Ministry of Children and Family Development

2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Children and Family Development 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Honourable Katrine Conroy

Minister of Children and Family Development

June 25, 2020

Minister of State's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Children and Family Development 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan created in February 2019. Under the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act, I am accountable for achieving the following results for 2019/20:

- a. Continue implementation of initiatives that support government's universal child care plan that provides affordable, accessible and high-quality care and early learning for every child whose family wants or needs it;
- b. Monitor and report publicly on results achieved through the implementation of B.C.'s actions under the Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework agreement with the federal government;
- c. Continue engagement with all levels of government, child care providers, and the private and not-for-profit sectors to further inform implementation of the plan for universal child care;
- d. Submit to Cabinet a report on the results referred to in paragraphs a. through c. on or before March 31, 2020.

Honourable Katrina Chen

Minister of State for Child Care

June 25, 2020

Ministry of Children and Family Development

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Letter from the Minister

The Ministry of Children and Family Development is committed to ensuring all children and youth in British Columbia live in safe, healthy and nurturing families, strongly connected to their communities and culture.

We continue to work with First Nations on jurisdiction to keep Indigenous children out of care and are making good progress. In fiscal 2019/20, B.C. saw the lowest number of children in care in 30 years, and the lowest number of Indigenous children in care since 2000. We know there is still more to do, and we are committed to this work.

In fall 2019, we made further changes to our practice and provided orientation for Ministry and Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA) staff to support the implementation of new federal legislation, which came into effect on January 1, 2020.

In B.C., we began to implement legislative changes that came into effect on April 1, 2019, which allow for greater information sharing and involvement by Indigenous communities in child welfare matters. In September 2019, we stopped issuing birth alerts and improved support for vulnerable expectant parents to help keep newborns safe and families together.

The B.C. Government announced an increase to the Family Care Rate (also called the maintenance rate) effective April 1, 2019. This was the first raise in maintenance rates for ten years. It provided a 75 per cent increase to Extended Family Program caregivers so they now receive the same maintenance rate as foster caregivers and other out-of-care care providers.

We held provincial engagements with former youth in care, caregivers and community agencies, as well as DAA and Ministry staff to re-imagine the Agreements with Young Adults program to better meet the needs of young people and support them to successfully transition to adulthood.

B.C. families raising children with special needs are benefiting from a \$6.3 million increase in respite care that came into effect April 2019; this investment has allowed approximately 1,300 more families to receive respite and increased the base funding amount by 10 per cent to \$256 per month – the first increase since 1989.

We're continuing to build a child care system focused on four pillars: affordability, accessibility, inclusivity and quality. More parents have access to affordable child care spaces and our Early Childhood Educators are finally starting to see the supports they need and deserve. We couldn't have done it without the help and support of B.C.'s child care providers. We know there's much more to do to bring universal child care to our province. We've made a promise to B.C. parents – and we're keeping it.

Honourable Katrine Conroy

Minister of Children and Family Development

July 1, 2020

Letter from the Minister of State

I am proud to be working closely with the Minister of Children and Family Development to make life more affordable and address the need for child care in our province through the most significant investment in child care in B.C.'s history.

When we came into government, we committed to making it easier for families to find quality, affordable and inclusive child care. We launched Childcare BC in 2018 to do just that and we're making great progress in each area of our plan.

Through the Affordable Child Care Benefit, the families of 63,000 children saw up to \$1,250 a month, per child, in savings for 2019/20. With the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, families saved up to \$350 a month, per child. Taken together, these programs made a significant difference for B.C. parents, with many low-income families seeing care for the equivalent of \$10 a day or less and increasing the number of middle-income families accessing these supports.

Not only are these initiatives helping parents, they're also lowering the cost of living across the province. In fact, in May 2019, we saw the living wage for families in Metro Vancouver drop for the first time in more than a decade as a direct result of our investments in child care. Now the living wage stands at \$19.50. Without our investments, it would have increased again to \$22.47.

We're not just lowering the cost of care. We've moved quickly to create new licensed child care spaces, with 12,740 new spaces funded in fiscal 2019/20.

We're seeing municipalities and school districts step up to create new licensed child care spaces as well. In July 2019, we signed a memorandum of understanding with the City of Vancouver that will bring thousands of new spaces to schools and recreation centres.

