

Board Director biography



Cindy Blackstock

Executive Director of First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada, Professor, McGill University and Director of First Nations Children's Action Research and Education Service (FNCARES)

Director, Equity and Diversity

A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy Blackstock has 25 years of social work experience in child protection and indigenous children's rights. As Director of the First Nations Children's Action Research and Education Service (FNCARES), Professor at McGill University, her research interests are Indigenous theory and the identification and remediation of structural inequalities affecting First Nations children, youth and families.

Her promotion of culturally-based and evidence informed solutions, has been recognized by the Nobel Women's Initiative, the Aboriginal Achievement Foundation, Frontline Defenders and many others.

An author of over 50 publications and a widely sought after public speaker, Blackstock has collaborated with other Indigenous leaders to assist the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in the development and adoption of a General Comment on the Rights of Indigenous children. She also recently worked with Indigenous young people, UNICEF and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to produce a youth friendly version of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

She is currently serving as a Commissioner for the Pan American Health Commission on Health Equity and Inequity.