

# MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

ESTIMATES E-BINDER  
2020



Ministry of  
Children and Family  
Development

February 2020

## MCFD 2020 ESTIMATES

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**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Over the past year, significant progress has been made on my, and Minister of State Chen's, mandate letter commitments, including:
  - In March 2001, there were 10,474 children and youth in care, with 4,051 (39%) of those children and youth being First Nation, Métis or Inuit. As of December 2019, there were 5,805 children and youth in care, with 3,834 (66%) of those children and youth being First Nation, Métis or Inuit – the lowest number of Indigenous children and youth in care in over twenty years.
  - Continuing to implement Childcare BC, following the investment of \$1 billion over three years in February 2018. These funds have allowed the Ministry to continue to build an affordable, accessible, inclusive and high-quality child care system across the province. In the last two years, the government has funded over 10,000 new affordable licensed child care spaces, giving parents much-needed relief and the chance to rejoin the workforce.
  - Implementing amendments to the Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA), supporting collaborative practices with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities and recognizing their shared rights and responsibility for the upbringing and well-being of their children. So far, this has involved signing over 40 information sharing agreements.
  - Engaging in, and supporting, discussions with communities, nations and organizations to further their interest in assuming increased levels of jurisdiction and authority over child and family services. For instance, these communities include the Wet'suwet'en, Secwepemc Nation, Cowichan, Lake Babine, NStQ, Huu-ay-aht, and Métis.
  - Ending the practice of issuing birth alerts and focusing on supporting high-risk expectant parents with keeping newborns safe and families together through a collaborative, rather than involuntary, model.

- Delivering much needed supports to our early care and learning professionals, through a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy that includes funding for bursaries and professional development opportunities, as well (as of April 1, 2020) a total wage enhancement of \$2 per hour for eligible Early Childhood Educators working in licensed child care facilities.
  - Implementing the first lift to care-giver rates in over a decade by increasing the monthly maintenance rate provided to foster parents, and those caring for children in an out of care placement.
  - Boosting children and youth with special needs respite funding – the first increase in respite funding since 1989.
- Minister Chen and I look forward to next year and continuing to make significant progress against our mandate letters.

**BACKGROUND:** N/A

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 1.3 Service Plan
- 1.2 Strategic Framework

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In 2019, the Ministry released its 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.
- We have worked to refine the Framework through consultations with staff and Indigenous and sector partners.
- The Framework signals a shift in the Ministry's approach – away from reactive 'symptomatic' responses and towards an approach that focuses on what is needed to meet the needs of the children, youth and families we serve.
- The Strategic Framework builds on the important work already done to implement the recommendations of reports such as Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions, Oversight of Contracted Residential Services for Children and Youth in Care – the Office of the Auditor General's June 2019 audit – and recommendations from the Representative for Children and Youth.
- The four strategies in the Strategic Framework are: Indigenous Reconciliation: Communities and Families, Early Intervention, Prevention and Family Support (formerly Family Preservation and Early Intervention), Youth and Young Adult Transitions, and the Child and Youth In-Care Network.
- The Ministry is currently working to review and update the Strategic Framework to reflect work that has been completed over the last year and update the areas where we now know more.
- A refreshed Framework will be released in the Spring of 2020, and through 2020 we will work on a fifth strategy about the Ministry's 'people, culture, infrastructure and process', which is currently being developed with Ministry staff from across the province.

**BACKGROUND: N/A**

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 1.3 Ministry Service Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: SERVICE PLAN**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Service Plan continues to signal 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 the families we serve.
- The four goals in the Service Plan align with the four strategies of the Ministry's Strategic Framework: Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities and Families; Keeping Families Together and Well: Family Preservation and Early Intervention; Youth Transitions; and Child and Youth in-Care Network.

**KEY MESSAGES FOR EACH GOAL:**

**Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities and Families**

- This goal is about focusing 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 goal, we are:
  - Engaging in discussions regarding child and family services jurisdiction and authority with Indigenous communities that are interested and collaborating with Indigenous peoples, designing and implementing policy, practice and services to support and honour cultural systems of caring and resiliency.

**Family Preservation and Early Intervention**

- This goal is about strengthening, and prioritizing supports for families and children based on their needs in order to have improved outcomes and to keep families safely together.
- To support this goal, we are:
  - *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

- *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**

- This goal is about young people having the tools, resources and social supports to transition successfully to adulthood.
- To support this goal, we are focusing on:
  - Flexible programs that support youth transitions, including the needs of youth receiving voluntary services, 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.

### **Building a Responsive Network of Services and Supports for Children and Youth**

- This goal is about ensuring that when a child comes into care, we provide them with consistent access to more than just a 'bed' or placement but also a network of services and supports including: a stable, loving and nurturing home, continuous effort to reunify them with family, community, culture and language, access to therapeutic interventions; and Integrated services delivery and planning
- To support this goal, we are:
  - Building an in-care network: designing a network of services that respond to the full range of a child or youth's needs.
  - Continuous improvement of accountability and oversight: such as building an improved contract management and procurement process and an improved quality assurance framework.

**BACKGROUND:** N/A

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 1.4 Service Plan and Performance Measures
- 1.2 Ministry Strategic Framework

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: SERVICE PLAN PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Service Plan is closely aligned with both my, and Minister of State Chen's, mandate letters.
- We continue to make process on the performance results in this Ministry
- We have carried forward all six measures from last year which support the four service plan goals.
- Due to better than expected results, we have increased two of the performance measure forecasts/targets, they are:
  - **PM 2.1:** Percent of children assessed with a protection concern that can safely live with family or extended family. (increased, due to better than expected results from the ministry's family preservation efforts)
  - **PM 3.1b:** The percent of eligible youth that receive an AYA benefit payment within one year of aging out of care.
- We have maintained two of our performance measure forecasts/targets:
  - **PM 1.3:** Rate of children and youth in care per 1,000 children and youth in the population.
  - **PM 2.2:** Average monthly number of funded licensed child care spaces in operation.
- To allow for changing circumstances, we have reduced two of our performance measure forecasts/targets:
  - **PM 3.1a:** The percent of youth in care who turn 19 with a high school credential.
    - This decrease has been made to accommodate the expectation that as the rate of children and youth in care goes down, the proportion of those that remain in care with complex needs increases, thus impacting high school credential rates (for
    - "all children and youth" and "non-Indigenous children and youth")

- **Note:** The forecast and targets for Indigenous children and youth, however, have been increased due to better than expected results.
- **PM 4.1:** Percentage of children and youth in care with no moves in the first 12 months since their last admission to care.
  - Given the focus this year on reassessing whether contracted residential agencies were meeting the needs of children and youth placed in their care, there were additional moves and a lower forecast.
  - Looking forward to next year, the targets have been adjusted as the full impacts on stability are not yet known, given the obligation for ongoing reassessments of the placement of Indigenous children and youth in care under the new federal Act, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*.
- I have asked for an additional performance measure to be developed for the youth and young adult transitions goal to allow for broader measurement.
- All of these performance measures are publicly available on the MCFD Public Reporting Portal.

**BACKGROUND:** N/A

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 1.3 Ministry Service Plan
- 2.6 Workload



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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.
- The last update to the portal includes caseload data as at December 31, 2018.
- Caseload and performance measures will be updated this spring.
  - Performance trends for 2017/18 (currently on the portal) are:
    - Improving in 15 indicators including family preservation and permanency
    - Unchanged in 15 indicators
    - Slightly lower in 4 indicators
      - Accessibility
      - Residential costs for CYIC identified with special needs increased
      - Grade progression for YAG
      - YAG high school credentials
- 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, last updated in April 2019).
- 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) 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. Most provinces publicly report on child protection, but far less extensively than B.C.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** 2020/21 Operating Budget

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry's budget for fiscal 2020/21 has increased by \$160.5 million to \$2.2 billion.
- Over 92 per cent of the budget goes to support clients and communities with over \$2.0 billion directly invested in programs and services.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Core Business Changes**

Core Business	(\$ million)	2019/20 Estimates	Change	2019/20 Restated	Change	2020/21 Estimates
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services		624.807	-	624.807	89.374	714.181
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs		386.669	4.000	390.669	19.422	410.091
Child & Youth Mental Health Services		109.396	-	109.396	4.217	113.613
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services		682.677	-	682.677	49.197	731.874
Adoption Services		34.752	-	34.752	0.136	34.888
Youth Justice Services		47.421	-	47.421	0.726	48.147
Service Delivery Support		159.902	(0.781)	159.121	(2.501)	156.620
Executive & Support Services		19.103	-	19.103	(0.071)	19.032
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>2,064.727</b>	<b>3.219</b>	<b>2,067.946</b>	<b>160.500</b>	<b>2,228.446</b>

*Note: Change from 2019/2020 Estimates to 2019/20 Restated includes: STADD Program transfer to MCFD from SDPR, and Inter-Ministry transfer (Leased Property).*

**Operating Budget – What changed?**

The Ministry has restated the budget as a result of the following changes:

- A \$4.0 million increase resulting from the transfer the Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities (STADD) program from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR) to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD); and
- An \$(0.8) million transfer to Ministry of Citizens' Services – Real Property Division for MCFD leased space.

## **2020/21 Estimates**

The MCFD operating budget for 2020/21 has increased by \$160.5 million – an 8% net increase over 2019/20, and provides:

- \$37.6 million for caseload pressures (*Budget 2020*), allocated to the following:
  - \$14.0 million - Children in Care,
  - \$14.0 million - Children in Care – Delegated Aboriginal Agencies,
  - \$8.0 million - Autism,
  - \$1.0 million - Permanency, and
  - \$0.6 million - Medical Benefits;
- \$20.2 million to cover wage increases under the Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate (SSNM) (*Budget 2020*);
- \$6.0 million to provide additional funding for legal counsel (*Budget 2020*);
- \$5.0 million to support Indigenous children and youth in care to maintain connections with their community (*Budget 2020*);
- \$(29.5) million fiscal adjustment to realign spending to government priorities (*Budget 2020*);
- \$6.3 million for government's cross-ministry poverty reduction initiative (*Budget 2019*);
- \$4.8 million to further expand programs for children and youth mental health; (*Budget 2019*);
- \$0.5 million continue the caregiver rate increases for the family based and extended family programs (*Budget 2019*);
- \$108.5 million to continue building an affordable, accessible and quality childcare system across the province (*Budget 2018*);
- \$2.0 million to continue support youth aging out of care through the Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) program (*Budget 2018*); and
- \$(1.0) million from the conclusion of the Procurement and Contract Review (*Budget 2018*).

## **2021/22 and Beyond**

Further budget changes for subsequent years are outlined as follows:

- \$6.3 million additional incremental funding in 21/22 for government's cross-ministry poverty reduction initiative;
- \$4.6 million in 21/22 and an additional \$4.4 million in 22/23 to provide for additional childcare staffing and operation supports;

- \$0.6 million in 21/22 to provide for annual increment in caregiver rates for family based and extended family homes; and
- \$14.9 million additional incremental funding in 21/22 to cover wage increases under SSNM.

### **STOB Changes:**

Major STOBs	(\$ million)	2019/20 Estimates	Change	2019/20 Restated	Change	2020/21 Estimates
Salaries & Benefits		406.240	2.361	408.601	4.410	413.011
Operating Costs		59.095	0.119	59.214	6.684	65.898
Government Transfers		1,710.606	0.735	1,711.341	150.362	1,861.703
Other Expenses		34.161	0.004	34.165	3.000	37.165
Internal Recoveries		(9.434)		(9.434)		(9.434)
External Recoveries		(135.941)		(135.941)	(3.956)	(139.897)
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>2,064.727</b>	<b>3.219</b>	<b>2,067.946</b>	<b>160.500</b>	<b>2,228.446</b>

*Note: Change from 2019/2020 Estimates to 2019/20 Restated includes: STADD Program transfer to MCFD from SDPR, and Inter-Ministry transfer (Leased Property).*

- New funding for childcare, caseload, wage increases due to the SSNM are reflected in higher Salaries and Benefits, Operating Costs and Other Expenses.
- New funding for childcare, caseload pressures, and caregiver rate increases are reflected in increases for programs under Government Transfers.
- Increases to External Recoveries related to the Columbia River Treaty change to align a portion of the recoveries directly to expenses.

### **2020/21 Capital Budget Changes:**

#### **Capital Budget:**

Asset Category	(\$ million)	2019/20 Estimates	Change	2019/20 Restated	Change	2020/21 Estimates
Specialized Equipment		0.444			(0.242)	0.202
Office Furniture & Equipment		0.028				0.028
Vehicles		4.038			(2.699)	1.339
<b>TOTAL MINISTRY</b>		<b>4,510</b>			<b>(2.941)</b>	<b>1.569</b>

Due to decreased need in 2020/21 for replacements of specialized equipment and fleet vehicles, the capital budget has been adjusted to \$1.6 million.

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – TBS Advice to the Minister of Finance – Questions & Answers

Appendix B1 – MCFD Estimates

Appendix B2 – MCFD Supplements

Appendix C - MCFD Material Assumptions

Appendix D - Budget Highlights

Appendix E - Resource Summary

Appendix F - Resource Summary Comparison by Core Business

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## 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 2019/20 <sup>1</sup>	Estimates 2020/21
<b>VOTED APPROPRIATION</b>		
Vote 19 — Ministry Operations.....	2,067,946	<b>2,228,446</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<u>2,067,946</u>	<u><b>2,228,446</b></u>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES <sup>2</sup></b>	4,510	<b>1,569</b>
<b>LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS <sup>3</sup></b>	(31)	<b>(31)</b>
<b>REVENUE COLLECTED FOR, AND TRANSFERRED TO, OTHER ENTITIES <sup>4</sup></b>	—	<b>—</b>

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, figures shown for the 2019/20 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 2020/21 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)

	2019/20	2020/21 ESTIMATES		
OPERATING EXPENSES	Net	Gross	External Recoveries	Net
<b>Core Business</b>				
Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services.....	624,807	755,183	(41,002)	714,181
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs.....	390,669	422,376	(12,285)	410,091
Child and Youth Mental Health Services.....	109,396	114,388	(775)	113,613
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services.....	682,677	794,886	(63,012)	731,874
Adoption Services.....	34,752	34,890	(2)	34,888
Youth Justice Services.....	47,421	66,132	(17,985)	48,147
Service Delivery Support.....	159,121	156,819	(199)	156,620
Executive and Support Services.....	19,103	23,669	(4,637)	19,032
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>2,067,946</b>	<b>2,368,343</b>	<b>(139,897)</b>	<b>2,228,446</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>	Capital Expenditures	Capital Expenditures	Receipts and P3 Liabilities	Net
<b>Core Business</b>				
Service Delivery Support.....	4,510	1,569	—	1,569
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>1,569</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,569</b>
<b>LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>	Net	Disbursements	Receipts	Net
<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  
2019/20Estimates  
2020/21

## 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.....	624,807	714,181
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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.....	390,669	410,091
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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.....	109,396	113,613
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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.....	682,677	731,874
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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 2019/20	Estimates 2020/21
<b>ADOPTION SERVICES</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriation</b>		
Adoption Services.....	34,752	34,888
<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.....	47,421	48,147
<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.....	159,121	156,620
<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 2019/20	Estimates 2020/21
<b>EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
<b>Voted Appropriations</b>		
Ministers' Offices.....	990	991
Corporate Services.....	18,113	18,041
	<u>19,103</u>	<u>19,032</u>
<p><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 the revenue raised from the proceeds of the sale of electricity related to the Columbia River Treaty. Costs may also 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>VOTE 19 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS</b>	2,067,946	2,228,446

## MINISTRY GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

## GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION

Salaries and Benefits .....	408,601	413,011
Operating Costs .....	59,214	65,898
Government Transfers .....	1,711,341	1,861,703
Other Expenses .....	34,165	37,165
Internal Recoveries .....	(9,434)	(9,434)
External Recoveries .....	(135,941)	(139,897)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....</b>	<u>2,067,946</u>	<u>2,228,446</u>

## MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

## LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

	Estimates 2019/20	Estimates 2020/21
<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 2019/20 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	624,807	10,332	80	2,624	—	13,036	21	91	—	124	—	489	98	—	—
Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs	390,669	15,145	132	3,847	—	19,124	—	265	—	—	670	120	—	—	83
Child and Youth Mental Health Services	109,396	50,343	952	12,858	—	64,153	—	589	—	437	222	515	—	—	357
Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services	682,677	122,004	3,315	31,031	—	156,350	—	2,802	21,334	246	—	50	—	22	84
Adoption Services	34,752	6,562	23	1,674	—	8,259	—	49	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Youth Justice Services	47,421	28,505	876	7,245	—	36,626	—	285	—	27	—	112	—	—	831
Service Delivery Support	159,121	76,868	899	19,904	—	97,671	—	3,757	4,046	4,523	4,703	6,028	—	—	—
Executive and Support Services	19,103	14,025	63	3,609	95	17,792	—	520	763	1,096	51	1,271	21	—	—
Ministers' Offices	990	550	—	178	95	823	—	110	—	—	18	13	—	—	—
Corporate Services	18,113	13,475	63	3,431	—	16,969	—	410	763	1,096	33	1,258	21	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,067,946</b>	<b>323,784</b>	<b>6,340</b>	<b>82,792</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>413,011</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8,358</b>	<b>26,143</b>	<b>6,453</b>	<b>5,646</b>	<b>8,592</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1,355</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 2020/21 Operating Expenses
—	—	98	2,460	3,381	1,200	268,310	466,916	736,426	—	—	3,000	3,000	—	(660)	(660)	(1)	(41,001)	(41,002)	714,181
20	—	—	—	1,158	—	23,370	378,703	402,073	—	—	22	22	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(12,284)	(12,285)	410,091
152	—	—	1,032	3,304	—	130	52,569	52,699	—	—	3,000	3,000	—	(8,768)	(8,768)	(660)	(115)	(775)	113,613
8	—	—	100	24,646	—	48,699	564,559	613,258	—	—	633	633	—	(1)	(1)	(148)	(62,864)	(63,012)	731,874
—	—	—	—	56	—	144	26,432	26,576	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	34,888
131	—	—	—	1,386	—	299	27,821	28,120	—	—	1	1	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(17,984)	(17,985)	48,147
1,853	—	1,294	1,941	28,145	—	—	811	811	—	—	30,193	30,193	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(198)	(199)	156,620
—	—	21	79	3,822	—	—	1,740	1,740	—	—	316	316	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(4,636)	(4,637)	19,032
—	—	—	—	141	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	991
—	—	21	79	3,681	—	—	1,740	1,740	—	—	289	289	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(4,636)	(4,637)	18,041
2,164	—	1,413	5,612	65,898	1,200	340,952	1,519,551	1,861,703	—	—	37,165	37,165	—	(9,434)	(9,434)	(814)	(139,083)	(139,897)	2,228,446

## MATERIAL ASSUMPTIONS for Fiscal Plan *Budget 2020*

Ministry Programs and Assumptions (\$ millions unless otherwise specified)	Updated Forecast 2019/20	Budget Estimate 2020/21	Plan 2021/22	Plan 2022/23	Sensitivities
<b>Children and Family Development</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>2,259</b>	
Average children-in-care ..... caseload (#)	6,000	5,754	5,605	5,470	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% increase in the cost per case or a 1% increase in the average caseload will affect expenditures by \$2.3 million (excluding Delegated Aboriginal Agencies).
Average annual residential ..... cost per child in care (\$)	74,729	81,880	84,000	87,000	

NOTE that the outyear cost pre child represents the required actions to contain the growth in CRA's as per the budget letter direction to report back on:

*"measures and actions being taken by the ministry to contain the cost increases being realized across Contracted Residential services, as informed by the findings of the Contract and Payment Review"*

Response from TBS February 3, 2020 related to changes to cost per child:

*"The approach we are proposing is broadly in keeping with what we published in budget last year for the outer years of the fiscal plan: assuming modest price increases which are offset by declines in the number of children-in-care, consistent with the currently allocated funding in the budget. Approach-wise, the major difference is the published cost forecast for 2020/21, where there is some contingencies funding.*

*In terms of the question about the impact of the figures being inaccurate, our concern is more about having a reasonable 2020/21 forecast and working with the ministry on the cost of contracted residential care and then refining the outer year forecasts in Budget 2021. TBS would not see the outer year forecast as a 'commitment' from the ministry to achieve those average costs. "*



# Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Budget Update - Budget 2020

### MCFD WEBSITE

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) budget for 2020/21 has increased by \$160.5 million.

This new funding will be used to:

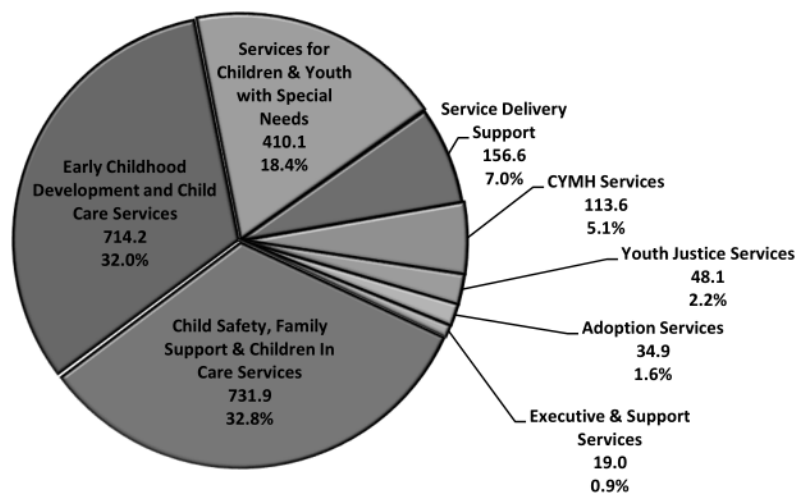
- continue building an affordable, accessible and quality child care system across the province;
- expand eligibility for the Agreements with Young Adults program which provides supports for young adults aging out of care;
- help children and youth in care connect to their culture and heritage by providing the opportunity to establish and keep ties to their Indigenous communities and cultures;
- address pressure in key program areas such as autism supports, children and youth in care, child protection legal services, medical benefits for children with special needs, and permanency services; and
- support recruitment and retention for community social service agencies to support the overall and long-term strength of the sector.

### Budget (\$millions)

2019/20 <i>Restated</i>	2020/21 <i>Estimates</i>	Net Change from 2019/20 Restated	2021/22 <i>Plan</i>	Net Change from 2020/21	2022/23 <i>Plan</i>	Net Change from 2021/22
2,067.946	2,228.446	160.500	2,254.952	26.506	2,259.367	4.415

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.

