

SUMMARY: FILE REVIEW

Of the Death of a Youth Known to the Ministry

A. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (the Ministry) conducted the File Review (FR) to examine case practice involving the subject youth (the youth) of the FR and the service involvement of the youth and family.

The FR included an examination of Ministry records and BC Coroners Service documents focusing on the period of Ministry involvement preceding the death of the youth.

B. TERM(S) OF REFERENCE

1. Were the Ministry program's services:
 - a) Specific to meeting the youth's special needs?
 - b) Offered by Ministry staff with the requisite skills and clinical supervision to intercede effectively?
 - c) Consistent with legislation, policy and service standards in place at the time?
2. Did the Ministry offer effective program services to the youth, through:
 - a) The collaboration and coordination of services with other government agencies?
 - b) And consistent with appropriate community protocols, partnerships or processes for such services?

C. BACKGROUND SUMMARY

The Ministry became involved with the family due to the youth's high risk behaviours, and was in the care of the Ministry for a brief period of time. The youth and the youth's parents participated in the services provided by the Ministry.

D. FINDINGS

1. Ministry program services were specific to meeting the youth's identified special needs. The program practitioner completed specific training provided by the Ministry. Case documentation demonstrated practice aligned with applicable policy and standards, specifically in the areas of: client and family engagement; and, collaboration with involved support services. The special needs of the youth required more clinical supervision than was documented.

2. Ministry program services, with one identified exception, showed an adequate level of coordination and collaboration with other government agencies. Practice concerns identified did not appear to be linked to the youth's death.

F. ACTION PLAN

1. The Community Services Manager reviews with Ministry staff the documentation requirements as related to clinical supervision.
2. The Executive Director of Service develops a protocol with the identified government agency in alignment with Ministry program guidelines.