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# Summary of Feedback on the Métis Judiciary from the Child and Family Services and Judiciary Collaborative Engagement Sessions

*held October 2025 to January 2026, Virtually and in Regions Across Saskatchewan*

*Prepared for the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan  
by Peacock Ink Ltd.  
March 2026*

## Background

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*In April 2019, the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly (MNLA) passed a resolution to initiate consultations on potential reforms to the Constitution of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (the “Constitution”). This work began later that year with the Voice of the People Consultation Sessions, and an interim update was presented at the fall 2019 MNLA.*

*Engagement resumed in 2022, with the Constitutional Reform Team conducting in-person and virtual sessions with Métis citizens across Saskatchewan. These discussions continued in 2023, focusing on priority governance topics, including citizenship, land, language, and MN-S governance structures. Feedback from these sessions was compiled in Constitutional Reform Consultation Session Summaries.*

*Discussions continued in March 2024 on amendments proposed to the Constitution and the Elections Act for consideration at the spring 2024 MNLA. Following MN-S’s April 2024 decision to withdraw from the Bill C-53 process, the engagement focus shifted to proposed amendments for consideration at the fall 2024 MNLA. Between March and December 2024, sessions were held on the structure, principles, and implementation of a proposed Judiciary Act.*

*Engagement sessions were also held from October 2023 to February 2024 to inform the development of a Child and Family Services (CFS) Model of Care, gathering perspectives from Métis citizens, community partners, and other stakeholders.*

*Building on this work, the MN-S hosted the CFS and Judiciary Collaborative Engagement Sessions from October 2025 to January 2026 to provide updates and gather further input on CFS initiatives, and to advance discussions on a Métis Judiciary grounded in Métis laws, values, and traditions.*

*During the 2025-2026 sessions, presentations were delivered on CFS initiatives and the development of a Métis Judiciary, followed by facilitated breakout discussions. MN-S staff documented feedback shared during these discussions.*

*This summary includes only feedback related to the Métis Judiciary, as feedback on CFS initiatives has been compiled separately by the CFS team.*

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*The comments summarized in this report are based on notes and information documented by MN-S staff who attended the engagement sessions.*

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# Overview

## *Summary of the 2025-2026 Sessions*

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The 2025-2026 Child and Family Services (CFS) and Judiciary Collaborative Engagement Sessions were scheduled in regions across Saskatchewan to provide updates and gather feedback on Métis Nation–Saskatchewan’s (MN-S) CFS initiatives, and to engage participants in discussions on the development of a Métis Judiciary.

The sessions began with MN-S representatives delivering a presentation titled “For Our Children, For Our Future”, which outlined CFS initiatives, including the development of a distinctions-based Model of Care for Métis children, youth, and families. An overview was also provided of prior engagements summarized in the “MN-S Ministry of Child and Family Services Community Report 2024-2025”<sup>1</sup>, and on progress made toward developing Métis CFS laws and dispute resolution mechanisms. Ongoing efforts to refine the Model of Care were reviewed, including continued engagement over the next three years to inform service delivery models and support coordination agreement negotiations with the Government of Canada.

Feedback shared during discussions following the CFS presentation has been compiled separately by the CFS team.

The second presentation, titled “Creating a Métis Judiciary”, invited participants to respond to a series of prepared questions and to share additional insights on the development of a Métis Judiciary and the draft legislation, “An Act respecting the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan Judicial Body and providing for settlement of disputes in accordance with the principles of Kwayaskastasowin” (the “Kwayaskastasowin Judiciary Act”)<sup>2</sup>.

Feedback related to the Métis Judiciary, shared during the discussions that followed, is summarized in the sections that follow.

### **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK ON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

During the engagement sessions, participants considered a series of questions and shared their perspectives on the development of a Métis Judiciary. The feedback below summarizes responses to these questions.

#### ***Trust and Fairness in the Judiciary***

During consideration of the question “*How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?*”, participants emphasized the importance of building trust in the Judiciary through transparent, consistent, and culturally grounded processes that reflect Métis values. They highlighted the need for clear communication, accessible information, and community engagement,

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<sup>1</sup> MN-S Ministry of Child and Family Services Community Report, 2024-2025.

[http://www.mns.ca/uploads/public/img/Offices & Ministries/Child & Family Services/CFS-External-Report-2025\\_Final.pdf](http://www.mns.ca/uploads/public/img/Offices & Ministries/Child & Family Services/CFS-External-Report-2025_Final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Information on a Métis Judiciary (Kwayaskastasowin) [www.ourmoment.ca/information/a-metis-Judiciary](http://www.ourmoment.ca/information/a-metis-Judiciary); and [www.mns.ca/uploads/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Kwayaskastasowin-A-Metis-Judiciary-Designed-with-Metis-People.pdf](http://www.mns.ca/uploads/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Kwayaskastasowin-A-Metis-Judiciary-Designed-with-Metis-People.pdf)

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including Elders, court workers, and family advocates, to support families and reduce intimidation. Strengthening connections between Locals and MN–S was seen as essential to ensuring ongoing community input and guidance. Participants also stressed the importance of accountability, fairness, and cultural competence, using restorative approaches and creating welcoming, inclusive environments to foster confidence in the Judiciary.

### ***Ensuring Judicial Independence and Impartiality***

After reviewing the question “How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?”, participants suggested that the Judiciary could remain unbiased and free from political influence by maintaining a clear separation from political bodies, excluding elected officials from judicial roles, and establishing transparent selection processes with defined eligibility, vetting, and conflict-of-interest policies. They emphasized the importance of involving Elders, community members, and neutral experts to provide cultural guidance and oversight, using checks and balances, accountability measures, and confidentiality safeguards to ensure fairness. Additionally, participants highlighted the need for community participation, transparent communication, and rotation or blind selection of members to prevent favouritism and build trust in the process.

