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## Memorandum

**To:** First Nation Leadership

**From:** Linda Sandy, Director, Social Services

**Date:** February 20, 2018

**RE:** Ontario Special Study Backgrounder

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The Chiefs of Ontario (COO) is undertaking a special study to provide options on a new First Nation's child well-being approach that is child centered, community-directed and supports better outcomes by focusing on prevention services. The project has been designed to align with Canada and Ontario's commitment to achieving reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and continue to support and enhance First Nation culture, control, laws, jurisdiction and autonomy.

Please review the attached backgrounder on the Ontario Special Study, which provides an overview of the following:

- What is the Objective of the Project?
- Who is on the Project Team?
- How are First Nations Involved?
- What is the Timeline of the Project?

Further to note, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) is currently undertaking a study to address the unique challenges faced by Northern remote communities with respect to delivering and managing services for children, youth and families through the Remoteness Quotient Project.

COO and NAN will coordinate together to ensure that each of these projects do not duplicate work and that the work reflects the needs of all Ontario's First Nation children, youth and families.

**If you require any additional information on the Ontario Special Study, please contact COO Social Services Director, Linda Sandy, by email at [Linda.Sandy@coo.org](mailto:Linda.Sandy@coo.org) or by phone 416-597-1266 ext. 247.**

**If you require any additional information on the Remote Quotient Project, please contact NAN Social Services Director, Bobby Narcisse, by email at [bnarcisse@nan.on.ca](mailto:bnarcisse@nan.on.ca) or by phone (807) 625-4963.**