### 2020/20 Budget By Core Business (\$Millions)



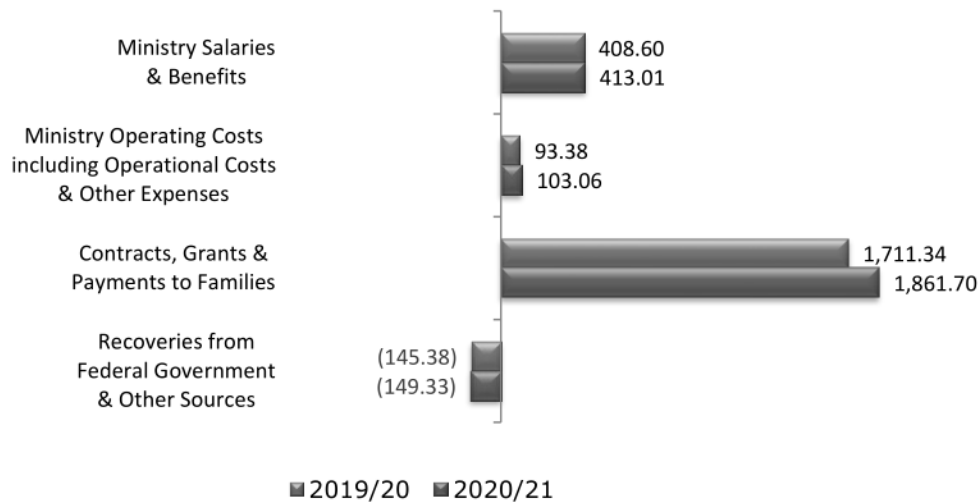
# Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Budget Update - Budget 2020

### MCFD WEBSITE

Over ninety-two percent of the budget is used to directly support clients and communities with almost \$2.1 billion invested in programs and services to support children, youth and families of British Columbia.

#### Budget Changes 2019/20 Restated to 2020/21 (\$Millions)



NOTE: The significant increase in contracts, grants & payments to families mainly relates to a continuation of funding for affordable, accessible, and quality child care as well as supporting children in care.

**February 2020**  
**2020/21 Resource Summary- Confidential**  
 Ministry of Children & Family Development

## Resource Summary – Budget 2020

Core Business Area	2019/20 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2020/21 Estimates	2021/22 Plan	2022/23 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
<b>Early Childhood Development and Child Care Services .....</b>	624,807	714,181	719,800	723,994
<b>Services for Children and Youth with Special Needs .....</b>	390,669	410,091	413,479	413,479
<b>Child and Youth Mental Health Services .....</b>	109,396	113,613	115,283	115,283
<b>Child Safety, Family Support and Children in Care Services .....</b>	682,677	731,874	744,647	744,647
<b>Adoption Services .....</b>	34,752	34,888	35,107	35,107
<b>Youth Justice Services .....</b>	47,421	48,147	49,160	49,160
<b>Service Delivery Support .....</b>	159,121	156,620	158,030	158,030
<b>Executive and Support Services .....</b>	19,103	19,032	19,446	19,667
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,067,946</b>	<b>2,228,446</b>	<b>2,254,952</b>	<b>2,259,367</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>				
<b>Service Delivery Support .....</b>	4,510	1,569	1,498	1,498
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>1,569</b>	<b>1,498</b>	<b>1,498</b>

**February 2020**  
**2020/21 Resource Summary- Confidential**  
Ministry of Children & Family Development

Core Business Area	2019/20 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2020/21 Estimates	2021/22 Plan	2022/23 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 2019/20 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2020/21 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

**2020/21 to 2022/23**

(\$000s)

Core Business Areas	2018/19 Restated	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Plan	2021/22 Plan	2022/23 Plan
Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	443,724	624,807	733,207	733,206	733,206
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	361,468	386,669	387,590	387,590	387,590
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	98,925	109,396	112,942	112,942	112,942
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	640,834	682,677	690,785	697,684	697,684
Adoption Services	31,699	34,752	34,713	34,713	34,713
Youth Justice Services	45,890	47,421	47,253	47,253	47,253
Service Delivery Support	151,474	159,902	158,439	158,438	158,438
Executive & Support Services	18,441	19,103	19,021	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>	<b>2,190,847</b>

#### Change - including Decisions for *Budget 2020* by Core Business:

Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	0	(19,026)	(13,406)	(9,212)
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	4,000	22,501	25,889	25,889
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	0	671	2,341	2,341
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	0	41,089	46,963	46,963
Adoption Services	0	175	394	394
Youth Justice Services	0	894	1,907	1,907
Service Delivery Support	(781)	(1,819)	(408)	(408)
Executive & Support Services	0	11	425	646
<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>3,219</b>	<b>44,496</b>	<b>64,105</b>	<b>68,520</b>

#### Resource Summary as of *Budget 2020* :

Core Business Areas	2019/20 Restated	2020/21 Estimates	2021/22 Plan	2022/23 Plan
Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	624,807	714,181	719,800	723,994
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	390,669	410,091	413,479	413,479
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	109,396	113,613	115,283	115,283
Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services	682,677	731,874	744,647	744,647
Adoption Services	34,752	34,888	35,107	35,107
Youth Justice Services	47,421	48,147	49,160	49,160
Service Delivery Support	159,121	156,620	158,030	158,030
Executive & Support Services	19,103	19,032	19,446	19,667
<b>MINISTRY TOTAL</b>	<b>2,067,946</b>	<b>2,228,446</b>	<b>2,254,952</b>	<b>2,259,367</b>

(See following pages for detail on key changes)

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**CHILD CARE POLICY**  
**ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Child Care BC Budget (\$2 billion over three years)

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Childcare BC has invested a record-setting \$1.4 Billion in new program investment since the program was launched in 2018
- Taken together with the existing investments, this government has committed \$2 Billion to the development of a universal child care program since we launched.
- This unprecedented investment continues to build spaces, support families and increase ECE wages towards the development of a universal child care program.

**BACKGROUND:**

The fiscal plan of government references childcare as follows:

*Childcare BC was launched in 2018 as government's plan to bring affordable, accessible and quality child care to families throughout the province. Since its launch, incremental funding for Childcare B.C. reaches \$1.4 billion over the fiscal plan, bringing the total child care programs budget to a record \$2 billion over three years. Investments will continue to create thousands of child care spaces, build and improve the quality of facilities, and increase the workforce.*

- The \$2.0 billion is the next three-year accumulated total for all funding including the base funding of \$229 million that was the foundation to build upon prior to *Budget 2018* and the Childcare BC Plan (Table 1 and Table 2).
- \$1.4 billion is the next three-year accumulated total for all the funding changes that have occurred since *Budget 2018* including new funding for the CCFRI cost pressure in *Budget 2019* and the new funding or staffing resources and the fiscal adjustment that reduces key programs for *Budget 2020* (Table 3).

**FINANCES:****Table 1: Child Care Programs Overview by Program**

<b>Fiscal Year (\$M)</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Base Budget	13.15	13.63	14.14	14.39	14.19
Net New Funding	9.57	14.85	15.94	20.54	24.94
Administrative Reduction	--	--	-0.24	-0.24	-0.24
<b>Child Care Administration</b>	<b>22.72</b>	<b>28.48</b>	<b>29.84</b>	<b>34.69</b>	<b>38.89</b>
Base Budget	10.09	10.09	10.40	10.59	10.59
New Funding	--	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
<b>Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR)</b>	<b>10.09</b>	<b>15.09</b>	<b>15.40</b>	<b>15.59</b>	<b>15.59</b>
Base Budget	94.40	94.40	94.40	94.40	94.40
Net New Funding	97.98	126.06	182.03	182.03	182.03
<b>Child Care Operating Fund (CCOF)</b>	<b>192.38</b>	<b>220.46</b>	<b>276.43</b>	<b>276.43</b>	<b>276.43</b>
Base Budget	101.40	101.40	101.40	101.40	101.40
New Funding	47.00	132.00	165.90	165.90	165.90
<b>Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB)</b>	<b>148.40</b>	<b>233.40</b>	<b>267.30</b>	<b>267.30</b>	<b>267.30</b>
Base Budget	10.03	10.03	10.03	10.03	10.03
New Funding	22.27	78.51	75.41	75.41	75.41
<b>Child Care Capital Fund</b>	<b>32.30</b>	<b>88.54</b>	<b>85.44</b>	<b>85.44</b>	<b>85.44</b>
<b>Total Base Budget</b>	<b>229.07</b>	<b>229.55</b>	<b>230.37</b>	<b>230.81</b>	<b>230.61</b>
<b>Total Net New Funding</b>	<b>176.82</b>	<b>356.42</b>	<b>444.28</b>	<b>448.88</b>	<b>453.28</b>
<b>Administrative Reduction</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>-0.24</b>
<b>TOTAL Budget 2020</b>	<b>405.89</b>	<b>585.97</b>	<b>674.41</b>	<b>679.45</b>	<b>683.65</b>

2,037.51 Government Fiscal Plan Amount

**NOTES:**

1. Child Care Administration includes staffing and other resources to administer and support the programs and includes one-time community grants; engagement activities and data collection.
2. The Administrative Reduction is part of the Fiscal Adjustment and is an across-the-board reduction of 1.6% on all administrative STOBs including salaries and benefits, travel, office and business expenses, advertising, and information systems.
3. CCRR is the contracts that provide support, information, and referral services for parents and professional development services for child care providers in more than 400 communities across the province.
4. CCOF includes provision for inflation; Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and ECE wage compensation
5. ACCB replaced Child Care Subsidy effective September 1, 2018
6. Child Care Capital Fund includes Child Care Maintenance Fund and new space creation

**Table 2: Child Care Programs Overview by STOB**

<b>Fiscal Year (\$M)</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Child Care Administration	8.13	11.67	12.00	16.84	21.03
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>	<b>8.13</b>	<b>11.67</b>	<b>12.00</b>	<b>16.84</b>	<b>21.03</b>
Child Care Administration	2.57	3.20	3.15	3.15	3.15
<b>Operations</b>	<b>2.57</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>3.15</b>	<b>3.15</b>	<b>3.15</b>
Child Care Administration	10.52	10.61	11.70	11.70	11.70
Child Care Resource and Referrals	10.09	15.09	15.40	15.59	15.59
Affordable Child Care Benefit	148.40	233.40	267.30	267.30	267.30
Child Care Operating Fund	192.38	220.46	276.43	276.43	276.43
Child Care Capital Fund	32.30	88.54	85.44	85.44	85.44
Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC)	61.00	41.00	41.00	41.00	41.00
<b>Government Transfers</b>	<b>454.69</b>	<b>609.10</b>	<b>697.27</b>	<b>697.46</b>	<b>697.46</b>
Child Care Administration	1.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
<b>Other Expenses</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>3.00</b>
Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC)	-61.00	-41.00	-41.00	-41.00	-41.00
<b>External Recoveries</b>	<b>-61.00</b>	<b>-41.00</b>	<b>-41.00</b>	<b>-41.00</b>	<b>-41.00</b>
<b>TOTAL Budget 2020</b>	<b>405.89</b>	<b>585.97</b>	<b>674.42</b>	<b>679.45</b>	<b>683.64</b>

**2,037.51**    **Government Fiscal Plan Amount**

**NOTES:**

1. Child Care Administration includes staffing and other operational resources to administer and support the programs and includes contracts under Government Transfers for services and supports not specific to the four major programs (ie: Community Facilitators). The Other Expenses relates to system enhancement costs that are part of what ISD covers for the ministry.
2. CCRR is the contracts that provide support, information, and referral services for parents and professional development services for child care providers in more than 400 communities across the province.
3. ELCC is for the prototype sites and Indigenous childcare. 2018/19 includes the carry over from the previous year. The remaining funding and recovery for ELCC is for Supported Child Development and is included in the CYSN core business.



**Table 3: Childcare BC Plan and Further Budget Changes**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
<b>Budget 2018</b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>356.96</b>	<b>463.95</b>	<b>463.95</b>	<b>463.95</b>
<i>Budget 2019 – CCFRI pressure</i>		9.26	9.26	9.26	9.26
<b>TOTAL Budget 2019</b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>366.22</b>	<b>473.21</b>	<b>473.21</b>	<b>473.21</b>
<i>Budget 2020 – Staffing Resources</i>				4.60	9.00
<i>Budget 2020 – Fiscal Adj. programs only</i>			-20.60	-20.60	-20.60
<b>TOTAL Budget 2020</b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>366.22</b>	<b>452.61</b>	<b>457.21</b>	<b>461.61</b>
	1,002.97	announced as \$1.0B plan in <i>Budget 2018</i>			
	1,312.64	announced as \$1.3B ongoing plan in <i>Budget 2019</i>			
	1,371.43	announced as \$1.4B ongoing plan in <i>Budget 2020</i>			

**NOTES:**

1. *Budget 2020* Staffing Resources includes funding for corporate support
2. *Budget 2020 – Fiscal Adjustment* includes reductions for ACCB \$10M; Community Facilitators \$5.4M and Incentives for Flexible Hours \$5.2M. It excludes the across-the-board administrative reduction of 1/6%

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 5.2 Child Care Plan – Year 3 (2020/21); for status updates
- 5.3 Child Care Plan – Affordability Measures; for details re: net new funding for ACCB and CCFRI
- 5.4 Child Care Plan – Accessibility; for space creation & maintenance fund details
- 5.5 Child Care Plan – Quality; for wage increases, ECE support and other quality funding

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC HUMAN RESOURCES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Indigenous Recruitment and Cultural Safety

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry's Indigenous Recruitment and Retention 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 ministry's Indigenous Recruitment and Retention 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.
- WES 2015 reported 210 Indigenous employees across the 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. WES 2020 will provide updated information on the number of Indigenous employees in the ministry.
- A key aspect of the indigenous retention strategy is the development and implementation of the Reconciliation Dialogue Model. This 2.5-hour 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.

**BACKGROUND:**

- 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 Network of Support event in 2018-19 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. The take-aways included self-care strategies, peer support skills and a list of community resources.

#### **FOCUS FOR 2020/21:**

- Continue to support Indigenous recruitment and retention by providing recruitment guide training that is aimed at service delivery areas (SDAs) and local service areas (LSAs), supervisors and managers.
- Development of an Indigenous marketing strategy focused on needs of Ministry communities located in urban, rural and remote areas of the province.
- A key strategy for Indigenous retention will be delivery of Network of Support webinars for Indigenous excluded and frontline staff. The webinars will cover a range of topics connected to HR and cultural support and competency.
- Development and implementation of Cultural Safety Checklist for all MCFD office spaces to be completed by June 2020
- *Indigenous Identities, Cultures and Rights Training Project* began in January 2018. Curriculum development is expected to be completed in April 2020, with implementation of the training in August 2020.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Ministry Frontline Recruitment

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- 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 one-grid Temporary Market Adjustment was negotiated in the recent round of bargaining for Child Protection Workers as a tool for recruitment & retention effective April 1, 2019. An additional one-grid increase will take effect on April 1, 2021.
- To further support recruitment and retention, particularly in hard to recruit communities, several initiatives have been implemented:
  - A Recruitment and Retention Incentive Program:
    - Front-line ministry regular permanent Social Program Officers 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 2019, payments were made to 239 Social Program Officers in these communities, with the next round of incentive payments to be paid starting in April 2020.
  - MCFD has expanded the educational requirements for hiring new delegated Social Programs Officers 24-30. 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 continues and is proving effective in reducing the hiring resource impact to front-line supervisors and has streamlined the application process for applicants.

- The Provincial Mobile Response Team continues to hire to provide additional staffing support to hard to recruit communities.
- MCFD has also implemented the hiring of travelling Child Protection Social Workers who work a schedule of 7 days on, 7 days off to serve the communities of Ashcroft, Dease Lake, Lillooet, Ft. Nelson, Bella Coola, Ft. St. James, McBride, Smithers/Hazelton, Terrace/Kitimat and Williams Lake.
- In addition to the recruitment efforts, ministry staff are focussing on retention strategies. This includes developing and implementing an evidence-based recruitment and retention strategy for front line staff with a focus on health and wellness and onboarding.

**STATISTICS: 1: SDD Front Line, Admin & Team Lead, Active - December 2019**

Service Delivery Division Front Line, Admin &amp; Team Lead, Active Employee Count

<b>Front Line</b>				
<b>Discipline</b>	<b>March 31, 2019</b>	<b>December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Net Change March 31, 2019 to December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
*Child Protection	1,134	1,144	10	1%
CP Multi	3	2	-1	-33%
Resource	203	203	0	0%
**Child and Family Services	150	153	3	2%
<b>Total Child Welfare Workers</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1%</b>
Adoptions	59	59	0	0%
Mental Health (SPO's only)	406	416	10	2%
Other Mental Health (e.g. Nurse, LPA)	50	48	-2	-4%
Special Needs	130	139	9	7%
Special Needs (STADD)	0	26	26	-
Youth Justice (community)	92	92	0	0%
Youth Justice (custody) Correction Officers	138	131	-7	-5%
****Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals	32	29	-3	-9%
<b>Total Workers</b>	<b>2,397</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Team Leads</b>				
<b>Discipline</b>	<b>March 31, 2019</b>	<b>December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Net Change March 31, 2019 to December 31, 2019</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
***Child Welfare Team Leads	230	232	2	1%
Adoptions	9	9	0	0%
Mental Health (SPO's only)	48	52	4	8%
Other Mental Health (e.g. Nurse, LPA)	13	13	0	0%
Special Needs	17	19	2	12%
Special Needs (STADD)	0	3	3	-
Youth Justice (community)	15	15	0	0%
Youth Justice (custody) Correction Officers	19	20	1	5%
****Youth Justice (custody) Other Professionals	2	2	0	0%
<b>Total Team Leads</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>SDD Admin Support</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>TOTAL FRONT LINE</b>	<b>3,349</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>2%</b>

\*Child Protection includes Guardianship

\*\*SPO Assistants, ECD worker & Comm Dev Worker are included in Child and Family Services

\*\*\*Child Welfare Team Leads includes CP Multi, Resource and Child and Family Services

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

Please note an employee can occupy more than one position in different organizational units, and a position can be occupied by multiple employees:

For December 31, 2019, the unique front line employees count was 3,408.

## **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 2.3 Indigenous Recruitment and Retention
- 2.5 Workforce Summary



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:        Workforce Summary**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- MCFD's largest occupational group (61%) is comprised of front-line professionals (i.e. social workers, clinicians, nurses) in Health, Education and Social Work; the remaining MCFD occupations (39%) 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 each of the 35 to 44 and the 45 to 54 age brackets. The average age for all MCFD at 43.8 years, which is the same as the 43.8 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 (11.8 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.
- 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 47%; Trades & Operations 43%).

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- Human Resources- Page 38 and 39 in the Data Booklet
- HR Analytics
- WES 2018

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICE DELIVERY DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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.
- Several 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 Workload Reduction Action Plan, aimed at making significant and measurable change to front-line Child Protection workload.
  - Ongoing improvements to workload data, including development of a predictive workload model that estimates the demand for services and resources necessary to meet service levels.
  - A centralized screening team that manages all in-coming protection calls.
  - The Centralized Service Hub, which decreases the workload of front line staff by undertaking administrative functions in a centralized location rather than in local offices.
  - The addition of Social Work Assistants to the front line, removing administrative work from front line social workers.
  - Changing office hours to allow time for staff to balance the needs of clients and their other duties.
- 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.
- Ensuring effective recruitment and retention of front line staff will minimize vacancies in local offices and reduce workload pressures on staff. Initiatives aimed at improving recruitment and retention include:

- Centralized recruitment of Child Protection Worker and Child and Youth Mental Health Clinicians, which reduces workload associated with hiring for front line supervisors.
- From fiscal year 2014/15 to 2017/18 funding for 410.5 FTEs was added to front line staffing.
- In partnership with the Public Service Agency, development of a retention and recruitment strategy specific to front line staff.
- Expanded education and experience qualifications for social worker positions were implemented in January 2019. The expanded qualifications have increased applicant pools and assisted in recruitment of staff to vacant positions.
- Implementation of Travelling Child Protection Worker positions to increase recruitment to select rural and remote communities, in which staff are in the community working for 7 days, followed by 7 days off at their home location.
- Implementation of a Temporary Market Adjustment (TMA) for Child Protection social workers.
- 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.
- A provincial mobile response team to provide urgent assistance to communities with reduced staffing levels.

**BACKGROUND: N/A**

**FINANCES: N/A**

**STATISTICS:**

**Service Delivery Division Front Line, Admin & Team Lead, Active Employee Count**

<b>Front Line</b>				
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\*\*SPO Assistants, ECD worker & Comm Dev Worker are included in Child and Family Services

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Please note an employee can occupy more than one position in different organizational units, and a position can be occupied by multiple employees:

For December 31, 2019, the unique front line employees count was 3,408.

### 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	2019-20 to Dec 31
Hires	90	148	218	231	258	223	204
Exits	124	107	122	147	163	171	158
Net Change	(-34)	41	96	84	95	52	46

### Caseload per Active Front Line Child Protection Worker, December 31, 2019:

SDA	Cases* (Families or Children/Youth) December 2019	Child Protection Workers with Cases**	Caseload per CP Worker
SDA 11 – Kootenays	620	33	19
SDA 12 – Okanagan	1,507	81	19
SDA 13 - Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	1,075	77	14
SDA 21 - East Fraser	1,024	61	17
SDA 22 - North Fraser	1,782	106	17
SDA 23 - South Fraser	2,598	163	16
SDA 24 - Vancouver/Richmond	1,777	103	17
SDA 25 - Coast/North Shore	902	43	21
SDA 31 - South Vancouver Island	1,949	111	18
SDA 32 - North Vancouver Island	2,243	111	20
SDA 41 – Northwest	900	54	17
SDA 42 - North Central	1,849	64	29
SDA 43 – Northeast	560	21	27
	<b>18,786</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>18</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  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Poverty Community Initiative

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- My ministry supports the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's (SDPR) mandate, which focuses on addressing poverty and making life more affordable for all British Columbians.
- My ministry has worked in multiple communities on a poverty reduction initiative which we continue to learn from in four communities.
- These activities have included work at the community level to find solutions to the impact poverty has on children, youth and families, as well as delivering front-line poverty reduction support.
- SDPR developed the *Together BC: British Columbia's Poverty Reduction Strategy* in 2018. One of the focus areas of the strategy is on children, youth and families.
- While my government has increased the financial supports it offers former youth in care through multiple expansions to the Agreement to Young Adults Program, we know that much more can be done to support them to avoid poverty and move into a life of stability and success.
- As part of the Poverty Reduction Strategy led by SDPR, MCFD received budget of \$6.3M in fiscal 2020/2021 and \$12.6M budget in 2021/2022 and beyond to address poverty within the families it serves.
- My ministry will provide options this fall on effective ways to help alleviate poverty for the children, youth and families who need it most.

**FINANCES:**

- The budget for Poverty Reduction Strategy is held within the Children and Youth in Care budget of \$316.0M (Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2020, page 5, Table 2.4).
- The 2020/21 budget for the 2.4) Core Business: Child Safety, Family Supports and Child in Care is \$731.9M (Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2020, page 5, Table 2.4).

**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 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Corporate Learning and Development and Training Programs

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Learning and Development Branch (L&D) assesses, designs, develops, delivers and evaluates learning programs that provide employees with role-specific knowledge and skills required to perform their duties. L&D's main functions are:
  - Administering training;
  - Updating existing curricula and developing new curricula to address developments in policy, practice, and operational strategic priorities; and,
  - Implementing MCFD's 3-year (2017-2019) Integrated Learning Strategy.
- In 2019/20, Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA) staff and/or sector partners continued to participate in ministry training including Child Welfare (CW), Permanency, Adoptions, SAFE, San'yas, Clinical Supervision, and Domestic Violence training.
- L&D delivered approximately 54,900 hours of training from April 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019.