### ***Creating Safe and Supportive Judiciary Environments***

During consideration of the question “How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?”, it was agreed that making the Judiciary safe and supportive for Métis families would require embedding Métis values, culture, and guidance from Elders or Knowledge Keepers throughout all processes. Participants recognized a need for trauma-informed, culturally competent, and ethical practices, along with transparent communication, clear procedures, and accessible supports to encourage trust and reduce stigma. They also highlighted the importance of providing welcoming, culturally expressive spaces, protecting privacy and confidentiality, prioritizing family-centred outcomes, and including community members and regional representatives to ensure the Judiciary reflected local needs.

### ***Focusing on Prevention and Restorative Approaches***

Participants considered the question “How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?”, and discussed how a Judiciary could focus on prevention and healing rather than punishment. It was suggested that, by integrating restorative justice, early intervention, and culturally informed guidance, families could be better supported to resolve issues, learn, and strengthen connections before problems escalate. Mentorship, land-based activities, and family-centered programs would help youth and caregivers navigate challenges while reinforcing positive behaviours, building trust, and promoting community engagement. Clear communication, transparency, and consistent culturally grounded practices would support an environment where families feel respected, safe, and empowered to take part in solutions that repair harm and prevent future involvement in the judicial system.

### ***Child Protection and Safeguards***

During consideration of the question “What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?”, participants acknowledged the importance of safe, stable, and culturally grounded environments, including child-friendly spaces, access to Elders and trusted advocates, and continuity of care within families or extended kin. Trauma-informed, age-appropriate practices were highlighted, giving children a voice and choice while balancing safety, privacy, and family dynamics. They emphasized the need for consistent, culturally competent support for families, coordinated services, and

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clear communication about rights and available resources, supported by oversight structures and trained staff to ensure confidentiality, accountability, and culturally guided decision-making.

### ***Protecting Children's Privacy***

During consideration of the question *"How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?"*, participants noted that children's privacy should be protected throughout the judicial process by focusing on the child's best interests, safety, age, and dignity at all times. They identified the importance of strict confidentiality grounded in existing privacy laws, secure and limited information sharing, careful management of disclosures in small communities, and clear consequences for breaches, along with trauma-informed, culturally grounded supports to allow children to share their perspectives safely and with appropriate guidance.

### ***Additional Feedback***

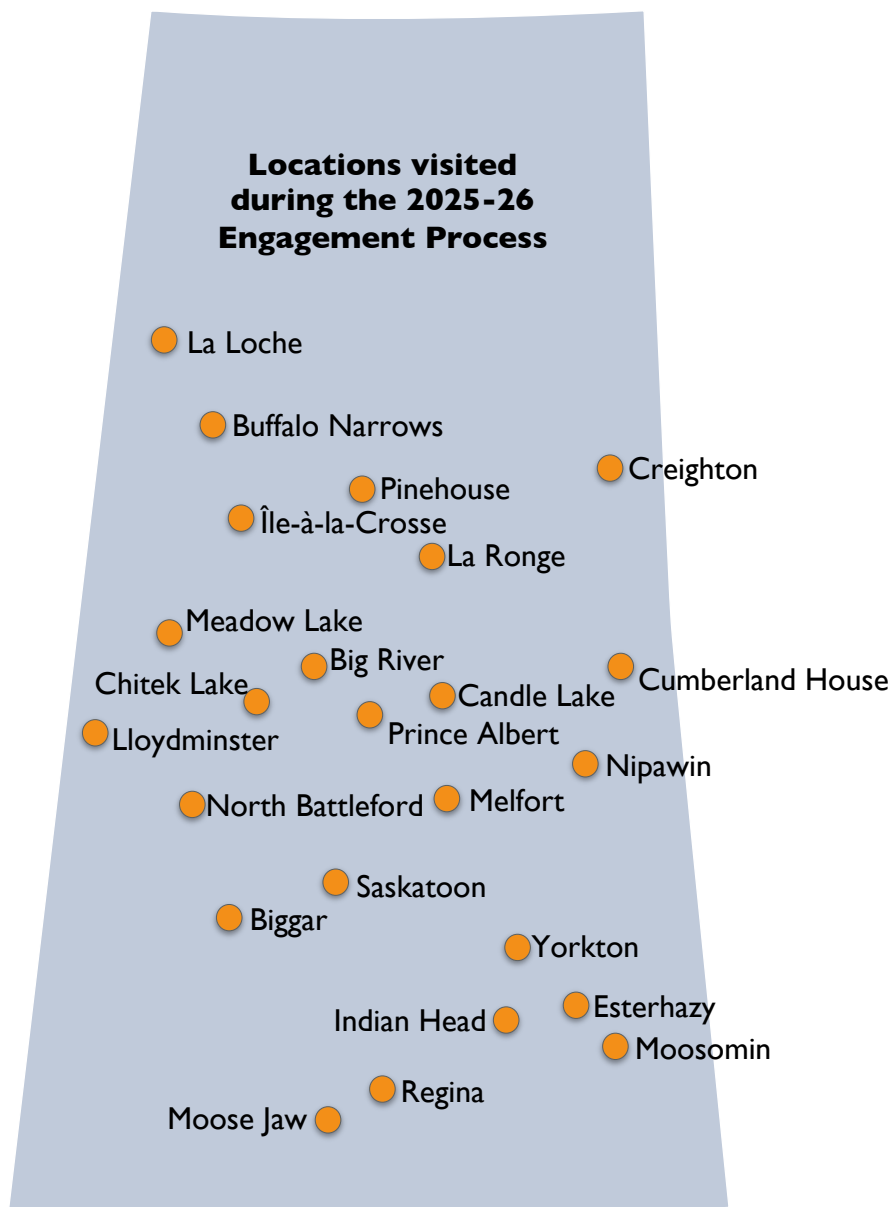
Participants raised a range of considerations related to the design, legitimacy, and operation of a Métis-led Judiciary. They stressed the importance of self-determination, community trust, cultural grounding, accessibility, transparency, accountability, and meaningful community involvement, at every stage. Discussions acknowledged the need for a system that is regionally representative, adaptable over time, aligned with provincial and federal laws, centered on children and families, grounded in restorative approaches, and supported by clear education, timelines, appeal mechanisms, and safeguards to ensure independence, fairness, and broad confidence among Métis citizens.

