

# MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

ESTIMATES BINDER  
2019



Ministry of  
Children and Family  
Development

February 2019

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**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Minister's Mandate Letter and Minister of State's Mandate Letter**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Mandate letter commitments for myself and Minister of State Chen are captured in the ministry's latest Service Plan.
- We have made significant progress on these priorities including:
  - Launching the Childcare BC Plan in February 2018, committing to \$1 billion over three years to create a new affordable, accessible and quality early learning and care system – one of the biggest social policy changes in BC's history.
  - Providing \$6.4 million to First Nations and Métis communities and organizations to support prevention activities.
  - Committing \$34 million over the next three years (with \$12million each year after that) for Agreements with Young Adults Program to expand to a year-round benefit, increase the monthly payment to \$1250, and extended eligibility for youth up to their 27th birthday.
  - Introducing changes to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* so that First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples and communities will have greater involvement in child-welfare decisions to help keep their children out of care, safe in their home communities, and connected to their cultures.
  - Signing a joint commitment for the exercise of Métis child welfare authority with Métis Nation BC and signed tripartite Memorandums of Understandings with the Wet'suwet'en Nation, the Secwepemc Nation, and the Cowichan Tribes to explore how BC, Canada and the Nations can work together to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services.

Upcoming areas of focus for us include:

- Implementing the first lift to care-giver rates in over a decade. Investing \$85 million to support children in care by increasing support payments for foster parents, adoptive parents and extended families caring for children.
- Working in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, to design and implement restorative policy, practice, services and cultural humility to support and honour cultural systems of caring and resiliency.
- Recognizing the importance of prevention, early intervention and voluntary services in keeping families safely together and reviewing the ministry's allocation of time, effort and funding dedicated towards these activities
- Working in collaboration with partners to design a high quality network that meets a child or youth's needs, nurtures a sense of love and belonging, and prioritizes cultural and family connections.
- Implementing short-term strategies and develop medium-and long-term strategies for a universal early care and learning system.
- Developing flexible programs that reflect the diverse needs of all youth and young adults in contact with the Ministry.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Service Plan
- Ministry Strategic Framework

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: MINISTRY STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Ministry is currently finalizing our 2019/20 – 2021/22 Strategic Framework.
- The Strategic Framework and its four strategies align with the goals in the Service Plan, as well as both my and Minister of State Chen's mandate letters.
- The Strategic Framework builds on the important work already done to implement the recommendations of reports such as Grand Chief Ed John's report on Indigenous child welfare, recommendations from the Representative for Children and Youth, the Residential Review Project and others.
- This Framework signals a shift in my Ministry's approach - from reactive 'symptomatic' responses to an approach that focuses on what is needed to meet the needs of the children, youth and families we serve.
- We have worked to refine the Framework through consultations with staff and Indigenous and sector partners.
- The four strategies are: Indigenous Reconciliation: Communities and Families, Family Preservation and Early Intervention, Youth Transitions, and the Child and Youth Care Network.
- We have seen the statistics, we have poured through the reports, and we have listened. Now is the time for transformation. We have work to do.
- We will continue to move this work forward through consultations with staff and our Indigenous and sector partners.

**KEY MESSAGES FOR EACH GOAL:**

**Indigenous Reconciliation: Communities and Families**

- In line with our commitment to UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action, this strategy focuses on systemic change - shifting our approach from a western way of thinking (a nuclear family perspective) to an Indigenous way of thinking which emphasizes how children, youth and families are part of their broader community and culture.

- To support this, we will:
  - Engage in discussions regarding jurisdiction over child welfare with Indigenous communities that are interested and in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, design and implement restorative policy, practice and services to support and honour cultural systems of caring and resiliency.

### **Family Preservation, Early Intervention and Voluntary Services**

- This is about supporting families and it signals our intention to create a new balance in our investments to shift the focus to:
  - *Family preservation*: working to keep families together by providing timely supports for those at risk of being separated from their children and maximizing efforts to keep children in their family and community, and to
  - *Early intervention*: providing services and investments that support children to maximize their physical, spiritual, cognitive, and emotional potential (includes implementing our Childcare BC Plan).

### **Youth Transitions**

- Work in this area supports our vision that every youth is provided transition supports that are proactive and responsive to their self identified needs.
- Focus areas include:
  - *Building Life Skills to be Healthy and Confident Adults*: Flexible programs that support youth transitions, including the needs of youth receiving voluntary services (such as Child and Youth with Special Needs Services and Child and Youth Mental Health Service), those transitioning from the youth-justice system, those in-care, and young adults formerly in-care.
  - Supporting youth and young adults, in or from care, to connect with their culture and community.
  - Working across government, and with our partners, to better support youth, young adults and their families in planning for a successful transition to adulthood.

### **Child and Youth Care Network**

- This strategy is about our vision of a network where a child's or youth's needs, safety and well-being drive their placement. It is about creating a system that nurtures a sense of love and belonging, and prioritizes cultural and family connections.
- The focus areas include:
  - Building an in-care network of homes and services that respond to the full range of a child or youth's needs.
  - Strengthening the family-based care system
  - Building accountability and effective oversight controls.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Ministry Service Plan
- Back pocket documents:
  - Strategic Framework Logic Diagram
  - Strategic Framework Overview (with Strategies, Focus Areas and Areas of Action)
  - Five Strategies
  - Consultation list
  - Strategic Framework, Service Plan, Mandate Letter Cross Reference

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: 2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Across government we have modernized and streamlined Ministry Service Plans for 2019/20 by removing operational content and focusing the plan on measurable outcomes and key strategies to highlight government's high-level priorities, as expressed in the Minister and Minister of State Mandate letters.
- As is the norm, in my Ministry, the Service Plan is aligned to the Minister's and Minister of State's Mandate Letters as well as the MCFD Strategic Framework, which we are currently developing.
- I want to highlight that this Service Plan signals a shift in my Ministry's strategic approach - from reactive and 'symptomatic' responses to a bold systemic and transformative approach focusing holistically on what is needed to meet the needs of the children, youth and families we serve.
- The four goals in the Service Plan align with the four Strategic Framework strategies: Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities and Families; Keeping families together and well: family preservation and early intervention; Youth Transitions; and Child and Youth Care Network.
- Highlights of the Service Plan goals:

**Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities and Families**

- In line with our commitment to UNDRIP and the TRC Calls to Action, this goal focuses on systemic change - shifting our approach from a western way of thinking (a nuclear family perspective) to an Indigenous way of thinking which emphasizes how children, youth and families are part of their broader community and culture.

### **Keeping families together and well: family preservation and early intervention**

- This goal is about supporting families and it signals our intention to create a new balance in our investments– to shift focus ‘upstream’ to family preservation, early intervention and voluntary services
- Objective 2.2 supports Minister of State Chen’s mandate and is focused on implementation of short-term strategies and the development of medium- and long-term strategies for a universal early care and learning system.

### **Youth Transitions**

- Youth Transitions is about our vision that every youth is provided transition supports that are proactive and responsive to their self-identified needs.
- Within this strategy we include the needs of youth in-care, young adults formerly in-care, youth receiving voluntary services, such as Child and Youth with Special Needs Services and Child and Youth Mental Health Service as well as those youth transitioning from the youth-justice system.

### **Child and Youth Care Network**

- This goal is about our vision of a network of placement options where a child or youth’s needs, safety and wellbeing drive their placement. It is about a system or network which can anticipate what is needed, creating capacity and delivering as needed. Ultimately a system that nurtures a sense of love and belonging and prioritizes cultural and family connections.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Service Plan Performance Measures
- Ministry Strategic Framework
- Back pocket - Service Plan, Mandate Letter Cross Reference

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Service Plan Performance Measures**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The 2019-22 Service Plan is closely aligned with both my, and Minister of State Chen's mandate letters. It has six performance measures that support the four goals in our Service Plan.
- We have carried forward five measures from last year, they are linked to the first three goals in the Plan.
  - Rate of Indigenous children and youth in care per 1,000 (0-18) population
  - Percent of children assessed with a protection concern that can safely live with family or extended family
  - Average monthly number of funded licensed child care spaces.
  - Percent of youth in care who turn 19 with a high school credential
  - Youth under Continuing Custody Orders and Youth Agreements aging-out that receive an Agreement with Young Adults (AYA) benefit payment within the next year
- We have decided to continue with the existing Child Care performance measure as it is currently the best measure for overall accessibility to child care. We are exploring an additional measure.
- I have asked for an additional measure to be developed for the youth and young adult transitions goal to allow for a broader measurement.
- We have added a new measure to track our progress in implementing service plan goal four.
  - Percentage of children and youth in-care with no moves in the first 12 months since their last admission to care.
- We have removed three measures related to objectives that are no longer in the service plan. We continue to track these measures and most are publically available on the ministry's Public Reporting Portal.
  - Access to Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) Services
  - First community sentence



- Retention rates of front line staff (tracked internally)

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Ministry Service Plan
- Workload

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:**        **Progress on implementation of Grand Chief Ed John's Report**  
**Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to**  
**Root Solutions**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- I am committed to the implementation of the recommendations in Grand Chief Ed John's report and support the report's call to BC, Canada and Indigenous governments, communities and families to work together in partnership to recognize, constructively address, and reconcile our respective interests to better support the needs of all Indigenous children.
- Implementing the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report and providing better supports to keep Indigenous children at home and out of care are included in my mandate letter, and we are working collaboratively and respectfully with Indigenous communities to make a difference for this generation of families.
- Over the course of the last several years, our efforts have resulted in a decrease in the number of Indigenous children in care, increased family preservation and improved relationships in many communities.
- Operational and systemic changes stemming from GCEJ's recommendations are woven throughout the ministry's new Strategic Framework and are a significant focus of the Indigenous Reconciliation Strategy which includes the following three strategic focus areas:
  - Engage in discussions regarding jurisdiction over child welfare with Indigenous communities that are interested and willing
  - In collaboration with Indigenous peoples, design and implement restorative policy, practice, services and cultural humility to support and honour cultural systems of caring and resiliency
  - Create transparency and accountability to Indigenous children, youth, families and communities to work together to ensure our efforts achieve real results for this generation of Indigenous families

- I have introduced changes to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* to implement Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations and help keep Indigenous children out of care and give Indigenous communities greater involvement in child-welfare decisions. Once brought in to force the changes will allow us to share more information with Indigenous communities right from the start to keep children from coming into care in the first place. It will also give the ministry more opportunities to work collaboratively on planning and caring for Indigenous children by:
  - Promoting routine involvement of Indigenous communities, through a written agreement, in child-welfare matters before a potential removal.
  - Enabling MCFD to refer child-protection reports to an Indigenous government that has child protection laws.
  - Ensuring Indigenous communities receive ongoing notification of legal proceedings affecting their children.
  - Welcoming Indigenous communities' continued involvement in planning for their children who are in care.
- There are 85 recommendations in the report and 71 of those are directed to MCFD. Of those 71:
  - 10 are substantially complete or embedded in operations
  - 46 are underway with specific action taken
  - 15 require further work and engagement with our partners

#### **FINANCES:**

N/A

#### **STATISTICS:**

N/A

#### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: 2019/20 Operating Budget**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry budget has increased to nearly \$2.1 billion (\$2.064 billion) – an increase of \$272.3 million from Budget 2018.
- Over ninety per cent of the budget goes directly to supporting clients and communities, with over \$1.9 billion directly invested in programs and services.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Core Business Changes**

Core Business (\$ million)	2018/19 Estimates	Change	2018/19 Restated	Change	2019/20 Estimates
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	443.724	-	443.724	181.083	624.807
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	356.249	5.219	361.468	25.201	386.669
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	98.925	-	98.925	10.471	109.396
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	646.053	(5.219)	640.834	41.843	682.677
Adoption Services	31.699	-	31.699	3.053	34.752
Youth Justice Services	45.890	-	45.890	1.531	47.421
Service Delivery Support	151.631	(0.157)	151.474	8.428	159.902
Executive & Support Services	18.441	-	18.441	0.662	19.103
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>1,792.612</b>	<b>(0.157)</b>	<b>1,792.455</b>	<b>272.272</b>	<b>2,064.727</b>

*Note: Change from 2018/19 Estimates to 2018/19 Restated includes budget re-alignment and Inter-Ministry transfer (Leased Property).*

***Operating Budget – What changed?***

***2018/19 Restated***

The ministry has restated the budget to address Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations. The budget realignment includes the transfer of caseload funding to non-residential services such as Family Support and Children and Youth with Special Needs Foundational Programs. The funded caseload pressure was less than expected, so excess funding was moved to prevention services. This net adjustment of \$5.2 million between two Core Businesses has no impact to the budget.

There was also one transfer of \$0.2 million to Ministry of Citizen Services – Real Property Division for leased space that is currently being recovered from the ministry.

### ***2019/20 Estimates***

The MCFD operating budget for 2019/20 has increased by \$272.3 million – a 15% net increase over 2018/19, and provides:

- \$179.6 million to continue building an affordable, accessible and quality child care system across the province, including an additional \$9.3 million to address pressures in Child Care Operating Fund;
- \$31.3 million to address caseload pressures in Autism, Medical Benefits, Special Needs Children in Care and Children and Youth in Care Programs;
- \$20.9 million to provide caregiver rate increases to the family based and extended family programs;
- \$9.3 million to expand programs for children and youth mental health;
- \$6.3 million to address children and youth with special needs respite waitlists;
- \$2.3 million to enhance supports for youth aging out of care through the Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) program;
- \$20.5 million to cover wage increases under the Sustainable Services Mandate (SSM), and the Economic Stability Mandate (ESM), including the Economic Stability Dividend (ESD).

### ***2019/20 and Beyond***

Further budget changes for subsequent years are outlined as follows:

- \$108.5 million in additional incremental funding to continue with the new child care plan;
- \$6.3 million in 2020/21 and \$12.6 in 2021/22 for government's cross-ministry poverty reduction initiative;
- \$4.8 million additional incremental funding for children and youth mental health programs;
- \$2.0 million in additional incremental funding for AYA.

**STOB Changes:**

Major STOBs	(\$ million)	2018/19 Estimates	Change	2018/19 Restated	Change	2019/20 Estimates
Salaries & Benefits		388.093	-	388.093	18.147	406.240
Operating Costs		57.959	(0.157)	57.802	1.293	59.095
Government Transfers		1,482.243	-	1,482.243	228.363	1,710.606
Other Expenses		33.942	-	33.942	0.219	34.161
Internal Recoveries		(3.684)	-	(3.684)	(5.750)	(9.434)
External Recoveries		(165.941)	-	(165.941)	30.000	(135.941)
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>1,792.612</b>	<b>(0.157)</b>	<b>1,792.455</b>	<b>272.272</b>	<b>2,064.727</b>

Note: Change from 2018/19 Estimates to 2018/19 Restated includes budget re-alignment and Inter-Ministry transfer (Leased Property)

- New funding for child care, children and youth mental health, and wage increases due to the SSM, ESM and ESD are reflected in higher Salaries and Benefits and Operating Costs.
- New funding for child care, children and youth mental health, caseload pressures, and caregiver rate increases are reflected in significant increases for programs under Government Transfers.
- Increase to Internal Recoveries related to recouping expenditures for *Confident Parents, Thriving Kids* program from Ministry of Mental Health and Addition.
- The federal agreement for Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) included a one-time deferral of \$30.0 million in funding from 2017/18 to 2018/19. This decrease is reflected in both Government Transfers and External Recoveries.

**Capital Budget:**

Asset Category	(\$ million)	2018/19 Estimates	Change	2018/19 Restated	Change	2019/20 Estimates
Heavy Equipment		202		202		202
Office Furniture & Equipment		28		28		28
Vehicles		4,350		4,350	(70)	4,280
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>4,580</b>		<b>4,580</b>	<b>(70)</b>	<b>4,510</b>

- The Capital Budget, as outlined in the resource summary of the Service Plan, is \$4.5 million, which includes an overall decrease of \$0.1 million due to the net difference of the reduction of fleet vehicle replacements and increase in youth custody transport vehicles.

**Attachments:**

Appendix A1 & 2 - Advice to the Minister – Questions & Answers

Appendix B1 & 2 - Estimates & Supplements

Appendix C - MCFD Material Assumptions

Appendix D - Budget Highlights

Appendix E - Resource Summary

Appendix F - Resource Summary Comparison by Core Business

# ADVICE TO MINISTER – CONFIDENTIAL ISSUE NOTE

as of February 07, 2019

## MCFD Budget 2019/20 February 19, 2019

### Advice and Recommended Response:

- The ministry's budget for this fiscal year has increased by \$272.3 million to over \$2 billion (\$2.065 billion), addressing funding requirements to support the ministry's renewed strategic framework and to continue delivery of its core mandate.
- Over 90 per cent of our budget goes to support clients and communities with more than \$1.9 billion of the total budget directly invested in programs and services.
- The ministry will receive \$67.9 million in new funding to address strategic priorities as proposed during the *Budget 2019* process including caseload, respite waitlists, additional child care funding, and caregiver rate increases.
- \$24.0 million new funding represents other contributions to support the cross ministry Mental Health Strategy and to address employee and contractor compensation.
- The remaining \$180.4 million reflects planned budget increases from previous years, most notably from *Budget 2018* for year two of the Child Care Plan (\$170.3 million).

### Key Facts Regarding the Issue:

#### ***Budget 2019:***

- The ministry's budget for this fiscal year is \$2.065 billion, up \$272.3 million compared to last year's budget; more than a 15% increase.
- New Funding Included:
  - \$31.3 million for Caseload Pressures (*Autism, Medical Benefits, Special Needs Children in Care, and Children and Youth in Care*)
  - \$6.3 million for CYSN Respite Waitlists
  - \$9.3 million for CCOF Pressures (including CCFRI)
  - \$20.9 million for Caregiver Rate Increase (*Family based & Extended Family Program*)
  - \$9.3 million for CYMH (*Expand BC Centres to include MH EY Specialists, Integrated Service Delivery teams, Provincial Support Office, Step Up, Step Down*)
  - \$0.1 million for Maples Treatment Centre (*Amortization costs*)
  - \$1.9 million for Benefit Rate increase from 24.8% to 25.4%
  - \$12.8 remainder mainly for negotiated wage increases under the Economic Stability Mandate, Economic Stability Dividend & Stability Services Mandate
- This new funding will allow us to:



## ADVICE TO MINISTER – CONFIDENTIAL ISSUE NOTE

as of February 07, 2019

- address the long overdue financial support provided to the province's family-based caregiver community;
- continue delivering the second year of the 10-Year Child Care Plan;
- address waitlists and increase respite supports for families with special needs children;
- expand services for children and youth with mental health needs; and
- address ongoing growth within the ministry's demand-driven caseload files, including autism, medical benefits, children in care services, and Delegated Aboriginal Agency service delivery.

### **2018/19 Restated:**

- One inter-ministry transfer for \$0.2 million (*\$0.157 million*) for leases transferred to the Ministry of Citizen Services also impacted the restated budget.
- Realignment of surplus caseload funding in 17/18 to CYSN service pressures.

### **Ministry Operations (\$ millions)**

<b>Core Business</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2018/19 Restated</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Early Childhood Development and Child Care	443.72		443.72	181.08	624.81
Services for Children and Youth With Special Needs	356.25	5.22	361.47	25.20	386.67
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	98.93		98.93	10.47	109.40
Child Safety, Family Support and Children In Care Services	646.05	(5.22)	640.83	41.84	682.68
Adoption Services	31.70		31.70	3.05	34.75
Youth Justice Services	45.89		45.89	1.53	47.42
Service Delivery Support	151.63	(0.16)	151.47	8.43	159.90
Executive and Support Services	18.44		18.44	0.66	19.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792.61</b>	<b>(0.16)</b>	<b>1,792.46</b>	<b>272.27</b>	<b>2,064.73</b>

<b>STOB</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2018/19 Restated</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Salaries & Benefits	388.09		388.09	18.15	406.24
Operating Costs	57.96	(0.16)	57.80	1.29	59.10
Government Transfers	1482.24		1482.24	228.36	1710.61
Other Expenses	33.94		33.94	0.22	34.16
Recoveries	(169.63)		(169.63)	24.25	(145.38)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792.61</b>	<b>(0.16)</b>	<b>1,792.46</b>	<b>272.27</b>	<b>2,064.73</b>

### **MCFD Budgets (\$ millions):**

## ADVICE TO MINISTER – CONFIDENTIAL ISSUE NOTE

as of February 07, 2019

2001/02*	1,128.7
2002/03*	1,103.5
2003/04*	1,048.9
2004/05*	996.2
2005/06*	1,093.4
2006/07*	1,293.3
2007/08*	1,223.9
2008/09*	1,314.2
2009/10*	1,324.2
2010/11	1,333.7
2011/12	1,330.7
2012/13	1,333.1
2013/14	1,344.8
2014/15	1,339.2
2015/16	1,378.9
2016/17	1,446.9
2017/18	1,595.0
2018/19 Restated	1,792.5
2019/20 Estimates	2,064.7

\*the budget for these years has been adjusted to reflect current programs and services delivered by MCFD

Program Contacts: Philip Twyford/Adam McKinnon/Kathy Jones  
GCPE Contact: Shawn Larabee

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

**DATE:** February 4, 2019

**CLIFF#:** 241681

**PREPARED FOR:** Allison Bond, Deputy Minister

**ISSUE:** Summary of Changes for Budget 2019/20

**BACKGROUND:**

On December 12, 2018 the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) presented its budget priorities to Treasury Board for the 2019/20 fiscal year. These priorities addressed funding requirements to support the ministry's renewed strategic framework and to continue delivery of its core mandate, specifically:

1. Addressing the long overdue financial support provided to the province's family-based caregiver community;
2. Further investing in Indigenous communities to develop early intervention and prevention services and to support legislative changes around child welfare jurisdiction;
3. Delivering the second year of the 10-Year Child Care Plan;
4. Ensuring appropriate infrastructure across the province to support front-line workers and ministry clients through a Strategic Facilities Plan; and
5. Addressing ongoing growth within the ministry's demand-driven caseload files, including autism, medical benefits, children in care services, and Delegated Aboriginal Agency service delivery.

**DISCUSSION:**

While partial funding for all of the ministry's priorities was notionally approved in late December, 2018, many components of MCFD's proposal were not allocated funds due to the Province's financial projections for 2019/20 and close alignment with the Province's Indigenous Reconciliation strategy which was deferred for Budget 2020/21 consideration. Key funding decisions for 2019/20 are provided in Appendix A, and notably include funding for:

1. Family-based caregivers through the monthly "maintenance rate"; and
2. Respite waitlists.

In addition to MCFD-directed priorities, the ministry received notionally approved funding to support a number of Province-wide initiatives, including:

1. The Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction's Mental Health Strategy;
2. The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Poverty Reduction Strategy (beginning 2020/21); and
3. The renewed Economic Stability Mandate (now the "Sustainable Services Mandate", or SSM).

Finally, MCFD received additional funding for Budget 2019/20 to reflect the increase in the employee benefit rate, which is increasing from 24.8% to 25.4%, as well as approval for a reallocation of existing Executive and Support Services funding to support an increase to the Ministers' Office budget. An itemized summary of all changes for MCFD's 2019/20 budget is provided in Appendix B.

#### **SUMMARY:**

MCFD's 19/20 budget allocation is expected to increase by \$272.3m, of which \$67.7m represents net new funding to address strategic priorities as proposed during the Budget 2019 process. Other contributions to support the Mental Health Strategy and address employee and contractor compensation increases accounts for a further \$24.0m, while the remaining \$180.6m reflects planned budget increases from Budget 2018, most notably for year two of the Child Care Plan.

#### **ATTACHMENTS (if applicable):**

- A. Key Budget 2019/20 Decisions
- B. Itemized List of all Budget 2019/20 Changes
- C. Budget 2019/20 Core Business Area Summary
- D. Three Year Plan

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## Appendix A

### Key Budget 2019/20 Decisions

#### Operating

Priority	MCFD Request	Base Funding Lift	Contingencies	Notes
Caregiver Rates (Appendix A-1)	\$27.546m	\$20.888m	-	Includes a \$2.123m adjustment to harmonize EFP with other family-based caregiver maintenance rates.
Indigenous Child Welfare	\$46.050m	-	\$2.000m	Expectation to coordinate submission with MIRR for Budget 2020.
Child Care	\$73.928m	\$9.260m	\$35.138m	Approximately half of staffing requirements funded; all net new program funding decisions were deferred (e.g. SCD, AHS).
Strategic Facilities Plan	\$9.412m	-	\$3.366m	Largely deferred to Budget 2021 consideration.
Caseload	\$92.700m	\$37.600m	\$16.500m	Includes a \$6.3m lift to address Respite waitlists (Appendix A-2), and approximately half of requested increases for Autism, Medical Benefits, and Children in Care (including DAA) funding.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$249.636m</b>	<b>\$67.748m</b>	<b>\$57.004m</b>	

#### Capital

Priority	MCFD Request	Base Funding Lift	Contingencies	Notes
Strategic Facilities Plan	\$26.849m	\$12.779m	\$10.433m	

### Appendix A-1

#### Key Budget 2019/20 Decisions *Family-Based Caregiver Rates*

Care Type	Current Rate	New Rate	Increase (\$)	Increase (%)
Foster Care (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Foster Care (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Interim/Temporary Custody (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Interim/Temporary Custody (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Permanent Custody (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Permanent Custody (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Extended Family Program (Age 0-11)	\$554.27	\$982.90	\$428.63	77.3%
Extended Family Program (Age 12-18)	\$625.00	\$1,089.04	\$464.04	74.2%
Post Adoption Assistance (Age 0-11)	\$701.55	\$806.78	\$105.23	15.0%
Post Adoption Assistance (Age 12-18)	\$805.68	\$926.53	\$120.85	15.0%

### Appendix A-2

#### Key Budget 2019/20 Decisions *Respite Waitlists*

Program	Current Benefit	New Benefit	% Increase	Current Waitlist	Expected Waitlist	% Decrease
Respite (CYSN)	\$2,800/year	\$3,080/year	10%	966	483	50%

## Appendix B

### Itemized List of all Budget 2019/20 Changes

Core Business Area	Item	Budget Lift	Conting.
Child Safety, Family Support and CIC Services	Increase to Family-Based Caregiver Rates	\$17.209m	-
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Increase to Family-Based Caregiver Rates	\$0.892m	-
Adoption Services	Increase to Family-Based Caregiver Rates	\$2.787m	-
Child Safety, Family Support and CIC Services	Caseload Funding for Children in Care (including DAAs)	\$17.807m	\$10.000m
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Caseload Funding for Children in Care (including DAAs)	\$2.193m	-
Early Childhood Development & Child Care	Child Care Operating Fund / Fee Reduction Initiative	\$9.260m	\$16.490m
Early Childhood Development & Child Care	Child Care Implementation Staffing and Related Resources	-	\$17.648m
Early Childhood Development & Child Care	Maintenance Fund Program	-	\$1.000m
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Caseload Funding for Autism	\$10.400m	-
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Caseload Funding for Medical Benefits	\$0.900m	\$0.500m
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Caseload Funding for Respite Benefits and Waitlist	\$6.300m	-
Adoption Services	Caseload Funding for Permanency Options	-	\$4.000m
Service Delivery Support	Legal Services Director's Counsel	-	\$2.000m
Service Delivery Support	CFCSA Bill 26 Consultations	-	\$2.000m
Service Delivery Support	Strategic Facilities Plan	-	\$3.366m
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	Mental Health Strategy	\$8.310m	-

Core Business Area	Item	Budget Lift	Conting.
Services for Children and Youth w/ Special Needs	Mental Health Strategy	\$1.000m	-
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	Maples Treatment Centre (Amortization)	\$0.125m	-
All	Economic Stability Mandate	\$3.340m	-
All	Sustainable Services Mandate	\$9.449m	-
All	Increase to Employee Benefits Rate	\$1.913m	-
Service Delivery Support	Budget Transfer to CITZ for Lease Space	(\$0.157m)	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$91.728m</b>	<b>\$57.004m</b>

Note: \$0.125m was re-allocated from Executive & Support Services (Contingency) to Executive & Support Services (Ministers' Office) to reflect an increase in operating costs due to additional staffing and travel requirements. The net impact to the base budget for 2019/20 is zero.



## Appendix C

### Budget 2019/20 Core Business Area Summary

Core Business Area	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Estimates	Change
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>			
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	443,724	624,807	<b>181,083</b>
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs	361,468	386,669	<b>25,201</b>
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	98,925	109,396	<b>10,471</b>
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services	640,834	682,677	<b>41,843</b>
Adoption Services	31,699	34,752	<b>3,053</b>
Youth Justice Services	45,890	47,421	<b>1,531</b>
Service Delivery Support	151,474	159,902	<b>8,428</b>
Executive and Support Services	18,441	19,103	<b>662</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>2,064,727</b>	<b>272,272</b>

## Appendix D

### Three Year Plan

Core Business Area	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	443,724	624,807	733,207	733,206
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs	361,468	386,669	387,590	387,590
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	98,925	109,396	112,942	112,942
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services	640,834	682,677	690,785	697,684
Adoption Services	31,699	34,752	34,713	34,713
Youth Justice Services	45,890	47,421	47,253	47,253
Service Delivery Support	151,474	159,902	158,439	158,438
Executive and Support Services	18,441	19,103	19,021	19,021
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>2,064,727</b>	<b>2,183,950</b>	<b>2,190,847</b>

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13; s.17

# CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO MINISTER

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Budget 2019-20

*Ministry of Children and Family Development*

February 2019

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### **Budget Overview**

#### **Q1. What are the major additions to this budget? What are your budget priorities this year (2019/20)?**

- Budget 2019 gives the ministry an increase of \$272.3 million, for an overall budget of more than \$2 billion.
- This includes:
  - \$15.5 million to boost the monthly rates paid to foster caregivers, the first such increase in a decade;
  - \$5.3 million to nearly double the rates paid to caregivers caring for children under the Extended Family Program, meeting a major recommendation from Grand Chief Ed John, and increase the rates paid to adoptive parents.
  - \$6.3 million to significantly cut waitlists for respite services, and increase the annual respite funding available to families of children with special needs;
  - \$31.3 million to address ongoing growth within the ministry's demand-driven caseload files, including autism, medical benefits, children in care services, and Delegated Aboriginal Agency service delivery;
  - \$9.3 million to improve services for children, youth and families under the Mental Health Strategy;
  - And \$9.3 million in new funding and \$170.3 million from previous decisions to further our commitment to make affordable, accessible and quality child care a reality for B.C. families.

### **Child welfare/protection**

#### **Q2. How much is being given to boost the maintenance rate for caregivers?**

- We're investing \$15.5 million a year for three years in new funding to boost the monthly maintenance rate for foster caregivers and other family-based caregivers, the first such increase in a decade.
- This means foster parents will see an additional \$179 per month to help cover the basic needs of raising a child (shelter, food, clothing) through to their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- We're also investing \$5.3 million to bring the rates paid to caregivers under the Extended Family Program in line with those paid to foster parents, and increase the rates paid to adoptive parents for support.

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- This will nearly double the monthly rate paid to grandparents and other extended family members caring for kids – a move that helps families stay together – and supports the cultural practices of indigenous families in particular – and addresses one of Grand Chief Ed John’s recommendations.

