

**SUMMARY OF
FINAL REPORT
RECOMMENDATIONS**

SUMMARY OF FINAL REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

CHAPTER 1 EMPOWERING FIRST NATIONS AND METIS LEADERSHIP

Recommendation 1.1

This Commission recommends that the Office of the Treaty Commissioner's mandate be continued beyond 2005 and that the **Government of Canada, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and Office of the Treaty Commissioner**, with an expanded mandate, accelerate their discussions concerning Treaty-based governance and take into account recommendations of this Commission in concluding agreements as quickly as possible.

Recommendation 1.2

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada and the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan** establish a Nation-to-Nation dialogue aimed at establishing appropriate governance structures for the Metis people that will address justice issues, as well as other aspirations and needs of the Metis people.

Recommendation 1.3

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** also participate in these discussions as an observer.

Recommendation 1.4

This Commission recommends that:

- 1.4.1 The **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** establish First Nations and Metis Leadership Development Funds to promote leadership training for First Nations and Metis people.
 - 1.4.2 That an Institute on Traditional Law and Governance be established by 2007, to provide training to First Nations and Metis professionals and leaders in Saskatchewan.
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Recommendation 1.5

This Commission recommends that **post-secondary institutions and professional associations** work together to develop plans that will ensure that professionals already in the field have access to programs of continuing professional education that emphasize cultural issues associated with the provision of justice services.

Recommendation 1.6

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, justice and health authorities, and traditional practitioners** cooperate to protect and extend traditional justice and healing practices, and explore their application to contemporary First Nations and Metis community concerns.

CHAPTER 2 CREATING HEALTHY, JUST, PROSPEROUS AND SAFE COMMUNITIES IN SASKATCHEWAN

Recommendation 2.1

This Commission recommends:

- 2.1.1 That the **Government of Saskatchewan** finance a long-term targeted fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) strategy that includes prevention, intervention and follow up to address the life-long disabilities caused by alcohol use and abuse.
 - 2.1.2 That the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation - Saskatchewan** collaborate on a fetal alcohol spectrum disorders awareness-training program that will be delivered to all people who work with children and youth and their families, including the police, to create a level of awareness.
 - 2.1.3 That the **Saskatchewan Police College** deliver a fetal alcohol spectrum disorders training module to all new recruits to provide an understanding of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.
 - 2.1.4 That the **Government of Saskatchewan**, primarily child welfare and health authorities, review the legislation and policy as it relates to the provision of services to people with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders to ensure that they are not excluded by virtue of their IQ and to ensure that support services are provided to families, in the absence of protection concerns.
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Recommendation 2.2

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** streamline the funding process for crime prevention interventions in consultation with communities and provide core-funding arrangements to programs that have proven successful.

Recommendation 2.3

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada**, in consultation with the other orders of government, develop Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Peoples Social and Economic Policy Plans focused on improving quality of life for First Nations and Metis people.

Further, that the Implementation Office be responsible for monitoring and reporting on progress.

The plans must develop policy, through taking into consideration the practices and customs of First Nations and Metis people including, but not limited to, the following goals:

- eliminate poverty;
- improve educational attainment;
- increase employment;



- provide appropriate housing;
 - promote health especially in the areas of addictions, including fetal alcohol spectrum disorders;
 - transfer of resources to the community; and
 - respond to the realities of urbanization.
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Recommendation 2.4

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan**, in partnership with First Nations and Metis communities, design a proactive targeted Saskatchewan Crime Prevention Strategy by April 1, 2005.

Recommendation 2.5

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** divert funds currently spent on reacting to crime in the criminal justice system, to proactive targeted community based prevention projects.

Recommendation 2.6

This Commission recommends that the **Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada** review the funding arrangement with First Nations Child and Family Services agencies to ensure that services to prevent children from coming into care are funded.

Recommendation 2.7

This Commission recommends that **all governments** increase supports to single parents, including providing adequate social assistance, respite, parenting knowledge and skill development.

Recommendation 2.8

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** facilitates a discussion with youthful parents regarding the concept of parenting centres/co-operatives to provide youthful parents respite, parenting knowledge and skill development.

Recommendation 2.9

This Commission recommends that the **Department of Community Resources and Employment** engage community and the various government departments and agencies providing services to children and their families, and together develop local community plans to strengthen family through provision of culturally relevant, parenting skill training.

