



APPENDIX 3

Glossary Of Terms

CORE CONCEPTS

Anti-racism: is the practice of actively identifying, challenging, preventing, eliminating and changing the values, structures, policies, programs, practices and behaviours that perpetuate racism. It is more than just being “not racist” but involves taking action to create conditions of greater inclusion, equality and justice

Belonging: is a sense of connection to people, community, culture, place and a positive sense of identity. Domains of belonging are:

Physical -comes through a child’s connection to their physical environment, including home, school, lands and community

Cultural -comes through a child’s constant connection to ancestry, traditional customs and language, and support from their community

Legal -refers to a child’s legal permanency status (e.g., adopted, in continuing care, in an extended family placement, etc.)

Relational -comes through a child’s strong, stable relationships with family, extended family, friends, community, service providers, etc.

Identity -refers to the sum of a child’s formative experiences associated with belonging to people, place and culture and their consequent sense of themselves as having a distinct and positive identity and future

Source: RCY Skye’s Legacy report 2021

Child Rights: are defined in section 70(1) of the CFCSA. Additionally, child rights are recognized in the United Nation Convention on Rights of Children.

Child Protection: is a general term used to describe responsibilities and responses under the Child and Family Services Act (CFCSA) relating to the safety and well-being of a child or youth. Section 13(1) (a – l) defines when a child needs protection.

Child Welfare: is a term often used interchangeably in B.C. with the term “child protection” particularly when describing a MCFD or ICFSA worker’s role and

responsibilities related to assessing the safety and wellbeing of a child or youth.

A review of the literature, notes there are two overall orientations that influence interventions and supports for families and children: child welfare approaches, which focus on promoting child wellbeing, versus child protection approaches, which center on safeguarding the child against harm. The overall ability of the child welfare system to offer support to parents and caregivers and fund prevention is heavily influenced by the degree to which the overall system is steeped within a child protection paradigm. The focus on the “protection of children”, rather than on prevention, has created barriers for parents to ask for support, especially for Indigenous women.

Coercive Control: refers to a systematic pattern of behavior that establishes dominance over another person through intimidation, isolation, and terror-inducing violence or threats of violence.

Colonialism: Colonialism is an act of political and economic domination involving the control of a country and its people by settlers from a foreign power. Colonialism is the establishment and maintenance of one group of people as superior to other peoples and areas, often for imperialist control and exploitation.

Colonization: Colonizers are groups of people or countries that come to a new place or country and steal the land and resources from Indigenous peoples and develop a set of laws and public processes that are designed to violate the human rights of the Indigenous peoples, violently suppress the governance, legal, social, and cultural structures of Indigenous peoples, and force Indigenous peoples to conform with the structures of the colonial state.

Cultural humility: is a life-long process of self-reflection and self-critique. It is foundational to achieving a culturally safe environment. While western models of medicine typically begin with an examination of the patient, cultural humility begins with an in-depth examination of the provider’s assumptions, beliefs and privilege embedded in their own understanding and practice, as well as the goals of the patient-provider relationship. Undertaking cultural humility allows for Indigenous voices to be front and centre and promotes patient/provider relationships based on respect, open and effective dialogue and mutual decision-making. This practice ensures Indigenous peoples are partners in the choices that impact them, and ensures they are party and present in their course of care.

Cultural safety: a culturally safe environment is physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually safe. There is recognition of, and respect for, the cultural identities of others, without challenge or denial of an individual’s identity, who they are, or what they need. Culturally unsafe environments diminish, demean or disempower the cultural identity and well-being of an individual.

Culture: refers to a group’s shared set of beliefs, norms and values. It is the totality of what people develop to enable them to adapt to their world, which includes language, gestures, tools, customs and traditions that define their values and organize social interactions. Human beings are not born with culture – they learn and transmit it through language and observation.

Decolonization: is the dismantling of the process by which one nation asserts and establishes its domination and control over another nation’s land, people and culture. It is a framework through which individuals, organizations, governments can work toward undoing the oppression and subjugation of Indigenous peoples in what is now known as

British Columbia and unlearning colonial ways of thinking and being.

Discrimination: through action or inaction, denying members of a particular social group access to goods, resources and services. Discrimination can occur at the individual, organizational or societal level. In B.C., discrimination is prohibited on the basis of “race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, family status, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, sex, age, sexual orientation, political belief or conviction of a criminal or summary conviction offence unrelated to their employment.”

Equity: is a principle that ensures equality and inclusivity of all people including Indigenous peoples, minority communities, immigrants, persons with disabilities and the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

Ethnicity: refers to groups of people who share cultural traits that they characterize as different from those of other groups. An ethnic group is often understood as sharing a common origin, language, ancestry, spirituality, history, values, traditions and culture. People of the same race can be of different ethnicities.

Family Violence: is a term often used interchangeably with intimate partner violence. Family violence describes any conduct, whether or not the conduct constitutes a criminal offence, by a family member towards another family member, that is violent or threatening or that constitutes a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour or that causes that other family member to fear for their own safety or for that of another person – and in the case of a child, the direct or indirect exposure to such conduct – including:

- physical abuse, including forced confinement but excluding reasonable force to protect themselves or another person

- sexual abuse
- threats to kill or cause bodily harm
- harassment, including stalking
- the failure to provide the necessities of life
- psychological abuse
- financial abuse
- threats to kill or harm an animal or damage property, and
- the killing or harming of an animal or the damaging of property

Source: Government of Canada 2023

Free Prior and Informed Consent: is a right granted to Indigenous Peoples recognized in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). It is the right of communities and Nations to be thoroughly informed about any development affecting their lands and resources, and to provide consent prior to the commencement of development.

Health equity: is the absence of avoidable, unfair or remediable differences among groups of people, whether those groups are defined socially, economically, demographically or geographically or by other means of stratification. “Health equity” or “equity in health” implies that everyone should have a fair opportunity to attain their full health potential and that no one should be disadvantaged from achieving this potential.

Health inequity: is the presence of systematic disparities in health (or in the major social determinants of health) among groups with different social advantage/disadvantage.