### **Q3. Why increase the maintenance rate for caregivers?**

- It’s the right thing to do for those caring for our most vulnerable youth and this increase has been long overdue.
- As the cost of living has continued to climb, many caregivers are forced to pay out-of-pocket to provide basic living expenses for children in their care.
- Caregivers have been calling on government for years to raise the maintenance rate – I am pleased to say we are acting on those calls through this investment and doing so for the first time in a decade

### **Q4. A recent UBC report found that 93% of foster caregivers were incurring out-of-pocket expenses averaging between \$3,500 and \$4,000 annually. Will this really make a difference?**

- For at least the last decade, caregivers have been calling for a pay increase to continue to provide the best possible care for children and youth – and we’ve delivered.
- This new funding will go a long way to help caregivers to provide necessities to children in their care including food, shelter and clothing.
- It’s an important first step but we know there’s still more work to do to achieve a fair system of pay.
- MCFD is continuing to engage with stakeholders, including caregivers, as part of a larger review of the province’s caregiver funding model.

### **Q5. This lift barely keeps up with inflation. How do you expect family-based caregivers to stay afloat, given the massive increases in housing and other costs of living, and the added pressure of caring for children with increasingly complex needs?**

- We’ve raised the monthly rates paid to family-based caregivers in recognition of the crucial role they play in supporting our most vulnerable children and youth.
- This first lift in a decade is an important first step but we know there’s still more work to do to achieve a fair system of pay.
- MCFD is continuing to engage with stakeholders, including caregivers, as part of a larger review of the province’s caregiver funding model.

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**Q6. Advocates have said there's no incentive for people to adopt. Foster parents get paid and adoptive parents do not, and now you're widening that gulf. Why?**

- We recognize that adoptive parents may need additional support to help them care for children with complex needs and experiences of trauma. That's why our caregiver rate increase also includes a 15% lift to the post-adoption assistance rates.
- We understand it's still tough. We are continuing to work with stakeholders as part of a larger review of the province's caregiver funding model.

**Q7. Kids in foster care get coverage for health, dental, education and other benefits not covered under the maintenance rate. What about extended-family caregivers? What about new adoptive parents? Do they also have access to those supports?**

- There are needs-based supports available to caregivers under the extended family program, and adoptive parents can apply for financial support for services related to a child's specific needs, such as counselling, therapy or corrective dental/medical expenses.
- We understand it's still tough. We are continuing to work with stakeholders as part of a larger review of the province's caregiver funding model.

**Q8. Your ministry has been criticized for failing to pass on the Canada Child Benefit to foster parents. That benefit is about \$179 per month, right? So aren't you just giving them federal money they should already have been entitled to? Why aren't you raising rates AND passing along the Canadian Child Benefit?**

- The rate increase is based on the Canada Child Benefit (CCB).
- Previously these funds went towards ministry services for children and youth in care.
- With this budget lift we're now able to pass on \$179 to these caregivers without diminishing other services.
- We understand it's still tough. We are continuing to work with stakeholders as part of a larger review of the province's caregiver funding model.

**Q9. What about this new tax benefit that was announced in the provincial budget? Will it be available for foster parents? What about those receiving support through the Extended Family Program?**

- At this early stage, we still need to work out details with the ministry of finance.
- The tax won't take effect until 2020.

**Q10. Why is government paying family members to care for other family members?**

- We want to support families to stay together – one way we are doing that is by offering financial assistance through the Extended Family Program.

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- Indigenous families who were looking after extended family members were not receiving support equal to those foster caregivers who were caring for children and youth who were not related to them; the system was inequitable in this regard.
- Extended family looking after relatives is a common practice in Indigenous communities and this group should not be penalized for participating in a cultural practice that supports family unity.
- We know that there is an over-representation of Indigenous children and youth in care. By providing more assistance to those family caregivers, we are enabling and encouraging more families to take care of a relative or close family friend – keeping children and youth connected to their families and their cultures.

**Q11. Currently, there are inequities in the way various levels and types of caregivers are compensated. Advocates are calling for rate harmonization. Is that what you've done? If not, what will that look like and when will we get there?**

- For the first time in a decade, B.C. caregivers will see an increase in their monthly rates beginning April 1, 2019.
- And relatives providing care for extended family members – a common practice in Indigenous communities – will now get the same maintenance rate paid to foster caregivers.
- These increases are an important step in our plan to overhaul the province's caregiver funding model and make it more equitable.
- Ministry staff have been conducting provincewide consultations to get feedback from care providers on how best to do this.
- This is a much bigger project because it encompasses different types and levels of caregiving.

**NOTE** all rates are now the same (under 12 \$982.90; 12 and over \$1089.04) with the exception of PAA (\$806.78 and \$926.53)

**Q12. Can you provide an update on where the review is currently at?**

- B.C.'s system of care is a large and complex and there are both federal and provincial components; we need to be thoughtful in how we proceed.
- The ministry is currently consulting broadly with the sector and looking at remuneration across the spectrum of care, not just for foster caregivers.
- This review is scheduled to be completed in June 2019.

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### **Q13. Why were different types of caregivers funded differently in the first place?**

- I can't speak to funding decisions made by previous governments.
- For our part, we've delivered a significant rate increase – the first in a decade – and we've brought rates in line for most forms of caregivers working with children in care.
- We will continue working with caregivers across the spectrum to improve our funding model and make it more equitable.

### **Q14. What about families who are struggling financially to support their children? Where is the financial boost to help them?**

- Budget 2018 saw the largest investment in child care in B.C.'s history, with a \$1 billion investment over three years to lay the foundation for universal child care in B.C.
- Over the last year, we've introduced two measures to help families with the cost of child care – the Affordable Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative – which are both supporting parents with the cost of child care.
- To date, more than 52,600 licensed child care spaces have been reduced through the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, with parents saving almost \$85 million.
- And we've approved more than 29,500 families for support through the Affordable Child Care Benefit, and we expect this number to rise as more parents hear about the benefit.
- This is just the first year of our long-term child care plan – there's more to do as we work to deliver universal child care for B.C. families.

### **Q15. You promised an overhaul of the system of care. Where's the money for that in this budget?**

- Our commitment is to keep children with families and better support those families where we can.
- This isn't a question of new money; it's a matter of doing things differently -- putting our money towards supports, rather than removal.
- We have new tools that allow us to do that with Indigenous communities, through the legislative changes we put in place last year.
- And for children who can't safely be with their parents, we need to ensure they are with caregivers that can meet their needs.
- It's why we've put money into boosting the rates paid to foster parents and other caregivers, including doubling the amount of support we provide to grandparents and extended family who step in and care for children in care.



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### CYSN/Caseload/respite

**Q16. What is the breakdown of new funding for children and youth with special needs? How is it being spent?**

- Budget 2019 includes:
  - \$6.3 million to significantly reduce waitlists for respite services, and increase the annual respite funding available to families of children with special needs;
  - And \$31.3 million to address ongoing growth within the ministry's demand-driven caseload files, like autism and medical benefits. **Note** \$20M of this \$31.3 is for CIC's

**Q17. This past fall the RCY issued the damning Charlie report, which highlighted huge gaps and shortcomings in the CYSN system. Where's the money to address those?**

- I have accepted the intent of all the recommendations the RCY made in her report.
- Budget 2019 gives us \$6.3 million to increase the basic amount of respite benefit received by eligible families by 10% AND increase funding to the respite program overall to enable more eligible families to receive the benefit. This was a particular need highlighted in the Charlie report.
- We also have \$31.3 million in new funding to help address growth in demand-driven caseload files, like autism and medical benefits.
- We know there's more work for us to do to shore up our system and it's why we're developing a CYSN services framework to guide the delivery of service for children and youth with special needs.
- That work needs to be completed so we can determine what actions are needed and how best to implement them.

**Q18. How exactly will the \$6.3 million address waitlists? How will you be spending that money?**

- This investment is enabling more eligible families to receive respite benefit – significantly reducing the wait to receive respite benefits.
- This new money is also increasing the respite base amount from \$2,800 a year to \$3,080 for eligible families currently receiving respite funding. The existing respite base amount of \$2,800 a year was established in 1989.

**Q19. Will an increase of 10% really help families who need the support of respite care?**

- This new funding not only enables more eligible families to receive respite benefits, but the increased rate will assist families in the recruitment of respite providers.

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- Respite services offer families an interval of rest and relief, provided through either contracted respite or funding directly to families to purchase the respite services that best meet their needs.
- Increasing investments in respite emphasizes our principles of early intervention and prevention to support families.

**Q20. Your own reporting portal shows the average caseload of 21 files per social worker. Will this new money bring that number down? If so, how?**

- Our system has been starved of resources for many years, across many service lines. It could take time to undo that damage.
- What I can say for certain is that this budget will help lower waitlists and grant more support to those families seeking respite services to help care for children with special and complex needs.

**Q21. A key recommendation in the RCY's Charlie report was for government to provide respite services within a reasonable period of time. Outside of respite, what are you doing to address this issue and improve accessibility of other CYSN services?**

- The Ministry of Children and Family Development is developing a service framework to better support children and youth with special needs and their families.
- This framework will guide how the ministry provides and funds CYSN programs and services.
- The ministry is working with two research firms to identify opportunities to improve access, quality and coordination of CYSN services and programs.
- This research will inform the service framework and support continuous improvement.

### CYMH

**Q22. There's an opioid crisis in B.C. and mental health struggles among children and teens are on the rise. Is there money in the budget to address this?**

- Budget 2019 gives us \$9.3 million this year to improve services for children, youth and families under the Mental Health Strategy.
- Further, MCFD is working with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Health to develop a comprehensive strategy that will help transform B.C.'s mental health and addiction services.

**Q23. How will that \$9.3 million be spent?**

- The new \$9.3 million in funding will:

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- expand infant mental health programs and add practitioners to existing family service organizations;
- support new service delivery teams of clinicians and others to help youth who struggle with substance use issues;
- expand preventative mental wellness activities in early years settings and in schools;
- build on FamilySmart parent and youth supports and services;
- and expand intensive treatment programs for children and youth with complex or severe mental health and/or substance use disorders.

### **Post-majority supports**

**Q24. Last year, you announced \$30 million over three years to boost the AYA program. Has there been an uptake of young people accessing the program?**

- Roughly 900 young people age out of government care every year.
- As of December 31, 2018, there were 9,196 young adults who were eligible for AYA. Of these, 1,078 had an open AYA file.
- We've seen steady growth in the program but we know that's still not good enough. We know there's more work to do.
- We've hired more youth workers. We've improved practice and we need to continue making improvements so that young people know about and can access the supports they need to thrive.

**Q25. Youth from care have said the AYA program is inadequate. What is the ministry doing to support youth aging out of care?**

- Last year, through Budget 2018, we enhanced and expanded the AYA program with \$30 million over three years to be more inclusive.
- The ministry is currently engaging with former youth in care to identify ways to better support youth transitioning to adulthood, which includes reviewing the AYA program.
- In Budget 2018 the B.C. government also announced \$6 million over three years to fund the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program where eligible former youth in care can access free tuition at any of B.C.'s 25 public post-secondary institutions.
- There are a number of other services available across government to support youth such as supportive housing, income assistance, counselling, employment programs and career training.

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**Q26. What is the ministry doing to ensure young adults who've aged out of care are aware of and can access supports such as AYA?**

- We've pushed to raise awareness and share information so that, whether it's at age 19 or age 26, former youth in care know they can come back and take us up on the supports available through an AYA when they're ready.
- With the program expansion announced last year, more applicants are eligible to receive more funding for a longer stretch of time.

### Early years/child care

**Q27. You're only providing \$9 million for the child care budget this year. Does that mean you're abandoning your commitment to universal childcare?**

- Budget 2018 saw the largest investment in child care in B.C.'s history, with a \$1 billion over three years to lay the foundation for universal child care in B.C.
- Budget 2019 includes a fourth year of the plan and provides an additional \$9 million each year to support the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative and associated Child Care Operating Fund program.
- Funding for year 1 (2018/19) was \$182 million. There were already scheduled increases for years 2 and 3, and we're building on those through Budget 2019.
- Now, our commitment to childcare will grow to \$366 million in 2019/20, \$473 million in 2020/21 and \$473 million in 2021/22.
- That's more than \$1.3 billion over the next three years to improve the affordability, quality, and accessibility of child care.

**Q28. In Budget 2018 you promised the sun and the moon for child care with \$1 billion over three years. How much of that have you spent? What have you delivered so far? When will we get to \$10/day child care?**

- We've always said that introducing universal child care will take time - Childcare BC is a long-term plan that will be implemented over ten years.
- Our goal is to give B.C. families access to affordable, quality child care when they need it, and we're making progress towards that goal.
- We've introduced two affordability measures – the Affordable Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative – which are both supporting parents with the cost of child care.
- Through these two initiatives, some parents may already be paying the equivalent of \$10-a-day, or less.
- In November, we also announced 53 Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites across the province, with parents at these sites paying no more than \$200 a month.

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- These sites will run until the end of March 2020, and the feedback that we gather from this initiative will be used to shape the future direction of our Childcare BC plan.
- There's still more work to do to deliver universal child care, but these initiatives are already supporting thousands of families, and we'll take more steps towards our commitment over the coming year.

**Q29. Why is uptake on the new Affordable Child Care benefit so low? How has this impacted your bottom line? Are you saving money because people aren't signing on for the benefit?**

- The Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) program launched Sept. 1, 2018, so we are just five months in and seeing steady growth.
- We have been advertising the benefit through social media and at government events to let parents know the benefit is available and encourage newly eligible families to apply.
- We have mailed out over 100,000 ACCB leaflets to child care providers and to organizations that support parents every day, including Child Care Resource and Referral Centres, Service BC, WorkBC, BC Housing and Income Assistance offices.
- We have translated these materials into eight languages online to reach more families.
- We have also held information sessions with child care providers and partners to inform them of the benefit and how parents can estimate their savings and apply easily online.
- Families who were receiving the former Child Care Subsidy were transitioned into the new program, while new families above the old \$55,000 annual income threshold need to apply for the new ACCB threshold (now \$111,000).
- As of Feb. 6, 2019, more than 39,400 children are receiving the benefit, and we expect this number will continue to rise as more parents hear about the benefit.

**Q30. The critic recently tweeted that only 700 new families have been approved for the benefit compared to the number of subsidy clients in 2017. How do you respond?**

- There were 13,600 families receiving Child Care Subsidy who were automatically transitioned to the new Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) when it launched Sept. 1, 2018.
- An additional 16,100 new families have since been approved for the benefit.
- This means that to date, close to 30,000 families (40,000 children) have been approved to receive the ACCB and that number will continue to rise.
- Of all the families that have been approved to receive the ACCB, more than 24,500 of them have received benefits from Sept. to Dec. 2018, representing a 50% increase to the number of families that received subsidy in the same period in 2017.

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO MINISTER

### **Q31. Why are you investing in new spaces and extended hours when providers already struggle to find and retain staff?**

- New spaces and extended hours are just a few measures government is taking to improve child care in B.C.
- We recognize that child care providers throughout B.C. are struggling to find qualified staff, and to keep those they currently have.
- That's why the Early Childhood Education Recruitment and Retention Strategy supports current child care professionals and encourages people to start a career in the early care and learning sector.
- We've already implemented a \$1-per-hour wage enhancement for ECEs, and a further \$1-per-hour lift will be offered on April 1, 2020.
- We have also increased the ECE Bursary Program to help students who want to start a career in child care, and we will provide funding to people already working in child care to help them gain, re-establish, maintain or upgrade ECE credentials.

### **Indigenous children and youth in care**

### **Q32. Indigenous kids make up 64% of kids in care. Your mandate letter calls on you to reduce that number and keep kids connected to community/culture. Where's the money to support that commitment?**

- True and lasting reconciliation is a priority for this government.
- Over the past year, we have made progress on supports to help keep Indigenous children at home, connected to their families and their cultures. This includes the introduction of amendments to the Child, Family and Community Service Act, and separate MOUs with the federal government and First Nations around jurisdiction.
- More recently, over 400 MCFD and Delegated Aboriginal Agency staff met to talk about how Indigenous child welfare needs to be done differently in our province.
- We will continue to work together to improve the lives of Indigenous children, youth and families.
- To keep children out of care and connected to their cultures, Indigenous families often care for extended family members. These caregivers will benefit from the boost to the Extended Family Program announced in Budget 2019.

### **Q33. What impact have your investments had to help keep Indigenous children out of government care?**

- Expanded government supports are helping to increase the rate of family preservation – for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous families.

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO MINISTER

- The number of Indigenous children and youth in care is starting to go down.
- Out of 6,365 children and youth in care, 4,110 of those are Indigenous – a drop of 230 from the year before (Dec. 2018)
- This is the lowest number of Indigenous children and youth in care since 2014.
- After receiving supports, over 82% of all Indigenous children and youth in need of protection are able to continue living safely with their families.

### **Grand Chief Ed John**

#### **Q34. Where is the funding in this budget to address Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations?**

- We know that there is an over-representation of Indigenous children and youth in care.
- By providing more assistance to family caregivers, we are enabling and encouraging more families to take care of a relative or close family friend – keeping children and youth connected to their families and their cultures.
- Through investments in Budget 2019, we are nearly doubling the monthly rate paid to grandparents and other extended family members caring for kids.
- This move helps families stay together – and supports the cultural practices of indigenous families in particular – and addresses one of Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations.

#### **Q35. What is the status of Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations? What progress has been made?**

- The rate increase to the Extended Family Program announced in Budget 2019 addresses one of the 71 recommendations directed at MCFD.
- We are implementing Grand Chief Ed John's recommendations to provide better supports to keep Indigenous children at home, in their communities and out of care where possible.
- Out of the 71 recommendations directed MCFD, over 60 are in various stages of progress. With the family-based caregiver increase announced as part of Budget 2019, 11 recommendations have now been completed.
- We have invested over \$14 million to ensure Delegated Aboriginal Agencies have equal funding to MCFD for child protection services and staff wages.
- We are also implementing a strategy to increase the number of Indigenous employees, and to train child-welfare staff to provide culturally relevant, meaningful and safe services for Indigenous children, youth, families and communities.

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO MINISTER

- This past year, we have made changes to the Child, Family and Community Service Act to focus on supporting families to safely stay together. These changes allow for greater information sharing and involvement by Indigenous communities in child-welfare matters, and directly address recommendations made by Grand Chef Ed John.
- We are also working with individual First Nations, Indigenous communities and the Métis on transfer of jurisdiction – another key area Grand Chef Ed John addressed in his report.
- This past year, the ministry signed a joint commitment with Métis Nation BC to achieve the goal of having Métis exercise child welfare authority over their children by 2021 (June 2018).
- We also signed separate MOUs with Canada and the Cowichan Tribes (Jan. 2019), the Wet'suwet'en Nation (Oct. 2018) and the Secwépemc Nation (July 2018) around jurisdiction over child and family services.

### **Adoption and guardianship**

**Q36. Adoption and fostering are not listed in your mandate letter. They are not in your service plan. Is there money in your budget?**

- Caregivers have been calling on government for years to raise the maintenance rate – I am pleased to say we are acting on those calls through this investment and doing so for the first time in a decade.
- We're investing new funding to boost the monthly maintenance rate. This means foster parents will see an additional \$179 per month to help cover the basic needs of raising a child (shelter, food, clothing) through to their 19th birthday.
- We've also raised the rates paid for Post-Adoption Assistance by between \$105 and \$120 per month, to better support those families who adopt B.C. children and youth from foster care.

**Q37. The opposition says your adoption numbers are going down and it's not a priority for you. What are you doing to promote adoption for waiting children and youth in care?**

- Our goal is always to connect the children and youth in our care with permanent, loving homes. Naturally, this can't happen soon enough for waiting kids.
- We are putting more emphasis on other forms of permanency, including reuniting kids with their families of origin when it's safe to do so, and exploring placement with extended family and the broader community.
- Last fall, we launched a provincewide recruitment campaign – AdoptNow – to increase the number of British Columbians looking to adopt.



## CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE TO MINISTER

### Wages and collective agreements

**Q38. Where are you getting the money to cover negotiated wage increases for unionized workers?**

- Those questions are more appropriately put to my colleague, the Minister of Finance.

**Q39. Will non-unionized workers also get these increases?**

- Again, that's a question you'd need to take up with the Minister of Finance.

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the Ministry of Children and Family Development is to work together to deliver inclusive, culturally respectful, responsive, and accessible services to support the well-being of children, youth, and families.

### MINISTRY SUMMARY

(\$000)

	Estimates 2018/19 <sup>1</sup>	Estimates 2019/20
<b>VOTED APPROPRIATION</b>		
Vote 19 — Ministry Operations.....	1,792,455	2,064,727
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<u>1,792,455</u>	<u>2,064,727</u>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES <sup>2</sup></b>	4,580	4,510
<b>LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS <sup>3</sup></b>	(31)	(31)
<b>REVENUE COLLECTED FOR, AND TRANSFERRED TO, OTHER ENTITIES <sup>4</sup></b>	—	—

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, figures shown for the 2018/19 operating expenses; capital expenditures; loans, investments and other requirements; and revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities are restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2019/20 Estimates. A reconciliation of restated operating expenses and capital expenditures resulting from transfers between ministries is presented in Schedule A.

<sup>2</sup> A listing of estimated capital expenditures by ministry is presented in Schedule C.

<sup>3</sup> A summary of loans, investments and other requirements by ministry is presented in Schedule D.

<sup>4</sup> A summary of revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities by ministry is presented in Schedule E.

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## SUMMARY BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

	2018/19	2019/20 ESTIMATES		
OPERATING EXPENSES	Net	Gross	External Recoveries	Net
<b>Core Business</b>				
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services.....	443,724	665,809	(41,002)	624,807
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs.....	361,468	398,954	(12,285)	386,669
Child and Youth Mental Health Services.....	98,925	110,171	(775)	109,396
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services.....	640,834	745,689	(63,012)	682,677
Adoption Services.....	31,699	34,754	(2)	34,752
Youth Justice Services.....	45,890	65,406	(17,985)	47,421
Service Delivery Support.....	151,474	160,101	(199)	159,902
Executive and Support Services.....	18,441	19,784	(681)	19,103
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>2,200,668</b>	<b>(135,941)</b>	<b>2,064,727</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Capital Expenditures</b>	<b>Receipts and P3 Liabilities</b>	<b>Net</b>
<b>Core Business</b>				
Service Delivery Support.....	4,580	4,510	—	4,510
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,510</b>
<b>LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Net</b>
<b>Core Business</b>				
Executive and Support Services.....	(31)	—	(31)	(31)
<b>TOTAL LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS.....</b>	<b>(31)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(31)</b>	<b>(31)</b>

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates  
2018/19Estimates  
2019/20

## VOTE 19 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS

This vote provides for the programs, operations, and other activities described in the voted appropriations under the following core businesses: Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services; Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs; Child and Youth Mental Health Services; Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services; Adoption Services; Youth Justice Services; Service Delivery Support; and Executive and Support Services.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD CARE SERVICES

## Voted Appropriation

Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services.....	443,724	<u>624,807</u>
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**Voted Appropriation Description:** This sub-vote provides funding for early childhood development and child care programs and services primarily aimed at infants, young children, and their families. This sub-vote also provides for funding to enable the director of the Early Childhood Educator Registry to fulfill legislated obligations under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*; and provides for subsidies to parents under the *Child Care Subsidy Act* and payments to organizations which provide or support child care services under the *Child Care BC Act*. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

## SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

## Voted Appropriation

Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs.....	361,468	<u>386,669</u>
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**Voted Appropriation Description:** This sub-vote provides funding for programs and services dedicated to children and youth with special needs and their families. These include early intervention programs; supported child development; family support services; residential and guardianship services for children and youth with special needs in the care of the ministry as provided for under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*; and specialized provincial services. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

## CHILD AND YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

## Voted Appropriation

Child and Youth Mental Health Services.....	98,925	<u>109,396</u>
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**Voted Appropriation Description:** This sub-vote provides funding for specialized and community-based intervention, treatment, and support services to mentally ill children, youth, and their families. This includes the operation of the Maples provincial adolescent mental health facility and services as provided for under the *Mental Health Act*. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

## CHILD SAFETY, FAMILY SUPPORT AND CHILDREN IN CARE SERVICES

## Voted Appropriation

Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services.....	640,834	<u>682,677</u>
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**Voted Appropriation Description:** This sub-vote provides funding for the welfare of children and youth through programs and services provided for under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*, the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act*, the *Employment and Assistance Act*, and the *Infants Act*. These include family supports; collaborative planning and decision-making services; child protection; children and youth in care; alternatives to care; services for youth and young adults; and for the support of organizations serving Indigenous children, youth, and families. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2018/19	Estimates 2019/20
<b>ADOPTION SERVICES</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriation</b>		
Adoption Services.....	31,699	34,752
<p><b>Voted Appropriation Description:</b> This sub-vote provides funding for adoption services as provided for under the <i>Adoption Act</i> and to facilitate the adoption of children in care. This includes funding for recruitment of adoptive families, promotion of adoptions, planning for permanency, and post adoption assistance. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		
<b>YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICES</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriation</b>		
Youth Justice Services.....	45,890	47,421
<p><b>Voted Appropriation Description:</b> This sub-vote provides funding for youth justice services as provided for under the <i>Forensic Psychiatry Act</i>, the <i>Mental Health Act</i>, the <i>Youth Justice Act</i>, and the federal <i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>. These include specialized community-based and provincial facility-based programs and services which promote crime prevention and rehabilitation and support law-abiding behaviour among youth who have been charged with or found guilty of a criminal offence; youth custody centres and youth forensic psychiatric services; and other supportive programs. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		
<b>SERVICE DELIVERY SUPPORT</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriation</b>		
Service Delivery Support.....	151,474	159,902
<p><b>Voted Appropriation Description:</b> This sub-vote provides funding for strategic and operational services which support ministry practices. These include service delivery administration; policy development; integrated case management system; quality assurance; and other supporting services under the <i>Adoption Act</i>, the <i>Child, Family and Community Service Act</i>, the <i>Employment and Assistance Act</i>, the <i>Mental Health Act</i>, the <i>Youth Justice Act</i>, and the federal <i>Youth Criminal Justice Act</i>. Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.</p>		

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2018/19	Estimates 2019/20
<b>EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriations</b>		
Ministers' Offices.....	861	990
Corporate Services.....	17,580	18,113
	<u>18,441</u>	<u>19,103</u>
<b>Voted Appropriations Description:</b> This sub-vote provides for the office of the Minister of Children and Family Development; the Minister of State for Child Care; program coordination and administration of services related to the Columbia River Treaty; overall direction, development, and corporate support for all ministry services; and for the administration of the <i>Human Resource Facility Act</i> . Costs may be recovered from ministries, other entities within government, other levels of government, agencies, organizations, and individuals for activities described within this sub-vote.		
<b>VOTE 19 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS</b>	1,792,455	2,064,727

## MINISTRY GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

## GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION

Salaries and Benefits .....	388,093	406,240
Operating Costs .....	57,802	59,095
Government Transfers .....	1,482,243	1,710,606
Other Expenses .....	33,942	34,161
Internal Recoveries .....	(3,684)	(9,434)
External Recoveries .....	(165,941)	(135,941)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....</b>	<u>1,792,455</u>	<u>2,064,727</u>

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2018/19	Estimates 2019/20
<b>EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
HUMAN SERVICES PROVIDERS FINANCING PROGRAM — Receipts represent repayment of loans provided in previous fiscal years for capital purposes to stimulate investment in efficiencies and innovation by British Columbia community social services providers, including funds under the <i>Human Resource Facility Act</i> . Administration costs are funded through the ministry's voted appropriations.		
Disbursements.....	—	—
Receipts.....	(31)	(31)
Net Cash Requirement (Source).....	(31)	(31)

MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
(\$000)

**VOTE 19 Ministry Operations**

Description	Total 2018/19 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	443,724	10,067	81	2,558	—	12,706	21	92	—	126	—	496	100	—	—
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs	361,468	13,090	135	3,325	—	16,550	—	86	—	—	—	71	—	—	84
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	98,925	48,826	967	12,474	—	62,267	—	628	—	170	205	589	—	—	363
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services	640,834	120,983	3,368	30,773	—	155,124	—	2,848	15,334	250	—	51	—	22	85
Adoption Services	31,699	6,501	23	1,658	—	8,182	—	50	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Youth Justice Services	45,890	28,379	891	7,212	—	36,482	—	290	—	27	—	114	—	—	845
Service Delivery Support	151,474	77,058	917	19,958	—	97,933	—	3,858	4,046	5,523	4,787	6,128	—	—	—
Executive and Support Services	18,441	13,389	65	3,448	94	16,996	—	445	2	—	20	1,201	—	—	—
Ministers' Offices	861	550	—	178	94	822	—	110	—	—	18	13	—	—	—
Corporate Services	17,580	12,839	65	3,270	—	16,174	—	335	2	—	2	1,188	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>318,293</b>	<b>6,447</b>	<b>81,406</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>406,240</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8,297</b>	<b>19,382</b>	<b>6,096</b>	<b>5,012</b>	<b>8,657</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,377</b>



70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2019/20 Operating Expenses
—	—	100	2,500	3,435	1,200	234,410	411,718	647,328	—	—	3,000	3,000	—	(660)	(660)	(1)	(41,001)	(41,002)	624,807
20	—	—	—	261	—	22,635	359,491	382,126	—	—	18	18	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(12,284)	(12,285)	386,669
155	—	—	1,049	3,159	—	130	53,383	53,513	—	—	—	—	—	(8,768)	(8,768)	(660)	(115)	(775)	109,396
8	—	—	102	18,700	—	46,183	525,050	571,233	—	—	633	633	—	(1)	(1)	(148)	(62,864)	(63,012)	682,677
—	—	—	—	57	—	144	26,372	26,516	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	34,752
133	—	—	—	1,409	—	299	27,216	27,515	—	—	1	1	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(17,984)	(17,985)	47,421
1,883	—	1,315	2,766	30,306	—	—	1,670	1,670	—	—	30,193	30,193	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(198)	(199)	159,902
—	—	21	79	1,768	—	—	705	705	—	—	316	316	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(680)	(681)	19,103
—	—	—	—	141	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	990
—	—	21	79	1,627	—	—	705	705	—	—	289	289	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(680)	(681)	18,113
2,199	—	1,436	6,496	59,095	1,200	303,801	1,405,605	1,710,606	—	—	34,161	34,161	—	(9,434)	(9,434)	(814)	(135,127)	(135,941)	2,064,727

## Ministry of Children & Family Development

**Table A7 Material Assumptions – Expense**

Ministry Programs and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2018/19	Budget Estimate 2019/20	Plan 2020/21	Plan 2021/22	Sensitivities
<b>Children and Family Development</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>2,065</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>2,191</b>	
Average children-in-care ..... caseload (#)	6,596	6,397	6,333	6,289	The average number of children-in-care is decreasing as a result of ministry efforts to keep children in family settings where safe and feasible. The average cost per child in care is projected to increase based on the higher cost of contracted residential services and an increasing acuity of need for children in care. A 1% change in either the caseload or average cost will affect expenditures by approximately \$2.5 million (excluding Delegated Aboriginal Agencies).
Average annual residential ..... cost per child in care (\$)	59,717	63,000	66,000	69,000	

# Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Budget Update - Budget 2019

### MCFD WEBSITE

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) budget for 2019/20 has increased by \$272.272 million.

