

SUMMARY: FILE REVIEW

Of a Critical Injury of a Child Known to the Ministry

A. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (the Ministry) conducted the File Review (FR) to examine practice in the case of the subject child (the child).

For the purpose of the FR, Ministry records were reviewed. The FR focused on a specific period of Ministry involvement prior to the child's critical injury.

B. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Did the Ministry's response to the child protection concerns meet the applicable legislation, policy, and practice standards?
2. Was collaboration between Ministry programs, other service providers, and family members sufficient to provide an informed, integrated response to the child and child's parents?
3. Did Ministry staff conduct appropriate assessments and planning to mitigate the risk to the child with regard to a particular concern?

C. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The child was not Aboriginal and was in the parents' care at the time of the critical injury. The Ministry was providing ongoing protection services due to a substantiated child protection concern that the child was at high risk in the family home. The family was engaged with two Ministry programs, and services in the community.

D. FINDINGS

1. The Ministry appropriately responded to the concerns for the child's safety through a child protection response. A few instances occurred when policy was not followed as prescribed; these instances did not affect the child's safety.
2. Significant collaboration occurred, which helped inform an integrated response to the child and the child's parents. Some gaps in collaboration were identified; they were not critical to the outcome of the incident.

3. The Ministry completed the required assessment and planning tools and used them to inform practice with the family.

E. ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE

1. The Ministry's Duty to Report awareness campaign occurred in the Service Delivery Area (SDA), and involved all the pertinent community partners.

F. ACTION PLAN

1. The directors of practice for the two involved SDA's discuss the *Case Transfer & Joint Case Management Practice Directive*, and any barriers to effective implementation, with their respective Community Service Managers.
2. The Deputy Director of Child Welfare reviews current planning for the child with the Executive Director of Service for the involved SDA.

This review was completed in November 2016. The above Action Plan is due for full implementation in January 2017.