KidsInclusive – Poster Presentation Abstract

**Title – KidsInclusive’s Journey – Responding to Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action**

In 2019-20 KidsInclusive embarked on our regular 3-4 year strategic planning process with staff.

Information was shared in regards to the Truth and Reconciliation Committee’s Calls to Action.

KidsInclusive collectively identified a need to respond – to learn, to improve our services, and to contribute to changing the health outcomes for Indigenous children and youth.

KidsInclusive has been serving children, youth and families from the James Bay Coastal area for close to 50 years, as well as children within our local geographical area, and we knew that we needed to do better. The process evolved from the need to ‘Educate ourselves on Truth and Reconciliation recommendations and how they relate to our work’ to ‘Respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action by increasing our awareness and understanding of the experience of Indigenous children, youth and families’.

Further identified specific year one goals were generated:

1. Strike committee, develop a work plan and launch education activities re Truth and Reconciliation recommendations and how they relate to our work
2. Initiate an exploratory process (incl. face to face meeting) to dialogue with communities on how to provide culturally safe services in Moosonee, Moose Factory and the James Bay Coastal area

Four plus years later, we have evolved our Indigenous Working Group to include community representatives from Metis Nation of Ontario and the Indigenous Health Babies Healthy Children Program. Our yearly goals evolve along with our learning. The Calls to Action have challenged all aspects of our service delivery – calling on creative and innovative solutions to build equity.

Our poster presentation will highlight our learning journey, what we have been able to accomplish and where we need to keep doing this important work.