The new funding will be used to:

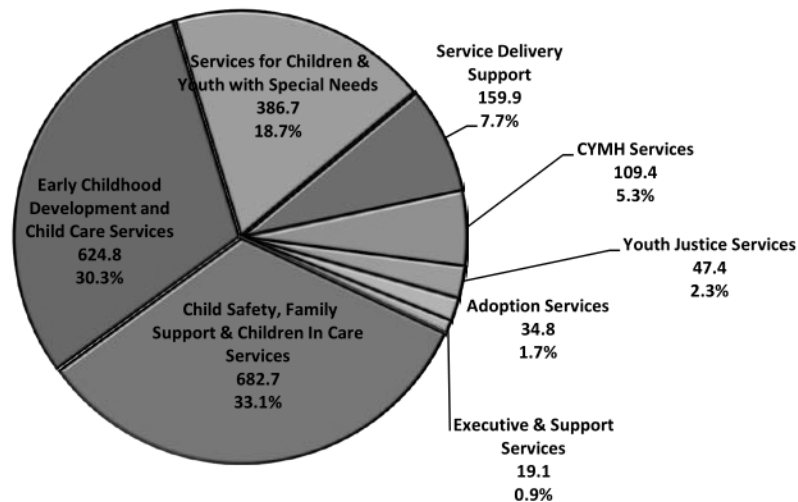
- continue building an affordable, accessible and quality child care system across the province;
- support caregivers of children in care by providing funding to cover the increasing cost of basic necessities such as food, clothing and shelter;
- increase the respite benefit amount by 10% for parents who care for children with special needs on a day-to-day basis and significantly reduce the waitlist for respite services so more families will receive rest and relief;
- enhance mental health services for children, youth and young adults with a focus on services to support the health and wellbeing of young children, enhance mental health for those at school age, and expand access for children and youth seeking mental health and addictions services.

### Budget (\$millions)

2018/19 <i>Restated</i>	2019/20 <i>Estimates</i>	Net Change from 2018/19 Restated	2020/21 <i>Plan</i>	Net Change from 2019/20	2021/22 <i>Plan</i>	Net Change from 2020/21
1,792.455	2,064.727	272.272	2,183.950	119.223	2,190.847	6.897

MCFD aligns its programs and services to reflect the ministry's delivery of service. The eight core businesses are Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services; Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs (CYSN); Child & Youth Mental Health (CYMH) Services; Child Safety, Family Support & Children In Care (CIC) Services; Adoption Services; Youth Justice Services; Service Delivery Support; and Executive & Support Services. The allocation of ministry resources is shown in the chart below.

### 2019/20 Budget By Core Business (\$Millions)

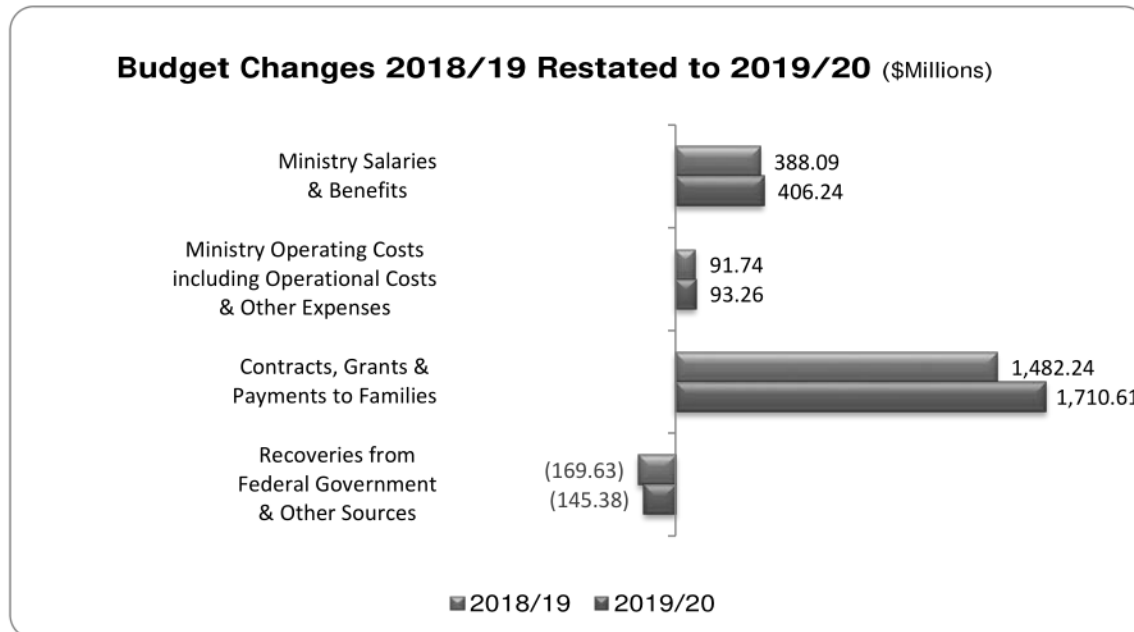


## Ministry of Children & Family Development

### Budget Update - Budget 2019

#### MCFD WEBSITE

Over ninety percent of the budget is used to directly support clients and communities. \$1.9 billion is invested in programs and services.



NOTE: the significant decrease in recoveries is related to the "flow through" federal grant for ELCC.

**Budget Funding (\$ Millions)**

2018/19	2019/20	Net Change from 2018/19 Estimates	2020/21	Net Change from 2019/20	2021/22	Net Change from 2020/21
<i>Estimates</i>	<i>Plan</i>		<i>Plan</i>		<i>Plan</i>	
1,792.612	2,064.727	272.115	2,183.950	119.223	2,190.847	6.897

Core Business	2019/20 Budget (\$M)	Rounded to one decimal	%
Child Safety, Family Support & Children In Care Services	682.7	682.7	33.1%
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	624.8	624.8	30.3%
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	386.7	386.7	18.7%
Service Delivery Support	159.9	159.9	7.7%
CYMH Services	109.4	109.4	5.3%
Youth Justice Services	47.4	47.4	2.3%
Adoption Services	34.8	34.8	1.7%
Executive & Support Services	19.1	19.1	0.9%
Total	2,064.7	2,064.7	100%

STOB Major Grouping (External)	2018/19 Restated	CHANGES	2019/20 Estimates
EA01 Salaries and Benefits	388.093	18.147	406.240
EA02 Operating Costs	57.802	1.293	59.095
EA03 Government Transfers	1,482.243	228.363	1,710.606
EA04 Other Expenses	33.942	0.219	34.161
EA05 Recoveries	(3.684)	(5.750)	(9.434)
EA06 Recoveries External	(165.941)	30.000	(135.941)
Grand Total	1,792.455	272.272	2,064.727

STOB Groupings	2018/19	2019/20
Ministry Salaries & Benefits	388.09	406.24
Ministry Operating Costs		
including Operational Costs	91.74	93.26
& Other Expenses		
Contracts, Grants & Payments to Families	1,482.24	1,710.61
Recoveries from Federal Government	(169.63)	(145.38)
& Other Sources		
Grand Total	1,792.46	2,064.73

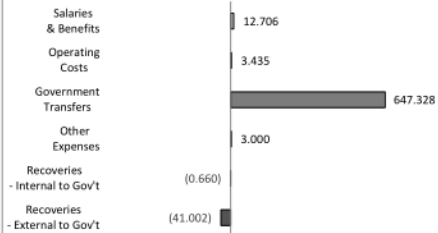
2019/20 Estimates			
01-Early Years Services		624,807,000	624,807,000
02-Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs		386,669,000	386,669,000
03-Child and Youth Mental Health Services		109,396,000	109,396,000
04-Child Safety, Family Support and Children In Care Services		682,677,000	682,677,000
05-Adoption Services		34,752,000	34,752,000
06-Youth Justice Services		47,421,000	47,421,000
07-Service Delivery Support			
7 (a) SDA Administration	63,609,000		
7 (b) Service Delivery Support	25,073,000		
7 (c) Quality Assurance	7,201,000		
7 (d) Program Policy, Standards & Support	60,124,000		
7 (e) Facilities Administration	3,895,000		
7 (f) Prov Office of Domestic Violence	0		
07-Service Delivery Support Total	159,902,000	159,902,000	
08-Executive and Support Services		19,103,000	
Total		2,064,727,000	1,885,722,000
Used to support clients & communities			91%

# Ministry of Children & Family Development

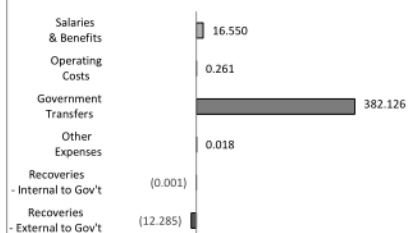
## Budget 2019 Estimates

### NET BUDGET BY CORE BUSINESS

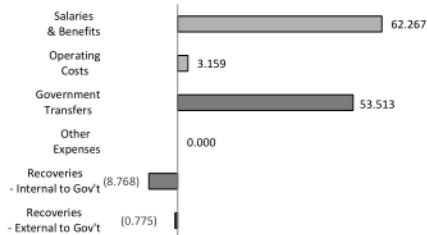
#### Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services Total \$624.807M



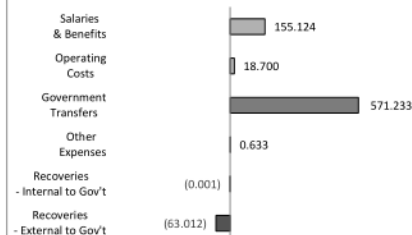
#### Services for CYSN Total \$386.669M



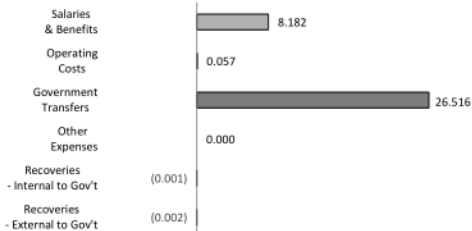
#### CYMH Services Total \$109.396M



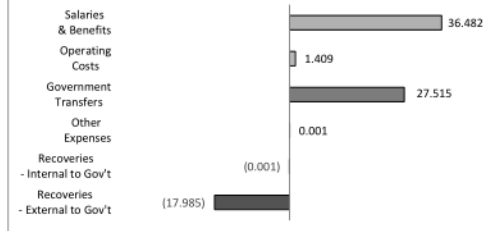
#### Child Safety, Family Support & CIC Services Total \$682.677M



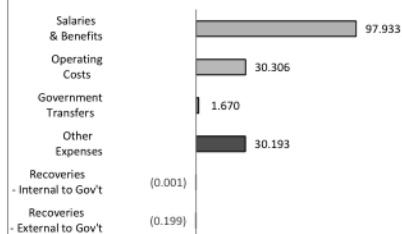
#### Adoptions Services Total \$34.752M



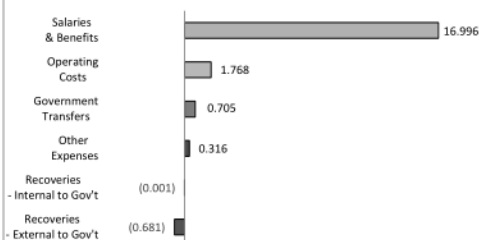
#### Youth Justice Services Total \$47.421M



#### Services Delivery Support Total \$159.902M



#### Executive & Support Services Total \$19.103M



NET EXPENSES- 2019/20 Estimates		
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	624.807	30%
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	386.669	19%
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	109.396	5%
Child Safety, Family Support & Children In Care Services	682.677	33%
Adoption Services	34.752	2%
Youth Justice Services	47.421	2%
Service Delivery Support	159.902	8%
Executive & Support Services	19.103	1%
Grand Total	2,064.727	100%

Total \$624.807M  
Total \$386.669M  
Total \$109.396M  
  
Total \$682.677M  
Total \$34.752M  
Total \$47.421M  
Total \$159.902M  
Total \$19.103M

NET EXPENSES- 2019/20 Estimates		
Salaries & Benefits	406.240	20%
Operating Costs	59.095	3%
Government Transfers	1,710.606	83%
Other Expenses	34.161	2%
Recoveries		
- Internal to Gov't	(9.434)	(0)%
Recoveries		
- External to Gov't	(135.941)	(7)%
Grand Total	2,064.727	100%

NET EXPENSES- 2019/20 Estimates		
18B14 Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services	Salaries & Benefits	12.706
	Operating Costs	3.435
	Government Transfers	647.328
	Other Expenses	3.000
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.660)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(41.002)
	18B14 Early Years Services Total	624.807
18B15 Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	Salaries & Benefits	16.550
	Operating Costs	0.261
	Government Transfers	382.126
	Other Expenses	0.018
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(12.285)
	18B15 Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs Total	386.669
18B16 Child & Youth Mental Health Services	Salaries & Benefits	62.267
	Operating Costs	3.159
	Government Transfers	53.513
	Other Expenses	0.000
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(8.768)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(0.775)
	18B16 Child & Youth Mental Health Services Total	109.396
18B17 Child Safety, Family Support & Children In Care Services	Salaries & Benefits	155.124
	Operating Costs	18.700
	Government Transfers	571.233
	Other Expenses	0.633
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(63.012)
	18B17 Child Safety, Family Support & Children In Care Services Total	682.677

0.000

0.000

0.000

0.000

NET EXPENSES- 2019/20 Estimates		
18B18 Adoption Services	Salaries & Benefits	8.182
	Operating Costs	0.057
	Government Transfers	26.516
	Other Expenses	0.000
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(0.002)
	<b>18B18 Adoption Services Total</b>	<b>34.752</b>
18B19 Youth Justice Services	Salaries & Benefits	36.482
	Operating Costs	1.409
	Government Transfers	27.515
	Other Expenses	0.001
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(17.985)
	<b>18B19 Youth Justice Services Total</b>	<b>47.421</b>
18B20 Service Delivery Support	Salaries & Benefits	97.933
	Operating Costs	30.306
	Government Transfers	1.670
	Other Expenses	30.193
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(0.199)
	<b>18B20 Service Delivery Support Total</b>	<b>159.902</b>
18B21 Executive & Support Services	Salaries & Benefits	16.996
	Operating Costs	1.768
	Government Transfers	0.705
	Other Expenses	0.316
	Recoveries	
	- Internal to Gov't	(0.001)
	Recoveries	
	- External to Gov't	(0.681)
	<b>18B21 Executive &amp; Support Services Total</b>	<b>19.103</b>
		<b>2,064.727</b>

0.000

0.000

0.000

0.000

0.000



# Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Budget 2019 Estimates

### BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS - OVERVIEW

#### OPERATING BUDGET:

##### 2018/19 Restated from 2018/19 Estimates

(\$0.2M) Decrease

- (\$0.157M) Inter-Ministry Transfer-CITZ for Lease space recovery

##### 2019/20 Estimates from 2018/19 Restated

\$272.3M Increase

Current Decisions \$91.9M:

- **\$31.3M related to Caseload**
  - \$ 10.4M for Autism
  - \$ 0.9M for Medical Benefits
  - \$ 20.0M for Special Needs Children in Care and Children & Youth in Care

Budget 2019 Additional Funding	91.9
previous decisions (net)	180.4
2019/20 Increase	272.3

- **\$6.3M CYSN Respite Waitlists**
- **\$9.3M related to Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF) Pressure**
- **\$20.9M Caregiver Rate Increase including PAA and EFP**
- **\$0.1M Maple Treatment Centre (Amortization costs)**
- **\$9.3M CYMH expanded services and access to programs**
- **\$12.8M related to Economic Stability Dividend (ESD) & Sustainable Services Mandate (SSM)**
- **\$1.9M Benefit Chargeback Rate increase to 25.4% from 24.8%**

Previous Decisions \$180.4M:

- **Additional \$170.3M related to Child Care:**
  - \$ 94.1M for Affordability
  - \$ 65.2M for Accessibility
  - \$ 11.0M for Quality
- **\$2.3M for AYA Funding**
- **\$7.8M Economic Stability Mandate (ESM) wage increase for Staff, Sector & Non-Union**

##### 2020/21 Plan from 2019/20 Estimates

\$119.2M Increase

Current Decisions \$9.7M:

- **\$0.5M Caregiver Rates**
- **\$6.3M Poverty Reduction- Children in Care**
- **\$4.8M CYMH**
- **(\$1.9M) Benefit Chargeback Rate decrease from 25.4% to 24.8%**

Budget 2019 Additional Funding	9.7
previous decisions	109.5
2019/20 Increase	119.2

Previous Decisions \$109.5M:

- **Additional \$108.5M related to Child Care:**
  - \$ 70.2M for Affordability
  - \$ 11.0M for Accessibility
  - \$ 27.3M for Quality
- **\$2.0M for AYA Funding**
- **(\$1.0M) related to ending the Contract Review**

##### 2021/22 Plan from 2020/21 Plan

\$6.9M Increase

Current Decisions \$6.9M:

- **\$0.6M Caregiver Rates**
- **\$6.3M Poverty Reduction- Children in Care**

Budget 2018 Additional Funding	6.9
previous decisions	0
2020/21 Increase	6.9

## Ministry of Children & Family Development

### Budget 2019 Estimates

#### BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS - OVERVIEW

##### CAPITAL BUDGET:

\$0.070M Decrease

- \$0.1M (\$0.070 million) budget decrease for 2019/2020 and \$0.2 for 2020/2021 reflects the ministry's planned vehicle fleet re-allocation as per the capital expenditure schedule.

##### STAFF & FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS (FTES):

- Full-time Equivalents (FTEs) continue to be budgeted at a summary level for the province

- History of Staff Utilization <sup>1</sup>

2008/09	4,332
2009/10	4,128
2010/11	4,117
2011/12	4,203
2012/13	4,152
2013/14	3,995
2014/15	3,954
2015/16	4,008
2016/17	4,070
2017/18	4,315

- Current Year (2018/19) Average FTE Utilization: 4,616  
(January YTD Average FTE Burn)

1. SOURCE: Public Accounts Consolidated Revenue Fund Statement of Staff Utilization schedules

**February 2019**  
**2019/20 Resource Summary- FINAL & Confidential**  
 Ministry of Children & Family Development

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## Resource Summary – Budget 2019

Core Business Area	2018/19 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services .....	443,724	624,807	733,207	733,206
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs .....	361,468	386,669	387,590	387,590
Child and Youth Mental Health Services .....	98,925	109,396	112,942	112,942
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services .....	640,834	682,677	690,785	697,684
Adoption Services .....	31,699	34,752	34,713	34,713
Youth Justice Services .....	45,890	47,421	47,253	47,253
Service Delivery Support .....	151,474	159,902	158,439	158,438
Executive and Support Services .....	18,441	19,103	19,021	19,021
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>2,064,727</b>	<b>2,183,950</b>	<b>2,190,847</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>				
Service Delivery Support .....	4,580	4,510	4,268	4,268
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>4,268</b>	<b>4,268</b>

**February 2019**  
**2019/20 Resource Summary- FINAL & Confidential**  
 Ministry of Children & Family Development

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Core Business Area	2018/19 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan
Other Financing Transactions (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services (Human Services Providers Financing Program) .....				
Receipts .....	31	31	31	31
Disbursements .....	0	0	0	0
Net Cash (Requirements) .....	31	31	31	31
Total Receipts .....	31	31	31	31
Total Disbursements .....	0	0	0	0
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements) .....	31	31	31	31

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2018/19 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2019/20 Estimates.

Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates.

**February 2018**  
**2018/19 Resource Summary- FINAL & Confidential**  
 Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Resource Summary – Budget 2018

Core Business Area	2017/18 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Plan	2020/21 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services .....	285,450	443,724	614,211	722,671
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs .....	349,335	356,249	358,001	358,001
Child and Youth Mental Health Services .....	96,864	98,925	99,591	99,591
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services .....	620,719	646,053	651,770	653,770
Adoption Services .....	31,522	31,699	31,770	31,770
Youth Justice Services .....	44,292	45,890	46,425	46,425
Service Delivery Support .....	149,093	151,631	152,387	151,387
Executive and Support Services .....	17,745	18,441	18,844	18,844
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,595,020</b>	<b>1,792,612</b>	<b>1,972,999</b>	<b>2,082,459</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>				
Service Delivery Support .....	4,005	4,580	4,580	4,580
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4,005</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>4,580</b>	<b>4,580</b>

**February 2018**  
**2018/19 Resource Summary- FINAL & Confidential**  
 Ministry of Children & Family Development

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Core Business Area	2017/18 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Plan	2020/21 Plan
<b>Other Financing Transactions (\$000)</b>				
<b>Executive and Support Services (Human Services Providers Financing Program) .....</b>				
<b>Receipts .....</b>	31	31	31	31
<b>Disbursements .....</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Cash (Requirements) .....</b>	31	31	31	31
<b>Total Receipts .....</b>	31	31	31	31
<b>Total Disbursements .....</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Net Cash Source (Requirements) .....</b>	31	31	31	31

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2017/18 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2018/19 Estimates.

Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates.

## Ministry of Children & Family Development

### RESOURCE SUMMARY COMPARISON- DETAILED CHANGES BY CORE BUSINESS

**2019/20 to 2021/22**

(\$000s)

Core Business Areas	2017/18 Restated	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Plan	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan
Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	285,450	443,724	614,211	722,671	722,671
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	349,335	356,249	358,001	358,001	358,001
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	96,864	98,925	99,591	99,591	99,591
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	620,719	646,053	651,770	653,770	653,770
Adoption Services	31,522	31,699	31,770	31,770	31,770
Youth Justice Services	44,292	45,890	46,425	46,425	46,425
Service Delivery Support	149,093	151,631	152,387	151,387	151,387
Executive & Support Services	17,745	18,441	18,844	18,844	18,844
<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>1,595,020</b>	<b>1,792,612</b>	<b>1,972,999</b>	<b>2,082,459</b>	<b>2,082,459</b>

#### Change - including Decisions for Budget 2019 by Core Business:

Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	0	10,596	10,536	10,535
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	5,219	28,668	29,589	29,589
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	0	9,805	13,351	13,351
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	-5,219	30,907	37,015	43,914
Adoption Services	0	2,982	2,943	2,943
Youth Justice Services	0	996	828	828
Service Delivery Support	-157	7,515	7,052	7,051
Executive & Support Services	0	259	177	177
<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>-157</b>	<b>91,728</b>	<b>101,491</b>	<b>108,388</b>

#### Resource Summary as of Budget 2019 :

Core Business Areas	2018/19 Restated	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan
Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	443,724	624,807	733,207	733,206
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	361,468	386,669	387,590	387,590
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	98,925	109,396	112,942	112,942
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	640,834	682,677	690,785	697,684
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Service Delivery Support	151,474	159,902	158,439	158,438
Executive & Support Services	18,441	19,103	19,021	19,021
<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>1,792,455</b>	<b>2,064,727</b>	<b>2,183,950</b>	<b>2,190,847</b>

(See following pages for detail on key changes)

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Welfare Training for New Practitioners**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry provides a core child welfare training program to ensure new child protection staff have the required skills to perform their job duties.
- The Child Welfare Training Program for New Practitioners was revised in 2017, based on recommendations from reports released by Bob Plecas and Grand Chief Ed John, in addition to feedback from frontline staff.
- The Child Welfare Training Program for New Practitioners (see Appendix A for details) consists of eight courses in a blended-learning format (online, facilitated online, and face-to-face at the Justice Institute of BC), including:
  - Foundations for Child Welfare Practice (online)
  - ICM Tools for Success (interactive PDF)
  - Skills 101 (3 weeks face-to-face)
  - Domestic Violence Safety Planning (online)
  - Problematic Substance Use (online)
  - San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety (online)
  - Skills 201 Court Process (blended)
  - Context for Child Welfare Practice (online)
- This training occurs over a period of four to five months after they have been hired and registered for the training.
- The face-to-face training follows the child protection response cycle and includes skills practice in key areas such as interviewing and using the structured decision making tools, with a focus on policy and legislation (i.e. *The Child and Family Community Services Act*), the impacts of neglect and abuse, working with children, youth and families and preparing for court.



- The online training examines child maltreatment and the impacts of various systemic and familial issues and aligns with the Child/Youth Safety and Family Support Competencies designed in 2014.
- As child welfare practitioners progress through the training program, they work in the field with their mentors using the competency assessment tool to identify and assess key learning priorities and their readiness for child protection delegation/work.
- Evaluations and subsequent enhancements are an ongoing part of program delivery. Based on feedback received from Service Delivery staff, Provincial Practice Branch and new child welfare practitioners, Learning and Development staff are leading work to revise and strengthen the Child Welfare Training Program.

#### TRAINING DATA\*:

- On December 31, 2018, the ministry had 1,750 active front line child protection social workers and team leads.

<b>Fiscal Year 2018-19</b>	<b>Count of Learners Completed</b>	<b>Count of Learners Enrolled / In Progress</b>
Foundations for Child Welfare Practice	102	25
Context for Child Welfare Practice	54	22
Skills 101	121	32
Skills 201: The Court Process (online)	189	30
Skills 201: The Court Process (workshop)	158	44
San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety: Indigenous Child Safety**	164	74

\* As per the L&D's learning system GeoTalent from April 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019

\*\* San'yas training specific to child welfare and not inclusive of all the San'yas training

#### FINANCES:

<b>Budget Centre</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>17/18</b>	<b>18/19</b>
	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
				<b>As at January 31, 2019</b>

Child Safety Training	\$691,672	\$762,890	1,302,986	*976,591
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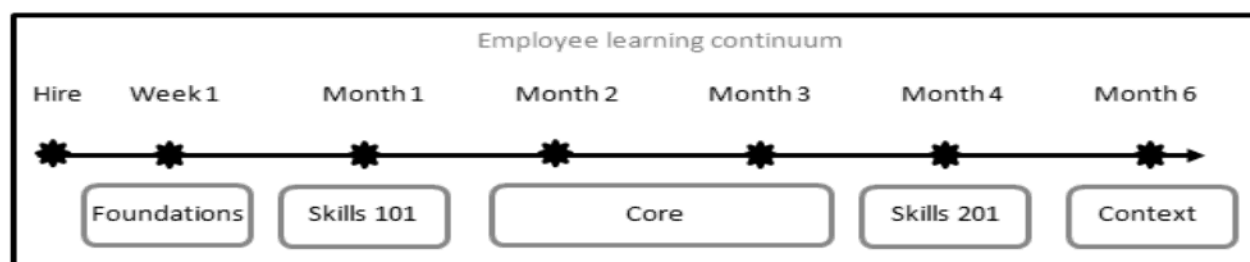
\*FMR Report. Parameters: RC 18XEB, Project 1810200

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

Contact: Philip Twyford, Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer  
 Cell phone: 250 516-0268  
 Date: February 12, 2019

Page 2 of 2

## Child Welfare Training Program



Course	Curriculum	Delivery	Time
<b>Foundations for Child Welfare Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundations for Practice</li> <li>Legislation, Policy and Structured Decision Making Tools</li> <li>Ethical Practice and Clients' Rights</li> <li>Self-management and Self-care</li> <li>Power and Legislated Authority</li> <li>Aboriginal Children, Youth, Families, Communities</li> <li>Approaches to Practice</li> <li>Diversity and Culture</li> </ul>	Online	6 hrs
<b>ICM Tools for Success</b>	Review <a href="#">this interactive guide</a> to understand the ICM system.	iConnect	10 hrs
<b>Skills 101</b>	Weeks 1 and 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 13, CPRP Chapter 3, Child Maltreatment, resilience</li> <li>SDM tools via the workflow of a child welfare worker</li> <li>CDPM, Continuum of Care, Court overview, Reunification, Permanency</li> </ul>	Classroom	8 days
	Week 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>StepWise Process for Interviewing</li> <li>Team Lead consult and Safety Assessment</li> </ul>		5 days
<b>Core</b>	<b>Domestic Violence Safety Planning:</b> A practical application of safety planning.	Online	6 hrs
	<b>Problematic Substance Use:</b> Identify and intervene in situations where parents or caregivers have substance use issues.	Online	4 hrs
	<b>San'yas*:</b> Work more effectively with Indigenous people.	Online	10 hrs
<b>Skills 201: Court Online</b>	A pre-requisite for Skills 201 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Court forms, Director's Counsel, family support services</li> <li>Filing supervision/custody applications, service/notification</li> <li>Judge's decision, appeals, adjournments, other orders</li> </ul>	Online	4 hrs
<b>Skills 201: Court Workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using a sexual abuse case scenario: remove a Métis child, complete SDM tools, interview the family, complete court forms, go to Presentation trial</li> </ul>	Classroom	3 days
<b>Context</b>	For those without CW specialization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poverty as a Systematic Issue</li> <li>Impacts of Mental Health</li> <li>Impacts of Visible and Invisible Disabilities</li> </ul>	Online	4 hrs

Contact: Philip Twyford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance and Corporate Services  
 Cell phone: 250 516-0268  
 Date: February 12, 2019

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Indigenous Recruitment and Cultural Safety**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry's Indigenous Recruitment and Retention work plan was approved in October 2016 by the Practice and Policy Committee.
- The work plan outlines specific areas of work that are intended to recruit and retain Indigenous staff in the ministry with an aim to improve culturally relevant and meaningful services for Indigenous children, youth and families.
- The work plan supports the creation of a culturally safe work environment that is culturally aware, culturally sensitive, culturally agile, and aligned with the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework.

**Accomplishments:**

- WES 2015 reported 210 Indigenous employees across Ministry. In 2018, WES reported an increase to 286. In August 2019, the BC Stats Workforce Profile indicated the number of self-identified Indigenous employees within MCFD to be 296.
- The *Indigenous Recruitment and Retention eGuide for Hiring Managers and Supervisors* was completed in September 2017. Since that time, approximately 250 hiring managers have taken the training for the guide.
- The *Cultural Self-Assessment Tool for Supervisors and Teams* was completed in September 2017. The tool supports the development and strengthening of cultural awareness, cultural sensitivity, cultural agility and cultural safety along individual, team and workspace domains. It is intended to support the journey towards cultural safety and inspire individuals, teams and workplaces to make concrete changes using already existing strengths.
- Approximately 300 Ministry staff have been trained in the application of the Cultural Self-Assessment tool.
- *Cultural Safety* training for supervisors and teams was developed in December 2017: this training included a 90 minute, half day and full day training format.

The training was piloted within the Ministry and community with approximately 300 participants included in one of the three training formats.

- The Indigenous Recruitment and Cultural Safety (IRCS) Team hosted a one day Networks of Support event that prioritized supporting Indigenous staff. Guest speakers and traditional mentors focused on self-care, networks of support and importance of drawing on one's cultural identity, culture and traditions. Thirty Indigenous staff members were invited to participate in this event.
- A key aspect of our indigenous retention strategy is the development and implementation of the Reconciliation Dialogue Model. This model was created to support ministry staff to assess, create and implement reconciliation internally and externally. Seven out of thirteen Service Delivery Area leadership groups have been introduced to this model.