Recommendation 2.10

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Métis Nation – Saskatchewan** build strategies to respond to gangs that includes: education, prevention and intervention, and that information about gangs be provided to parents, schools and communities.



CHAPTER 3 VIOLENCE AND VICTIMIZATION

Recommendation 3.1

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan**, specifically the **Minister of Community Resources and Employment** review this regulation with a view to increasing the amount of exemption for those on social assistance who receive a settlement from the **Government of Canada** for abuse suffered during their residential school experience and that the **Government of Canada** also reconsiders their position to a cap on their settlement.

Recommendation 3.2

This Commission recommends that **education systems, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation - Saskatchewan, and others**, support the introduction in kindergarten and Grade 1 of: non-violence alternatives, information about violence in its many forms, the effects of such violence and solutions thereto, including the responsibility shared by all to eliminate violence, and that it be reinforced in subsequent grades.

Recommendation 3.3

This Commission recommends that all schools, with a high number of children who are living in poverty, implement a school nutrition program.

Recommendation 3.4

This Commission recommends that **all governments** promote the use of non-violent alternatives to child correction. Steps must be taken to ensure laws, policy and practice comply with the direction provided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Recommendation 3.5

This Commission recommends that there be greater consideration given to delivering domestic violence programs that focus on dealing with partners and families.

Recommendation 3.6

This Commission recommends that **all levels of government** ensure that family violence programming for men and women is supported and more available.

Recommendation 3.7

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** develop public awareness materials related to violence specifically suited for the needs of northern residents. To ensure that material is suited for needs in the North, there must be consultation from northern residents, including young people.

Recommendation 3.8

This Commission recommends **all levels of government** immediately resolve the jurisdiction dispute around the *Victims of Domestic Violence Act* on Indian reserves.

Recommendation 3.9

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan or First Nation Councils or Métis Nation – Saskatchewan**, whichever is appropriate, ensure that transportation is provided to women seeking shelter from violent situations and that adequate funding be provided for their stay.

Recommendation 3.10

This Commission recommends that:

- 3.10.1. There be funding from **all governments** to increase the number of beds available for women seeking safety from domestic violence situations;
 - 3.10.2. Funders providing resources to shelters ensure sufficient funds for the agencies to provide more training to their staff and more outreach to communities.
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Recommendation 3.11

This Commission recommends that **agencies** providing shelter services to women and police services meet to find a solution to the issue of sharing information within the parameters of the privacy legislation.

Recommendation 3.12

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** expand Victim Services in the province.

Recommendation 3.13

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** provide funding to study the effectiveness of domestic violence programming.

Recommendation 3.14

This Commission recommends to **all governments** that there be further study on the concept and impact of hope, with a view to including hope in programming and assessment.



**CHAPTER 4 RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: RESTORING JUSTICE
IN SASKATCHEWAN**

Recommendation 4.1

This Commission recommends that **every level of government** support the education of police, lawyers and judges to recognize mental disorders and disabilities, in order to divert persons with mental disorders and disabilities to **appropriate resources**.

Recommendation 4.2

This Commission recommends the following immediate steps:

4.2.1 Funding be allocated by **all levels of governments** to therapeutic resources with a First Nations and Metis focus, including: drug addiction, follow up care, and healing initiatives.

4.2.2 That meaningful sentencing alternatives be developed by **Saskatchewan Justice in cooperation with communities and Courts**, to allow for intensive therapy involving Elders, healers, and supports for family, and that these sentencing alternatives have a First Nations and Metis focus.

Recommendation 4.3

This Commission recommends that the Aboriginal Courtworker Program be adequately resourced by the **Government of Saskatchewan** to meet their current mandate and consideration be given to an expanded mandate that will enable courtworkers to incorporate restorative support for those appearing before the Courts.

Recommendation 4.4

This Commission recommends that system generated charges be dealt with administratively as follows:

4.4.1 Youth who are subject to system generated charges and lower level offences be referred to Elder led community based teams to discern and consider ways to meet the needs of the youth outside of the Courts.

4.4.2 Adults who are subject to system generated charges and lower level offences be referred to community teams to discern and consider ways to meet the needs of the individual restoratively, outside of the Courts.



