

SASKATCHEWAN FIRST NATIONS FAMILY AND COMMUNITY INSTITUTE INC.

100 – 103 Packham Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 4N4
Telephone: 1 306 665-1215 Fax: 1 306 244-4413

NEWS RELEASE – November 28, 2007

The Board of Directors of the Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute Inc. is pleased to announce the appointment of Harpell Montgomery (Monty) as the Institute's first Executive Director. The appointment is effective December 10, 2007.

Mr. Montgomery received both his Masters and Bachelor Degrees of Social Work from the University of Victoria and is currently a PhD. student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. He is of Mi'kmaq ancestry from the Eastern Shore of Nova Scotia.

The Board of Directors is confident that Monty's education and experience will bring the Institute the knowledge, skills and abilities that are required to lead the newly incorporated Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute. The Institute was empowered by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians in February, 2007, with the aim of providing research and non-political technical support for the 18 First Nations Child and Family Service Agencies in Saskatchewan. The First Nations Agencies are mandated to ensure the safety and well-being of First Nations children and families in Saskatchewan.

Over the past 17 years, Monty has worked with First Nations governments and organizations, the Province of British Columbia and the University of Victoria. He has held positions as the Manager for Program and Policy Initiatives at the Caring for First Nations Children Society of British Columbia, as an Assistant Professor (First Nations Social Work Specialization) at the University of Victoria, as a Child Protection Worker with the Ministry of Children and Family Development in British Columbia and later, as a Child Protection Practice Analyst with the Services to Aboriginal Children and Families Division of that Ministry.

Monty's professional experience also includes social assistance policy manual development for a First Nations government, administration of Social Development and Post-Secondary programs for another First Nation in Northwestern BC, and, curriculum development in the areas of child protection and First Nations social policy.

../2

In regards to First Nations Child and Family Service Agencies, Monty has been instrumental in the planning and development of three First Nations Agencies – two in Northwestern BC (serving 14 and 8 First Nations respectively) and one on Vancouver Island (serving 7 First Nations).

Monty's major fields of professional interest are First Nations child welfare program development and practice; information technology/management for social work practitioners and on-line distance learning with Aboriginal adult learners. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing and hunting.

Monty also has experience as a board member with the Caring for First Nations Children Society of British Columbia; the Wilp si"Satxw Healing Society, a First Nations Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centre in Kitwanga, BC; and with the D'zel K'ant Friendship Centre in Smithers, BC.

Monty and his partner, Dr. Maggie Kovach, permanently located to Saskatoon from Victoria, BC, in September 2007, although they have maintained a summer residence in Cupar for the past 9 years. Dr. Kovach, a member of Pasqua First Nation, is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. They have one daughter who is studying Fine Arts at the University of Victoria.

For additional information contact:

Dexter Kinequon, Chairperson, Board of Directors
Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute Inc.

Telephone: 1 306 425- 5511

Email: dexter.kinequon@icfs.ca