics

## Number of Cases By Region and Case Type

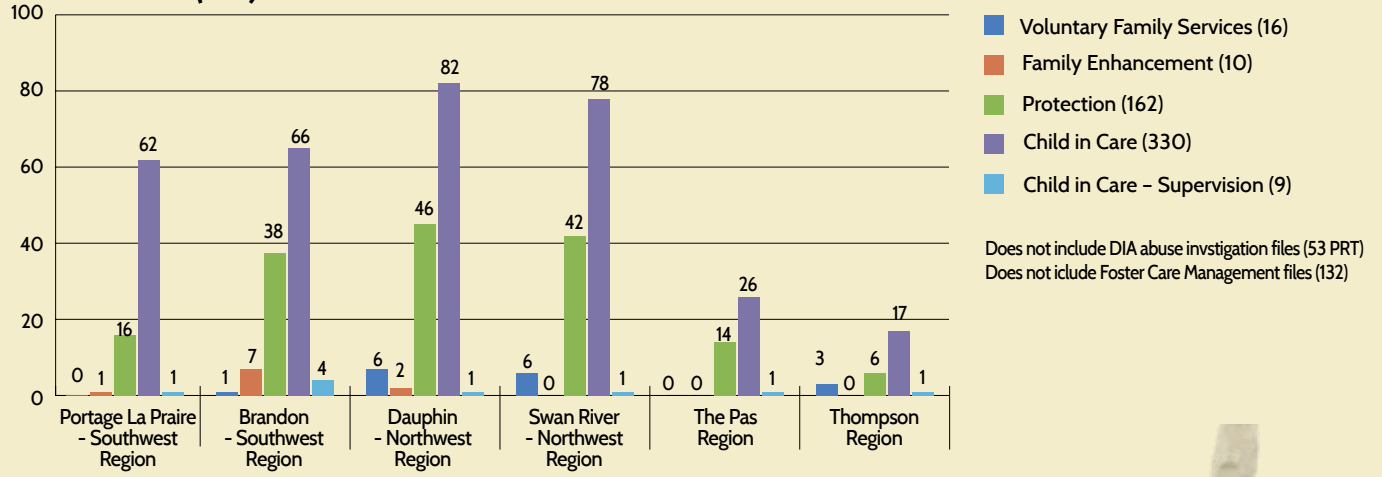
### 2020-2021 (442)



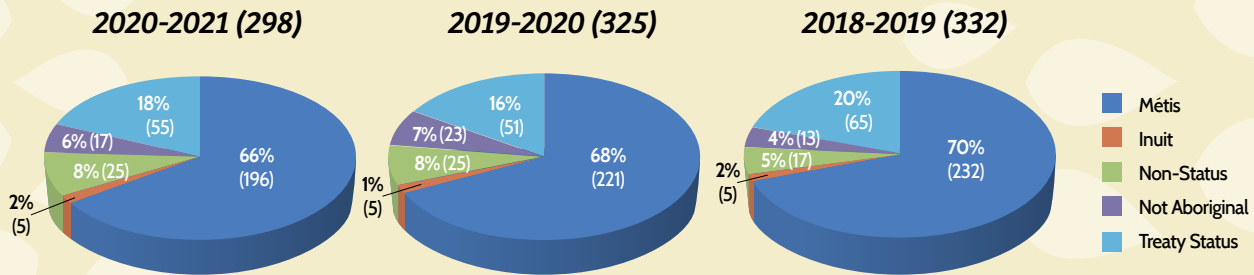
### 2019-2020 (498)



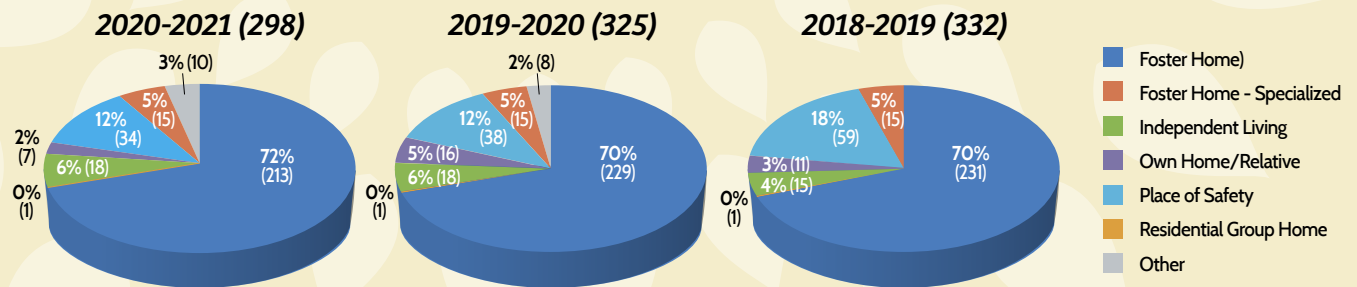
### 2018-2019 (527)



