



INQUIRY OF MINISTRY  
DEMANDE DE RENSEIGNEMENT AU GOUVERNEMENT

PREPARE IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH MARKING "ORIGINAL TEXT" OR "TRANSLATION"  
PRÉPARER EN ANGLAIS ET EN FRANÇAIS EN INDICQUANT "TEXTE ORIGINAL" OU "TRADUCTION"

QUESTION NO./N° DE LA QUESTION Q-520	BY / DE Mr. Angus (Timmins-James Bay)	DATE September 29, 2016
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Reply by the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
Réponse de la ministre des Affaires autochtones et du Nord

Signed by the Honourable Carolyn Bennett

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY  
INSCRIRE LE NOM DU SIGNATAIRE

SIGNATURE  
MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
MINISTRE OU SECRÉTAIRE PARLEMENTAIRE

QUESTION

With respect to First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada and Assembly of First Nations v. Attorney General of Canada (representing the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada), Canadian Human Rights Tribunal File No. T1340/7008: (a) what are the total legal costs incurred by the government in this matter since January 25, 2016 )— **See full text of the question attached.**

REPLY / RÉPONSE

ORIGINAL TEXT  
TEXTE ORIGINAL

TRANSLATION  
TRADUCTION

Insofar as Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is concerned, the response is as follows:

- (a) Canada has spent approximately \$500,000 in legal fees since January 25, 2016.
- (b) Following the decision of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) on January 26, 2016, Health Canada (HC) and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) have applied Jordan's Principle to all First Nations children as per the CHRT rulings. While provinces and territories have the responsibility to deliver health and social services to all residents living within their respective jurisdictions, historically, there have been gaps in programming for First Nations children on reserve, particularly for children living with a disability. Recognizing that First Nations families on reserve may face greater difficulties in accessing Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) services and supports, Canada's implementation of Jordan's Principle includes a focus on the most vulnerable children, those children with a disability or a critical short-term condition living on reserve, to help ensure these children get the care and support they need comparable to other Canadian children. Canada has committed up to \$382.5 million over three years to better meet the needs of these First Nations children. As a result of this new approach, we have confirmed coverage for almost 900 First Nations children to receive services and supports through Canada's expanded definition of Jordan's Principle.
- (i) Canada conducted a review of expenditure data for relevant First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) programs and INAC programs. Canada also reviewed standard cost data as reported in: academic literature; commissioned reports (based on academic and grey literature); as well as publically available information collected from service providers at the P/T level to develop an estimate for the required resources to implement a new approach to Jordan's Principle.