**BACKGROUND:**

- L&D develops, delivers and coordinates all training related directly to front line service delivery staff in a variety of related disciplines.
- It is essential that ministry staff receive the training they need to successfully fulfill their roles and provide mandated and voluntary services to children and families in BC. This may be core training that is foundational for new employees, practice-related, or advanced training for staff in specialist roles.
- L&D supports all delegation related and/or job required training programs providing employees with the skills required to meet their legislative mandate.
- L&D has the following curriculum projects underway including content updates, redesigns of dated courses/programs and new training courses or programs:
  - The Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families training (new course and updates to existing courses)

- This course will introduce learners to the policy and practice changes that will come into effect as a result of the new federal legislation, the context for this legislation, and how this legislation relates to other legislation in BC. Existing courses are being reviewed to ensure alignment with these changes.
- Children and Youth with Special Needs Training for CW Workers (new)
  - In response to the RCY report *Alone and Afraid*, this training will equip MCFD and DAA child protection workers with an understanding of their roles and responsibilities when working with children and youth with special needs.
- Clinical Supervision (re-design)
  - This course supports team leads and supervisors to provide effective clinical supervision to staff. The redesign expands the training from a solely child welfare focus to encompass all lines of business (CYMH, CYSN) to ensure all MCFD and DAA clinical supervisors are effectively trained.
- Brief Child and Family Phone Interview Indigenous Guidelines (new)
  - The BCFPI Indigenous Guidelines were developed to enhance the cultural considerations for Indigenous children, youth, and families. This training will support staff in using the new guidelines.
- Problematic Substance Use Training for Caregivers (new)
  - This training program is in response to the RCY report *Time to Listen: Youth Voices on Substance Use*. The training will support both MCFD and DAA caregivers with the knowledge and skills to create a safe environment to communicate with youth about substance use and strategies for harm reduction.
- Permanency Planning and Adoptions program (re-design)
  - This training program is a series of 4 courses designed to meet the training requirements for both partial and full delegation under the Adoption Act as well as delegation requirements under the CFCSA for both MCFD and DAA staff.
- Social Programming Officer Assistant training (new)
  - This training program will provide Social Programming Officer Assistants with the knowledge required to support their delegation under the CFCSA.
- Collaborative Practices and Decision Making (new)
  - This training program will support CPDM Facilitators in their role and responsibilities with respect to ensuring culturally safe spaces for families to take an active role in planning for their children and youth.

- Resource Worker Contracted Resources Module (new)
  - This training program will support Resource Workers in their role and responsibilities with respect to Contracted Residential Resources.
- CW Context (re-design)
  - This course focuses on the topics of mental health, disabilities and poverty as systemic issues within the context of the Child Welfare practitioner's work.
- CW Foundations (re-design)
  - This course introduces foundational knowledge necessary for child welfare practice in BC as it relates to: linking legislation to practice, legislated authority, client's rights, promoting self-care in our workers, cultural safety for indigenous children, youth families and communities.
- Youth Basic Supervisor New Hire Training (re-design)
  - This training program provides theoretical and practical training for new Youth Correctional Officers to enable them to enforce the provisions of the Criminal Code of Canada, YCJA, YJA, Youth custody Regulation and Youth Custody Manual of Operations.
- Physical and Mechanical Restraint Training (re-design)
  - This course instructs new, and refreshes existing, Youth Correctional Officers in the proper ways of using physical force and mechanical restraints with youth, when necessary, within the custody setting.

#### **FINANCES:**

- 2019/20 as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 = \$1,694,000 (includes Child Welfare Training and San'yas).

#### **STATISTICS:**

- The table below summarizes the total amount of courses accessed by MCFD staff and DAA learners and an approximation of total learning hours based on average learner completion times.

**Training Completions (April 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019)**

<b>Fiscal Year 2019-20</b>	<b>Count of Learners per Course</b>	<b>Sum of Hours</b>
<b>Child Welfare</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>14355</b>
MCFD	490	14340
DAA	1	15
<b>Guardianship, Adoption &amp; Permanency</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>11547</b>
MCFD	245	7794
DAA	119	3753
<b>Indigenous Cultural Competency</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>2439</b>
MCFD	322	2434
DAA	1	5
<b>Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH)</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>2414</b>
MCFD	273	2398
DAA	1	16
<b>Cross-disciplinary</b>	<b>3044</b>	<b>18167</b>
MCFD	2608	16167
DAA	436	2000
<b>Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN)</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>1058</b>
MCFD	149	1058
<b>Youth Justice</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>3953</b>
MCFD	329	3953
<b>Caregiver Training</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>967</b>
MCFD	90	642
DAA	13	325
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5077</b>	<b>54900</b>

Data Source: Learning and Development, PDCW

\*Caregiver learner completions are described in the Caregiver estimates notes

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry provides a core child welfare training program to ensure new child welfare staff have the required skills to perform their job duties.
- The program consists of eight courses in a blended-learning format (self-directed online, facilitated online, and face-to-face), including:
  - Foundations for Child Welfare Practice (self-directed online)
  - Context for Child Welfare Practice (self-directed online)
  - ICM Tools for Success (self-directed online)
  - Skills 101 (3 weeks face-to-face)
  - Skills 201 Court Process (self-directed online and 3 days face-to-face)
  - Domestic Violence Safety Planning (self-directed online)
  - Problematic Substance Use (self-directed online)
  - San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety (facilitated online)
- The training program is completed over a period of approximately six months.
- With an overarching focus on policy, legislation, and cultural agility, the face-to-face training follows the child protection response cycle and includes skills practice in key areas such as interviewing, using structured decision-making tools, the impacts of neglect and abuse, working with children, youth and families, and preparing for court.
- The online training examines cultural agility, child maltreatment, and the impacts of various systemic and familial issues.
- As child welfare practitioners progress through the training, they work in the field with their mentors using the delegation assessment readiness tool to identify and assess key learning priorities and their readiness for delegation under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)*.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The program was revised in 2017 based on recommendations from the report, *Part One: Decision Time (2015)*, and from the report, *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification- From Root Causes to Root Solutions, A Report on Indigenous Child Welfare in British Columbia (2016)*, and from feedback received from frontline staff.
  - Evaluations and subsequent enhancements are ongoing based on feedback received from Service Delivery staff, Provincial Practice Branch and new child welfare practitioners.
  - In 2020, updates will be made to capture the shifts in practice occurring as a result of the *Federal Act, Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families*.
  - In 2020, enhancements will be made to the Foundations and Context courses to improve the online learning experience.
- FINANCES:**
- The approximate operational budget for the child welfare training program (April 1- December 31, 2019) was: \$968,500. (This includes the cost of San'yas training for new hires).

**STATISTICS:****Number of child welfare new hires trained (April 1, 2019-December 31, 2019)**

Program component	Number of CW new hires completed	Number of CW new hires currently enrolled
Foundations for Child Welfare Practice	110	7
Context for Child Welfare Practice*	39	17
ICM Tools for Success**	N/A	N/A
Skills 101	135	30
Skills 201	76	88
Domestic Violence Safety Planning	82	55
Problematic Substance Use	74	60
San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety	81	50
<b>Completion of CW new hire training program</b>	47	N/A

\*Context is only required for new hires who did not complete a university degree with a child welfare specialization.

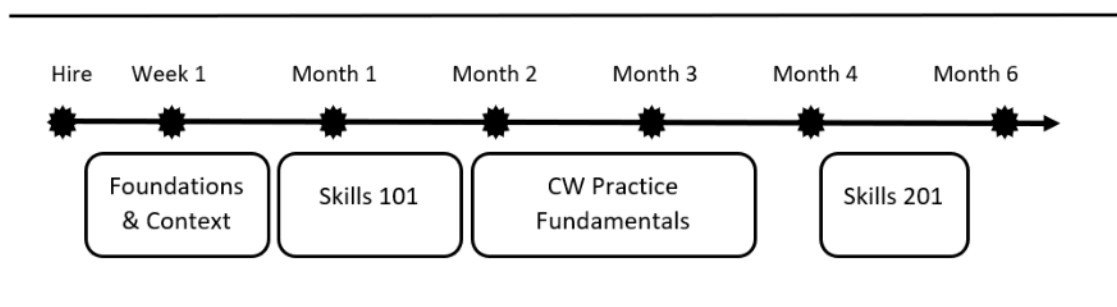
\*\*ICM Tools for Success is openly available as an ongoing resource and completion is not tracked.

Data Source: Learning & Development, Office of the Provincial Director and Aboriginal Services

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**ATTACHMENT:** Appendix A – CWT Learning Map. Next page.

# 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>Context (optional)</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
<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>CPDM, 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>CW Practice Fundamentals</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	7 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 Metis child, complete SDM tools, interview the family, complete court forms, participate in mock trial.</li> </ul>	Classroom	3 days

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Both MCFD and the British Columbia College of Social Workers (BCCSW) seek the same outcome - ethical, professional and competent social workers.
- The BCCSW works to protect the public and ensure the public interest by determining registration requirements, setting standards of practice, registering social workers, maintaining a registry of “Registered Social Workers” in B.C., and addressing complaints about its registrants.
- The Ministry recognizes the important contribution the BCCSW makes in ensuring high quality social work practice across the province.
- MCFD social workers are not required to register with the BCCSW.
- MCFD works to protect the public and ensure a high quality of practice through a delegation model.
- MCFD delegates the authority for social workers to perform any or all of the Director’s powers under section 92 of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) and ensures accountability for delegated social workers through multiple mechanisms, 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.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- The BCCSW is responsible for regulating the profession of social work in the public interest.
- The primary duties of a regulatory college in BC are two-fold: 1) to serve and protect the public; and 2) to exercise its powers and discharge its responsibilities under all enactments in the public interest.
- ⊖ Under the Social Workers Regulation, MCFD and Delegated Aboriginal Agency workers are exempt from the requirement to register but can do so voluntarily.
- ⊖ MCFD has its own process for ensuring social work candidates have the required knowledge and skills to keep children and youth safe.

#### **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 workers required to be registered as social workers?	Provinces	
Yes	5	QC, NB, PEI, NS, NLFD
No	5	BC, SK, AB, MB, ON

#### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 2.12 Expanded Credentials Implementation

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Expanded Credentials Implementation

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Front-line worker credentials and educational criteria for approximately 2,000 child safety positions in the Ministry of Children and Family Development (the ministry) had been unchanged for the past 20 years.
- In January 2019 the ministry broadened the credential and experiential criteria for child safety positions to help the ministry better respond to the evolving needs of vulnerable children and families.
- These changes allow for increased diversity in our workforce and, potentially, greater numbers of skilled applicants for positions in hard-to-recruit areas.
- They provide flexibility to identify community-specific needs and hire appropriately by considering an applicant's combination of education and experience in relevant fields beyond social work.
- This aligns with hiring practices in other provinces, and addresses recommendations made in the 2016 report, *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification - From Root Causes to Root Solutions: A Report on Indigenous Child Welfare in British Columbia*.
- The provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec also consider the combination of education and experience in relevant fields beyond social work when hiring into child protection positions, as do the Delegated Aboriginal Agencies in BC.
- The broadened credentials and experiential criteria are assessed through the competency model to ensure that those hired meet the minimum competency requirements as set out in the ministry's Child/Youth Safety and Family Support Competencies.

**BACKGROUND:**

- In January 2019 the ministry expanded the educational and experiential requirements ("expanded credentials") for SPO 24 positions and higher that require delegation under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA).
- The ministry has committed to giving preference to hiring applicants with "preferred degrees" – the originally required degrees included Bachelor or Master's level degrees in Social Work, Bachelor or Master's level degrees in

Child and Youth Care, and Master of Arts or Master of Education degrees in Counselling Psychology with practicum in child and family services.

- Hiring managers are now able to also consider the combination of a related degree in a human services field along with a minimum of two years of post-degree related experience working directly with children and youth.
- Concerns about the perceived de-professionalization of child welfare services have been raised by stakeholders, including the deans and directors of BC schools of social work, the BC College of Social Workers, the BC Association of Social Workers and the BCGEU who want to see these services provided by registered social workers.
- Ministry staff continue to meet with and engage stakeholders on this issue and opportunities for collaboration in areas of mutual interest have been identified. A working group has been formed to bring a coordinated approach to discussing and strategizing on topics of mutual interest, including protecting the title of social worker, exploring mandatory registration, scope of practice, building capacity in rural hard to recruit communities, collaborating on strategies to promote enrolment in schools of social work and to recruit and retain social program officers in the ministry .

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

#### **STATISTICS:**

- Below is a summary of hiring activity for the relevant positions between January 28, 2019, and January 3, 2020:

Total hired with expanded credentials	53
• Internal candidates	34
• External candidates	19
• Hired in hard to recruit communities	6
Degree type	
• Psychology	28 (53%)
• Criminology	11 (21%)
• Sociology	3 (5%)
• Other human services	11 (21%)

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

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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 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 unavailable or insufficient, 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.
- As of December 31, 2019, there were 5,805 children in care, 3,834 of whom were Indigenous. This is the lowest number of children in care overall since 1990 when there were 6,185 children in care, and the lowest number of Indigenous children in care since 2001, when there were 3,906 Indigenous children in care.
- The number of children in care peaked in 2001 at 10,229, including 4,285 Indigenous children in care. As of December 31, 2019, there were over 4,000 fewer children in care than at the peak of 2001.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Openness and accountability are key priorities for the Government of British Columbia. To that end, the Ministry of Children and Family Development publishes several reports, including statistics regarding children in care, intended to strengthen and enhance our practice

**FINANCES:**

- N/A

**STATISTICS:****Children in Care by SDA (December 2019)**

SDA	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total
SDA 11- Kootenays	36	48	84
SDA 12- Okanagan	168	208	376
SDA 13- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	119	148	267
SDA 21- East Fraser	44	197	241
SDA 22- North Fraser	133	156	289
SDA 23- South Fraser	199	318	517
SDA 24- Vancouver/Richmond	93	214	307
SDA 25- Coast/North Shore	103	78	181
SDA 31- South Vancouver Island	188	234	422
SDA 32- North Vancouver Island	341	241	582
SDA 41- Northwest	147	7	154
SDA 42- North Central	245	92	337
SDA 43- Northeast	71	28	99
Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	1947	0	1947
<b>Province</b>	<b>3834</b>	<b>1971</b>	<b>5805</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2020

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

**Analysis of children in care statistics:**

- The number of children in care as of December 2019 was 5,805. Of the 5,805 children in care, 66% are Indigenous.
- Of the 5,805 children in care, 3,279 (56.0%) are in care under a continuing custody order.
- Of those 3,279 children:

- 2,342 are Indigenous
- 937 are non-Indigenous

#### Indigenous Children and Youth in Care:

- There are 3,834 Indigenous children in care. This represents 66% of the total children in care caseload.
- The total number of Indigenous children served by a Delegated Aboriginal Agency is 1,947 (51%).
- Over the past years, MCFD has focused efforts on family preservation and out of care placement options, resulting in more children remaining within their families and communities instead of being placed in foster care, whilst simultaneously securing permanent homes for children in foster care. 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.

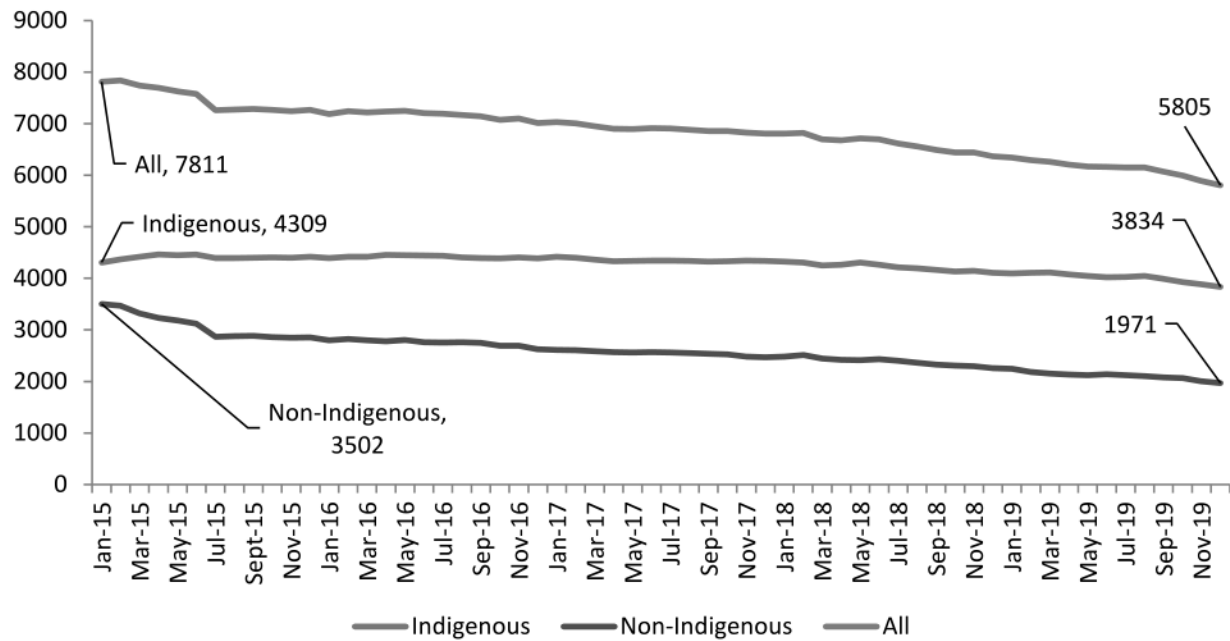
#### Children and Youth in Care by Indigenous Status

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	Percent of Indigenous
March 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%
March 2019	4,111	2,152	6,263	66%
December 2019	3,834	1,971	5,805	66%

- Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2020



### Number of CYIC by Indigenous Status Over Time



### CROSS REFERENCE:

- 3.7 Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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 within their best interests.
- Reunification:
  - In 2019/2020 YTD (as of December 31, 2019), 1,668 children and youth in care found permanency through reunification with their families of origin.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Children in Care in Continuing Custody**

- On December 31, 2019, there were:
  - 3,279 children and youth in BC in permanent care which is also known as continuing custody under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)*;
  - 13 children in permanent care under the Adoption Act;
  - 2,342 children and youth in continuing care were Indigenous; and,
  - 937 were non-Indigenous.
- 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 2019/2020 YTD (as of December 31, 2019), 28 children and youth in care achieved permanency through a 54.1 placement.
  - Of the 28 children and youth, 16 (57%) were Indigenous children.

- Reunification (through rescindments)
  - 40 children and youth were in care under a CCO which was cancelled, and the children/youth returned to their parent(s).
  - Of the 40 children and youth 33 (83%) 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 2019/2020 YTD, 125 children and youth were placed for adoption between April and December 2019.
  - Of the 125 children and youth, 54 (43%) were Indigenous children.

**FINANCES:** N/A

## **STATISTICS:**

**Indicators of permanency** (December 31, 2019/20 YTD)

<b>Indicators of Permanency</b>	<b>Indigenous Children</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous Children</b>	<b>Provincial Total</b>
CYIC placed for adoption	54	71	125
Section 54.1 (Permanent transfer of custody of Continuing Custody Orders)	16	12	28
Reunification with parents (including CCO Rescindment)	976	692	1,668
CCO Rescindment	33	7	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>1,821</b>

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

**Children placed in Adoption Homes, and Percentage of Aboriginal CYIC (2016/17-2019/20 YTD)**

<b>BC Adoption Placements</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2016/2017</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2017/2018</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2018/2019</b>	<b>Actual Placements 2019/2020 YTD (Dec 31 2019)</b>
All CYIC Adoption Placements	281	240	245	125
Indigenous CYIC Placements	136	117	93	54
% of CYIC placed that were Indigenous	48.4%	48.8%	38.0%	43.2%

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management Branch, MCFD, February 11, 2020

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 3.7 Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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, 2019, there were 3,834 Indigenous children in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA's) in the province; representing 66% of the total number of children in care.
- Of these 3,834 Indigenous children in:
  - 3,266 (85%) were First Nations;
  - 505 (13%) were Métis;
  - 33 (1%) were Inuit;
  - 30 (1%) were of unidentified (unknown to worker) Indigenous ancestry.
- DAA's serve 1,947 (51 %) of the Indigenous children in care.
- The number of Indigenous children and youth in care declined by 277 (7%) between March 31, 2019, and December 31, 2019. This is due to fewer Indigenous children coming into care and services that help to keep more children living safely with their families.
- There is the lowest number of Indigenous children and youth in care since January 2001 when there were 3,906 Indigenous children in care.

**BACKGROUND:**

- On April 1, 2019, changes to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* took effect that focus on better supporting families to safely stay together. These changes allow for greater information sharing and involvement by Indigenous

communities in child welfare matters so that children and youth can stay connected to their families, communities and cultures.

- On January 1, 2020, Bill C-92 was brought into force. This bill has key provisions that will ultimately end in reducing the number of Indigenous children and youth in care.
- In recent years, the reduction in the number of Indigenous children and youth in care has been smaller than the reduction in the number of non-Indigenous children and youth in care.

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

#### **STATISTICS:**

##### **Children and Youth in Care by Indigenous Status by SDA in both MCFD and DAA offices (December 31, 2019)**

<b>SDA</b>	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>Total</b>
SDA 11- Kootenays	36	48	84
SDA 12- Okanagan	168	208	376
SDA 13- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	119	148	267
SDA 21- East Fraser	44	197	241
SDA 22- North Fraser	133	156	289
SDA 23- South Fraser	199	318	517
SDA 24- Vancouver/Richmond	93	214	307
SDA 25- Coast/ North Shore	103	78	181
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SDA 41- Northwest	147	7	154
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Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	1947	0	1947
<b>Province</b>	<b>3834</b>	<b>1971</b>	<b>5805</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2020

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

Note that two CYIC are not assigned to SDAs, and therefore the provincial total is greater than the sum of the SDAs.

