

March 27, 2025

**Via Email**

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***Open Letter to the Board Chairs of Metis CFCS and Michif CFS***

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Shirley Langan, Board Chair  
Metis Child, Family and Community Services  
[info@metiscfs.mb.ca](mailto:info@metiscfs.mb.ca)

Echo Finlay, Board Chair  
Michif Child and Family Services  
[info@michifcfs.com](mailto:info@michifcfs.com)

Dear Ms. Langan and Ms. Finlay,

As you know, MGEU members who work at Metis Child, Family, and Community Services (Metis CFS) and at Michif Child and Family Services (Michif CFS) are currently on strike for wage parity with CFS workers who do the same work under Manitoba's civil service agreement.

Despite the fact that the Manitoba government has confirmed a funding increase of \$2.4 million this year for the Metis Child and Family Services Authority (MCFSA) and the two agencies it funds this year<sup>1</sup>, both Metis CFCS and Michif CFS have insisted that provincial funding is inadequate to support wage parity.

I am writing to draw your attention to the facts surrounding wage parity and provincial funding for these agencies:

- Manitoba budget documents show that provincial funding for CFS authorities/agencies has increased by **14.2%**, from \$323 million in 2022/23<sup>2</sup>, to \$369 million in 2025/26<sup>3</sup>.
- Over this same three-year period, achieving wage parity would require wage increases of 8.48% (2.5% in 2023, 2.75% in 2024, and 3% in 2025), significantly less than the provincial funding increase to CFS authorities/agencies.
- Keeping pace with civil service wage scales over a four-year collective agreement into 2026 would require wage increases of 11.73% (2.5% in 2023, 2.75% in 2024, 3% in 2025, and 3% in 2026), still well below the funding increase to CFS authorities/agencies over just the past three years.

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<sup>1</sup> Manitoba Metis Federation News Release, March 7, 2025; and Hon. Nahanni Fontaine, Minister of Families, Hansard, Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, March 13, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Part A, Appropriation 9.4(c)(2), *Manitoba Estimates of Expenditure 2022/23*, page 72.

<sup>3</sup> Part A, Appropriation 9.4(c)(2), *Manitoba Estimates of Expenditure 2025/26*, page 72.

This reality is reflected in the fact that our members at Southeast Child and Family Services were recently able to avert a strike when the employer offered a contract that, if ratified, would achieve parity on the regular wage scales. Southeast CFS was able to offer wage parity despite the fact that it has received the same provincial funding increases as Metis CFCS and Michif CFS.

It is time for your agencies to acknowledge the significant funding increases that have been provided by the province since 2022 and to come to the bargaining table with an offer that achieves parity with the equivalent, regular civil service wage scales.

Sincerely,



Kyle Ross  
MGEU President

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Xc: Mr. Quinton Sanderson, Acting Executive Director, Michif CFS  
Mr. Scott Maksymyk, Executive Director, Metis CFCS