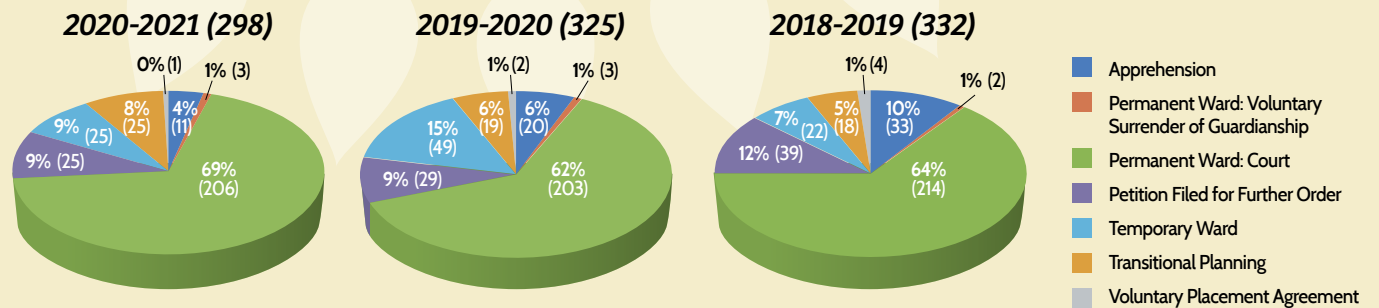
## Children in Care by Aboriginal Status



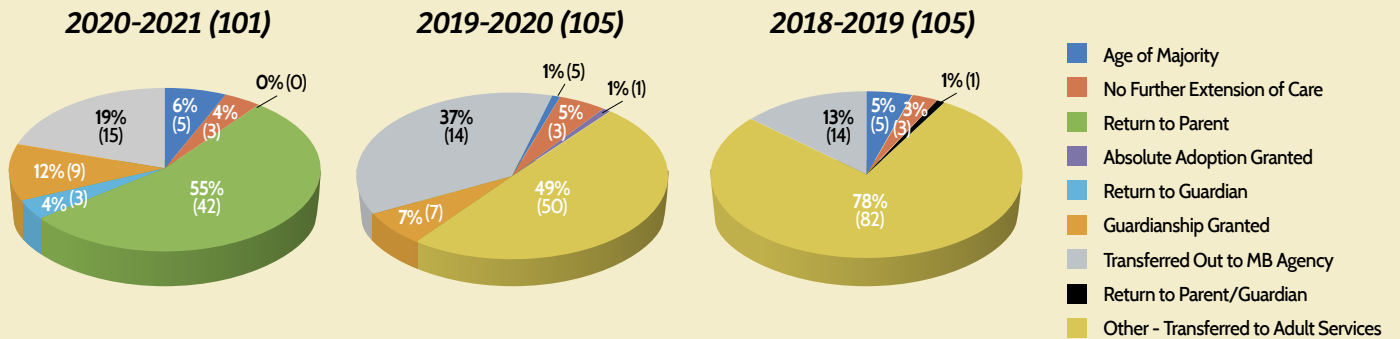
## Children in Care by Placement



## Children in Care by Legal Status

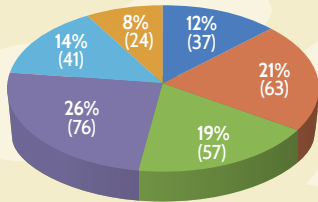


## Reasons for Children in Care Files Closing



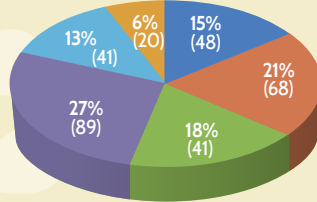
## Children in Care by Age

2020-2021 (298)



