

# **Ministry of Children and Family Development**

## **2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan**

**February 2022**



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## Minister's Accountability Statement



The *Ministry of Children and Family Development 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.



Honourable Mitzi Dean  
Minister of Children and Family Development  
[Date TBD]

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## **Purpose of the Ministry**

The primary focus of the Ministry of Children and Family Development is supporting the well-being of all children and youth in British Columbia – both Indigenous and non-Indigenous – to live in safe, healthy and nurturing families, and to be strongly connected to their communities and culture. The Ministry approaches its work through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus lens, delivering services that are inclusive, intersectional, responsive, accessible and culturally safe.

The Ministry supports children, youth and their families, emphasizing the principles of early intervention, prevention and cultural and community connections to keep families together, where possible, and to connect children and youth with permanent living arrangements when needed. Services include early childhood development, supporting children and youth with support needs, child and youth mental health, adoption, child protection, youth justice as well as helping youth transition to adulthood and adult services.

## **Strategic Direction**

In 2022/2023, the Government of British Columbia will continue its whole-of-government response to the COVID-19 pandemic with a focus on protecting the health, social and economic well-being of British Columbians. Building on our economic, environmental, and social strengths while looking to seize opportunities to improve outcomes for all British Columbians will be an important aspect of each ministry's work as we respond to COVID-19 and recover from devastating floods and wildfires. The policies, programs and projects developed over the course of this service plan period will align with the five foundational principles established by Government in 2020: putting people first; working toward lasting and meaningful reconciliation; supporting equity and anti-racism; ensuring a better future through fighting climate change and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction targets; and supporting a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

This 2022/23 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Children and Family Development will support the government's priorities including the foundational principles listed above and selected action items identified in the [November 2020 Minister's Mandate Letter](#).

## Performance Planning

**Goal 1: Recognize the right of Indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child [UN Declaration]<sup>1</sup> and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action**

**Objective 1.1: Continue to work with Indigenous Peoples and the federal government, where applicable, regarding systemic transformation, including implementing increased decision-making authority and child and family services jurisdiction**

The wording of this objective has been slightly adjusted since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, to provide greater clarity on the Ministry's strategic direction. Objective 1.3 from the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan has been incorporated under Objectives 1.1 and 1.2.

### Key Strategies

- Work with Indigenous Governing Bodies (alongside representatives from the federal government) towards exercising jurisdiction for child and family services under the federal *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* (the federal Act), through the development of tripartite coordination agreements, and continue an ongoing dialogue with Indigenous communities that are planning for increased decision-making authority or jurisdiction.
- Co-develop with Canada and Indigenous partners, a B.C. specific fiscal framework in alignment with B.C.'s *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act), to support the transition of services as Indigenous Governing Bodies begin to exercise their inherent jurisdiction over child and family services.
- Engage with Indigenous Peoples, communities, leadership, service providers and partners in order to co-develop reform of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*, in alignment with the Declaration Act and the federal Act.
- In collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, leadership, and communities, along with federal and provincial partners, develop a cross-jurisdictional model for how to integrate and deliver services through multiple jurisdictions. This will include a policy and legislative framework to support this future system.

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<sup>1</sup> UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**Objective 1.2: In collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, design and implement restorative policies, practices and services with cultural humility and a commitment to eliminate racism and discrimination consistent with our responsibilities under the UN Declaration**

The wording of this objective has been adjusted since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, to more clearly express the Ministry's commitment to eliminate racism and discrimination.

**Key Strategies**

- Continue work to ensure transparency and accountability to Indigenous children, youth, families and communities, including working to implement information-sharing agreements (under s. 92.1 of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*) and develop community agreements.
- Work with Indigenous Peoples, following the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework, to transform policies, practices, services and programs that reflect the priority of keeping children and youth safely at home and connected to their community and culture.
- With Indigenous Peoples, develop and continue to implement tools and resources to support Ministry staff to address systemic racism and implement practice changes to provide services in a culturally safe manner.
- Collaborate with partners, including Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, to build on efforts to address the 40 Ministry-led responses to the calls for justice in the final report on the inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

Performance Measure	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
1.1 Rate of children and youth (age 0-18) in care per 1,000 children and youth in the population				
All children and youth	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.0
Indigenous children and youth	36.4	35.3	34.3	33.5
Non-Indigenous children and youth	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7

Data source: Integrated Case Management (ICM) System

**Linking Performance Measure to Objective**

This performance measure tracks the rate of Indigenous and non-Indigenous children and youth in care and the overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in care. MCFD is working to address the overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in the child and family services system. The impact of colonization, the imposition of a legal regime foreign to the cultures and customs of Indigenous Peoples, and the undermining of family and community systems and the resultant inter-generational trauma have all contributed to this overrepresentation.