**Children and Youth in Care in DAA offices only (December 31, 2019)**

<b>Delegated Aboriginal Agency</b>	<b>CYIC</b>
Xyolhemeylh Program Sto:lo Health & Family Service	428
Vanc. Aboriginal Child And Family Services Society	407
Secwepemc Child & Family Services	143
Usma Nuu-chah-nulth Community & Human Services	121
Lalum`utul`smun`eem Child & Family Services	112
Kwumut Lelum Central Island Child & Family Service	98
Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services	81
Metis Family Services	79
Carrier Sekani Family Services	72
Northwest Inter-nation Family Services Society	60
Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child & Family Services	56
Ktunaxa-kinbasket Family & Child Services	53
Ayas Men Men Child & Family Services	46
Nil/tu`o Child & Family Services	42
Scw`exmx Child & Family Services	34
Nisga`a Family & Child Services	30
Knucwentwecw Society	22
Gitxsan Child & Family Services Society	17
Lii Michif Otipemisiwak	15
NIha`7kapmx Child & Family Services	14
Desniqi Services Society	12
<b>Total CYIC Delegated Aboriginal Agencies</b>	<b>1,942</b>
<b>Splatsin Stsmamlt Services*</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total CYIC in Delegated Aboriginal Agencies</b>	<b>1,947</b>

Data Source: Modelling, Analysis & Information Management, January 30, 2020

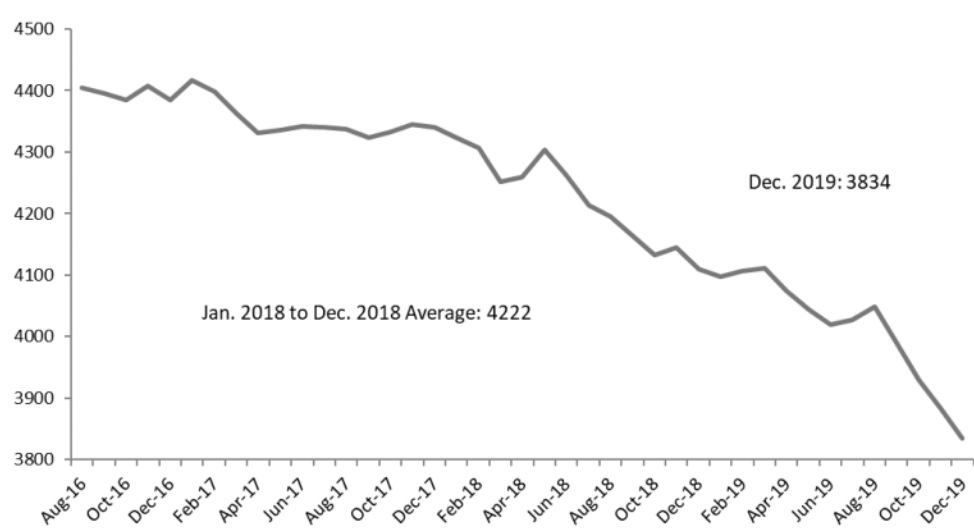
\*Note: Splatsin Stsmamlt Services has a unique Delegation Agreement with MCFD

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

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

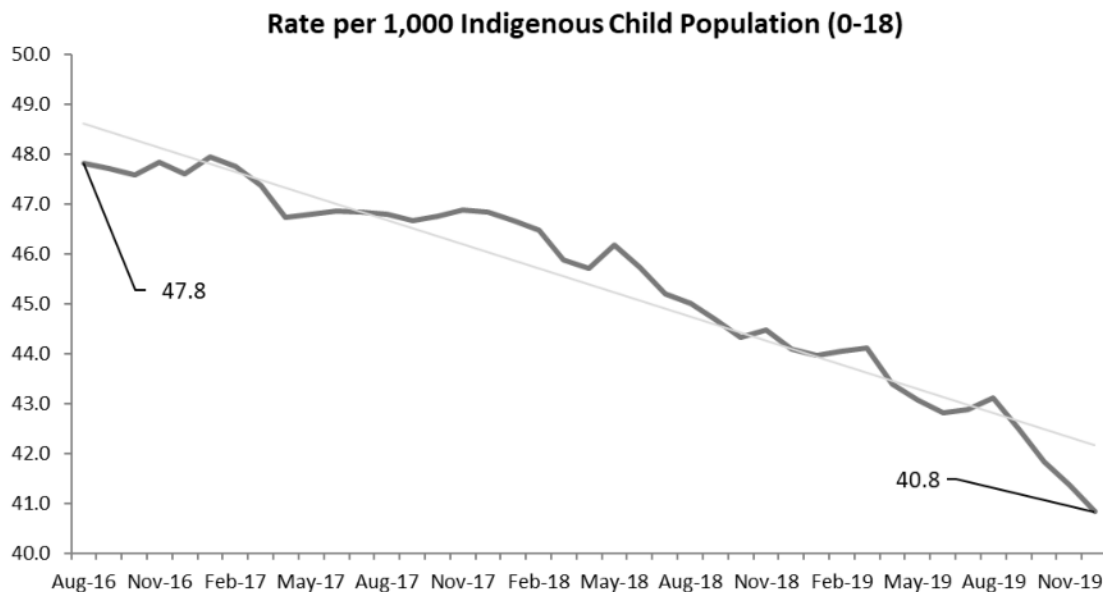
**Number of Indigenous Children and Youth in Care  
August 2016 – December 2019**

- The following chart shows the reduction in the number of indigenous children and youth in care.
- In December 2019 there were 5,805 Children and Youth in Care (CYIC). Of these, 66% were Indigenous.
- Since December 2018 the number of CYIC has declined by 560 (9%). Of these, 276 (49%) were Indigenous.
- The number of Indigenous CYIC in December 2019 was 9.2% below the recent average before 2019.



**Rate of Indigenous Children and Youth in Care per 1,000 Indigenous Child Population  
August 2016 – December 2019**

- 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 47 in August 2016, to 40.8 in December 2019.





**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Prevention and Family Support

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- A Ministry priority is supporting children and youth in B.C. to live in safe, healthy and nurturing families with connections to their communities and culture.
- The Ministry is working collaboratively to ensure Indigenous communities have greater involvement in child-welfare decisions, keeping children from coming into care in the first place, and providing more opportunities to work collaboratively on planning and caring for Indigenous children.
- The Ministry, along with Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA) partners, strive to emphasize the principles of early intervention and prevention to support children, youth and families who may be struggling, and keeping families together whenever possible.
- When children or youth cannot live at home, the preferred option is to support them to live with extended family or others known to the family through out-of-care options, rather than bringing them into care.
- Out-of-care providers are provided with financial and other supports.
- The Ministry funds a range of services and programs to preserve family connections including: day care subsidy; respite; infant development programs; family development response; traditional decision-making processes; family finders; roots workers; family preservation workers; collaborative planning options such as family group conferencing; mediation.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- The Prevention and Family Support Service Framework is in development and will describe the current and future state of family preservation services across the province including outcomes the Ministry aims to achieve through the delivery of family preservation services and supports.

- During this development phase, the Ministry continues to focus on cultural planning; increase the use of out of care/ kinship placement options; and greater involvement of Indigenous partners when developing Care Plans and permanency options for children and youth to remain with their family and within their community.
- Under the Federal Act, Indigenous children and youth in care living with someone other than their parent or an adult member of their family are having their placement reassessed in order to determine if it is in their best interests to be placed with a parent or other adult member of their family.
- The ministry supported First Nations and Métis-serving agencies with additional funding to help keep Indigenous families together and improve outcomes for children and youth.

#### **Current Family Preservation Programs:**

- Traditional decision-making processes are ways of planning and/or resolving disagreements by following community or cultural models and practices. For example, in some Indigenous communities, elders may have a key role to play in guiding families and a social worker through a decision-making process.
- Family Development Response (FDR) is the primary pathway for addressing screened-in protection reports when circumstances do not involve severe abuse or neglect and families are able and willing to participate in collaborative assessment and planning in order to address the safety concerns.
- Family Finding programs, including Roots workers, support Indigenous children and youth to learn about their culture, traditions, language, histories, and their families.
- Family Preservation workers intensively work with families involved with the child welfare system to support children to live at home safely and to support children to return home safely if they have been placed outside of the family home.
- Collaborative, or shared planning and decision-making processes such as Mediation, Family Group Conferencing and Traditional Decision-Making processes involve family and community members in decision-making and produce plans and agreements that protect children and youth and address the

needs of families. The use of collaborative decision-making mitigates the need for court involvement therefore strengthening relationships.

- The Family Group Conference or Family Case Planning Conference, which is also known as family group decision-making, is one type of shared decision-making process for families who are receiving child welfare services.
- Mediation is a collaborative way to reach agreement with parents, family and the ministry on the best plan for a child's safety and well-being by focusing on underlying interests and identifying common ground. Mediation is future focused. The process is facilitated by an independent third party (the mediator) who is on contract with the Ministry of Attorney General to deliver child protection mediation services to MCFD and DAAs.

#### **FINANCES:**

- See Table 2.4 (page 5) Core Business: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Service.
- For the third consecutive year, MCFD plans to release \$30,000 in Prevention and Family Support funding to each of the 203 First Nations and 7 Métis organizations in B.C.
- For the 2019/2020 fiscal year, MCFD released \$5.3M to 179 First Nation communities and Métis organizations in Prevention and Family Support grants.

**STATISTICS:****Table 4.1.4 Open Family Development Response (December 31, 2019)**

Fiscal Year	Family Development Responses	Percent Change
2005/2006	874	
2006/2007	928	6.2%
2007/2008	965	4.0%
2008/2009	1,418	46.9%
2009/2010	2,059	45.2%
2010/2011	2,735	32.8%
2011/2012 <sup>1</sup>	5,306	94.0%
2012/2013 <sup>2</sup>	9,537	79.7%
2013/2014	16,010	67.9%
2014/2015	16,020	0.1%
2015/2016	11,610	-27.5%
2016/2017	11,643	0.3%
2017/2018	11,160	-4.1%
2018/2019	10,591	-5.1%
2019/2020 YTD <sup>3</sup>	10,136	-4.3%

1. Numbers are fiscal year total, 2011/12 fiscal year total is to date as of February 29, 2012.

2. 2012/13 data from ICM and covers the period between June 2012 and March 2013

3. 2019/20 year to date as of December 31, 2019.

**Table 4.2 Out of Care Services (December 31, 2019)****Supports to Children outside their Parental Home and Young Adults**

Fiscal Year	Children in the Home of a Relative**	Percent Change	Extended Family Program	Percent Change	Out of Care by Court Orders	Percent Change	Sec 54.1	Percent Change	Sec 54.01	Percent Change	Youth Agreements	Percent Change	Agreements with Young Adults	Percent Change
2000/2001	4,444				61						126			
2001/2002	4,506	1.4%			44	-27.9%					143	13.5%		
2002/2003	4,288	-4.8%	61		122	177.3%					161	12.6%		
2003/2004	4,483	4.5%	155	154.1%	137	12.3%					253	57.1%		
2004/2005	4,499	0.4%	114	-26.5%	167	21.9%	71				354	39.9%		
2005/2006	4,726	5.0%	111	-2.6%	170	1.8%	73	2.8%			453	28.0%		
2006/2007	4,734	0.2%	118	6.3%	168	-1.2%	69	-5.5%			463	2.2%		
2007/2008	4,653	-1.7%	175	48.3%	177	5.4%	87	26.1%			550	18.8%		
2008/2009	4,467	-4.0%	189	8.0%	160	-9.6%	105	20.7%			717	30.4%	325	
2009/2010	4,494	0.6%	191	1.1%	131	-18.1%	121	15.2%			706	-1.5%	367	12.9%
2010/2011	3,298	-26.6%	300	57.1%	132	0.8%	122	0.8%			773	9.5%	449	22.3%
2011/2012	2,555	-22.5%	402	34.0%	167	26.5%	135	10.7%			789	2.1%	393	-12.5%
2012/2013	2,146	-16.0%	431	7.2%	256	53.3%	135	0.0%	1		651	-17.5%	431	9.7%
2013/2014	1,829	-14.8%	360	-16.5%	418	63.3%	154	14.1%	249		695	6.8%	501	16.2%
2014/2015	1,565	-14.4%	420	16.7%	487	16.5%	176	14.3%	502	101.6%	696	0.1%	553	10.4%
2015/2016	1,315	-16.0%	542	29.0%	640	31.4%	187	6.3%	765	52.4%	684	-1.7%	607	9.8%
2016/2017	1,099	-16.4%	410	-24.4%	664	3.8%	204	9.1%	1,146	49.8%	648	-5.3%	774	27.5%
2017/2018	907	-17.5%	409	-0.2%	725	9.2%	218	6.9%	1,381	20.5%	627	-3.2%	933	20.5%
2018/2019	735	-19.0%	440	7.6%	736	1.5%	227	4.1%	1,707	23.6%	690	10.0%	1,098	17.7%
2019/2020*	634	-13.7%	797	81.1%	696	-5.4%	234	3.1%	1,890	10.7%	644	-6.7%	1,259	14.7%

Numbers are fiscal year end (as of March 31 of the fiscal year)

\*2019/20 numbers are fiscal year to date (as of December 31 of 2019/20 fiscal year)

\*\* 2018/19 CIHR count is as November 30, 2019

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 8.2 Prevention Funding Release to First Nations and Metis
- 888430 – Family Preservation Service Framework

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION (WITH THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR OF CHILD WELFARE)  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Ministry of Children and Family Development is working with First Nations, Inuit and Métis people to reduce the number of Indigenous children and youth coming into government care.
- Out-of-care options are one solution to reducing the over-representation of Indigenous children and youth in care.
- 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 connection to the child, without the child being in the care of MCFD or a Delegated Aboriginal Agency.
- These arrangements 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.
- To support out of care arrangements, in 2019 MCFD increased the monthly rate given to eligible extended family members caring for young relatives to help cover costs for children in their care, keeping kids connected to their families, communities and cultures.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The Extended Family Program provides support when a parent voluntarily and temporarily gives care of the child to another care provider (e.g. family member). Extended Family Program Agreements may be used to support customary care arrangements in Indigenous communities.
- 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 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 administered by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction that supports children to live with relatives when a parent cannot care for them. The program stopped receiving applications 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.

### FINANCES:

- See Section 2.4: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services in the Financial Data Booklet (page 5).
- Alternates to Care budget for 2020/21 is \$66.1 inclusive of Out of Care Kinship, Youth Agreements and Post Majority Supports (see note 999413 regarding Post Majority Supports).

### STATISTICS:

- Following changes to legislation, policy and rates, the total number of Extended Family Program Agreements has increased by 81% in fiscal year-to-date 2019/2020.
- For Indigenous children, use of Extended Family Program Agreements has increased by 92.6% in fiscal year-to-date 2019/2020, increasing from 309 agreements in March 2019 to 595 agreements in December 2019.

### Out-of-Care Services (2015/2016 – 2019/2020)

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 Agreement
2015/2016	1,315 -16%	542 +29%	640 +31.4%	187 +6.3%	765 +52.4%	684 -1.7%
2016/2017	1,099 -16.4%	410 -24.4%	664 +3.8%	204 +9.1%	1,146 +49.8%	648 -5.3%
2017/2018	907 -17.5%	409 -0.2%	725 +9.2%	218 +6.9%	1,381 +20.5%	627 -3.2%
2018/2019	735	440	736	227	1,707	690

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 Agreement
	-19%	+7.6%	+1.5%	+4.1%	+23.6%	+10%
2019/2020*	634 -13.7%	797 +81.1%	696 -5.4%	234 +3.1%	1,890 +10.7%	644 -6.7%

Data Source: Data Booklet for Estimates 2020. Part 4.2: Out-of-Care Services (p. 22). These figures do not include Agreements with Young Adults as this information is included in note # 999413.

Numbers are fiscal year end (as of March 31 of the fiscal year)

\*2019/20 numbers are fiscal year to date (as of December 31 of 2019/20 fiscal year)

\*\*2019/20 CIHR count is at November 30, 2019

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- 6.1 Overview of Post Majority Supports



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Children Out-of-Care Statistics

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- “Out-of-care” placements refer to arrangements in which children are placed in the care or custody of relatives or other significant adults by the “director” under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)*. These arrangements can be by court order or agreement.
- Children placed in out of care arrangements are not in the care or custody of the director.
- Out-of-care placements enable children to be cared for by their extended families and communities rather than by foster parents.
- Out-of-care options provide an alternative to children coming into care and contributes to reducing the over representation of Indigenous children in care.
- Out-of-care providers are provided with financial and other supports.
- The Ministry’s use of out of care placements continues to grow, particularly for Indigenous children.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The Extended Family Program (EFP) 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.
- Youth Agreements support youth ages 16 to 18 to live independently when all efforts to support the youth continuing to live with parents or family have been exhausted.

- Child in the Home of a Relative is an income assistance-based program administered by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction that supports children to live with relatives when a parent cannot care for them. The program stopped receiving applications in 2010, although existing clients may continue to receive financial assistance as long as the eligibility criteria are met.

In April 2019, MCFD increased financial support provided to all out-of-care providers. Support for family members caring for children through the EFP increased by more than 70 percent. This means that EFP care givers are now paid the same rate as other care providers. These increases are part of government's commitment to meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and addresses recommendations in the *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions* report by Grand Chief Ed John.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

**All Children and Youth in EFP, temporary or permanent Out of Care, Youth Agreements, and Children in the Home of a Relative (CIHR)**

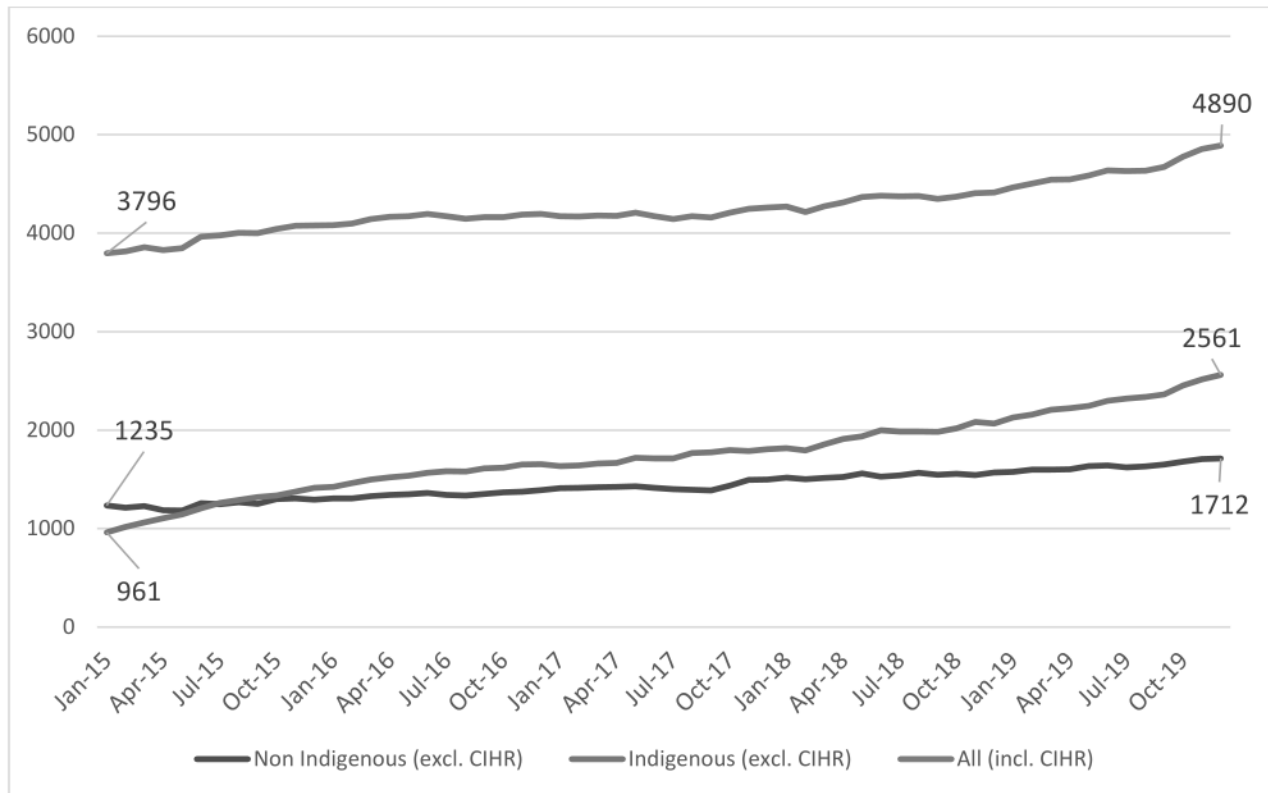
Fiscal Year	Extended Family Program	Out of Care by Court Orders	Sec 54.1	Sec 54.01	Youth Agreements	Children in the Home of a Relative**	Total Out of Care Caseload
2014/2015	420	487	176	502	696	1,565	3,846
2015/2016	542	640	187	765	684	1,315	4,133
2016/2017	410	664	204	1,146	648	1,099	4,171
2017/2018	409	725	218	1,380	627	907	4,266
2018/2019	440	736	227	1,707	690	735	4,535
2019/2020*	797	696	234	1,890	644	617	4,878

Numbers are fiscal year end (as of March 31 of the fiscal year)

\*2019/2020 numbers are fiscal year to date (as of December 31 of 2019/2020 fiscal year)

\*\* 2018/2019 CIHR count is as November 30, 2019

**Children and Youth in Out of Care placements  
(EFP, Court Ordered, YAG, Section 54 and CIHR)**



**Notes:** CIHR data is not available by Indigenous identity so is not included in the Indigenous breakdowns. It is included in the total count.

Total for Dec. 2019 varies slightly from the table above as some data changes retroactively and this graph was produced later.

**All Children and Youth in EFP, temporary or permanent Out of Care, Youth Agreements, and Children in the Home of a Relative (CIHR), by SDA (December 2019)**

SDA	Extended Family Program/Out of Care by Court Orders/Section 54/Youth Agreements		Children in the Home of a Relative*	Total Out-of-Care Services
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous		
SDA 11 - Kootenays	21	61	15	97
SDA 12 - Okanagan	192	221	62	475
SDA 13 - Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	141	154	50	345
SDA 21 - East Fraser	40	166	56	262
SDA 22 - North Fraser	124	141	49	314
SDA 23 - South Fraser	195	285	81	561
SDA 24 - Vancouver/Richmond	62	111	55	228
SDA 25 - Coast/North Shore	96	46	17	159
SDA 31 - South Vancouver Island	131	168	64	363
SDA 32 - North Vancouver Island	213	191	77	481
SDA 41 - Northwest	246	29	26	301
SDA 42 - North Central	328	91	63	482
SDA 43 - Northeast	102	37	19	158
SDA 99 - Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	669			669
<b>Province</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>4,895</b>

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

Note: \* CIHR caseload as of Nov 2019. CIHR managed through SDPR who does not collect the Indigenous identity of CIHR clients

The Provincial OCO caseload includes two children and youth not assigned to an SDA. Thus the SDA total will not be the same as the Provincial count

- The number of children and youth in EFP or temporary out of care arrangements in December 2019 was 1,493. Of these children and youth, 69% are Indigenous.

**Extended Family Program:**

- Of the 1,493 children and youth in EFP or temporary out of care arrangements, 797 (53%) are cared for by relatives under the Extended Family Program.
- Of these 797 children and youth:
  - 595 are Indigenous
  - 202 are non-Indigenous

- The 797 families supported by the Extended Family Program represents an 108% increase from the previous year where the number of families was 384.

### Children and youth in EFP or temporary out of care arrangements, by Indigenous status

(March 2016 to December 2019)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Total	% Indigenous
March 2016	735	447	1182	62%
March 2017	653	421	1074	61%
March 2018	680	454	1134	60%
March 2019	769	407	1176	65%
December 2019	1032	461	1493	69%

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

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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 118 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 1,947 Indigenous children in care in BC (December 31, 2019). Since 2005/06, DAA funding has nearly quadrupled to \$121.99 million as of 2018-19 (\$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: 2019/20 Actual Expenditure Data available upon release of 2019/20 Public Accounts.

All amounts subject to rounding and may not total exactly

Agency	2018/19 Expenditures [Millions]		
	Delegated	Non-Delegated	Total
Ayas Men Men Child & Family Services	2.41	1.25	3.66
Carrier Sekani Family Services A Branch Soc Of The Carrier Sekani Tribal Council	2.93	6.50	9.44
Denisiqi Services Society	0.13	1.14	1.27
Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children And Family Services Society	33.15	4.18	37.33
Gitksan Child & Family Services	0.26	0.34	0.60
Haida Child & Family Services Society	0.00	0.18	0.18
Heiltsuk Kaxla Society2	0.04	0.54	0.58
Knucwentwecw Society	0.70	0.01	0.71
Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Child And Family Service Society	3.48	1.94	5.41
Kwumut Lelum Child & Family Services Society	3.25	1.31	4.56
La Societe De Les Enfants Michif	8.38	1.23	9.60
Lalum'Utul Smun'Eem Child & Family Services	1.98	0.86	2.84
Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family & Community Services Society	2.93	0.94	3.87
Namgis First Nation	0.00	0.51	0.51
Nezul Be Hunuyeh Child & Family Services Society	1.88	0.32	2.20
Nil/Tu,O Child And Family Services Society	0.69	0.53	1.22
Nisga'A Nation	1.87	0.44	2.31
Nilha'7Kapmx Child & Family Services	0.01	0.03	0.04
Northwest Inter-Nation Family & Community Services Society	1.33	0.44	1.77
Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council	5.62	1.50	7.12
Scw'Exmx Child & Family Services Society	2.01	0.65	2.66
Secwepemc Child And Family Services Agency	10.51	1.02	11.53
SPLATSIN FIRST NATION	0.16	0.19	0.35
Surrounded By Cedar Child & Family Services Society	3.90	0.34	4.25
Vancouver Aboriginal Child And Family Services Society (VACFSS)	34.37	2.75	37.12
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>121.99</b>	<b>29.14</b>	<b>151.13</b>

\*\*NOTE: SPLATSIN FIRST NATION DOES NOT OPERATE AS A DELEGATED ABORIGINAL AGENCY, IT OPERATES UNDER THE NATIONS BYLAW.

