

Proposed Legislative Language Update
Gendered Language Legislative Amendments
August 22, 2022

Change Description

The ministry is working with the Better Regulations team at the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation to remove gendered language from Ministry of Children and Family Development legislation. Changes are also proposed to update language to increase awareness and reduce stigma around mental and physical health.

This proposed update is not a policy change but an update to language in existing legislation.

Proposed Change

Gendered language will be replaced with gender neutral terms. For example, “he or she” may be replaced by “the person” or “the applicant.”

Gendered language impacts Indigenous women and peoples who are, Two-Spirit, transgender, non-binary, or gender-fluid.

To mitigate stigma regarding mental and physical health matters, instances of the phrases “suffers from” and “suffering from” will be replaced with “experiences” and “experiencing” in the *Social Workers Act*.

The amendments will affect the following legislation:

- *Child, Family and Community Service Act*
- *Employment and Assistance Act*
- *Social Workers Act*
- *Youth Justice Act*
- *Adoption Act*
- *Human Resource Facility Act*

CONTACT US

Requests to participate in an engagement meeting will be accepted until **September 23, 2022**.

For more information or to participate in an engagement meeting:

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