## Discussion

Targets for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have been adjusted, based on forecasted performance, to capture better than expected results for Indigenous children and youth and to maintain relevance moving forward.

### **Goal 2: To support improved outcomes and keep families safely together, strengthen supports and prioritize resources for families and children based on their needs, and in collaboration with communities and other partners**

#### **Objective 2.1: Implement changes to the delivery of services to focus on prevention, early intervention and family supports**

The wording of this objective has been adjusted since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, to provide greater clarity on the Ministry's strategic direction. Objective 2.2 from the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, which related to child care, has been moved to the Ministry of Education's 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan.

#### **Key Strategies**

- Begin to implement family connections centres in the Northwest and Central Okanagan to support an overall transformation of services for children and youth with support needs and provide families in those areas with accessible and inclusive services based on individual needs.
- In line with B.C.'s *A Pathway to Hope* roadmap, continue to implement the following child and youth mental health services and supports: Integrated Child and Youth Teams; Step Up Step Down Outreach Services; Step Up Step Down Bed-based Services; and a digital solution to support service delivery.
- Continue to develop a Prevention and Family Supports Service Framework that is in alignment with other systemic changes – including child and family safety, children and youth with support needs, child and youth mental health, early years and Indigenous early years, child care, and the national standards of the federal *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*, which prioritize preventive care.
- Engage on social work regulation and oversight to explore challenges with the current model and develop an informed understanding of opportunities to strengthen the regulation and oversight system.
- Provide policy and practice guidance and training for Ministry employees and work together with partners and service providers to support 2SLGBTQ+ people to be safe, recognized, respected, supported and cared for in a manner that affirms their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.



Performance Measure	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
2.1 Percent of children assessed with a protection concern that can safely live with family or extended family <sup>1</sup>				
All children and youth	93.2%	93.7%	94.0%	94.3%
Indigenous children and youth	90.1%	91.0%	91.5%	92.0%
Non-Indigenous children and youth	95.1%	95.4%	95.5%	95.7%
2.2 Access to Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) Services <sup>2</sup>				
CYMH clients served	30,500	30,750	31,250	31,750

<sup>1</sup> Data source: ICM

<sup>2</sup> Data source: Community and Residential Information System (CRIS)

### Linking Performance Measure to Objective

2.1 The percentage of children and youth assessed with a protection concern who can safely live with family or extended family is an established measure of family preservation. Children continuing to live with their family or extended family also have improved outcomes, such as better health and educational attainment.

2.2 The number of clients served is a measure of the accessibility of Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) services. Improving the uptake of these services directly supports improved outcomes for children and youth with mental health needs across the province.

### Discussion

2.2 This performance measure is new to the Service Plan. It has been added to highlight prevention and early intervention services the Ministry provides as well as to highlight the importance of mental health services and improved outcomes for children and youth.

### Goal 3: Youth and young adults have the tools, resources, and social supports to transition successfully to adulthood and adult services

The wording of this goal, and objective underneath, have been slightly adjusted since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, to provide greater clarity on the Ministry's strategic direction.

#### Objective 3.1: Support youth and young adults to successfully transition to adulthood and adult services

##### Key Strategies

- Build on COVID-19 emergency measures and continue to shift the adverse outcomes that young adults face as they transition out of government care by providing holistic wrap-around services and supports, including housing, support benefits, early and needs-based transition planning, cultural connections, medical benefits (counselling), training, life-skills, and post-secondary opportunities.
- Provide coordinated and streamlined access to adult services systems and prevent youth homelessness through ongoing collaboration across government and with Indigenous partners and communities.
- In collaboration with cross-Ministry partners, begin to develop a digital solution for youth and young adults to navigate and access adult services and resources, and reduce digital barriers during the transition to adulthood.
- Continue to engage with Indigenous partners and communities to design a Youth Justice Service Framework that transforms youth justice services to better support youth, victims, and community needs, and address gaps that lead to the overrepresentation of Indigenous youth in the youth justice system.

