

Out-of-Province Ministerial Travel

(including expenses of participants and general expenses associated with travel)

Ministry	Social Services	
Title of Travel	Federal Emergency Meeting on Indigenous Child and Family Services	
Location	Ottawa, ON	
Date(s)	January 25 - 26, 2018	
Participants	Honourable Paul Merriman, Minister of Social Services Greg Miller, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Services Janice Colquhoun, Executive Director, Service Delivery, Ministry of Social Services Tara Gereaux, Manager, Inter-governmental Strategy, Ministry of Social Services	
Purpose of Travel	Attend meetings with Federal and Provincial counter-parts to discuss Indigenous Child and Family Services.	
Total Travel Expenditures for Participants		
Air Travel (including airfare and airport service fees)		\$2,915.11
Ground Travel (including taxis and parking)		\$255.52
Accommodation (including room charges, incidentals, related taxes and fees)		\$2,026.96
Meals (personal per diem meal claims)		\$494.00
Miscellaneous (including temporary cell phone upgrades, fax and internet charges, and other sundry expenditures)		0.00
	Subtotal	\$5,691.29
General Travel Expenditures		
Business Hosting Expenses (luncheon and/or dinner meetings hosted by the Government of Saskatchewan, including food, beverages, catering staff, service charges, equipment, and entertainment)		N/A
Miscellaneous (Including meeting rooms, police security, publications, shipping charges, gifts)		N/A
	Subtotal	
	TOTAL	\$5,691.29

Overview of Travel and Objectives

This was a federally-led and federally-hosted “emergency” meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to identify shared priorities and a path forward in reforming Indigenous child and family services to put the needs of children and families first.

The main objectives for Saskatchewan to attend this meeting were to:

- welcome federal participation in this critical issue;
- highlight the work that Provinces/Territories (PTs) have been actively progressing for many years to improve outcomes for First Nations, Métis and Inuit children and youth through strong partnerships with regional and local Indigenous partners;
- emphasize Saskatchewan’s commitment to work constructively with its regional Indigenous partners to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and families;
- establish rapport and seek common ground with regional Indigenous representatives from Saskatchewan, and with the National Indigenous Organization (NIO) leaders; and
- emphasize that federal pursuit of systemic change must not impede or infringe on the existing partnerships and actions already being taking within PTs to improve outcomes for Indigenous children and families.