



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**CHILD AND FAMILY WELLNESS  
FINANCIAL SUPPORT POLICY**

Approved by Executive Council  
on October 8, 2020 by Resolution #EC201008-05



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## *Child and Family Wellness Financial Support Policy*

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### **Purpose**

- 1 (1) The primary purpose of Child and Family Wellness financial support is to provide financial support to HUU-ay-aht children and families in situations of urgent need to ensure the well-being of HUU-ay-aht children and to keep HUU-ay-aht families intact.
- (2) An additional purpose of Child and Family Wellness financial support is to assist children in maintaining a connection to their HUU-ay-aht culture, family and lands.

### **Goals and objectives**

- 2 The goals and objectives of this policy are to support and encourage the delivery of Child and Family Wellness financial support in a context that:
  - (a) supports the Nation's strategic priority of promoting self-reliance and empowering and supporting HUU-ay-aht citizens to reach their highest potential
  - (b) reduces the potential for citizens to become dependent on government administered resources
  - (c) encourages and empowers citizens to take ownership of their financial decisions
  - (d) provides opportunities for citizens to work with staff to find solutions to financial issues and to develop problem-solving and financial management skills
  - (e) provides a framework for fiscal accountability and consistent decision-making by staff in the provision of Child and Family Wellness financial support

- (f) provides for the fair and impartial provision of services to HUU-ay-aht families free from bias, arbitrary decisions and political interference.

### Definitions

3 In this policy:

“**child in need of support**” means a child or youth whose basic needs of food, shelter or clothing are not being met or are in danger of not being met without the support; and

“**HUU-ay-aht family**” means any household that includes a HUU-ay-aht citizen.

### Categories of financial support

- 4 (1) The Child and Family Wellness Department will offer the following categories of financial support:
- (a) Children’s Basic Needs
  - (b) Family and Cultural Connection
  - (c) Prenatal and Postnatal Care
- (2) In addition and subject to funding availability, the Child and Family Wellness Department may provide financial support that does not fit into these categories when, in the Executive Director’s sole discretion, provision of that support will fulfil the purposes of this policy in accordance with its goals and objectives.

### Application requirements

- 5 (1) To receive any financial support, applicants must:
- (a) meet any applicable criteria related to the specific funding, as set out in the policy or departmental policies or procedures, and
  - (b) demonstrate financial need, including supplying all financial documentation requested by Child and Family Wellness Department staff.
- (2) All applications for financial support under this policy must be made directly to the Child and Family Wellness Department in accordance with the departmental funding policies and procedures.

### Children’s basic needs support

- 6 (1) Children’s Basic Needs support will be made available in situations where it is urgently needed to ensure that the immediate basic needs of food, shelter and clothing of children in need of support residing in HUU-ay-aht families are met.
- (2) Children’s Basic Needs support is intended to provide assistance in emergency situations and unforeseen circumstances that compromise a parent or caregiver’s

ability to provide for the basic needs of a child or youth and could result in the removal of that child or youth.

- (3) The following are eligible to apply for Children's Basic Needs support:
- (a) A parent or caregiver of a Huu-ay-aht child in need of support who lives with that parent or caregiver;
  - (b) A Huu-ay-aht parent or caregiver with whom a child in need of support lives; and
  - (c) A family member or other caregiver of a Huu-ay-aht child in need of support with whom the child does not ordinarily live but who is providing temporary shelter to the child on an urgent or emergency basis-

**Family and cultural connection support**

- 7
- (1) Family and Cultural Connection support may be provided to non-custodial family members to assist children in maintaining a connection to their Huu-ay-aht family, culture and lands.
  - (2) This support will be provided on a case by case basis, subject to funding availability, at the discretion of the Executive Director and in accordance with any applicable departmental policies or procedures.

**Prenatal and postnatal care**

- 8
- Pre and postnatal care support will be provided based on need and in accordance with the recommendations of the report of the Social Services Panel to:
- (a) Huu-ay-aht mothers and expectant mothers, and
  - (b) mothers and expectant mothers of Huu-ay-aht children.

**Requirement to address factors contributing to financial hardship**

- 9
- The Executive Director will ensure that, as part of the provision of financial support, applicants are offered learning opportunities or one-to-one support to address factors relating to financial hardship.

**Departmental policies and procedures**

- 10
- The Executive Director will develop departmental policies and procedures to implement this policy in accordance with its purposes, goals and objectives, which will include provisions with respect to:
- (a) situations in which specific support within the categories outlined in this policy will be available
  - (b) limitations on the frequency and duration of particular types of financial support

- (c) departmental record-keeping requirements
- (d) application requirements, including timelines and financial documentation.

**Debts owing to the Huu-ay-aht in relation to Child and Family Wellness Financial Support**

- 11** If through the provision of Child and Family Wellness financial support, a citizen becomes indebted to the Huu-ay-aht, the debt will be collected in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act*, s. 92.