Focus for 2019/20:

- Continue to support Indigenous recruitment and retention through further recruitment guide training to service delivery areas, local service areas, supervisors and managers.
- The IRCS team to seek approval to host an Indigenous Employees Forum in June 2019 to provide culturally aligned career supports and networks of support that will address succession planning and leadership/mentorship needs of Indigenous employees and the ministry.
- Development of a indigenous marketing strategy.
- Development and implementation of Cultural Safety Checklist for all MCFD office spaces to be completed by June 2019.
- *Indigenous Identities, Cultures and Rights Training Project* began in January 2018. Curriculum development is expected to be completed in June 2019, with implementation of the training in August 2019.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Ministry Front-Line Recruitment**

- The ministry continues to be committed to recruiting priority front-line positions. As directed by the Minister's Mandate Letter, the focus remains supporting improved recruitment strategies through hiring additional social workers, and implementing incentives for rural and underserved regions to attract and retain staff.
- A Temporary Market Adjustment was negotiated in the recent round of bargaining for Child Protection Workers as a tool for recruitment & retention and will be effective April 1, 2019.
- To further support recruitment and retention, particularly in hard to recruit communities, a number of initiatives have been implemented:
  - A Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program:
    - Front-line ministry social workers in 28 hard to recruit areas of B.C. receive a yearly incentive payment of either \$3,000 or \$6,000 per year due to an agreement between government and the BCGEU.
    - In 2018, payments were made to 230 social workers in these communities, with the next round of incentive payments to be paid starting in April 2019.
  - MCFD is broadening the educational requirements for hiring new Child Protection Workers. Though a Social Work or Child and Youth Care degree continues to be preferred, an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered in some circumstances.
- The centralized hiring approach for Child Protection Workers (social workers) continues and is proving effective in reducing the hiring resource impact to front-line supervisors and streamlined the application process for applicants.
- The Provincial Mobile Response Team continues to hire to provide additional staffing support to hard to recruit communities.

- In addition to the recruitment efforts, ministry staff will also be focussing on retention strategies. This includes developing and implementing an evidence-based recruitment and retention strategy for Social Program Officers, which will include a jurisdictional scan and best practices research; reviewing various data sources to better understand why front-line workers are leaving the ministry; developing succession management plans and career pathways for front-line workers and promoting flexible work options for staff; and improving the quality of ministry training for social workers.

## STATISTICS 1: MCFD Front-Line FTE Usage Report. December 2018

Service Delivery Division Front Line, Admin & Team Lead, FTE Usage\*

Position Type	FTE Usage March 2017	FTE Usage September 2018	FTE Usage December 2018	Net Change from September 2018 - December 2018	Percent Change
CP Social Workers**	1095.8	1095.1	1092.1	-3	-0.3%
Child and Family Services***	94.4	138.9	146	7.1	5.1%
Resource Social Workers	154.6	189.3	193.6	4.3	2.3%
Adoption Social Workers	54.3	57.4	55.2	-2.2	-3.8%
Special Needs (CYSN) Social Workers	105.9	120.5	122.4	1.9	1.6%
<b>Total "Front-Line" Social Workers</b>	<b>1505.1</b>	<b>1601.2</b>	<b>1609.3</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
CYMH Clinicians	352.5	398.7	404.5	5.8	1.5%
Youth Justice (community)	91.8	90.5	92.6	2.1	2.3%
Youth Justice (custody) Correction Officers	141.8	138.3	133.5	-4.8	-3.4%
Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals****	18.4	19.6	20.6	1	5.3%
<b>Total "Front-Line Professional" Staff</b>	<b>2109.6</b>	<b>2248.3</b>	<b>2260.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
CP Leads & Supervisors	194.5	199.9	204.3	4.4	2.3%
Resources Team Leads	20.9	23.1	24.2	1.1	4.7%
Adoptions Team Leads	9	8.2	9.4	1.2	15.3%
CYMH Team Leads	56	58.9	60	1.1	1.8%
CYSN Team Leads	14	16.8	17	0.2	1%
Youth Justice (community)	14.9	14.3	15	0.7	4.7%
Youth Justice (custody)	18.9	25.0	24.9	-0.1	-0.4%
<b>Total Team Leaders/Senior Youth Supervisors</b>	<b>328.2</b>	<b>346.2</b>	<b>354.8</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Administrative Staff	520.5	550.4	562.6	12.2	2.2%
<b>All "Front-Line" Staff Total</b>	<b>2958.2</b>	<b>3144.8</b>	<b>3178</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>1.05%</b>

\*FTE Usage averaged over the number of pay periods per month. Overtime usage is not included.

\*\* Child Protection includes Guardianship and Multidisciplinary Works.

\*\*\*Child and Family Services includes SPO Assistants, ECD Workers, and Community Development Workers.

\*\*\*\*Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals consists of nurses and SPOs.

Note: This report includes Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Usage from Corporate HR and Pay Information System (CHIPS).

### CROSS REFERENCE:

- Indigenous Recruitment and Retention
- Workforce Summary



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Performance Management & Public Reporting**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry is committed to improving its performance, including outcomes for the children, youth and families that it serves.
- Performance is monitored using trends in 34 indicators across all six service lines.
  - Performance trends are:
    - Improving in 15 indicators including family preservation and permanency
    - Unchanged in 15 indicators
    - Slightly lower in 4 indicators
      - Cost per CYIC case with and without special needs, is increasing
      - Reading and Numeracy FSA test scores are softening
- Since 2012 MCFD has publicly reported on performance through the Performance Management Report. Now it is reporting through an on-line reporting portal (released in February 2018, updated September 2018).
- The on-line reporting portal includes information on how the ministry is organized, its resources, services provided, quality assurance (“complaints” so far, more to be added this year) and performance.
- Public reporting is an essential part of the ministry’s commitment to transparency and accountability and fosters public confidence in the ministry.
- B.C. compares favourably to other jurisdictions on public reporting on the Child Welfare System.
- B.C.’s reporting is broader and more detailed than any other Canadian jurisdiction.
- Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and P.E.I. all publicly report on child protection, but far less extensively than B.C.

**FINANCES: N/A**

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

## Appendix 1 – Indicators Performance

### Improving

- 3.02 Child and Youth Mental Health Time to Receiving First Services
- 4.00 Family Preservation Rates
- 4.14 Rate of CYIC per 1,000 Population
- 4.16 Relative Use of Admissions into Care and Admissions to Out-of-Care (OCO)
- 5.12 Foster Parent Retention Rate
- 5.16 Grade Progression (CYIC)
- 5.21 Age Appropriate Grade (CYIC)
- 5.26 CYIC Who Finish School with a High School Credential
- 5.46 Grade Progression (YAG)
- 5.36 Claiming Income Assistance Within Six Months of Aging-Out (CYIC)
- 5.56 Claiming Income Assistance Within Six Months of Aging-Out (YAG)
- 5.57 Young Adults Transitioning Out of a CCO or Youth Agreement (YA) that Receive Financial Assistance through AYA
- 6.01 Clients Receiving Formal Diversion Services That Did Not Commit a New Offence
- 6.11 Clients Receiving a First Custody Sentence Services That did Not Commit a New Offence
- 6.16 Youth Court Cases per 10,000 Youth Population

### Unchanged

- 1.01 Accessibility of Licensed Child Care Spaces
  - Group Infant / Toddler
  - Group Age 3 to 5
- 3.01 Child and Youth Mental Health Services Client Service Satisfaction
- 5.01 CYIC who Exited to Permanency
- 5.06 Recurrence of Maltreatment of Former CYIC
- 5.76 Per Cent of Children Eligible for Adoption Placed in Adoption Homes
- 5.77 Time Taken for CYIC to go from Permanent Status to Adoption Placement
- 5.11 Placement Stability in the First Year of Care
- 5.71 CYIC Funded Bed Utilization Rate (MCFD only)
- 5.31b Foundation Skills Assessment (Grades 4 and 7), Writing
- 5.41 Age-Appropriate Grade for Youth on Youth Agreements (YAG)
- 5.51 Youth Who Finish School with a High School Credential (YAG)
- 6.06 Clients Receiving First Community Sentence Services That Did Not Commit a New Offence
- 6.21 Youth in Custody per 10,000 Youth Population

### Challenged

- 2.01 Median Residential Cost per CYIC with Special Needs
- 5.66 Residential Cost per CYIC Excluding CYIC with Special Needs (Non-CYSN)
- 5.31a Foundation Skills Assessment (Grades 4 and 7), Reading
- 5.31c Foundation Skills Assessment (Grades 4 and 7), numeracy

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Workforce Summary**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- MCFD's largest occupational group (63%) is comprised of front-line professionals (i.e. social workers, clinicians, nurses) in Health, Education and Social Work; the remaining MCFD occupations (37%) are comprised of a variety of positions, such as excluded management, administration, corrections and other corporate positions.
- 81% of MCFD staff are female and 19% are male.
- The highest percentage of MCFD staff (27%) are in the 35 to 44 and the 45 to 54 age brackets. The average age for all MCFD at 43.9 years, which is marginally lower than the 44.1 years overall across government.
- The average length of service for MCFD staff is 11.3 years, which is marginally lower than the average length of service for government as a whole (12.1 years).
- The most current diversity data was collected during the 2018 Work Environment Survey (WES): of the MCFD employees that self-declared, 718 (15.6%) identified as a visible minority; 197 (4.3%) identified as LGBTQ2S+; 286 (6.2%) identified as Indigenous; and 244 (5.3%) identified as people with disabilities. In August 2019, the BC Stats' Workforce Profile indicated the number of self-identified Indigenous employees within MCFD to be 296. WES data is a point in time calculation (February 2018), whereas the Workforce Profile is data that is combined from multiple sources including WES. The 2019 the Diversity and Inclusion survey will provide more diversity data for MCFD.
- The Information Technology and Trades & Operations roles in MCFD are two job streams that have a significant number of employees who are currently eligible to retire with at least a reduced pension (Information Technology 50%; Trades & Operations 53%).

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- Human Resources- Page 30 in the Data Booklet
- WES 2018
- BC Stats Workforce Profile 2018

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Workforce Summary**

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**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- Human Resources- Page 30 in the Data Booklet
- WES 2018
- BC Stats Workforce Profile 2018

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

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Date: February 4, 2019

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**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION (PLD)  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Custom Adoption**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Custom adoption is an Indigenous cultural practice whereby a child is raised by someone who is not their birth parent, guided by the customs of the child's community.
- While the *Adoption Act* provides the Supreme Court of BC with the authority to recognize the effects of a custom adoption, this option is not often used. Grand Chief Ed John's report stated that this is because the process is onerous, costly and time consuming.
- The Custom Adoption Project responds to recommendations 48 and 49 from Grand Chief Ed John's report. These recommend an improved process for recognizing the effects of custom adoption through the creation of a custom adoption registry and increased access to post adoption assistance. Further collaboration with Indigenous communities was also recommended.
- Guided by the Custom Adoption Indigenous Advisory Circle, collaborations took place in the fall/winter of 2018. Engagements occurred with communities and agencies in the North, Interior, Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island.
- The project team also completed an extensive review of recommendations from over 40 sources from past research and consultations with Indigenous people on custom adoption.
- Altogether, results from research and collaborations recommend a non-judicial, nation-driven process for recognizing the effects of custom adoption and includes financial supports.
- A process for recognizing custom adoptions could increase the possibility of more Indigenous children remaining within their communities and not coming into the Ministry's care.
- The next steps include the development of policy in keeping with the recommendations.



**FINANCES:**

- See Section 2.5) Adoption Services in Financial Data Booklet. The 2019/20 budget for Adoption Services is \$34.8 million.

**STATISTICS:**

- There were 4,110 Indigenous children in government care as of December 31, 2018; 65% of the total number of children in care (Data Booklet for Estimates 2019, Part 4.4, p. 19).

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Child and Youth Mental Health**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The 2019/20 Ministry budget for Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) services is \$109.4 million.
- Budget 2019 delivers \$74M in new investments for mental health and substance use initiatives over the next three years. This includes new funding of \$9.31M to MCFD in 2019/20 (\$37.61M over three years) for planning and implementation of initiatives associated with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions-led Mental Health Strategy.

s.13; s.17

- In addition to new funding in Budget 2019, beginning in 2017/18 the Ministry received an additional \$15M annually to improving timely access to services by hiring up to 120 new CYMH practitioners over three years. The Ministry has hired 62 practitioners since 2017/18, will hire an additional 18 this fiscal and another 40 in fiscal 2019/20.
- The Ministry is also expanding mental health prevention activities in school settings designed to improve children's mental health and wellbeing. In January

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Date: January 31, 2019

of 2019 the Ministry introduced *Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators (EASE)* which will provide mental health resources for educators to better support children in grades K-7. These were developed in partnership with Anxiety Canada. Next phases include development of resources for other mental health topics, and for children in early years settings and secondary schools.

- The Ministry's child and youth mental health and substance use services include:
  - Community-based Child and Youth Mental Health services,
  - Residential child and youth mental health services provided through the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre,
  - Specialized Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services, and
  - Some youth substance use services for those involved in the Youth Justice system.
- These services – along with those provided by the Ministry of Health, health authorities, school districts, physicians, community agencies, and private practitioners – are offered in home, community, hospital and residential settings to B.C. infants, children, youth and their families.
- Community-based CYMH services include general mental health supports and services, as well as specialized interventions for specific issues, such as early psychosis, infant mental health, eating disorders, and dual diagnosis (developmental disabilities and mental health).
- CYMH services can be accessed by families, without referral, by attending one of the 100 CYMH walk-in intake clinics across B.C.
- Services are available in various formats to suit different needs, including individual, group, and family therapy interventions and support provided through general CYMH teams and through Indigenous CYMH teams.
- Approximately 28,000 children and youth receive community-based CYMH services annually in B.C., including those served by contracted equivalent agencies in Prince George and Vancouver/Richmond.

**FINANCES:**

- See section 2.3) Child & Youth mental Health services in the financial data booklet. The 2019/20 budget is \$109.4 million.

**STATISTICS:**

- An estimated 12.6 percent of children and youth aged 4-17 years have mental disorders at any time, or 84,000 children and youth in B.C., and 70 percent of mental disorders begin before the age of 25.
- Research in other countries (e.g., US, UK) indicates 69 percent of children and youth with a mental disorder do not receive the specialized, multidisciplinary mental health services they need.<sup>1</sup>
- In 2017/18, over 20% of CYMH clients had no wait for service and the average wait time for a first clinical service was 59.8 days, over nine days shorter than an average of 69 days one year earlier in 2016/17<sup>2</sup>. In 2018/19 (as of December 31, 2018), the average days to first service declined a further 2 days to 57.5 days<sup>3</sup>.

## Child and youth clients by phase and Service Delivery Area (April 1, 2018 - Dec 31, 2018)

### 3.1 Child and Youth Mental Health

Unique Clients by Phase, Fiscal Year 2018/19<sup>1</sup> YTD

Province / SDA	Referral	Initial Services	Active	Follow-up	Distinct Clients
Province	4,139	10,246	4,502	3,020	25,697
Kootenays	297	411	246	205	1,159
Okanagan	416	1,540	290	177	2,423
Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	373	930	279	251	1,833
East Fraser	225	1,405	389	298	2,317
North Fraser	591	692	636	434	2,353
South Fraser	783	1,180	608	411	2,982
Vancouver/Richmond					3,790
Coast/North Shore	143	767	272	242	1,424
South Vancouver Island	554	1,052	775	439	2,820
North Vancouver Island	313	923	581	336	2,153
Northwest	181	395	116	107	799
North Central	151	469	270	94	984
Northeast	112	482	40	26	660

<sup>1</sup>Unique Community Child and Youth Mental Health Clients, Fiscal Year 2018/2019 as of December 31, 2018. Source: CARIS as of January 20, 2019.

<sup>2</sup>Vancouver/Richmond SDA is served by VCHA (Vancouver Coastal Health Authority). VCHA does not use CARIS, the Ministry's centralized Case Management System. Client count from PARIS for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Year to Date to December 31, 2018.

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management (MAIM)

Note that the data are for the fiscal year to date as of Dec 31, 2018

<sup>1</sup>Waddell, C., Shepherd, C., Schwartz, C. & Barican, J. (2013). *Child and Youth Mental Disorders: Prevalence and Evidence-Based Interventions*. Children's Health Policy Centre, Simon Fraser University.

<sup>2</sup>Retrieved from MCFD CYMH Performance Indicator: <https://mcfcd.gov.bc.ca/reporting/services/child-and-youth-mental-health/performance-indicators>

<sup>3</sup>Data provided by Modelling, Analysis and Information Management (MAIM)

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

Contact: Chery May, ADM, Policy and Legislation Division

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Date: January 31, 2019

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Safety Overview**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Children and youth should be supported to remain safely with their family or extended family.
- In B.C., there is a legal duty to report to a child welfare worker any suspected abuse or neglect of a child or youth under 19 years of age. Every report is assessed to determine the response, and preference is always to find the least disruptive measure to removal.
- Concerns may sometimes result in more intrusive measures based on the type of issue being addressed, and the family's willingness or ability to engage.
- The views of the child and family are considered when making decisions.
- Supports, services and interventions are planned and provided in ways that are sensitive to the unique needs of the family, child and the cultural heritage of those receiving the services.
- Reports regarding children and their families may be addressed via:
  - No Further Action – Closed after initial assessment/referral
  - Referral to Support Services
  - Family Development Response - for reports that do not involve severe abuse or neglect and where the family is able and willing to participate in collaborative assessment and planning
  - Investigation – for reports of severe abuse or neglect
  - Youth Service Response – addresses unique need of youth
- Keeping a child/youth with their parents, extended family, and within their community is always preferred.
- In addition, amendments to *Child, Family and Community Service Act* that will come into force in April 2019 will support greater collaboration with Indigenous communities when child safety interventions involve their communities.

- Taking a child into care is always a last resort and is only done to reduce the risk to the child if there are no other alternatives.

### **FINANCES:**

- See Section 2.4: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services in the Financial data booklet. The 2019/20 budget for CS,FS & CIC is \$682.7 million.

### **STATISTICS:**

- In 2018/2019 (as of Dec. 31, 2018) the Ministry received a total of 44,082 protection reports expressing concern for safety or well-being of children.

#### **Child Protection Response (2018/2019)**

	Number of New Screening Calls Recorded	Number of New Protection Reports Recorded	Number of Calls that Create or Related to Ongoing Family Development Response	Number of Calls that Create or Related to Ongoing Investigations	Request for Family Support	No Further Action	Request for Youth Services
2017/2018	66,852	58,308	33,363	2,349	9,283	16,724	1,344
2018/2019*	51,424	44,082	23,751	1,334	8,738	12,975	1,034

Data Source: Ministry of Children and Family Development. \*YTD as of December 31, 2018

### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Bill 26 Overview**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Out-of-Care Services**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Budget 2019 committed \$45 million over three years in new funding to support the vital role of caregivers, including children out of care under the Extended Family Program.
- “Out-of-care” refers to arrangements in which children are cared for by relatives or other significant adults, including those with a cultural or traditional responsibility to the child, without the child being in the care of the Ministry or a Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA).
- Out of care programs provide parents with viable options to keep their children out of the child welfare system and safe in the homes of their families and communities.
- Out of care options are one solution to reducing the over representation of Indigenous children in care.
- Out-of-care care providers are provided with financial and other supports.
- The Extended Family Program provides support to care providers after a parent voluntarily and temporarily gives care of the child to the care provider.
- A temporary out-of-care order occurs when a child has been removed from the parent(s) and the court orders that the child is placed in the interim or temporary custody of a person other than the child’s parent.
- A permanent out-of-care order transfers custody of a child to a person other than a parent occurs when it is determined that reunification of the child with the parent(s) will not be possible.
- Child in the Home of a Relative is an income assistance-based program that supports children to live with relatives when a parent cannot care for them. New applications were stopped in 2010, although existing clients may continue to receive financial assistance as long as the eligibility criteria are met.
- Youth Agreements support youth ages 16 to 18 to live independently when all efforts to reconnect the youth with parents or family have been exhausted.



- The Agreements with Youth Adults program offers up to 48 months of post-majority financial support to eligible young adults from care who are attending an eligible educational, vocational, rehabilitative or life skills program.

## FINANCES:

- See Section 2.4: Child safety, Family Support & Children in care Services in the Financial Data Booklet.
- Alternates to Care budget for 2019/20 is \$62.6 inclusive of Out of Care Kinship, Youth Agreements and Post Majority Supports.

## STATISTICS:

### Case Volumes for Out-of-Care Services and Post-Majority Supports (2000/2001 – 2018/2019)

Fiscal Year*	Child in the Home of a Relative	Extended Family Program	Temporary Out-of-Care Orders	Permanent Out-of-Care Orders (s. 54.1)	Permanent Out-of-Care Orders (s. 54.01)	Youth Agreements	Agreements with Young Adults
2000/2001	4,444		61			126	
2001/2002	4,506		44			143	
2002/2003	4,288	61	122			161	
2003/2004	4,483	155	137			253	
2004/2005	4,499	114	167	71		354	
2005/2006	4,726	111	170	73		453	
2006/2007	4,734	118	168	69		463	
2007/2008	4,653	175	177	87		550	
2008/2009	4,467	189	160	105		717	325
2009/2010	4,494	191	131	121		706	367
2010/2011	3,298	300	132	122		773	449
2011/2012	2,555	402	167	135		789	393
2012/2013	2,146	431	256	135	1	651	431
2013/2014	1,829	360	418	154	249	695	501
2014/2015	1,565	420	487	176	502	696	553
2015/2016	1,315	542	640	187	765	684	607
2016/2017	1,099	410	664	204	1,146	648	774

<b>Fiscal Year*</b>	<b>Child in the Home of a Relative</b>	<b>Extended Family Program</b>	<b>Temporary Out-of-Care Orders</b>	<b>Permanent Out-of-Care Orders (s. 54.1)</b>	<b>Permanent Out-of-Care Orders (s. 54.01)</b>	<b>Youth Agreements</b>	<b>Agreements with Young Adults</b>
2017/2018	907	409	725	218	1,381	627	933
2018/2019*	781**	384	702	218	1,645	668	1,078

Data Source: Data Booklet for Estimates 2019. Part 4.2: Out-of-Care Services (p. 17).

\* Numbers are fiscal year end (as of March 31 of the fiscal year) and 2018/2019 numbers are fiscal year to date (as of December 31 of 2018/2019 fiscal year).

\*\* 2018/2019 Child in the Home of a Relative count is as of November 30, 2018.

## **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Overview of Post Majority**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:**       **Implementation of Bill 26, amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*.**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Bill 26 amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) received Royal Assent on May 31, 2018. These changes respond to the immediate need to share information, engage Indigenous communities early when a family and child are vulnerable, and seek solutions to support the child and family in their communities.
- Bill 26 aligns with B.C.'s commitment to advance reconciliation with Indigenous people, including through implementation of the following:
  - MCFD's ministerial mandate letter to reduce the number of children in care and in particular the over representation of Indigenous children in care;
  - *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, in particular articles 9, 14(3), 21 and 23;
  - Truth and Reconciliation Commissions' *Calls to Action* on Child Welfare 1 to 5; and
  - Grand Chief Ed John's report, in particular recommendations under Area 8 *Indigenous Peoples and Jurisdiction over Child Welfare* and Area 9 *The Existing Policy Framework – Shifting Towards Patterns of Connectedness*;
- Ultimately the changes are about greater involvement of Indigenous communities in child welfare services and decision making regarding their children.
- This will be accomplished through better information sharing with Indigenous communities regarding their children and improved collaboration and engagement between front-line workers and communities.
- Bill 26 amendments also add new guiding principles to the CFCSA that will begin to shift the existing child welfare system to the Indigenous vision of self-determination and jurisdiction: 1) Indigenous families and Indigenous communities share responsibility for the upbringing and well-being of Indigenous children; and 2) Indigenous children are entitled to learn about and

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Contact: Cheryl May, ADM, Policy and Legislation Division  
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Date: February 4, 2019

practise their Indigenous traditions, customs and languages, and belong to their Indigenous communities.

- A subset of the Bill 26 amendments, referred to as the “withdrawal provisions” were brought into force on October 1, 2018. These provisions allow for the director to withdraw from court proceedings where there is a plan in place between the parent and Indigenous community that the director considers adequate to protect the child.
- The remainder of Bill 26 will be brought into force on April 1, 2019.
- Amending legislation is one way we are acting on our commitment to help Indigenous children remain safely in their communities and connected to their cultures.
- We are continuing to work with Indigenous communities and Canada on the needed systemic reform over the longer term.

#### **FINANCES:**

- B.C. has committed \$2 million in contingencies in FY2019/20 to build Indigenous community capacity to deliver support services to children and families [s.92.1(2)(b)].

#### **STATISTICS:**

- N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Registration of MCFD Staff with the BC College of Social Workers**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The British Columbia College of Social Workers (BCCSW) regulates the profession of social work and maintains a registry of “Registered Social Workers” in B.C.
- Anyone who wishes to use the title of “social worker” or “registered social worker” must be registered with the BCCSW unless they are, or work for, a “prescribed person.” (*Social Workers Act*).
- Under the *Social Worker Regulations* MCFD and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAAs) are considered a “prescribed person”. Ministry and DAA social workers are exempt from the need to register but can do so voluntarily.
- Both MCFD and the BCCSW seek the same outcome - ethical, professional and competent social workers.
- MCFD uses delegation under section 92 of the *Child, Family and Community Services Act* (CFCSA) to ensure accountability for social workers, including:
  - **Education** - a degree in a human services field (social work or child and youth care preferred) and relevant work experience;
  - **Training**- six months of supervised, on-the-job work experience and training before they are considered for delegation;
  - **Supervision** – practice is supported by clinical supervision from Team Leaders, Directors of Practice and Consultants;
  - **Levels of Delegation**- only delegated to a level that matches their duties, skills, knowledge and experience;
  - **Responsibilities**- once delegated must carry out the powers, duties and functions allowed under the CFCSA; and
  - **Consequences**- failing to meet these responsibilities can result in losing delegation status or losing one’s job.

- This level of rigour ensures that MCFD social work candidates are assessed on their core child protection skills and knowledge at a level that exceeds the requirements for becoming registered with the BCCSW.

#### **FINANCES:**

- N/A

#### **STATISTICS:**

- All provinces require registration with an oversight body to use the title “Registered Social Worker.” Registration terminology varies across provinces.
- There is inconsistency across Canada with regards to the requirement for Child Protection Workers to be registered as social workers:

Child Protection (CP) workers required to be registered?	Provinces	
Yes	5	QC, NB, PEI, NS, NLFD
No	2	BC, SK
CP workers not recognized as social workers	3	AB, MB, ON

#### **CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**CHILD CARE POLICY**  
**ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Child Care Overview**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government recognizes the challenges many parents face when trying to balance raising a family with pursuing work and training opportunities.
- That's why this Government is committed to bringing universal early care and learning to all British Columbians who need and want it.
- Our plan is making a real difference for B.C. families, with thousands seeing savings through both the Affordable Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative.
- We've had an incredible response from providers and other key partners who want to work with us to bring change to B.C.'s child care system.
- Both parents and child care providers have embraced the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative – to date, more than 90% of providers have applied for the initiative, with over 52,500 licensed child care spaces already approved for fee reductions.
- This means that tens of thousands of B.C. families have already saved more than \$76 million on the cost of child care.
- We're not just helping with the cost of child care – our Childcare BC New Spaces Fund and Start-Up Grant program are helping us to create more spaces more quickly than ever before.
- Since launching the programs last summer, we've already approved funding for more than 3,000 new licensed spaces across B.C., with many more to come.
- As we continue to build the Childcare BC plan we are refining and adjusting programs to ensure that they are working for both parents and child care providers.
- We will continue to work closely with our key stakeholders to gather feedback and make any necessary improvements.

## Additional information:

### *Affordability:*

- The Affordable Child Care Benefit is also offering significant savings to families across the province, with more than 40,000 children to date approved for benefit plans since the launch in September 2018.

### *Space Creation:*

- The Start-Up Grant program is also helping to create new licensed child care spaces by supporting unlicensed providers with the cost of becoming licensed. To date, the program has helped to create more than 500 spaces across the province, with hundreds more to come as providers complete the process.
- As well as creating new spaces, the ministry is also helping existing providers with the cost of maintaining and repairing their facility through the Childcare BC Maintenance Fund. To date, more than 700 applications have been approved..

### *Quality:*

- The newly expanded Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Education Fund, administered by the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), has provided funding for the Fall 2018 semester (September to December) to 1,095 students, at a total expenditure of \$1,931,310 to allow students to pursue or upgrade their ECE education.
- As of January 31, 2019, 643 of applications for funding have been received by ECEBC for the Winter 2019 semester (January to April), with an expenditure to date of \$502,710-.



## FINANCES:

- Source: **Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2018, page 2**
  - Budget 2019 provides an additional \$9 million to support the Child care Fee Reduction Initiative and associated Child Care Operating Fund Program.
  - When the additional funding from Budget 2019 is included for the Ministry of Children and Families Development, funding increases from \$177 million in 2018/19 to \$347 million in 2019/20 and \$456 million in 2021/21 and 2021/22.

**Table 1: Child Care Programs**

Child Care Programs	17/18 Estimates	17/18 Actual	18/19 Estimates	19/20 Estimates
<b>Child Care Programs</b>	<b>249.0</b>	<b>241.8</b>	<b>405.9</b>	<b>586.0</b>
Referral Supports	10.2	10.0	10.4	19.6
Child Care Administration	9.6	8.0	18.0	22.5
Child Care Parent Subsidy	101.4	102.5	146.5	229.5
Child Care Operating Fund	94.4	97.3	192.9	218.5
Child Care Capital Fund	33.4	24.1	38.2	95.9

*Corporate Support staffing for the Child Care Plan is included within the Executive & Support Services budget: \$0.520M (2018/19), \$0.860M (2019/20, 2020/21 & 2021/22)*

### NOTES:

1. Referral Supports includes Child Care Resource & Referral program and ECE training and development
2. Child Care Administration includes one-time community grants; engagement activities and data collection
3. Affordable Child Care Benefit replaces Child Care Subsidy effective September 1, 2018
4. CCOF includes provision for inflation; Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and ECE wage compensation
5. Child Care Capital Fund includes Child Care Maintenance Fund and new space creation
6. Base Budget is included.

