

SUMMARY: FILE REVIEW
Of the Critical Injury of a Youth in the Care of the Director

Circumstances of the Critical Injury

The review examined the case files of an Indigenous youth who was critically injured. The Director provided services to the youth and their family at the time of the critical injury in relation to concerns regarding abuse and neglect which led the youth to be placed in the care of the Director so that their specific needs could be addressed.

Findings

After an incident at the youth's foster placement, the Director approved the youth's extended family to be restricted foster parents, without an accurate assessment of the extended family's previous history of Ministry involvement. This left the youth in a potentially unsafe situation. Once this issue was discovered, a thorough assessment of the extended family occurred and the historical concerns were determined to no longer be a concern. Permanency planning was explored with the extended family, but did not continue.

The youth was provided specific services to address an identified issue. A formal plan was not completed to comprehensively address all the youth's needs; however, collaboration occurred with the youth, extended family, and the service provider to identify and plan for some of the youth's needs. After the youth attended a specific program, no further assessment of, or planning for the youth's needs occurred prior to their transition to the community.

Prior to the case review being finalized the youth entered into an agreement with the Director to address their safety and well-being and monitor them while they transitioned from Ministry care into the community.

Actions

The Ministry's Quality Assurance Team facilitated a discussion with the involved SDA leadership, resulting in an action plan to review the policy regarding screening for restricted foster parents with the involved teams, and to review the policy and process of transition planning with the child safety, guardianship, and resource teams.

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