



UNDERSTANDING BILL C-92: WHAT THIS MEANS FOR MIGISI

Boozhoo!

We wanted to share an update on the work being done for Bill C-92. This newsletter is part of our commitment to keep community members informed, involved, and heard as this work moves forward. **The development of this law matters because it helps Migisi children remain connected to their families, culture, and community. It supports decisions being made closer to home.**

You may have heard lots of discussion about this bill, or perhaps this is your first time diving in. Either way, our goal is to inform you of what this bill means, why it is important, and how it affects you and the community of Migisi Sahgaigan.



LET'S START WITH THE BASICS: WHAT IS BILL C-92?

Bill C-92 is also known as an *Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families*. This act first took effect on January 1, 2020, and was co-developed by the Assembly of First Nations and the Government of Canada.

This act **affirms the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples to create their own child and family services law** which is then recognized by the Canadian government on both a federal and provincial level. This law allows Migisi to develop and enforce its own child welfare law, **which reflects the culture and values of the community.**

BREAKDOWN OF BILL C-92 TIMELINE



BILL C-92 WAS NEEDED DUE TO THREE MAIN AREAS

Overrepresentation of Indigenous children in the foster care system

Statistics show **53.8% of children under 14 in care are Indigenous**, even though Indigenous children make up 7.7% of Canada's total child population.

Overlooked Indigenous families and culture

Past laws ignored Indigenous cultures, laws, kinship systems and community roles. This resulted in failing to provide adequate funding for welfare services on reserves, resulting in **loss of identity, language, and connection to family and community.**

A law that reflects reconciliation goals

This law reflects the goals of Truth and Reconciliation by recognizing Indigenous rights and supporting communities to lead and **make decisions for their own children and families.**

WHATS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO KNOW ABOUT BILL C-92

- ✦ Supports programs that focus on prevention and early intervention
- ✦ Keep Indigenous children within their families and First Nation communities
- ✦ Promote culturally appropriate services so children grow up feeling comfortable and safe within their First Nation community
- ✦ Apply the child's wellbeing in making decisions in the provision of child and family services
- ✦ Provide a framework for Indigenous communities to exercise jurisdiction over their child and family services

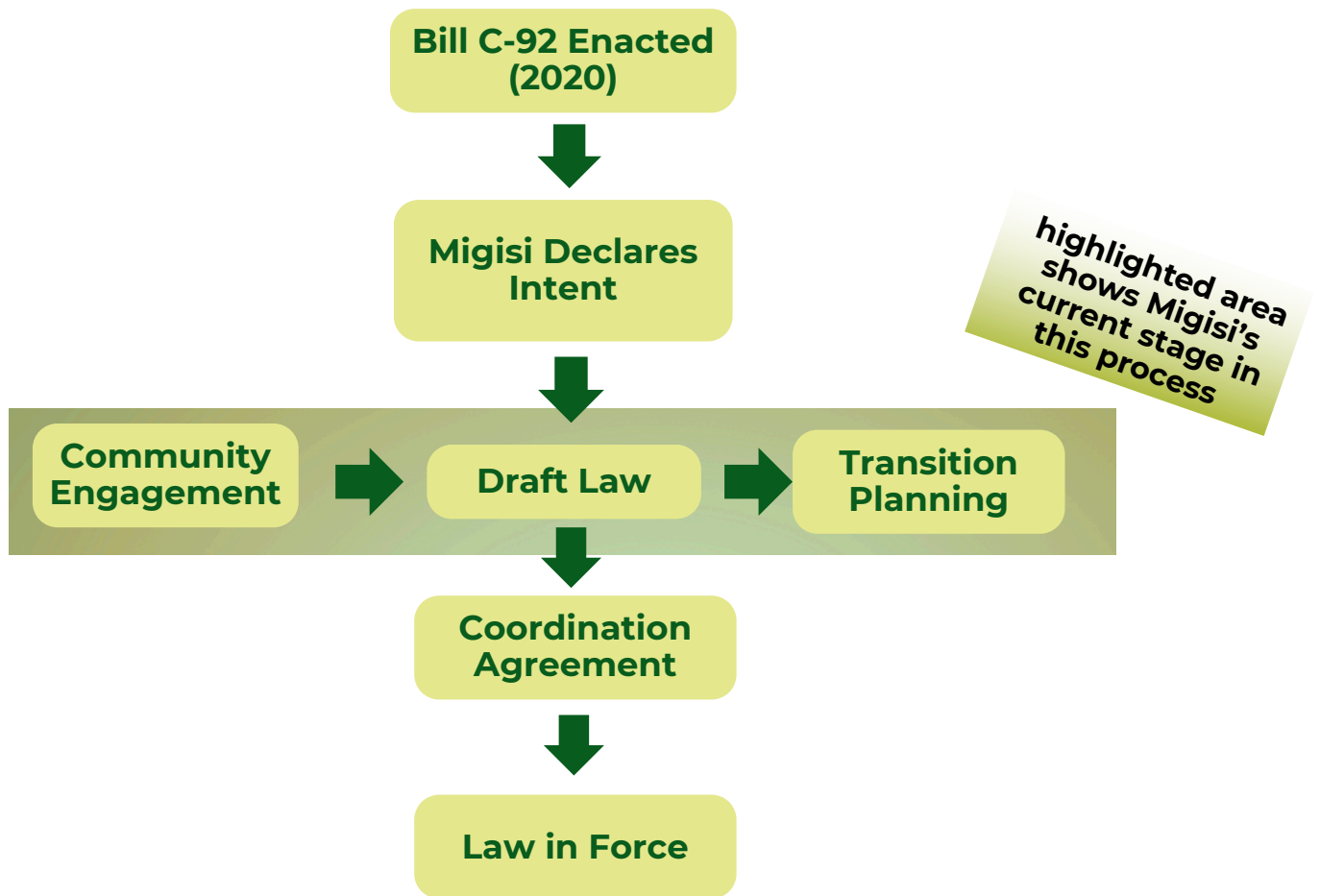
Work done so far: November 2025



- Four community engagement sessions were held.
- These sessions focused on listening to **lived experiences and understanding shared community values.**
- Community members identified strengths, challenges, and gaps in the current system.
- Sessions included Elders and knowledge keepers, adults with lived experience with Child and Family Services, Migisi staff, and the wider community.
- The feedback shared is **helping shape a law that reflects community values, supports healing, and guides future generations.**

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE MIGISI?

As Migisi begins to shift away from province led control and into community-led care, the process to have Migisi's law in action is as follows:



Why This Matters

- The goal of this work is to reach a coordination agreement.
- A coordination agreement explains how Migisi's child and family law will work in practice.
- It is an agreement between Migisi, Ontario, and the federal government.
- It sets out funding, information sharing, and how services move from provincial control to community-led care.
- It also provides clear standards, accountability, and legal authority for the Nation.

What's Next



- In March we will host the next round of engagement sessions with the community.
- Stay up to date on Migisi's progress by visiting the community website for updates. Please email any questions or concerns to: marlene.landon@migisi.ca