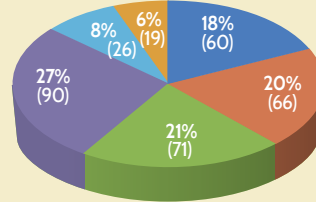
Total Male: 152 Total Female: 156

2019-2020 (325)



Total Male: 148 Total Female: 177

2018-2019 (332)

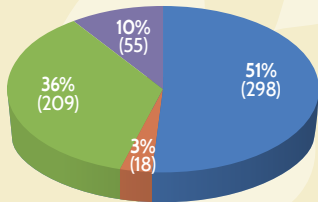


Total Male: 149 Total Female: 183



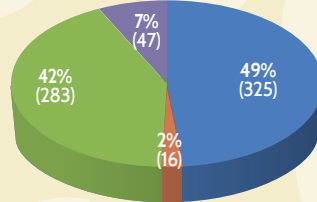
## Children in Care and Not in Care

2020-2021 (580)



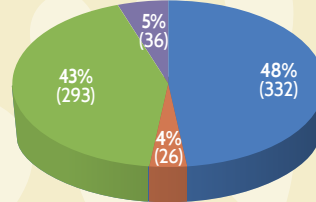
49% of children receiving services are at home.

2018-2019 (671)

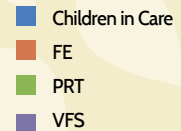


55% of children receiving services are at home.

2018-2019 (687)



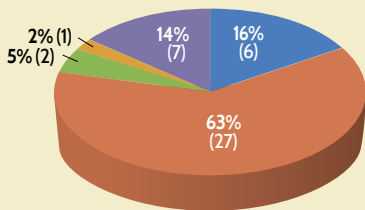
52% of children receiving services are at home.



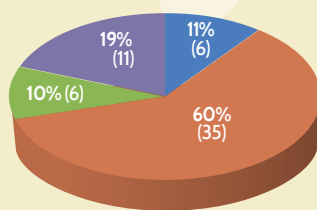
\*Numbers for children at home determined by Person records of children ages 17 and under

## Discharged – Return to Parent/Guardian – Familial Relationship

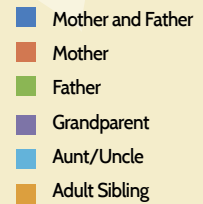
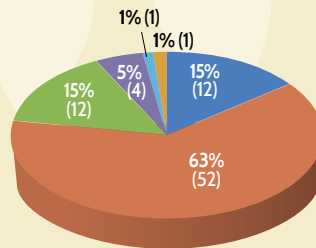
2020-2021 (43)



2019-2020 (58)

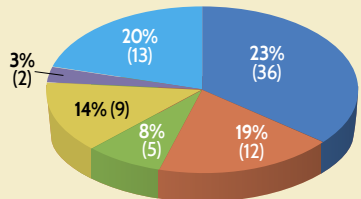


2018-2019 (82)

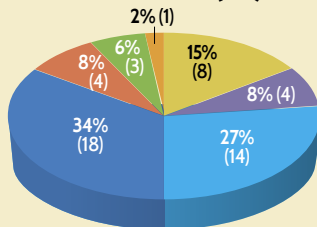


## Placement Prior to Reunification

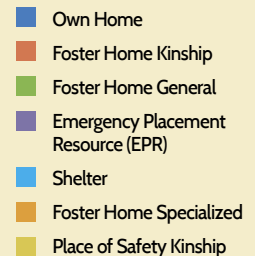
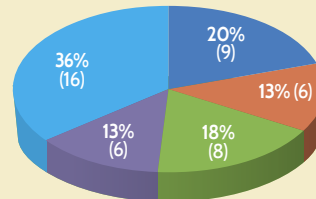
2020-2021 (64)



2019-2020 (54)

