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# CHILD, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT

## CHAPTER 46

*1 The Child, Family and Community Service Act is amended by adding the following sections:*

### **Agreements with child's kin and others**

- 8** (1) A director may make a written agreement with a person who
- (a) has established a relationship with a child or has a cultural or traditional responsibility toward a child, and
  - (b) is given care of the child by the child's parent.
- (2) The agreement may provide for the director to contribute to the child's support while the child is in the person's care.

1994-27-8; 1995-19-4.

### **Agreements with youth**

- 9** (1) Subject to the regulations, a director may make a written agreement with a youth who needs assistance and who
- (a) cannot, in the opinion of the director, be re-established in the youth's family, or
  - (b) has no parent or other person willing or able to assist the youth.
- (2) The agreement may provide for one or more of the following:
- (a) financial assistance;
  - (b) residential, educational or other services to assist the youth.
- (3) The agreement must include a description of the services to be provided by the director and the goals to be met by the youth.
- (4) Before making the agreement, the director must
- (a) consider whether the agreement is in the youth's best interests, and
  - (b) recommend that the youth seek advice from an independent third party.
- (5) The initial term of the agreement must not exceed 6 months, but the agreement may be renewed for terms of up to 6 months each.
- (6) No agreement under this section continues beyond the youth's 19th birthday.
- (7) For the purposes of this section, "youth" includes a person who
- (a) is under 16 years of age, and
  - (b) is married or is a parent or expectant parent.

1994-27-9; 1996-6-28.

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**Agreements with young adults**

- 10 (1) A director may make a written agreement with a person who until the person's 19th birthday received services under section 9.
- (2) The agreement may provide for services to assist the person while enrolled in an educational or vocational-training program or while taking part in a rehabilitative program.
- (3) The term of the agreement must not
- (a) exceed 24 months, or
  - (b) extend beyond the person's 24th birthday.
- 1994-27-10; 1995-19-4.

**2 The following sections are added:****Family conference**

- 20 (1) The purpose of a family conference is to enable and assist the family to develop a plan of care that will
- (a) protect the child from harm,
  - (b) serve the best interests of the child,
  - (c) take into account the wishes, needs and role of the family, and
  - (d) take into account the child's culture and community.
- (2) If a director concludes after an investigation that a child needs protection, the director must offer to refer the parent or, if the parent is unavailable, another family member to a family conference coordinator.
- (3) Subsection (2) applies whether or not the child has been removed.
- (4) If the offer is accepted, the family conference coordinator may, after talking to the parent or other family member, convene a family conference.
- 1994-27-20.

**Plan of care**

- 21 (1) The plan of care developed by means of a family conference must include the director's consent and may include provision for services to support and assist the family and to make the family safe for the child.
- (2) The plan of care may include provision for one or more of the following:
- (a) the child to reside in the home of a relative or other person;
  - (b) a person, including a parent, to reside outside the child's home;
  - (c) the director to have access to the child.
- (3) If the child is 12 years of age or over, the director must before agreeing to the plan of care

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- (a) explain the plan of care to the child, and
  - (b) take the child's views into account.
- (4) A plan of care may only be made for a specified period of up to 6 months, but may be extended for one or more periods,
- (a) with the agreement of the director and the persons who developed the plan of care, and
  - (b) if the total period, including all extensions, is not more than 18 months.
- 1994-27-21.

### Repeals

- 3 *In section 103, subsections (2) (u) and (3) are repealed on January 26, 1997.*

1994-27-103 (4).

### Commencement

- 4 (1) Sections 1 and 2 come into force by regulation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
- (2) Sections 1 and 2 may be brought into force on different dates in different areas of British Columbia or for different categories of cases.

1994-27-148.