



February 12, 2025

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

I am writing to request your urgent action to clearly signal your government's commitment to continue Inuit Child First Initiative (ICFI) funding, which is set to lapse March 31, 2025.

ICFI was designed by the Government of Canada to ensure Inuit children have access to the essential government funded health, social and educational services and supports they need, when they need them. Since the inception of ICFI, we have worked with your government steadily towards a long-term, sustainable approach founded in shared responsibility and respecting Inuit self-determination. We have engaged in this work in good faith with a clear understanding, based on regular reassurances, that this model would include permanent funding.

We are alarmed by the growing likelihood of an abrupt curtailing of funding for the program and the consequences this will have for our families and communities. ICFI has served as a critical stopgap measure that helps alleviate the human rights violations experienced by too many Inuit children. If program funding is not renewed, many families will again be left vulnerable to the systemic racial discrimination that characterizes health and education service delivery in Inuit Nunangat.

It is unacceptable that the ability of Inuit families and children to enjoy basic human rights remains contingent on a volatile federal budgetary process. We understand that Parliament being prorogued means that new monies cannot be supplied until Parliament resumes. However, we deserve greater clarity about whether and how your government intends to renew ICFI funding.

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Nakummek,

Natan Obed
President

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