## STATISTICS: N/A

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- 3.3 Indigenous Children in Care Statistics

Contact: Cory Heavener

Cell: s.17

Date: February 20, 2020

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Culture and Connection in Child Safety and Family Support

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Policy and practice under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) emphasizes the importance of culture in the lives of Indigenous children and youth.
- The CFCSA includes guiding principles that acknowledge:
  - Indigenous families and communities share responsibility for the upbringing and well-being of Indigenous children; and,
  - Indigenous children are entitled to learn and practice their Indigenous traditions, customs and language, and belong to their Indigenous communities.
- These guiding principles are used to interpret and administer all work under the CFCSA, including child protection.
- If MCFD or a DAA become involved through a child protection report, the priority is to find supports, services and interventions that keep families together and provide opportunities for the child or youth to connect to the culture, traditions and customs of their community.
- If a child doesn't have a connection to their community, it is the ministry's responsibility to reach out and find ways to build that connection between the child or youth, their family and community.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The *Child, Family and Community Service Act* acknowledges the need to involve Indigenous communities in the planning and care of their children through greater information sharing and more opportunities for collaboration and engagement.
- MCFD and Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA) staff work in partnership with Indigenous peoples to keep Indigenous children and youth out of care, with their families and connected to their cultures.



- Actively planning ways to keep children and youth connected to their families, communities and culture are a key responsibility of MCFD and DAA staff.
- Part of this is working with Indigenous children, youth and families to promote the child's attachment and emotional ties to family and reassess placement on an on-going basis with a focus on returning the child or youth to a parent or family member.

### FINANCES:

- See Section 2.4: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services in the Financial data booklet. The 2020/21 budget for CS, FS & CIC is \$731.9million.
- Section 2.4 also notes the addition of \$5.0m for Cultural Connections, which has previously been funded out of the New Programs and Contingencies Vote until baselined in the 2020/21 budget.

### STATISTICS:

- In 2019/2020 (as of Dec. 31, 2019) the Ministry received a total of 41,396 protection reports expressing concern for safety or well-being of children.
- The number of Indigenous children and youth in care is going down, with 3,834 Indigenous kids in care – the lowest since 2001.

### Child Protection Response (2019/2020)

	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
2018/2019	67,454	58,036	31,473	2,130	10,210	17,322	1,126
2019/2020*	48,505	41,396	21,490	1,306	7,637	13,740	744

Data Source: Ministry of Children and Family Development. \*YTD as of December 31, 2019

### 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:** Overview of Quality Assurance Programs

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Quality Assurance branch of the Office of the Provincial Director of Child Welfare and Aboriginal Services Division is responsible for delivering quality assurance services for the following program areas - Child and Youth with Special Needs, Child and Youth Mental Health, Community Youth Justice, Adoption, and Child Safety (Resources, Guardianship, Family Service) 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.
- 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;
- *An Outcomes- Based Quality Assurance Program*
  - A new model to develop an Outcomes Based Quality Assurance program is being developed that aligns to the work MCFD needs to do to change how it delivers services so that children and families get better outcomes, to the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework, to the work underway to transform procurement and contracting practices and to the ongoing work on integrated service delivery through the Service Frameworks.
  - A Steering Committee representing a diverse group of individuals has been formed to lead this work. The Steering Committee has representation from eight Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA), Metis Nation of British Columbia, Metis Commission for Children and Families of British Columbia, First Nations not represented by DAA and every division in MCFD.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 3.7 Overview of Delegated Aboriginal Agencies

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Overview of Foster Homes

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) is providing greater supports to keep families together, resulting in fewer children coming into care, but there is still a need for skilled caregivers to care for children who cannot safely live with their parents.
- 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. In foster homes the caregiver resides in the home with the child.
- Foster homes operate under a contractual agreement with the director under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA).

**BACKGROUND:**

- Budget 2019 provided approximately \$64.3 million over three years to boost support payments to foster parents, adoptive caregivers and extended family members caring for children who cannot safely live with their parents, the first increase in 10 years.
- The monthly payment for foster parents (called the “Maintenance Rate”) raised from \$803.81 to \$982.90 for children aged 0-11 and from \$909.95 to \$1,089.04 for children aged 12-18, an increase of \$179.09 or 22.3%.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- On December 31, 2019, there were 5,805 children and youth in care in the province.
- Of the 5,805 children and youth in care, 4,018 were placed in 2,042 of the 2,376 foster homes across the province. Of the 4,018 CYIC in foster homes, 2,805 were Indigenous and 1,213 were non-Indigenous.

- 350 of all foster families had at least one Indigenous foster parent and 649 (605 of the 649 are Indigenous) 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, 2019, 679 new foster parent applications were received by the hub. This includes 165 Restricted Foster home applications, and 514 Regular Foster home applications (source Central Services Hub).

#### Foster homes with active contracts, by SDA (December 2019)

SDA	# of Foster Homes
SDA 11 - Kootenays	65
SDA 12 - Okanagan	185
SDA 13 - Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	141
SDA 21 - East Fraser	109
SDA 22 - North Fraser	111
SDA 23 - South Fraser	218
SDA 24 - Vancouver/Richmond	125
SDA 25 - Coast/North Shore	89
SDA 31 - South Vancouver Island	173
SDA 32 - North Vancouver Island	264
SDA 41 - Northwest	78
SDA 42 - North Central	117
SDA 43 - Northeast	42
SDA 99 - Delegated Aboriginal Agencies <sup>1,2</sup>	652
<b>Province<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2376</b>

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

<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 seven foster homes that are not assigned to an SDA.

- The number of foster homes has decreased from 3,181 in March 2015 to 2,376 in December 2019. Available information suggests that a reduction of the number of children in care, retirement of foster parents and foster parents who have adopted the children in their care are factors contributing to the decrease in foster homes over this period.

**Foster care service providers with active contracts (RAP only) or First Nation foster homes (non-RAP only) over time (2019/20 year to date as of December 31, 2019)**

Month	Indigenous Foster Homes	Non-Indigenous Foster Homes	Total Foster Homes	Percentage Indigenous
March 2011	357	3,243	3,600	9.9%
March 2012	489	3,034	3,523	13.9%
March 2013	473	2,964	3,437	13.8%
March 2014	463	2,812	3,275	14.1%
March 2015	439	2,742	3,181	13.8%
March 2016	404	2,584	2,988	13.5%
March 2017	389	2,438	2,827	13.8%
March 2018	362	2,284	2,646	13.7%
March 2019	369	2,138	2,507	14.7%
December 2019	350	2,026	2,376	14.7%

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

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 3.1 Children in Care Statistics
- 3.3 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:** Infant/Newborn Removals

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- When any children, including newborns (aged up to 12 months old), 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.
- On September 16, 2019, MCFD ended the practice known as hospital or birth alerts. Health care providers and social service workers no longer share personal information about expectant parents without their consent. Instead, they are providing voluntary early supports and preventative services to help expectant parents plan and safely care for their babies.
- These support services include: respite (if there are other children in the home); parent training programs; homemakers; referrals to public health nurses and treatment programs (e.g. addictions). The ministry has close partnerships with Programs like Sheway and Fir Square that provide prenatal and post natal care and a range of supports to women with substance use issues.
- The ministry recently developed a resource tool with Ministry of Health with information to assist social workers to support and promote parents breastfeeding where infants have been removed.
- 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". The ministry has made substantial progress on actions committed to

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in the report that will help mothers and their infants remain together and will improve access to breastfeeding when a child must be removed.

**BACKGROUND: N/A**

**FINANCES: N/A**

**STATISTICS:**

- In the past two fiscal years an average of 111 newborns have been removed within 1 day of birth (116 in 2017/18 and 105 in 2018/19).
- In the past two fiscal years an average of 418 newborns have been removed within 1 year after birth (467 in 2017/18 and 368 in 2018/19).
- During these same years an average of 2,357 children and youth of all ages were removed (2,592 in 2017/18 and 2,122 in 2018/19).
- Since birth alerts ended on September 16, 2019 , 70 newborns were removed within one year after birth (up to Dec. 31, 2019). This includes 13 infants removed within one day of birth.

Removals	MCFD			DAA	Total Indigenous	Grand Total
	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	All			
Up to 1 day after birth						
2017/18	47	52	99	17	64	116
2018/19	48	38	86	19	67	105
Up to 1 year after birth*						
2017/18	192	181	373	94	286	467
2018/19	149	149	298	70	219	368
All removals						
2017/18	971	1,153	2,124	468	1,439	2,592
2018/19	866	879	1,745	377	1,243	2,122

*\*Includes those up to 1 day after birth.*

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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.
- On April 1, 2019, our government implemented the first increase to the Family Care Rate (also called the maintenance rate) in over ten years.
- At this time, we also aligned the basic family care rate paid to caregivers under the Extended Family Program to the rate paid to foster caregivers.
- I am pleased to share that there was a second increase to the maintenance payment to foster caregivers and out-of-care providers, including the Extended Family Program, effective July 1, 2019. This increase was the result of the Canada Child Benefit increasing.
- We continue to look at ways to strengthen the supports provided to meet the needs of the children, families, and caregivers.

**BACKGROUND:**

- These rate increases were the result of many factors including: recommendations from *Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions* and a number of other community partners; extensive engagement throughout the province; and matching of the increase to the Canada Child Benefit.

**FINANCES:**

- 2.4 Core Business: Child Safety, Family Support & Children in Care Services (page 5)

**STATISTICS:****Basic Family Care Rate** (Effective July 1, 2019)

Care Type	Rate Prior to April 1, 2019	Rate as of July 1, 2019	Increase (\$)	Increase (%)
Foster Care Level 1,2,3 (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$994.82	\$191.00	23.8%
Foster Care Level 1,2,3 (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1099.12	\$189.17	20.8%
Regular/Restricted Foster (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$994.82	\$191.00	23.8%
Regular/Restricted Foster (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1099.12	\$189.17	20.8%
Interim and Temporary Custody to Other (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$994.82	\$191.00	23.8%
Interim/Temporary Custody to Other (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1099.12	\$189.17	20.8%
Post Transfer of Custody (S.54) (Age 0-11)	\$803.81	\$994.82	\$191.00	23.8%
Post Transfer of Custody (S.54) (Age 12-18)	\$909.95	\$1099.12	\$189.17	20.8%
Extended Family Program (Age 0-11)	\$554.27	\$994.82	\$428.63	79.5%
Extended Family Program (Age 12-18)	\$625.00	\$1099.12	\$464.12	75.9%
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%

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Ministry Response to Harms Done

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The ministry takes this very seriously and the biggest priority is to protect the interests of children and youth.
- Immediate steps were taken to protect the youth who were affected and to strengthen financial controls, including work to amend our internal controls and procedures.
- The ministry cannot speak to matters that are before the court, but due diligence is being done to ensure those affected are compensated appropriately.
- Supports and services, including counselling, have been offered to the children and youth affected by the social worker's actions and the ministry is committed to working with those youth and their representatives in a way that doesn't cause further trauma.
- The ministry's commitment is very clear in our response to the courts, which is publicly available and outlines the considerable steps we've taken to address this matter.

**BACKGROUND:**

- In December 2017, the ministry's Executive Financial Officer was made aware of financial irregularities involving a social worker in a Kelowna office who was providing guardianship services to children and youth in care and services to young adults on an Aboriginal services team.
- The social worker was hired by MCFD in 1996 and worked in Dawson Creek (1996 and 1997), Fort St. John (1997 – 2001) and Kelowna (2001 – May 2018).
- An investigation by the firm MNP, at the behest of the Comptroller General's office, determined the employee had misappropriated \$345,283 by establishing joint back accounts with youth in care, making deposit assistance payments in the youths' names, and then withdrawing those funds.
- It was later discovered that the employee had falsified their educational credentials at the time they were hired.

- The employee was suspended in January 2018. Employment with MCFD was terminated at the conclusion of the Comptroller General's investigation in March 2018.
- A follow-up investigation into the Okanagan office where the employee worked found no instances of further culpability amongst office staff or local management.
- The Provincial Director of Child Welfare (PDCW) commenced a special review in March 2018. The initial focus was on the children, youth, families and young adults currently on the employee's caseload and then broadened to include former clients.
- The PDCW reviewed a total of 318 files on which the employee had been the assigned social worker, including 167 files for current and former children and youth in care.
- The PDCW's review identified practice concerns in many cases, including but not limited to poor documentation, poor planning overall, poor permanency planning and poor cultural planning for Indigenous children and youth. The review report is currently being written and recommendations will be developed.
- Local support teams are in place to support affected youth 19 years of age and over. This includes connecting them with Indigenous community and culture and providing supports and services as required.
- Civil and criminal action has been initiated against this individual. The police investigation is still underway.
- As of January 15, 2020, 19 individual civil claims have been filed. All except one have been filed by adults who are former children in care who allege to have been negatively impacted. MCFD has filed responses and accepted liability in four of the cases.
- A proposed class action civil claim was filed in BC Supreme Court on November 6, 2018, naming MCFD, the former employee and Interior Savings Credit Union as defendants.
- The following organizations have all been briefed by the PDCW and provided with information requested:
  - The Public Guardian and Trustee has been provided with the names and files of the children and youth in care involved.

- The Representative for Children and Youth is monitoring the ministry's response to this matter and has assigned advocates.
- The Ombudsperson is investigating.
- The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is investigating to determine if privacy has been breached.
- Community Living British Columbia is following up with adults involved who are or may be eligible for services.
- MCFD has initiated actions to strengthen the internal controls framework, addressing recommendations put forth 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 control's framework within the ministry. A review of contracts and payments is also being initiated to address ministry procurement and associated payment practices.
- MCFD is working to establish a process for verifying the academic credentials of applicants as part of hiring.

**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 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Overview of Contracted Residential Agencies (CRA)

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Contracted Residential Agencies (CRAs) are service providers that operate under contract with the ministry. These service providers own or operate residential resources where children or youth in care reside.
- CRAs are part of the system of residential 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 begun to improve its overall system of services and support for children and youth in care – starting with a careful and concentrated focus on overhauling the role of contracted residential agencies in BC.
- The Ministry started a process of modelling planned changes relating to the overhaul of the CRA system and will evaluate key services before implementing these services across the province.
- Additionally, in recent years the ministry has implemented processes to improve the oversight of CRAs. These include:
  - In 2014, a new screening and approval of caregiver policy for approving caregivers;
  - In 2017, implemented a new policy for investigations of reports of maltreatment of children and youth placed in contracted resources requiring that the Provincial Director of Child Welfare oversee all large, complex investigations;
  - In June 2017, 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; and,
- The ministry is continuing to conduct audits of contracted residential agencies that examine their finances, compliance with policy for screening caregivers. Beginning this year, practice audits will be expanded to examine compliance with standards of Ministry workers supporting CRA's.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- From the time that the SRAT was first implemented in June 2017 until the end of December 2019, the ministry has received SRAT questionnaires for 5,906 caregivers employed or sub-contracted by 108 contracted residential agencies. This includes caregivers who worked in one agency and then left to work in a different agency, caregivers who worked in more than one agency at the same time, and 9 agencies that were no longer providing MCFD residential services on December 31, 2019.
- In 2019, the Centralized Services Hub completed criminal record checks and checks on previous contact with child protection services for 6,838 individuals. This included over 5,018 caregivers employed by contracted agencies and another 1,820 people applying to work as caregivers. The completed the backlog of screening for all caregivers working at contracted agencies at the time and now both checks are completed at the time of hiring.
- This fiscal year the Ministry plans to audit 11 CRAs as compared to the audit of 2-3 in the previous years. The ministry determines the order in which CRAs are audited by ranking their level of "health".
- From January to December 2019, 63 Investigations were completed on homes run by 26 contracted residential agencies. 24 of these 63 investigations (38%) were substantiated.

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

#### **STATISTICS:**

- On December 31, 2019, 787 children (381 Indigenous and 406 non-Indigenous) and youth in care were placed in contracted residential resources.
- On December 31, 2019, there were 101 contracted residential agencies operating approximately 479 residences across the province.

- Of these 101 contracted residential resources, 88 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 2019)**

SDA	# of Contracted Residential Service Providers Operating in Each SDA *	# of Contracted Resources or Places of Service
SDA 11 -- Kootenays	4	4
SDA 12 -- Okanagan	8	25
SDA 13 -- Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	7	38
SDA 21 -- East Fraser	24	83
SDA 22 -- North Fraser	17	59
SDA 23 -- South Fraser	26	99
SDA 24 -- Vancouver/Richmond	13	42
SDA 25 -- Coast/North Shore	5	12
SDA 31 -- South Vancouver Island	14	35
SDA 32 -- North Vancouver Island	14	39
SDA 41 -- Northwest	2	3
SDA 42 -- North Central	8	26
SDA 43 -- Northeast	3	11
SDA 99 -- Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	Included above	Included above

Data Source: MAIM – ICM and CABIT for Dec. 2019

\* Of the 101 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).

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: Ministry response to the audit by the Office of the Auditor General (OAG)  
on Contracted Residential Services for Children and Youth In Care**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In the past I have said that we need to overhaul the system, and I welcomed this report as part of that process.
- I agreed with the Auditor General and the ministry accepted the report's four recommendations.
- Prior to the release of the audit, the ministry had already begun to make changes, including:
  - Putting a moratorium on the creation of new contracted residential agencies – none may proceed without senior official approval.
  - Implementing placement committees to review and make recommendations about new placement requests.
  - Improving oversight processes, such as:
    - In 2019, completing over 6,838 background & criminal record checks on existing agency caregivers and new applicants (to safeguard children and youth in contracted residential agencies).
    - Implementing a risk matrix for contracted residential agencies, and annual agency reviews based on matrix results.
  - Engaging an independent consultant to start a comprehensive review of the current state of the ministry's procurement and contract management practices.
  - Changing child welfare legislation, allowing MCFD to share information earlier and give Indigenous communities greater involvement in child-welfare decisions – to help keep their children out of care, safe in their home communities and connected to their cultures.

- Looking forward, the Ministry is:
  - Creating, with our partners, a ministry-wide strategy to build a system where a child or youth in care's needs drive their placement, and ultimately determine what supports they receive – contracted residential services are an integral part of this system. This includes a process of modelling planned service changes, which the Ministry will evaluate before implementing across the province.
  - Transforming our Quality Assurance Framework for contracted residential services, including a comprehensive audit program to review the work of both contracted resources and ministry staff responsible for contracted residential resources. It also includes a qualitative component to receive feedback from children and youth in resources.
  - Enhancing our procurement and contract management framework so contracts are clear, with deliverables that focus on the needs and rights of children and youth in care.
  - Throughout all of this work, the Ministry is working with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and Indigenous communities to clarify roles, in particular related to policy, information sharing, communication and monitoring.
- While there is still a lot of work to do to overhaul the system, we are making progress on all these actions, and I welcome ongoing scrutiny of our action plan.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- The Office of the Auditor General's (OAG) audit on the Oversight of Contracted Residential Services for Children and Youth in Care was released by the OAG on June 19, 2019.
- The Ministry presented an action plan to the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts meeting on October 16, 2019.

#### **STATISTICS:**

- On December 31, 2019, there were 787 children (381 Indigenous and 406 non-Indigenous) and youth in care who were placed in contracted residential resources.
- On December 31, 2019, there were 101 contracted residential agencies operating approximately 475 residences across the province.

- Of these 101 contracted residential resources, 88 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 2019)**

<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	4	4
SDA 12 – Okanagan	8	25
SDA 13 – Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	7	38
SDA 21 – East Fraser	24	83
SDA 22 – North Fraser	17	59
SDA 23 – South Fraser	26	99
SDA 24 – Vancouver/Richmond	13	42
SDA 25 – Coast/North Shore	5	12
SDA 31 – South Vancouver Island	14	35
SDA 32 – North Vancouver Island	14	39
SDA 41 – Northwest	2	3
SDA 42 – North Central	8	26
SDA 43 – Northeast	3	11
SDA 99 – Delegated Aboriginal Agencies	Included above	Included above

- Data Source: MAIM – ICM and CABIT for Dec. 2019
- \*Of the 101 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).

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
SOUTH ISLAND SERVICE DELIVERY AREA  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020**

**ISSUE:** Cowichan (Duncan LSA)

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- MCFD has been working hard to change practice regarding Indigenous children and families.
- In Duncan, we have had some measure of success, with a 7.2% decrease in the number of children in care since last year.
- There has also been an increase in the number of children placed with family.
- We are seeing improvements in Duncan, and we know more needs to be done. So we are working with community partners and Indigenous communities, as well as the Delegated Aboriginal Agencies to continue to make positive changes.

**BACKGROUND:**

- 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/CYSN Team that serves both Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations.
  - 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 needs to come into care, the Ministry works to keep children connected to their family, extended family and culture.
- There are two Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAAs) 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, Halalt and

Lyackson First Nations, on reserve in Cowichan Valley. 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 Furstenau 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 formalize access to "Knowledge Keepers and/or Elders to support the staff to make culturally relevant decisions around child welfare and all other services provided by MCFD.
- 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, Hiiye'yu Lelum (House of Friendship), the Cowichan District Hospital Maternity Clinic, the MLA's office and other professionals who may be involved with specific families.

## STATISTICS:

- Excluding DAAs, there were 141 children and youth in care of the Ministry in the Duncan LSA as of December 31, 2019; 96 are of Indigenous ancestry and 45 are non-Indigenous. This is a 7.2% decrease in the number of children in care from the same time last year.
- Excluding DAAs, there were 19 out-of-care placements in the Duncan LSA as of December 31, 2019. This is a 5.6% increase since the same time last year.
- The table shown below provides statistics on infants in care of the Ministry as of December 31, 2019 (excl. DAAs), where "infants" refers to children under one year of age.

<b>Child in Care Statistics (excluding DAAs) as of December 31, 2019</b>				
	<b>Duncan LSA</b>		<b>Province</b>	
	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>
Number of children in care, all ages	96	45	1,887	1,971
Number of infants in care	3	1	63	76
Percentage of children in care that are infants	3.1%	2.2%	3.3%	3.9%

- The table below shows the number of infant removals (up to one year after birth) for the past three fiscal years:

<b>Infant Removals (Up to one year after birth)</b>	<b>MCFD</b>			<b>DAA</b>	<b>Total Indigenous</b>	<b>Total of All</b>
	<b>Indigenous</b>	<b>Non-Indigenous</b>	<b>All</b>			
Province						
2016/2017	185	209	394	107	292	501
2017/2018	192	181	373	94	286	467
2018/2019	149	149	298	70	219	368
Duncan LSA						
2016/2017	7	7	14	4	11	18
2017/2018	5	3	8	5	10	13
2018/2019	7	3	10	3	10	13

- For the year 2019, the number of incidents involving domestic violence is reported by location in the table below (excluding DAAs):

<b>Location</b>	<b>Incidents involving Domestic Violence</b>	<b>Total MCFD Incidents (all)</b>
Province, MCFD Offices Only	7,865	24,025
Duncan LSA	204	498

- The rate of children in care per 1,000 child population is displayed in the following table, as of December 2019. This rate is inclusive of CYIC in MCFD and DAAs. It cannot be broken down for MCFD only.