Indian Day Schools: in addition to Residential Schools, the Canadian government and Christian churches enforced Indian day schools. The federal government used Day Schools as tools of assimilation against Indigenous children until the late 1870s, when Residential Schools were fully mobilized. Unlike Residential Schools, Day School

students remained in their communities and went home to their families in the evenings. Day schools were not included in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, nor were they included in the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement of 2006. However, day schools, like Residential Schools, were places where students experienced physical, verbal, and sexual abuse. Source: [Indian Day Schools - Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre \(ubc.ca\)](#)

Indian Hospitals: were connected to the missionary hospital movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The hospitals were a method of segregation and restriction and operated in the same way as reserves and Residential Schools, as a part of the larger colonial system. Some of the early hospitals grew out of the makeshift Residential School sanatoria that had been set-up to house and quarantine child patients, as a result of the high rates of TB in schools. Often children would move from Residential School to Indian Hospital and then back to school. Source: [Indian Hospitals in Canada - Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre \(ubc.ca\)](#)

Indian Residential Schools: between the late 1800s and 1996, the Government of Canada and church organizations operated the Indian Residential School System. An estimated 150,000 First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children were removed from their families, homes, languages and lands. A part of official Canadian policy, the residential school system aimed at the complete assimilation of Indigenous people.

The schools were routinely overcrowded, underfunded, and rife with disease. Many children, weakened by malnutrition, did not survive. Mortality rates in some schools exceeded 60%. As of September 2021, the Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has documented the deaths of 4,118 children. The system also became notorious for a high rate of physical and sexual abuse.

Indigenous peoples: the first inhabitants of a geographic area. In Canada, Indigenous peoples include those who may identify as First Nations (status and non-status), Métis and/or Inuit.

Indigenous-specific racism: the unique nature of stereotyping, bias and prejudice about Indigenous peoples in Canada that is rooted in the history of settler colonialism. It is the ongoing race-based discrimination, negative stereotyping, and injustice experienced by Indigenous peoples in Canada that perpetuates power imbalances, systemic discrimination and inequitable outcomes stemming from the colonial policies and practices.

Intergenerational trauma: historic and contemporary trauma that has compounded over time and been passed from one generation to the next. The negative cumulative effects can impact individuals, families, communities and entire populations, resulting in a legacy of physical, psychological, and economic disparities that persist across generations. For Indigenous peoples, the historical trauma includes trauma created as a result of the imposition of assimilative policies and laws aimed at attempted cultural genocide and continues to be built upon by contemporary forms of colonialism and discrimination.

Interpersonal racism: also known as relationship racism, refers to specific acts of racism that occur between people, and may include discriminatory treatment, acts of violence and micro-aggressions.

Interagency: activities and functions occurring between or involving two or more agencies or organizations.

Interdisciplinary: involves shared activities between distinct professions (i.e. Child protection, Police, Health etc.)

Inter-ministry/interministerial: shared activities or mandates involving separate

government ministries (i.e. Health, Education, MCFD, Attorney General etc.).

Intersectoral: often involves small groups of people from different sectors of society working across formal organizational boundaries to coordinate and provide services and programs. This can take the form of inter-agency meetings, community coalitions, coordinated care teams, information systems links, and co-location of officials in program delivery.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV also Domestic Violence-DV): Intimate partner violence describes physical, sexual or psychological harm by a current or former intimate partner or spouse. This is also known as domestic abuse or spousal violence. The term domestic violence is sometimes used interchangeably with the term intimate partner violence, but domestic violence can also mean child or elder abuse that may not be gender-based violence. Source - December 2023 Safe and Supported: British Columbia's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan.

Jordan's Principle (JP): is a federal program to ensure all First Nations children living in Canada can access the products, services and supports they need, when they need them. Funding can help with a wide range of health, social and educational needs, including the unique needs that First Nations Two-Spirit and LGBTQIA children and youth and those with disabilities may have.

Jordan's Principle is named in memory of Jordan River Anderson. He was a young boy from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba.

Mental Models: "Mental models" are important in systems thinking. It is an overarching term for a worldview that you carry around in your mind. Mental models are formed through our life experiences and are grounded in the values and principles that we hold. Mental models drive how systems are structured and formed in general, and

they also inform our day-to-day decision-making.

Oppression: refers to discrimination that occurs and is supported through the power of public systems or services, such as health care systems, educational systems, legal systems and/or other public systems or services; discrimination backed up by systemic power. Denying people access to culturally safe care is a form of oppression.

Outcomes: are the results that start to happen after action being taken. Outcomes can be immediate and short term and tied directly to the intervention or action: a change in the delivery of a service can have immediate results for those using the service. There can also be longer-term outcomes that emerge over months or years which are less directly tied to the intervention but still associated with it. For example, those who benefitted from a change in service develop healthier life choices over time.

Outcomes Measurement: is a structured process of tracking both short-term outcomes resulting from a changed intervention and the long-term outcomes or influence of those changes. An outcomes measurement framework describes the anticipated connection between an action and a final impact through a series of short- and long-term outcomes. Indicators are used at every level – action, short- and long-term outcomes and final impact - to gather relevant data on the effects of an intervention. A strong outcomes measurement approach is essential for making improvements in interventions, modifying policy, and focusing investments.

Prejudice: is a negative way of thinking and attitudes toward a socially defined group and toward any person perceived to be a member of the group. Like bias, prejudice is a belief and based on a stereotype.

Privilege: operates on personal, interpersonal, cultural, and institutional levels

and gives advantages, favours, and benefits to members of dominant groups. Privilege is unearned, and mostly unacknowledged, social advantage that non-racialized people have over other racial groups.

Racism: is the belief that a group of people are inferior based on the colour of their skin or due to the inferiority of their culture or spirituality. It leads to discriminatory behaviours and policies that oppress, ignore or treat racialized groups as 'less than' non-racialized groups

Reconciliation: in Canada, reconciliation is often described using the principles established by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TC) Canada. Reconciliation "is a process of healing of relationships that requires public truth sharing, apology and commemoration that acknowledge and redress past harms It requires constructive action non addressing the ongoing legacies of colonialism that have had destructive impact on Aboriginals people's education, cultures and languages, health, child welfare, the administration of justice, and economic opportunities and prosperity".

Reportable Circumstances (RC): are reports of an injury sustained by or death of a child in care or young person receiving reviewable services. In mandate injuries meet the threshold of critical defined in the *RCY Act* as "an injury to a child that may (a) result in the child's death, or (b) cause serious or long-term impairment of the child's health. Reviewable services are defined in the *RCY Act* and including services under the Child, Family and Community Services Act, child and youth with support needs services, mental health and addiction services and youth justice services."

