

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) BETWEEN**

**THE BC METIS FEDERATION  
(Herein after referred to as BCMF)**

**AND**

**WHITE BUFFALO ABORIGINAL AND METIS HEALTH SOCIETY  
(Herein after referred to as WHITE BUFFALO)**

WHEREAS the White Buffalo Aboriginal and Métis Health Society is recognized by the BC Metis Federation as the official body to develop and deliver Metis child and family services and Métis health services for Métis in Region Three, British Columbia and

WHEREAS the BC Métis Federation and White Buffalo Aboriginal and Métis Health Society (herein after referred to as the Parties), agree to enter into this MOU with the intent of improving child and family services for Metis children, families and communities in Region Three in the Province of British Columbia, and

WHEREAS the Parties acknowledge that Metis communities have an inherent responsibility for their social well-being, family matters, child rearing and for the design and delivery of social and health services to their children and families, and

WHEREAS the Parties are committed to entering in to a process of planning and negotiations which will facilitate a working relationship to develop a multi phased process through which White Buffalo will undertake responsibility for the planning and delivery of social, developmental and health services to Metis children, families and individuals in Region 3.

WHEREAS the WHITE BUFFALO desires to further a cooperative planning relationship with the BCMF with respect to Metis children and families, and

WHEREAS the Parties mutually agree to promote and maintain a harmonious relationship in planning for Metis families at risk, children in need of protection and children in care, and health priorities

Therefore the Parties agree:

1. Collaborate on White Buffalo Aboriginal and Metis Health Society as it relates to Metis people in the Interior Region.
2. Support programming proposals that support the intent of this relationships
3. Ensure future health policies that affect Metis constituents in Kamloops and area have been properly consulted and reviewed prior to implementation.

4. The BCMF will advocate and promote Metis health and social wellbeing initiatives to the forefront with the federal and provincial governments, assist in the identification, recruitment, and capacity building of Metis child and family agencies, and do other things to promote the rights of Metis children and families.
5. The BCMF will support WHITE BUFFALO in its responsibility to establish operational and practice standards as a Metis agency in delivering child and family social and health services.
6. The BCMF will support the WHITE BUFFALO in securing funding to enable the WHITE BUFFALO to recruit funding to promote and facilitate social and health initiatives for Metis children and families within Region 3.
7. BCMF will not provide direct delivery of services to Metis children and families. WHITE BUFFALO with the assistance of the BCMF will assist when and where possible in the development advancement of WHITE BUFFALO Metis social and health services initiatives within Region 3.
8. WHITE BUFFALO will promote and preserve cultural identities for Metis children and families accessing social and health services.
9. The Parties agree to identify representatives to meet three times a year to review this MOU. Each Party will be responsible to cover their costs associated with these meetings.

Where a dispute arises between White Buffalo Aboriginal and Metis Health Society and the BC Metis Federation with respect to the interpretation, application or implementation of this Agreement, the matter shall be referred to the following dispute resolution process:

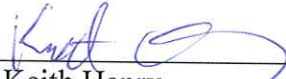
White Buffalo Aboriginal and Metis Health Society	BC Metis Federation
Stage One: President or Designate	President
Stage Two: WB Board of Directors	BC Metis Federation Board of Directors
Stage Three: Elders Committee	Elders Committee

- (a) Stage One – Three, Each party will select a representative with the authority to negotiate on behalf of the organization to fully discuss the matter to come to a mutually agreeable resolution within fifteen business days.
- (b) Upon notification by either party of the failure of the parties to come to a mutually agreeable resolution within fifteen business days, the matter shall be referred to a Dispute Resolution Committee consisting equal representation from each of the Parties, and a mutually agreed upon chairperson. This committee shall meet within three (3) working days of notification and the chairperson shall issue a report to the Parties within seven (7) working days. To facilitate this process the Parties may agree to a list of mutually agreed upon chairpersons.


(b) A decision by the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be binding to all Parties.


(c) The Parties agree that the application for the dispute resolution process will maintain the principle that the paramount interest is the safety and well being of the Métis children, families and community.

This Agreement comes into effect on this 22 day of September, 2012.

  
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Keith Henry  
PRESIDENT BCMF

  
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Witness

  
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Aruna Gore  
WHITE BUFFALO PRESIDENT

  
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Witness