



Applying Maslow's  
Hierarchy to the  
Research Needs of  
First Nations Child  
Welfare Agencies  
involved in the CIS  
2003

---

Aboriginal Policy  
and Research  
Conference  
March 22nd, 2006  
Ottawa, ON



# Welcome

- First Nations Child & Family Caring Society and the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare
- Canadian Incidence Study (CIS)
  - Overview of CIS 1998
  - Overview of findings from CIS 2003
- Feedback on challenges and strengths
- Applying Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs
- Recommendations flowing from feedback



Winnipeg, MB – May 2004

# FNCFCS

- Networks, advocates and conducts research in partnership with 120+ First Nations Child & Family Services agencies in Canada
- Representation from province on Board of Directors
- Incorporated in 2001
- First located in Winnipeg and then ED appointed and head office established in Ottawa 2002
- Partnership developed with the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare



# FNCFCS Partnership with CECW



- CECW is a partnership between:
  - ◆ University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work
  - ◆ Child Welfare League of Canada
  - ◆ University of Montreal
  - ◆ First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada (The FN Research site is also supported by the University of Manitoba)

# CECW

- The Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare (CECW) is dedicated to promoting excellence in Canadian child welfare research, policy and practice. It is one of four Centres of Excellence for Children's Well-Being funded by Health Canada as part of the federal contribution to the National Children's Agenda.
- Four Centres of Excellence for Children's Well-Being funded by Health Canada:
  - Early Childhood Development
  - Youth Engagement
  - Children and Adolescents with Special Needs
  - Child Welfare
- Five-year funding from 2000 to 2005 with chance for renewal after review by new government