Performance Measure	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
3.1a Percent of youth in care who turn 19 with a high school credential <sup>1</sup>				
All children and youth	58.5%	59.0%	59.5%	60.0%
Indigenous children and youth	56.5%	57.0%	57.5%	58.0%
Non-Indigenous children and youth	63.5%	64.0%	64.5%	65.0%
3.1b Youth under Continuing Custody Orders and youth aging into adulthood and adult services who receive an Agreements with Young Adults benefit payment within the next year <sup>2</sup>	31.3%	33.3%	35.3%	37.3%

<sup>1</sup> Data source: ICM and Ministry of Education enrolment data

<sup>2</sup> Data source: Resource and Payment System

## **Linking Performance Measure to Objective**

3.1a There is strong evidence that completing high school is linked to future well-being. MCFD is working to ensure that children and youth in care have completed high school by the time they turn 19, acquiring the education and life skills needed to successfully transition to adulthood and adult services.

3.1b One of the ways in which the Ministry helps ensure successful youth and young adult transitions is through the Agreements with Young Adults program. The program provides young adults with financial assistance for education, training, and life skills. Improving the uptake of the program will help ensure better transitions and, therefore, better outcomes for young adults as they age into adulthood and adult services.

## **Discussion**

3.1a Targets for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have been adjusted to reflect better-than-expected results.

3.1b The forecast and targets for this performance measure have been lowered since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, as fewer youth aging into adulthood have received an Agreement with Young Adults benefit payment. Youth aging into adulthood have increasingly been supported through alternative funding programs implemented during the pandemic, such as Temporary Housing Agreements/Temporary Support Agreements.

## **Goal 4: Services and supports provided in the network of care are driven by a child or youth's needs and focused on developing and strengthening belonging to family, community and culture**

The wording of this goal, and objective underneath, have been adjusted since the release of the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan, to provide greater clarity on the Ministry's strategic direction.

### **Objective 4.1: In collaboration with partners, implement an integrated network of care providing services and placements that meet a child or youth's needs, nurture a sense of love and belonging, and prioritize cultural and family connections**

#### **Key Strategies**

- Begin to realize a responsive network of Specialized Homes and Support Services for children and youth needing more than what community-based and outreach services can provide – starting with early implementation in North Fraser and the Okanagan.
- Continue implementing an outcomes-based Quality Assurance Framework, ensuring that the quality of services (across all types of care) is responsive to feedback from children, families and communities.
- Finalize and begin to implement a new Procurement Strategy, including a modern digital solution, to provide greater clarity and an increased focus on deliverables to support children, youth and their families.
- Begin the development of the Adoption Service Framework.
- Complete a review of the licensed adoption agency model, regulatory framework and the provision of intercountry adoption services.

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2021/22 Forecast</b>	<b>2022/23 Target</b>	<b>2023/24 Target</b>	<b>2024/25 Target</b>
4.1 Percentage of children and youth in care with no moves in the first 12 months since their last admission to care	67.0%	66.0%	66.5%	67.0%

Data source: ICM

#### **Linking Performance Measure to Objective**

Placement stability is essential for children and youth to develop a secure attachment to a caregiver, which is a fundamental determinant of their well-being and sense of belonging. Children and youth with stable placements that are driven by their needs achieve better outcomes in terms of safety, permanency, attachment and well-being.

#### **Discussion**

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on this performance measure is still unclear. In the interim, targets have been maintained.

## Financial Summary

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
<b>Operating Expenses (\$000)</b>				
[Core business 1]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
[Core business 2]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
[Core business 3]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)</b>				
[Core business 1]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
[Core business 2]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
[Core business 3]	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Capital Plan (\$000)</b>				
By Core Business (and Purpose)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions (\$000)</b>				
By Core Business (and Purpose)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Receipts	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)
Disbursements	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>	<b>(0,000)</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>
<b>Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>	<b>0,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2021/22 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 Estimates.

\* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

[Additional instructions (delete once table is populated):

For the “Capital Plan” section, the Purpose should identify the category of projects, for example “Public Schools” or “Colleges”. For “Other Financing Transactions”, the Purpose should identify the program, for example, “Student Loan Program”.]

## **Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals**

As of March 31, 2022, the Minister of Children and Family Development is responsible and accountable for the following:

### **BC College of Social Workers**

The British Columbia College of Social Workers regulates the social work profession in British Columbia. Its mandate is to protect members of the public from preventable harm while they are interacting with Registered Social Workers. The College maintains an online registry of all social workers authorized to practice as Registered Social Workers.

### **Minister's Advisory Council on Children and Youth with Support Needs (CYSN)**

The Minister's Advisory Council on CYSN, which includes parents/caregivers, an Indigenous Elder, a youth representative, and others, provides a forum to build collaborative and respectful relationships through ongoing communications and engagement; discusses important issues related to the planning and delivery of the full range of CYSN services; and provides advice on the CYSN services model and how to implement new services in a coordinated and collaborative way.

Confidential  
**2022/23 Service Plan Alignment with 2021/22 Service Plan and Minister's Mandate Letter**  
January 18, 2021

This document shows the alignment between the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Service Plan, and the Minister's 2020 mandate letter.

**Note:** This and last's year's service plan have many of the same objectives and key strategies, however some have been re-ordered or removed. For comparison, the 2022/23 Service Plan content below is in the new order (the column for the 2021/22 plan has been re-ordered to show alignment).

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with Indigenous partners and the federal government to reform the child welfare system, including implementing the new federal <i>Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families</i> and the principles of the <i>Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i>, and continuing to reduce the overrepresentation of Indigenous children in care.</li> </ul>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Recognize the right of Indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child [UN Declaration] and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action	<b>Goal 1:</b> Recognize the right of Indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education, and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child [UNDRIP] and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action
	<b>Objective 1.1:</b> Continue to work with Indigenous Peoples and the federal government, where applicable, regarding systemic transformation, including implementing increased decision-making authority and child and family services jurisdiction	<b>Objective 1.1:</b> Continue to work with Indigenous partners and the federal government, where applicable, regarding systemic change, including increased decision-making authority and child and family services jurisdiction
	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Indigenous Governing Bodies (alongside representatives from the federal government) towards exercising jurisdiction for child and family services under the federal <i>An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families</i> (the federal Act), through the development of tripartite coordination agreements, and continue an ongoing dialogue</li> </ul>	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Indigenous partners to align policy, practice and legislation with <i>An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families</i> and the <i>Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act</i>. <b>(from Objective 1.1 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> <li>Continue to work with Indigenous communities seeking child welfare jurisdiction and increased</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
	with Indigenous communities that are planning for increased decision-making authority or jurisdiction.	authority. <b>(from Objective 1.1 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-develop with Canada and Indigenous partners, a B.C. specific fiscal framework in alignment with B.C.'s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act), to support the transition of services as Indigenous Governing Bodies begin to exercise their inherent jurisdiction over child and family services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Indigenous governing bodies, partners and communities, in addition to others such as the Government of Canada, to improve our funding approach, inclusive of reporting on how funding is spent in support of Indigenous children, youth and families, the number of children in care and other outcomes. <b>(from Objective 1.3 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with Indigenous Peoples, communities, leadership, service providers and partners in order to co-develop reform of the Child, Family and Community Service Act, in alignment with the Declaration Act and the federal Act.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with Indigenous partners and the federal government to reform the child welfare system, including implementing An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families and the principles of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, as it pertains to jurisdiction. <b>(from Objective 1.1 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, leadership, and communities, along with federal and provincial partners, develop a cross-jurisdictional model for how to integrate and deliver services through multiple jurisdictions. This will include a policy and legislative framework to support this future system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work with Indigenous governing bodies, partners and communities to ensure systemic change reflects their priorities and distinctions-based self-determination, including a multi-jurisdictional child and family services model in B.C. <b>(from Objective 1.1 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>
	<b>Objective 1.2:</b> In collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, design and implement restorative policies, practices and services with cultural humility and a commitment to eliminate racism and discrimination consistent with our responsibilities under the UN Declaration	<b>Objective 1.2:</b> In collaboration with Indigenous peoples, design and implement restorative policy, practice and services with cultural humility and the intention to honour traditional approaches and better serve Indigenous children and families



