

First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Project – Phase 2

June 2020 monthly update

IFSD is pleased to provide the eighth monthly update to its stakeholders on the progress of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Project – Phase 2.

Principal updates

- We hope this update finds you, your families, communities and agencies safe and well as we collectively deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.
- IFSD is pleased to share analysis of Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) spending trends.
- IFSD is grateful to the agencies who continue to share their experiences for this work through survey participation and meetings via distance. IFSD welcomes your feedback throughout this work.
- In spite of the national health and economic circumstances, IFSD is continuing its work with stakeholders on the FNCFS project.
- IFSD looks forward to the sharing of the final report with stakeholders this summer.

IFSD's mandate

- With the endorsement of the National Advisory Committee (NAC), IFSD was asked by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Caring Society, to define a **funding approach** and **implementation plan** for First Nations child and family services.
- This project (Phase 2) builds on the findings and recommendations of the Phase 1 report, [*Enabling First Nations Children to Thrive*](#) that was accepted by NAC in February 2019.
- The purpose of this project is to present stakeholders with a funding **structure**; a means of developing **evidence** to understand the well-being of children, families and communities; and a range of scenarios to **cost** the proposed approach.

Project overview

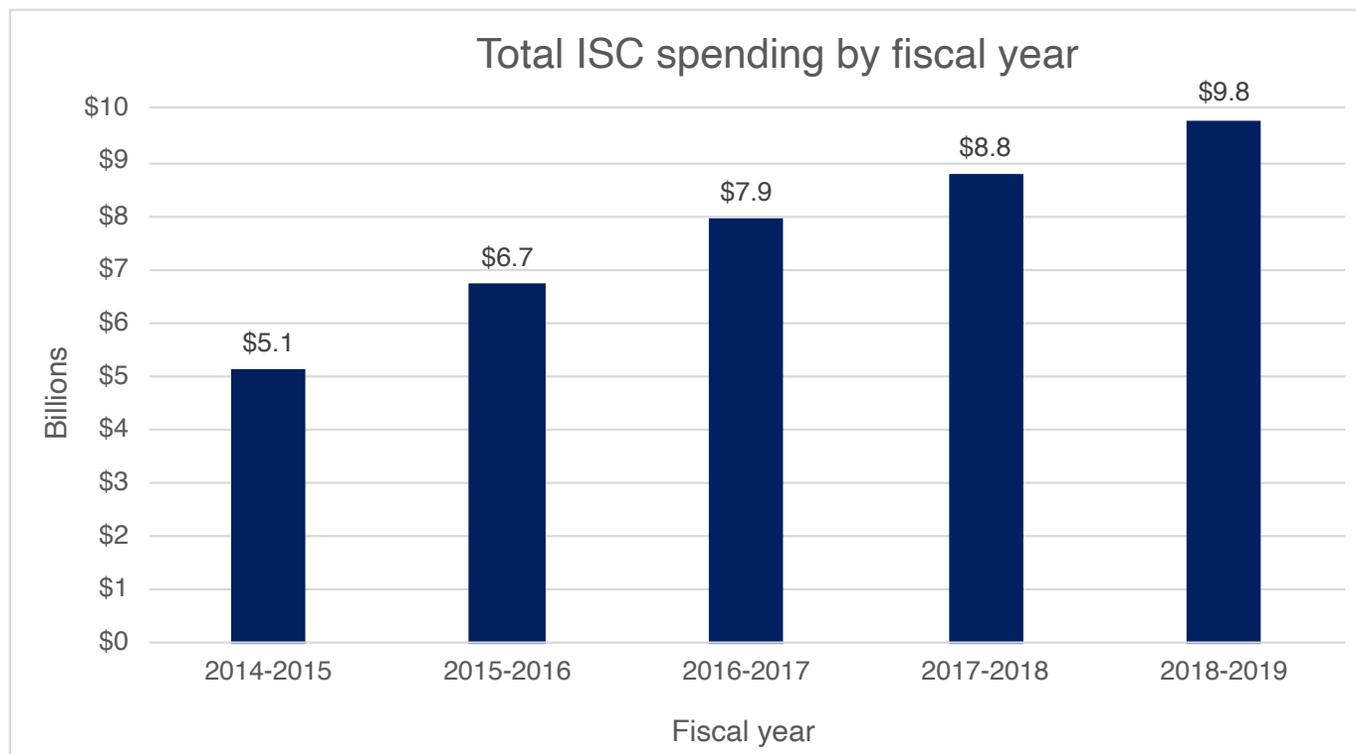
- This project will deliver:
 - 1) Overview of ISC's current spending
 - 2) A framework to understand well-being (Measuring to Thrive)
 - 3) Funding approach architecture
 - 4) Transition plan from the current to proposed future state
- IFSD's mandate is to provide evidence and analysis for stakeholders, in response to the CHRT's findings that the current system and funding are discriminatory. IFSD will present various scenarios and will make recommendations based on the project's evidence. **It is for stakeholders to determine how the analysis is leveraged.**