CHAPTER 5 POLICING

Recommendation 5.1

This Commission recommends the implementation of a strategy to eliminate racism in policing by the **Saskatchewan Police Commission**. This strategy shall contain:

- 5.1.1 Police recruitment screening strategies specifically to prevent candidates with racist views on ethnic or religious groups from being offered employment.
 - 5.1.2 A complaints process that requires allegations of racist language or behaviour against individual officers to be reported to the officers' immediate supervisor and the chief of police.
 - 5.1.3 An intensive remedial training program for police officers who exhibit racist attitudes. This program must be successfully completed to the satisfaction of the officer's supervising officer and the program facilitator.
 - 5.1.4 The tools which would allow the immediate supervisor or chiefs of police to respond immediately to allegations of racism.
 - 5.1.5 A pro-active First Nation and Metis candidate recruitment strategy.
 - 5.1.6 Employment assistance counselling for First Nations and Metis candidates that will assist them with the pressures of working within a police service that has traditionally been dominated by non-Aboriginal people.
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Recommendation 5.2

This Commission recommends that all **police services** invite members of the First Nations and Metis communities to evaluate the effectiveness of existing cultural awareness programs and implement changes as required.

Recommendation 5.3

- 5.3.1 This Commission recommends that **urban police services** have a First Nations and Metis staffing component that is equal in percentage to the respective populations.
 - 5.3.2 This Commission recommends to the **RCMP** that Community Police Boards and Police Management Boards participate in the selection, posting and orientation of RCMP members to detachments that serve their community.
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Recommendation 5.4

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan**, in view of the fact that it invests in community policing initiatives, conduct province-wide surveys every two years to monitor the degree of public satisfaction regarding community policing within all communities.

Recommendation 5.5

5.5.1 This Commission recommends that **Saskatchewan Justice and the Aboriginal Policing Directorate** in the federal Solicitor General's office ensure that Community Police Boards and Police Management Boards receive adequate resourcing and training to ensure that community based policing is supported and successful in all communities.

5.5.2 This Commission recommends that Police Management Boards and Community Police Boards that share one police service be amalgamated and ensure equal representation.

5.5.3 This Commission recommends that police officers working in First Nations and Metis communities, including urban neighbourhoods with high First Nations and Metis populations, be required to meet regularly with Elders and other community leaders in order to learn more about the culture of the people they are working with.

Recommendation 5.6

This Commission recommends that all **police services** be required to prepare reports to justify any decisions that do not divert matters extra-judicially.

Recommendation 5.7

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** establish emergency detoxification facilities in cooperation with municipalities immediately in La Ronge, Prince Albert, Saskatoon and Regina. In remote areas, the Commission recommends that these facilities are incorporated into the local hospital, or in these remote communities, provision be made for sobering up houses as an alternative to drunk tanks.

Recommendation 5.8

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan**, in cooperation with municipalities, establish detoxification facilities for youth in Saskatchewan.

Recommendation 5.9

5.9.1 This Commission recommends the increased use of video recording equipment by **RCMP and municipal police services**.

5.9.2 This Commission recommends that an Aboriginal liaison worker or volunteer individual be available for First Nations and Metis people upon their arrival at a police station or detachment office.

Recommendation 5.10

This Commission recommends that representatives of the **Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Metis Nation – Saskatchewan, governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** work together to develop an independent complaints investigation agency that will meet the needs of First Nations, Metis and non-Aboriginal people with the objective of having such an agency in place by April 1, 2005.

Recommendation 5.11

This Commission recommends that the **Implementation Commissioner** monitor and oversee the establishment of a complaints agency that will reflect and respect the spirit and intent of the existing Special Investigations Unit.



CHAPTER 6 JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS

Recommendation 6.1

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** encourage and support the participation of potential First Nations and Metis jurors with the provision of resources for childcare and transportation where necessary.

Recommendation 6.2

This Commission recommends that the **Cree Court** concept expand both geographically and linguistically so that a First Nations or Metis person may attend court proceedings conducted in their own language.

Recommendation 6.3

This Commission recommends that all levels of court in Saskatchewan inform First Nations and Metis people appearing in court that they have the right to receive translation services, so that they fully understand the proceedings.

Recommendation 6.4

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** gather representatives from the Court of Queen's Bench and the Provincial Court, together with at least one Metis and one First Nations northern representative along with representatives from the Government of Canada to explore ways to address a more satisfying and economically affordable solution to bringing family law matters to the North.

Recommendation 6.5

This Commission recommends that all courts be fully resourced by the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** to include the critical component of community involvement.

Recommendation 6.6

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan**, to ensure equitable and fair representation in the courts, appoint First Nations and Metis persons to sit as judges at every level of Court within Saskatchewan.

