



Customary Care

Information

What is Customary Care?

- Customary Care Agreements are based on our First Nation cultural belief system. It is an agreement that recognizes and respects inherent rights of the First Nation. Customary Care agreements will be implemented only if a child is deemed in need of protection, as identified through a Child Welfare Authority or the Courts and the respective First Nation community declares the child(ren) be cared for under a Customary Care agreement, through a Band Council Resolution.
- Our historical practices are the foundation to customary care in the 21st century.

How does it work?

- Together, the parents, Band Representative and Children and Family Services Agency decide on a suitable family to help raise the child.

Outcome

- Parental rights are maintained, connection and the relationship with the child are preserved.
- Court proceedings are not required.
- Children remain with their extended family and within their community.
- The relationship between the child(ren), parent, and community is valued and respected.
- Community based decision making

Inquiries

▪ If you have further questions or would like more information about Customary Care Agreements, please contact Matachewan First Nation Band Representatives.

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