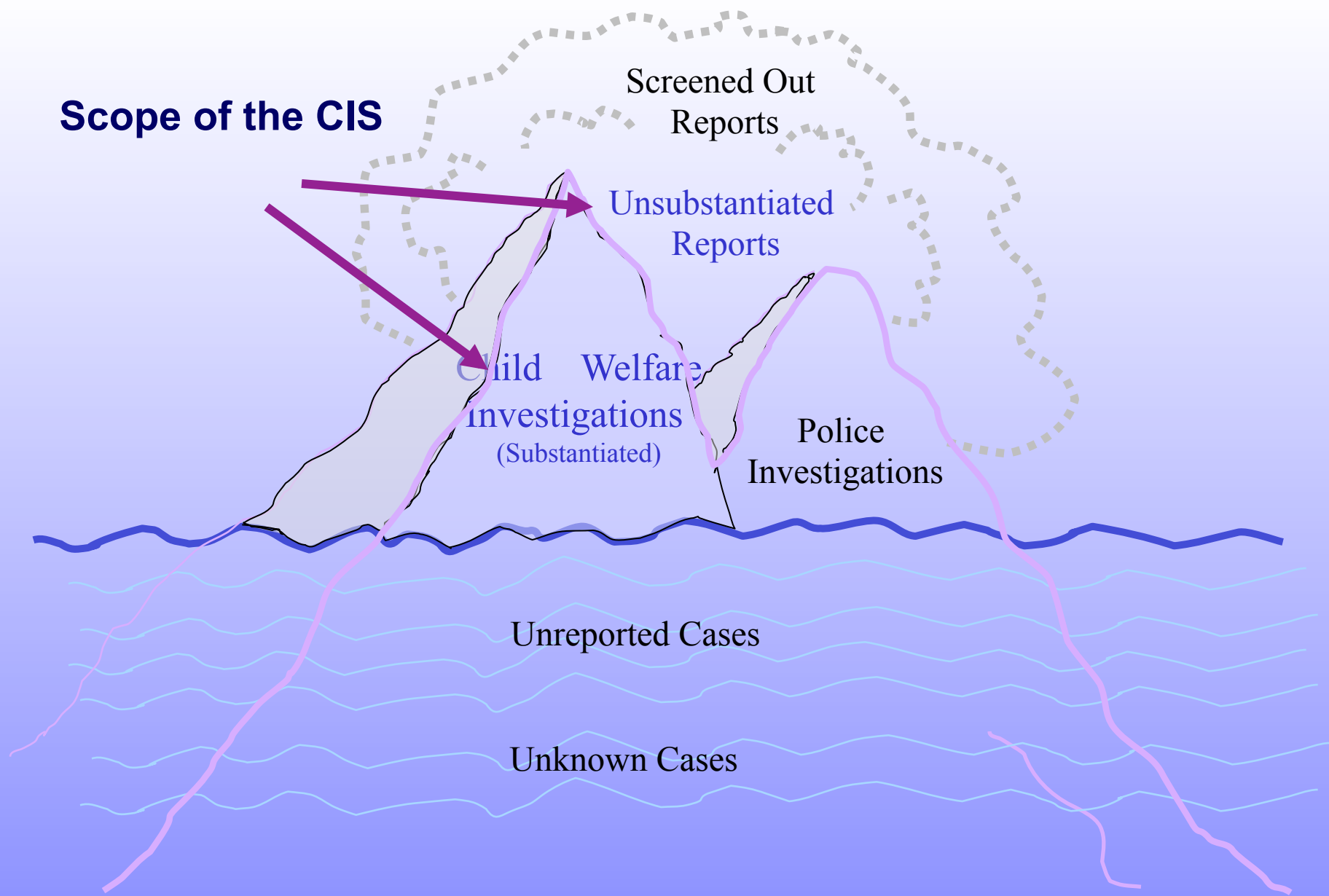
# CECW Continued

- CECW focuses on five functions:
  - Collect and analyze data;
  - Conduct focused research;
  - Provide policy advice;
  - Generate and disseminate information; and
  - Forge networks.

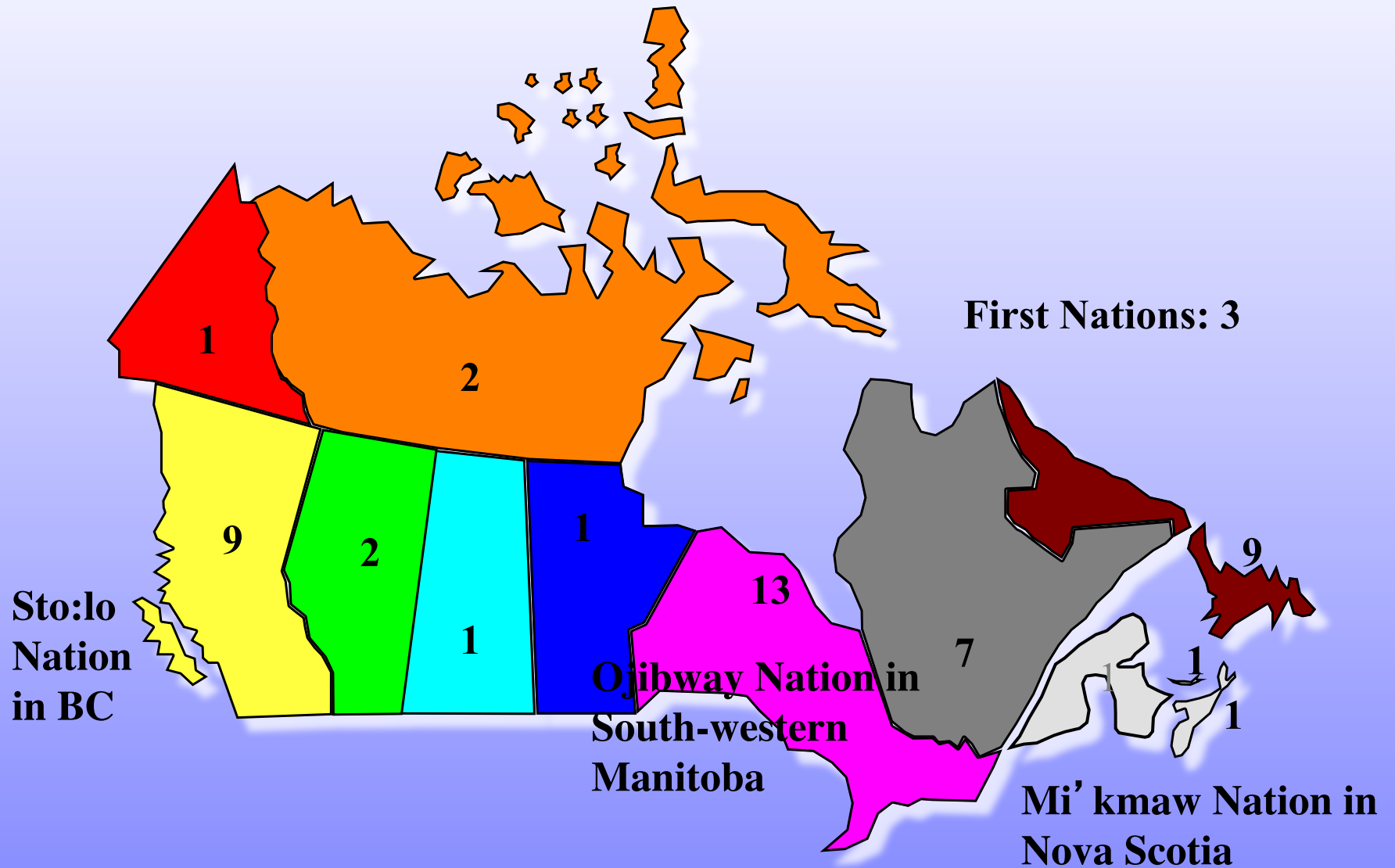
# Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect

- First Canada-wide study to examine the incidence of child maltreatment
- Snapshot of children reported to and investigated by child welfare services over a three month period in 1998 and 2003
- First step towards a national surveillance system on child maltreatment
- Basis for identification and analysis of trends

# Scope of the CIS



# Sample 1998



# Overview of CIS 1998 (Cycle I)

## 1<sup>st</sup> analysis - CIS Results comparing Aboriginal and non Aboriginal children

- Neglect twice as likely to be the primary form of maltreatment in Aboriginal families
- Aboriginal caregivers more likely to live in poverty, move more often, and high prevalence of alcohol abuse
- Aboriginal children functioning approximately on par with non Aboriginal children
- Aboriginal children twice as likely to be placed in care
- Targeted culturally based neglect intervention programs that incorporate substance misuse treatment recommended

# Overview of CIS 1998 Continued

2<sup>nd</sup> analysis – Statistical explanation of higher rates of case substantiation and pathways to overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in care

- Aboriginal families younger and headed by single female parent, living in unsafe housing, experience multiple moves and more likely to have previous child welfare cases openings
- Most cases of substantiated abuse involves neglect as opposed to physical abuse
- Alcohol is noted as a concern for 2/3 of Aboriginal parents
- Drug abuse, criminal activity, cognitive impairment and lack of social support are also statistically more common among Aboriginal parents.
- Analysis reveals that pathways to overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in care in substantiated cases and out of home placements data may be related to a combination of complex factors that reflect on multiple disadvantages experienced by Aboriginal families. (Trocme, Knoke and Blackstock, 2004)

# Overview CIS 2003 (Cycle II)

- Over 55 child welfare agencies across Canada participated in Cycle II of the CIS study
- Core sample 11,562 child investigations
- Sample includes 2,328 investigations involving Aboriginal children
  - 304 served by FNCFS agencies
  - 1,244 served by mainstream CFS agencies
  - 476 Métis, Inuit and other Aboriginal children