Table 2: Child Care Plan (MCFD Only)

**Budget 2018 - Building an Affordable, Accessible, and Quality Child Care System**

(\$millions)		Base Budget Lifts			
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Affordability	Introduce BC Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB)	47.000	130.000	170.000	170.000
	Inflationary increase for CCOF	5.800	9.500	14.000	14.000
	Increase CCOF	70.930	78.350	104.040	104.040
		<b>123.730</b>	<b>217.850</b>	<b>288.040</b>	<b>288.040</b>
Accessibility	Creation of new child care spaces (19,260) <i>NOTE: the above line excludes existing funding for spaces and for 19/20 onwards includes impact of spaces on CCOF and ACCB</i>	20.810	81.710	92.710	92.710
	CFD Staff to support program - CC program area	3.780	5.740	5.740	5.740
	CFD Staff to support program - Corporate Support	0.520	0.860	0.860	0.860
	StrongStart BC Pilots-Minor Capital	0.160	-	-	-
	Incentives to become Licensed and to provide flexible hours	0.750	5.950	5.950	5.950
	Enhance Minor Capital Program	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800
	Grants to communities	3.000	-	-	-
		<b>29.820</b>	<b>95.060</b>	<b>106.060</b>	<b>106.060</b>
Quality	Increase non-union ECE wages and PD for union ECE	21.000	21.000	21.000	21.000
	ECE Recruitment and Retention	-	-	20.780	20.780
	Training and professional development for ECEs	0.220	9.410	15.900	15.900
	Information campaign and data collection	0.550	0.840	0.840	0.840
	System Enhancements	1.500	3.000	3.000	3.000
		<b>23.270</b>	<b>34.250</b>	<b>61.520</b>	<b>61.520</b>
<b>Total MCFD</b>		<b>176.820</b>	<b>347.160</b>	<b>455.620</b>	<b>455.620</b>

**ELCC Funding:**

Infant/toddler spaces (carry over from 17/18)	13.700	
Operating grants for prototype sites	30.000	30.000
Training fund for ECE's (carry over from 17/18)	6.300	
Culturally-based indigenous child care	10.000	10.000
Supported child development (\$10M carry over from 17/18)	20.000	10.000
Young Parent program	1.000	1.000
	<u>81.000</u>	<u>51.000</u>
Recovery from the Federal Government	-81.000	-51.000
<b>Net impact on Estimates budget</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Child Care Plan
- Child Care Plan Accessibility
- Child Care Plan Affordability
- Child Care Plan Quality

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**CHILD CARE POLICY**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Plan – Year 2**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The B.C. government recognizes the challenges many parents face when trying to balance raising a family with pursuing work and training opportunities.
- We have committed to building a universal child care system that will provide affordable, accessible and high-quality care and early learning to every child whose family wants or needs it.
- Throughout 2018/19 we implemented a number of new initiatives under Budget 2018 and Childcare BC. These include:
  - The new Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) to enhance child care affordability;
  - Creating more spaces through the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund and Start-Up Grant programs, as well as through partnership agreements with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM); and
  - A new Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy to strengthen quality in child care settings – including a wage enhancement for front-line Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), bursaries for ECE training and upgrading, and improved professional development (to name a few).
- 2019/20 continues and builds on this great work, including (to name a few):
  - Enhancing support for parents from the ACCB by increasing some of the benefit rates in September 2019;
  - Enhancing transparency for parents for the new Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative;
  - Launching a new application stream for the New Spaces Fund for mid- to large not-for-profits to apply for multiple projects at once; and
  - Additional Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) to child care providers who provide care outside of standard business hours to support flexible options for families.

## **SUMMARY OF PRIORITY INITIATIVES FOR 2019/20:**

### **Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) Rate Enhancement**

The new ACCB offers an increased income threshold for all care types and enhanced rates for licensed infant and toddler care, above what was previously offered under the Child Care Subsidy program. The Ministry plans to increase ACCB rates for all other licensed care types in 2019, including licensed 3 years to School-Age, School-Age, and Preschool care.

### **Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) Improvements**

The Ministry will implement minor revisions to CCFRI policy for the 2019/20 funding term to enhance transparency for parents and make the application and adjudication process clearer for providers.

### **Childcare BC New Spaces Fund**

The Ministry is planning enhancements to its child care space creation strategy through the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund. A multi-site project stream for mid-to-large non-profit organizations will launch in 2019.

Additionally, to facilitate the creation of more publically-owned child care spaces, the Ministry is in discussions regarding the creation of government-to-government Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements to fund the creation of spaces in new public capital projects, including housing developments. This funding mechanism would also apply to local governments who have successfully completed local needs assessments, such as those funded through the Ministry's partnership with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

Finally, in order to further increase access to child care spaces on school grounds, the Ministry will pilot a new strategy to purchase and deliver modular buildings in partnership with the Ministry of Education, school districts, and PartnershipsBC.

### **Childcare BC Maintenance Fund**

In 2018/19, the Childcare BC Maintenance Fund (formerly Child Care Minor Capital Funding) was enhanced to provide child care operators with greater financial support for maintaining and repairing their child care facility. Due to overwhelming demand for the program, the Ministry advised child care providers in December 2017 that the Fund would be closed until April 2019.

The budget for the Maintenance Fund in 2019/20 has been increased to \$2.2M.

### **Extended Hours Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) Enhancement**

Beginning Fall 2019, the Ministry will offer additional CCOF funding to child care providers providing care outside of standard business hours, in order to incentivize providers to offer more flexible care options. The Ministry will engage with child care providers in Spring 2019 to help inform the development and implementation of this funding enhancement.

## **Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) Program Review and Expansion**

In 2019/20, the Ministry will enhance funding for CCRRs by \$5M. More information on the allocation of these funds will be available shortly.

## **Responsible Adult Training Review**

A Responsible Adult is an individual able to provide care to children in licensed Family Child Care and School Age care settings. Responsible Adults are currently required to meet minimal training requirements and are not subject to certification through the ECE Registry. To improve the quality of child care provided by Responsible Adults and in partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry will conduct a review of the current training requirements for these providers and develop recommendations for enhancing these requirements.

## **ECE Occupational Standards of Practice and Competencies Project**

The current *Child Care Sector Occupational Competencies* are used by post-secondary institutions to develop ECE educational programs, and are used by the Provincial ECE Registry to recommend recognition of post-secondary training programs and to certify individuals wanting to work as an ECE in B.C. The Ministry is currently working in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training to update these competencies to ensure they reflect the current trends and best practices in early care and learning.

## **Inclusive Child Care**

With investments under the federal Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement, the Ministry is working to address the needs of children with extra support needs to access inclusive child care. Monitoring of the demand for inclusive child care will continue.

A pilot project testing additional models of funding inclusive child care was launched in year 1 (December 2018) and will extend through year 2.

## **Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care**

The Ministry is working to better understand issues, barriers and opportunities for child care licensing and regulations in Indigenous communities. This includes a cross jurisdictional review of health and safety regulations in Indigenous child care facilities and understanding the roles First Nations, Provincial and Federal Governments play in Indigenous-led child care in the context of regulations. This work will inform recommendations to reduce barriers and support culturally safe and appropriate high-quality child care in Indigenous facilities.

These recommendations will be available in fall of 2019 and will be key to informing the implementation of the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care in B.C.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Cross Government New Child Care Funding**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget
Budget 2018 <sup>1,4</sup>	182.060	356.960	463.950	463.950
New in Budget 2019 <sup>2</sup>		9.260	9.260	9.260
Budget 2019 <sup>3,4</sup>	182.060	366.220	473.210	473.210

Source: *Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2019, page 3.1 b*

**NOTES:**

1. Cells highlighted in green denote the \$1 billion investment announced in Budget 2018
2. Budget lift to cover cost pressure in Child Care Operating Fund due to CCFRI Uptake
3. Cells highlighted in blue denote the \$1.3 billion investment announced in Budget 2019
4. The Estimates Budget numbers incorporates Child Care - related investments in Partnership Ministries

Ministry of Education: \$2.250M (2018/19), \$4.020M (2019/20), \$3.450M (2020/21)

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training: \$0.900M (2018/19), \$3.690M (2019/20); \$2.790M (2020/21)

Ministry of Health: \$2.090M (2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21)

**Table 2: New Child Care Funding (MCFD only)**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget
Budget 2018 <sup>1,4</sup>	176.820	337.900	446.360	446.360
New in Budget 2019 <sup>2</sup>		9.260	9.260	9.260
Budget 2019 <sup>3,4</sup>	176.820	347.160	455.620	455.620

**NOTES:**

1. Cells highlighted in grey denote a \$0.961 million investment in Budget 2018
2. Budget lift to cover cost pressure in Child Care Operating Fund due to CCFRI Uptake
3. Cells highlighted in yellow denote a \$1.258 million investment in Budget 2019

## STATISTICS: N/A

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- Indigenous Child Care Investments and Initiatives
- Inclusion in Child Care
- Child Care Plan Affordability
- Child Care Plan Accessibility
- Child Care Plan Quality

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
CHILD CARE POLICY  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Plan – Affordability Measures**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government has allocated \$630 million over three years (Years 1 through 3 of the Childcare BC Plan) to make child care more affordable for parents using licensed child care, particularly for infants, toddlers and 3 to 5-year-old children, which is the most expensive care.
- To improve affordability, the Ministry has implemented two key initiatives to reduce costs to families – the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and the Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) – and is prototyping low-cost child care for families at 53 Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites.

**Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI)**

- The CCFRI was the first initiative implemented under Childcare BC and was introduced in April 2018 to enhance the affordability of child care by reducing parent fees in licensed Group (centre-based) and Family (personal residence-based) child care settings.
- Under the CCFRI, eligible licensed providers receive monthly payments in addition to their base Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF), which they are contractually required to pass along to parents in the form of reduced parent fees, by up to:
  - \$350/month for group infant/toddler care
  - \$200/month for family infant/toddler care
  - \$100/month for group care for children aged 3 to Kindergarten
  - \$60/month for family care for children aged 3 to Kindergarten
- In addition, providers approved to “opt in” to the initiative receive an Administrative Top-Up Payment to offset inflationary cost pressures and any increased administrative costs associated with decreasing fees for parents.



- In 2019/20, the Top-Up Payment is increasing from the current 10 percent to 15 percent of the facility's base CCOF funding for those spaces that are part of the CCFRI.
- To ensure parents better understand the benefit they receive under this initiative, the Ministry is introducing minor policy revisions for the 2019/20 CCOF contract term to increase transparency for parents. This includes increased requirements for providers to communicate with parents about the funding they receive from the Ministry and any planned fee increases.

### **Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB)**

- On September 1, 2018, the previous Child Care Subsidy (CCS) program was replaced with the Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB).
- The ACCB is an income-tested child care benefit for families, available to families with annual pre-tax household incomes up to \$111,000<sup>1</sup>, with expanded eligibility and higher benefit rates than the previous CCS.
- The amount of funding a family receives under the ACCB depends on the family's income and size, ages of children, and type of child care. Eligible families may receive up to the maximum benefit of \$1,250/month for licensed group infant care, which better reflects the real cost of child care than the previous amount of support available under the CCS.
- Income tax information from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is used to determine financial eligibility and benefit amounts are determined on a sliding scale according to income.
- Parents must indicate one of the following reasons for needing child care to access the ACCB:
  - working or self-employed;
  - looking for work or participating in an employment-related program;
  - attending school or enrolled in distance education;
  - have a medical condition that interferes with their ability to care for their child;
  - referred by Ministry or Delegated Aboriginal Agency social worker; or
  - have a child attending a licensed preschool program.
- In Fall 2019, the Ministry will increase the ACCB rates for licensed care types other than licensed infant and licensed toddler (both of which increased in

<sup>1</sup> Based on a two-persona family after adjustments are calculated.

September 2018), including licensed 3 years to School-Age, School-Age, and Preschool care (see Table 1).

### **Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites (Prototype Sites)**

- Through the bilateral Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Framework Agreement with the Government of Canada, the Province is investing \$30M/year for two years to convert 53 existing child care facilities around the province to prototype low-cost child care and develop the model for how to deliver it in the future.
- The Ministry provides increased operational funding support for the Prototype Sites in exchange for the selected sites offering families reduced cost child care spaces – no more than \$200 a month per space for regular, full time care – regardless of family income.
- Under the terms of the Prototype Site contract, most contracted sites' revenue streams, which largely consist of parent fees, are replaced with government funding.
- Prototype Sites began operating November 1, 2018 and December 1, 2018, with contracts in place until March 31, 2020.
- Prototype Sites represent 2,611 licensed child care spaces as of January 1, 2019 at 53 sites (well above the initial commitment of 1,786 spaces) and represent each region of the province, rural and urban areas, and all types of child care operators: Non-profit, Sole Proprietor, Corporation, Public Institution, and Indigenous-led child care.
- During the selection process, whenever possible, priority was given to:
  - Infant/toddler spaces;
  - Not-for-profit organizations, and
  - Child care facilities serving traditionally under-served populations.
- The Childcare BC Universal Prototype program is also being evaluated by a third-party evaluator (Malatest and Associates) selected through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process in late summer 2018. The total contract value is \$3.0M for this evaluation (a portion of the ELCC funding).
- The Ministry expects an initial report back from the evaluators in late fall 2019 and a completed review and assessment at or around March 2020.

- The results of this evaluation, along with the Ministry's own internal evaluations will help inform future plans to transition towards universal child care over the next ten years.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Affordability – New Funding Child Plan**

<b>Fiscal Year (\$M)</b>	<b>2018/19 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2019/20 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2020/21 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2021/22 Estimates Budget</b>
Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF) <sup>1</sup>	76.730	87.850	118.040	118.040
Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) <sup>2</sup>	47.000	130.000	170.000	170.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>123.730</b>	<b>217.850</b>	<b>288.040</b>	<b>288.040</b>

NOTES:

1. CCOF increase include inflation: \$5.800M (2018/19), \$9.500M (2019/20), \$14.000M (2020/21 & 2021/22)
3. ACCB program introduced effective September 1, 2018
4. In the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the plan- \$630M – is no longer valid
5. Base Budget not included

- The Prototype Sites are funded under the terms of the Province's Early Learning and Child Care Agreement with the federal government, at \$30M annually over fiscal 2018/19 and 2019/20.

## STATISTICS:

### CCFRI (as of January 2019)

- Over 52,500 licensed child care spaces at over 3,300 facilities have been approved to opt in to the CCFRI, representing 88% of eligible child care spaces.
- Over \$88M has been paid to providers that opted in, including over \$82M in Fee Reduction payments and nearly \$6.5M in Administrative Top-Up Funding.

### ACCB (as of January 2019)

- Over 28,700 families, representing over 38,700 children, have been approved for ACCB.

### **Prototype Sites**

- 327 Child Care sites applied to the program – representing over 11,400 spaces.
- Of those, 53 Prototype Sites were selected – representing 2,611 spaces.
- 43 sites launched operations in November 2018, with an additional 10 sites launched in December 2018.

### **CROSS REFERENCE**

- Child Care Plan
- Child Care Overview

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Child Care Plan - Accessibility**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- For too long, parents have been struggling to find child care that meets their needs.
- That's why we're bringing affordable, accessible and quality licensed child care to every family that wants it.
- In Budget 2018, we announced a \$237-million investment under Childcare BC to support the creation of 22,000 new licensed child care spaces by 2021.
- Our Childcare BC New Spaces Fund and Start-Up Grant program are helping us to create more spaces more quickly than ever before.
- Since launching the programs last summer, we've already approved funding for more than 3,000 new licensed spaces across B.C., with many more to come.
- In September 2018, we also announced the Community Child Care Space Creation Program in partnership with the Union of BC Municipalities.
- Through this program, the Province is investing \$13.7 million to create almost 1,400 new licensed child care spaces across B.C.
- The deadline for applications was January 18, 2019, and we expect to announce successful projects in the coming months.

**NEW SPACES FUND**

- The Childcare BC New Spaces Fund (NSF) replaced the Child Care Major Capital Funding program in July 2018. The New Spaces Fund assists child care providers with the cost of building new or renovating existing facilities; to create new licensed child care spaces.

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Cell phone: s.17  
Date: 2019-02-05

- All licensed non-profit, public sector, Indigenous government, and private child care organizations are eligible, with the exception of organizations intending to create Occasional Child Care and Child Minding spaces.
- The NSF provides up to a maximum of \$1M to public sector entities – including Indigenous governments and local governments – intending to operate the spaces directly, and to non-profit organizations partnering with such entities; \$500K to Child Development Centres, Indigenous organizations, and non-profit societies operating outside a partnership; and \$250K to private child care organizations.
- To ensure spaces created under the NSF are affordable for families, eligible recipients are required to ensure that the child care operator is accepted to the Child Care Operating Funding program and approved to opt-in to the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) prior to receiving the final NSF payment.
- We've created 1,400 new spaces so far through this program, and have strategies in place to continue to increase uptake of this program – particularly with Indigenous Governments, and non-profit and public sector providers.

#### UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES (UBCM) CHILD CARE SPACE CREATION AND CHILD CARE PLANNING PROGRAMS

- Budget 2018 provided \$3M to deliver grants to communities to develop local community child care plans. UBCM is distributing the funding to local governments.
- Additionally, the Canada-British Columbia Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (CAN-BC ELCC Agreement) provided a total of \$13.7M in 2017/18 to create 1,370 new licensed infant/toddler child care spaces.
- UBCM is contracted to deliver the space creation funding to local governments through a jointly-designed application process.
- Local governments in receipt of this funding will build new child care spaces for children up to age 5 in publicly-owned facilities.
- Ministry and UBCM staff are currently reviewing applications for both the space creation and planning programs, and anticipate awarding funding to successful applicants between March and April 2019.
- A further request for proposals is anticipated in 2019 for any unspent amounts.

## MAINTENANCE FUND

- The Childcare BC Maintenance Fund provides financial support to child care operators in order to maintain, repair, and/or relocate their child care facility.
- The Maintenance Fund replaced the Child Care Minor Capital Funding program in June 2018, and benefitted from an expanded budget totalling \$1.2M.
- The maximum amount of funding for non-profit and public sector organizations was increased to \$10,000 per fiscal year. Private sector child care organizations (including personal residence providers) are newly eligible under the Maintenance Fund, as they were not able to apply under the Minor Capital Funding Program.
- The newly expanded eligibility criteria and the increased funding amounts resulted in significant new interest in the program, and budget pressure.
- Due to overwhelming demand for the program, the Ministry advised child care providers in December 2017 that the Fund would be closed until April 2019, except for emergencies.
- The budget for the Maintenance Fund in the 2019/2020 fiscal year has been increased to \$2.2M.

## START-UP GRANTS

- Starting in June 2018, one-time Start-Up Grants were made available to help eligible new and unlicensed child care providers to become licensed Family Child Care or In-Home Multi-Age Child Care facilities.
- The program provides \$500 up-front to applicants to assist with the cost of becoming licensed, then an additional \$500 per licensed child care space created. This means there is a funding maximum of \$4,000 for Licensed Family child care facilities and \$4,500 for In-Home Multi-Age child care facilities.
- Since the program launch on June 20, uptake has been high with almost 1,700 spaces funded.

## CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL (CCRR) PROGRAM

- The Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) program provides support, information and referral services for parents and services to child care providers in communities across B.C.

- The CCRR program is funded by MCFD and operates through contracts with non-profit community social service agencies.
- There are 42 CCRR programs located in five regions across the province. There are also five CCRR Regional Coordinator contracts held by community social service agencies that comprise part of the CCRR program.
- In 2019/20, the Ministry will enhance funding to CCRRs by \$5M.
- More information on the allocation of these funds will be available shortly.

## STRONGSTART BC

- StrongStart BC (SSBC) early learning programs provide school-based opportunities for children aged birth to five, and their families, to engage in activities to support children's physical, emotional, cognitive and language development through play.
- MCFD is partnering with the Ministry of Education to pilot full-day child care at 8 underutilized StrongStart BC locations (or where other school space exists) to provide Boards of Education with experience in operating a mix of full-day early care and learning options.
- As of February 2019, the Ministry of Education is still consulting with districts to identify underutilized SSBC locations.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Accessibility New Funding for Child Care Plan**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget
Child Care space creation <sup>1</sup>	20.810	81.710	92.710	92.710
Staffing to support program <sup>2</sup>	4.300	6.600	6.600	6.600
Grants to communities	3.000			
Incentives - Licensing	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500
Incentives - Early Childhood Educators (ECEs)	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250
Incentives - Flexible Hours		5.200	5.200	5.200
Strong Starts BC Pilots	0.160			
Minor Capital Enhancements	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.820</b>	<b>95.060</b>	<b>106.060</b>	<b>106.060</b>

### NOTES:

Contact: Christine Massey, ADM, Early Years and Inclusion Division  
 Cell phone: s.17  
 Date: 2019-02-05



1. Child care space creation includes Start Up Grant program
2. Staffing to support Program is in Executive and Support Services:
  - Child Care Program- \$3.780M (2018/19), \$5.740M (2019/20, 2020/21 & 2021/22)
  - Corporate Support- \$0.520M (2018/19), \$0.860M (2019/20, 2020/21 & 2021/22)

<b>Budget</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Child Care Major Capital	\$13.0M	\$6.2M	\$5.2M
Childcare BC New Spaces Fund	-	\$27.61M	\$89.51M
Childcare BC Start Up Grants	-	\$0.5M	\$0.5M
Childcare BC Maintenance Fund – previously known as the minor capital program	\$0.4M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M
UBCM Child Care Space Creation	-	\$13.7M	-
UBCM Child Care Planning	-	\$3.0M	-
Child Care Resource and Referral	\$10.2M	\$10.4M	\$19.6M
StrongStart BC Pilots	\$0.16M	-	-

**\* Does not include base budget**

## STATISTICS:

	<b>Target 2018/19</b>	<b>Target 2019/20</b>	<b>Target 2020/21</b>
New Spaces Fund	2760	8250	8250
UBCM Space Creation and Planning	1370	N/A	N/A
Maintenance Fund	N/A	N/A	N/A
Start-Up Grants	875	875	875
CCRR	N/A	N/A	N/A
StrongStart BC Pilots			

Data Source: Branch, Division or Ministry [9pt font]

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- Child Care Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION (EYID)  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Plan Initiatives to Improve Quality**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government has committed to increasing access to child care by creating more child care spaces. To open and operate these spaces, child care programs will need to be staffed with Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and ECE Assistants (ECEAs).
- In September 2018, Government announced the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy to increase the number of ECEs in the workforce.
- The initiatives within this strategy include:
  - ECE Wage Enhancement Program: \$1/hour as of January 31, 2019, increasing to \$2/hour in April 2020 for eligible front-line ECEs.
  - Professional Development Funding: through the Early Learning Child Care Agreement with the Government of Canada, \$6.3M has been allocated to ensure that ECEs have access to high quality professional development and training.
  - ECE Standards of Practice and Occupational Standards Project: development of updated Standards to support an enhanced level of competency for new child care graduates and form the basis for recognition of early education post-secondary programs.
  - ECE Education Support Fund: \$10M investment through the Early Learning and Child Care agreement into the ECE Bursary Program and ECE Workforce Development Bursary Program to support students who are pursuing their ECE certification, and help current Early Care and Learning professionals to complete or upgrade their certification.
  - The Early Learning and Care Facilitators Program: expanding the professional development model that provides a platform for ECEs working in the field to collaborate with peers, reflect on best practices

and share innovative ways to enhance the early years learning environment.

- In addition to the initiatives outlined under the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy, the Ministry will make targeted investments to support and enhance quality in early care and learning programs, including:
  - Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) Program: distributing \$5M in Program Enhancement Funding to CCRR programs.
  - Responsible Adult Training Review: conducting a review of the training requirements for Responsible Adults (largely Family Child Care providers and Out of School Care providers) to provide recommendations that aim to improve health, safety, and quality of care provided to children in British Columbia (B.C.).

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Quality - New Funding for Child Care Plan**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget
Wage Increases- Non-Union ECEs & Professional Development for Unionized ECEs	21.000	21.000	21.000	21.000
ECE Recruitment & Retention			20.780	20.780
Training & Professional Development for ECEs	0.220	9.410	15.900	15.900
Stakeholder Engagement	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100
Data collection	0.450	0.740	0.740	0.740
System Enhancements	1.500	3.000	3.000	3.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.270</b>	<b>34.250</b>	<b>61.520</b>	<b>61.520</b>

### Notes:

1. Base budget is not included

## STATISTICS: N/A

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- Child Care Plan
- **888211** – ECE Wage Enhancement

- **888218** – Professional Development Funding
- **888207** – ECE Standards
- **888212** – ECE Bursary Program
- **888216** – CCRR
- **888219** – ECE Registry

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION POLICY  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: CYSN Services Framework**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Families seeking support for children with special needs face a fragmented system.
- Our government is developing a Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) services framework to guide the delivery of these services to better meet the specific needs of children and their families.
- Government understands that the service framework cannot be created in isolation. We need to understand the experience of those needing supports, receiving supports and delivering supports.
- We are working with two research firms, reviewing current and past recommendations from the Representative for Children and Youth, and involving those who link or deliver services. Additionally, new research conducted through the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research on respite and early intervention will inform the creation of the framework.
- So children don't "fall through the cracks", and beyond the recommendations in the RCY "Charlie" report, the provincial director of child welfare is making sure child protection and CYSN are all working seamlessly together..

**FINANCES:**

The 2019/20 budget for CYSN is \$386.7 million. See Financial Data Booklet section 2.2: Services for Children and Youth with Special needs.

The total 2018/19 budget for the CYSN Services Research was \$532,000:

- \$137,000 for Indigenous user experience via the Reciprocal Consulting firm.
- \$395,000 for user experience research (including but not focused on Indigenous families and communities), assessment processes and current pathways to accessing CYSN services, and the current state of CYSN services via the KPMG firm.

**STATISTICS:**

There are approximately 74,000 children and youth with special needs in BC and as a result of budget increases and program development, approximately 30,000 access ministry intervention and support services between birth and age 19 years.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:** Early Years Service Framework

**CLIFF:** 999213

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In 2016/17, the Ministry conducted a review of the system of early years services in B.C. Extensive research, consultation, and third-party evaluation contributed to the decision to develop the Early Years Services Framework (Framework).
- The Framework was released in June 2018 to guide Ministry funding of early years services in B.C.
- The Framework outlines five key service categories that will guide Ministry early years investments, which includes a strong focus on direct services such as family support programs, culture and language programming, and non-child care related early childhood development programming.
- As part of this shift to align investments to the Framework, the Ministry has sunsetted funding for contracted early years coordination and planning programs, including non-Indigenous Children First, Success by 6 and Early Years Centre programs totalling \$9.7M. This investment will be redirected to provide direct services for young children and families effective April 2019.
- The re-allocation of early years investments is occurring through a transparent competitive process and where appropriate direct awards to communities where a competitive process is not feasible (e.g. Indigenous communities, remote communities).
- Early years investments serving Indigenous communities (Indigenous Early Years Centres, Children First) will remain in place and investments from Aboriginal Success by 6 programming (\$1.2M) will be re-directed to enhance the Aboriginal Infant Development Program.
- The Ministry has assumed responsibility for planning early years investments through establishing new Early Years Director positions across B.C. to support

Contact: (primary contact if the MO needs information – should be an ADM)  
Cell phone:  
Date:

the implementation of the Framework and collaborating with early years partners.

- Extensive consultation completed through 2018/19 with stakeholders regarding the implementation of the Early Years Service Framework included a provincial conference, presentations to provincial organizations, community meetings, public letter from the Minister and regular teleconferences with key stakeholders.

**FINANCES:**

- Over \$9.7M- in 2019/20 investments is being redirected under the new Framework:

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Indigenous Child Care and Early Years Investments and Initiatives**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- B.C. Government's commitment to reconciliation is critical in the early years, a foundational time for a child's development of language, culture and identity.
- National legislation does not exist for Indigenous early learning and child care and Federal, Provincial, First Nations and Métis Governments share the responsibility for services.
- On September 17, 2018, the federal government released the national Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework (IELCC), which provides an overarching national vision for Indigenous early years as well as distinct First Nations, Métis and Inuit frameworks to realize this vision.
- Through government's Childcare BC plan, the Early Years Service Framework, and the federal Early Learning and Child Care agreement with the Government of Canada, opportunities to address immediate service gaps in Indigenous child care and early years have been implemented including a \$30M investment to expand Aboriginal Head Start both on and off-reserve to create 500 new Head Start spaces by March 2020.
- The Ministry looks forward to continuing to work with the federal government and BC Indigenous communities as the federal government confirms funding for the IELCC.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Child Care Plan
- Early Years Service Framework

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Inclusive Child Care and Supported Child Development**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Supported Child Development (SCD) and Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) are community based programs that offer supports for children with extra support needs to participate and be fully included in child care settings. ASCD services are delivered within a cultural model, respecting traditional protocol, language and traditions of the communities they support.
- In February 2018, a \$30M investment into these programs over three years was announced. This funding was part of the Early Learning and Child Care agreement with the Government of Canada supporting improved access to inclusive child care.
- Despite the important supports and services provided through the SCD and ASCD programs, many families across B.C. still face challenges in accessing inclusive child care, and child care operators face challenges in building capacity for inclusive child care. As the number of child care spaces increases through Childcare BC, so will the need for inclusive child care.
- Government is gathering input from key avenues that will assist us in planning for building capacity in the child care sector to support children with extra support needs.
- One key avenue is the Inclusion Pilot, which is underway in 13 of the Universal Childcare Prototype sites. Through this pilot, we are learning about the benefits and limitations of different models of funding inclusive child care.
- An additional avenue for gathering information is through the Inclusive Child Care Reference Group, made up of key subject matter experts on inclusive child care. The Reference Group has been convened to provide recommendations to Government around planning for a child care system that is truly inclusive of

children with extra support needs. This group of sector stakeholders is also tasked with identifying additional engagement needs.

**FINANCES:**

- The budget for SCD and ASCD for 19/20 is \$63.5M (62.5M in 18/19) excluding ELCC federal funding of \$10M.

**STATISTICS:** N/A**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
CHILD CARE BENEFIT AND OPERATING FUNDING BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) Payment Delays**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The payment issues experienced by some child care providers in early January 2019 have been fixed.
- To address this issue, the Ministry improved its payment process to allow providers to submit their Child Care Operating Funding and Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative enrolment reports starting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month instead of the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- They can also submit their reports for the Affordable Child Care Benefit on the 15<sup>th</sup> rather than waiting until the first of the following month.
- This gives providers more time to prepare their monthly paperwork, and means that if a provider submits their reports before the 20<sup>th</sup> of a month, they will receive payment for CCOF, CCFRI and ACCB before the first of the following month.

If needed:

While the ministry makes every effort to pay providers as soon as possible, we cannot guarantee payment by the first of the month if the provider submits their enrolment forms after the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Payments may also be delayed if a provider has not completed its forms properly, or if has requested payment by cheque rather than direct deposit.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- On November 20, 2018, 782 Enrolment Reports (invoices) were submitted, of which 591 (76%) payments were made prior to December 1.

- On December 20, 2018, 787 Enrolment Reports (invoices) were submitted, of which 392 (50%) were made prior to January 1, 2019.
- Note: Some of the above Enrolment Reports would not have been able to be paid due to having errors or being incomplete.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION (EYID)  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Closures**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Closures of child care facilities happen on a regular basis based on the operational decisions/needs of child care operators. These closures often place families in difficult situations.
- While it is not unusual to see facilities opening and closing on a regular basis, the shortage of portables on school grounds, high rent/lease costs for commercial spaces, along with the shortage of Early Childhood Educators and support staff are possible causes for recent closures.
- Under Childcare BC, the Ministry is working with our partners across government to find ways to support providers to continue operating their business and providing the vital services on which families in their community depend.
- For years the child care crisis was ignored—and that’s why our government introduced our historic \$1-billion investment in child care and has launched more supports than ever for families and providers to support their operations and help them overcome challenges, including:
  - Supporting the creation of 22,000 new licensed child care spaces over three years;
  - Introducing a \$1/hour wage enhancement, which will increase to \$2/hour in April 2020, to support the recruitment and retention of front-line Early Childhood Educators;
  - Enhancing the Childcare BC Maintenance Fund to support providers with relocation or repair costs to keep spaces open; and
  - Providing enhanced financial assistance to eligible licensed child care providers through the Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) Program.
- The Ministry is also looking into how we can improve tracking of when and why child care programs close, to determine how we can best support providers to continue offering quality child care programs.