Rights and Title Holder: Aboriginal title refers to the inherent Aboriginal right to land or a territory. The Canadian legal system recognizes Aboriginal title as a *sui generis*, or unique collective right to the use of and jurisdiction over a group's ancestral

territories. This right is not granted from an external source but is a result of Aboriginal peoples' own occupation of and relationship with their home territories as well as their ongoing social structures and political and legal systems. As such, Aboriginal title and rights are separate from rights afforded to non-Aboriginal Canadian citizens under Canadian common law.

Self-Government: First Nations were self-governing long before Europeans arrived in Canada. In 1876, the Indian Act dismantled traditional governance systems and imposed strict regulations on Indigenous peoples' lives. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, recognizes that Indigenous Peoples have an inherent, constitutionally-protected right to self-government – a right to manage their own affairs. Self-determination is a core principle of self-government, the BC treaty negotiations process and is also reflected in the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Under the BC treaty negotiations process, self-government will be established, and administered through the treaty. Self-government provisions may include education, language, culture, police services, health care, social services, housing, property rights, child welfare, and other provisions agreed to by the three parties. A First Nation implementing a modern treaty will be self-governing and will have a constitution and law-making authority over treaty land and provisions of public services. Treaty sets out how the First Nations governance interacts with the Canadian Constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms will apply to First Nations' governments as it does to all other governments in Canada. Source- BC Treaty Commission

Self-government principles – CFCS Act:

4.1 This Act must be interpreted and administered in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) Indigenous peoples have an inherent right of self-government, including self-determination, that is recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* and by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
- (b) the inherent right of self-government includes jurisdiction in relation to Indigenous child and family services, law-making authority in relation to those services and authority to administer and enforce laws made under that law-making authority;
- (c) Indigenous laws have the force of law in British Columbia.

Sixties Scoop: between approximately 1951 and 1984, an estimated 20,000 or more First Nations, Métis and Inuit infants and children were taken from their families by child welfare authorities and placed for adoption in mostly non-Indigenous households. This mass removal of Indigenous children from their homes, supported by a series of government policies, became known as the ‘Sixties Scoop’.

Historically, Indian agents used their broad administrative powers to address child welfare matters on reserve. In 1951, governments introduced new legislation to empower social workers and provincial and territorial governments with this same authority.

Between 1960s and the 1980s, the “Sixties Scoop” removed First Nations, Métis and Inuit children from their homes, often without the consent, warning or even knowledge of the children’s families and communities. Children were adopted into predominantly non-Indigenous families, often out of province or out of the country and away from their languages, traditions and extended families.

Parents and families were rarely notified about the locations of their children. Only after 1980, provincial child welfare workers informed Bands or communities of the location of children. Many families and children who were part of the Sixties Scoop are still searching for their relatives.

Social Determinants of Health: Social determinants of health are nonmedical factors that impact everyone’s health across their life-course. They are the things that exist all around us and the context in which we live and work. Examples include neighborhood cohesion, income/poverty, access to housing, access to food, education level and early experiences.

Stereotype: refers to an exaggerated belief, image or distorted truth about a person or group; a generalization that allows for little or no individual differences or social variation.

Substance Use Disorder: substance abuse disorder is a mild to severe form of addiction that is complex and leads to problematic patterns and the use of illicit substances. It is classified as a mental health condition under the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders 5 (DSM-5). People who develop substance use disorder will experience: an overpowering desire to use illicit substances, increased tolerance to the substances they choose to use, withdrawal symptoms when the substance is no longer available.

Substantive equality: refers to the requirement to achieve equality in opportunities and outcomes, and is advanced through equal access, equal opportunity and the provision of services and benefits in a manner and according to standards that meet any unique needs and circumstances, such as cultural, social, economic and historical disadvantage.

Systemic racism: is enacted through routine and societal systems, structures and

institutions such as requirements, policies, legislation and practices that perpetuate and maintain avoidable and unfair inequalities across racial groups, including the use of profiling and stereotyping.

Systems Thinking: is an approach that requires curiosity, compassion, and courage. This approach focuses on a willingness to see and understand a situation more fully, to recognize that all of the parts of the world we live in are interrelated, to acknowledge that there are often multiple interventions to a problem, and some may have unintended consequences, and to champion interventions that get at root causes rather than quick fixes. Systems thinking assumes that every event is driven by the structure of the system, or ingrained patterns of behaviour, and these in turn are driven by fundamental principles or values (often called mental models). Systems thinking balances a deep understanding of the positives and negatives of the current system with a strong focus on what an improved system could look like – a north star.

Toxic Drug Poisoning: refers to the impact on a person from drug toxicity, and in BC is often referenced with the toxic drug supply. A non-prescribed regulated supply of drugs could include anything that's in the toxic street-drug market, such as heroin, fentanyl-like drugs, or cocaine in injectable or smokable form.

Unconscious Bias: refers to the automatic associations and reactions that arise when we encounter a person or group. Instead of maintaining neutrality, we tend to associate positive or negative stereotypes with certain groups and let these biases influence our behavior towards them.

CHILD WELFARE/MCFD SPECIFIC TERMINOLOGY

24-Hour Response: is one of the three options to respond to new, screened-in child protection reports requiring that the family be contacted in-person. Option one is to code as “immediately” response, second is within 24 hours of the receipt of the report. It is a clinical decision point based on factors such as: the age, vulnerability of the child, exposure to sources of harm and the severity of the potential harm to a child.

5-Day Response: is one of the 3 options a child protection worker assigns to the response priority of new, screened-in child protection reports. This coding requires that the family be contacted in-person within 5 days.

Aboriginal Operations and Practice Standards and Indicators (AOPSI): are the polices and standards by which Indigenous Child and Family Service agencies (formerly known as DAA's) provide services. Though the emphases of some of these standards differs from MCFD, the safety and protection of children are always paramount. The AOPSI standards either meet or exceed those established by the MCFD.

Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework (APPF): was introduced in 2015 and applies to all policy and practice involving Indigenous children, youth and families who receive services from ICFSAs and/or MCFD, and applies to all service areas (Early Years, CYSN, CYMH, Child Safety, Family Support, Children in Care, Adoption and Youth Justice). Framework contains cultural values that support process, including respect, inclusion, truth telling, wisdom and belonging.

After Hours (AH): refers to responses by MCFD between 4 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. on weekdays and 24 hours a day on weekends

and holidays. Provincial Centralized Screening (PCS) is now the central number for all child safety reports as well as general inquiries for support services.

Assessing Care Providers' Readiness, Capacity and Commitment: is a screening tool and assessment step for proposed care providers under an EFP Agreement or Temporary Custody Orders to a Person Other than a parent. It consists of 24 questions including a home visit.

