



# *Town of Bonnyville*

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December 10, 2019

Reeve Steve Upham  
5015 - 49 Avenue  
St. Paul, Alberta  
T0A 3A4

Dear Reeve Upham,

**RE: Town of Bonnyville's Expression of Interest for the Family Resource Network Hub**

The Town of Bonnyville has decided to submit an Expression of Interest to the Ministry of Children's Services to serve as the Hub for the region as defined by the Ministry that includes the Town and M.D. of Bonnyville, the County and Town of St Paul, the Town of Elk Point and the Villages of Glendon and Vilna. We are seeking your support in principal for this application.

Bonnyville F.C.S.S is working closely with St. Paul F.C.S.S so that the Region can continue to receive Children's Services under the ne Family Resource Network model.

The operational cost to deliver the "Hub" and the "Spoke" services for the Family Resource Network are to be fully funded by the grants being offered by the Ministry, there is no expectation of financial contributions from any of the municipalities. There is the possibility that there may be requests for a contribution in-kind of staff time, physical space, material or other gift in kind in the future.

See the attached one page backgrounder and a sample template for a letter of support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Gene Sobolewski  
Town of Bonnyville



## **FAMILY RESOURCE NETWORKS – Background Description**

On Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 the Alberta Government announced a major change in how family supports will be funded by the Ministry of Children's Services. Qualified vendors were encouraged to provide an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the new Family Resource Networks (FRN). These E.O.I. documents are required to be delivered to the Ministry by Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 2020. The E.O.I. and all related documentation is available on the Alberta Purchasing Connection.

Quoting from the call for E.O.I.

*Currently, Children's Services' funds and supports a diverse array of early intervention, prevention, early childhood development, community-based prevention, and community capacity building services throughout Alberta, including (but are not limited to) Parent Link Centres, mentorship initiatives, Community Resource Centres, Early Childhood Coalitions, community-based parent and family support, outreach services, and Home Visitation program.*

*Family Resource Networks (FRNs) will help ensure that, through a 'Hub-and-Spoke' network design approach, Alberta children and youth aged 0-18 years and their families have equitable access to a range of evidence-based/informed universal, targeted and intensive services that support child safety, well-being and development, and caregiver capacity and support. The anchor organization, the 'Hub', will coordinate and facilitate the delivery of all services and programs (the 'Spokes'), which align with the three core service delivery domains of: child development and well-being supports, caregiver capacity building supports, and social connections and supports.*

The Ministry has predefined the geographical regions and while boundary changes are possible it is unclear if such changes will be approved. We are not requesting changes to these boundaries for our E.O.I. however should the boundaries be changed; adjustments will be necessary. Our region includes the M.D and Town of Bonnyville, the Town and County of St Paul, the Town of Elk Point and the Villages of Glendon and Vilna. The Ministry has also established a maximum grant of \$499,000 for this region. We are seeking a formal letter of support from each of the municipalities in our region for the Town of Bonnyville to serve as the "anchor agency" or Hub for our FRN.

The Town of Bonnyville has reviewed the call for an E.O.I. and have staff working on developing our E.O.I. As a Hub we would be responsible to coordinate and report on the services being provided in our region. In this model the Hub is not responsible for financial administration. Each 'spoke' that provides services has a separate contract with the Ministry.

We are also developing some direct services to be delivered as a 'spoke' within our own community. We are working with other agencies also working on 'spokes' to deliver all of the required services in our region.

If you have questions or wish to have a presentation to your council about the F.R.N. please contact Mr. David Beale, Town of Bonnyville Director of Community Services. ([dbeale@town.bonnyville.ab.ca](mailto:dbeale@town.bonnyville.ab.ca) – 780-826-2120).