<b>Rate of Children in Care per 1000 -as of December 2019</b>	<b>South Vancouver Island SDA</b>	<b>Province</b>
Rate of Indigenous Children in Care per 1,000 Indigenous Child Population	48.7	40.8
Rate of Non-Indigenous Children in Care per 1,000 Non-Indigenous Child Population	3.4	2.4
Rate of Children in Care per 1,000 Child Population	8.4	6.4

**CROSS REFERENCE: N/A**

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR AND ABORIGINAL SERVICES  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** CHOICES Adoption and Pregnancy Counselling Agency

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Office of the Provincial Director of Adoption (the office) continues to work with prospective adoptive parents who were impacted by the cancellation of CHOICES Adoption and Pregnancy Counselling Agency's (CHOICES) license on November 2, 2019.
- The office is working to review all client files that were moved from CHOICES' office to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) office, and will continue to provide information, options and support to families to make their decisions regarding how they wish to proceed with their adoption process.
- Some families have requested that MCFD provide direct financial support to transfer their files to another agency, however, MCFD does not have a mandate to provide intercountry adoption services.
- Intercountry adoption services are provided exclusively through the province's licensed adoption agencies, which operate as independent businesses based on a fee for service model. Costs and associated fees are the sole responsibility of clients.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The Provincial Director of Adoption licenses adoption agencies pursuant to the *Adoption Act* and *Adoption Agency Regulations* to facilitate both domestic and international adoption services, including the placement of children from foreign jurisdictions into approved adoptive homes.
- The Provincial Director of Adoption monitors activities of the licensed adoption agencies through a quality assurance process to ensure the adoption agencies comply with domestic and international adoption laws. This includes consulting on complex cases, reviewing closed files, investigating complaints brought forward by the public, and a re-licensing procedure conducted every three years.



- Agencies submit a package documenting their compliance with the *Adoption Agency Regulations'* licensing requirements which includes, but is not limited to: a business plan stipulating such details as the intended geographical area of BC that the applicant intends to serve; a description of how the services are provided; the expenses the applicant will be funding; and, a proposed fee schedule.
- The initial license is valid for two years.
- To renew a license for a period of six months to three years, the agency's society submits a statement confirming that the information provided in the initial application has not changed, or a statement setting out any changes. Licensed agencies operate on a fee for service basis. Agencies have been facing increasing difficulties as international adoptions are taking longer to complete and fewer countries are placing children for international adoptions.

#### **CHOICES:**

- On January 18, 2019, CHOICES' Board President informed the Provincial Director of Adoption that CHOICES was bankrupt and could not remain open past February 1, 2019, if MCFD did not provide financial support. On February 22, 2019, the agency provided the Director of Adoption with notice to close effective May 31, 2019.
- CHOICES Board of Directors publicly announced on April 3, 2019, that the agency would close as of May 31, 2019. This resulted in current and former clients of CHOICES lobbying the government to support the agency in remaining open and simultaneously garnering media attention.
- The Provincial Director of Adoption worked with CHOICES to develop a two-month transition plan to ensure services to clients remained seamless and to prevent additional costs to families who had paid for services that had not been completed.
- On February 1, 2019, a Services Agreement was developed to provide CHOICES with funds to:
  - Continue providing domestic and intercountry adoption services until a plan was formalized to cease operations;
  - Develop a plan to cease operations by February 15, 2019; and,
  - Support the transition of client files from the agency to other adoption service providers.

- On April 24, 2019, the Board held an extraordinary general meeting. A new Board was elected and voted to rescind the Closure Notice provided by the outgoing Board.
- On August 19th, 2019, CHOICES received a six-month license renewal with conditions. The Provincial Director of Adoption monitored the situation, including meeting with the Executive Director and Board Chair on a monthly basis to offer support with expanding their country program areas and improving their business model. The meetings began in June and ended in August because the Board Chair became ill.
- On September 27, 2019, the Board sent email correspondence and a copy of their *September 2019 cursory Operational Audit* to the Premier and Minister of Children and Family Development, stating that the agency was in financial crisis and had made the decision to significantly reduce operating costs.
- The Provincial Director of Adoption suspended CHOICES license on October 18, 2019, after confirmation from the CHOICES Board of Directors that the agency was not financially viable. 150 active client files and 1100 client files stored offsite came into the control and custody of the Provincial Director of Adoption.
- The license was subsequently cancelled after a hearing was held on November 2, 2019, between the Provincial Director of Adoption and the Board of Directors of CHOICES.
- Families requiring immediate support and services are being supported by the office and other MCFD staff. A process is in place to transfer CHOICES client files to another licensed agency and/or to MCFD based on direction from the clients. Clients were informed of the process by letter on November 21, 2019. A follow up letter was sent in January 2020. Of the 150 files, 11 have been transferred.
- Several former CHOICES clients have indicated that they are seeking legal advice.
- On November 25, 2019 a letter, including an accounts receivable invoice, was sent to the CHOICES' Board of Directors requesting the \$90,000 provided by MCFD in April 2019 be paid back as they did not meet the deliverables of the service agreement. To date no funds have been recouped.

- On December 24, 2019, the Provincial Director of Adoption received written notification that the B.C. Office of the Ombudsperson is proceeding with an investigation and requesting information for review.
- On February 5, 2020, the Provincial Director of Adoption provided the requested information to the Office of the Ombudsperson.
- Given the potential for litigation in relation to CHOICES former clients, the Minister is unable to answer questions on this matter.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

**CHOICES** (Fiscal 2014 to Fiscal 2018)

	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	Total
Birth Parents Served	40	40	41	42	32	195
Total Placements	21	21	25	27	9	103
Out of Country Placements	6	10	3	8	3	30
Domestic Placements	7	4	3	7	3	24
Direct Placements	2	1	1	2	2	8
Section 48 Placements (These children are coming into BC to be adopted-for example children from another province or territory or from a foreign jurisdiction like Japan)	6	6	18	10	1	41

Data Source: CHOICES Annual Statistics

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Our child and youth mental health services are making a significant contribution to government's strategy aimed at expanding and improving child and youth mental health and substance use services.
- The Ministry's child and youth mental health services include:
  - community-based child and youth mental health teams, including Indigenous child and youth mental health teams;
  - residential child and youth mental health services provided through the Maples Adolescent Treatment Centre;
  - early years support and resources for children under six;
  - school mental health services, including Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators (EASE);
  - specialized Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services;
  - some youth substance use services for those involved in the Youth Justice system;
  - contracted services with:
    - Canadian Mental Health Association which provides telephone support for parents whose children experience anxiety or behavioral challenges; and
    - FamilySmart program which enhances the care experience of parents and children through the mental health parent and youth in-residence service.
- Together with physicians, schools, community agencies, other ministries and health authorities, CYMH provides a continuum of services from early intervention through to treatment for youth who are acutely ill. Services are offered through telehealth, in community teams, at hospitals and in residential settings.

- Individual or group treatment, family therapy interventions or in-home support are provided through CYMH teams and Indigenous CYMH teams. Indigenous families can access service through either type of team.
- Urgent issues such as suicidal thoughts are immediately fast-tracked to a mental health practitioner for evaluation and safety planning. In emergency situations, parents and caregivers are encouraged to take their child or teen to the nearest emergency department.
- Families or caregivers do not need a referral to access services; they can attend one of the 100 CYMH walk-in intake clinics across B.C. CYMH practitioners also provide intake services at the eight Foundry centres.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- The Ministry is working with others to improve access to child and youth mental health and addiction services. This includes collaboration with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, social service agencies and the Ministries of Mental Health and Addictions, Health and Education.
- In 2020/21, *A Pathway to Hope* funding will also expand mental health and addictions services through:
  - continued support for early intervention and prevention initiatives;
  - Integrated Service Delivery teams that bring child and youth mental health and addictions services into schools; and
  - Step-up Step-down services that provide transitional care for children and youth as they move into, or leave, intensive hospital-based services.
- In December 2019 The Ministry released the CYMH Service Framework internally to MCFD CYMH staff and also posted this to MCFD's iConnect site. The framework sets out the types of mental health services that will be provided within CYMH teams and service delivery areas across the province. The goal is to ensure access to efficient, effective and culturally appropriate services for all children, youth and their families.

## FINANCES:

- The 2020/21 budget for 2.3) Core Business: CYMH is \$113.6M (Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2020, page 4<sup>1</sup>).
- The 2020/21 budget for 3.2) Overview: CYMH Expanded is \$127.6M (Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2020, page 13<sup>1</sup>).

## STATISTICS:

- Research indicates an estimated 12.6 percent of children and youth aged 4-17 years have mental disorders at any time. In B.C. that is approximately 84,000 children and youth. Seventy percent of mental disorders begin before the age of 25.<sup>2</sup>
- Indigenous children and youth are at higher risk for mental health and addiction challenges due to intergenerational trauma.
- Approximately 29,000 children and youth receive community-based CYMH services annually (almost 27,000 children and youth served fiscal year to date as at December 31, 2019), over double the number who received in 2003.
- As of December 31, 2019, the average wait time for community-based CYMH services provincially from first clinical service was 55.5 days.

### Child and youth clients by phase and Service Delivery Area (April 1,2019 - Dec 31, 2020)<sup>3</sup>

#### 3.1 Child and Youth Mental Health

Unique Clients by Phase, Fiscal Year 2019/20<sup>1</sup> YTD

Province / SDA	Referral	Initial Services	Active	Follow-up	Distinct Clients
Province	4,061	10,099	4,640	3,103	26,712
Kootenays	286	485	246	213	1,230
Okanagan	411	1,675	300	177	2,563
Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	488	895	243	196	1,822
East Fraser	188	1,515	399	278	2,380
North Fraser	577	766	640	460	2,443
South Fraser	822	1,140	598	444	3,004
Vancouver/Richmond					3,912
Coast/North Shore	150	901	217	183	1,451
South Vancouver Island	583	1,181	705	452	2,921
North Vancouver Island	288	1047	632	413	2,380
Northwest	148	509	82	90	829
North Central	154	496	266	98	1014
Northeast	102	585	33	43	763

<sup>1</sup>Unique Community Child and Youth Mental Health Clients, Fiscal Year 2019/20 as at December 31, 2019. Source: CARIS as of January 25, 2020.

<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.

<sup>1</sup> Data Source: Financial Data Booklet 2020, p.1, 4, 13, 14

Note that all amounts subject to rounding and may not total exactly

<sup>2</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>3</sup>Data Source: Modelling, Analysis and Information Management (MAIM)

Note that the data are for the fiscal year to date as of Dec 31, 2019, leaving 3 months to the end of the fiscal year.

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- ADM note 888706 - Pathways to Hope

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** CYSN Service Framework

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Families seeking support for children and youth with special needs face a fragmented system.
- Our government is developing a Children and Youth with Special Needs (CYSN) service framework to guide the delivery of these services to better meet the specific needs of children and youth and their families. The framework will also guide how the entire suite of CYSN programs and services are funded.
- Government understands that this framework cannot be created in isolation and needs to be informed by the experiences of those needing supports, receiving supports and delivering supports.
- That is why research was conducted with a broad range of families and service providers throughout British Columbia to hear the voices from those seeking, receiving and providing CYSN services. We heard:
  - The complement of services is generally right, but more is needed
  - The current system favours families with resources to find and access CYSN services
  - Culturally responsive and trauma-informed services are needed
  - Family support, including case coordination, is desired
  - Families regard a one-stop, hub infrastructure as ideal
- Findings from this research, along with information provided in reports and recommendations from the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth and other organizations, and academic literature were used to prepare a Draft CYSN Service Framework document.
- The framework will be released as soon as possible in 2020.
- Implementation of the service framework will happen in phases over the next number of years.



- 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.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

- Stakeholders have contributed to this project, including the Indigenous Advisory Circle, Provincial Partners Advisory Group (provincial organizations and advocacy groups). These groups have been instrumental in the development of engagement processes and content development of the draft framework.
- In early 2019, over 1,500 individuals shared their experiences with CYSN services through community workshops, phone interviews and research surveys.
- Facilitated consultations were conducted in the fall of 2019 to gather input on the draft framework document, which involved over 270 individuals and included representatives of families, youth, contracted agencies, Indigenous organizations and families, MCFD staff, service providers, physicians, newcomers to BC and others.

#### **FINANCES:**

The 2020/21 Estimates Budget for CYSN is \$410.1 million.

(refer to Financial Data Booklet Estimates 2020, section 2.2, page 3)

#### **STATISTICS:**

There are approximately 78,000 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  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** New Spaces Fund Status

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Coming in to the final year of our 3-year, 22,000 space creation commitment, we are seeking to maximize the number of new child care spaces within our available budget.
- To achieve this goal, we made changes to the New Spaces Fund program.
- The revised New Spaces Fund guidelines for the 2020/21 fiscal year provide guidance about the new cost-per-space threshold and program priorities.
- We have been working with providers under the New Spaces Fund for a year and a half. We know many providers have been able to build quality spaces under \$40,000 per space.
- Since December 2019, staff have been reaching out to providers whose applications have a cost-per-space of \$40,000 or more to help find ways to bring down those costs.
- By reducing the cost per space, more applications can be approved, maximizing the Province's investment and ensuring the highest number of quality child care spaces possible.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Since launching in July 2018, the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund has been enabling the creation of new licensed childcare, helping families who want affordable, quality child care and strengthening communities across B.C.
- In recent months we increased the maximum total funding amounts for non-profit and public-sector organizations. Since that time, the program has experienced a marked increase in the volume and quality of applicants.
- A revised set of funding guidelines have been developed to ensure the Ministry invests in community-based child care in areas where the demand for services are the greatest, and where these investments can produce the greatest number of quality child care spaces. The revised guidelines also transparently communicate the program's updated priorities and conditions for approval.
- These changes include the following enhancements:

- The offering of two calls for Applications – with the first closing in May 2020 and a second in November 2020<sup>1</sup>;
- Priority for projects with a provincially funded cost per space of under \$40,000 to ensure the fund creates as many spaces in as many communities as possible;
- Limiting the costs attributed to professional, administrative and consulting services to no more than 15% of the total provincially funded Project Costs;
- The funding disbursement schedule will be customized for each project, as negotiated between the Ministry and successful Applicants; and
- An increased focus on projects linked to a community child care plan or needs assessment that demonstrates alignment between the proposed child care spaces and the need within the community.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: SSS Vote Child Care Capital**

Fiscal Year (\$millions)	2018/19 Estimates	2019/20 Estimates	2020/21 Estimates	2021/22 Estimates	2022/23 Estimates
Space Creation	20.81	77.21	74.11	74.11	74.11
Modular Spaces		2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Start Up Grants	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>21.31</b>	<b>80.21</b>	<b>77.11</b>	<b>77.11</b>	<b>77.11</b>
Child Care Maintenance Fund <sup>1</sup>	1.36	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20
Other <sup>2</sup>	15.50	7.13	7.13	7.13	7.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.17</b>	<b>88.54</b>	<b>85.44</b>	<b>85.44</b>	<b>85.44</b>

### NOTES:

1. Includes \$0.16M One Time funding for Strong Starts BC Pilots in 2018/19

2. Other: represents Base Funding

## STATISTICS:

- **Table 1: Three-Year New Spaces Fund Targets, Approved Spaces, and Projected Spaces**

2018/19		2019/20		City of Vancouver MOU	Total	
Target	Approved	Target	Approved	Approved	Target	Approved
2,760	2,216	8,250	3,096	2,300	11,010	7,612 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The two calls for applications will replace the current open intake process.

<sup>2</sup> Data are as of December 31, 2019.

- **Table 2: New Spaces Fund – Funded Operational Spaces, 2018/19 – 2019/20**

2018/19	2019/20
860 Operational	155 Operational

Data Source: Capital and Community Services, Early Years and Inclusion. Current as of January 23, 2020.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
CHILD CARE POLICY  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Child Care Plan – Year 3 (2020/21)

**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.
- We are continuing the work we started in 2018 through the launch of the Childcare BC plan. Key activities for 2020/21 include:
  - Streamlining the application process for providers and enhancing transparency for parents within the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative;
  - Updating the New Spaces Fund program guidelines for the 2020/21 fiscal year to maximize the number of new child care spaces and best use the available budget; and
  - Increasing the Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Wage Enhancement to \$2/hour for eligible, front-line ECEs.

**BACKGROUND:**

Priority initiatives for 2020/21 include:

**Continuation of the Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB)**

The 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. As of December 31, 2019, over 48,000 families have been approved for ACCB benefit plans, which represents 56% of the expected uptake by Year 3.

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

Effective April 1, 2020 the Ministry is increasing the Administrative Top-Up Payment component of the CCFRI funding from the current 15% to 20% of the facility's base CCOF funding for those spaces that are part of the CCFRI. This means an additional \$150 per month for a typical<sup>1</sup> fully

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<sup>1</sup> A typical Group Infant/Toddler provider has 12 Infant/Toddler spaces.

enrolled Group Infant/Toddler provider, and \$18 per month for the average Family provider to support their day to day operations.

In addition, the Ministry will implement minor policy and program enhancements to the CCFRI for 2020/21 to enhance transparency for parents and make the application and adjudication process clearer for providers, including:

- Starting the application period in January 2020 (rather than late February as in previous years) to allow more time for providers and the Ministry to negotiate and finalize funding agreements prior to the April 2020 start of program year;
- Posting each facility's approved parent fees on the Government's CCFRI webpage;
- Significantly reducing and streamlining required documentation to reduce administrative burden on providers;
- Strengthening the historical fee increase policy; and
- Clarifying the policy regarding mandatory versus optional fees.

### **Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites**

The Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites initiative launched in November 2018 and is intended to test funding models to support the future delivery of universal child care. As of December 2019, there were 53 sites participating<sup>2</sup> (supporting roughly 2,500 \$10/day child care spaces). These sites are funded under the terms of the Canada-British Columbia Bilateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (ELCC) Agreement; the current funding term will expire March 31, 2020.

The Government of Canada has confirmed its commitment to continuing federal funding for the ELCC Agreement, and to ensuring there are no service impacts for B.C. families during the upcoming renewal and renegotiation of this agreement. The Province is similarly committed to ensuring continuity of federal funding and will be extending contracts of the current Prototype Sites up to March 31, 2021, with no funding gaps for service providers currently in receipt of ELCC support.

The results of a third-party evaluation of this initiative, including a Return on Investment/ Social Return on Investment (ROI/SROI) analysis and recommendations for future roll-out of low-cost child care will be submitted to the Ministry in June 2020. Along with the Ministry's internal evaluations, this analysis will help inform future plans to transition towards universal child care over the next ten years.

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

To maximize the number of new child care spaces that can be created and most effectively utilize the available budget, we made changes to the New Spaces Fund program for the final year of the space creation mandate. The goal in establishing a new set of New Spaces Fund guidelines for the 2020/21 fiscal year (the third and final year of the commitment) is to transparently communicate a newly-modified cost per space threshold and priorities for approval.

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<sup>2</sup> One site has ceased operations as of January 2020, bringing the number of sites to 52.

These changes include the following enhancements:

- The creation of two closed application intakes – one closing in May and a second closing in November;
- The introduction of a provincially funded cost per space maximum of \$40,000 to ensure the fund creates as many spaces through as many projects in as many communities as possible;
- Limiting the costs attributed to professional, administrative and consulting services to no more than 15% of the total provincially funded project costs;
- Negotiation of funding disbursement schedules between the Ministry and successful proponents rather than a fixed formula; and
- An increased focus on projects linked to a community child care plan or needs assessment that demonstrates alignment between the proposed child care spaces and the need within the community.

### **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 announced in August 2019 that the fund was fully subscribed and would be closed until April 2020, except for emergencies (health and safety) or if a program required relocation to remain open.

The Ministry is currently reviewing eligibility, funding criteria, eligible items and strategy for the program in 2020/21. Any changes to criteria will be communicated prior to the new fiscal year.

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

In 2019/20, the provincial CCRR program received an increase in funding of \$5M through the Childcare BC Plan. With this additional \$5M invested in CCRR services for fiscal 2019/20, Procurement Core Policy required all CCRR contracts to undergo a full solicitation process. An Application for Funding was announced and posted from October 17, 2019 to November 28, 2019 to secure contracts for fiscal 2020/21.

### **Early Childhood Educator Wage Enhancement Program**

The Ministry launched the ECE Wage Enhancement Program in 2019, which increased wages for eligible, front-line ECEs by \$1/hour as of January 2019 (and retroactive to Sept 1, 2018 for those that applied for the retroactive payment). The enhancement is increasing to \$2/hour in April 2020. As of November 2019, over 11,000 ECEs have received a wage enhancement, resulting in over \$19M invested directly into improving ECE wages.

### **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 on the development of possible

updated Standards to support an enhanced level of competency for new ECE graduates and form the basis for recognition of ECE post-secondary programs.

### **Inclusive Child Care**

With investments under the federal Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement, the Ministry is working to improve access to inclusive child care for children with support needs. The investment intends to reduce wait times in accessing Supported Child Development (SCD) and Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) programs.

A pilot project testing additional models of funding inclusive child care was launched in December 2018 and is set to end March 31, 2020. As of April 1, 2020, participating inclusion pilot sites will transition from the Inclusion Pilot back to their local SCD/ASCD programs. Learnings from this pilot will inform future approaches to building capacity for inclusive child care.