At Home Program (AHP): provides respite and/or medical benefits to assist parents in caring for children with severe disabilities at home.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): is a developmental disability caused by differences in the brain. People with ASD often have problems with social communication and interaction, and restricted or repetitive behaviors or interests. People with ASD may also have different ways of learning, moving, or paying attention. These characteristics can make life very challenging.

Autism Funding Program (AFP): supports parents with purchasing eligible intervention services for their child or youth who has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

Best interests of child: is defined differently under the *CFCSA*, *The Family Law Act* and *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children and families*. The *CFCSA* defines best interests of a child as follows:

- 4 (1) Where there is a reference in this Act to the best interests of a child, all relevant factors must be considered in determining the child's best interests, including for example:
- (a) the child's safety;
 - (b) the child's physical and emotional needs and level of development;

- (c) the importance of continuity in the child's care;
- (d) the quality of the relationship the child has with a parent or other person and the effect of maintaining that relationship;
- (e) the child's cultural, racial, linguistic and religious heritage;
- (f) the child's views;
- (g) the effect on the child if there is delay in making a decision.

(2) If the child is an Indigenous child, in addition to the relevant factors that must be considered under subsection (1), the following factors must be considered in determining the child's best interests:

- (a) the importance of the child being able to learn about and practice the child's Indigenous traditions, customs and language;
- (b) the importance of the child belonging to the child's Indigenous community.

Best Interests of the Child (Federal) An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children and families):

Section "10 (1) The best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in the making of decisions or the taking of actions in the context of the provision of child and family services in relation to an Indigenous child and, in the case of decisions or actions related to child apprehension, the best interests of the child must be the paramount consideration.

Primary consideration:

- (2) When the factors referred to in subsection (3) are being considered, primary consideration must be given to the child's physical, emotional and psychological safety, security and well-being, as well as to the importance, for that child, of having an ongoing

relationship with his or her family and with the Indigenous group, community or people to which he or she belongs and of preserving the child's connections to his or her culture

Factors to be considered

(3) To determine the best interests of an Indigenous child, all factors related to the circumstances of the child must be considered, including(a) the child's cultural, linguistic, religious and spiritual upbringing and heritage;

(b) the child's needs, given the child's age and stage of development, such as the child's need for stability;

(c) the nature and strength of the child's relationship with his or her parent, the care provider and any member of his or her family who plays an important role in his or her life;

(d) the importance to the child of preserving the child's cultural identity and connections to the language and territory of the Indigenous group, community or people to which the child belongs;

(e) the child's views and preferences, giving due weight to the child's age and maturity, unless they cannot be ascertained;

(f) any plans for the child's care, including care in accordance with the customs or traditions of the Indigenous group, community or people to which the child belongs;

(g) any family violence and its impact on the child, including whether the child is directly or indirectly exposed to the family violence as well as the physical, emotional and psychological harm or risk of harm to the child; and

(h) any civil or criminal proceeding, order, condition, or measure that is relevant to the safety, security and well-being of the child.

(4) Subsections (1) to (3) are to be construed in relation to an Indigenous child, to the extent that it is possible to do so, in a manner that is consistent with a provision of a law of the Indigenous group, community or people to which the child belongs."

Best Practice Approaches Child Protection and Violence Against Women:

is an MCFD document defining best practice approaches and gives guidance to workers providing protective services when assessing and intervening in situations involving violence against women and when children may be exposed to the abuse of their mother.

Birth Alert: in 2019 MCFD ended the practice of issuing birth alerts. Birth alerts allowed child welfare agencies and hospitals to flag mothers deemed to be high-risk without their knowledge.

Caregiver: under the CFCS Act means a person with whom a child is placed by a director and who, by agreement with the director, is authorized to carry out the rights and responsibilities, under the agreement, of the director. The term refers to a person caring for a child in care of MCFD or an ICFSA.

Case Reviews: are conducted to monitor and improve the quality of service provision and to ensure accountability to the public. A case review is always conducted when there is a fatality of a child/youth in the care of the director, or an adult up to 20 years of age, who was in the care of the director until turning 10 years of age and for all other screened in reports a number of factors are weighted when determining when a Case Review will be completed.

Case Review Decisions (CRD): reportable circumstances are screened to determine whether or not to conduct the case review decision process, which in turn determines if a Case Review will be completed. The Case Review Decision is based on information in the RC, and from police reports and coroners .

CDW: Corporate Data Warehouse is the MCFD data reporting tool. Caseload reports, statistics and other reports can be accessed by MCFD staff.

Chapter 3 – Child Protection Response Policies: are the policies, standards and procedures that support the duties and responsibilities carried out by delegated child protection workers under Part 3 of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*. The policies and standards identify required practices and clinical decision points in the Child Protection Response Model, informed by the use of Structured Decision Making Assessment tools.

Child in Care/Child and Youth in Care (CIC or CYIC): is the term used when a child or youth is in the legal care of MCFD or an ICFSA either through a court order or agreement with a parent (Voluntary Care Agreement or Special Needs Agreement). Children can be in care on an interim and temporary basis or in permanent care under a Continuing Custody Order (CCO).

Child Protection Response (CPR): when a child protection report is screened-in, it then requires a Child Protection Response to assess the safety of children and youth. This response is either a Family Development Response (FDR) or an Investigation. One of the outcomes is to determine if a child is in need of protection and supports are required to address the concerns.

Collaborative Practice and Decision Making (CPDM) and Family Case Planning

Conferences: are collaborative meetings with families, MCFD staff and other supports. The meetings are often hosted by a neutral third

party to create plans for children and youth. Section 20 to 24 of the CFCS Act provides a legal basis for these conferences which are referenced as “mediation or other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms”. The CFCS Act and MCFD policies also support traditional decision-making for Indigenous families and may look different for each Nation. MCFD often refers to these processes as Collaborative Practice and Decision Making (CPDM). MCFD Chapter 3.4 describes CPDM processes in greater detail.

Consent Orders: are defined in section 60 of the CFCSA. Judges can grant an order with a parents written consent “without a hearing, the completion of a hearing or the giving of evidence, (4) an order may be made under this section without the court finding that the child needs protection. (5) a consent by a parent to an order under this section is not an admission by the parent of any grounds alleged by a director for removing the child.”

Continuing Custody Hearing: is the court proceeding under section 49 of the CFCSA to determine if a “child is in need of protection, will the circumstances that led to the child's removal improve within a reasonable time, or the parent will be able to meet the child's needs. and cannot be returned to a parents care within a reasonable period of time.”

