

**Status Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the SC Director’s Case Review  
July 2005**

Recommendation	Status	Timeframe
<p>1. The Agency Executive Director to review with their staff the Aboriginal Operational and Practice Standards and Indicators related to investigation, specifically Standards #4 -#20 of Level 15 delegation.</p>	<p>These standards have been reviewed with staff. The agency has a process to review standards with new staff or when there are any areas of confusion with respect to the standards. The agency will participate in the Orientation to the revised <i>Aboriginal Operational and Practice Standards and Indicators (AOPSI)</i>.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>2. The Agency Executive Director and MCFD Manager to review their protocol to ensure that there are no barriers to good communication between the Ministry and Agency.</p>	<p>Protocol between Ministry and Agency was updated immediately following the identification of communication gaps.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>3. The provincial Director to ensure that when new child welfare legislation is enacted, and before new standards are implemented or new policies are approved, all social workers are provided with its associated training, especially in cases where the new legislation is central to how children are protected, such as Sections 8, 9, 10 and 41.</p>	<p>The provincial Director has revised the procedure for implementing new policy and standards, with releases planned twice a year. Implementation will include a training plan for each new policy or set of standards. There is a six-month implementation period for each new standard or policy, after which practice will be audited to the new standard.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>4. The provincial Director MCFD, to review Kith and Kin guidelines to determine whether they were intended as discretionary guidelines or as a policy requirement. The revised November 2003, Kith and Kin guidelines should be forwarded to all Aboriginal Agencies.</p>	<p>The Kith and Kin guidelines were initially revised in 2003 and forwarded to all agencies. Since then, they have been reviewed and replaced with Child Protection Standard #5 Kinship Care in the revised <i>AOPSI</i>. All agencies have received copies of the revised standards, and an orientation program has commenced. See response to #3.</p>	<p>Complete</p>

<p>5. The provincial Director MCFD, to review policy regarding out of care options to determine whether medical examination should be completed on all children living in out of care placements as a result of a child protection intervention.</p>	<p>A medical examination is required for every child who is the subject of a child-protection investigation that is the result of abuse. The Provincial Director is reviewing this policy with respect to chronic neglect.</p>	<p>December 2005</p>
<p>6. The provincial Director MCFD to require that all child welfare agencies in British Columbia use an information-sharing computer database that interfaces with every other child welfare agency in the province. The SWS MIS system of file management and information sharing is one such database that should be available to all agencies in the province prior to their achievement of Level 15 (Protection) delegation. Because social worker's assessment tools are limited, knowledge of a family's previous history is essential for them to make informed decisions. The SWS MIS system lists any previous Ministry involvement with the child or family. Since all agencies go through a long and graduated process of achieving the highest level of delegation, the requirement that the information-sharing program be in existence prior to the Level 15 delegation would not create undue hardship on an Agency.</p>	<p>USMA Nuu-Chah-Nulth has had access to the Ministry's SWS MIS system since 2003 and enters all Agency data in the system so that it can be shared.</p> <p>The Ministry is currently planning the development of an interface that will connect all agencies' systems to the Ministry's, eliminating the need to duplicate data entry.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>March 2006</p>
<p>7. The provincial Director MCFD to ensure that Ministry and Agency social workers are aware that intakes on young people who are parents or who are about to be parents and who are living away from their legal guardians with little or no likelihood of repatriation should be registered under the young person's name. They should identify the young person as the "key player" on their own Family Service file even if they are living with family members or other de facto caregivers.</p>	<p>As part of the fall 2005 policy release, the provincial Director will advise regional staff and agencies that when service is provided, separate files should be established for parenting youth who do not reside with their guardians.</p> <p>The Agency has implemented this policy internally, as has the local district office.</p>	<p>Sept 2005</p>

<p>8. The regional Director MCFD and Agency Director to ensure training is provided for Family Support workers regarding reporting responsibilities and working with delegated Aboriginal Agencies.</p>	<p>This training session is scheduled to take place July 21-22, 2005.</p>	<p>July 21 &amp; 22, 2005</p>
<p>9. The provincial director MCFD to communicate with MCFD staff that all files are clearly marked as "protection" or "request for family support services". While the response of the social worker may not be affected by this classification because of their knowledge of the case, when the file is transferred to either another social worker or another agency, proper classification is critically important.</p>	<p>The provincial Director has revised the child protection electronic system to identify specifically whether or not a family service case is "protection" or "family support." The provincial Director will consider the benefits of marking the outside of files.</p>	<p>Completed  Sep 2005</p>
<p>10. The agency director to ensure that social workers do not register intakes related to their family members on Family Service files, whether they are "protection" calls or "requests for family support services".</p>	<p>The Agency implemented this policy change immediately and has implemented restricted access in their electronic system so staff cannot access family members' files.</p>	<p>Complete</p>
<p>11. The Agency director to ensure a clear communications protocol be developed and implemented between delegated social workers and local police detachments.</p>	<p>These protocols were developed and completed in May and June 2005.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>12. The provincial director MCFD to communicate with delegated agencies and Ministry staff that Prior Contact Checks must be reviewed by a delegated social worker before being forwarded to another agency.</p>	<p>The revised <i>AOPSI</i> Child Protection Standard #2 requires that a social worker complete a PCC and, when applicable, directly contact the office where the file exists. Since the identification of the concern about PCCs, the agency has only had social workers complete them.</p>	<p>Completed</p>