### **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 that 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.

## **FINANCES:**

**Table 1 Child Care BC Plan Overview- All Ministries**

<b>Fiscal Year (\$M)</b>	<b>2018/199 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2019/20 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2020/21 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2021/22 Estimates Budget</b>	<b>2022/23 Estimates Budget</b>
<b>Budget 2018<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>356.96</b>	<b>463.95</b>	<b>463.95</b>	<b>463.95</b>
New in Budget 2019 <sup>4</sup>		9.26	9.26	9.26	9.26
<b>Budget 2019<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>366.22</b>	<b>473.21</b>	<b>473.21</b>	<b>473.21</b>
New in Budget 2020 <sup>5</sup>				4.60	9.00
Fiscal Adjustments <sup>6</sup>			(20.60)	(20.60)	(20.60)
<b>Budget 2020<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>182.06</b>	<b>366.22</b>	<b>452.61</b>	<b>457.21</b>	<b>461.61</b>

Source: Financial Data Book 3.1B New Child Care Funding tab

#### **NOTES:**

1. \$1,002.97 announced as \$1.0B plan in *Budget 2018*
2. \$1,312.64 announced as \$1.3B ongoing plan in *Budget 2019*
3. \$1,371.43 announced as \$1.4B ongoing plan in *Budget 2020*

#### **Budget Adjustments:**

4. Funding increase for \$9.26M for CCFRI pressure
5. Funding increase for Child Care Staffing Resources: \$4.60M (2021/22); \$9.00M (2022/23)
6. Fiscal Adjustments include:
  - BC Affordable Child Care Benefit: \$(10.00)M (2020/21 -2022/23)
  - Early Childhood Pedagogy Network (former Community Facilitators): \$(5.400)M (2020/21 - 2022/23)
  - Incentives to provide flexible hours: \$(5.200)M (2020/21 - 2022/23)
  - EXCLUDES 1.6% Administrative Reduction



**Partnership Ministries Funding**

Ministry of Education: \$2.25M (2018/19), \$4.02M (2019/20), \$3.45M (2020/21 - 2022/23)

Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills & Training: \$0.090M (2018/19), \$3.69M (2019/20); \$2.79M (2020/21 - 2022/23)

Ministry of Health: \$2.09M (2018/19 - 2022/23)

**Table 2: Child Care BC Plan Overview- MCFD Only**

<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>	<b>2022/23 Estimates Budget</b>
<b>Budget 2018<sup>1</sup></b>	176.82	347.16	455.62	455.62	455.62
New in Budget 2019 <sup>4</sup>		9.26	9.26	9.26	9.26
<b>Budget 2019<sup>2</sup></b>	176.82	356.42	464.88	464.88	464.88
New in Budget 2020 <sup>5</sup>				4.60	9.00
Fiscal Adjustments <sup>6</sup>			(20.60)	(20.60)	(20.60)
<b>Budget 2020<sup>3</sup></b>	176.82	356.42	444.28	448.88	453.28

**NOTES:****Budget Adjustments:**

1. Funding increase for \$9.26M for CCFRI pressure
2. Funding increase for Child Care Staffing Resources: \$4.60M (2021/22); \$9.00M (2022/23)
3. Fiscal Adjustments include:
  - BC Affordable Child Care Benefit: \$(10.00)M (2020/21 -2022,23)
  - Early Childhood Pedagogy Network (former Community Facilitators): \$(5.40)M (2020/21 - 2022/23)
  - Incentives to provide flexible hours: \$(5.20)M (2020/21 - 2022/23)

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

- 2.2 Child Care BC Budget
- 5.3 Child Care Plan Affordability
- 5.4 Child Care Plan Accessibility
- 5.5 Child Care Plan Quality

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**CHILD CARE POLICY**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In Budget 2018, Government 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 through the Childcare BC Universal Prototype Sites.

**BACKGROUND:**

**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, approved licensed providers receive the following monthly amounts for full-time care, in addition to their base Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF), which they are required to pass along to parents in the form of reduced parent fees<sup>1</sup>:
  - \$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; and/or
  - \$60/month for family care for children aged 3 to Kindergarten

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<sup>1</sup> Part-time care is eligible for a pro-rated benefit.

- 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 enrolment in the program.
- For the coming 2020/21 funding term, the Ministry has/will implement the following enhancements:
  - The Top-Up Payment is increasing from the current 15 percent to 20 percent of the facility’s base CCOF funding for those spaces that are part of the CCFRI. This means an additional \$150 per month for a typical<sup>2</sup> fully enrolled Group Infant/Toddler provider, and \$18 per month for the average Family provider to support their day to day operations;
  - To improve transparency around this initiative each facility’s approved parent fees will be posted on the Ministry’s CCFRI webpage;
  - Clarifying the policy regarding mandatory and optional fees;
  - Opened the application period up in January, rather than in late February as in previous years, to give providers additional time to review the program requirements and their funding agreements; and
  - Significantly reduced documentation and enhanced information available online as well as introduced a new online form to better support providers and reduce administrative burden.

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

- On September 1, 2018, the 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>3</sup>.
- 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 (increased from the previous maximum of \$750/month), which better reflects the real cost of child care than the previous amount of support available under the CCS.

<sup>2</sup> A typical Group Infant/Toddler provider has 12 Infant/Toddler spaces.

<sup>3</sup> Based on a two-person family after adjustments are calculated.

- 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.
  - If income tax from the CRA is unavailable for verification, or if a significant change in income has occurred, an applicant may submit an Income Declaration Form as an alternative.
- Under the Child Care Subsidy Regulation, parents must indicate a valid “reason for care” to be eligible for the ACCB, including:
  - working or self-employed;
  - looking for work or participating in an employment-related program;
  - attending school or enrolled in distance education;
  - having 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.

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

- Through the bilateral Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement with the Government of Canada, the Province is investing \$30M/year for two years to convert 53 existing child care sites around the province to prototype low-cost child care and develop the model for how to deliver it in the future.
- Under the ELCC Agreement, the Ministry provides increased operational funding support for the Prototype Sites in exchange for 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. Families that are also eligible for the ACCB may pay even less, or in some cases nothing at all.
- Prototype Sites represent 2,512 licensed, full time, child care spaces as of December 2019 at 53 sites<sup>4</sup> (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;

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<sup>4</sup> One site has ceased operations as of January 2020, bringing the number of sites to 52.

- Not-for-profit organizations, and
- Child care facilities serving traditionally under-served populations.
- Prototype Sites began operating between November and December 2018; current funding agreements will expire March 31, 2020.
- The Government of Canada has confirmed its commitment to continuing federal funding for the ELCC Agreement, and to ensuring there are no service impacts for B.C. families during the upcoming renewal and renegotiation of this agreement.
- The Province is similarly committed to ensuring continuity of federal funding and will be seeking a renewal of the current ELCC funding for the Prototype Sites up to March 31, 2021, with no funding gaps for service providers currently in receipt of ELCC support.
- The Childcare BC Universal Prototype initiative is being evaluated by a third-party evaluator - R.A. Malatest and Associates LTD., a BC-based organization.
- The Ministry received a Preliminary Report from Malatest in January 2020. The report provides information on provider, educator, and parent perceptions on the implementation of the initiative, and on financial and other impacts of the prototype sites.
- The results of Malatest's evaluation of this initiative, including a Return on Investment/ Social Return on Investment (ROI/SROI) analysis and recommendations for future roll-out of low-cost child care will be submitted to the Ministry in June 2020. Along with the Ministry's own internal evaluations, this analysis will help inform future plans to transition towards universal child care over the next ten years.

## FINANCES:

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

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget	2022/23 Estimates Budget
CC Fee Reduction Initiative (CCFRI) and Inflation) <sup>1</sup>	76.73	97.11	127.30	127.30	127.30
Affordable Child Care Benefit (ACCB) <sup>2</sup>	47.00	130.00	160.00	160.00	160.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>123.73</b>	<b>227.11</b>	<b>287.30</b>	<b>287.30</b>	<b>287.30</b>

Source: Financial Data Booklet 3.1B New Child Care Funding tab

NOTES:

1. Includes \$9.26M from Budget 2019 for CCFRI pressure
2. Includes Fiscal Adjustment reduction of \$10.0M for 20/21 from Budget 2020
3. Base Budget 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 December 31, 2020)**

- 91 percent of B.C.'s eligible child care providers have chosen to opt in. Over 59,000 child care spaces (over 92 percent of all eligible spaces) have been approved into the program.
- Since the start of the program, over \$200M has been paid to providers that opted in, including over \$182M in Fee Reduction payments and nearly \$18M in Administrative Top-Up Funding.

### **ACCB (as of December 31, 2020)**

- Over 48,000 families, representing over 64,500 children, have been approved for ACCB benefit plans for at least one month since the start of ACCB.

### **Prototype Sites**

- As of December 2019, 53 Prototype Sites were operating across the BC<sup>5</sup>, representing 2,512 licensed, full time, child care spaces.

## **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 5.2 Child Care Plan

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<sup>5</sup> One site has ceased operations as of January 2020, bringing the number of sites to 52.

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**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 working to bring 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.
- And we've also invested \$18.5 million through the Canada-BC Early Learning and Child Care agreement in the UBCM Space Creation Program to create child care spaces in locations that local governments own or lease on a long-term basis.
- Our various space creation initiatives, including the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, Start-Up Grant program, and the UBCM Community Child Care Space Creation program, are helping us to create more spaces more quickly than ever before.
- Over the past two years, government has funded the creation of more than 10,400 new child care spaces, with thousands more on the way.

**BACKGROUND:**

**NEW SPACES FUND**

- The Childcare BC New Spaces Fund (NS Fund) 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.
- All licensed non-profit, public sector, Indigenous government, and private/for-profit child care organizations are eligible, with the exception of organizations intending to create Occasional Child Care and Child Minding spaces.
- The amount of funding available to non-profit societies, public sector organizations, and Indigenous governments increased in July 2019 in order to support these organizations to offer more spaces. The NS Fund now provides up to a maximum of \$3M to public sector entities – including Indigenous

governments and local governments, up to \$1.5M is available for non-profit societies operating outside a partnership; and up to \$250K to for-profit child care organizations.

- To ensure spaces created under the NS Fund 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 NS Fund payment.
- We've funded the creation of over 7,000 new spaces so far through the New Spaces Funding program.<sup>1</sup>
- Coming into our final year of the space creation commitment, the Ministry is seeking to maximize the number of spaces that can be created within the available budget by making changes to the program.

#### 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 new licensed infant/toddler child care spaces. The Ministry was later approved to reallocate \$4.8M in unspent ELCC funding, increasing the -budget to \$18.5M.
- 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 reviewed applications for the first intake for both the space creation and planning programs, and awarded funding to successful applicants in 2019.
- A second request for proposals for both programs was released in 2019.
- The second intake for the Space Creation Program closed on November 22, 2019, and we expect to announce successful projects in the coming months.

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<sup>1</sup> Data are as of December 31, 2019.



- The second intake for the Child Care Planning Grants program closed January 31, 2020, and we expect to announce successful applicants in the coming months.

#### 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. For-profit child care organizations (including personal residence providers) are now also eligible under the Maintenance Fund.
- In 2018/19, and again in 2019/20, demand from providers was higher than anticipated. As a result, the program fully expended its budget of \$1.2M (plus \$0.75M contingency) much earlier than expected.
- On August 1, 2019, the Ministry announced the Fund was fully subscribed and applications received after this date were only processed if intended to address emergency circumstances that posed a danger to the health and safety of children and/or would cause the closure of a program and required relocation.
- The Ministry is currently reviewing eligibility, funding criteria, eligible items and strategy for the program in order to avoid early closure of the Fund in 2020/21. Any changes to criteria will be communicated prior to the new fiscal year.

#### 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 launched, uptake has been higher than anticipated. As of December 31, 2019, 3,090 spaces have been approved, of which 1,328 are fully licensed and operational.

- The 3,090 approved spaces surpass the two-year target of 1,750 spaces by approximately 77%. Additionally, the approved spaces already surpass the ultimate three-year target of 2,625 spaces by approximately 18%.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Child Care BC Accessibility - MCFD Only**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget	2022/23 Estimates Budget
Child Care space creation <sup>1</sup>	20.81	77.21	74.11	74.11	74.11
Space Impact on ACCB		2.00	5.90	5.90	5.90
Space Impact on CCOF		2.50	12.70	12.70	12.70
Incentives – Licensing (Start Up Grants)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Incentives - Early Childhood Educators (ECEs)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Incentives - Flexible Hours <sup>2</sup>		5.20			
Minor Capital Enhancements	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Staffing to support program <sup>3,4</sup>	4.30	6.60	6.60	11.20	15.60
Strong Starts BC Pilots <sup>5</sup>	0.16				
Grants for Community Planning <sup>5</sup>	3.00				
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.82</b>	<b>95.06</b>	<b>100.86</b>	<b>105.46</b>	<b>109.86</b>

Source: Financial Data Booklet 2021 3.1b New Child Care Funding

### Notes

- Includes Modular Spaces
- Includes Fiscal Adjustment reduction of \$5.2M for 20/21 from Budget 2020
- Includes \$9.0M increase by 22/23 from Budget 2020; also includes Corporate Supports
- Staffing to support Program resides in Executive and Support Services:  
Child Care Program- \$5.740M (19/20 & 20/21); \$10.114M (21/22) & \$14.519M (22/23)  
Corporate Support- \$0.860M (19/20 & 20/21); \$1.090M (21/22) & \$1.081M (22/23)
- One-time funding for 2018/19 only as part of initial plan

## STATISTICS:

**Table 2: Accessibility Program Annual Targets**

	Target 2018/19	Target 2019/20	Target 2020/21
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

Data Source: Capital and Community Services, Early Years and Inclusion

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 2.2 Child Care BC Budget
- 5.1 New Spaces Fund Status
- 5.7 Child Care Space Shortage

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Quality is an important aspect of any Universal Child Care system, and under the Childcare BC plan, we have made investments in several areas to improve quality, in addition to access and affordability.
- In September 2018, Government announced the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy (the Strategy) to increase the number of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) in the workforce.
- A key feature of that Strategy is to increase the wages offered to ECEs working in child care. Beginning April 1, 2020, eligible ECEs can receive \$2 per hour in wage enhancements.
- We have established bursary programs that have resulted in over 5,400 bursaries for students taking post-secondary education to get their ECE certificate.
- We have invested in professional development opportunities and expanded a teaching and learning network for ECEs to enable them to continue to improve their practice and support their professional development.
- In addition to supporting ECEs, we have invested in a number of other quality initiatives such as working with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) centres to ensure best possible community supports for families and service providers.
- We know we need to continue to work with the sector and continue to explore ways to grow the number of ECEs, but these historic investments are laying a foundation we can build from.

**BACKGROUND:**

The initiatives within the Strategy include:

- **ECE Wage Enhancement Program:** Offers \$1/hour as of January 2019, increasing to \$2/hour in April 2020 for eligible front-line ECEs. Since the program start, over 11,000 ECEs have received a wage enhancement, resulting in over \$19M invested directly into improving ECE wages.

- **Professional Development Funding:** Through the Canada-BC Early Learning Child Care Agreement, \$6.3M has been allocated to ensure that ECEs have access to high quality professional development, training, including enhanced opportunities for those living in rural and remote communities.
- **ECE Standards of Practice and Occupational Standards Project:** exploring updating of the Standards to support an enhanced level of competency for new ECE graduates and form the basis for recognition of ECE post-secondary programs.
- **ECE Education Support Fund:** \$15.9M investment through the Canada-BC Early Learning and Child Care agreement into the ECE Student 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. Over 5,400 bursaries awarded so far (includes applications up to the Oct 11, 2019 cut-off date). Final Fall 2019 statistics, including newly funded waitlist recipients, will be available in March.
- **Early Childhood Pedagogy Network:** Thirty-two educators – known as Pedagogists – have been hired to deliver ongoing professional learning, enabling ECEs to explore curriculum philosophies, share ideas and learn from each other’s experiences. Each Pedagogist will work with up to 45 ECEs. By providing continuous learning, the initiative moves away from one-time training opportunities, like workshops, to a system where professional development is done daily and in the context of individual child care programs.
- In addition to the initiatives outlined under the Strategy, the Ministry has made targeted investments to support and enhance quality in early care and learning programs, including:
  - **Child Care Resource and Referral Program:** In 2019/20, the provincial CCRR program received an increase in funding of \$5M through the Childcare BC Plan. With this additional \$5M invested in CCRR services for fiscal 2019/20, Procurement Core Policy required all CCRR contracts to undergo a full solicitation process. An Application for Funding (AFF) was announced and posted from October 17, 2019 to November 28, 2019 to secure contracts for fiscal 2020/21. Current CCRR contracts have been extended for up to 6 months, April 1 –

September 2020 to allow adequate time for contract negotiations, program start-up and service transition.

## FINANCES:

**Table 1: Quality - Child Care BC Plan Quality - MCFD ONLY**

Fiscal Year (\$M)	2018/19 Estimates Budget	2019/20 Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates Budget	2021/22 Estimates Budget	2022/23 Estimates Budget
Wage increases for ECEs <sup>1</sup>	21.00	21.00	41.78	41.78	41.78
Early Childhood Pedagogy Network <sup>2,3</sup>	0.22	4.31	4.80	4.80	4.80
Training for Early Learning Framework & for FCC providers		0.10	0.70	0.70	0.70
Enhance CC Resource & Referral centres		5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Data Collection <sup>4</sup>	0.45	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.74
Stakeholder Engagement & Information	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
System Enhancements	1.50	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
<b>TOTAL Budget 2020</b>	<b>23.27</b>	<b>34.25</b>	<b>56.12</b>	<b>56.12</b>	<b>56.12</b>

Source: Financial Data Booklet 3.1B New Child Care Funding Tab

### NOTES:

1. Includes Professional Development for unionized staff
2. Formerly referred to as Community Facilitators
3. Includes Fiscal Adjustment reduction of \$5.4M for 2020/21 from Budget 2021
4. \$0.54M of this funding was redirected to Staffing Resources

## STATISTICS:

- See the Background section.

## CROSS REFERENCE:

- 5.2 Child Care Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** ECE Shortage

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Ministry is aware that there is a significant shortage of Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) throughout British Columbia to staff child care facilities and ensure proper child to staff ratios.
- In 2018, our Ministry projected the need for an additional 12,000 ECEs and other child care professionals over ten years in order to expand the availability of licensed child care and achieve the ambitious targets set in the Childcare BC Plan.
- We have received concerns from the child care providers who are unable to recruit and retain qualified ECEs to support their facilities. We are aware there have been instances where facilities had to cease or reduce operations due to a lack of qualified ECEs.
- In order to address the concerns of the Early Care and Learning sector and support the space creation targets in the Childcare BC Plan, Government announced the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy (the Strategy) in September 2018.
- In 2018, Government invested \$136 million over three years to support the recruitment and retention of ECEs, as a first step in a long-term commitment to improve supports for ECL professionals throughout the province.

**BACKGROUND:**

- As part of the Strategy, the ECE Wage Enhancement initiative provides an hourly wage enhancement for front-line ECEs who provide direct care to children in eligible licensed child care facilities to incentivise individuals looking to acquire or maintain ECE certification.
- Through the Canada-BC Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (ELCC) we have invested \$15.95 million in the ECE Education Support Fund. The Education Support Fund is administered by the Early Childhood Educators of BC. This program contains both the ECE Student Bursary (up to \$4,000/semester for

tuition, books, materials), and the new ECE Workforce Development Bursary (up to \$5,000/semester for current child care staff to upgrade, including wage replacement for practicum leaves).

- The ELCC Agreement also allocated \$6.3 million to increase the number of training and professional development opportunities, and the availability of existing opportunities across British Columbia to support the ongoing learning and development of ECL professionals.
- The federal government has committed to additional funding for the next ELCC agreement to support ECE training. We look forward to working with them on a proposal for BC.
- We are working with our partners across government to find ways to further support more individuals looking to enter the ECL sector and obtain ECE certification.
- In partnership with AEST,
  - \$7.4 million is being invested over three years (2018 – 2021) to add up to 620 new ECE graduates by 2021:
    - As part of this investment, in 2018/19, twelve public post-secondary institutions around British Columbia received \$1.2M through the seat expansion investment to expand their ECE programs by 182 new student spaces, followed by \$2.7M in 2019/20 that added an additional 314 student spaces across B.C.
    - \$0.628M has been provided to pilot six ECE Work-Integrated Learning programs at public post-secondary institutions. Five of the six pilots are in progress to test the feasibility of alternative pathways to training ECEs to better support and encourage the current childcare workforce to upgrade qualifications while remaining employed. Interim evaluation results are expected in March 2020, followed by final reporting in June 2021.

## FINANCES:

Please refer to background & statistics sections.



**STATISTICS:**

- There are currently 19,951 active ECE certifications with the ECE Registry and 7,659 active ECE Assistant certifications<sup>1</sup>. Certifications are renewed on a five year cycle. Not all individuals with active certifications are working in child care.
- The Ministry has provided over \$19 million in funding to child care providers to deliver the ECE Wage Enhancement to more than 11,000 ECEs since the programs start.
- Approximately 5,400 bursaries have been awarded by the Oct 11, 2019 cut-off date. Final Fall 2019 stats, including newly funded waitlist recipients, will be available in March.
- In 2018/19, twelve public post-secondary institutions around British Columbia received \$1.2M through the seat expansion investment to expand their ECE programs by 182 new student spaces, followed by \$2.7M in 2019/20 that added an additional 321 student spaces across B.C.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

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<sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 2019

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
EARLY YEARS AND INCLUSION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Child Care Space Shortage

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government recognizes the challenges many parents face when trying to find licensed child care.
- 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, and it's bad for families and for communities.
- That's why this Government is committed to creating more child care spaces, and to bringing universal child care to all British Columbians.
- Through our space creation efforts, we have funded more than 10,400 additional licensed child care spaces as of December 31, 2019.
- In addition, through the Childcare BC Maintenance Fund, we have supported 1,523 facilities to maintain operations, or to relocate, ensuring spaces remain in operation. This helps to ensure quality spaces are available for families who need them.
- A key barrier to supporting space creation is a shortage in the supply of qualified Early Childhood Educators. In September 2018, Government released the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy, and we are now implementing a series of initiatives to increase recruitment and retention of educators.

**BACKGROUND:**

- s.13
- However, a 2015 Parent Child Care Survey indicated that as many as 57% of families are either currently using child care or would use child care if it was affordable and accessible to them.

- As part of Budget 2018, the Ministry provided \$3M to deliver grants to communities to develop local community child care plans. The Union of BC Municipalities is distributing the funding to local governments.
- The Ministry has begun receiving completed plans from communities and has begun the process of analyzing them to help identify communities where child care shortages are most acute.
- Government has also conducted a survey with parents to better understand how the Childcare BC plan is being experienced by families. Information from the survey will help to inform commitments that are yet to be implemented and further program refinements.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

**Table 1. Spaces as of December 31, 2019**

<b>Categories (example: SDA or type of service)</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Child Care Major Capital (spaces)	2,893	N/A	N/A
Childcare BC New Spaces Fund (spaces)	N/A	2,216	3,096
City of Vancouver MOU (spaces) <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	2,300
Childcare BC Start Up Grants (spaces)	N/A	1,666	1,424
Neighbourhood Learning Centres (spaces) <sup>2</sup>	369	391	443

Data Source: Capital and Community Services, Early Years and Inclusion. Current as of January 30, 2020.

<sup>1</sup> City of Vancouver MOU child care spaces are funded from the BC New Spaces Fund but broken out into their own row here.

<sup>2</sup> Data current as of January 8, 2020.

**Table 2. Approved facilities**

<b>Categories (example: SDA or type of service)</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
Childcare BC Maintenance Fund – previously known as the minor capital program (approved facilities)	<b>N/A</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>803</b>

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 5.2 Child Care Plan

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: Overview of Post-Majority Supports**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- I know that children and youth who were involved with the child welfare system are some of this province's most vulnerable citizens and many require additional support when transitioning to adulthood and achieving their goals.
- My ministry, in partnership with other ministries and community organizations, offers several programs and services to young adults over the age of 19 to support them through this complex transition.
- The ministry continues to look at innovative and proactive ways to improve supports to transitioning youth and young adults, both internally, with other ministries and community service partners.
- The Ministry is expanding on the changes it has made to the Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) program this year, expanding eligibility to align it more closely to the tuition waiver program.
- Some of these programs and services include: Agreements with Young Adults Program (AYA), Youth Education Assistance Fund (YEAF), Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (PTWP), Youth Futures Education Fund (YFEF), WorkBC, AgedOut.com, and Mobility for Good (M4G) program.
- Eligible young adults who were in care of a Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA) can also access these post-majority supports.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The AYA program provides eligible young adults, between the ages of 19 and 26 inclusive, with financial support on a needs-based assessment to cover daily living costs while attending a post-secondary education program, vocational program, rehabilitation program or approved life-skills program.
- YEAF supports young adults between the ages of 19 and 24 who were former youth in continuing care. Young adults are encouraged to engage in vocational training or post-secondary education in instances where they require additional funding not provided through a tuition waiver (for example, private institutions, or schooling outside of the province).
- Eligible young adults may be able to access both AYA and YEAF.