Continuing Custody Order (CCO): under the CFCSA, means an order under section 41 (1) (d), 42.2 (4) (d) or (7) or 49 (4), (5) or (10) (a) placing a child in the continuing custody of a director.

Coordination Agreements: are made pursuant to section 20 (2) of An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families and transfer jurisdiction over child and family services to an Indigenous Authority according to Indigenous laws. These agreements describe the roles and responsibilities of all parties to support coordination of child and family services. Indigenous Peoples have the inherent right to

make decisions for their children, youth, families, and communities, but have not been able to exercise this right due to systems imposed on them and Jurisdiction is one path to reclaim inherent responsibilities.

Criminal Record Check (CRC): is used when screening potential caregivers (in care) and care providers (out of care) of children. MCFD polices provide direction when renewals of criminal record checks must occur.

Delegation: is a term under the CFCSA to delegate legal authority to MCFD and ICFSA staff to perform legislated duties. A Designated Director is an individual with statutory responsibility for carrying out powers, duties and functions authorized by the CFCSA. The Minister of Children and Family Development designates Directors via Section 91 of the CFCSA.

Delegated Aboriginal Agencies (DAA): is the previous name for Indigenous Child and Family Service Agencies (ICFCSA). Through delegation agreements, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare gives legal authority to ICFS Agencies to deliver child protection and family support services in Indigenous communities. Currently, there are 24 delegated agencies in BC, with varying levels of delegation and responsibilities to manage services for Indigenous communities.

Delegation levels: C3, C4, C5, C6 describe roles and responsibilities as per the CFCSA and the accompanying delegation letter that authorizes these duties. Delegation is contingent upon demonstration of the required knowledge and skills. (C3) is for Resources and Voluntary Services, (C4) Guardianship, (C5) Partial Child Protection, (C6) Full Child Protection and is the delegation required to remove children under the CFCSA.

Designated Representative/Designated Band Representative (DBR): is a position identified in the CFCSA Regulations and with whom the director provides notice of CFCSA

matters. When used in relation to the Nisga'a Lisims Government, a First Nation, an Indigenous community or a Treaty First Nation, means a representative designated in accordance with the regulations under the CFCS Act

Director: under the CFCS Act means a person designated by the minister under section 91. In court proceedings, child protection staff are delegated to represent the director.

Directors Reviews: are quality assurance measures to assess practice according to policy and standards. They are typically performed within the office of the Provincial Director of Child Welfare – Quality Assurance Branch.

Duty to Report: is set out in the CFCS Act - a person who has reason to believe that a child, including an Indigenous child, needs protection under section 13 must promptly report the matter to a director or a person designated by a director

Extended Family Program (EFP): is an out of care option to support out-of-home living arrangements with extended family or individuals who have a relationship with -- or a cultural/traditional responsibility to -- the child or youth but who are not their legal guardian. Parents give care of the child to the care provider and the Director then provides financial and other support to the care provider, to care for the child or youth.

Family-Based Caregiver Payment Model: is the term used to describe how foster parents are paid.

Family conference: under the CFCS Act means a conference convened under section 20 the purpose of which is to enable and assist the family to develop a plan of care that will

- (a) protect the child from harm,
- (b) serve the best interests of the child,

- (c) take into account the wishes, needs and role of the family, and
- (d) take into account the child's culture and community

Family conference coordinator: means a person designated by a director under the CFCS Act for the purpose of convening family conferences

Family Development Response (FDR): is the primary pathway for all screened-in child protection reports and is one of two child protection responses. The second being an Investigation which is used for circumstances involving severe physical abuse or severe neglect, and parent(s) are able and willing to participate in collaborative assessment.

Family Plans: are collaboratively created with a family and child protection worker to describe the safety concerns, what changes need to occur, resources being offered and timelines for completion of the plans. Chapter 3 of MCFD polices describes the process to create a Family Plan. Plans must be co-created with family, signed by the parties involved and copied provided. They must be updated a minimum of over 6 months or sooner as changes occur in a family.

Family Preservation: is the term used to describe services to keep families safely together or to return children to the care of the parents.

Family Services File/Case: is the file type used to document in the ICM database all activities, documents, plans regarding a parent. This is in contrast to a CS file which is a child service file.

First Nation child: under the CFCS Act means a child:

- (a) who is a member or is entitled to be a member of a First Nation, or
- (b) who an Indigenous authority confirms, by advising a director, is a child belonging to a First Nation

Foster Care/Foster Caregiver/Foster Parent: describes those who care for children in the legal care of MCFD or an ICFSA. They are screened and approved as per policies and procedures including criminal record checks, assessments, reference checks and must complete training. The term caregiver is also used for those who care for children in care and care provider is used to describe those who care for children in a kith arrangement.

Indigenous authority: under the CFCS Act means a body or entity, including an Indigenous governing body (IGB), that is authorized by an Indigenous governing body to provide Indigenous child and family services under Indigenous law

Indigenous child: under the CFCS Act means a child:

- (a) who is a First Nation child,
- (b) who is a Nisga'a child,
- (c) who is a Treaty First Nation child,
- (d) who is under 12 years of age and has a biological parent who
 - (i) is of Indigenous ancestry, including Métis and Inuit, and
 - (ii) considers themselves to be an Indigenous person,
- (e) who is 12 years of age or over, of Indigenous ancestry, including Métis and Inuit, and considers themselves to be an Indigenous person, or
- (f) who an Indigenous governing body or Indigenous authority confirms, by advising a director, is a child belonging to an Indigenous community

Indigenous child and family services: means services provided by an Indigenous authority to support Indigenous children and families, including prevention services, early intervention services and child protection services

Indigenous Child and Family Service Agencies (ICFSA): through delegation agreements, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare gives legal authority to ICFS Agencies to deliver child protection and family support services in Indigenous communities. Currently, there are 24 delegated agencies in BC, with varying levels of delegation and responsibilities to manage services for Indigenous communities.

Indigenous community information: in relation to an Indigenous community to which an Indigenous child belongs, means the following information:

- (a) if the child is a First Nation child, the name and location of the First Nation;
- (b) if the child is a Nisga'a child, the location of the Nisga'a Nation or the child's Nisga'a Village;
- (c) if the child is a Treaty First Nation child, the name and location of the Treaty First Nation;
- (d) if the child is not a First Nation child, a Nisga'a child nor a Treaty First Nation child, the name and location of the child's Indigenous community

Indigenous governing body (IGB): is an entity that is authorized to act on behalf of Indigenous peoples that hold rights recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. For more information, see "Indigenous Governing Bodies in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act".