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## Map of Engagement Session Locations

*Community and Virtual Sessions Scheduled*

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**28**

### Sessions Held

Sessions were held virtually and in MN-S Regions.

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**4**

### Virtual Sessions

Virtual sessions were scheduled but were not attended.

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**263**

### Participants

Approximately 263 participants attended the 2025-2026 Collaborative Engagement Sessions.

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# Northern Region 1

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Candle Lake – October 4, 2025 (4 participants)
  - La Ronge – October 5, 2025 (20 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Northern Region 1 and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, independence, accessibility, cultural safety, and the protection of children and families.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

**1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***

- Ensure transparency and clarity by establishing clear, well-defined processes and expectations communicated in accessible and understandable language
- Promote fairness and consistency through standardized procedures, predictable decision-making, and checks and balances to minimize bias
- Build trust through engagement and education by engaging directly with families and communities and creating opportunities for discussion and learning about the Judiciary
- Strengthen impartiality and credibility by involving qualified individuals, including external members where appropriate and clearly defining Judiciary member qualifications that balance education and practical experience
- Demonstrate compassion and cultural sensitivity by ensuring all interactions are respectful, culturally informed, and responsive to the needs of participants.

**2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***

- Establish an independent Judiciary structure with clear separation from political bodies, including the executive and legislative branches and clarify its operating level and governance structure
- Implement transparent and impartial selection processes with clear eligibility criteria, vetting interviews, and jury-style appointment mechanisms to minimize bias
- Identify, manage, and require withdrawal for conflicts of interest, including family, business, or other personal relationships
- Ensure balanced and diverse representation by including members from different regions, Elders, and qualified external individuals with no personal ties to participants while balancing formal education and lived experience
- Clearly define oversight and appointment authorities and allow for community participation in member selection while safeguarding the process from political influence.

**3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***

- Protect privacy and confidentiality through clear rules that uphold participants' rights and create a safe environment
- Ensure accessibility and support by providing simple, easy-to-navigate processes and multiple points of access, including culturally grounded supports and Knowledge Keepers
- Build trust and promote well-being by centring compassion, transparency, cultural safety, and outcomes that prioritize the best interests of children.

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**4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

- Emphasize prevention by supporting families through early intervention education and comprehensive programs that address issues before they escalate
- Focus on restoration rather than punishment by prioritizing compassion, accountability, and actions that repair harm and set things right.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Ensure children's safety and stability by prioritizing safe placements, continuity of care, and access to protective supports such as safe houses, counselling, and mentorship
- Apply trauma-informed and age-appropriate safeguards by involving children only when safe, offering them appropriate choices and a degree of control
- Integrate Métis culture, language, and family roles while balancing the diverse needs of families and upholding the rights of grandparents to access supports and services
- Tailor interventions to each family's circumstances and ensure consistent follow-through, coordination, and continuity of services.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Protect children's privacy by adhering to existing laws and regulations concerning minors and creating no unnecessary new procedures
- Provide counseling and support to help children manage any potential negative impacts from public knowledge of their family circumstances.

***Additional Comments:***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Establish clear timelines, milestones, and transparent processes to keep citizens informed and prevent delays
- Define the Judiciary's role within MN-S governance, including its relationship with other branches, and ensuring accountability and regional representation
- Provide comprehensive education, training, and support to ensure understanding of the system and enable Métis citizens to assume specialized roles
- Address cultural, spiritual, and family considerations, including mixed-family dynamics, Métis caregiving, and coordination with First Nations under Bill C-92
- Ensure the Judiciary remains independent, accessible, and fair; include a transparent appeal process that maintains legal rigor without discouraging participation.

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## Northern Region 2

*Engagements were scheduled at the following communities:*

- La Loche – October 4, 2025 (0 attendees)
- Buffalo Narrows – October 5, 2025 (2 attendees)<sup>3</sup>

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No comments were received.

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<sup>3</sup> The *Creating a Métis Judiciary* engagement session did not proceed in Buffalo Narrows due to the absence of citizen participants. Two elected officials attended an informal discussion; however, the presentation was not delivered and the session did not generate feedback for inclusion in this report.

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## Northern Region 3

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Pinehouse – October 2, 2025 (15 participants)
  - Île-à-la-Crosse – November 15, 2025 (10 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Northern Region 3 and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, independence, accessibility, cultural safety, privacy, and the protection of children and families.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

**1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***

- Ensure the Judiciary reflects both family and community perspectives, including individuals knowledgeable about family dynamics and community Elders or guides for children
- Create a welcoming and inclusive environment with spaces and processes that foster dialogue, transparency, and equitable decision-making
- Clearly define the Judiciary's supportive mandate and use accessible language to communicate procedures and expectations to families
- Build trust through consistent, accountable actions highlighting success stories and educating families about judicial processes
- Recognize regional and historical differences, prioritize engagement gradually, and demonstrate reliability by following through on commitments.

**2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***

- Empower communities to lead solutions and have input in decisions while respecting their voices and building trust
- Implement clear checks and balances with defined responsibilities to maintain impartiality
- Exclude individuals holding political titles and involve Ethics Committees to ensure unbiased decision-making
- Use comprehensive screening and selection processes, including clear job descriptions, statements of intent, demonstrated competencies, and grounding in Métis identity, culture, and values
- Develop local capacity by investing in regional community members and balancing familiarity with external perspectives in cases involving children.

**3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***

- Include Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the process to provide guidance and cultural grounding
- Maintain privacy and confidentiality by educating community members on discretion and holding individuals accountable for breaches
- Assign designated local individuals to foster familiarity, trust, and consistent support in each community
- Promote awareness and accessibility by clearly communicating the Judiciary's name, process, location, and how families can access it.