# Overview of CIS 2003 Continued

- 8 First Nations CFS agencies participated (originally 10 but 2 were unable to participate because of capacity issues)
- 3 of 8 agencies participated also participated in Cycle I (1998)
- Second cycle conducted over three month period in 2003
- First Nations research assistants hired to collect data

# Findings from CIS 2003

**Table 1a:** Incidence of Child Maltreatment Investigations by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 2003, (Quebec Excluded)

	Aboriginal			Non-Aboriginal			Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	Rate per 1000	%	# of Child Investigations	Rate per 1000	
Substantiated	52	15,273	49.0	47	88,025	19.8	103,098
Suspected	15	4,506	14.6	12	23,574	5.3	28,053
Unsubstantiated	33	9,715	31.4	41	76,254	17.1	85,969
Total Maltreatment Investigations		29,494	95.3		187,826	42.2	217,320

Estimates- abor registered pop=309,388; non-abor pop =4,757,845-309,388=4,448,457

*Analysis is based upon a sample of 11,562 child maltreatment investigations with information about substantiation*

# Child Maltreatment Investigations

**Table 1b:** Child Maltreatment Investigations by Level of Substantiation in Canada in 2003  
(Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non- Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Substantiated	51	3,473	51	8,496	55	3,299	47	88,025	103,298
Suspected	12	822	15	2,506	20	1,178	12	23,574	28,053
Unsubstantiated	37	2,480	34	5,696	25	1,539	41	76,254	85,969
Total Maltreatment Investigations	100	6,780	100	16,698	100	6,016	100	187,826	217,320

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

$X^2=50.16$   $p<0.001$

*Analysis is based upon a sample of 11, 562 child maltreatment investigations with information about substantiation*

# Incidence of Categories of Maltreatment

**Table 2a:** Incidence of Categories of Substantiated Maltreatment in 2003 in Canada (Quebec Excluded)

	Aboriginal			Non-aboriginal			Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	Rate per 1,000 children	%	# of Child Investigations	Rate per 1,000 children	
Physical Abuse	13	1,982	6.4	29	25,454	5.7	27,436
Sexual Abuse	2	259	0.8	3	2,944	0.7	3,203
Neglect	60	9,211	29.5	30	26,631	6.0	35,842
Emotional Maltreatment	21	3,227	10.4	24	20,808	4.7	24,035
Exposure to Domestic Violence	31	4,656	15.0	35	30,461	6.8	35,117
Total investigations involving substantiated maltreatment	100	15,273	49	100	88,025	19.8	103,298

Estimates- abor registered pop=309, 388; non-abor pop =4,757,845-309,388=4,448,457

*Analyses are based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with information about substantiation*

# Categories of Maltreatment

**Table 2b:** Category of Substantiated Maltreatment in Canada in 2003 (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Physical Abuse	21	720	10	894	11	368	29	25,454	27,436
Sexual Abuse	(--)	(--)	2	178	(--)	(--)	3	2,944	3,202
Neglect	51	1,787	62	5,275	65	2,149	30	26,631	35,842
Emotional Maltreatment	27	944	17	1,423	26	860	24	20,808	24,035
Exposure to Domestic Violence	38	1,329	29	2,415	28	912	35	30,461	35,117
Total investigations involving substantiated maltreatment	51	3,478	51	8,496	55	3,299	47	88,025	103,298

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\*X<sup>2</sup>, p<.05

*Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with information about substantiation*

# Forms of Physical Abuse

**Table 3a:** Forms of Substantiated Physical Abuse (% of substantiated PA), (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Shake, Push, Grab Or Throw	44	314	33	296	48	175	23	5,947	6,732
Hit With Hand	30	218	57	506	47	173	47	11,878	12,775
Punch, Kick, Or Bite:	(--)	(--)	15	133	(--)	(--)	9	2,207	2,419
Hit With Object	(--)	(--)	16	143	(--)	(--)	22	5,615	5,930
Other Physical Abuse	21	152	18	161	(--)	(--)	13	3,305	3,631
At least One Form of Substantiated Physical Abuse*	21	720	10	894	11	368	29	25,454	27,436

