

NSTQ

Northern Secwepemc te Qelmu cw

Child and Family Transitions

NSTQ

01

The Northern Secwepemc te Qelmu cw (NSTQ) is a collective of four Secwepemc communities that have been negotiating a Treaty with Canada and BC through the BC Treaty process, since 1993. NSTQ has always asserted an inherent right to Self-Government, including jurisdiction over children and families.

02

Having an **'inherent right'** means that it is built in and is a part of us. It is something that cannot be changed. Indigenous People have always had this right since time immemorial. We exercise this right as mothers, fathers, parents, grandparents, children, youth – NSTQ citizens. We do this everyday when we take care of our children, families, and one another. To have **'jurisdiction'** over our children and families' services means that we would have the full authority to exercise our NSTQ laws over our children and families.

03

Prior to colonization, Secwepemc communities successfully exercised this inherent right, by establishing communities that centered around the children. The family, extended family and community served as pillars to the health and well-being of the entire community. These pillars built a solid foundation that nurtured and protected the child. Uplifting families and celebrating milestones was at the forefront of family preservation. Each member had a role, and this interconnectedness is what kept our communities thriving.

1 Decolonization

NSTQ is reclaiming jurisdiction for their children and families through exploration of programs and services that support communities to ensure children grow up safe and healthy.



2 Treaty Process

NSTQ uses The work undertaken through the Stmémelt Project, Traditional Research and consultation provided the guidance needed to continue planning the transition to full jurisdiction over child and family wellness.



3 Community management Service Model

This model reflects that law development will occur in collaboration at the national level but still reflect the communities' desire for autonomy. Communities will set priorities that reflect individual community needs.

See Figure 1.

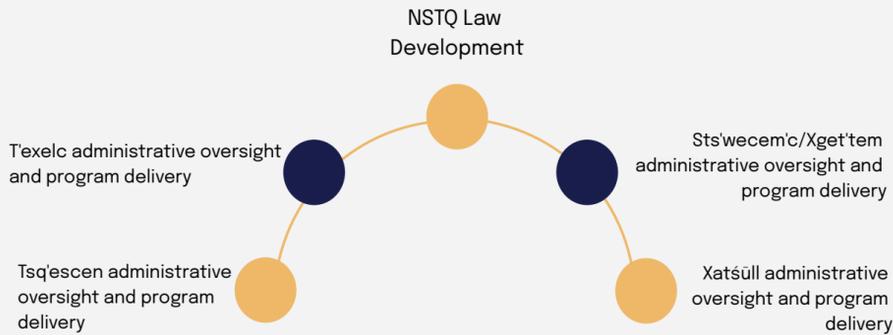


Figure 1: Community management service model

4 Bill C-92

The act establishes national principles such as best interests of the child, cultural continuity, and substantive equality; to guide the provision of child and family services in relation to Indigenous children.



5 Capacity Building

The Federal government set aside funding for capacity building to help communities explore readiness to exercise jurisdiction. The funding can help further development of programs and services, addressing the gaps in the system, as well as developing our NSTQ law around children and families.



External Resources

[Bill C-92: An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth, and families](#)

[Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: 94 Calls to Action](#)

[Spirit Bear's Guide to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action](#)

UNDRIP

[The Convention on the Rights of a Child](#)

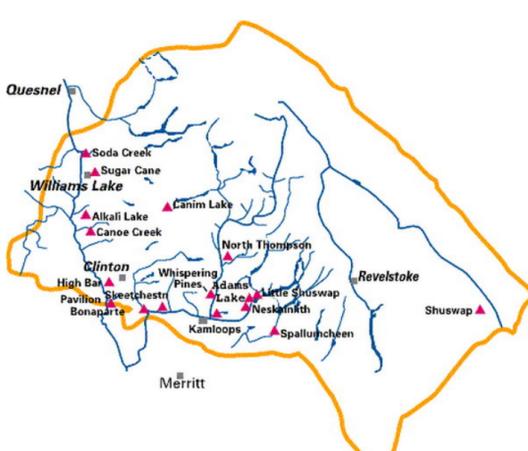
[Jordan's Principle](#)

[FNHA Maternal and Child Health](#)

Language Society

[The History of Indigenous Child Welfare in BC](#)

[SpiZuy Squgluts Language and Culture Society](#)



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