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**4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

- Focus on prevention by identifying high-risk families, implementing early intervention practices, and providing comprehensive community-based supports
- Prioritize restoration over punishment by addressing issues without bias and avoiding punitive measures.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Implement a child-focused model with advocates, Knowledge Keepers, trauma-informed processes, and meaningful involvement of individuals with lived experience
- Create a welcoming and child-friendly environment that is accessible, comfortable, and culturally grounded, including home-like settings and casual attire
- Keep children informed and supported throughout the process with representation in hearings, counseling, and attention to basic needs
- Maintain privacy and accountability in small communities through education on discretion, careful personnel selection, and structured panels or dispute resolution mechanisms.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Carefully select individuals responsible for appointing the Judiciary team to ensure accountability and appropriate oversight
- Protect children's privacy by sharing information only with their support network and providing guidance from trusted individuals
- Include perspectives of children with lived experience and ensure safeguards against negative consequences from shared information
- Use structured panels, including Elders, community members, and individuals with lived experience to balance fairness and confidentiality.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Provide targeted support for high-risk individuals, including dedicated workers in each community
- Clarify that MN-S does not have jurisdiction over criminal matters
- Rebuild trust within communities, including opportunities for citizens to hear testimonials to demonstrate fairness in the Judiciary
- Value bilingualism, Elder guidance, and inclusive naming to ensure cultural relevance and resonance.

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## Eastern Region 1

*Engagements were scheduled at the following communities:*

- Creighton – October 26, 2025 (0 attendees)
- Cumberland House – Cancelled

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No comments were received.

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## Eastern Region 2

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Melfort – November 15, 2025 (6 participants)
  - Nipawin – November 16, 2025 (6 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Eastern Region 2 and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, cultural safety, the protection of children and families, transparency, accountability, prevention and restoration, and self-determination.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

- 1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***
  - Build trust through transparent Métis-led processes that are grounded in Métis values and demonstrated through consistent actions rather than assurances
  - Provide clear and accessible information, education, and guidance so families understand processes, expectations, and what happens at each stage
  - Maintain confidentiality and consistent communication to ensure families feel secure, informed, and respected throughout their involvement
  - Strengthen connections between Locals and MN–S to ensure communities are equipped to support families and incorporate ongoing community input.
- 2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***
  - Prevent bias by identifying and removing conflicts of interest and ensuring elected officials have no role in the Judiciary
  - Maintain clear separation between political and judicial processes while strengthening existing rules and structures rather than creating new systems
  - Engage Elders as neutral cultural anchors with clearly defined roles and qualifications while addressing access gaps across communities
  - Uphold confidentiality and establish realistic role boundaries to protect families and maintain the integrity and credibility of the process.
- 3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***
  - Build trust and safety through transparent communication, consistent engagement, and efforts to remove stigma around seeking help
  - Ensure culturally grounded practice by providing training for Social Workers and involving community members in decision-making
  - Protect children’s well-being by maintaining their access to family and Métis culture as a core principle of the process.
- 4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***
  - Prioritize upstream prevention by promoting early guidance, support, and awareness of existing preventive services

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- Encourage accountability through self-reflection and behaviour change without relying on punitive measures
  - Strengthen trust and self-determination by addressing gaps in existing laws and establishing a clear and effective judicial system.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Safeguard family privacy to foster a safe environment where they can seek support.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Strictly protect children's privacy while educating families and communities on how privacy is upheld throughout the judicial process.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Considerations that apply across all the engagement questions:
  - o Strengthening community engagement, communication, and collaboration between MN–S, Locals, and citizens
  - o Acknowledging low trust and rebuilding confidence through transparency, respect, and inclusive decision-making
  - o Supporting foster families, restorative approaches, accountability, and consistent, respectful treatment of children
  - o Recognizing cultural traditions, Elders' guidance, community distinctions, and promoting positive, respectful interactions
- Acknowledge the importance of self-determination, trust, and culturally grounded systems for individuals and the broader Métis community
- Ensure systems reflect Métis values, protect families, and balance structure with cultural guidance
- Strengthen community engagement, communication, and collaboration through Town Halls and inclusive participation
- Promote restorative approaches, accountability, respect, and intergenerational guidance within communities
- Build systems collaboratively while revitalizing culture, and recognize community distinctions to create practical, relevant processes.

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## Eastern Region 2A

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Esterhazy – November 29, 2025 (12 participants)
  - Yorkton – November 30, 2025 (8 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Eastern Region 2A and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, cultural safety, the protection of children and families, transparency, accountability, impartiality, and community engagement.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

- 1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***
  - Provide advocates for children and adults, and create safe, welcoming environments, including Elders and language interpreters to support participants
  - Use Restorative Justice and fair, transparent processes to build trust and ensure resolutions are perceived as just
  - Communicate clearly through informational materials, videos, and plain-language guides so families understand the Judiciary and what to expect
  - Reduce intimidation by ensuring staff interactions in homes or community spaces are approachable and emphasize consistent positive experiences to earn trust over time.
- 2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***
  - Include community members and Elders on the Judiciary while excluding politicians to ensure impartiality and cultural guidance
  - Use blind applications, provide training for Métis participants, and rotate panel members to reduce bias and build capacity
  - Create culturally supportive and safe processes with language supports, individual assistance, and familiar community settings for children and adults
  - Maintain accountability and safety by clarifying leadership roles and providing protections for Judiciary members
  - Involve Métis citizens in the selection process and use accessible local locations or mobile units to build trust, legitimacy, and privacy.
- 3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***

No feedback was provided.
- 4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

No feedback was provided.

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**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Protect children through trauma-informed care with trained Métis staff and involvement of Elders in the process
- Maintain strict confidentiality with high standards and provide staff training on privacy, especially in smaller communities.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

No feedback was provided.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Offer naming options and design terminology that reflects community preferences and cultural relevance
- Increase accessibility through regional or mobile Judiciary units supported by trained professionals, mediators, and legal teams
- Ensure alignment with provincial and federal laws while incorporating Métis governance perspectives
- Engage communities directly, facilitate funding, and build trust by involving community voices in the Judiciary's design and operation.

