

Plan of Care Committees and Court Hearing Options

The Child Protection Worker must explain the option of either working with a Plan of Care Committee or attending court to address the child protection concerns to the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, if 12 years of age or older.

REFERENCE

NWT Child and Family Services Act section 14 (a)(b)

PURPOSE

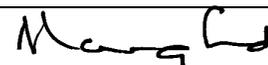
- To ensure parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years or older, understand their right to elect to have their child protection matter heard before court rather than to address the matter through the Plan of Care Committee process.

PROCEDURE

1. Provide the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older, with a copy of the *Court Process* and the *Differences Between the Plan of Care Committee and the Court Processes forms*.
2. Explain the information to support the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older to make an informed decision.
3. Provide the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older, with the following Information Sheets:
 - Dealing with Child Protection Matters in Court
 - Plan of Care Agreements
 - Child and Family Services Committees
4. Complete the *Notification of Right to Elect to Go to Court form*.
5. Complete the *Election to Proceed to Court form* if the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older, choose to have the child protection matter heard before the court.
6. Dissolve the Plan of Care Committee if the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older, elects to go to court.

Effective Date:
April 1, 2015

Director Child and Family Services



7. Record all contacts with the child, parent(s) and guardian(s) in the child's file.
8. Place originals of the signed *Notification of Right to Elect to Go to Court and/or Election to Proceed to Court forms* on the child's file and provide copies to the parent(s), guardian(s) and the child, 12 years of age or older.

FORMS

- The Court Process
- Differences Between the Plan of Care Committee and the Court Processes
- Dealing with Child Protection Matters in Court
- Plan of Care Agreements
- Child and Family Services Committees
- Notification of Right to Elect to Go to Court
- Election to Proceed to Court

TOOLS

- None

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