Current state spending

- ISC provided IFSD with spending information for fiscal years 2014-15 to 2018-19.
- In 2018-19, architecture changes resulted in an increased number of programs.
- The data provided offers a baseline spending portrait.
- The majority of recipients are First Nations and First Nations and Inuit.
- Current First Nations recipient spending is focused on:
 - Infrastructure capacity and development
 - Education
 - Social development
 - Government and institutions of government

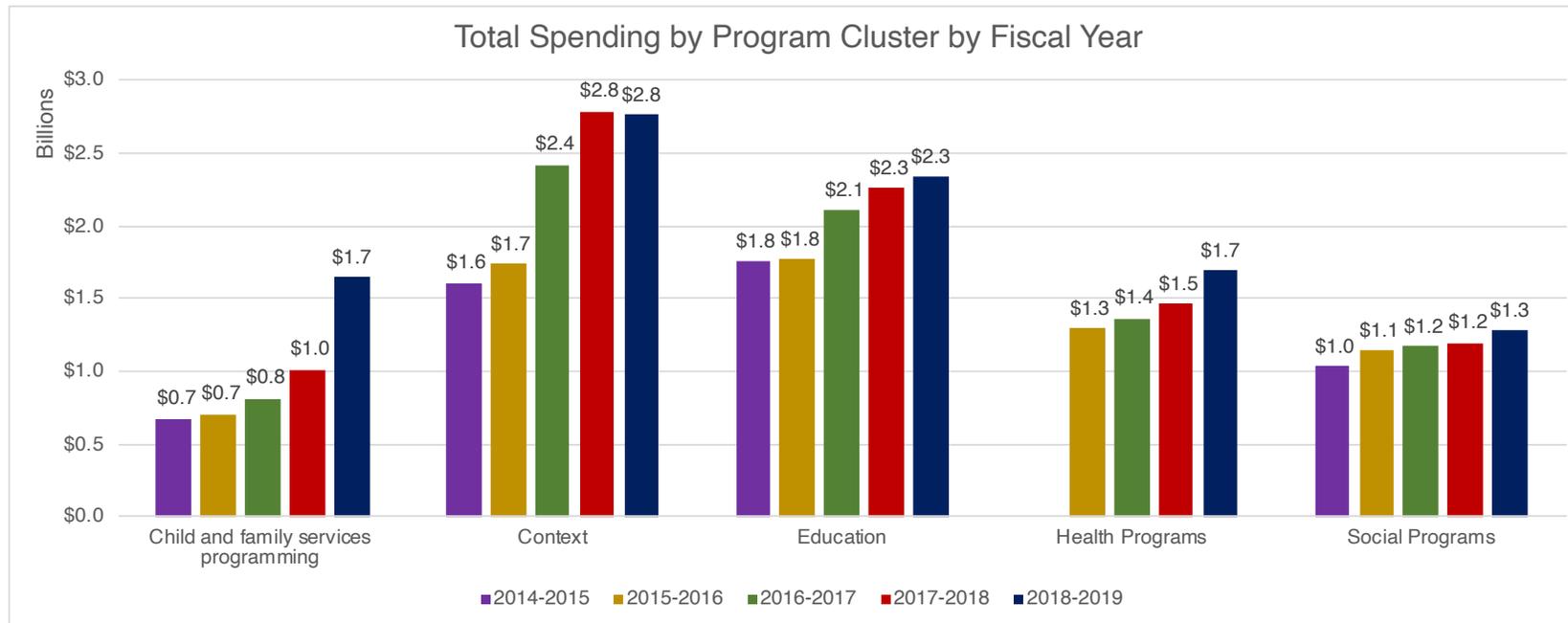
Total ISC spending