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## Eastern Region 3

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following session:*

- *Moosomin – October 18, 2025 (7 participants)*
  - *Indian Head – October 19, 2025 (13 participants)*
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Eastern Region 3, and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, transparency, cultural safety, child protection, fairness and impartiality, supportive environments, preventive and restorative practices, and accessibility.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

- 1. How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***
  - Demonstrate reliability by following through on commitments and providing accurate, consistent information and clear communication
  - Use open-ended questions and explore issues beyond surface-level concerns to gain a deeper understanding while listening attentively and avoiding assumptions
  - Convey genuine concern and foster a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment
  - Maintain a transparent and accessible process with ongoing feedback, community engagement, and clear communication to keep families informed.
- 2. How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***
  - Maintain the Judiciary's independence by keeping it separate from political influence and ensuring program design and operations remain impartial
  - Approach all family situations with openness and focus on the facts of each case, avoiding judgment or assumptions
  - Actively identify and address potential biases, including gender or cultural biases, to uphold fairness and equality throughout proceedings
  - Involve the community in selecting members and include Elders, experts, and local representatives to strengthen credibility, cultural relevance, and trust.
- 3. How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***
  - Integrate Métis staff and Elders or Knowledge Keepers to provide cultural guidance and ensure the Judiciary reflects community values
  - Staff the Judiciary with competent, principled members who follow consistent practices and uphold high ethical standards
  - Design spaces that feel welcoming and culturally expressive, incorporating art, warmth, and a sense of belonging
  - Make the environment accessible and supportive for children and youth, including sensory-friendly areas and opportunities for engagement and participation.

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**4. How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?**

- Take a proactive, person-centered approach that focuses on understanding circumstances and supporting healing rather than imposing punishment
- Foster trust through clear communication, transparency, and consistent engagement, helping families feel safe and supported
- Use structured frameworks like triage, mediation, and prevention programs to address underlying needs and provide ongoing guidance and aftercare
- Engage the community early to provide culturally grounded support, collective problem-solving, and continuity of care with familiar staff.

**5. What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?**

- Provide children with trusted support from Elders, family, and a designated Children's Advocate, creating safe, approachable, and child-friendly spaces
- Uphold privacy and confidentiality through adherence to the *Privacy Act*, culturally respectful handling of information, and plain-language communication to reduce intimidation
- Offer counselling, emotional support, and guidance for children, parents, and grandparents to promote understanding, healing, and empowerment
- Ensure caregivers and service providers are properly trained and vetted and provide options such as physical separation when testifying while balancing the child's voice and perspective.

**6. How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?**

- Train caregivers and CFS partners on confidentiality, accessibility, and culturally grounded care to protect children's privacy
- Uphold strict confidentiality through adherence to privacy laws, clear reporting guidelines, and service agreements while tailoring protections to each child's needs
- Strengthen accountability by thoroughly investigating concerns, following up consistently, and prioritizing support over immediate removal
- Provide accessible tools, ongoing counselling, life skills programs, and trauma-informed supports that extend beyond age 18 to promote long-term safety, healing, and stability.

**Additional Comment**

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comment was gathered:

- Ensure accessibility by providing hard copies of the Judiciary report for those without internet access.

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## Western Region 1

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following session:*

- Meadow Lake – October 18, 2025 (6 participants)
  - Chitek Lake – October 19, 2025 (13 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Western Region 1, and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, cultural safety, child protection, fairness and impartiality, transparency, supportive environments, prevention and restoration, and consistency across communities.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

- 1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***
  - Reduce intimidation by using plain language, casual dress, and accessible, community-based settings
  - Provide culturally competent support through Elders, court workers, and active Métis involvement in the process
  - Build trust and fairness by promoting cultural awareness and facilitating mobile or roundtable Judiciary models.
- 2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***
  - Maintain impartiality through clear roles, accountability, confidentiality agreements, specialized training, and safeguards against political influence
  - Support culturally safe, inclusive environments with Métis and Indigenous visual elements, language access, and allowance for cultural practices like smudging
  - Ensure Judiciary members are culturally competent, supported by Elders, approachable, and receive therapeutic support to maintain well-being and fairness.
- 3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***
  - Create a safe and supportive environment by incorporating trauma-informed approaches, appeal processes, and transparent, fair practices
  - Establish regional Judiciary committees and ensure consistency of practices across communities
  - Clearly define the Judiciary's role, responsibilities, and whether it is fact-finding to promote understanding and trust.
- 4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***
  - Focus on prevention and healing by using restorative justice and family-centered approaches that encourage dialogue and reconciliation rather than punishment.
- 5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***
  - Prioritize placing children within extended families to ensure safety and stability
  - Give children a meaningful voice by consulting them and engaging one-on-one
  - Use open-ended questions to understand children's perspectives and enhance their participation.

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**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Maintain strict confidentiality through protocols, oaths, and training for panel members on handling sensitive information
- Address breaches of confidentiality seriously, using measures such as restorative family processes when needed
- Protect identities in discussions by using anonymized scenarios and carefully managing privacy concerns, especially in small communities.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Consider the scope of the Judiciary, including whether a single body will handle all matters and how cases transition from CFS resolutions
- Establish an appeal process and reference existing judicial precedents to guide decisions
- Ensure consistency across Judiciary Committees in different communities.

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## Western Region 1A

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Lloydminster – November 1, 2025 (0 participants)
  - North Battleford – November 2, 2025 (12 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Western Region 1A and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, transparency, cultural guidance, autonomy and independence, child protection, confidentiality, supportive environments, prevention and guidance, and clarity of roles and responsibilities.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

- 1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***
  - Support and educate families through mentorship while ensuring their voices are heard clearly throughout the process
  - Maintain transparency in decisions and procedures and involve Métis communities in defining roles, responsibilities, and cultural practices
  - Adjust policies to address families' unique challenges, including financial barriers and access to grants or supports.
- 2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***
  - Prevent political interference by ensuring that the Judiciary remains autonomous and independent.
- 3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***
  - Maintain confidentiality and provide clear, accessible information so families can seek help without fear
  - Build trust and support by raising awareness, demonstrating the system's support, and responding promptly to inquiries.
- 4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***
  - Prioritize prevention and guidance by offering Métis parenting education, workshops, and parent partnering to support families and reduce future system involvement.
- 5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***
  - Prioritize the child's needs by ensuring their voice is heard in a safe, supportive environment with access to a trusted adult
  - Provide welcoming, child-friendly spaces and allow multiple meetings to build comfort and trust.
- 6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***
  - Protect children's confidentiality by keeping identities private and ensuring all participants are trained to maintain professional boundaries
  - Include neutral individuals from other communities and assign backup members to allow children to speak freely and safely.

