

Transition Planning

The Child Protection Worker will develop a written transition plan for a youth in the care/custody of the Director in order to plan for the youth leaving the Director's care/custody and entering into adulthood and independent living.

REFERENCE

Department of Health and Social Services Policy

PURPOSE

- To ensure all youth in care and/or custody of the Director have a Transition Plan;
- To ensure optimal transition for the youth to a new or existing living arrangement/level of independence;
- To ensure that all youth in the care of the Director are provided with the training, guidance and support to gradually take responsibility for their own care, according to their capabilities, upon reaching 19 years of age.

PROCEDURE

1. Prior to the child's 16th birthday or one year prior to the expiry of the Permanent Custody Order, the Child Protection Worker will offer a collaborative planning process to gather all participants to develop the transition plan in preparation for the youth's transition to independence.
2. The child will be an active participant in the development and execution of the plan. Additionally, the worker shall ensure the following are invited:
 - The youth's parents (if appropriate).
 - If the youth is a member of an Aboriginal organization, an authorized representative of the youth's Aboriginal organization.
 - Members of the youth's extended family who are significant to the youth
 - Relevant service providers including Adult Services (if appropriate).
 - Any other person whose involvement would be of assistance in developing the plan.
3. Utilizing the *Elements of a Transition Plan* tool, identify a Transition Plan that will include, but is not limited to:
 - An assessment of the youth's needs, strengths and areas of concern
 - Development of a support team
 - Expectations for all team members and the youth

- A monitoring and review timeline (every 6 months)
4. If it appears likely that a youth who is receiving intervention services will become a dependent adult, planning specific to guardianship, trusteeship and adult services supports should begin once the youth turns 16 years of age or one year prior to the expiry of the Permanent Custody Order.
 5. Assist the youth in obtaining information on financial assistance available for students that attend post-secondary education and training.

FORMS

- Transition Plan

TOOLS

- Elements of a Transition Plan