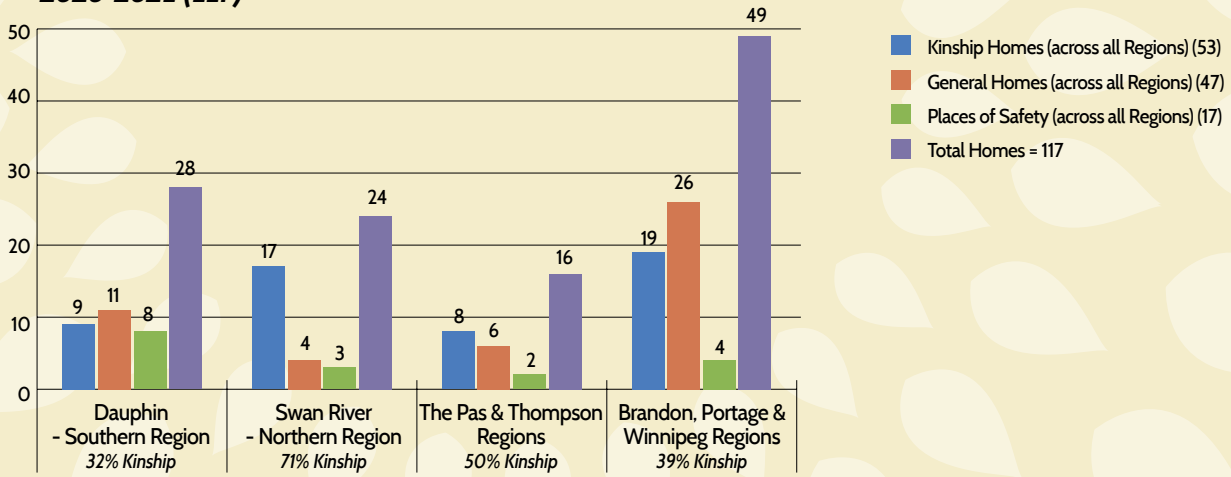


2018-2019 (45)