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***Additional Comment***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comment was gathered:

- Clarify who is responsible for enforcing Judiciary-related laws and whether there is a set timeline for addressing these issues.

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## Western Region 2

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Prince Albert – October 3, 2025 (50 participants)
  - Big River – October 26, 2025 (6 participants)
  - Prince Albert Regional Office – Cancelled
- 

The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Western Region 2 and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, transparency, accountability, cultural grounding, family and child safety, accessibility, restorative and preventive approaches, impartiality, confidentiality, and community engagement.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

**1. How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?**

- Build trust by providing families with clear, accessible explanations of the Judiciary's structure, processes, and decision-making
- Ensure appointments are transparent and ethical, prioritizing experienced and accountable individuals while preventing nepotism
- Support families with services, including therapy, parenting programs, and community education
- Involve the community through a representative Judiciary and an oversight committee to maintain fairness, accountability, and a clear appeals process
- Ground the Judiciary in Métis cultural values, emphasizing respect, honor, and inclusion, while maintaining diverse and meaningful representation
- Offer services in neutral, accessible spaces and maintain ongoing communication and engagement to reinforce trust despite challenges like local politics or social media influences.

**2. How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?**

- Require recusal from cases with personal or family connections and establish clear professional boundaries to prevent conflicts of interest
- Maintain meaningful Métis representation while keeping elected officials in defined roles with accountability, ensuring the Judiciary operates independently from political influence
- Increase transparency by providing accessible information on processes, structure, and decision-making, and involve neutral observers when needed to maintain impartiality
- Enforce consistent conflict of interest policies, prohibit involvement of MN–S executive or legal teams in judicial matters, and ensure participation is based on expertise and fairness
- Rebuild community trust by demonstrating fairness, consistency, and reliability, and provide neutral locations or mediation options to reduce bias and create a supportive environment.

**3. How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?**

- Prioritize family unity and safety by conducting thorough investigations before child removal and offering culturally informed, trauma-sensitive guidance
- Increase awareness and accessibility of services through community outreach, hospitals, helplines, social media, and free legal or procedural support
- Ensure Métis representation across the system, with trained liaisons or navigators acting as intermediaries to guide families and support culturally informed practices

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- Create welcoming, safe, and culturally grounded physical spaces for families to meet with Elders and relatives, fostering trust, inclusion, and rapport
  - Embed Métis values into legislation, policies, programs, and preventive support, while requiring staff and mediators to uphold ethical, trauma-informed, and bias-aware practices.

**4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

- Provide mentorship, guidance, and support for youth and caregivers, helping families navigate systems while emphasizing culturally informed, restorative practices
- Prioritize prevention and early intervention by addressing root causes and encouraging engagement in healthy, culturally relevant activities
- Develop policies and legislation grounded in restorative justice that balance rehabilitation with safety for children, families, and the community
- Maintain open, consistent, and culturally informed communication while providing staff and stakeholders with cultural training and education.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Adopt a case-by-case, trauma-informed approach that prioritizes children's safety, well-being, and individual needs
- Incorporate input from children, foster parents, community supports, and Elders to ensure decisions reflect cultural guidance and family-centred care
- Provide child advocates or representatives and opportunities for safe participation so children's voices are heard and respected
- Support families through parenting programs, therapy, and consistent engagement while enabling children to move forward positively and constructively.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Maintain strict confidentiality of children's identities, locations, and statements to protect safety and encourage honest participation
- Provide a designated confidential advocate for children to share their perspectives and relay information privately to the Judiciary
- Ensure caregivers, foster families, and staff understand privacy responsibilities and limit unnecessary disclosure of personal information
- Implement secure record-keeping and allow children to have input on who can access their records and statements.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Recognize cultural considerations around the name Kwayaskastasowin, including the need for explanation and sensitivity to other nations' languages
- Consider staffing requirements, ensuring Métis representation while preventing politicization and maintaining accountability
- Establish realistic timelines for creating the Judiciary and clarify the function, fairness, and accountability of penalties
- Support youth transitioning to adulthood through case-by-case approaches, wraparound services, and system navigation
- Address housing and social service concerns, including affordable housing availability, community access, and permanency planning options.

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## Western Region 2A

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following session:*

- Biggar – November 1, 2025 (10 participants)
  - Saskatoon – November 2, 2025 (19 participants)<sup>4</sup>
  - Saskatoon – January 25, 2026 (12 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Western Region 2A and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, transparency, cultural grounding, fairness, accountability, prevention and restoration, child and family advocacy, and community engagement.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

**1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***

- Foster confidence in the Judiciary through relationship-building approaches that emphasize care, responsibility, and cultural guidance rather than blame or punishment
- Normalize the Judiciary within everyday community life by increasing visibility, in-person engagement, and opportunities for people to become familiar with how it works
- Support fairness by combining local knowledge with independent perspectives and allowing decisions to reflect the circumstances of each community rather than a rigid, one-size-fits-all model
- Strengthen legitimacy by clearly presenting the Judiciary as a Métis-led system shaped by community voices and values, distinct from provincial structures
- Build a community-based, culturally grounded Judiciary that is supportive, accessible, transparent, knowledgeable, inclusive of women and balanced in representation, and trusted through strong relationships with MN–S and provincial CFS.

**2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***

- Promote balanced decision-making by involving multiple participants with varied perspectives, including at least one individual who is independent of the parties involved to mitigate bias
- Strengthen fairness and legitimacy through clear preparation, shared expectations, and meaningful community participation, while limiting the role of current political officeholders to avoid conflicts of interest
- Safeguard independence through transparent funding arrangements, open information-sharing, and the inclusion of experienced former leaders without compromising political neutrality
- Ensure the Judiciary is transparent, accountable, and trusted through clear processes, safeguards, and community-based models like Infinity House.