- 2018-19 total spending was approximately \$10B (an 11.5% increase from 2017-18).
- Note: Prior to 2015, health and related funding resided outside of ISC (hence the approx. 31% increase in overall spending in 2015-16).



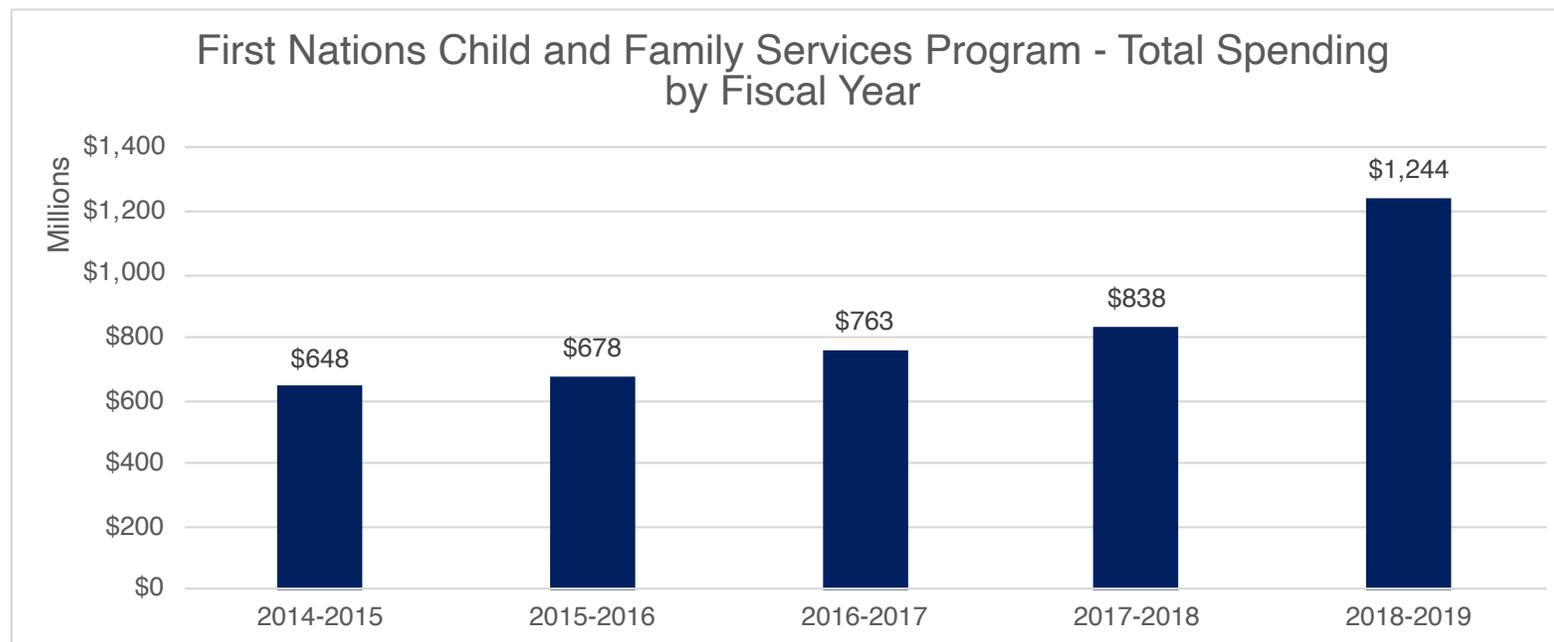
Total spending by policy area

- To help to understand spending trends, IFSD developed policy clusters (child and family services programming; context; education; health programs; social programs).
- Most spending has been consistent, with exception to child and family services programming and health programs in the 2018-19 fiscal year.