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\* $\chi^2$ ,  $p < .001$

*Analyses are based upon a sample of 1, 410 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated physical abuse*

# Forms of Neglect

**Table 3c:** Forms of Substantiated Neglect (% of substantiated neglect), (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non- Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Physical*	38	673	31	1,637	38	805	43	11,428	14,543
Sexual*	(--)	(--)	2	122	(--)	(--)	5	1,447	1,642
Physical Neglect*	45	811	36	1,882	53	1,142	35	9,263	13,098
Medical Neglect*	(--)	(--)	6	337	11	237	7	1,750	2,346
Failure to Provide Psych. Treatment			(--)	(--)	(--)	(--)	3	795	854
Behaviour*	(--)	(--)	6	303	(--)	(--)	2	574	1,000
Abandonment*	13	235	18	975	9	192	12	3,306	4,708
Educational Neglect*	8	139	11	585	30	636	7	1,829	3,189
At least One Form of Substantiated Neglect*	51	1,788	62	5,275	65	2,149	30	26,631	35,842

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\*X<sup>2</sup>, p<0.05

*Analyses are based upon a sample of 2,077 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated neglect*

# Forms of Emotional Maltreatment

**Table 3d:** Forms of Substantiated Emotional Maltreatment (% of substantiated emotional maltreatment), (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Emotional Abuse	63	597	64	909	65	558	74	15,457	17,521
Non-organic Failure to Thrive							<1	124	124
Emotional Neglect*	60	567	42	594	32	273	22	4,660	6,094
Exposure to Non-intimate Violence*	(--)	(--)	(--)	(--)	(--)	(--)	7	1,542	1,617
At least One Form of Substantiated Emotional Maltreatment*	27	944	17	1,423	26	860	24	20,808	24,035

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\*X<sup>2</sup>, p<0 .001

*Analyses are based upon a sample of 1,385 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated neglect*

# Exposure to Domestic Violence

**Table 3e:** Substantiated Exposure to Domestic Violence (% of substantiated maltreatment), (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Exposure to Domestic Violence*	38	1,329	29	2,415	28	912	35	30,461	35,117

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\*  $\chi^2$ ,  $p < .05$

*Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment*

# Single and Multiple forms of Maltreatment

**Table 3f:** Single and Multiple Forms of Substantiated Child Maltreatment, (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve	First Nations Off Reserve	Other Aboriginal	Non-Aboriginal	Total				
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	Total
<i>Single Forms of Substantiated Maltreatment</i>									
Physical Abuse Only*	8	263	7	606	7	234	19	17,114	18,217
Sexual Abuse Only	(-)	(-)	2	153	(-)	(-)	3	2,298	2,517
Neglect Only*	29	1,001	48	4,088	44	1,468	22	18,977	25,554
Emotional Maltreatment Only*	6	205	7	555	5	167	12	10,568	11,495
Exposure to Domestic Violence Only*	24	825	19	1,597	19	616	26	22,617	25,655
One Substantiated Form*	67	2,335	82	6,998	76	2,510	81	71,594	83,437
<i>Multiple Forms of Substantiated Maltreatment <sup>(2)</sup></i>									
Physical Abuse & Neglect	6	198	2	184	(-)	(-)	2	1,398	1,828
Physical Abuse & Emotional Abuse*	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	4	3,182	3,278
Physical Abuse & Exposure to Domestic Violence*	(-)	(-)			(-)	(-)	3	2,249	2,274
Neglect & Emotional Maltreatment*	10	366	5	421	12	382	3	2,774	3,943
Neglect & Exposure to Domestic Violence*	4	128	5	402	(-)	(-)	2	1,933	2,484
Emotional Maltreatment & Exposure to Domestic Violence	5	189	3	234	(-)	(-)	3	2,483	2,978
More than One Substantiated Form of Maltreatment*	33	1,143	18	1,497	24	789	19	16,432	19,861
Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003					* $\chi^2$ , p<.01				
Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment									
<sup>(2)</sup> forms combined with sexual abuse not included since Ns very small									