**3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***

- Build confidence and safety by clearly communicating available supports, protecting confidentiality, and grounding all processes in Métis culture with guidance from Elders

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<sup>4</sup> The *Creating a Métis Judiciary* presentation was deferred.

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- Promote collective responsibility and trust by including diverse Métis perspectives from across regions and lived experiences within the Judiciary
  - Reduce disruption for families and children by adapting processes to contemporary family realities and using feedback and liaisons to support meaningful engagement
  - Provide families and children with guidance, advocacy, legal support, and consistent wraparound services, focusing on prevention, healing, and restoration rather than punishment.

**4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

- Strengthen cultural connection and community engagement for youth through land-based activities, mentorship, and opportunities to express needs and interests
- Focus on early intervention and proactive support, directing at-risk individuals toward mediation, culturally grounded programs, and recognition initiatives before issues escalate
- Reinforce positive behaviour and learning by integrating traditional parenting approaches with modern guidance and celebrating achievements
- Design the Judiciary around prevention, healing, and restoration, with wraparound supports, clear advocacy roles, a strong code of ethics, Métis participation, Elder involvement, and sensitivity to blended Métis–First Nations families.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Establish a balanced and neutral council with both Métis and non-Métis members, supported by culturally competent staff and professionals trained to represent children’s perspectives
- Keep children with family when safe, preserving cultural identity, trust, and continuity, while providing clear information about their rights and available supports
- Implement neutral, age-appropriate processes that give children a voice and guide decision-making based on their capacity and stage of development.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Protect children’s privacy by restricting information to those who need it, maintaining confidentiality, and handling any necessary separation with care, cultural sensitivity, and compassion
- Ensure the child’s best interests remain central, supported by ongoing training and education for staff and community members on legal, cultural, and procedural responsibilities
- Establish safeguards to protect children, ensure their privacy, consider speaking with them separately, and acknowledge the complexity of defining exact measures.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Broaden community engagement and seek input from citizens across all regions to inform decisions
- Recognize the central role of children and youth, and apply a case-by-case approach to maturity and Métis adoption processes
- Ensure the Judiciary is trusted, accessible, and supportive by strengthening transparency, communication, regional decision-making, and grounding processes in lived experience
- Support families through advocacy, legal assistance, a strong code of ethics, clear timelines, and online accessibility for citizens.

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## Western Region 3

*Feedback provided by participants on the topics presented at the following sessions:*

- Moose Jaw – November 29, 2025 (10 participants)
  - Regina – December 13, 2025 (22 participants)
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The following summarizes feedback gathered during engagement sessions held in Western Region 3 and highlights key policy considerations to inform the development of a Métis Judiciary, including trust, fairness, cultural grounding, accountability, prevention and restorative practices, child and family advocacy, and community engagement.

During facilitated breakout discussions, attendees provided feedback in response to the following questions:

**1. *How can we help families trust the Judiciary to address their matters fairly and in a good way?***

- Build trust by giving families time to engage with the Judiciary, observe its operations, and understand how decisions are made
- Strengthen community support through connections between Locals and MN–S and by involving Elders and community leaders in guidance and decision-making
- Provide independent support teams with lived experience to assist families while maintaining impartiality
- Maintain clear, transparent, and educational communications that emphasize fairness, accountability, and collaboration.

**2. *How can we ensure that the Judiciary is unbiased and free from political influence?***

- Strengthen existing rules and structures while establishing clear roles, responsibilities, and boundaries to guide the Judiciary
- Ensure broad and inclusive representation, including Elders, citizens, and neutral advocates, to reflect diverse perspectives
- Exclude political leaders and separate the Judiciary from MN–S political structures while recognizing limited unavoidable influences
- Promote transparency, accountability, and ethical practice through conflict-of-interest measures, enforceable codes of conduct, and ethics training.

**3. *How can we make the Judiciary a safe and supportive environment for Métis families to seek help?***

- Build trust and reduce stigma through transparent, consistent communication and respectful dialogue
- Ground the Judiciary in Métis traditions, cultural knowledge, and community-based practices
- Create safe, welcoming spaces and involve the community in decision-making to ensure processes meet local needs.

**4. *How does a Métis Judiciary prioritize prevention and setting things right, rather than punishing?***

- Focus on prevention by ensuring participants understand and can access existing services before issues escalate
- Balance proactive and reactive approaches, addressing underlying needs rather than relying solely on punitive measures

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- Maintain integrity and fairness through clear conflict-of-interest policies and formal procedures for enforcement.

**5. *What safeguards would have to be put in place to ensure children are protected in the Judiciary?***

- Resolve matters locally when possible and establish trusted decision-makers that families can rely on
- Maintain confidentiality as a core principle, with special attention to protecting children's privacy
- Oversee the Judiciary through an advisory board with regional representation to ensure accountability and transparency.

**6. *How should children's privacy be protected throughout a Judicial process?***

- Protect children's information through strict privacy measures and careful handling of all records and communications
- Provide trusted adults or representatives to support the child and ensure their views are heard safely
- Balance engagement with necessary supports while prioritizing the child's rights, dignity, and best interests.

***Additional Comments***

In addition to responses to the prepared questions, the following comments were gathered:

- Provide bullet-point summaries of each engagement alongside the full report so regions can compare perspectives, identify commonalities, and inform decision-making
- Offer age-appropriate information and early engagement to help families and children understand the Judiciary process
- Offer individuals the choice between local or provincial panels to balance familiarity, impartiality, and reduce biases
- Structure the Judiciary with multiple elected Chief Justices and community representatives to ensure broad regional representation and prevent concentrated authority
- Build Métis trust in the system, reflect community feedback in terminology, and position the Judiciary as a mediation mechanism
- Develop unique legislation for the Judiciary and CFS, with clear investigation, appeals, and follow-up processes aligned with provincial, federal, and privacy laws.

