

From: Sandra Moore <admin@nclga.ca>

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Subject: NCLGA Member Notice: Regional Centre of Excellence for Children and Youth in Northern BC, Request for Assistance

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Dear Members,

We are thrilled to share an exciting initiative in Northern British Columbia that could positively impact the lives of children and youth across our region.

BC Premier David Eby announced funding for a consultation process to design a regional Centre of Excellence for Children and Youth in Northern BC, led by the Lheidli T'enneh Nation. This project aims to create a comprehensive resource center accessible to all children and youth in our region.

To make this vision a reality, they need your help:

- § **Register for Virtual Introduction Sessions:** Participate in one of four introductory sessions from March 26th to 28th, 2024, to learn more and get involved. Register at <https://www.lheidli.ca/centre-of-excellence/>.
- § **Host Engagement Sessions:** Consider hosting an in-person or virtual engagement session to discuss potential programs and services for the Centre.
- § **Visit and Share the Project Webpage:** Explore and share the project webpage [<https://www.lheidli.ca/centre-of-excellence/>] to raise awareness and encourage participation.

About the Proposed Centre of Excellence:

The Centre aims to provide specialized services covering 69% of BC's landmass and nearly 60% of the Indigenous population, including assessments, mental health support, and substance use treatment.

Principles:

The Centre's services will be guided by principles of accessibility, integration, cultural safety, and a welcoming environment.

Why This Matters:

Northern BC families face long wait times for services, increasing demand for youth substance treatment, and significant mental health concerns among children and youth.

Join:

Join the dialogue on creating a Centre of Excellence for Children and Youth designed for and by the North.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Terry Robert
Executive Director
North Central Local Government Association