



INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

FEDERAL RELATIONS

Canada is committed to transforming First Nations education in support of the complete takeover of education by First Nations. On the path toward reconciliation, two new federal agencies were created in 2017 to help achieve Indigenous self-government:

- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada was established to build a nation-to-nation, Inuit-Crown, government-to-government relationship between Canada and its Indigenous peoples, support their vision of self-determination, and lead the Government of Canada's work in the North.
- Indigenous Services Canada was created to improve access to high quality services for First Nations, Inuit and Métis, support and empower Indigenous peoples to independently deliver these services and improve the socio-economic conditions in their communities.

As part of this transformation, the FNEC was mandated in April 2019 by the FNEC Chiefs-in-Assembly to negotiate a regional First Nations education agreement based on a community data-driven funding formula developed by the FNEC and its members.

FNEC-member chiefs had the opportunity to meet with ISC's associate deputy minister, Valerie Gideon at the special general assembly held January 28 to discuss certain issues. Ms. Gideon's remarks were echoed when she confirmed that we needed to call attention to real equality and work in the best interests of children; something she has been doing for the past 25 years. This sets the stage for the start of the regional education agreement negotiations.