



Jordan's Principle

Ensuring First Nations children receive the public services they need when they need them

Background

Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle named in memory of Jordan River Anderson, a First Nations child from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba. Born with complex medical needs, Jordan spent more than two years unnecessarily in hospital while the Province of Manitoba and the federal government argued over who should pay for his at home care. Jordan died in the hospital at the age of five years old, never having spent a day in his family home. Jordan's Principle aims to make sure First Nations children can access all public services in a way that is reflective of their distinct cultural needs, takes full account of the historical disadvantage linked to colonization, and without experiencing any service denials, delays or disruptions because they are First Nations.

Jordan's Principle is a child-first and needs-based *principle* used in Canada to ensure that First Nations children living on and off reserve have equitable access to all government funded public services.

The current eligibility criteria under Jordan's Principle include:

- Registered First Nations children living on or off reserve
- First Nations children entitled to be registered under the *Indian Act*, including those who became entitled to register under the December 22, 2017 amended provisions of the *Indian Act* under Bill S-3
- Non-status Indigenous children who are ordinarily resident on reserve

Following the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Interim Motion Ruling in February 2019, First Nations children without *Indian Act* status, or not eligible for *Indian Act* status, who are living off reserve but are recognized as members by their Nation, and who have urgent or life-threatening needs, will be provided with the services required to meet those urgent needs or life threatening needs, pursuant to Jordan's Principle.

For information visit:

What we do: <http://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/maternal-child-and-family-health/jordans-principle>

Myths and Facts: <https://www.oacas.org/2019/01/5-myths-about-jordans-principle/>

Contact:

- **Jordan's Principle Representatives in British Columbia**
Call 778-951-0716 or email sac.principedejordancb-bcjordansprinciple.isc@canada.ca
- Local service coordinators in First Nations communities or organizations across Canada (contact your local Jordan's Principle representative to get this information)
- Jordan's Principle Call Centre: 1-855-JP-CHILD (1-855-572-4453), open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Email: aadnc.infopubs.aandc@canada.ca