# Family Risk Factors

**Table 7:** Family Risk Factors for Substantiated Child Maltreatment Investigations, (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Single Parent Status*	38	1,331	53	4,517	45	1,501	43	37,820	45,169
Housing Accommodations*									
Own Home	14	496	9	746	7	241	36	31,532	33,015
Public Housing	54	1,859	24	2,018	24	790	9	8,338	13,005
Unsafe Housing*	20	697	21	1,797	32	1,089	7	5,915	9,498
Over crowding*	24	843	14	1,176	25	825	7	5,907	8,751
Primary Source of Income*									
Full-time employment	26	914	27	2,315	22	720	62	54,789	58,738
Unemployment/ other benefits	30	1,043	53	4,534	48	1,596	20	17,731	24,904
> 1 move in prior year* (if known)	14	390	31	1,885	44	965	12	8,245	11,485

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003 \*X<sup>2</sup>, p<0.001

*Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment*

# Female Caregiver Risk Factors

**Table 8a:** Female Caregiver Risk Factors for Substantiated Child Maltreatment Investigations (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non- Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Alcohol Abuse *	44	1,529	58	4,948	43	1,406	11	9,849	17,732
Drug/Solvent Abuse *	27	931	35	2,954	40	1,310	10	8,377	13,572
Criminal Activity *	10	338	19	1,642	21	691	6	4,904	7,575
Cognitive Impairment *	20	714	15	1,283	36	1,194	8	6,806	9,997
Mental Health Issues	34	1,181	25	2,124	34	1,056	25	21,882	26,243
Physical Health Issues	10	332	15	1,264	8	263	10	8,440	10,299
Few Social Supports *	49	1,710	50	4,265	61	2,016	36	31,623	39,614
Maltreated as Child *	40	1,391	37	3,179	51	1,673	21	18,155	24,398
Victim of Domestic Violence*	64	2,233	59	5,005	49	1,626	47	41,622	50,486
Average # of Caregiver Risk Factors**		3.0		3.4		3.3		1.8	
Total Substantiated Investigations		3,478		8,496		3,299		88,025	103,298

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003 \*X<sup>2</sup>, p<0.01 \*\* ANOVA: (3, 5656)–193.1, p<.001

Analyses are based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment

# Male Caregiver Risk Factors

**Table 8b:** Male Caregiver Risk Factors for Substantiated Child Maltreatment Investigations (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non- Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Alcohol Abuse *	42	1,448	31	2,657	33	1,078	14	12,115	17,298
Drug/Solvent Abuse *	34	1,165	20	1,696	24	789	7	6,389	10,039
Criminal Activity *	21	745	17	1,445	23	759	7	6,460	9,409
Cognitive Impairment *	12	428	9	790	3	97	3	2,967	4,282
Mental Health Issues	13	441	9	784	14	461	10	8,844	10,530
Physical Health Issues	2	67	4	340	5	154	5	4,138	4,699
Few Social Supports *	23	790	19	1,609	22	721	18	16,163	19,283
Maltreated as Child *	17	602	14	1,185	13	430	9	8,086	10,303
Victim of Domestic Violence*	11	392	8	715	14	462	7	6,287	7,856
Average # of Caregiver Risk Factors**		2.1		2.1		2.0		0.9	
Total Substantiated Investigations		3,478		8,496		3,299		88,025	103,298

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003 \*X<sup>2</sup>, p<0.01 \*\* ANOVA: F(3,5656)=128.3, p<.001