Recommendation 6.7

This Commission recommends that **all levels of government** encourage and promote Court points in First Nations and Metis communities where suitable facilities can be provided and maintained by these governments; in the alternative, these governments should begin to provide suitable video and audio links between inaccessible First Nations and Metis communities and the courts.

Recommendation 6.8

This Commission recommends that **all levels of court** be encouraged to use community based sentences for all offences (unless specifically prohibited by law) and that every level of government redirect resources to fund community based projects and help to facilitate community participation in sentencing.

Recommendation 6.9

This Commission recommends that a Therapeutic Court, preferably mobile, with the capacity to address issues such as alcohol and other addictions, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, families in crisis and family violence, be immediately established and implemented in Saskatchewan and that new funding be provided specifically by **all departments and levels of government**, including First Nations and Metis governments, to facilitate an integrated response to the root causes of criminal behaviour.

Recommendation 6.10

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** continue to work with communities, in collaboration with the **Government of Canada and First Nations and Metis Governments**, to establish community justice programs which will qualify as Alternative Measures programs under S.717 of the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

Recommendation 6.11

This Commission recommends that:

- 6.11.1 An Aboriginal Liaison person (or other approved community designate) participate in the decision as to whether to refer any alleged criminal behaviour to the community Alternative Measures program.

 - 6.11.2 The Aboriginal Liaison person (or community designate) have the ability to apply to the Implementation Commissioner's Office to review a decision whether to refer alleged criminal behaviour to Alternative Measures. The Implementation Commissioner's Office must have the authority to access all material relating to this decision, to review it, and to advocate for the reversal of the decision where appropriate.
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Recommendation 6.12

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada** amend s.717(1)(e) of the *Criminal Code of Canada* and S.10.2(e) of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* to read as follows:

- (e) the person accepts responsibility for their actions or does not contest the act or omission that forms the basis of the offence that the person is alleged to have committed.
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Recommendation 6.13

This Commission recommends to the Government of Saskatchewan that all offences, whether Provincial Regulatory offences or *Criminal Code of Canada*, including spousal assaults and excepting homicide, be eligible for Alternate Measures.

Recommendation 6.14

This Commission recommends that **all levels of government** work towards the closure of incarceration spaces and divert resources thus saved to community-based alternatives.

Recommendation 6.15

This Commission recommends that **adult correctional centres, youth custody facilities, and the Correctional Service of Canada** work cooperatively with community justice programs, Probation Services and the offender in the design and implementation of reintegration plans.

Recommendation 6.16

This Commission recommends that:

6.16.1 Where requested by the community, **all levels of Government** should assist in the establishment and funding of Community Justice Committees.

6.16.2 Members and employees of Community Justice Committees be appropriately remunerated.

Recommendation 6.17

This Commission recommends that a comprehensive list be created, and regularly maintained, of all community based justice services available by the **Government of Saskatchewan**. This list should be provided to all prosecutors, legal aid lawyers and private defence counsel.

Recommendation 6.18

This Commission recommends that a pre-charge screening process with community involvement be immediately implemented throughout Saskatchewan by the **Government of Saskatchewan**. As part of pre-charge screening, Crown prosecutors should be instructed specifically to consider whether the matter in question could be referred to a community-based justice initiative as an alternative to Court.

Recommendation 6.19

This Commission recommends that the **Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission** create First Nations and Metis articling positions and actively recruit First Nations and Metis lawyers.

Recommendation 6.20

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** provide a toll free telephone line where people can get reliable, up-to-date information on family law matters.

Recommendation 6.21

This Commission recommends additional funding be provided to **Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission** to hire more lawyers and provide broader legal services.

Recommendation 6.22

This Commission recommends that a public education campaign be designed and implemented by **all levels of Government** directed at providing accurate information on the benefits of non-custodial alternatives to imprisonment and re-integration into the community.

Recommendation 6.23

This Commission recommends to **Correctional Service of Canada, Saskatchewan Justice and Corrections and Public Safety**, that access to cultural and spiritual programming, whether traditional or religious, be made more available to First Nations and Metis people who are incarcerated in Saskatchewan.

Recommendation 6.24

This Commission recommends to the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** that more resources be provided to community service providers to develop and operate programs designed that aid offenders with their transition into the community when they are released from prison institutions.

Recommendation 6.25

This Commission recommends to **Correctional Service of Canada** that, prior to a change in legislation, and given the healing nature of ceremonies, medical leave be granted to detained offenders to attend spiritual ceremonies outside the institution grounds for the purpose of healing if an offender has been involved in cultural programming in the institution, has the support of the Elders and Correctional Service of Canada, will be strictly supervised during the absence and has the support of the National Parole Board.

