



Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**For Immediate Release**

**Via email and BCMF website**

**BC Métis Federation Declaration for BC Child Welfare**

**(Vancouver, BC)** The BC Métis Federation is proud to announce a major step towards self-governance with the first ever BC Métis Federation Child Welfare Declaration. The declaration defines the process to address all BC Métis Federation member child welfare needs.

BC Métis Federation President Keith Henry states; “I am very proud of the BC Métis Federation board and our Child Welfare Department for this work. We are informing children and family service agencies throughout British Columbia that if they are dealing with our members, they need to respect our process.”

BC Metis Federation President Henry concluded; “This is our right to self-govern for the best interests of our members in order to do better for our members and their families. The release of this declaration today provides an opportunity for a better future of Métis Child Welfare in BC. The BC Métis Federation will be responsible for any child whose family is in our membership within our community. This is in accordance with the United Nations Declaration of the Right of Indigenous Peoples and the Constitution of Canada 1982. “

To read the full BC Métis Federation Child Welfare Declaration go to the BC Métis Federation website [www.bcmétis.com](http://www.bcmétis.com)

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