2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue work to ensure transparency and accountability to Indigenous children, youth, families and communities, including working to implement information-sharing agreements (under s. 92.1 of the <i>Child, Family and Community Service Act</i>) and develop community agreements.</li> </ul>	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work with communities to develop and implement information-sharing agreements and/or collaboration agreements under s. 92.1 of the Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA), to increase accountability and transform practice when working with Indigenous peoples. <b>(from Objective 1.3 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> <li>• Support increased connections between Indigenous children and youth and their community by enhancing the ability to share information about Indigenous children and youth involved in the child welfare system and/or receiving child and family services. <b>(from Objective 1.3 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Indigenous Peoples, following the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework, to transform policies, practices, services and programs that reflect the priority of keeping children and youth safely at home and connected to their community and culture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework, transform policy, practice, services, and programs to reflect the priority of keeping children and youth safely at home and connected to their community and culture. Ensure a diversity of Indigenous voices, history and wise practices are reflected in collaboration with Delegated Aboriginal Agencies and Indigenous communities. <b>(from Objective 1.2 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With Indigenous Peoples, develop and continue to implement tools and resources to support Ministry staff to address systemic racism and implement practice changes to provide services in a culturally safe manner.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With Indigenous peoples, develop and continue to implement tools and resources to support Ministry staff in continuous learning and practice changes, in order to provide services in a culturally safe manner. <b>(from Objective 1.2 of the 21/22 Service Plan)</b></li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with partners, including Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, to build on efforts to address the 40 Ministry-led responses to the calls for justice in the final report on the inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Objective 1.3 from the 2021/22 Service Plan has been incorporated under Objectives 1.1 and 1.2 of the 2022/23 Service Plan</b></p>	<p><b>Objective 1.3:</b> Ensure transparency and accountability to Indigenous children, youth, families, and communities in order to work together to ensure our efforts achieve tangible results for this generation of families and those that follow</p>
	<p><b>Goal 2:</b> To support improved outcomes and keep families safely together, strengthen supports and prioritize resources for families and children based on their needs, and in collaboration with communities and other partners</p>	<p><b>Goal 2:</b> To support improved outcomes and keep families safely together, strengthen supports and prioritize resources for families and children based on their needs, and in collaboration with communities and other partners</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support families involved with the child welfare system by focusing on family preservation and keeping children and youth connected to their communities and culture, while working to ensure that in cases where children and youth come into care, consideration of their individual needs determine their placement.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Objective 2.1:</b> Implement changes to the delivery of services to focus on prevention, early intervention and family supports</p>	<p><b>Objective 2.1:</b> Review and adjust the Ministry's allocation of time, effort and funding dedicated towards prevention, early intervention and voluntary services</p>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve support for families of children with special needs, ensuring that the new Child and Youth with Special Needs framework is designed to serve the needs of a broad range of families.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Strategies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin to implement family connections centres in the Northwest and Central Okanagan to support an overall transformation of services for children and youth with support needs and provide families in those areas with accessible and inclusive services based on individual needs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Strategies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve supports for families of children and youth with support needs, ensuring that the new Children and Youth with Support Needs (CYSN) Service Framework is designed to serve the needs of a broad range of families, leveraging lessons learned during the pandemic and insights from the Minister’s Advisory Council on CYSN</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the work of the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions to continue addressing mental health concerns early by rolling out new mental health and addictions care initiatives for children and youth, and ensure these programs are aligned with and support the work of the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In line with B.C.’s <i>A Pathway to Hope</i> roadmap, continue to implement the following child and youth mental health services and supports: Integrated Child and Youth Teams; Step-Up Step-Down Outreach Services; Step-Up Step-Down Bed-based Services; and a digital solution to support service delivery.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In line with B.C.’s <i>A Pathway to Hope</i> roadmap, strengthen the continuum of mental health services, such as by beginning to implement step-up/step-down services, supporting the incremental implementation of Integrated Child and Youth Teams, and enhancing targeted early childhood intervention services. As part of this work, continue to implement and strengthen the Child and Youth Mental Health Service Framework</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop a Prevention and Family Supports Service Framework that is in alignment with other systemic changes – including child and family safety, children and youth with support needs, child and youth mental health, early years and Indigenous early years, child care, and the national standards of the federal <i>An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families</i>, which prioritize preventive care.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with our partners, and informed by the voices of those we serve, define the services required to respond to prevention, early intervention and intensive family support needs by developing a service framework.</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage on social work regulation and oversight to explore challenges with the current model and develop an informed understanding of opportunities to strengthen the regulation and oversight system.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide policy and practice guidance and training for Ministry employees and work together with partners and service providers to support 2SLGBTQ+ people to be safe, recognized, respected, supported and cared for in a manner that affirms their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls inquiry, develop and begin to implement an action plan to better support 2SLGBTQ+ children, youth and families.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the Minister of Education and the Minister of State for Child Care to integrate child care into the broader learning environment by developing a strategy to move delivery of child care into the Ministry of Education by 2023.</li> </ul>	<b><i>Child care has been moved to the Ministry of Education's 2022/23 Service Plan.</i></b>	<b>Objective 2.2:</b> Continue the development and implementation of a universal early learning and child care system
	<b>Goal 3:</b> Youth and young adults have the tools, resources, and social supports to transition successfully to adulthood and adult services	<b>Goal 3:</b> Youth and young adults have the tools, resources and social supports to transition successfully to independence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on our expanded supports for young adults in care, with particular attention to supporting the transition to independence and</li> </ul>	<b>Objective 3.1:</b> Support youth and young adults to successfully transition to adulthood and adult services	<b>Objective 3.1:</b> Support youth and young adults to successfully transition to independence
	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on COVID-19 emergency measures and continue to shift the adverse outcomes that</li> </ul>	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through continued engagement with youth and young adults, as well as with those who serve</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
ensuring supports reach all youth.	young adults face as they transition out of government care by providing holistic wrap-around services and supports, including housing, support benefits, early and needs-based transition planning, cultural connections, medical benefits (counselling), training, life-skills, and post-secondary opportunities.	and/or support them, Indigenous partners and provincial ministries and agencies, finalize and begin to implement a Youth and Young Adult Transitions Service Framework that will provide consistent programs and services and support youth and young adults' connection to community and culture.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build on expanded supports for youth in care, with particular attention on supporting their transition to independence and ensuring that supports reach all youth and young adults who need them.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the work of the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training to expand tuition waivers to all former youth in care, regardless of age.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through continued work with partner organizations, review post-secondary funding sources and support the work of the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training to expand the Tuition Waiver Program to all former youth in care, regardless of their age.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including those living in encampments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide coordinated and streamlined access to adult services systems and prevent youth homelessness through ongoing collaboration across government and with Indigenous partners and communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness and collaborate with BC Housing to develop a youth housing strategy that identifies and prioritizes opportunities to meet the needs of youth transitioning to adulthood.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with cross-Ministry partners, begin to develop a digital solution for youth and young adults to navigate and access adult</li> </ul>	

