



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children & Family Services Society
#7 – 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack BC V2R 4G5
Tel: 604-858-0113 Fax: 604-824-5326



Gathering The Circle Society
Métis Family Services

#312-7485 130th Street
Surrey, BC V3W 1H8

Tel: 604-584-6621
Fax: 604-582-4820

July 9, 2026

Joint Announcement from Xyólheméylh (Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society) and Gathering The Circle Society (Métis Family Services)

Honouring the Past, Walking Forward Together

For more than two decades, Xyólheméylh has had the privilege of supporting Métis children, youth, families, and communities (the Métis) throughout the Stó:lō territories. During this time, staff have worked with care, dedication, and respect to ensure the Métis received culturally responsive services while building meaningful relationships rooted in trust and community.

Today, we are pleased to share an important step forward in the ongoing journey of Indigenous self-determination and community-led service delivery.

As Gathering The Circle Society expands its presence and services within the region, Xyólheméylh and Gathering The Circle Society have begun a collaborative transition process through which responsibility for the Métis-specific services and files will gradually move to Gathering The Circle Society over the coming years.

While transitions can bring mixed emotions, both organizations view this moment as one of opportunity, growth, and homecoming.

Xyólheméylh has often described this transition as "the Métis going home" – a reflection of the belief that the Métis deserve access to services delivered by a Métis organization grounded in Métis culture, traditions, values, and ways of knowing. At the same time, this transition does not diminish the important relationships, care, and commitment that have been shared between Xyólheméylh staff and the Métis children, youth, families, and communities they have supported over the years.

We wish to acknowledge and honor the work of Xyólheméylh staff, past and present, whose dedication has helped Métis children, youth, and families navigate challenges, celebrate successes, and build stronger futures. Their efforts have contributed meaningfully to the well-being of families and have helped create the foundation upon which this next chapter can be built.

Gathering The Circle Society accepts this responsibility with humility, gratitude, and a deep commitment to serving Métis children, youth, and families in a good way. Guided by Métis culture and community, the organization will continue to strengthen services that reflect Métis values. These values have long guided Métis people and will continue to shape the support provided to families throughout the region.

Both organizations are committed to ensuring that this transition occurs thoughtfully, respectfully, and with children, youth, and families at the centre of every decision. Throughout the process, Xyólheméylh and Gathering The Circle Society will continue to work together and take the time required to maintain continuity of service, preserve important relationships, and ensure all feel informed, supported, and cared for.



Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children & Family Services Society
#7 – 7201 Vedder Road, Chilliwack BC V2R 4G5
Tel: 604-858-0113 Fax: 604-824-5326



Gathering The Circle Society
Métis Family Services

#312-7485 130th Street
Surrey, BC V3W 1H8

Tel: 604-584-6621
Fax: 604-582-4820

This transition reflects the strength of Indigenous communities, the importance of cultural belonging, and the shared commitment of our organizations in supporting children, youth, and families in ways that honour their identity, culture, and future.

We thank the staff of both organizations for their professionalism, compassion, and commitment as we walk this path together. Most importantly, we thank the Métis who have entrusted us with their stories, their journeys, and their hopes for future generations.

Together, we move forward with respect for the past, confidence in the future, and a shared commitment to the well-being of the Métis.

Adam Calvert
CEO, Gathering The Circle Society

Shoy:etelwet, Memia:a, Qwa kwiih maat, ȩtalitila'yugwa – Teressa Galis
Executive Director of Staff and Community Relations – Interim

Rod Spitzig
Executive Director of Administrative Services

Laura-Dawn Wilkin
Executive Director of Programs