Indigenous law: means a law in relation to Indigenous child and family services that is made in respect of Indigenous children and families by an Indigenous governing body in accordance with the law-making authority of the Indigenous governing body

Indigenous peoples: has the same meaning as in the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#)

Information Sharing Agreement: Under section 92.1 of the CFCSA, Nations can enter into an agreement with MCFD to share information about their children that are in the care of the director. The purpose of the agreement are "to provide information about the Indigenous community's children in care and children under CFCSA custody orders to assist the Indigenous community in fulfilling its shared responsibility with Indigenous families for the upbringing and well-being of those children."

Integrated Case Management (ICM): is the data management system used for documentation and case management of client records and is a shared system between MCFD and the ministries of Social Development and Social Innovation and Technology, Innovation and Citizens' Services.

Interim order (IO): means an order made under section 28 (5.1), 33.2 (2), 35 (2) (a), (b) or (d), 36 (3) (a) or (b), 42.1 (6) or 98 (7.1) of the CFCS Act

Interim or Temporary Out of Care Orders: are legal orders used when a child can no longer safely remain in a parent's home and no less intrusive measures can be found. These orders can be for in care orders and a child is under the legal care of MCFD or an ICFSA or for Out of Care order when a child lives with and under the care of kith or kin.

Jurisdiction: Bill C-92, or "The Act," applies to all Indigenous children and youth regardless of where they live in Canada and affirms the inherent right of Indigenous peoples to self-govern and to administer their own child and family services. It lays out a process by which Indigenous communities or groups can gain jurisdiction over their own child and family services.

There are two paths to jurisdiction available to Indigenous communities and groups, and each path has a different outcome. Regardless of the path chosen, an Indigenous group or

community must first choose an Indigenous Governing Body (IGB) which is defined as “a council, government or other entity that is authorized to act on behalf of an Indigenous group, community or people that holds rights recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982” (Government of Canada, 2020).

Option 1: give notice of intention to exercise jurisdiction.

The first option requires that an Indigenous community or group gives notice to the Federal Minister of Indigenous Services and the government of each province and territory in which the Indigenous community or group is located. The notice states that they plan to exercise their own laws in the area of child and family services. In this case, while an Indigenous community or group may begin to administer their own laws immediately, in the event of a conflict with provincial or federal child and family laws, Indigenous law will not prevail (Government of Canada, 2020).

Option 2: make a request to enter into a coordination agreement

For the second option, an IGB makes a request to enter into a coordination agreement with federal and provincial governments. If an agreement is reached, or “reasonable efforts were made to reach an agreement” (Government of Canada, 2020) within 12 months of the request, then “Indigenous laws would have the force of federal law and would prevail over conflicting federal, provincial and territorial laws in the event of a conflict or inconsistency” (Government of Canada, 2020).

Kin-first approach: is the presumption in favor of family caring for family versus a child coming into the care of the state.

Kinship Assessment Tool (KAT): is an assessment tool developed by MCFD in collaboration with ICFCSA and Indigenous consultants to assess prospective out-of-care

care providers. It is currently being piloted (2024) in a limited number of teams in B.C.

Kinship Care: is the term used for a broad range of options when a family or a person known to a child is given care of the child under an agreement or court order. Synonymous with the term Out of Care.

Mediation/Alternative Dispute Resolution: under the CFCSA, if a director and any person are unable to resolve an issue relating to the child or a plan of care, the director and the person may agree to mediation or other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms as a means of resolving the issue. This includes situations in which a dispute about whether an Indigenous law applies to a matter under the CFCSA.

No Further Action (NFA) is one option at the conclusion of a Child Protection Investigation or Family Development response when assessing the safety of a child.

Out-of-Care Options/Out of Home Living Arrangements (OOC): also referred to as kith and kin options. They are legal orders or agreements whereby children and youth live with extended family or other individuals who have a relationship with, or a cultural or traditional responsibility to, the child/youth. OOC is prioritized over in-care options and used when available supports and services are not sufficient to keep the child/youth in their parent’s care.

The CFCSA and MCFD policy provides guidance when deciding where to place a child and the director must consider the child's best interests.

The director must give priority to placing the child with a relative or, if that is not consistent with the child's best interests, placing the child as follows:

- (a) in a location where the child can maintain contact with relatives and friends;

- (b) in the same family unit as the child's siblings;
- (c) in a location that will allow the child to continue in the same school.

If the child is an Indigenous child, the director must give priority to placing the child as follows:

- (a) with the child's extended family or within the child's Indigenous community;
- (b) with another Indigenous family, if the child cannot be safely placed under paragraph (a);
- (c) in accordance with subsection (2), if the child cannot be safely placed under paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

Plan of care: means a plan of care developed by means of a court family conference and may include provision for one or more of the following:

- (a) the child to reside in the home of a relative or other person;
- (b) a person, including a parent, to reside outside the child's home;
- (c) the director to have access to the child.

A plan must include the director's consent and may include provision for services to support and assist the family and to make the family safe for the child. If the child is 12 years of age or over, the director must explain the plan of care to the child, and take the child's views into account before agreeing to the plan of care. A plan of care may only be made for a specified period of up to 6 months, but may be extended for one or more periods,

- (a) with the agreement of the director and the persons who developed the plan of care, and
- (b) if the total period of all consecutive plans of care with all directors relating to the same child, including all extensions, is not more than 18 months.

Note: a Care Plan is the plan developed for a child in care of the director and is not a "plan of care".

Practice Guides/Guidelines: are documents that guide MCFD practice, based on research and best practices. These are not policies and not measured in practice audits.

Provincial Centralized Screening (PCS): is part of the Provincial Centralized Services Centre (PCSC) branch, which screens and responds to child protections reports in British Columbia. There are four locations throughout the province that operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. PCS also answers the toll-free "Helpline for Children" and a line dedicated to providing after-hours caregiver support services, facilitates MCFD's response to provincial emergencies and provides after-hour support for the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR) and Community Living BC (CLBC) .

Presentation hearing: is the initial court hearing under the CFCSA, and most often occurs after the removal of a child. It is a hearing that a director is required by section 33.1 (1), 34 (1), 36 (2) (b) or 42.1 (1) to attend.