Analyses are based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment

# Placement

**Table 11:** Placement for Substantiated Child Maltreatment Investigations, (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Out-of-home Placement*									
No Placement Required	60	2,082	76	6,423	54	1,761	86	75,466	85,731
Placement Considered	8	295	3	272	(-)	(-)	4	3,323	3,983
Informal Kinship Care	17	587	5	432	22	732	4	3,498	5,249
Kinship Foster Care	7	248	4	345	(-)	(-)	1	593	1,275
Other Family Foster Care	4	152	7	586	16	529	4	3,709	4,976
Group Home	(-)	(-)	5	403	(-)	(-)	1	866	1,410
Residential/ Secure Treatment	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	1	497	602
Any Child Welfare Placement*	15	514	16	1,368		713	6	5,668	8,263

Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003

\* $\chi^2$ ,  $p < 0.001$

Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment

# Referrals

**Table 12:** Referral Sources for Substantiated Child Maltreatment Investigations, (Quebec Excluded)

	First Nations On Reserve		First Nations Off Reserve		Other Aboriginal		Non-Aboriginal		Total
	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	%	# of Child Investigations	
Professionals	54	1,879	59	4,978	75	2,474	73	64,542	73,873
Family, Relatives or Acquaintances	38	1,305	23	1,989	23	764	19	16,851	20,909
Other Referral	8	294	18	1,528	(--)	(--)	8	6,633	8,516
Total Substantiated Investigations	100	3,478	100	8,495	100	3,299	100	88,025	103,298
Canadian Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect 2003					$\chi^2=115.2, p<0.001$				
<i>Analysis is based upon a sample of 5,660 child maltreatment investigations with substantiated maltreatment</i>									

# Feedback

- Strengths:
  - Willingness to participate in study and in feedback and reciprocation
  - The importance of relationship building among researchers and other FNCFS agencies
  - Opportunities for increased learning and capacity building in research field
  - Analysis from first cycle of CIS helped in justifying the research and policy needs of FNCFS agencies
  - Study was important for improving upon access to factual based Aboriginal data and FNCFS service providers that did not previously exist

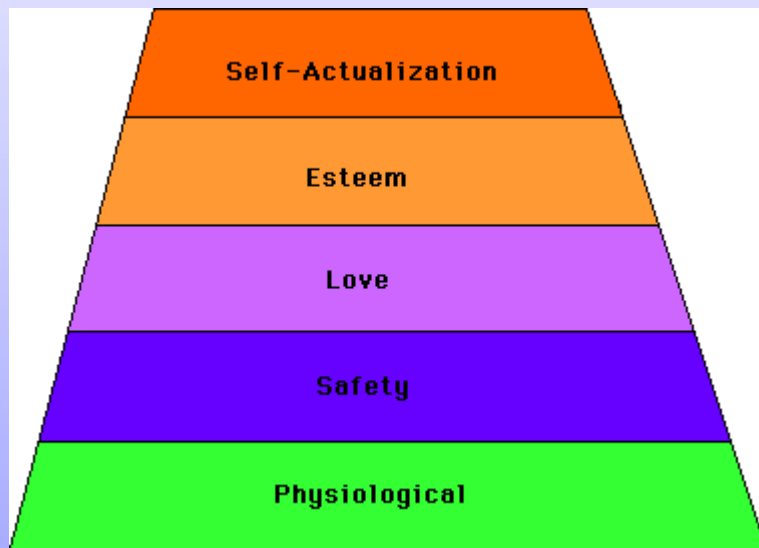
# Feedback Continued

- Challenges:
  - Timing of the study (peak holiday period)
  - Demanding schedule and workload of agency staff tasked with filling out survey forms
  - Travel of agency staff time consuming
  - Emergencies in the field took priority
  - Survey forms were time consuming
  - Survey forms also did not reflect the social work practices of the participating agencies

# Challenges Continued

- Vignettes used in training sessions needed to be more specific to the FN context
- Training sessions on how to complete the data collection survey was too short and not as comprehensive as needed for FNCFS Agencies
- CIS data collectors need to be better matched to the communities or need to be recruited from the community
- Geographical distances between communities
- No commitment to participation in research especially when other community issues are more important and essential