- PTWP is managed in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST) and waives tuition and mandatory fees for youth formerly in care while attending a B.C. public post-secondary educational institution, Native Education College, or one of 10 eligible union trades training centres.
- YFEF has been established to provide a grant to recipients of a provincial tuition waiver with access to supplemental educational funding for expenses such as books, housing, utilities, or emergency situations. In the reporting period of October 2018 to November 2019 a total of \$432,288.16 was disbursed to 449 students.
- The Learning Fund for Young Adults (LFYA) is a low barrier alternative source of educational support for children in care that was set up to mirror what is available through the BC Training and Education Savings (BCTES) Grant. Many children and youth who have had significant involvement with the B.C. child protection system would not have the opportunity for the BCTES Grant because it requires a parent, relative or guardian to open a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) on their child's behalf. The first disbursements from the LFYA fund will begin in 2023.
- AgedOut.com is hosted by the Adoptive Families Association of British Columbia (AFABC) and funded by MCFD. AgedOut.com provides an up-to-date online resource for current and former youth in care to support them in their transition to adulthood. Additionally, AgedOut.com employs connectors, individuals with lived experience, who are contracted by AgedOut.com to host workshops with young adults about AgedOut.com and support information sharing.
- TELUS, in partnership with Children's Aid Foundation of Canada (CAFC), administers the M4G program which provides eligible youth transitioning from care with a free phone and a data-plan at zero cost for 24 months. At the end of their term, young adults have an option to continue indefinitely on a low-cost (\$35/month) data plan. The administration of the M4G program transferred from MCFD to CAFC in the last year. Additionally, eligibility was expanded to provide this opportunity to more young adults with care experience. From May 21, 2019 to December 31, 2019 CAFC received 625 applications for the M4G program. Of the received applications, 524 have been approved and 347 cell phones and data plans have been activated.
- AEST has selected Morneau Shepell to create and operate a free 24/7 mental health counselling and referral service for post-secondary students at all public and private post-secondary institutions in B.C. Launch of the service is expected in Spring of 2020.

- The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction recently expanded their WorkBC Employment Services to young people in and from care ages 16-30. This expansion includes access to WorkBC Employment Services in their last year of school (at any level), as well as access to unlimited Personal Counselling for Employment Readiness for up to one year, post-employment.
- MCFD partnered with the Ministry of Citizens' Services and IBM Canada, through one-time only funding of \$150,000, to provide free laptops to young adults from government care who were transitioning to adulthood. As of 2019, 369 Laptops were provided to young people, 182 of which were provided by DAAs. While all laptops have been distributed and this pilot program is now complete, young adults receiving AYA supports can still access funding through the program to purchase reasonably priced laptops.
- The Take the Wheel pilot program was a partnership between MCFD, ICBC, and Federation of BC Youth in Care Networks. The goal of the program was to provide youth in care with support to obtain their driver's licence. 12 youth received a License Support Bursary and 76 youth received a Driver's Training Bursary. There is no further program intake. However, those participating in the program will receive support until March of 2021.
- Work is underway to develop a Youth and Young Adult Transition Service Framework which will articulate what services youth and young adults and their families can expect to receive from MCFD.

#### **FINANCES:**

- 2019/20 AYA Budget is \$16.2M and actual expenditures for AYA are \$9.0M as at December 31, 2019.

**STATISTICS:****Access to Post-Majority Supports (Fiscal Year 2019/2020 to December 31, 2019)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>2019/2020 (to December 31<sup>st</sup>)</b>
AYA (open files)	1,259
YEAF (disbursements provided)	186
PTWP (total waivers provided)	925
YFEF (students receiving funding)	449*
AgedOut.com (user count)	4,255
M4G (phones activated since May 21, 2019)	347

Data Source: AYA, MAIM, MCFD; YEAF, AEST; PTWP, AEST; YFEF, United Way; AgedOut.com, MCFD; M4G, Telus

\*Reporting period is Oct 2018 to Nov 2019.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Agreements with Young Adults Program (AYA)

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Children and youth who are involved with the child welfare system are some of this province's most vulnerable citizens.
- Yet we know that many young adults who leave care do not get the support that they need to succeed, and I am committed to changing this.
- Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) is the only legislated program that we offer to those who are 19 years of age and over.
- Yet young adults have told me that the AYA program is too restrictive and they need flexibility within the program that considers their unique and holistic needs.
- To address this, in 2018 we enhanced the AYA program to provide more support to young adults. By increasing the upper age limit for eligibility to 27 years, increasing the maximum monthly support rate by \$250, and providing support for a full calendar year, young adults have the flexibility to enter the program when they are ready.
- I am pleased to share that my ministry has also expanded the AYA program to make it available to more young adults who are transitioning out of care and need support, not just a few.
- This expanded eligibility will directly benefit more Indigenous young adults as they represent the majority of youth in out of care placements.

**BACKGROUND:**

- AYA is 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*.
- As part of continued efforts to improve AYA and support all youth aging out of care who need it, not just a few, eligibility for the program will be expanded to now also include:

- any young adults who spent 24 cumulative months in any care status when they were between the ages of 12 – 18 (up to their 19th birthday), and
- any young adult who was adopted or had their custody permanently transferred to someone other than their parent at any point between the ages of 12-18 (up to their 19th birthday).
- Currently, young adults can access AYA up to their 27th birthday.
- To receive AYA, 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.
- Young adults enrolled in multi-year educational or vocational programs may access AYA funding over scheduled program breaks, such as summer months, if they are enrolled in and plan to attend the program after the break.
- Since 2018, work has been underway to understand the current state of youth transitions across the province and propose improvements to the AYA program.

#### **FINANCES:**

- 2019/20 AYA Budget is \$16.2M and actual expenditures for AYA are \$9.0M as at December 31, 2019.

#### **STATISTICS:**

- AYA has had multiple expansions and resulted in doubling the number of young adults who have benefited from the program.
- The number of young adults taking advantage of AYA has increased as a result of the addition of life skills training as an eligible program, the introduction of provincial tuition waivers, increased payment rates, increase in length of the program and increased awareness of the program among social workers.
- As of December 31, 2019, there were 1,259 open AYA files.

**Number of Young Adults on AYA (2014 – December 2019)**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Number of Young Adults on AYA</b>
2014/2015	553
2015/2016	607
2016/2017	774
2017/2018	933
2018/2019	1,098
2019/2020	1,259 (as of December 2019)

Data Source: Out of Care Services - Ministry of Children and Family Development

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 6.1 Overview of Post Majority Supports

**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. The combined staffed capacity for the centres is 108, with 24 at Prince George and 84 at Burnaby.
- Burnaby Youth Custody Services also operates a four-bed interim holding unit in Victoria to assist with transportation requirements between custody and court.
- 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 and are inappropriate 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.
- 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.
  - Currently, approximately 100% of youth in custody are seen; whereas historically, roughly 66% of youth in custody were seen by YFPS.
  - In addition, approximately 75-80% of community youth-justice clients are receiving services from YFPS.
  - Similarly, most 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:**

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Statistics provided in the table below for Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services (YFPS) 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, 80% of youth receiving services are male and 20% youth receiving services were female.
- On average, 35% of the youth receiving services through YFPS were of Indigenous ancestry.

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#### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **7.2 Overview of Community Youth Justice Services**

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 Cell phone: 617-212-2222  
 Date: Feb.9, 2020

**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 are deemed to be in conflict with the law. In an effort to rehabilitate youth, youth probation officers supervise, and support youth involved in the criminal justice system by providing services that promote prosocial 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:
  - intensive support and supervision programs;
  - substance abuse treatment;
  - mental health assessment and services;
  - restorative justice services; and
  - a range of full-time attendance programs (FTAPS) as an alternative to custodial sentences.
- 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 14 centrally managed FTAPs (total 56 beds FY 2019/20) located across B.C. with different focuses including: sexual offences, substance use, and general rehabilitation.
- There are also gender-specific and Indigenous youth focussed FTAPs available within the province.

**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:**

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## **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- **7.1 Overview of Youth Custody Services**

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Date: Feb.9, 2020



**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT DIVISION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Overview of First Nations Jurisdiction

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- On January 1, 2020 the federal legislation *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* (the “Federal Act”) came into force. The Federal Act affirms the rights and jurisdiction of Indigenous peoples in relation to child and family services.
- The Federal Act enables Indigenous groups and communities to transition towards exercising partial or full jurisdiction over child and family services.
- The work of the Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group (TWG) continues and for 2019/2020 has been keenly focused on the development and implementation of the Federal Act. In addition, work has focused on the alignment of principles between the federal and provincial legislation, fiscal planning, and the potential development of a First Nations-led institute on jurisdiction and implementation.
- The Ministry is engaged with individual First Nations to have ongoing discussions regarding jurisdiction and governance.
- Many of the individual First Nations in discussions with the Ministry are contemplating the Federal Act as a mechanism for exercising jurisdiction.

**BACKGROUND:**

- 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 (FNLC) to address jurisdictional and funding frameworks for Indigenous child welfare.
- In the fall of 2016, the 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 Attorney General], the Government of Canada, and FNLC (which itself is comprised of representation

from the First Nations Summit, BC Assembly of First Nations, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs).

- The TWG has a signed Terms of Reference, a Reconciliation Charter, and an updated 2019/2020 Workplan and Workplan Addendum outlining the work. As per the Workplan Addendum, the TWG established two sub-committees in 2019: child welfare practice and fiscal relations/funding.
- Beginning in approximately early 2017, the PIE, formerly the Indigenous Engagement Branch, began to engage in exploratory discussions with Indigenous communities wishing to exercise jurisdiction over child welfare. However, prior to the Federal Act, there was not a clear legal mechanism for this to occur outside of treaty or self-government agreements.
- Ongoing engagements include the following:
  - 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 (as represented by the Wet'suwet'en Treaty Office Society in care of the Hereditary Chiefs, Witset First Nation and Hagwilget Village Council), 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 (both 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.
  - In January 2019, a trilateral letter of understanding was signed by Cowichan Tribes, MCFD and Canada (both ISC and 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 Lake Babine First Nation through the 25 Year Foundation Agreement signed by MIRR to support discussions in the social-cultural area.
- The Huu-ay-aht First Nations (a modern treaty nation under the Maa-nulth Final Agreement) is working with Canada and the Province (MCFD and 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.
- PIE 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 Indian Band, Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council and Tâilhqot'in Nation.
- 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.

## **FINANCES:**

- The following communities were provided with grant funding in 2019/2020 to support discussions on jurisdiction and engagement:
  - Wet'suwet'en Treaty Offices Society - \$30,000
  - Métis Nation BC - \$500,000
  - Secwepemc Nation Tribal Council - \$300,000
  - Cowichan Tribes - \$30,000
  - Huu-ay-aht - \$30,000
  - South Island Indigenous Authority - \$100,000
  - Penticton Indian Band - \$30,000
  - Splat'sin First Nation - \$30,000

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 8.5 Tripartite Working Group
- Splatsin By-law and Agreements (ADM note)
- 8.3 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.
- The table is currently working on a terms of reference to define the working relationship between the three parties and to determine how the federal

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Date: February 20, 2020

legislation *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* will affect the path towards jurisdiction for Cowichan Tribes.

- Cowichan Tribes has also indicated an interest in signing a sec. 92.1 information sharing agreement under the provincial *Child, Family and Community Service Act*.

**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 Nuuchahnulth 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.
- 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).
- Given the civil claim by Splatshin (in abeyance by agreement), the Province wanted to ensure the wording in the MOU did not jeopardize the Province's legal position in any way.
- 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.

- 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.

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**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)

Page 11 of 13

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Date: February 20, 2020

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.
- With the recent enforcement of the court injunction ordering access for Coastal GasLink to Wet'suwet'en territory, Wet'suwet'en's resources have been stretched understandably thin; however, a technical working group meeting is set to move forward for February 2020 and a leadership table meeting in March 2020.

#### **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.30/20	Feb.27/20
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	Jan.28/20	
Ktunaxa Nation	Dec.16/19	Feb.24/20
Lake Babine	Jan.24/20	Mar. 4/20
Métis	Jan.27/20	Mar.2/20
Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw	Jan.22/20	Mar.9/20
Wet'suwet'en	Jan.21/20	Feb.27/20
Splatsin	Mar.1/19	
Secwepemc Nation Tribal Council	Dec.12/19	
Sto:lo	Jan.10/19	
South Island Indigenous Authority	Jun.10/19	Feb.12/20 (cancelled and to be rescheduled)

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- For the third consecutive year, MCFD released \$30,000 in Prevention and Family Support funding to each of the 201 First Nations and 7 Métis organizations in BC.
- For the 2019/2020 fiscal year, 179 Métis organizations and First Nation communities either had funding renewed or applied for and received the Prevention and Family Support grants.
- This year, to streamline the Prevention and Family Support funding process and minimize barriers for Métis organizations and First Nation communities to continue to deliver prevention and family support services, funding was released to communities in the form of a grant.
- First Nation communities that were not approved or did not apply last fiscal year were invited to submit a proposal and apply for the grant this year resulting in 11 newly funded First Nation communities.

**BACKGROUND:**

- 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 (Now Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada) 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 201 First Nations and 7 Métis organizations for the delivery of

community based, family support and prevention services in community.

- The first 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.
- In 2017-2018, 149 Métis and First Nation communities received Prevention and Family Support Funding.
- In 2018, the funding was re-released through a contract renewal to every community who had been approved in 2017/2018. Invitations to apply were extended to those communities who had not been approved or did not apply. 151 Métis and First Nation communities received Prevention and Family Support Funding.

#### **FINANCES:**

- Of the assigned budget of \$6.4M (\$6.1M for First Nations and \$0.3M for Métis Organizations), \$5.31 million was disbursed in grant funding for 2019-2020.
- The remaining funding is available for other ministry priorities and for those communities who may still submit a proposal.

#### **STATISTICS:** N/A

#### **CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 3.3 Indigenous Children in Care Statistics

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

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

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In June 2018, Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC) and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) signed a Joint Commitment document that commits the parties to collaboratively work towards MNBC authority over child welfare for Métis children and families in BC. MNBC set an aspirational goal of three years to achieve the required authority.
- While the goal continues to be Métis authority over child and family services, MNBC and the Métis Commission for Children and Families of BC (the Métis Commission) 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 the Ministry of Métis Children and Families at MNBC was delegated to review cases and provide systemic and case-specific advice to the Director for Métis children in care.
- Recently, the work has focussed on determining the best way for MNBC to have a more formal leadership role in the provision of child welfare services to Métis children.

**BACKGROUND:**

- MNBC is generally regarded as the political voice for Métis people in BC. Clara Morin Dal Col is the President of MNBC, Christopher Gall is the Acting Chief Executive Officer of MNBC and Judy Smith is the Director, Ministry of Métis Children and Families.
- The Métis Commission 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.



- In September 2016, MNBC, the Métis Commission and 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 the five principle Métis service providers in BC:
  - *Métis Family Services* 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* in Victoria provides contracted culturally based support services to MCFD clients and other Métis people on Vancouver Island. They are actively working toward achieving delegation for Métis children on southern Vancouver Island.
  - *Kikino Métis Children and Family Services* 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* 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 provides contracted cultural and family support services to MCFD clients and other Métis people in the Kelowna area.
- The MOU established the Métis Working Table to identify, discuss and strategize to address systemic issues concerning services to Métis children and families in BC.
- A second table, the Métis Practice Table, was established 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.

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**FINANCES:**

- \$ 500,000 paid to Métis Nation British Columbia in FY2019/20 for engagement with First Nations and Métis on Jurisdiction discussions and MOU/Commitment document implementation; and \$ 500,000 in FY18/19 in DMO Division.
- \$ 101,540 funding to Métis Nation British Columbia in PDCW division.

**STATISTICS:**

Number of Metis identified Children and Youth on Dec. 31, 2019

<b>Legal Authority</b>	<b>MCFD</b>	<b>DAA</b>	<b>Total Metis Identified C&amp;Y*</b>
In Care	335	170	505
Out Of Care (EFP, Court Ordered)	94	39	133
Supervision	54	17	71
Transfer	3	2	5
Youth (includes YAG)	35	25	60
<b>Total Metis Identified C&amp;Y*</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>774</b>

\*Based on the child's origin code in ICM

Does not include 201 Metis identified Children and Youth in section 54 agreements

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:**           UNDRIP Legislation  
                  BC Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (the Declaration Act) establishes the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation in BC, and works in conjunction with the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) and the federal *Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* to guide work to help keep Indigenous children out of care, and with their families and communities.
- British Columbia is the first province to put the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples into action and law.
- The Declaration Act gives us a path forward to create clarity and predictability for all British Columbians through respectful collaboration with Indigenous peoples.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) recognizes the human rights of Indigenous peoples.
- The Declaration Act was modeled after federal Bill c-262.
- On November 26, 2019, British Columbia passed the Declaration Act to bring UNDRIP into provincial law.
- The Declaration Act mandates government to bring provincial laws into harmony with UNDRIP and develop an action plan with Indigenous peoples, providing a transparent and accountable path forward.
- It will require regular reporting to the legislature to monitor progress of the action plan.
- It allows for flexibility for the Province to enter into agreements with a broader range of Indigenous Governments and provides a framework

for shared decision making between Indigenous governments and the Province.

- The Ministry of Children and Family Development will work closely with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation to determine the impact and implementation of the Declaration Act as it affects MCFD.

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Tripartite Working Group

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The Tripartite First Nations Children and Families Working Group (TWG) was formed to support systemic reform to improve First Nations child and family well-being in British Columbia.
- The TWG has been focused on:
  - the development of the federal child welfare legislation;
  - implementation of legislation, both federal and provincial;
  - funding and fiscal planning; and
  - the potential development of a First Nations-led institute on jurisdiction and to support implementation of the federal legislation.

**BACKGROUND:**

- In May 2016, the BC First Nations Children and Family Gathering was held with representatives from the Province of British Columbia, Canada and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) to discuss the current state of child welfare.
- At that meeting, BC made three commitments:
  - Immediately improve child welfare services by ensuring that staff from the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) 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 TWG was formed and consists of representatives from the FNLC, MCFD, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, the Ministry of Attorney General and Indigenous Services Canada.
- The FNLC 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 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 Indigenous 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.
  - Workplan: original signed December 2017; an updated version for 2018/19 completed in May 2019.
  - Internal Communications Protocol: signed June 2019.
- Two subcommittees were created in 2019 in order to meet work plan objectives: (1) a fiscal working group/fiscal framework technical team and (2) a technical practice working group.
  - The fiscal working group is largely focused on conceptualizing a fiscal framework to support First Nations' exercise of jurisdiction in BC, while the technical practice working group is examining the practice and policy changes that are necessitated in BC by the coming into force of the new federal child welfare legislation, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* (the Federal Act).
- A new workplan is being developed for 2020/21 with a focus on a British Columbia specific fiscal framework and how the Federal Act will be implemented in British Columbia.

**FINANCES:**

- \$ 200,000 has been committed to be paid to Union of BC Indian Chiefs for FNLC. As of February 18, 2020, \$ 133,333 has been paid and \$ 66,667 is committed to be paid in March 2020.

**STATISTICS:** N/A

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

- 3.3 Indigenous Children in Care Statistics

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY AND LEGISLATION DIVISION  
ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE: Federal Indigenous child, youth and family services legislation**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- The federal *Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* (the “federal Act”) came into force on January 1, 2020.
- We have committed to working with the federal government and First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples to improve the lives of Indigenous children, youth and families.
- The federal Act:
  - Affirms the inherent right of Indigenous peoples to exercise jurisdiction over child and family services;
  - Establishes three new national child and family services principles that must be used in the administration and interpretation of the Act; and
  - Sets new national standards for service delivery that every Province and Territory must meet.
- The ministry has implemented new policies and practices to meet the new national principles and standards.
- MCFD and Delegated Aboriginal Agency staff received orientation on the new policies and changes to practice last Fall.
- The federal Act reinforces work already underway in the Province to keep Indigenous children close to their families and communities and reduce the number of Indigenous children in care.

**BACKGROUND:**

- New national standards provide direction for MCFD and DAA staff to:
  - Provide notice to parents, care providers and Indigenous governing bodies before significant measures are taken in relation to a child or youth, such as removing a child from their home or placing a child in another home;
  - Prioritize preventive care over removal;



- Prioritize placement decisions for Indigenous children based on maintaining the tie between children and their parents, family and community;
- Continue to reassess placement whenever a child is not placed with their family or community; and
- Promote attachment/emotional ties for Indigenous children when not placed with a family member.
- Three new principles guide the way in which the federal Act is to be interpreted and administered:
  - Best interests of the Indigenous child;
  - Cultural continuity; and
  - Substantive equality

The Ministry will also be working with Canada and First Nations, Inuit and Métis people in BC on implementation of all provisions in the federal Act, including exercising jurisdiction.

#### **FINANCES:**

- See Section 3.4) Overview: Recoveries in Financial Data Booklet. For fiscal 20/21 the province will recover \$29.1M from Indigenous and North Affairs Canada.
- See Section 5.2) Delegated Aboriginal Agency Breakdown in Financial Data Booklet. The province funds Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and in fiscal 18/19 the total for delegated services was \$121.99M and the total for non-delegated services was \$29.14M.

#### **STATISTICS:**

- N/A

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

**MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**  
**ESTIMATES CORPORATE BRIEFING NOTE 2020/21**

**ISSUE:** Improving Services for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Children, Youth and Families

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- We know that our system doesn't recognize, acknowledge or meet the needs of Indigenous peoples. We also acknowledge the long-standing over-representation of Indigenous peoples in the child welfare system.
- To address these concerns, there has been significant changes in the Ministry's approach to child welfare and to Indigenous peoples.
- This approach is outlined in the Ministry's strategic framework and in more detail in the *Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities and Families Strategy*.
- We are seeing progress - as of December 31, 2019, there were 3,834 Indigenous children and youth in care, which is the lowest number of Indigenous children in care since 2001.
- Some of our work includes engaging in, and supporting, discussions with Indigenous leaders and communities to further their interest in assuming increased levels of jurisdiction and authority over child and family services.
- We also continue to partner with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and with First Nation and Métis organizations, leaders and communities to transform policy, practice, services and programs to reflect the priority of keeping children and youth safely at home and connected to community and culture.
- We are also changing the legislative framework to support our commitment to keeping Indigenous children out of care, in their home communities and connected to their families, cultures and traditions.
- This includes amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) to support keeping Indigenous children with their families and preserving their cultural identities, and allow more collaborative practices with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities through greater information sharing.
- It also includes supporting the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the implementation of the federal government's *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, youth and families*.

**BACKGROUND:** N/A

**FINANCES:** N/A

**STATISTICS:**

- As of December 31, 2019, there were 5,805 children and youth in care, with 3,834 Indigenous children in the care of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA's) in the province (a 7% reduction compared to last year); representing 66% of the total number of children in care.
- Of these 3,834 Indigenous children in care:
  - 3208 (84%) were First Nations;
  - 505 (13%) were Métis;
  - 58 (2%) were Nisga'a;
  - 33 (1%) were Inuit; and
  - 30 were of unidentified (unknown to worker) Indigenous ancestry.
- While MCFD has seen an overall decrease in the number of children in care, and an upward trend for out-of-care options (such as other family members), First Nation, Métis & Inuit children in care remain over-represented.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** N/A