MAW'KLEYU'KIK **KNIJANNAQ**

VISION

The vision of the initiative is leadership, organizations, stakeholders and community service providers coming together, in a coordinated manner, to work collaboratively to create a better future for our Mi'kmaw children and families; a future where Mi'kmaw children are resilient, strongly connected to their culture and community while living in safe, healthy and nurturing homes. The overall goal of the Assembly and the initiative is to exercise complete jurisdiction and governance over child welfare and to establish a Mi'kmaw child and family services body governed by Mi'kmaw law and policy offering culturally appropriate family support services.

2015

In 2015, the Assembly engaged in consultation with the province regarding the indigenization of the Child and Family Services Act.

2018

In 2018, the MKK Initiative received funding and officially began.



2020

In 2020, the final draft of the Custom Adoption protocol was completed and presented.

The team received funding to develop an application aimed at informing Mi'kmaw youth of their inherent and treaty rights.

In the new fiscal year, the team plans on addressing facilities and family resource, finalizing the MKK communications plan and developing an evaluation framework for the Initiative.

2017

On March 1, 2017 in response to the discussion held in 2015, the province adopted 25 legislative amendments that reflect the Mi'kmaq nation.

2019

In 2019, the team formed several working groups including: customary care and custom adoption, facilities and family resource, and foster care and assessments.

By the end of 2019, the team had successfully drafted the Custom Adoption protocol.

In November, the team held the third bi-annual Mi'kmaw Law for Mi'kmaw Children Symposium.

2021

By 2021, the goal is to have a skeleton law for child welfare.

FUTURE

In the future, the MKK hopes to see their work bring Mi'kmaw law, customs, teachings and language back to the community while keeping children at home.