**FINANCES:** N/A**STATISTICS:**

- Based on the last 10 years of CCOF data: Each year, between 400 and 550 facilities - representing between 5,000 and 7,500 spaces (between 4-8% of total CCOF spaces) - do not renew their CCOF contracts.
- However, during that same 10-year period, the average monthly number of CCOF spaces rose steadily each year, for a total increase of approximately 30,000 over the 10-year period (from about 85,000 in 2008/09 to approximately 115,000 in 2018/19).

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **888202** – Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF)
- Child Care Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Child Care Space Shortage**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government recognizes the challenges many parents face when trying to find licensed child care.
- Government is aware that there is an inadequate supply of child care spaces throughout the province.
- Lack of licensed spaces and high prices are issues felt by families across B.C. The lack of affordable, quality child care forces many parents to either stay home from work, or to pay more than they can afford for any care they can find.
- The child care shortage in B.C. is bad for businesses that lose skilled workers.
- Currently, Government provides Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) for 18.9% of the 0 to 12 population
- That's why this Government is committed to bringing universal child care to all British Columbians.
- In 2018, through the fourth intake of the former Child Care Major Capital Funding Program, government funded the creation of over 3,800 new licensed child care spaces.
- Through our New Spaces Funding, and the Start-Up Grants, both introduced as part of Budget 2018, we are creating a total of over 3,000 additional licensed child care spaces.
- Through the Childcare BC Maintenance Fund, we have supported 716 facilities to maintain operations, or to relocate, ensuring spaces remain in operation. This ensures that quality spaces are available for families who need them.
- A key barrier to creating spaces is access to qualified Early Childhood Educators. In September 2018, Government released the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy, and we are now putting a series of initiatives in place to increase recruitment and retention of educators.



**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

<b>Categories (example: SDA or type of service)</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>Target 2019/20</b>
Child Care Major Capital (spaces)	3,800	N/A	N/A
Childcare BC New Spaces Fund (spaces)	N/A	1,400	8,250
Childcare BC Start Up Grants (spaces)	N/A	1,700	875
Childcare BC Maintenance Fund – previously known as the minor capital program (approved facilities)		716	

Data Source: Branch, Division or Ministry [9pt font]

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Child Care Closures
- Child Care Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Children in Care Statistics**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- When children come into care under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)* the Director of Child Welfare is legally responsible for their care. The extent of the Director's decision making authority and guardianship responsibilities depend on the child's legal status.
- Most children come into care by court order after being removed from the care of their parents. Court orders can be for interim, temporary or continuing custody. In these circumstances the Director has the legal authority to make most guardianship decisions, including health care, education and placement.
- Children may also come also into care through voluntary care agreements or special needs agreements. Voluntary care agreements can be made when parents are temporarily unable to care for their child. Parents retain most guardianship responsibilities and authority under these agreements and they can be cancelled at any time by any party.
- Special needs agreements can be used for children to come into care when in-home supports are not available or sufficient, the parents are unable to meet their child's special needs, and they are committed to being involved in their care and planning and decision.
- Individuals who are the subjects of youth agreements and agreements with youth adults are not "in care" of the Director.

**STATISTICS:****Children and Youth in Care by SDA (December 2018)**

<b>SDA</b>	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>Total</b>
SDA 11- Kootenays	38	60	98
SDA 12- Okanagan	200	239	439
SDA 13- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	136	194	330
SDA 21- East Fraser	42	257	299
SDA 22- North Fraser	137	176	313
SDA 23- South Fraser	235	349	584
SDA 24- Vancouver/Richmond	72	228	300
SDA 25- Coast/North Shore	107	75	182
SDA 31- South Vancouver Island	210	266	476
SDA 32- North Vancouver Island	324	279	603
SDA 41- Northwest	164	15	179
SDA 42- North Central	286	91	377
SDA 43- Northeast	76	26	102
Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	2,081	0	2,081
<b>Province</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>6,365</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2019

**Analysis of children and youth in care statistics:**

- The number of children and youth in care in December 2018 was 6,365. Of the 6,365 children and youth in care, 65% are Indigenous.
- Of the 6,365 children and youth in care, 3,498 (55.0%) are in care under a continuing custody order.
- Of those 3,498 children and youth:
  - 2,466 are Indigenous
  - 1,032 are non-Indigenous

**Indigenous Children and Youth in Care:**

- There are 4,110 Indigenous children and youth in care. This represents 65% of the total children in care caseload.
- The total number of Indigenous children and youth served by a Delegated Aboriginal Agency is 2,081 (51%).

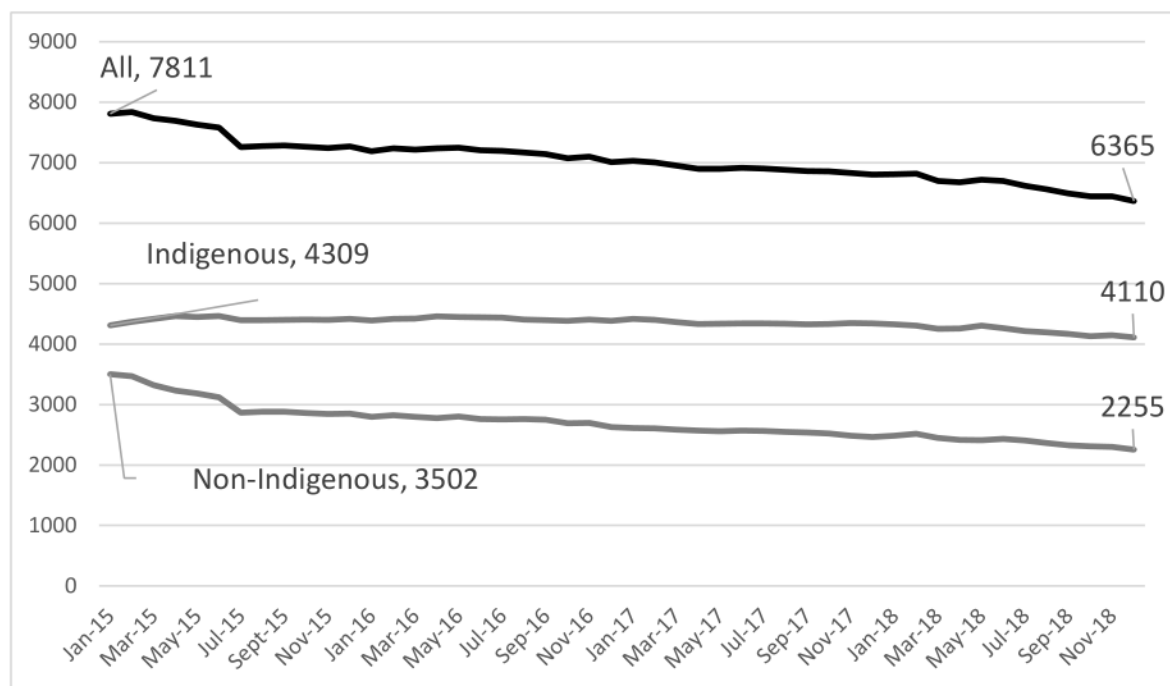
- Over the past years, MCFD has focused efforts on family preservation, resulting in more children remaining within their family systems and communities instead of being placed in foster care, whilst simultaneously securing permanent homes for children in foster. To date, these efforts have helped reduce the number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children in care. As a result, the number of non-Indigenous children in care has declined faster, resulting in a greater percentage of Indigenous children remaining in foster care.

### Children and Youth in Care by Indigenous Status

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Percent of Indigenous
March 2015	4,417	3,319	7,736	57%
March 2016	4,420	2,797	7,217	61%
March 2017	4,364	2,587	6,951	63%
March 2018	4,252	2,446	6,698	63%
December 2018	4,110	2,255	6,365	65%

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2019

### Number of CYIC by Indigenous Status Over Time



### CROSS REFERENCE:

- Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Indigenous Children in Care Statistics**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Indigenous children and youth need to be connected to their families, communities, cultures and traditions.
- The ministry is committed to working with Indigenous peoples and partners to strengthen the child welfare system by addressing the root causes of the over-representation of Indigenous children and youth in the child welfare system.
- As of December 31, 2018, there were 4,110 Indigenous children in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA's) in the province; representing 65% of the total number of children in care.
- Of these 4,110 Indigenous children in care:
  - 3,505 (85%) were First Nations;
  - 536 (13%) were Métis;
  - 37 (1%) were Inuit; and,
  - 32 (1%) were of unidentified (unknown to worker) Indigenous ancestry.
- DAA's serve 2,081 (51 %) of the Indigenous children in care.
- The number of Indigenous children and youth in care declined by 142 (3%) between March 31, 2018, and December 31, 2018. This is due to fewer Indigenous children coming into care and services that help to keep more children living safely with their families.

**FINANCES: N/A**

**STATISTICS:****Children and Youth in Care by Indigenous Status by SDA in both MCFD and DAA offices**  
(December 31, 2018)

<b>SDA</b>	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>Total</b>
SDA 11- Kootenays	38	60	98
SDA 12- Okanagan	200	239	439
SDA 13- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	136	194	330
SDA 21- East Fraser	42	257	299
SDA 22- North Fraser	137	176	313
SDA 23- South Fraser	235	349	584
SDA 24- Vancouver/Richmond	72	228	300
SDA 25- Coast/ North Shore	107	75	182
SDA 31- South Vancouver Island	210	266	476
SDA 32- North Vancouver Island	324	279	603
SDA 41- Northwest	164	15	179
SDA 42- North Central	286	91	377
SDA 43- Northeast	76	26	102
Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	2,081		2,081
<b>Province</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>6,365</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis &amp; Information Management, January 30, 2019

The Provincial Indigenous CYIC caseload includes two cases managed by an office that is not assigned to an SDA.

Contact: Cory Heavener, ADM/Provincial Director of Child Welfare

Cell: s.17

Date: February 12, 2019

### Children and Youth in Care in **DAA offices only** (December 31, 2018)

<b>Delegated Aboriginal Agency</b>	<b>CYIC</b>
Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society	463
Vancouver Aboriginal Child And Family Services Society	406
Secwepemc Child & Family Services	142
Usma Nuw-chah-nulth Community & Human Services	136
Lalum`utul`Smun`eem Child & Family Services	135
Kw'umut Lelum Central Island Child & Family Service	120
Métis Family Services	112
Surrounded By Cedar Child and Family Services	81
Carrier Sekani Family Services	76
Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child & Family Services	61
Ayas Men Men Child & Family Services	56
Northwest Inter-nation Family Services Society	51
Ktunaxa-Kinbasket Family & Child Services	50
Scw`exmx Child & Family Services	44
NIL/TU,O Child & Family Services	35
Nisga'a Child & Family Services	35
Knucwentwecw Society	29
Lil Mischif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services	16
Denisiqi Services Society	11
NIha`7kapmx Child & Family Services	11
Gitxsan Child & Family Services Society	6
<b>Total CYIC Delegated Aboriginal Agencies</b>	<b>2,076</b>
<b>Splatsin Stsmamlt Services*</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total CYIC in Delegated Aboriginal Agencies</b>	<b>2,081</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management Branch

\*Note: Splatsin Stsmamlt Services has a unique Delegation Agreement with MCFD

### CROSS REFERENCE:

- Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies
- Permanency for Children in Care Statistics

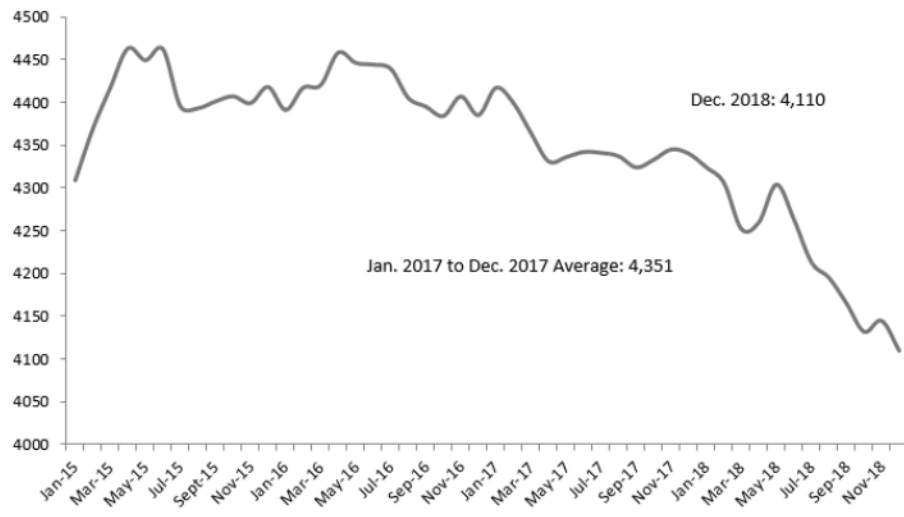
Contact: Cory Heavener, ADM/Provincial Director of Child Welfare

Cell: s.17

Date: February 12, 2019

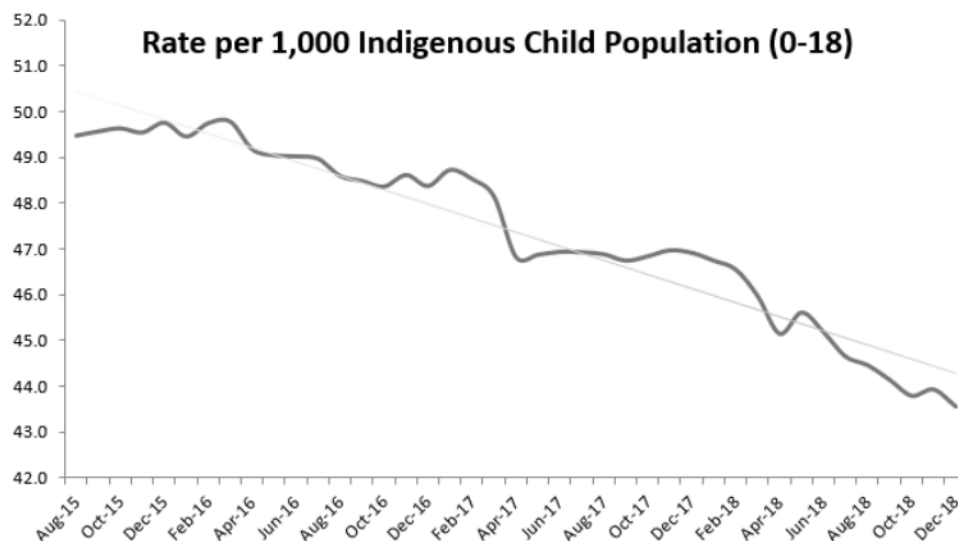
**Number of Indigenous Children and Youth in Care  
August 2015 – December 2018**

- The following chart shows the reduction in the number of indigenous children and youth in care.
- In December 2018 there were 6,365 Children and Youth in Care (CYIC). Of these, 64.6% were Indigenous.
- Since December 2017 the number of CYIC has declined by 441 (6.5%). Of these, 230 (47.8%) were Indigenous.
- The number of Indigenous CYIC in December 2018 was 5.5% below the recent average before 2018.



**Rate of Indigenous Children and Youth in Care per 1,000 Indigenous Child Population  
August 2015 – December 2018**

- The following chart shows the rate of indigenous children in care (ages 0 to 18) per 1,000 population.
- This rate has demonstrated an ongoing reduction, from over 49 in August 2015, to 43.5 in December 2018.



Contact: Cory Heavener, ADM/Provincial Director of Child Welfare

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Date: February 12, 2019



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Permanency for Children in Care Statistics**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- All children deserve stability and continuity of lifelong relationships.
- The first choice for permanency for any child in care is always family. All permanency planning for children in care must be consistent with in their best interests.
  - Reunification
    - In 2018/2019, 1770 children and youth in care found permanency through reunification with their families of origin.

**Children in Care in Continuing Custody**

- On December 31, 2018, there were 3,498 children and youth in BC in permanent care which is also known as continuing custody under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)* and there were 4 children in permanent care under the Adoption Act.
- The permanency options, once a Continuing Custody Order (CCO) has been granted are: permanent transfer of custody to a person other than the parent; cancellation of the continuing custody order with a return to parent(s) (reunification); and, adoption.
  - Permanent transfer of custody of a child/youth to an extended family member(s) or other person through Section 54.1 of the CFCSA after a CCO.
    - In 2018/2019 YTD (as of December 31, 2018), 23 children and youth in care achieved permanency through a 54.1 placement.
    - Of the 23 children and youth, 8 (35%) were Indigenous children.

- Reunification
  - 19 children and youth were in care under a CCO which was cancelled, and the children/youth returned to their parent(s).
  - Of the 19 children and youth, 15 (79%) were Indigenous children.
- Adoption
  - A child becomes legally available for adoption after the court has granted a CCO or when the parent(s) have placed the child for adoption or consented to the child coming into care under the *Adoption Act*.
  - In 2018/2019 YTD, 163 children and youth were placed for adoption between April and December 2018.
  - Of the 163 children and youth, 41% were Indigenous children.

**FINANCES:** N/A

## STATISTICS:

**Indicators of permanency** (2018/2019 YTD December 31, 2018)

Indicators of Permanency	Indigenous Children	Non-Indigenous Children	Provincial Total
CYIC placed for adoption	67	96	163
Section 54.1 (Permanent transfer of custody of Continuing Custody Orders)*	8	15	23
Reunification with parents (including CCO Rescindment)	1,011	759	1,770
CCO Rescindment	15	4	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>1,956</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management Branch, MCFD

**Children placed in Adoption Homes, and Percentage of Aboriginal CYIC (2015/16-2018/19 YTD)**

<b>BC Adoption Placements</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2015/2016</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2016/2017</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2017/2018</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2018/2019 YTD (Dec 31 2018)</b>
All CYIC Adoption Placements	362	282	242	163
Indigenous CYIC Placements	175	134	117	67
% of CYIC placed that were Indigenous	48.3%	47.5%	48.4%	41.1%

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management Branch, MCFD, January 30, 2019

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: CHILD FATALITY STATISTICS**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Anytime a child dies, it is a heart-breaking tragedy.
- When a child in care dies - or a child who has received services within the past 12 months dies - the Provincial Director of Child Welfare is informed within 24 hours.
- A reportable circumstances document is sent to the Provincial Director of Child Welfare; a copy is sent to the Representative for Children and Youth; and when the death involves a child in care via a Continuing Custody Order, a copy is sent to the Public Guardian and Trustee.
- Whenever a child in care dies, a case review is conducted.
- If a child who is not in care but has received services dies the Ministry conducts an initial analysis of the circumstances to determine if a case review is required. Where questions about the circumstances or practice arise from this analysis, a case review may take place.
- Fatality statistics are updated every 6 months and posted in June and December on the Ministry's public website.
- Before statistics are posted to the internet, the British Columbia Coroner's Service (BCCS) - Child Death Review Unit, reviews and confirms each category of death.

Children in Care Deaths:

- From January 1 to June 30, 2018, 6 children in care died. The BCCS has currently classified the deaths as follows:
  - 3 Natural;
  - 1 Accidental;
  - 2 Suicide;
  - 0 Homicide; and
  - 0 Undetermined.

- The following is further information on the deaths of children in care:
- 1 of the opioid/fentanyl related deaths was classified as Accidental by the BCCS (accidental deaths may include motor vehicle accidents, drownings, choking, poisonings, house fires or drug overdoses).
- 4 of the 6 children in care were in the Continuing Custody of the Director at time of their death; 4 of these 6 children were First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

Children who had Received Services (not in care) in previous 12 months:

- Between January 1 and June 30, 2018, 61 children who had received services died. The BCCS has currently classified the deaths as follows:
  - 34 Natural;
  - 13 Accidental;
  - 2 Homicide;
  - 6 Suicide; and
  - 5 Undetermined with an Open investigation by the Coroner's Service.
- The following is further information on deaths of children who had received services (not in care):
- One of the children died outside of the Province of British Columbia; hence there is no classification of death noted.
- 16 of the 61 children who died were First Nations, Métis or Inuit.
- Many children who died of Natural causes were receiving services from the Child and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) program area; which comprises 31% of the total number of deaths of children receiving services within this time frame.
- These Natural causes are due to life threatening or terminal illnesses; the children were medically fragile, often born with genetic disorders.
- The children receiving services but not in care often remain in their parents' care and are supported by the CYSN program.

- Supports in the CYSN program include therapeutic care for children diagnosed as palliative, medical supplies, therapeutic equipment, home therapy programs, nursing support services and medical benefits.
- 1 Natural fatality received services under the CFCSA but were “in care” under the Adoption Act - thus, this fatality is counted under received services.
- 5 of the 13 Accidental deaths were children and youth who died of opioid/fentanyl related causes, confirmed by BCCS; and one of these 5 children were First Nations, Métis or Inuit.
- 5 of the 6 Suicide deaths were due to hanging; and none were identified as First Nation, Métis or Inuit. In consultation with the BCCS, it was determined that the number of children and youth who complete suicide by self-hanging is proportionate with provincial child fatality data.
- 1 Natural fatality received services under the CFCSA but was “in care” under the Adoption Act - thus, this fatality is counted under received services.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

### **FATALITIES OF CHILDREN IN CARE & RECEIVING SERVICES UNDER THE CFCSA**

#### **Fatalities of Children in Care By Calendar Year**

YEAR	NATURAL	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED <sup>1</sup>		TOTALS
					OPEN	CLOSED	
2008	6	5	2	2	0	0	15
2009	8	1	0	1	1	0	11
2010	5	3	0	0	5	0	13
2011	6	1	0	2	0	1	10
2012	6	6	0	2	1	0	15 <sup>ii</sup>
2013	2	2	2	2	0	1	9 <sup>ii</sup>
2014 <sup>ii</sup>	6	3	0	4	0	1	14 <sup>iv</sup>
2015	1	4	2	3	1	0	11
2016	4	0	1	1	0	0	7 <sup>iv</sup>

<b>2017</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2018<sup>vi</sup></b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>

### Fatalities of Children Receiving Services (Not in Care) By Calendar Year

YEAR	NATURAL	ACCIDENT	HOMICIDE	SUICIDE	UNDETERMINED <sup>i</sup>		TOTALS
					OPEN	CLOSED	
<b>2008</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>2011</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>69<sup>iii</sup></b>
<b>2012</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>80<sup>ii</sup></b>
<b>2014<sup>ii</sup></b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>67<sup>iv</sup></b>
<b>2015<sup>ii</sup></b>	<b>70<sup>v</sup></b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>110<sup>iv</sup></b>
<b>2016<sup>iii</sup></b>	<b>54</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>97<sup>iv</sup></b>
<b>2017</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>108<sup>iv</sup></b>
<b>2018<sup>vi</sup></b>	<b>34<sup>vii</sup></b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>61<sup>iv</sup></b>

Data Source: Child Welfare Branch, Office of the Provincial Director and Aboriginal Services, Ministry of Children and Family Development

<sup>i</sup> In the "Undetermined" category, "open" indicates a case is still under investigation by the Coroner; "closed" indicates the Coroner's investigation is complete and, due to insufficient evidence or inability to determine, the death cannot reasonably be classified as natural, accidental, suicide or homicide.

<sup>ii</sup> Updated classification from the Coroner regarding cause of death.

<sup>iii</sup> Late report of death outside of six month bi-yearly report.

<sup>iv</sup> This total includes fatalities where there is no Coroner classification of death because the fatality occurred outside the province or country.

<sup>v</sup> Over 60 % of the total number of deaths for 2015 were attributed to Natural causes.

<sup>vi</sup> These numbers represent data from January 1 to June 30, 2018 - bi-yearly report.

<sup>vii</sup> This total includes a child in care under the Adoption Act who received services within 12 months of death.

### CROSS REFERENCE:

- **Children in Care Statistics**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In BC, delegation agreements return historic responsibilities for child and family services to Indigenous communities through Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAAs).
- Staff in the DAAs are delegated under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA), to provide direct services to Indigenous children and families in their communities.
- There are 24 DAAs in British Columbia:
  - 14 are delegated to provide full child-protection services:
    - this area of service includes child protection services and the responsibility of guardianship services for children in temporary court-ordered care
  - 7 are delegated to provide guardianship services
    - this level of service is specific to the guardianship of children in continuing custody
  - 3 are delegated to provide voluntary services:
    - this includes family support services
    - voluntary care agreements (temporary non-protection care)
    - special needs agreements
    - youth agreements
    - establishing residential resources
- DAAs in BC represent approximately 116 First Nations bands, as well as Urban Indigenous and Métis communities – and currently serve 51 per cent of the Indigenous children in care in the province.
- DAAs provide delegated services to 2,081 Indigenous children in BC (December 31, 2018). Since 2005/06, DAA funding has nearly tripled to \$106.12 million as of 2017-18 (\$31M went to Delegated Aboriginal Agencies in 2005-06).
- It is important to note, DAAs that provide services on-reserve – under the CFCSA– receive funding from the federal government.



- MCFD provides funding to DAAs that deliver services off-reserve.

## FINANCE:

**Note: 2018/19 Actual Expenditure Data available upon release of 2018/19 Public Accounts.**

All amounts subject to rounding and may not total exactly

Agency	2017/18 Expenditures [Millions]		
	Delegated	Non-Delegated	Total
Ayas Men Men Child & Family Services	2.01	1.01	3.02
Carrier Sekani Family Services A Branch Soc Of The Carrier Sekani Tribal Council	2.83	6.05	8.88
Denisiqi Services Society	0.00	1.15	1.15
Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children And Family Services	27.46	3.89	31.36
Gitxsan Child & Family Services	0.39	0.40	0.79
Haida Child & Family Services Society	0.00	0.12	0.12
Heiltsuk Kaxla Society2	0.04	0.60	0.63
Knucwentwecw Society	0.64	0.01	0.65
Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Child And Family Service Society	3.28	1.83	5.11
Kwumut Lelum Child & Family Services Society	2.22	1.34	3.56
La Societe De Les Enfants Michif	7.30	1.08	8.38
Lalum'Utul Smun'Eem Child & Family Services	1.44	0.74	2.18
Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family & Community Services Society	1.04	1.10	2.14
Namgis First Nation	0.00	0.49	0.49
Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child & Family Services Society	2.02	0.34	2.36
Nil/Tu,O Child And Family Services Society	0.42	0.53	0.95
Nisga'A Nation	1.87	0.48	2.35
Nilha'7Kapmx Child & Family Services	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northwest Inter-Nation Family & Community Services Society	1.28	0.46	1.74
Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council	5.29	1.34	6.63
Scw'Exmx Child & Family Services Society	0.92	0.51	1.43
Secwepemc Child And Family Services Agency	7.36	0.99	8.36
SPLATSIN FIRST NATION	0.17	0.23	0.40
Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society	3.79	0.33	4.12
Vancouver Aboriginal Child And Family Services Society (VACFSS)	34.35	2.67	37.02
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>106.12</b>	<b>27.69</b>	<b>133.82</b>

**STATISTICS:** N/A

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- **Indigenous Children in Care Statistics**

Contact: Corv Heavener, ADM/ Provincial Director of Child Welfare

Cell: s.17 I

Date: February 20, 2019

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Quality Assurance Programs**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Quality Assurance branch of the Office of the Provincial Director and Aboriginal Services is responsible for delivering quality assurance services across the six service lines of the Ministry and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA) to support practice and system improvement.
- There are four quality assurance programs:
  - *Case Review* – address specific questions about ministry services prior to a child or youth’s critical injury or fatality to inform action plans to improve practice and systems.
  - *Practice Audit* – measure compliance to ministry standards in family services, child services/guardianship, resources, youth justice and adoption services, which may result in action plans to improve practice and systems.
  - *Complaints* – Complaint Specialists across the Province facilitate active involvement between complainants and staff to work towards the resolution of complainants’ concerns. Complainants can request an Administrative Review as an alternative to resolution.
  - *Accreditation* – The ministry requires accreditation through Council on Accreditation (COA) or Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for contracted service providers that receive \$500,000 or more in funding and monitors the choice of standards by contracted agencies that provide child and youth residential services to ensure that they are applying the most appropriate standards.
- Other Quality Assurance activities include:
  - *Foster Parent reviews* – these are conducted upon request by caregivers following a foster home investigation or quality of care review resulting in a serious sanction.

- *Self Report Audit Tool*-contracted residential agency reporting on caregiver screening and assessment results for all caregivers.
- *Expansion of Quality Assurance programs include the following* initiatives:
  - Development and implementation of Child and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) and Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) audits
  - Development of qualitative tools with increased outcomes focus
  - Research and development of broader Continuous Quality Improvement activities within Quality Assurance is underway by a post-doctoral fellow.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Note ##** – Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Foster Homes**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Foster homes provide substitute care for children who cannot safely live with their own families, whose families have asked for help with parenting during times of crisis, or whose families need specific or periodic help in caring for their children. The caregiver resides in the home.
- Foster homes operate under a contractual agreement with the director under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA).

**FINANCES: N/A**

**STATISTICS:**

- On December 31, 2018, there were 6,365 children and youth in care in the province.
- Of the 6,365 children and youth in care:
  - 4,424 children and youth in care were placed in 2,180 of the 2,547 foster homes across the province.
  - 389 of all foster families had at least one Indigenous foster parent and 699 of the children and youth in foster care were placed in these homes.
  - In November 2016, the ministry implemented a new foster parent screening process, through a central services hub. Eight of 13 Service Delivery Areas currently screen prospective foster parents through the hub, while 5 Service Delivery Areas conduct their own screening. A full assessment of each prospective foster parent is conducted before he or she can be approved to provide care. Between July 1, 2016, and December 31, 2018, 482 new foster parent applications were received by the hub. This includes 117 Restricted Foster home applications, and 365 Regular Foster home applications (source Central Services Hub).

**Table 1: Foster Homes with Active Contracts, by SDA (December 2018)**

<b>SDA</b>	<b># of Foster Homes</b>
SDA 11 - Kootenays	81
SDA 12 - Okanagan	211
SDA 13 - Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	188
SDA 21 - East Fraser	141
SDA 22 - North Fraser	134
SDA 23 - South Fraser	260
SDA 24 - Vancouver/Richmond	135
SDA 25 - Coast/North Shore	95
SDA 31 - South Vancouver Island	189
SDA 32 - North Vancouver Island	294
SDA 41 - Northwest	92
SDA 42 - North Central	117
SDA 43 - Northeast	49
SDA 99 - Delegated Aboriginal Agencies <sup>1,2</sup>	673
<b>Province<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2547</b>

<sup>1</sup> This count consists of First Nations Foster homes (Non-RAP) with an active placement.

<sup>2</sup> Some First Nations foster homes provide services for both DAAs and SDAs. Those homes are counted only once, in SDAs.

<sup>3</sup> The sum of SDAs and DAAs does not match the provincial total because the provincial total includes one foster home that is not assigned to an SDA.

- The number of foster homes has decreased from 3,275 in March 2014 to 2,547 in December 2018.

