

SUMMARY: COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW Of the Death of a Youth Known to the Ministry in 2017

A. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (the ministry) conducted the Comprehensive Review (CR) to examine case practice regarding the subject youth (the youth).

For the purpose of the CR, discussions occurred with ministry staff. Ministry records, policies, standards, guidelines, and legislation were reviewed. The CR focused on a specific period of ministry involvement prior to the death of the youth.

B. TERM OF REFERENCE

1. Did the ministry adequately assess, and plan for the youth's safety and well-being, particularly with regard to the impact of a specific issue?

C. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The Ministry had been involved with the youth's family for many years primarily due to concerns of specific high-risk issues. Community services were referred to on several occasions; however, mandated services were never required. The youth was also involved with the ministry as a parent due to concerns of high-risk issues and a specific issue; the youth was resistant to engaging in services until just prior to their death. The youth was in the care of the parent at the time of death.

D. FINDINGS

1. The ministry partially assessed and planned for the youth's safety. As a result of the Initial Record Review being incomplete, and the Detailed Record Review not being performed, important information regarding this youth's involvement with the ministry was missed. The ministry assessed concerns pertaining to a specific issue, to some degree, using a specific guideline; however, a specific practice directive was not followed. Although there was planning in place for the youth to engage in services, it was not documented in a formal family plan.

E. ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE

1. One of the involved SDA received two day face-to-face training regarding a specific issue.
2. One of the involved SDA received Structured Decision Making Tools training, which included reviewing the updated risk factors for a specific issue; another session was planned for completion by July 2018.
3. One of the involved social workers is scheduled to co-facilitate training regarding a specific issue for the SDA.

F. ACTION PLAN

1. The Directors of Practice for both involved SDA's discuss with the involved staff the importance of completing checks on a specific registry when working with clients experiencing a specific issue.
2. The Director of Practice for one of the SDA is meeting with the involved staff to review the purpose and practice implications of completing a Detailed Record Review.
3. The Executive Director of Service for one of the involved SDA's shares information with the Service Delivery Area staff regarding a specific issue services available through community partners for families to receive support and education.

The review was completed in June 2018. The above action plan was due for full implementation in August 2018.