

INFORMATION ABOUT ADOPTING IN NUNAVUT



In Nunavut, the Department of Health & Social Services oversees all adoption issues. The website is: <http://www.gov.nu.ca/health/>. You should also read the Adoption Services section of this online document: <http://www.gov.nu.ca/health/ssw.pdf>

We also suggest that you refer to the Glossary on our website: http://www.adoption.ca/AboutAdoption_Glossary.html. This will help you to better understand some of the common terminology that you will encounter during your research and dialogue about adoption.

The first step in any adoption process (regardless of what province or territory one lives in) is to have a complete homestudy (family assessment), usually done by an adoption social worker.

While the ACC does not yet have any specific details about the various adoption processes available to prospective adoptive parents in Nunavut, we do know that you have the following options to consider:

1. **Departmental adoption (through your nearest Health & Social Services office):** you can contact Health & Social Services by calling (867) 975-5700. Generally, there is no cost associated when completing an adoption through the public system.
2. **Private adoption:** costs vary among private agencies and private adoption workers. Please contact the Department of Health & Social Services for information about this process.
3. **International adoption:** call the Department of Health & Social Services for information about this process.
4. **Canada's Waiting Children (CWC):** set-up and operated by the Adoption Council of Canada, this program aims to recruit families for children who are waiting for adoption in Canada. Since the ACC is not a placement agency, the adoptive parent(s) must still have a homestudy done through a private or public agency in their province. Information and details about our program are online at: www.canadaswaitingkids.ca

The Family Helper website is another good source for information. You might find the following guides useful:

- Domestic Adoption: <http://www.familyhelper.net/fh/fhdom.html>
- Adoption & Money: <http://www.familyhelper.net/fh/fhmoney.html>
- Intercountry Adoption: <http://www.familyhelper.net/ad/adguide.html>

Finally, <http://www.parentbooks.ca/Adoption.html> is an excellent resource for individuals in all steps of the adoption process.

Should you have any questions about this material, please do not hesitate to contact the Adoption Council of Canada: info@adoption.ca or 1-888-54-ADOPT.