# Maslow's Hierarchy Theory

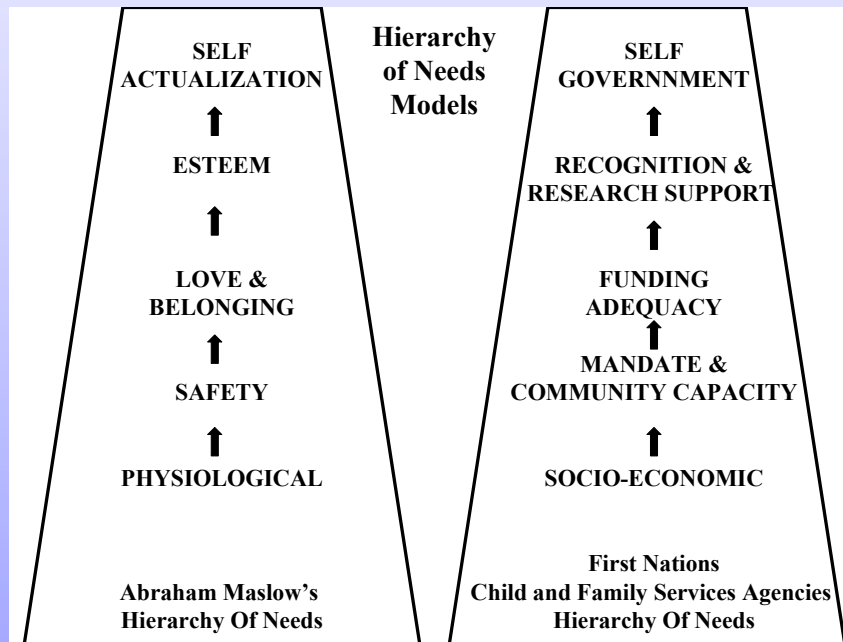


- Abraham Maslow – psychologist  
Developed “Hierarchy of Needs” framework to show human potential  
His theoretical framework was comprised of five sets of basic human needs, to explain motivation in human behavior:
  - The “physiological” needs
  - The safety needs
  - The love needs
  - The esteem needs
  - The need for self-actualization

# Maslow's Hierarch Theory Continued

- Mankind's behaviour is dominated by the desire to satisfy the basic needs on this hierarchy and maintain sense of satisfaction
- As needs are met at one level, newer emerging needs develop to satisfy other needs at a higher level
- The emergence of new needs and the motivation to satisfy them is a cycle that repeats itself, as one area of need is met and new centers of need arise
- Lower levels of need are more dominant than higher levels

# A FNCFS Perceptive on Maslow



Comparative interface between Maslow's theory and the hierarchical needs of FNCFS Agencies

- Useful tool but research is considered a higher level need
- Research is a “luxury” and not a “priority”
- Higher levels difficult to achieve simply b/c FNCFS agencies struggling to ensure socioeconomic needs of children and families at the lower level are being met

# Recommendations

12 recommendations from feedback:

1. Need more agency staff trained to undertake research
2. Meaningful analysis of data and statistics from a FNs perspective
3. Improved access to IT communication and technology
4. Dialogue on revisions to current policy and legislation and in development of new laws

# Recommendations Continued

- Focus on the strengths not the pathologies
- Research that is community-based and collaborative
- Training sessions tailored to realities in FN communities
- Modification of data collection forms
- Modifications to CIS training materials and analysis of CIS data

# Recommendations Continued

- Implementation of an CIS Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Longer recruitment process
- Opportunity for feedback on a continuous basis from beginning to end of data collection periods
- A national CIS study specific to First Nations



Meegwetch!  
Thank You!

[www.fncfcs.com](http://www.fncfcs.com)

*First Nations Child & Family  
Caring Society of Canada*