Recommendation 6.26

This Commission recommends that **Pine Grove Correctional Centre** continue and expand its work with community agencies to provide programming which addresses the distinct needs of women in prison institutions and that resources be available for them to do so.

Recommendation 6.27

This Commission recommends that consideration be given by the **Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation - Saskatchewan** to develop and deliver programs dealing with the effect of parental incarceration on children and the corresponding stresses of separation and reunification of families.

Recommendation 6.28

This Commission recommends to **Corrections and Public Safety** that plans for reintegration into the community be created as soon as youth are admitted to youth facilities.



Recommendation 6.29

This Commission recommends that **all levels of government** immediately design and implement a funding strategy to fully resource the provisions of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, particularly those provisions that address community supervision of youth.

Recommendation 6.30

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada** appoint additional First Nations and Metis persons as members of the National Parole Board.

Recommendation 6.31

This Commission recommends that an evaluation of probation and community justice services be undertaken to ensure such services are meeting the needs of individuals and communities.

Recommendation 6.32

This Commission recommends that the options of alternative measures, bail, probation and conditional sentences be employed instead of the use of remand and incarceration wherever possible.

Recommendation 6.33

This Commission recommends that **Bail officers, Probation officers and Conditional Sentence Supervisors** be scheduled so that their services are available on a 24-hour basis.

CHAPTER 7 ELIMINATING RACISM: CREATING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Recommendation 7.1

This Commission endorses the report *Multiculturalism in Saskatchewan: Report to Ministers' Committee on Multiculturalism*. This Commission recommends that the **Executive Director of Saskatchewan Culture and Heritage**, report in writing to the Implementation Commissioner and shall clearly indicate progress made in carrying through the recommendations put forward in this Multiculturalism report.

Recommendation 7.2

This Commission recommends that the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, specifically **Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and Saskatchewan Government Relations and Aboriginal Affairs**, in consultation with representatives from the **Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation – Saskatchewan**:

- a) create a directory for Saskatchewan of First Nations and Metis people who are recognized and respected as trainers/facilitators on cultural awareness and the promotion of healthy relationships between the First Nations and Metis cultures and the non-Aboriginal population;
 - b) that the directory be made available to organizations, government departments, and members of the justice system wishing to provide culture awareness training to their employees; and,
 - c) that the list be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
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Recommendation 7.3

This Commission recommends that **media outlets in Saskatchewan** create an external community editorial board, including First Nations and Metis representatives, to review stories in the media and provide feedback to the producers and editors of stories on the portrayal of First Nations and Metis people.

Recommendation 7.4

This Commission recommends that the **Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation** take a lead role and work with other relevant government departments, agencies, and non-governmental organizations, along with representation from the First Nations and Metis communities, to coordinate and host an anti-racism conference to coincide with March 21, 2005, the annual day on which Saskatchewan supports the Elimination of Racism and the centenary of Saskatchewan. This conference should be offered by videoconference, wherever possible, to ensure northern communities can participate.

Recommendation 7.5

This Commission recommends that the **Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities and Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association**, along with representatives from the **Government of Saskatchewan, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and Metis Nation - Saskatchewan** establish a committee to coordinate anti-racism activities in the year 2005.



Recommendation 7.6

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** design and implement a media campaign which includes the use of public service announcements, as much as possible, September 2005, with the assistance of First Nations and Metis people, to achieve the objectives below:

- provide all citizens of Saskatchewan an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of First Nations and Metis peoples over the last 100 years of this provinces' development;
- establish a broad-based understanding of how to build and maintain constructive and positive relationships among First Nations, Metis and non-Aboriginal people; and
- assist individuals and communities to identify and eliminate inequities and barriers based on racial and cultural differences.

This public education strategy must go beyond 2005 and must include an evaluation component.

Recommendation 7.7

This Commission recommends that **every person**, and especially those in leadership positions, make a commitment to eliminate racism where it is present in day-to-day life.

CHAPTER 8 CHILDREN AND YOUTH: REALIZING POTENTIAL

Recommendation 8.1

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** initiate a study to determine the reasons for the high number of First Nations and Metis youth remanded to custody followed by a strategy to reduce these numbers by March 31, 2005.