Foster Care Service Providers with Active Contracts (RAP only) or First Nation Foster Homes (non-RAP only) over time

<b>Month</b>	<b>Indigenous Foster Homes</b>
March 2010	357
March 2011	357
March 2012	489
March 2013	473
March 2014	463
March 2015	439
March 2016	404
March 2017	389
March 2018	362
December 2018	389

\*2018/19 year to date as of December 31, 2018

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Children in Care Statistics**
- **Indigenous Children in Care Statistics**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Contracted Residential Agencies**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Contracted Residential Agencies are service providers that operate under an agreement with the ministry. These service providers own or operate residential resources where children or youth in care are residing.
- Contracted Residential Agencies are part of the system of care, particularly for children and youth with complex needs, including those with developmental and/or physical disabilities who require constant care and supervision and cannot be maintained with their families or in foster homes.
- The ministry has implemented processes to improve the oversight in these agencies. These include:
  - In 2014, a new screening and approval of caregiver policy for approving caregivers was introduced.
  - In 2017, the ministry implemented a new policy for investigations of reports of maltreatment of children and youth placed in contracted resources. This policy requires that the Provincial Director of Child Welfare oversee all large or complex investigations.
  - In June 2017, the ministry implemented a Self Report Audit Tool (SRAT) to monitor compliance with the Screening and Assessment of Caregivers in Contracted Agencies policy. This requires that every agency complete an online questionnaire for every person they hire or sub-contract as a caregiver for a child or youth in care.
  - Since April 2018, all current and prospective contracted agency caregivers looking after children in care are also screened through the Centralized Services Hub.
  - The ministry has begun audits of contracted residential agencies that examines their finances and compliance with policy for screening caregivers.

**BACKGROUND:**

- As of December 31, 2018, the ministry has received SRAT questionnaires for 4,083 caregivers employed or sub-contracted by 91 Contracted Residential Agencies. All 89 residential agencies contracted by the ministry and two residential agencies contracted by Delegated Aboriginal Agencies have completed the SRAT. The remaining 14 agencies with contracts with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies are expected to complete the SRAT by March 31, 2019.
- In 2018, the Centralized Services Hub completed criminal record checks and checks on previous contact with child protection services for more than 4,500 individuals. This included over 2,200 caregivers employed by contracted agencies and another 2,300 people applying to work as caregivers.
- Criminal record checks have been completed for all caregivers in the province. Checks on previous contact with ministry child protection services have been completed for the majority of caregivers. As of February 8, 2019, 1200 previous contact checks remained and will be completed by May 31, 2019.
- The ministry has contracted KPMG to design an audit plan for the review of contracted agencies that examine their finances and compliance with policy for screening caregivers. To date, two audits have been completed using the draft audit plan.
- Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) and MNP LLP conducted reviews in 2018/19 using the draft audit plan. Findings from the reviews included:
  - Screening requirements were generally adhered to; agencies were adapting internal processes to ensure compliance with the ministry's new requirements.
  - Both agencies appeared to be a viable going-concern. There were no financial transaction improprieties identified.
  - One agency reviewed had very robust accounting and reporting systems, the other requires investment in financial systems, processes, and policies in order to improve their reporting, budget and contract management abilities.

**FINANCES: N/A**



**STATISTICS:**

- On December 31, 2018, there were 801 children (395 Indigenous and 406 non-Indigenous) and youth in care who were placed in contracted residential resources.
- On December 31, 2018, there were 105 contracted residential agencies operating approximately 450 residences across the province.
- Of these 105 contracted residential resources, 92 have contracts with the ministry and 13 have contracts with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (and not with the ministry).

**Contracted Residential Service Providers and Contracted Residential Resources by Geographic SDA (December 2018)**

<b>SDA</b>	<b># of Contracted Residential Service Providers Operating in Each SDA *</b>	<b># of Contracted Resources or Places of Service</b>
SDA 11 -- Kootenays	1	5
SDA 12 -- Okanagan	7	19
SDA 13 -- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	7	32
SDA 21 -- East Fraser	25	70
SDA 22 -- North Fraser	18	67
SDA 23 -- South Fraser	29	93
SDA 24 -- Vancouver/Richmond	12	49
SDA 25 -- Coast/North Shore	5	12
SDA 31 -- South Vancouver Island	16	32
SDA 32 -- North Vancouver Island	14	35
SDA 41 -- Northwest	2	3
SDA 42 -- North Central	9	28
SDA 43 -- Northeast	2	14
SDA 99 -- Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	Included above	Included above

Data Source: MAIM – ICM and CABIT for Dec. 2018

\* Of the 105 service providers in the province, 22 service providers operate in multiple SDAs and are counted in each SDA in which they operate in the table above.

All SDA data is based on the listed addresses of the service providers' places of service and mapped to MCFD geographical SDAs using BC Stats Geo-Code self-serve tool (TMF 201805).

**SRAT Implementation Process** (as of December 31, 2018)

<b>Contracted Residential Agencies</b>	<b>Completed onboarding process and actively using SRAT</b>	<b>Expected to complete onboarding process and start using SRAT by March 31, 2019</b>	<b>Total</b>
MCFD-contracted agencies	89	0	89
DAA-contracted agencies	2	14	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>105</b>

Data Source: Quality Assurance Branch

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Transforming Policies & Practices for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Children & Families**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- For decades the child welfare system hasn't recognized, acknowledged or met the needs of Indigenous peoples.
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit children and youth have the right to be connected to their families, cultures and traditions.
- Recognizing the right of Indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the first five Calls to Action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Ministry is committed to making fundamental shifts in practice and services to Indigenous children, youth and families.
- The Ministry recognizes the over-representation of Indigenous children in care and the over involvement of the child welfare system in the lives of Indigenous child, youth and families.
- The Ministry is committed to working in partnership with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies who also provide services under the provincial child welfare legislation.
- Delegated Aboriginal Agencies continue to collaborate with the Ministry by sharing their wise practices that have resulted in a reduction in First Nation, Métis & Inuit children in care and improved outcomes for children, youth and families.
- Over the past several years the Ministry has been changing its approach to Indigenous child welfare.
- In 2015, the Ministry in partnership with the Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and after considerable consultation and development, launched the Aboriginal Policy and Practice (APPF) Framework.
- The APPF is an overarching guide for the policy development and practice of the Ministry, DAA's and contracted service providers and is intended to improve outcomes for Indigenous children, youth families and communities through restorative policies and practices.

- In 2015 Grand Chief Ed John was commissioned by the Ministry to make recommendations about Indigenous child welfare and his report, *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions*, was released in November 2015. The 85 recommendations provide focal points for change for the provincial and federal governments and a path forward for the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in BC in a meaningful way. The recommendations to MCFD have been or are being implemented.
- In May 2018 Bill 26 was introduced and passed in the legislature. The amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) signify a fundamental shift in child welfare practice and call for collaborative practices and information sharing with Indigenous communities and recognize the shared responsibility for the upbringing and well-being of their children.
- Withdrawal provisions in Bill 26 were brought into force on October 1, 2018. The withdrawal provisions provide a way for the director to withdraw from court proceedings under the CFCSA if an Indigenous child's parents and community make an agreement that would keep the child safe.
- The remaining amendments to the CFCSA will be coming into force on April 1, 2019.
- These legislative changes support our commitment to keeping Indigenous children out of care and in their home communities by providing workers with better tools for working in partnership with Indigenous communities.
- In January 2019, The Walking Together with Children, Youth and Families in Respect for their Inherent Right to Culture and Connection Gathering took place.
- To ensure staff are prepared for the amendments coming into force a working group consisting of DAA representatives, a Youth Advisory Council representative, ministry representatives came together in partnership to plan the gathering in true partnership.
- The gathering was designed with the shared belief that in order to truly "walk together" in partnership the gathering needed to look and feel different.
- The format of the gathering was developed to reflect the importance of ceremony and traditional practices for First Nations, Inuit and Metis Peoples.
- To ensure staff are working effectively and respectfully with First Nations, Inuit and Metis Peoples, all Ministry delegated staff are required to take cultural agility training.
- Cultural agility training includes courses offered through the BC Public Service Agency as well as Ministry specific offerings of San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training and Building Bridges through Understanding the Village.

- All stream specific training at the Ministry is either being developed, revised, or has been updated to honour the principles of APPF.
- All staff delegated under the CFCSA are required to complete the CFCSA Amendments training to increase their cultural competence and to align their practice to the principles of the amendments.
- The Ministry is also committed to supporting communities, nations and agencies to further their interest in assuming increased levels of jurisdiction over child welfare.

#### **STATISTICS:**

- In March 2001 there were 10,474 children or youth in care with 4,051 (39%) children or youth being First Nation, Métis & Inuit.
- As of December 31, 2018, there were 4,110 (5.3% reduction compared to last year) Indigenous children in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA's) in the province; representing 64% of the total number of children in care.
- Of these 4,110 Indigenous children in care
  - 3427 (83%) were First Nations;
  - 536 (13%) were Métis;
  - 78 (2%) were Nisga'a;
  - 37 (1%) were Inuit; and,
  - 32 were of unidentified (unknown to worker) Indigenous ancestry.
- While MCFD has seen an overall decrease in the number of children in care, First Nation, Métis & Inuit children in care remain over-represented. (There is no change-year over year in the percentage which remains at 64%)

#### **CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:**      **RCY Report: *Alone and Afraid* (December 2018)**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Charlie and his family did not get the consistent service and support they needed. Despite a wealth of information about his vulnerability, the child protection system failed to act when the boy's life was in critical danger. These problems were compounded by a lack of communication between ministry programs and between child protection workers and the various medical and educational professionals this family was in contact with.
- Charlie remains in care and is doing well now. This is a testament to his strength of spirit and the fact that he's getting the medical, educational, CYSN services and care supports he needs.
- Thank you to the representative for releasing the investigative report *Alone and Afraid* on December 10, 2018. This report shows the importance of having an independent representative to examine and shed light on systemic issues. The ministry has accepted the intent of each and every one of the representative's recommendations in the report.
- MCFD will be working collaboratively with our partners at the ministries of Education and Health on the joint recommendations in this report.
- Our government is developing a CYSN services framework to guide the delivery of these services to better meet the specific needs of children and their families. The ministry acknowledges that its policies need to be more flexible to respond to the unique circumstance of each child and family.
- The Provincial Director of Child Welfare has been tasked with determining what steps will be taken to ensure social workers on the front lines are able to respond to the urgent needs of kids and families. A plan is expected to be in place Spring 2019.
- Beyond the recommendations in this report, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare is making collaborative and integrated practice a priority across all ministry service lines.

- There are eleven recommendations in this report, five of which are directed at MCFD and three are joint recommendations with our partners at the ministries of Education and Health. The ministry is working on the action plan to address each of these recommendations.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Fraud by Kelowna Social Worker - PDCW Review**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In December 2017, financial irregularities were identified on a Kelowna social worker's caseload.
- The social worker was hired by the ministry in 1996.
- At the request of the Comptroller General's office, an investigation by the firm MNP took place and determined the employee had misappropriated significant funds.
- Immediately, the ministry took steps to protect the youth and young persons affected and ensure they were receiving appropriate supports.
- The social worker's employment with the ministry has been terminated.
- Six civil claims have since been filed by individuals related to this matter.
- The ministry is continuing efforts to locate and contact former clients to provide them information as to their recourse in this situation.
- The Provincial Director of Child Welfare is also reviewing the files of all current and former clients to determine any practice or finance issues that may have occurred and to locate and inform them of this matter and the supports available to them.
- The following actions are underway by agencies and bodies:
  - The matter was reported to RCMP in March 2018;
  - The Public Guardian and Trustee filed a civil claim on behalf of one of the former children in care; this may become a class action;
  - The Office of the Ombudsperson is investigating the ministry's historic and current actions to mitigate the harm to clients and prevent this from reoccurring;
  - The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is investigating breaches of confidentiality and the ministry's efforts to mitigate the potential harm to clients and prevent this from reoccurring; and,
  - The Representative for Children and Youth is reviewing this matter and has assigned an advocate to several of the children in care impacted.
- MCFD has initiated action to strengthen the internal controls framework, addressing recommendations put forward by MNP in the conduct of their



investigation, as well as hiring the consulting firm Grant Thornton to conduct a comprehensive review of the internal controls framework within the ministry.

- A review of contract and payments is also being initiated to address ministry procurement and associated payments practices.
- 6 civil claims have been filed: 1 on behalf of a child in care that is a proposed class action law suit; and, 5 individual claims against the former social worker.

#### **FINANCES:**

- MCFD has spent \$150,000 to date in addressing the ministry's internal controls. The ministry has also initiated an organizational review to address internal roles and responsibilities, organizational design and staffing considerations to ensure effective and efficient oversight structures moving forward.
- The costs of settling the civil claims has yet to be determined but will be substantial.

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:       Managing Social Worker Performance and Ethical Standards**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The powers, duties and functions conferred on a director under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) are among the most powerful authorities in society. For example, the authority to investigate a child's need for protection and the authority to remove a child from a parent's care.
- With these powers comes a duty of care that a director owes to the people served.
- A director must have confidence that individuals delegated will represent the director in an appropriate and responsible manner in accordance with statutory provisions as the director remains legally responsible for the actions or omissions of those delegated. Delegation may be revoked or changed at the discretion of the director.
- Delegation of authority is based on the delegated person having achieved and demonstrated the necessary competence through education, competency-based training, standardized assessment, and supervised practice.
- Applicants are screened for eligibility based on criteria including the established educational qualifications and experience. Screened-in applicants go through an assessment process that consists of steps such as interviews, reference checks and assessment of past work performance. Through the hiring process applicants are assessed for a beginning level of competence with the ministry's Child and Youth Safety and Support Competencies.
- Successful completion of a criminal record check under the *Criminal Records Review Act* is required before an applicant can be confirmed for a position. This involves a search for convictions, penalties and outstanding charges and is reviewed against a list of relevant or specified offences to determine the risk an individual may pose in working with children or vulnerable adults.
- All BC Public Service employees are required to formally acknowledge in writing that they have received, read and understand the Standards of Conduct. The requirement to comply with these standards is a condition of employment and employees who fail to comply with these standards may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

- All BC Public Service employees and appointees are required to complete the BC Public Service Oath of Employment.
- New hires must successfully complete a six-month probation period and complete post-hire training. Learning for new hires is supported through an extensive repository of on-line information, classroom training, job-based activities and graduated increase in case responsibilities under the guidance and direction of supervisors and senior practitioners.
- In order to receive full delegation, all candidates must successfully complete the competency-based Delegation Assessment and Readiness Tool that promotes clinical supervision, critical thinking and reflective practice.
- Ongoing child welfare practice is conducted in accordance with relevant practice standards and policies that require team leader consultation and approval for many key actions and decisions in child welfare service delivery. Ministry standards reflect the legislated mandate that the safety and well-being of children is the paramount consideration.
- Child welfare practice is supported by clinical supervision from Team Leaders and each service delivery area in the ministry has a Director of Practice and consultants available to support practice.
- Ongoing performance management is supported through the development and assessment of work goals, learning goals and career development goals in My Performance.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: BC Japan Adoption Program**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- On May 14, 2018, the Office of the Provincial Director of Adoption received notice from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), that the federal government had suspended the processing of permanent resident visa applications related to the intercountry adoption of children from Japan.
- At the same time IRCC contacted the ministry with concerns regarding possible legal irregularities involving adoption of Japanese children by BC families.
- BC immediately suspended the program and it remains suspended until there is confirmation that all processes align with the laws of both countries.
- Of concern was the legality of Japanese children being brought to BC to be adopted under the Adoption Act and whether written consents are lawful in Japan.
- Throughout the suspension the Office of the Provincial Director of Adoption has worked with IRCC and the Government of Japan to understand the Japanese adoption laws and processes.
- On January 25, 2019, a teleconference was held with representatives from IRCC, the Federal Ministry of Justice, the Provincial Director of Adoption, and Legal Services Branch to discuss the responses received from the Japanese Government. The Provincial Director of Adoption was informed by IRCC that the BC Japan Adoption process of Japanese children being adopted in BC, under the *Adoption Act*, was not illegal.
- On January 30, 2019, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare/Assistant Deputy Minister, and the Provincial Director of Adoption met with the Director General, Immigration Program Guidance Branch, Canada, to discuss the documentation received from the Japanese Government and to discuss a plan to implement a strengthened BC Japan Adoption program.

- The following next steps were agreed to:
  - BC will strengthen the BC Japan Adoption Program to ensure that all parties are acting in the spirit of The Hague Convention and that additional safeguards are in place to support Japanese birth parents when providing consents. Ways to achieve this are currently being explored and will be reviewed and agreed to by BC and Canada.
  - Agreements between BC and the Japanese adoption agencies will only be made with those Japanese adoption agencies that are licensed by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
- Given the complexity of this matter it is difficult to estimate when the strengthened BC Japan Adoption Program will open.

**FINANCES:** N/A

### STATISTICS:

#### Number of Japanese Adoptions

Year	Number of Adoptions
2009/2010	1
2010/2011	2
2011/2012	6
2012/2013	13
2013/2014	9
2014/2015	12
2015/2016	6
2016/2017	39
2017/2018	29
2018/2019	11

Data Source: Adoption and Permanency Branch

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Newborn Removals**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- When any children, including newborns, are found to be in need of protection, the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) works with the child's parents and community to develop a plan and support services to address the risks and ensure the child's safety.
- The removal of newborns occurs only when they need protection and they are in immediate danger or less disruptive measures are not available or adequate to protect the infant from harm. The decision to remove a newborn may be based on serious known historic risk factors related to the parents or new information reported to the ministry at the time of the child's birth.
- Even when newborns are removed (taken into the director's custody) child welfare workers have the option of allowing the mother to live with the child if appropriate and safe arrangements can be made (i.e. a caregiver can supervise the child's care).
- In August 2018, MCFD and the Representative for Children and Youth released the joint special report Promoting Access to Breastfeeding in Child Welfare Matters. In this report, the ministry committed to actions that will help mothers and their infants remain together and will improve access to breastfeeding when a child must be removed. Implementation of these actions is underway.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- In the past two fiscal years an average of **136** newborns have been removed within 1 day of birth (155 in 2016/17 and 116 in 2017/18).
- During these same years an average of **2,553** children and youth of all ages were removed (2,592 in 2016/17 and 2,513 in 2017/18).

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

Contact: Cory Heavener, ADM/Provincial Director of Child Welfare  
Cell phone: § 17 ,  
Date: February 21, 2019

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Youth Services and Post Majority Supports**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

**Youth Services**

- We provide a range of services to youth (ages 16 to 19) and young adults (ages 19 to 27).
- When youth live away from their families they are vulnerable. Emergency shelter/safe houses and youth social workers support youth through youth support programs to return to family, enter into a Youth Agreement (YAG), or connect with other services.
- For youth in permanent care, we offer Independent Living Agreements. This allows them to live independently while maintaining the supports available to youth in ministry care.

**Post-Majority Supports**

- For young adults transitioning from care on a Continuing Custody Order or YAG, we offer Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) which can extend support up to their 27<sup>th</sup> birthday, and for a total of 48 months.
- The Youth Education Assistance Fund (YEAFF) supports former youth in continuing care between the ages of 19 and 24 to engage in vocational training or post-secondary education, in instances where the young adult requires additional funding not provided through a tuition waiver or AYA (i.e. private institutions, schooling outside of the province).
- The Learning Fund for Young Adults is a low barrier alternative source of educational support for children in care that mirrors what is available through a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). The first disbursements from the fund will begin in the year 2023.
- AgedOut.com is an up-to-date online resource for current and former youth in care to support them during their transition to adulthood.



- Through partnership with IBM, TELUS and B.C. Technology for Learning Society, young adults on the AYA program receive computers, mobile phones, data plans and low-cost internet.
- We have provided a \$100,000.00 one-time-only grant to the Federation of BC Youth in Care Network (BCYICN) to administer the Take the Wheel program for youth in and from care to pursue driver's training and to obtain their driver's license. The bursaries cover the cost of driver training programs, test fees and transit fines. We have donated two cars situated at the BCYICN office and have covered the cost of parking, insurance and maintenance to support youth in accessing a vehicle.
- Other ministries also have programs to support youth in their transition to adulthood including the Provincial Tuition Waiver program established by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.

#### FINANCES:

Program	2017/18 Actuals	As of January 31, 2019
Youth Support Programs	\$30.4M	\$26.3M
Youth Agreements	\$7.1M	\$6.8M
Independent Living	\$3.8M	\$3.0M
Post Majority Supports	\$8.3M	\$9.6M

Data Source: Financial Data Book Section 2.4

#### STATISTICS:

- Please see 4.4.6 Children and Youth in Care Aging Out, 2010/2011 to 2018/2019YTD (p. 23)

#### Youth Services Statistics (as of December 31, 2018)

Youth in Care Aged 16-18	Youth Agreements	Independent Living Agreements	Youth in Care Aging Out (April 2017 to March 2018)	Agreements with Young Adults
1,412	668	126	570	1,078

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management

#### CROSS REFERENCE: N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: FAMILY-BASED CAREGIVER RATES**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- I recognize and value the nurturing, stability and love that family caregivers provide for vulnerable children during a difficult time.
- Being a family caregiver is rewarding, but can also be very challenging at times.
- Family caregivers fulfill a vital role in our province and I remain committed to identifying better ways to support these individuals and families.
- Since the last rate increase for family caregivers in 2009, the Canada Child Benefit rate has increased consistently.
- For these reasons and others, I am pleased to say that effective April 1<sup>st</sup> government will be increasing the rate paid to all family-based caregivers.
- Further still, Grand Chief Ed John and a number of other community partners had highlighted the need to address payment inequities between foster caregivers and kinship families who step up to care for vulnerable young relatives.
- Additionally, we conducted extensive engagement throughout the province and heard directly about the financial challenges that many kinship families face.
- I am pleased to say that as of April 1<sup>st</sup> we will be aligning the basic family care rate paid to caregivers under the Extended Family Program to the rate received by foster families.
- The ministry continues to look into all aspects of the family-based caregiver payment model, in order to strengthen the services and supports provided to children, youth and families.

**FINANCES:**

- Table 2.4: Core Business: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services
- *Budget 2019* includes new funding of \$20.9 million to increase caregiver rates and includes “harmonizing” the rates for foster and extended family care types

at \$982.90 for under 12 and \$1089.04 for 12 and over. PAA care rates will continue to be tied to inflationary increases and are less due to adoptive families having access to the federal Canada Child Benefit.

## STATISTICS:

### Basic Family Care Rate (Effective April 1, 2019)

Care Type	Current Rate	New Rate	Increase (\$)	Increase (%)
Foster Care (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Foster Care (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Interim/Temporary Custody (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Interim/Temporary Custody (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Permanent Custody (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$982.90	\$179.09	22.3%
Permanent Custody (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1,089.04	\$179.09	19.7%
Extended Family Program (Age 0-11)	\$554.27	\$982.90	\$428.63	77.3%
Extended Family Program (Age 12-18)	\$625.00	\$1,089.04	\$464.04	74.2%
Post Adoption Assistance (Age 0-11)	\$701.55	\$806.78	\$105.23	15.0%
Post Adoption Assistance (Age 12-18)	\$805.68	\$926.53	\$120.85	15.0%

Data Source: Finance and Corporate Services Division

## CROSS REFERENCE: N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Youth Transitions – Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Children and youth who have had involvement with the child welfare system are some of this province's most vulnerable citizens and many require additional support when transitioning to adulthood.
- Yet we know that many young adults leave care and aren't getting the support that they need and I am committed to change this.
- Currently, the only legislative program that we can offer young adults after 19 years is the Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) program.
- AYA is only offered to young adults who at the time of their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, were receiving services under a Continuing Custody Order; Youth Agreement; or were in the guardianship of the director of adoption or a director under Section 51 of the Infants Act.
- Eligible young adults must be enrolled in a post-secondary educational program, vocational training program, or attending a rehabilitation program or a recognized life skills program.
- We also know that the AYA program is too restrictive and many aren't ready for further programming.
- To address this, we have already made enhancements to AYA including increasing the upper age limit for eligibility to 27 years, increasing the maximum monthly support rate by \$250, and covering the full calendar year for multi-year educational and vocational programs; this is a \$30 million commitment over three years.
- I have also directed Ministry staff to undertake a comprehensive review of how we support all youth transitioning out of care – including a full review of the AYA Program.
- My goal remains to support all youth transitioning out of care not just a few.

**FINANCES:**

- 2018/19 AYA Budget is \$13.9M and actual expenditures for AYA are \$8.2 as at January 31, 2019.

**STATISTICS:**

- Since AYA was introduced in 2008, approximately 3,300 young adults have benefited from the program (as of December 31, 2018).
- Since August 2016, the number of young adults taking advantage of AYA increased by more than 300 through the addition of life skills training as an eligible program, the introduction of provincial tuition waivers, and increased attention and awareness of the program among social workers.
- As of December 31, 2018, there were 1,078 open AYA files.

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 888421 – Reimagining AYA note

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**SERVICE DELIVERY DIVISION**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Workload**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Front-line workers have some of the hardest jobs in B.C. – that’s why we continue to make improvements to help them provide vulnerable families with the quality services and supports they need and deserve.
- Budget 2017 provided funding to add more front-line staff, both in the ministry and in First Nations communities.
- A number of initiatives have been undertaken with the goal to address workload and increase the amount of time front line workers have to provide direct services to children, youth and families, and to complete critical work such as care plans. Specific workload initiatives include:
  - Initiation of a cross-ministry Workload Action Plan, aimed at making significant and measurable change to front-line Child Protection workload.
  - Creation and ongoing improvements to workload data, including a predictive workload model that estimates the demand for services and resources necessary to meet service levels.
  - The creation of a centralized screening team that manages all in-coming protection calls.
  - The creation of the Centralized Service Hub in August 2015. The Hub decreases the workload of front line staff by undertaking administrative functions in a centralized location rather than in local offices.
  - The addition of SPO assistants to the front line, removing administrative work from front line social workers.
  - The addition of 300+ FTEs to the front line.
  - Changing office hours to allow time for staff to balance the needs of clients and their other duties.

- A provincial mobile response team was also created to provide urgent assistance to communities with reduced staffing levels. This team will be expanding this year.
- As with most jurisdictions, B.C. is experiencing challenges associated with an aging workforce; therefore, the ministry is working to find ways to retain new and existing staff in order to ensure proper succession planning.
- In partnership with the Public Service Agency, we are developing and implementing a recruitment and retention strategy that will target high-need areas of the province and help best meet the needs of B.C. children and families. Other initiatives aimed at improving recruitment and retention include:
  - Expanded education and experience qualifications for social worker positions. The expanded qualifications will increase applicant pools and assist in recruitment, reducing workload.
  - Implementation of a Temporary Market Adjustment (TMA) for Child Protection social workers.
  - An engagement and communication strategy to support front line staff.
  - Incentive payments of \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year for front-line ministry workers in hard-to-recruit areas of B.C., as a result of an agreement between government and the BC Government Employees' Union.

#### **FINANCES:**

- N/A

**STATISTICS:****Service Delivery Division Front Line, Admin & Team Lead, FTE Usage\***

Position Type	FTE Usage March 2017	FTE Usage September 2018	FTE Usage December 2018	Net Change From September 2017 to December 2018	Percent Change
CP Social Workers**	1,095.8	1,095.1	1,092.1	-3	-0.3%
Child and Family Services***	94.4	138.9	146	7.1	5.1%
Resource Social Workers	154.6	189.3	193.6	4.3	2.3%
Adoption Social Workers	54.3	57.4	55.2	-2.2	-3.8%
Special Needs (CYSN) Social Workers	105.9	120.5	122.4	1.9	1.6%
<b>Total "Front-Line" Social Workers</b>	<b>1,505.1</b>	<b>1,601.2</b>	<b>1,609.3</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
CYMH Clinicians	352.5	398.7	404.5	5.8	1.5%
Youth Justice (community)	91.8	90.5	92.6	2.1	2.3%
Youth Justice (custody) Corrections Officers	141.8	138.3	133.5	-4.8	-3.4%
Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals****	18.4	19.6	20.6	1	5.3%
<b>Total "Front-Line Professional" Staff</b>	<b>2,109.6</b>	<b>2,248.3</b>	<b>2,260.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>Team Leaders &amp; Supervisors</b>					
CP Leads and Supervisors	194.5	199.9	204.3	4.4	2.3%
Resources	20.9	23.1	24.2	1.1	4.7%
Adoption	9	8.2	9.4	1.2	15.3%
CYMH	56	58.9	60	1.1	1.8%
CYSN	14	16.8	17	0.2	1%
Youth Justice (community)	14.9	14.3	15	0.7	4.7%
Youth Justice (custody)	18.9	25	24.9	-0.1	-0.4%
<b>Total Team Leads &amp; Supervisors</b>	<b>328.2</b>	<b>346.2</b>	<b>354.8</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Administrative Staff	<b>520.5</b>	<b>550.4</b>	<b>562.6</b>	12.2	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>All "Front-Line" Staff Total</b>	<b>2,958.2</b>	<b>3,144.8</b>	<b>3,178</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>1.05%</b>

\* FTE Usage averaged over the number of pay periods per month. Overtime Usage is not included.

\*\* Child Protection includes Guardianship and Multidisciplinary Works.

\*\*\* Child and Family Services includes SPO Assistants, ECD Workers and Community Development Workers.

\*\*\*\* Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals consists of nurses and SPOs.

Note: this report includes Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Usage from Corporate HR and Pay Information System (CHIPS),



**Year by Year Analysis of Regular and Auxiliary Hiring and Exits (at March 31<sup>st</sup>)**

(For the CHIPS categories child protection, guardianship and multi-disciplinary only; front line and team leads):

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 to Dec 31
Hires	90	148	218	231	258	180
Exits	124	107	122	147	163	121
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>(-34)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>59</b>

**Caseload per Active Front Line Child Protection Worker, December 31, 2018:**

SDA	Cases* (Families or Children/Youth) December 2018	Active Front Line Child Protection** Workers	Caseload per Worker
SDA 11 - Kootenays	685	38	18
SDA 12 - Okanagan	1,544	92	17
SDA 13 - Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	1,262	79	16
SDA 21 - East Fraser	1,323	73	18
SDA 22 - North Fraser	2,020	98	21
SDA 23 - South Fraser	2,545	161	16
SDA 24 - Vancouver/Richmond	1,713	102	17
SDA 25 - Coast/North Shore	719	43	17
SDA 31 - South Vancouver Island	2,117	127	17
SDA 32 - North Vancouver Island	2,523	114	22
SDA 41 - Northwest	935	43	22
SDA 42 - North Central	1,847	60	31
SDA 43 - Northeast	559	15	37
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>19,792</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>19</b>

\*Distinct key players on open FS, CS or Incidents in Service Delivery Areas, on December 31, 2018.

\*\*Child Protection includes Guardianship and multi-disciplinary workers. This count excludes Social Worker Assistants, Team Leads, Resource Workers, Centralized Screening and Centralized Services Hub.

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
SPECIALIZED INTERVENTION AND YOUTH JUSTICE BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Youth Custody Services**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- B.C. is widely recognized as having one of the most progressive and effective systems of youth justice services in the country.
- Youth Justice Services focus on public safety and the rehabilitation of youth who are in conflict with the law by promoting law-abiding behaviour and addressing the physical and mental-health needs of those youth.
- B.C.'s system provides Youth Custody Services, Community Youth Justice Services and Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services for youth aged 12 to 17 at the time of their alleged offence.
- Youth Custody Services operates two youth custody centres, located in Burnaby and Prince George.<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

- Custody facilities house youth who are ordered by the court to serve a period of time in open or secure custody, as well as youth who are detained pending further court appearances.
- Secure custody is intended for youth who are found guilty of serious offences and for youth who have a persistent pattern of offending.
- Open custody is intended for youth who can manage effectively within an open custody unit, but are not appropriate for placement in a community setting.
- B.C. uses a range of community alternatives to custody, such as intensive support and supervision and Full-Time Attendance Programs (residential) that have helped reduce the B.C. youth custody rate by more than 85% since 1995-96.