Preventive and support services: are described in MCFD draft family support framework; "MCFD aims to provide services that support families so that they can provide safe, nurturing environments for their children, protect them from harm and prevent maltreatment and neglect. PFS services are offered on a continuum from voluntary services that are available to all families, to more targeted services focused on early intervention and supporting families through challenges, to more intensive or protective services."

Prior Contact Check (PCC): is a review of all previous records involving the individual who is the subject of the check collected under the CFCSA and/or the Adoption Act. It is one part

of a screening and assessment process that is conducted on prospective foster care, adoptive and out of care care-providers in order to ensure the safety and well-being of children as much as possible.

Protection hearing: is a court appearance after the initial Presentation Hearing for the court to determine whether the child needs protection and must occur within 45 days after the conclusion of the presentation hearing. Judges may grant orders as defined in section 41 of the CFCSA.

Protective intervention order: means an order made under section 28 of the CFCS Act. It is an order to prohibit contact from a person who may pose a risk to a child's safety and wellbeing.

Rescindment: occurs when the court cancels an order under the CFCSA. The term is often used when a Continuing Custody Order being cancelled, and a child is returned to the care of their parent.

Response-Based Practice (RBP)

Approaches: is a model for working with individuals and groups experiencing oppression, adversity, violence and injustice. It recognizes the pre-existing competencies and active agency of people in responding to their social contexts. Response-Based Therapy is the application of this model in the area of therapy, and it is informed by social justice and human rights.

Restricted Foster Home/caregiver (RFH): are kith and kin caring for children and youth in the legal care of MCFD. Chapter 8 MCFD Resource Policies states: "a restricted family care home may be considered if the living arrangement best meets the child/youth's needs, all out-of-care options have been exhausted, and the prospective caregiver: has a significant relationship with the child/youth or the child/youth's family or cultural community". Restricted foster caregivers are screened and approved using the same

processes as for regular foster caregivers but there is a 90-day interim period whereby children can be placed in the home under due diligence steps. This enables children to be placed in the home under emergency situations to avoid multiple placements while waiting to be approved as a restricted foster caregiver.

Section 13 of CFCS Act - when protection is needed: A child needs protection in the following circumstances:

- (a) if the child has been, or is likely to be, physically harmed by the child's parent;
- (b) if the child has been, or is likely to be, sexually abused or exploited by the child's parent;
- (c) if the child has been, or is likely to be, physically harmed, sexually abused or sexually exploited by another person and if the child's parent is unwilling or unable to protect the child;
- (d) if the child has been, or is likely to be, physically harmed because of neglect by the child's parent;
- (e) if the child is emotionally harmed by
 - (i) the parent's conduct, or
 - (ii) living in a situation where there is domestic violence by or towards a person with whom the child resides;
- (f) if the child is deprived of necessary health care;
- (g) if the child's development is likely to be seriously impaired by a treatable condition and the child's parent refuses to provide or consent to treatment;
- (h) if the child's parent is unable or unwilling to care for the child and has not made adequate provision for the child's care;
- (i) if the child is or has been absent from home in circumstances that endanger the child's safety or well-being;

- (j) if the child's parent is dead and adequate provision has not been made for the child's care;
- (k) if the child has been abandoned and adequate provision has not been made for the child's care;
- (l) if the child is in the care of a director or another person by agreement and the child's parent is unwilling or unable to resume care when the agreement is no longer in force.

Section 70 Rights: Children in care have the following rights:

- (a) to be fed, clothed and nurtured according to community standards and to be given the same quality of care as other children in the placement;
- (b) to be informed about their plans of care;
- (c) to be consulted and to express their views, according to their abilities, about significant decisions affecting them;
- (d) to reasonable privacy and to possession of their personal belongings;
- (e) to be free from corporal punishment;
- (f) to be informed of the standard of behaviour expected by their caregivers or prospective adoptive parents and of the consequences of not meeting the expectations of their caregivers or prospective adoptive parents, as applicable;
- (g) to receive medical and dental care when required;
- (h) to participate in social and recreational activities if available and appropriate and according to their abilities and interests;
- (i) to receive the religious instruction and to participate in the religious activities of their choice;

- (j) to receive guidance and encouragement to maintain their cultural heritage;
- (k) to be provided with an interpreter if language or disability is a barrier to consulting with them on decisions affecting their custody or care;
- (l) to privacy during discussions with members of their families, subject to subsection (2);
- (m) to privacy during discussions with a lawyer, the representative or a person employed or retained by the representative under the *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, the Ombudsperson, a member of the Legislative Assembly or a member of Parliament;
- (n) to be informed about and to be assisted in contacting the representative under the *Representative for Children and Youth Act*, or the Ombudsperson;
- (o) to be informed of their rights, and the procedures available for enforcing their rights, under
 - (i) this Act, or
 - (ii) the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

(1.1) In addition to the rights set out in subsection (1), Indigenous children have the right to

- (a) receive guidance, encouragement and support to learn about and practise their Indigenous traditions, customs and languages, and
- (b) belong to their Indigenous communities.

Safety Plan (SP): is an interim plan to address immediate safety while a child protection worker continues their assessment. Safety Plans are a collaborative discussion with family and support persons identified by the family. Plans are to describe details such as:

- the specific actions that will be taken to secure the child's safety;
- what each individual will do;
- end date of the plan and when all we renew if required (lasting no longer than the end of the FDR Assessment Phase or Investigation or until a succeeding Family Plan is developed.
- how the plan will be monitored and by whom;

If the child/youth is Indigenous, identify how their inherent right to cultural continuity and to practice their unique Indigenous traditions, customs, languages, and connect with their Indigenous community is maintained. The Safety Plan is to be signed by family members who receive a copy.

Special Needs Agreement (SNA): a Special Needs Agreement is an agreement made with a parent of a child with special needs for provision of alternate care arrangements for the child.

Specialized Homes and Support Services (SHSS): is described by MCFD as a Transformation Project to provide improved services and contracted staffed care to children and youth, and their families. "In addition to supporting the safety and well-being of vulnerable children and youth in care, in out of care arrangements, and not in care, SHSS has an important role in supporting the broader work of the ministry and its partners by providing key prevention and early intervention supports – things like respite and relief care, stabilization supports, connection to culture and community, and specialized care. These services help keep families together, help strengthen placement stability, and provide healing opportunities for children and youth."

Staffed Residential Resources (SRR): is the term used for group care or group homes. MCFD and IFCSA's contract with community agencies to provide the majority of this type of care to children and youth.