Recommendation 8.2

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Saskatchewan** develop a mental health services plan to prevent and treat mental disorders among children and youth not involved in the youth justice system.

Recommendation 8.3

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada** meet its legal, fiscal and historical obligations to the education of First Nations people. This includes ensuring adequate funding for post secondary education and a commitment to engaging First Nations children and youth in achieving educational attainment both on and off-reserve.

Recommendation 8.4

This Commission recommends that the **partners in the Policy Framework for Saskatchewan's Education System** develop and deliver education outside the traditional school system to those not presently attending school between the ages of 6 and 16. This will require identification of these children and youth and subsequently finding creative means of ensuring their right to an education is respected.

Recommendation 8.5

This Commission endorses the direction of School^{Plus} but is concerned that without resources and a collaborative approach, School^{Plus} will not succeed. Therefore, it is recommended that the **Government of Saskatchewan** ensure that School^{Plus} is a priority and fully resourced.

Recommendation 8.6

This Commission recommends that **all urban municipalities** consider the need for transitional or orientation programs for First Nations and Metis youth who move from reserve or rural areas to the urban centres.

Recommendation 8.7

This Commission recommends that the **Government of Canada** consult with First Nations and Metis people to establish indicators of quality of life for 2004 for First Nations and Metis children in Saskatchewan's urban environments and that in 2009, these indicators be re-evaluated by investigating actions and initiatives undertaken to improve the quality of life of these children.



Recommendation 8.8

This Commission recommends that by April 1, 2005 the **Government of Canada** establish a Children's Advocate for Canada's First Nations and Metis children, reporting to Parliament, and accountable to First Nations and Metis people, with legislative authority to monitor and evaluate the impact of Canada's National Action Plan for Children, and be responsible to promote and protect the rights of First Nations and Metis children.

Recommendation 8.9

This Commission recommends that the **governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan**, in consultation with Saskatchewan's Children's Advocate, collectively review options to ensure that First Nations and Metis children, their families and their communities are afforded services and that advocacy services are provided in an accessible and culturally sensitive manner that respects their full human dignity.

Recommendation 8.10

This Commission recommends that **all governments** transcend jurisdictions in the best interest of our children and our collective futures by creating a Declaration that addresses relationships between jurisdictions and create long-term Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Children and Youth Action Plan.

Recommendation 8.11

This Commission recommends that **all governments** collaborate to sign a Declaration and create long-term Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Children and Youth Action Plans that transcend all jurisdictions in the best interests of our children and our collective future.

And that the Declaration be signed addressing the relationships between jurisdictions. The Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Children and Youth Action Plans must involve First Nations and Metis youth, and all levels of government to create holistic Action Plans that must include social and capital infrastructure projects.

These Action Plans are based on the principles of inclusion of First Nations and Metis children and youth, integrated services, involved communities and future focused.

Recommendation 8.12

This Commission recommends that the **Implementation Commissioner** be vested with the power and authority to monitor the development and implementation of the Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Children and Youth Action Plans.



CHAPTER 10 IMPLEMENTATION

Recommendation 10.1

This Commission recommends that **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Metis Nation – Saskatchewan** be required to report to their respective legislatures within six months of the release of this report on what action it has taken relating to the recommendations contained in this report.

Recommendation 10.2

This Commission recommends that **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians and the Metis Nation - Saskatchewan**, through discussions at a working group initiated by this Commission, jointly support and establish an Office of the Implementation Commissioner.

Recommendation 10.3

This Commission recommends that the Working Group consisting of **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation – Saskatchewan** continue to meet regularly following the release of this final report. Their objective should be to lead the way in the creation of an Office of the Implementation Commissioner by October 1, 2005.

Recommendation 10.4

This Commission recommends that the **Implementation Commissioner** be an independent officer who has inter-jurisdictional authority and will annually report to the respective Legislative Assemblies through an identified mechanism (a standing committee, a council, regional body or commission).

Recommendation 10.5

This Commission recommends that the **Implementation Commissioner** is appointed, by agreement of **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and Metis Nation – Saskatchewan** by April 1, 2005.

Recommendation 10.6

This Commission recommends that **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan** share the cost of establishing and operating this office with the percentage to be negotiated by these two levels of government.

Recommendation 10.7

This Commission recommends that in addition to the authority to execute a defined mandate, that adequate resources be provided by **the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan**, to the Implementation Commissioner to establish an office and a process to receive advice from others to ensure that the work of the Implementation Commissioner remains future focused and accountable to the community.