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
	services and resources, and reduce digital barriers during the transition to adulthood.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to engage with Indigenous partners and communities to design a Youth Justice Service Framework that transforms youth justice services to better support youth, victims, and community needs, and address gaps that lead to the overrepresentation of Indigenous youth in the youth justice system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to develop a Youth Justice Service Framework, while at the same time advancing the work in youth justice with a focus on providing trauma-informed and culturally safe services, increased use of restorative justice approaches, and improved access to youth transition services. This will be informed by the Ministry's work with Indigenous partners and other key justice and social service partners.</li> </ul>
	<b>Goal 4:</b> Services and supports provided in the network of care are driven by a child or youth's needs and focused on developing and strengthening belonging to family, community and culture	<b>Goal 4:</b> A child or youth's needs drive their in care placement, and the services they receive support their well-being
	<b>Objective 4.1:</b> In collaboration with partners, implement an integrated network of care providing services and placements that meet a child or youth's needs, nurture a sense of love and belonging, and prioritize cultural and family connections	<b>Objective 4.1:</b> In collaboration with partners, implement an in care network of high-quality placements and services that meet a child or youth's needs, nurtures a sense of love and belonging, and prioritizes cultural and family connections
	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin to realize a responsive network of Specialized Homes and Support Services for children and youth needing more than what community-based and outreach services can provide – starting with early implementation in North Fraser and the Okanagan.</li> </ul>	<b>Key Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish and begin to implement the In Care Service Framework by engaging with partners and members of the public on key prevention and early intervention contracted services – such as respite and relief care, stabilization supports, connection to culture and community and specialized care. This will help create a network of placement options and wrap-around supports for</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter	2022/23 Service Plan (this year)	2021/22 Service Plan (last year)
		children and youth that will respond to the full range of their in-care needs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue implementing an outcomes-based Quality Assurance Framework, ensuring that the quality of services (across all types of care) is responsive to feedback from children, families and communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to implement an outcomes-based Quality Assurance Framework, ensuring that the quality of services (across all types of care) are responsive to feedback from children, families and communities.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize and begin to implement a new Procurement Strategy, including a modern digital solution, to provide greater clarity and an increased focus on deliverables to support children, youth and their families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to implement a redesigned Procurement and Contract Management Framework, ensuring that contracts issued by the Ministry are clear and include deliverables that focus on the needs and rights of children and youth.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin the development of the Adoption Service Framework.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete a review of the licensed adoption agency model, regulatory framework and the provision of intercountry adoption services.</li> </ul>	