- The decline in youth custody counts is a result of:
  - Decreases in the youth crime rate.
  - Federal investments in community-based alternatives to custody and rehabilitation services.
  - The implementation of the federal *Youth Criminal Justice Act* in 2003.
- Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services (YFPS) is a specialized provincial program that provides court and non-court-ordered mental health assessment and treatment services to youth in custody or under community youth justice supervision as a result of their involvement with criminal justice system.
- Historically, approximately 66% of youth in custody were seen by YFPS, whereas now close to all youth in custody are seen by YFPS.
- In addition, a majority of community youth justice clients are receiving services from YFPS.

#### **FINANCES: N/A**

Note: Youth Justice Services provided by MCFD are cost-shared with the federal government through two agreements. Funding for both agreements is recovered directly to the MCFD Vote.

#### **STATISTICS:**

Average Youth Custody Count (Fiscal Years 2015/16-2018/19):

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 FYTD
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Gender	83% male 17% female	81% male 19% female	83% male 17% female	85% male 15% female
Indigenous	50%	48%	50%	39%

Data Source: Specialized Intervention & Youth Justice Branch, MCFD

Note: All statistics include youth serving open and secure custody sentences, and youth remanded in custody awaiting trial/sentence.

Statistics provided in the table below included admission to assessment and treatment services at the Inpatient Assessment Unit, all eight Outpatient Clinics and mental health services provided at youth custody services. On average clients are 80% male and 20% female youth. On average, 35% of the youth are identified with Indigenous background.

**YFPS Assessment and Treatment Cases Rollup (FY 2013/14 – FYTD 2018/19)**

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**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Overview of Community Youth Justice Services**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
SPECIALIZED INTERVENTION AND YOUTH JUSTICE BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Overview of Community Youth Justice Services**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- B.C. is widely recognized as having one of the most progressive and effective systems of youth justice services in the country.
- B.C. provides community youth justice services for youth aged 12 to 17 who have committed criminal offences.
- Community youth justice services are committed to public safety and the rehabilitation of youth who break the law. To accomplish this, youth probation officers supervise and support young offenders by providing services that promote law-abiding behaviour.
- Youth probation officers are located in integrated ministry offices across all 13 service delivery areas, and report to specialized youth justice team leaders.
- Community supervision by youth probation officers is enhanced and supported by a range of programs and services including:

s.13

- Community-based residential court ordered programs, referred to as full-time attendance programs, are used to support youth in need of an alternative to custody, treatment or transitional support from custody back into the community.
- There were 15 centrally managed FTAPs<sup>s.13</sup> ) located across B.C. with different focuses including: sexual offences, substance use, and general rehabilitation.

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**FINANCES: N/A**

Note: Youth Justice Services provided by MCFD are cost-shared with the federal government through two agreements. Funding for both agreements is recovered directly to the MCFD Vote.

**STATISTICS:**

Average Community Count (Fiscal Years 2015/16- 2018/19):

s.13

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 FYTD
<b>Gender</b>	79% male 21% female	78% male 22% female	78% male 22% female	78% male 22% female
<b>Indigenous</b>	36%	40%	41%	39%

Data Source: Specialized Intervention &amp; Youth Justice Branch, MCFD

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- Overview of Youth Custody Services

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
SOUTH ISLAND SERVICE DELIVERY AREA  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:** Duncan LSA

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Ministry has five teams that serve the populations of the Cowichan Valley:
  - Three Child Protection Teams (one is specific to serving the Indigenous populations); one CYMH Team that serves both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous populations; and one Resource Team.
  - CYSN, Adoption and Youth Justice Services are supervised by Team Leaders who have a regional role and are not based in Duncan.
- The staff who work with our Indigenous children and families have all received cultural training.
- If a child or youth need to come into care, the Ministry works to keep children connected to their family, extended family and culture.
- There are two Delegated Aboriginal Agencies that also operate in the Cowichan Valley; Cowichan Tribes (Lalum 'utul Smun'eem) who serve Cowichan members who live on-reserve and Kwumut Lelum, who serves members of the Malahat, Penelakut, Chemainus, Lake Cowichan and Lyackson First Nations, for members who live both on and off reserve. Both agencies are delegated for C6 services.
- There is significant involvement and advocacy from community organizations, community professionals, the MLA's office, and Indigenous community members in child welfare matters.
- MLA Sonia Fursteneau has been hosting a series of community meetings and forums to discuss "the child welfare crisis" in the Cowichan Valley. Statistics are often shared with community at meetings or via media sources that are not congruent with MCFD statistics. The meetings sometimes result in a call for a no-apprehension zone.
- The Ministry is working with our two DAAs and the Metis Nation of the Cowichan Valley to develop an Elders Advisory Committee to support the staff to make culturally relevant decisions around child welfare and all other services provided by MCFD. We hope to have it established by summer 2019.

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- The Ministry is working in collaboration with community organizations to support families at risk of having their children removed by keeping the families intact while reducing risks. This includes Island Health, Midwifery services, Canadian Mental Health, The Red Willow Society, the MLA's office and other professionals who may be involved with specific families.

## STATISTICS:

- Excluding DAAs, there were 152 children and youth in care of the Ministry in the Duncan LSA as of December 31, 2018; 102 are of Indigenous ancestry and 50 are non-Indigenous. This is a 10% reduction of children in care from the same time last year.
- Excluding DAAs, there were 18 out-of-care placements in the Duncan LSA as of Dec. 31, 2018. The monthly average number of out-of-care placements was 18.8 for calendar year 2018, an increase from the monthly average of 9.7 for the preceding 3-year period.
- The table shown below provides statistics on infants in care of the Ministry as of Dec. 31, 2018 (excl. DAAs), where "infants" refers to children under one year of age. The percentage of children in care that are infants in the Duncan LSA is less than the provincial rate for both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous.

MCFD Only (excl. DAA)	Duncan LSA		Province	
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Number of children in care, all ages	102	50	2,029	2,255
Number of infants in care	2	1	69	91
Percentage of children in care that are infants	2.0%	2.0%	3.4%	4.0%

- For the year 2018, the number of incidents involving domestic violence is reported by location in the table below (excl. DAAs):

Location	Incidents involving Domestic Violence
Province, MCFD Offices Only	6,693
South Vancouver Island SDA	730
Duncan LSA	155



- The rate of children in care per 1,000 child population is displayed in the following table, as of Dec. 31, 2018. This rate is inclusive of CYIC in MCFD and DAAs. It cannot be broken down for MCFD only.

MCFD + DAAs	South Vancouver Island SDA	Province
Rate of Indigenous Children in Care per 1,000 Indigenous Child Population	54.4	44.4
Rate of Non-Indigenous Children in Care per 1,000 Non-Indigenous Child Population	3.9	2.8
Rate of Children in Care per 1,000 Child Population	9.5	7.1

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: First Nations Jurisdiction**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- On November 6, 2013, the Representative for Children and Youth (RCY) released a report entitled, “When Talk Trumped Service: A Decade of Lost Opportunity for Aboriginal Children and Youth in B.C.”

s.13; s.17

- The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) was criticized for its contracting practices with Indigenous Approaches (IA) funding and all IA contracts were allowed to expire by March 31, 2014.
- The funding from IA was used to support a new program called Aboriginal Service Innovations (ASI) which focused on the delivery of culturally appropriate and culturally safe services directly to Indigenous children.
- Although the redirection of IA funding to the new ASI program supported the overall direction of the RCY report, the transition to the ASI program left a gap in the area of child welfare governance.
- In May 2016, at the BC First Nations Child and Family Gathering, the Province of British Columbia committed to working with the federal government and First Nations Leadership Council to address jurisdictional and funding frameworks for Indigenous child welfare.
- The Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group (TWG) was formed and consists of representation from the Province of BC (Ministries of Children and Family Development (MCFD), Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) and Justice, Government of Canada, and First Nations Leadership Council (First Nations Summit, BC Assembly of First Nations, Union of BC Indian Chiefs)).
- The TWG has a confirmed Terms of Reference, has developed a Reconciliation Charter and is in the process of revising a work plan to address systemic issues including jurisdiction and funding as it pertains to child welfare in First Nations.

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Contact: Denise Devenny, Executive Lead  
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Date: February 4, 2019

- MCFD is also engaged with individual First Nations in exploratory discussions regarding jurisdiction and governance:
  - A bi-lateral Service and Jurisdiction Planning Agreement was signed with the Wet'suwet'en Nation in February 2017. This agreement establishes a joint solution building process to improve the care of Wet'suwet'en children.
  - In 2018, a Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding committing the Parties to explore and advance the Wet'suwet'en Nation's interests in exercising jurisdiction over child and family services was signed by the Wet'suwet'en Nation, MCFD, and Canada as represented by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Crown-Indigenous Relations (CIRNAC).
  - In June 2018, the Joint Commitment document, a bi-lateral MOU was signed by the Métis Nation British Columbia and MCFD. It represents a commitment to develop the concept of, and requirements for, legislation to support Métis Nation BC authority over child welfare services to Métis children.
  - In July 2018, Secwépemc Nation (11 of a possible 17 communities), MCFD and Canada as represented by ISC and CIRNAC signed an MOU on jurisdiction for child and family services. The MOU provides a framework to move towards recognition and implementation of Secwépemc jurisdiction over child and family services.
    - MCFD also has a bi-lateral MOU with Splatshin on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
  - In January 2019, a trilateral letter of understanding (LOU) was signed by Cowichan Tribes, MCFD and Canada (ISC & CIRNAC) to support the development of a framework and process for Cowichan Tribes to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services for their members.
- MCFD is also engaged with Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw (NStQ) through the treaty process to discuss child welfare legislation and the Lake Babine First Nation through the 25 Year Foundation Agreement signed by MIRR to support discussions in the social-cultural area.

- The Huu-ah-ayt First Nations (a modern treaty nation under the Maa-nulth Final Agreement) is working with Canada and the Province (MCFD & MIRR) to implement the recommendations from the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Social Services Project: Safe, Healthy and Connected, Bringing Huu-ay-aht Children Home. The goal is to establish agreements that will commit the Parties to a collaborative approach to child welfare for Huu-ay-aht children and families.
- Through the MOU on the Shared Ten-Year Social Determinants of Health Strategy, MCFD is actively engaged with the First Nations Health Council. The MOU speaks to the shared vision of healthy and vibrant BC First Nations children and families and the role of the Province in achieving this vision.
- The Indigenous Engagement Branch (IEB) has also had preliminary discussions but not formal engagements with the following communities: Stó:lō Nation, Ktunaxa Nation, South Island Wellness Group (Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, Tsartlip First Nation, Scia'new First Nation, Tsawout First Nation, Tseycum First Nation, T'Sou-ke Nation, Pauquachin First Nation, Pacheedaht First Nation), Stikine Wholistic Working Group, Penticton and Tâilhqot'in Nation.

## **FINANCES:**

s.16; s.17

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## **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Tripartite Working Group**

- **Splatsin By-law and Agreements**
- **Métis Working Table and Joint Commitment**

**ATTACHMENTS:****A. Cowichan Tribes LOU****B. Huu-ay-aht First Nations****C. Secwépemc Nation MOU****D. Wet'suwet'en Nation****E. Summary of Engagements Table**

**ATTACHMENT A.**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Cowichan Tribes LOU**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Cowichan Tribes is located adjacent to Duncan on central Vancouver Island.
- Currently, Cowichan Tribes has over 5000 members and is the largest single First Nation Band in British Columbia. About half of Cowichan Tribes members live on the Cowichan Tribes Reserve.
- Cowichan Tribes is currently negotiating a Treaty, as a member of the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, under the British Columbia Treaty Process, which includes provisions for jurisdiction over child and family services.
- Cowichan Tribes is currently in Stage 4 Agreement in Principle negotiations.
- In September 2017, Cowichan Tribes expressed interest in meeting with the Indigenous Engagement Branch (IEB) of MCFD to discuss jurisdiction and authority over child welfare for Cowichan Tribes children and families.
- In November 2017, the IEB began meeting regularly with Cowichan Tribes.
- In February 2018, bi-lateral work began between Cowichan Tribes and MCFD. The goal was to solidify working group membership as well as to start work on a bi-lateral MOU (The Service and Jurisdiction Planning Agreement).
- In August 2018, focus shifted to a trilateral Letter of Understanding (LOU) to start the government to government process with the inclusion of Crown-Indigenous Relations (CIRNAC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).
- In January 2019, the trilateral LOU was signed by Cowichan Tribes, MCFD and Canada (CIRNAC and ISC) to support the development of a framework and process for Cowichan Tribes to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services for Cowichan Tribes members.
- With the signing of the LOU, it is anticipated that the focus will now shift to developing a trilateral MOU that sets out the work in a more comprehensive way.

**FINANCES:**

- See above

**STATISTICS:** N/A**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENT B.**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:       Huu-ay-aht First Nations**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Huu-ay-aht First Nations is a member of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council and one of the five First Nations signatories to the Maa-nulth Final Agreement. The treaty came into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.
- As a result of the treaty, Huu-ay-aht First Nations has full land ownership and jurisdiction to govern the lands under Huu-ay-aht laws.
- Huu-ay-aht First Nations lands are located in the Barkley Sound region (the entrance to Alberni Inlet) on the west coast of Vancouver Island.
- Huu-ay-aht has a population of close to 750 individuals living primarily around the village of Anacla as well as in Port Alberni. The rest of the population lives across Vancouver Island, in the Vancouver Area, and farther.
- Members of MCFD's Indigenous Engagement Branch first met with the Huu-ay-aht task force to hear about Huu-ay-aht's plans for change on Nov. 14, 2017.
  - The Huu-ay-aht task force presented on the implementation of 30 recommendations from their 2017 Social Services Panel Report (SSP Report) and submitted an invitation from Chief Robert Dennis for a representative from BC to join the task force.
- On March 8, 2018, Huu-ay-aht declared a public health emergency. Huu-ay-aht reported 47 of 220 Huu-ay-aht children were in care, with 36 in non-First Nations homes. Huu-ay-aht called on the province to take action.
- In April 2018, it was determined that it was best that MCFD and MIRR take a team approach leading provincial engagement on the Huu-ay-aht task force as Huu-ay-aht First Nations has constitutionally-protected self-government and law-making authority through the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- Huu-ay-aht has expressed interest in exploring the development of a reconciliation agreement with the province and would like to see significant funding towards implementing the recommendations in the SSP Report.
- Early work has focused on discussions related to the composition of a Quality Improvement Working Group as well as Terms of Reference.

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Date:           February 4, 2019



- Huu-ay-aht First Nations has expressed that they want to be informed and have decision making involvement regarding all Huu-ay-aht children in care and with any MCFD involvement.
  - Agreements under the CFCSA amendments are being explored as potential options.
- Recently, Huu-ay-aht has focused on the planning for a Mother's Centre to provide transitional and supportive housing to keep families together.
  - This work aligns with the recommendations from the SSP Report.
  - Huu-ay-aht is also exploring the possibility of co-locating a daycare with the Mother's Centre to capitalize on available funding while meeting the needs of community.

**FINANCES:**

- See above.

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENT C.**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Secwépemc Nation MOU**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Secwépemc Nation is comprised of 17 communities:
  - 9 represented by Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (SNTC): Bonaparte, Skeetchestn, Simpcw, Whispering Pines, Adams Lake, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Kamloops), Neskonlith, Splatshin, Shuswap.
  - 4 represented by Northern Secwépemc te Qelmucw (NStQ): Soda Creek/Deep Creek, Williams Lake, Canoe Creek/Dog Creek, Canim Lake. NStQ is also in Stage 5 Final Agreement Negotiations in the BC treaty process.
  - 4 unaffiliated: Esk'etemc (Alkali Lake), High Bar, Pavilion, and Little Shuswap.
- In early 2018, revisions continued on a draft tripartite MOU with input from SNTC, MCFD, and Canada represented by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

s.13; s.16

- In July 2018, Secwépemc Nation (11 of a possible 17 communities – all 9 SNTC communities plus two unaffiliated communities, Esk'etemc and High Bar), MCFD, and Canada represented by CIRNAC and ISC signed an MOU on jurisdiction for child and family services.
- The MOU provides a framework to move towards recognition and implementation of Secwépemc jurisdiction over child and family services.
- The MOU established the Yecwemínmen ne Stsmémelt (We are the Protectors of Children) Working Group.

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Date: February 4, 2019

- Since the signing of the MOU, work has focused on developing a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the working group, a high level Stsmémelt workplan, and a budget for the work.

**FINANCES:**

- See above.

**STATISTICS:** N/A**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENT D.**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:**        **Wet'suwet'en Nation**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The traditional territory of the Wet'suwet'en stretches along the Bulkley River and around Burns Lake, Broman Lake and Francois Lake in the northwestern Central Interior of BC.
- The Wet'suwet'en Nation is made up of the following communities: Hagwilget Village, Witset First Nation (Moricetown), Wet'suwet'en First Nation (Broman Lake), Skin Tyee Band, and Nee Tahi Buhn Band.
- In February 2017, the Province of BC and the Wet'suwet'en Nations signed the Service and Jurisdiction Planning Agreement with a goal of "Establishing a consistent forum that brings together the strengths and expertise of each Party to collaborate in a joint-solution building process to improve the care, well-being and outcomes for Wet'suwet'en children, youth, families and communities;"
- Canada as represented by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA) joined the discussion and worked with MCFD and Wet'suwet'en to develop a trilateral MOU to meet the same stated goal.
- In Winter 2017, representatives from MCFD, the federal government and Wet'suwet'en attended a re-creation of a potlatch feasting system in Victoria. The goal was to gain increased understanding of the traditional governance processes and systems used by the Wet'suwet'en and to develop a stronger relationship between the parties.
- In October 2018, the Wet'suwet'en Nation, as represented by the Wet'suwet'en Treaty Office Society in care of the Hereditary Chiefs, Witset First Nation and Hagwilget Village Council, British Columbia as represented by MCFD, and Canada as represented by both Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations (CIRNAC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

committing the Parties to explore and advance the Wet'suwet'en Nation's interests in exercising jurisdiction over child and family services.

- Regular leadership meetings (quarterly) as well as more frequent technical working group meetings (approximately every six weeks) are ongoing.
- The technical working group is currently focused on a revised workplan outlining the two main areas of interconnected work: governance and service transformation.

s.13; s.16

**FINANCES:**

- See above.

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENT E.****Summary of Engagements Table**

Indigenous Community/First Nation	Last Meeting	Next Scheduled Meeting
Cowichan	Jan.25/19 – LOU Signing	
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	Jan.15/19	Feb.6/19
Ktunaxa Nation	Dec.17/18	
Lake Babine	Jan.15/19	Mar. 13/19
Metis	Dec.17/18	Feb.27/19
Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw	Jan.25/18	Feb.6/19
Wet'suwet'en	Dec.5-6/18	Feb.5/19
Splatsin	Nov.20/17	Mar.1/19
Secwepemc Nation Tribal Council	Jan.17/19	Mar. 14/19
Sto:lo	Jan.10/19	
South Island Nation Group	Nov. 16/18	
Tsilhqot'in Nation	Jan. 28/19	

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Splat sin Bylaw and Agreements**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In British Columbia, the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) sets out the requirements for the delivery of child protection services.

s.14; s.16

- The federal government provides funding for services delivered pursuant to the by-law through Splat sin Stsmamlt Services.
- Effective March 4, 2015, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare and Splat sin Stsmamlt Services entered into an Operational Agreement (OA) that formalizes the existing collaborative relationship concerning the provision of child welfare services to Splat sin children throughout the Province.
- Though the Director and Splat sin Stsmamlt Services usually come to agreement on placement, Splat sin is opposed to the Director applying for Continuing Custody Orders, (“CCOs”) for any Splat sin children.

s.16

- Splat sin is working with the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council (of which they are a member) and entered into a tripartite Secwépemc Nation MOU with MCFD and the federal government to address systemic child welfare issues at the nation level in July 2018.
- To support the increased involvement of Splat sin at the investigation stage, amendments to the CFCSA were proposed. The amendments have now passed but have not yet come into force.
- Discussions regarding the now expired Operational Agreement had been placed on hold until the legislative amendments took place.

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Date:            February 4, 2019

- The expired Operational Agreement clarified roles and responsibilities, including information sharing, but it did not fully meet the expectations of Splat sin in the area of child protection investigations.
- Provincial office staff will continue to support field staff to work in accordance with any future agreements whether it be a renewed Operational Agreement or agreements under the CFCSA amendments.
- Consistent with the OA, MCFD supports Splat sin staff to attend ministry funded SAFE training for foster home studies and child protection social work training through Indigenous Perspectives Society.
- In late 2015, the Director and Splat sin agreed, prior to the commencement of the CCO trial, to engage in a dispute resolution process regarding five Splat sin children in Vancouver.
- Through a facilitated discussion in early 2016, Splat sin and the Director agreed to enter into a limited scope Delegation Enabling Agreement (DEA) whereby the Director delegates two Splat sin staff to provide guardianship services to the five children under the CFCSA.
- In June 2018, the DEA was renamed the “Agreement to Fund Services”. Splat sin expressed that they reluctantly signed the agreement to ensure continued funding in the best interest of the 5 Splat sin children in the care of the Director under CCO’s; however, Splat sin was clear that they are not in support of the underlying delegation agreement.
- The current Agreement to Fund Services (DEA) will expire in March 2019.
- A tripartite meeting is set for early March 2019 to discuss next steps with Splat sin including agreements available when the CFCSA amendments come into force, the expired Operational Agreement, and the soon to expire Agreement to Fund Services (DEA) as interim steps while jurisdiction continues to be explored.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- Splat sin (formerly Spallumcheen) asserts their jurisdiction for children who are registered Splat sin members on and off reserve under the by-law.
- MCFD has attempted to work with the spirit of the by-law for over 30 years.

s.14; s.16



- Between 1991 and 2004 protocol agreements were in place between Splatsin and the ministry which operationalized their working relationship.
- The protocols were of a local nature, negotiated and signed regionally, and do not specify a geographic area.
- Offices outside of Splatsin's immediate area (Enderby) were generally unaware of the by-law or Splatsin's assertion of jurisdiction.

s.13; s.16

- In the summer of 2011, Splatsin agreed to pursue a non-political Operational Agreement with the Provincial Director of Child Welfare in place of a political commitment around jurisdiction.

s.13; s.14; s.16

- The March 2015 OA commits the Director to working collaboratively within the limitations of the CFCSA.
- INAC funds services provided pursuant to the by-law on reserve through a loose application of the funding arrangement used for DAA's.

s.16

**FINANCES:**

s.13; s.16; s.17

**STATISTICS:** N/A**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Prevention Funding to Métis and First Nations**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In November 2016, Grand Chief Ed John, special advisor to the Minister of Children and Family Development, released the report, *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions*.
- In the report, Recommendation 1 and 2 speak to the need for the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to invest in the development and delivery of child and family services directly to Métis and First Nations people in BC.
- In response to the recommendation, MCFD released \$30,000 to each of the 203 First Nations and seven Métis organizations for the delivery of community based, family support and prevention services. This was a total allocation of \$6.2 million dollars for the direct delivery of services in community.
- A request for proposals was released in October 2017 with a letter and proposal template sent to each First Nation and Métis organization who is a signatory to the Métis Memorandum of Understanding signed with MCFD in 2016.
- Requests for funding were received and approved until January 2018.
- In 2018, this funding was re-released through a contract renewal to every community who had been approved in 2017/2018. To date, there have been 167 approved agencies and/or Nations for a total of 152 service agreements (some First Nations pooled their applications, hence the differing numbers).
- Communities who were not approved or who did not apply last fiscal have been invited to apply for the funds this year.

**FINANCES:**

- Of the assigned budget of \$6,275,000
  - \$5.2 million is projected to be spent
  - \$.500 remains available for other ministry priorities and for those communities who may still submit a proposal.

**STATISTICS: N/A**

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Grand Chief Ed John**
- **Indigenous Children in Care Statistics**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE: Métis Working Table and Métis Joint Commitment**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In September 2016, Métis Nation BC (MNBC), the Métis Commission and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) entered into a second 5 year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding services for Métis children and families in BC. The MOU was witnessed and supported by five principle Métis service providers in BC:
  - *Métis Family Services (MFS)* in Surrey. MFS is fully delegated to provide child protection services, adoption services and culturally based support programs in Surrey.
  - *Island Métis Family and Community Services Society (Island Métis)* in Victoria provides contracted culturally based support services to MCFD clients and other Métis people on Vancouver Island.
  - *Kikino, Métis Children and Family Services (Kikino)* in Prince George provides contracted culturally based support services to MCFD clients and other Métis people in the Prince George area.
  - *Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services (LMO)* in Kamloops became the second delegated Métis service provider; LMO provides C6 services and will continue providing community and culturally based support services to Métis people in Kamloops and immediate area.
  - *Métis Community Services Society BC in Kelowna (Kelowna Métis)* provides contracted cultural and family support services to MCFD clients and other Métis people in the Kelowna area.
- The MOU establishes the Métis Working Table (MWT) to identify, discuss and strategize to address systemic issues concerning services to Métis children and families in BC.
- The Métis Working Table is comprised of: MNBC's Chief Executive Officer and Director for Children and Families; the Metis Commission's Executive Director and a Métis Commission board member; and, the MCFD Executive Lead,

Indigenous Engagement Branch and the MCFD Director, Aboriginal Agreements.

- Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) is generally regarded as the political voice for Métis people in BC. Clara Morin Dal Col is the President of MNBC, Dale Drown is the Chief Executive Officer of MNBC and Judy Smith is the Director, Ministry of Métis Children and Families. Judy Smith was previously the Executive Director for MFS in Surrey.
- The Métis Commission for Children and Families BC (MCCF) is the Métis designated community for receipt of notices of hearings under the Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA) Regulations. Sheri Wildman is the CEO/Executive Director of the Métis Commission.
- MCFD established the Métis Practice Working Table in 2017 to focus on CFCSA practice issues pertaining to planning for Métis children after MNBC wrote to MCFD calling for a moratorium on permanent placements and adoptions of Métis children.
- At the Métis Working Table, MNBC and the Métis Commission have regularly outlined concerns about MCFDs provision of service and planning for Métis children in care, including:
  - lack of understanding of children's cultural connections and importance;
  - incomplete efforts to locate or support extended family;
  - difficulty or lack of ability to identify Métis heritage or culture;
  - lack of process for enforcement around cultural plans; and,
  - late or delayed service of notice concerning CFCSA matters.
- On June 7<sup>th</sup> 2018, MNBC and MCFD signed a Joint Commitment document which commits the parties to collaboratively work towards Métis Nation BC authority over child welfare for Metis children and families in the province of BC. MNBC set an aspirational goal of three years to achieve the required authority.
- Shortly after the signing, there was a change in staffing at both MNBC and MCCF which lead to a pause in the meetings of the MWT and work on the Joint Commitment.
- In November 2018, the MWT was re-convened with the new representatives from MNBC and MCCF in place. At that meeting, MNBC stated that the Joint Commitment timeline of January 2021 to develop the concept of and

requirements for legislation to support Métis authority was not achievable and acknowledged that the timeline would be much longer to develop an authority.

- MNBC has also acknowledged that the previously proposed strategic plan – *Métis Ways Miyopimatisiwin* – a means of improving outcomes for Métis children and families, requires further consultation with the Métis community and revisions.
- While the goal continues to be Métis authority over child and family services, the new staff at MNBC and MCCF have been focused on clarifying roles and responsibilities amongst themselves as well as engaging with the Métis service providers and communities with regards to their role and support as MNBC moves towards authority.
- In December 2018, the Director of Ministry of Métis Children and Families, MNBC, Judy Smith was delegated with C1 – Information sharing, by the Provincial Director of Child Welfare. The goal is for the Director to have further knowledge of Métis children and youth who are receiving services under the CFCSA in order to advocate on their behalf and build capacity as the organization moves towards authority.

#### **FINANCES:**

- There is no recognized land base for Métis in BC, and they do not have the same funding relationship with the Federal government that First Nations have.

s.13; s.16; s.17

s.13; s.16; s.17

- Current and recent contracts with the MNBC are focused on:
  - the development of training for MCFD staff to better identify Métis children and families;
  - support, training and educational support for Métis youth aging out of care; and,
  - the development of a Métis strategic plan to enhance service delivery for Métis children

s.13; s.16; s.17

- Current contracts with the Métis Commission are focused on:
  - supporting the Métis Commission to engage social workers in cultural planning;
  - strengthening responses to notification about Métis children coming into care;
  - coordination of training for “solution focused” interventions and “Family Finders” programs provided to Métis service providers and MCFD staff;
  - assisting MCFD staff in developing cultural plans; and,
  - the development of cultural plan templates, toolkits and resources.

**STATISTICS:** N/A**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT BRANCH  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2019/20**

**ISSUE:        Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In May 2016, the BC First Nations Children and Family Gathering was held with representatives from the Province of British Columbia, Canada, First Nations and First Leadership Council (FNLC) in attendance to discuss the current state of child welfare.
- At that meeting, Minister John Rustad, on behalf of the Province of British Columbia, made three commitments:
  - Immediately improve child welfare services by ensuring that MCFD staff connect with First Nations, identify First Nations children in care, and work to improve services and supports to keep more First Nations children out of care;
  - Work with Canada and the FNLC to build new jurisdictional and funding frameworks that would support improved outcomes as well as empower First Nations who are interested to exercise their own jurisdiction over child welfare; and
  - Establish a tripartite working group to guide the work of the Province, Canada and the FNLC.
- In the fall of 2016, the Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group was formed and consists of representatives from the First Nations Leadership Council, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), Ministry of Justice and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.
- The First Nations Leadership Council serves as an advocacy body and is composed of three political organizations – the BC Assembly of First Nations, the First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. The FNLC was formed in 2005 by a Leadership Accord.



- The TWG has developed and agreed to the following documents:
  - Terms of Reference: Signed March 2017; defined scope, membership, goals, guiding principles, process, and resources of the TWG. The overall goal is sustained collaboration to improve outcomes for First Nations children and families.
  - Reconciliation Charter: Signed April 2017; acknowledged current challenges of Aboriginal child welfare, defined the shared objective of First Nations governing their own children and families using approaches grounded in their own cultures and traditions, and outlined mutual commitments for achieving this outcome.
- A technical committee supports the ongoing efforts of the TWG.
- Although the TWG created and finalized a work plan with key objectives and outcomes; it was determined that this work plan was not based on recognition of rights and therefore required revision.
- In June 2018, the TWG identified four key areas of focus: (1) federal legislation, (2) provincial legislation on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and jurisdiction, (3) amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* and (4) funding.
- The TWG also discussed the possibility of refocusing on community consultations with the 84 Indigenous communities who are not represented by a delegated Aboriginal agency.
- Since the summer of 2018, the FNLC has been focused on the development of federal child welfare legislation.
- The TWG met on February 11, 2019 to discuss the priority work areas for moving forward to next fiscal. The key areas include:
  - Funding;
  - Implementation of legislation, both federal and provincial; and
  - Development of workplan, including a communications protocol.
- A draft Communications Protocol has been developed and shared with the TWG to support ongoing collaboration and effective internal communication between the Parties.

**FINANCES:**

s.13; s.16; s.17

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **Indigenous Children in Care Statistics**