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## Virtual Sessions

*The following engagements were scheduled:*

- Videoconference – October 22, 2025 (0 participants)
- Videoconference – November 5, 2025 (0 participants)
- Videoconference – November 10, 2025 (0 participants)
- Videoconference – November 19, 2025 (0 participants)

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Virtual sessions were scheduled; no participants attended.

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# Summary of Key Themes

*Gathered during the 2025-2026 Engagement Sessions*

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The following reflects recurring issues and considerations raised by participants during the 2025–2026 Engagement Sessions and indicates where participants shared similar perspectives.

## ***Judiciary Composition and Roles***

- Ensure participant composition reflects both family and community perspectives, including Elders, Knowledge Keepers, guides, and those with experience in family dynamics
- Define the Judiciary's mandate as supportive and restorative rather than punitive, with a clear and accessible purpose
- Select personnel with relevant experience and cultural knowledge, rather than focusing on experience and training in the colonial system
- Implement transparent selection processes with conflict-of-interest safeguards, including recusal where needed
- Establish clear qualifications for members that balance formal education, practical experience, and lived Métis experience
- Rotate panel members and include external experts to maintain impartiality and reduce bias
- Provide ongoing training, mentorship, and Elder involvement to strengthen competencies and accountability.

## ***Child- and Family-Centred Supports***

- Engage children consistently through visits, communication with teachers and therapists, and ongoing check-ins to ensure their needs and perspectives are understood
- Implement trauma-informed practices that minimize stress and involve trusted family members, Elders, and community supports
- Protect children's privacy through confidential communication channels, secure file handling, and designated support persons
- Empower children to participate safely and age-appropriately; provide advocacy and opportunities to express their perspectives
- Offer stable placements, safe houses, counselling, mentorship, and life-skills programs to support emotional, psychological, and cultural well-being
- Engage families early to provide education, guidance, and understanding of Judiciary processes, helping them navigate the system confidently
- Offer neutral, community-based spaces for meetings and programs, integrating Elders, parenting workshops, mentorship, and culturally relevant supports
- Build trust with families and communities through clear, consistent communication, transparency, and culturally grounded practices.

## ***Transparency and Trust in the Judiciary***

- Ensure all processes and decisions are clear, understandable, and accessible to participants
- Provide education and outreach so families and communities understand roles, expectations, and outcomes
- Share information about appointments, procedures, and accountability to rebuild confidence

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- Use open dialogue, roundtables, and community-based sessions to strengthen trust
  - Offer clear explanations of decisions, including appeal and complaint mechanisms
  - Maintain transparency in recruitment, selection, oversight, and disciplinary actions
  - Demonstrate consistency, fairness, and cultural sensitivity to promote legitimacy and credibility.

#### ***Early Support and Restorative Approaches***

- Prioritize early intervention and strengths-based supports to address root causes rather than reacting only to crises
- Encourage healthy, culturally relevant activities and education to support family well-being
- Provide preventive services, including accessible legal guidance, after-hours support, and outreach to communities
- Support families through community-based programs that reinforce Métis values and identity
- Integrate restorative justice principles in disputes to repair harm constructively
- Balance the need for consequences with therapeutic alternatives, avoiding reliance on mainstream incarceration
- Promote equity and discretion in handling citizen-driven and government-related matters.

#### ***Cultural Safety and Métis Identity***

- Ground all processes in Métis values, traditions, and restorative justice principles
- Include Elders and Knowledge Keepers as neutral guides and cultural anchors
- Provide culturally safe, welcoming spaces with Métis art, language access, and ceremonial practices
- Promote cultural connection for children, supporting family and community ties
- Offer land-based programs, traditional life skills, and culturally relevant activities
- Respect community knowledge while integrating professional practices
- Balance Métis practices with diverse family needs to ensure inclusion and relevance.

#### ***Governance and Accountability***

- Clarify the Judiciary's relationship to MN–S governance, regional bodies, and provincial authorities
- Ensure regional representation across communities, with Métis citizens trained for specialized roles
- Maintain separation from political influence; include restrictions on elected officials and dual roles
- Establish advisory boards and committees to oversee operations and enforce ethical conduct
- Create enforceable codes of conduct, ethics, and conflict-of-interest rules with clear consequences
- Support community-led decision-making while maintaining transparent accountability
- Provide timelines, milestones, and ongoing system reviews to support reliability and trust.

#### ***Clear, Fair, and Accessible Processes***

- Establish well-defined procedures in plain language to ensure clarity, fairness, and accessibility
- Maintain consistent practices across communities to build confidence in outcomes
- Provide clear expectations, documentation, and guidance for families and children
- Implement transparent recruitment, selection, and appeal processes
- Offer mediation and flexible resolution options tailored to community contexts
- Ensure processes are culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, and child-focused
- Strengthen understanding and engagement through education and accessible communication.

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### ***Privacy, Confidentiality, and Safety***

- Maintain strict confidentiality protocols, including oaths, secure recordkeeping, and designated contacts
- Protect children's identities in all records, communications, and proceedings
- Use anonymized scenarios to discuss cases to preserve privacy
- Assign backup Judiciary members and maintain professional boundaries to prevent conflicts of interest
- Implement safeguards to prevent breaches, with restorative or corrective measures when necessary
- Carefully manage sensitive information in small communities to avoid harm or stigma
- Ensure families feel safe participating in processes without fear of exposure or retribution.

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## Session Reference Materials

*Reference materials provided at the 2025-2026 CFS and Judiciary Collaborative Engagement Sessions*

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The following materials were available at the Child and Family Services and Judiciary Collaborative Engagement Sessions and may be requested from the MN-S office:

1. *Presentation titled, "For Our Children, For Our Future"*
2. *Presentation titled, "Creating a Métis Judiciary"*
3. *"Understanding Dispute Resolution Mechanisms"*
4. *"Draft Program Descriptions"*
5. *"What is An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit, Métis Children, Youth, and Families?"*
6. *"Métis Nation-Saskatchewan Ministry of Child and Family Services Community Report 2024-25"*
7. *"2024-2025 Community Report Key Findings"*