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

**DATE:** January 18, 2022  
**CLIFF #:** 267021

**DATE OF PREVIOUS NOTE:** December 15, 2021  
**PREVIOUS CLIFF #:** 266225

**PREPARED FOR:** The Honourable Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development

**PURPOSE:** 2022/23 Service Plan, Minister of Children and Family Development Signature

**BACKGROUND:**

The 2022/23 Service Plan (Service Plan) continues to be aligned to the long-term transformations identified in the Ministry's Strategic Framework, as follows:

- Addressing the over-representation of Indigenous children and youth in care;
- Focusing on prevention, early intervention and family supports;
- Supporting youth and young adult transitions to adulthood and adult services; and
- Network of care services and placements driven by a child or youth's needs.

The goals, objectives and key strategies of the Service Plan were drafted by executive directors and ADMs and reviewed by GCPE. The performance measures were drafted by the Modelling, Analysis and Information Management Branch. The financials are still in draft and will be added to the Service Plan once finalized and approved by the Chief Financial Officer and Executive Financial Officer. The current draft has been reviewed and approved by Ministry executive.

The Minister was sent earlier drafts of the 2022/23 Service Plan on November 22 and December 15.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) – the Ministry of Finance office that coordinates the service planning process – provided feedback on the December 15, 2021 Service Plan draft as follows:

- Add an additional performance measure to better show the range of services provided by the Ministry (beyond child protection).
  - Performance measure 2.2, which measures the number of child and youth mental health clients served, has been added to the Service Plan.
- Remove 2016/17 baselines from performance measures.
  - CABRO has indicated that baselines are only included to show (recent) progress because of implementing a significant change or a new policy. The performance measures in the Ministry's service plan have been used for many years to track ministry progress, so the baselines have been removed.



- Provide explanations for any changes to the goals and objectives from the 2021/22 Service Plan.
  - Where goals or objectives have changed, even slightly, explanations have been added.

These edits, as well as minor grammatical edits, have been made to the draft Service Plan.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

The draft Service Plan, attached, has been approved by CABRO. The Performance Budgeting Office (PBO) and Fiscal Planning and Estimates (FPE) will approve the Service Plan once financials have been added to the document.

The Minister will be briefed on the Service Plan from 11:00 – 11:50 on January 24. After any edits from this meeting have been made to the document, it will be sent to the Minister for one last review, and for the Minister’s signature to be applied to the document. The finalized Service Plan will then be submitted to the Ministry of Finance by February 4, to be tabled by the Minister of Finance in the Legislature and posted to the Government’s website once the budget has been released.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- MCFD 2022-23 Service Plan
- 2022-23 Service Plan comparison to 2021-22 Service Plan, and Minister’s Mandate Letter

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