

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN and FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

CLIFF# 234755

PREPARED FOR: The Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development - **FOR INFORMATION**

TITLE: Funding Allocations to Child Development Centres (CDCs)

PURPOSE: Provide information on CDC MCFD contract funding

BACKGROUND:

- The ministry delivers over 50% of its services to children, youth and families in British Columbia through contracts with the social services sector.
- Most of these contracts are classified as Transfers Under Agreements, also known as STOB 80 contracts.
- A CDC generally refers to a community-based agency that delivers a cluster of specialized services for children with special needs, which may include diagnostic, developmental and intervention services.
- CDCs are funded under STOB 80 contracts for community-based programs and services directed to Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) which may include Early Intervention Therapies, Infant Development, Supported Child Development and School Age Therapies. These services are also delivered by agencies on behalf of MCFD which are not CDCs.
- In addition to the range of specialized services for young children with special needs and their families, many CDCs also hold contracts to deliver a broader range of MCFD services, such as Family Preservation, outreach to at-risk youth, domestic violence initiatives.

DISCUSSION:

- Professionals working within a CDC range from behavioural interventionists to practitioners such as pediatric therapists (occupational therapists, physical therapists and speech-language pathologists).
- Union affiliation ranges from non-union, Community Social Services Employers' Association (CSSEA), British Columbia Government and Service Employers' Union with the majority of the organizations being members of the Health Employers' Association of BC.
- Many CDCs – the vast majority of which are non-profit societies – belong to one of the following two organizations:
 - BC Association of Child Development and Intervention (BCACDI)
 - Federation of Community Social Services of BC (the Federation)

- Funding allocated to a CDC is based on:
 - The determination of the service requirements from the Service Delivery Area (SDA)
 - The SDA budget
 - A joint CDC/ministry assessment of the costs associated with the service provision
 - Salaries, which are based on union affiliation salary grids comprise approximately 77% of the costs of the contract; it is important to note that typically non-union organizations compensate their staff at CSSEA or higher rates
 - Up to 10% of the contract value is provided to cover administration costs such as telecommunications and bookkeeping
 - The remainder of the funds are associated with program costs (e.g. facilities for the program/service provision)
- As opposed to grants, there are specific service deliverables which need to be delivered by the CDC and staffing levels (i.e. number of Full Time Equivalents) address in order to receive the full funding associated with the contract. These are payments under contracts or agreements.
- The contracts identify the services to be delivered, target population, reporting requirements, funding allocation and terms and conditions under which the services are to be provided (e.g. adherence to legislation, regulation and/or policy).
- CDCs do receive funding from other sources which may include Health Authorities, School Districts and other funding activities (e.g. fund raising).

ADVICE:

Transfers Under Agreements provide a mechanism through which MCFD funds CDCs based on the services provided and staffing levels being addressed as agreed to prior to contract signing. These agreements clarify the ministry's expectations and the requirements to be addressed by the CDCs.

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