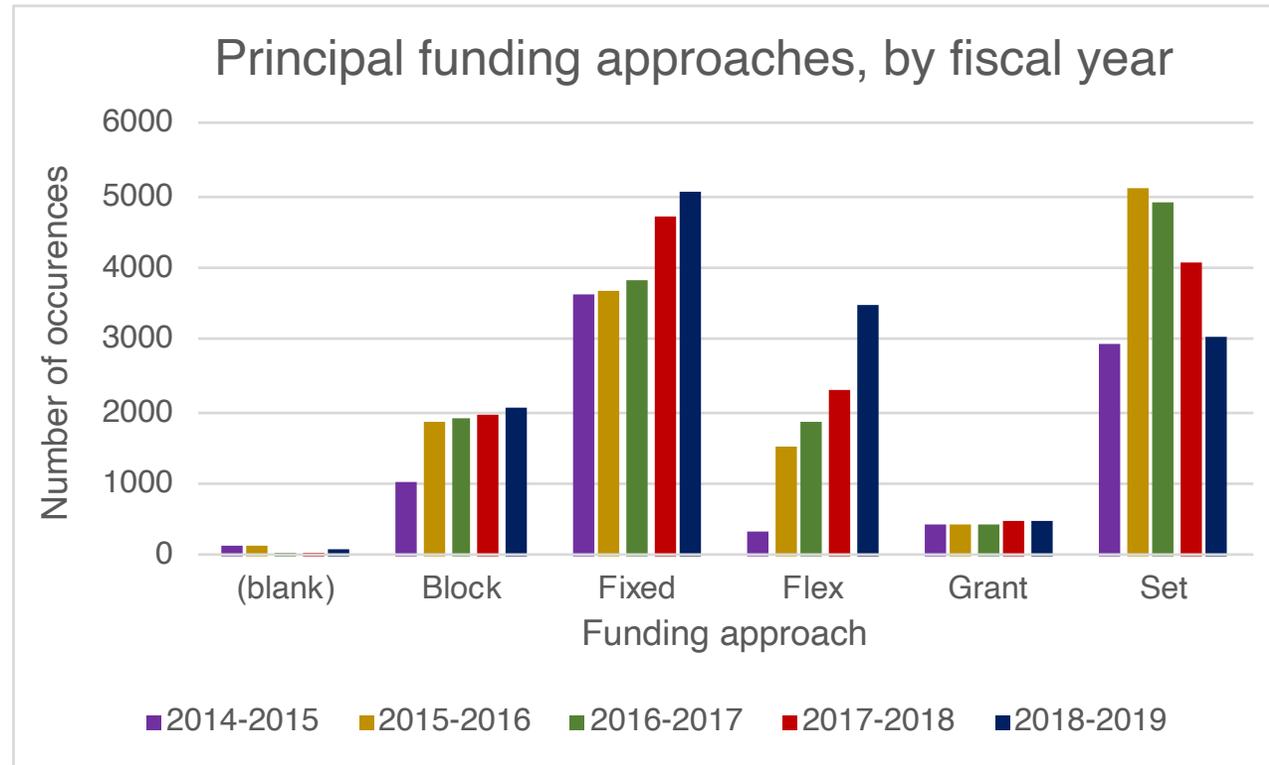
FNCFS funding

- There was a 43% increase in FNCFS funding in fiscal year 2018-19, attributed to CHRT-mandated payments.



Funding approaches

- Occurrences of flex funding increased between 2017-18 and 2018-19.
- Fixed funding occurrences remained the most frequent with a slight increase in 2018-19.
- This suggests that most funding uses are pre-determined with limited latitude for recipients.



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