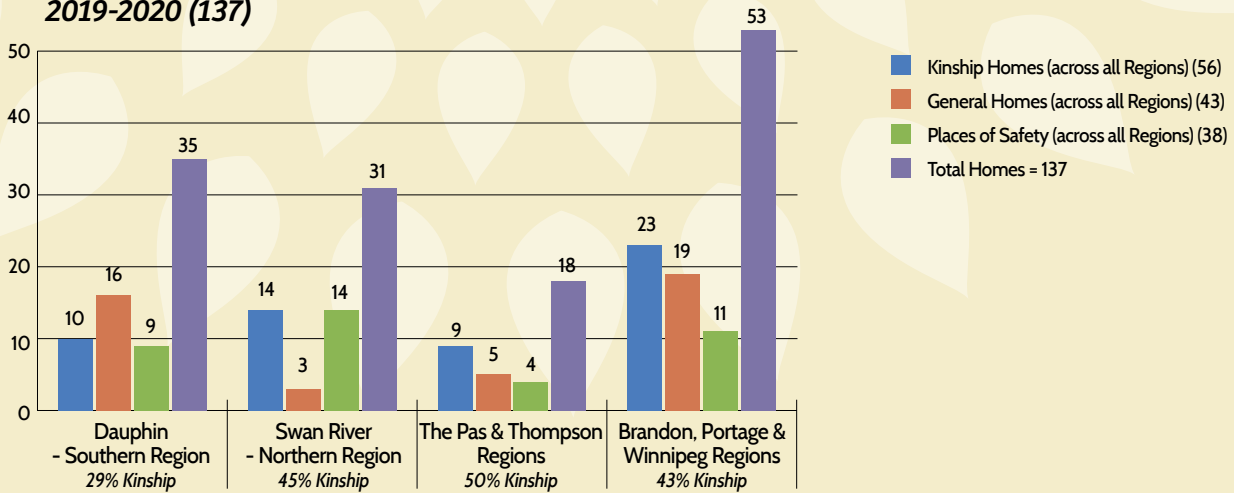


## Resource/Kinship Status

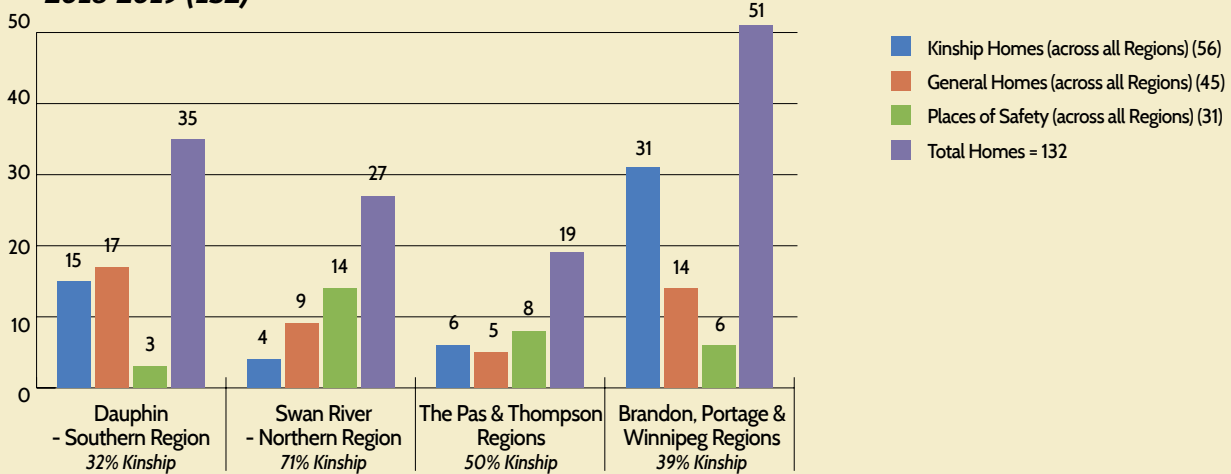
2020-2021 (117)



2019-2020 (137)



2018-2019 (132)





# Agency Events

*Administrative Assistant Day*

*Social Work Month*



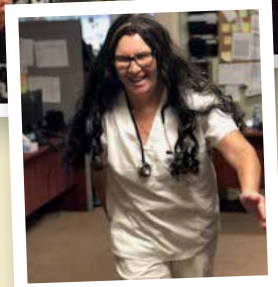
*Empower Her Conference*



*Every Child Matters: Orange Shirt Day*



*Halloween*



*Christmas Cookies*



# Zoom Agency Day

Michif Child and Family Services annual Agency Day was held by Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Zoom presentation was a success to acknowledge all the hard work and dedication of the staff.

We would also like to acknowledge our staff for their years of service for the 2020-2021 year.



## 5 Years of Service:

**Brenda Edwards**    **Dennis Gosselin**  
**Lorraine Yury**    **Christin Martin**  
**Marie Lavallee**    **Jared Folkerts**  
**Lindy Winters**

## 10 Years of Service:

**Daphne Kopecky**  
**Pam Harrigan**

## 15 Years of Service:

**Camille Giesbrecht**

# Culture Camp 2021

*In Partnership with Northwest Region*



# Acknowledgements

Michif Child and Family Services would like to acknowledge the following donors for their support of our special events, such as our Children's Christmas parties, Youth celebrations, and Agency Day. Our events would not be a success without the incredible contributions from the following:

## **Government**

City of Brandon  
City of Dauphin  
Manitoba Advocate for Youth and Children  
YES (Youth Employment Services)

## **Agency**

Children's Aid Foundation of Canada  
Community Cooler Food Bank -  
Portage la Prairie  
Manitoba Métis Federation - Training and  
Employment  
MMF - Brandon Regional  
MMF Local - Portage la Prairie  
Métis CFS Authority  
Northwest Metis Council  
Salvation Army - Portage La Prairie  
Ted and Loretta Rogers Foster Care Comfort Kit  
Program - Children's Aid Foundation of Canada  
The Dauphin Friendship Centre

## **Education**

The Louis Riel Institute Assiniboine  
Community College  
Red River Community College  
(Portage La Prairie Campus)  
University of Brandon

## **Business**

Cochrane Saxberg Barristers & Solicitors  
Co-op - Dauphin  
Co-op - Portage la Prairie  
Courtney's Cake Creation - Brandon  
Etchiboy's  
McDonald's - Brandon  
McDonald's - Dauphin  
Miljeans Floral and Gift Shop -  
Portage la Prairie  
Olina's Floral Shoppe -  
Portage la Prairie  
Pizza Hotline -  
Portage la Prairie  
Pizza Hut -  
Portage la Prairie  
Portage la Prairie Golf Course -  
Sue Anderson  
Safeway  
Tim Hortons  
Twin Motors of Dauphin  
Walmart  
Western Bakery

**Michif Child  Family Services**