Structured Analysis Family Evaluation

Home Study (SAFE Home Study): Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) is the Consortium for Children's standardized home study methodology used by both private and public child welfare agencies to study and evaluate prospective adoptive, foster parents and 54.0 order kith arrangements.

Structure Decision Making/ Structure Decision Making Tools (SDM):

The Structured Decision Making (SDM) Assessment Tools are actuarial tools that are used with the Child Protection Response Model intended to:

1. Reduce subsequent maltreatment to children and families
2. Expedite permanency and belonging for children
3. Use of critical analysis and clinical judgement
4. Clear documentation.

Supervision Order (SO): means an order made under CFCSA section 33.2 (2), 35 (2) (b) or (d), 36 (3) (b) (i), 41 (1) (a) or (b), (1.1) or (2.1), 42.2 (4) (a) or (c), 46 (3), 49 (8) or 54.01 (10) requiring a director to supervise a child's care, and includes any extension of or change to that order

Temporary Custody Order (TCO): means an order made under CFCSA section 41 (1) (b) or (c), 42.2 (4) (b) or (c), 49 (7) (b) or (c) or 54.01 (9) (b) or (c) placing a child for a specified period in the custody of a director or another person, and includes any extension of or change to that order

Temporary Custody Order to a person other than a parent: When a child is removed, the CFCSA has provisions for the child to be placed temporarily in the custody of a person other than a parent and under the director's supervision. This is considered an OOC options (kith and kin option).

Voluntary Care Agreement (VCA): a parent or guardian can enter into a temporary agreement for the Director to provide care for a child while the parent retains guardianship rights. Time limits for VCAs are based on the age of the youngest child subject to the agreement.

Withdrawal from proceedings: means that under s.33.01(1) the director may withdraw from legal proceedings before a presentation hearing, or before the conclusion of a presentation hearing, relating to the removal of a child under section 30, 36 or 42, if:

(a) the child is an Indigenous child and the parent apparently entitled to custody makes an agreement, that the director considers adequate to protect the child, with,

(i) if the child is a First Nation child, the First Nation,

(ii) if the child is a Nisga'a child, the Nisga'a Nation or the child's Nisga'a Village,

(iii) if the child is a Treaty First Nation child, the Treaty First Nation, or

(iv) if the child is not a First Nation child, a Nisga'a child nor a Treaty First Nation child, the legal entity representing the child's Indigenous community,

(b) the parent apparently entitled to custody is not a resident of British Columbia and the director makes an agreement, that the director considers adequate to protect the child

(c) the director makes an agreement under section 8 respecting the child.

Withdrawal notice: Under s.33.03(1) of the CFCSA if a director receives a confirmation and request from an Indigenous authority

under section 33.02 (b), the director must promptly notify the following, if practicable:

(a) each person who is entitled to be informed of the presentation hearing under section 34 (3), 36 (2.1) or 42.1 (3), as applicable;

(b) if applicable, any relevant Indigenous authority other than the Indigenous authority that requested the withdrawal.

(2) The notification under subsection (1) must

(a) indicate that the Indigenous authority that requested the withdrawal is or will be providing Indigenous child and family services in accordance with an Indigenous law, and

(b) provide information about an application that may be made under section 33.04, including the time period for making the application.

JUSTICE-RELATED AND ANTI-VIOLENCE

Agreed Statement of Facts: a party can admit that certain facts or issues are not in dispute and that there is an agreement on certain facts of the case. It will speed up the trial process because those facts do not need to be proved in court. If one party admits a fact in this formal way, it is binding on that party. Withdrawing an admission requires permission from the Court. That means that once the defendant, for example, admits liability for the accident, they cannot argue against that later without getting permission from the Court to withdraw an admission.

B-SAFER: Is an assessment tool when conducting risk assessments of intimate partner violence. Its purpose is to introduce a systematic, standardized, and practically useful framework for gathering and considering information when making decisions about violence risk. It draws directly from the scientific and professional literatures

on spousal violence risk assessment and victim safety planning.

Domestic Violence Units (DVU): are interagency teams within B.C. that are assigned highest risk intimate partner violence cases. Team members often are comprised of police, MCFD and Victim Services.

Gladue Report: is prepared for sentencing, bail, appeals, long term offenders' hearings, dangerous offenders' hearings, or parole hearings that provide the court with comprehensive information on the offender, their community, and their family and a healing and restorative justice plan as an alternative to prison time.

Interagency Case Assessment Teams (ICAT): is a formalized group comprised up of Community-Based Victim Services (CBVS) workers, police, Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), probation/corrections, and others who connect and support survivors. ICATs work together to respond to "highest risk cases of intimate partner violence" where there is a likely risk of "serious bodily harm or death," and provide coordinated risk management for those cases with a priority of enhancing survivor safety. Source: EVA BC

VAWIR: Violence Against Women in Relationships policy, December 2010. The policy provides guidance and processes how to support and provide safety for families in BC who are experiencing violence. Defines roles and responsibilities for Police, MCFD, courts, Victims Services etc.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Ministries and Authorities

MCFD Ministry of Children and Family Development
MMHA Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
MoH Ministry of Health
MECC Ministry of Education and Child Care??
MPSSG Mistry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
MAG Mistry of Attorney General
MSDPR Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
PHSA Provincial Health Services Authority
FHA First Nations Health Authority

MCFD Service Lines:

CYMH -Child and Youth Mental Health Services
CYSN -Child and Youth with Support Needs
YJ -Youth Justice Services
CS/CYIC -Child Safety, Family, Youth and Children in Care Services
EY -Early Years Services
ECD/CC – Early Childhood Development/Child Care Note: Child Care moved to the Ministry of Education and Child Care in April 2022.
AS -Adoption Services

Legislation & Conventions

CFCSA Child, Family and Community Services act
FLA Family Law act
DRIPA Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples act
RCY Act Representative for Children and Youth act
FOIPPA Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy act

UNCRC United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child

UNDRIP United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

UNCRPD United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

SCCY Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth

BC AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CITED

McCreary Centre Society (MCS) (Note Adolescent Health Survey)

Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) (Note EDI, TDI, MDI)

First Nations Justice Centres (FNJC)

Child and Youth Advocacy Centres (CYAC)

Parent Support Services (PSS)

B.C. Disability Collaborative (BCDC)

BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)

BC Children's Hospital (BCCH)

NATIONAL AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CITED

First Nations Child and Family Caring Society (Caring Society or FNCFCS)

First Nations Information Governance Centre – First Nations Data Governance Strategy (FNDGDS)

Institute of Fiscal Studies and Democracy (IFSD)