We can't create new spaces without professionals to staff them. That's why we launched our Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy in September 2018. Over the last year, we saw this strategy start to make a difference with the introduction of a \$1 per-hour wage enhancement on April 1, 2019 for thousands of early childhood educators

We've also significantly increased support for those who are looking to pursue a career in child care. Through our agreement with the Government of Canada, we enhanced our Early Childhood Educator (ECE) bursary and in fiscal 2019/20, we provided support for over 4,000 bursaries for students to attain their ECE certification.

There is still a lot to do, but we are committed to providing the support needed, both now and in the future, so we can continue the momentum of our Childcare BC plan and build an inclusive, quality child care system that is affordable and accessible to all families that want or need it.

Honourable Katrina Chen Minister of State for Child Care

July 1, 2020

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

The Annual Service Plan Report is designed to meet the requirements of the <u>Budget</u> <u>Transparency and Accountability Act</u> (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets documented in the previous year's Service Plan.

Purpose of the Ministry

The primary focus of the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) is to support all children and youth in British Columbia, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to live in safe, healthy and nurturing families and to be strongly connected to their communities and culture. The Ministry's approach is to deliver inclusive, culturally respectful, responsive and accessible services that support the well-being of children, youth and families in B.C.

The Ministry supports children, youth and their families, emphasizing the principles of early intervention, prevention and cultural and community connections to keep families together, where possible, and connect children and youth with permanent living arrangements when needed. Services include those for early childhood development and child care, children and youth with special needs, child and youth mental health, adoption, youth justice, and supporting youth transitioning to adulthood.

For information on specific programs and services, visit the Ministry of Children and Family Development internet site.

The Ministry also supports the Minister in her governance responsibilities for the <u>Columbia Power Corporation</u> and the <u>Columbia Basin Trust</u> – Crown Corporations that prepare their own Service Plans and Annual Service Plan Reports – as well as with program coordination and administration of services related to the Columbia River Treaty.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2017, expanded upon in <u>Minister Katrine Conroy's Mandate Letter</u>, shaped the <u>2019/20 Ministry of Children and Family Development Service Plan</u> and the results reported in this Annual Report.

Operating Environment

The Ministry delivers on its mandate through approximately 5,390 ministry staff working in partnership with DAAs, Indigenous service partners, approximately 5,043 contracted community social service agencies and foster homes, as well as cross-government and social-sector partners.

Ministry programs and services are coordinated through a provincial office located in Victoria and delivered through 13 Service Delivery Areas and 24 DAAs.

In the 2019/20 fiscal year, several factors influenced the Ministry's operating environment, including:

- Changing demographics the number of children and youth in B.C. is increasing and the complexity of their needs is expanding.
- Legislative changes the implementation of legislation, including *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* and amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA). In addition to policy and practice changes, these have necessitated significant staff training and capacity development.
- Increasing demand for child care programs requiring significant program development and implementation.
- COVID-19 requiring a swift response from March 2020 onwards, as all service lines aligned with advice, guidance and recommendations from the Provincial Health Officer.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets

Goal 1: Recognize the right of Indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education, and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child [UNDRIP] and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action

Objective 1.1: Engage in discussions regarding jurisdiction over child welfare with Indigenous communities that are interested and willing

Key Highlights

- Continued to work together with communities, nations and organizations to further their shared interest in assuming increased levels of authority and jurisdiction over child and family services, including the Office of the Wet'suwet'en, Secwepemc Nation, Cowichan Tribes, Lake Babine Nation, NStQ, Huu-ay-aht First Nations, and the Métis.
- Began to implement An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families federal legislation that affirms Indigenous peoples' inherent right to jurisdiction in relation to child and family services and sets out national standards related to the delivery of child and family services. MCFD and DAA staff have been oriented to the national standards.
- Continued to work together with the Tripartite First Nations Children and Families
 Working Group on systemic changes to child and family services in B.C. In May 2019, a
 workplan was finalized and in June 2019, two sub-committees were created to meet the
 objectives of this plan: the technical fiscal relations/funding sub-committee; and the
 technical practice sub-committee.

Objective 1.2: In collaboration with Indigenous peoples, design and implement restorative policy, practice, services and cultural humility to support and honour cultural systems of caring and resiliency

Key Highlights

- Implemented amendments to the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA) provincial legislation supporting collaborative practices with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities, which recognizes their shared rights and responsibility for the upbringing and well-being of their children.
- Ended the practice of issuing birth alerts, focusing on supporting high-risk expectant parents to keep newborns safe and families together through a collaborative, rather than involuntary, model.
- Continued to support integration of the Aboriginal Policy and Practice Framework across MCFD, DAAs and contracted service providers to support improved relationships and restorative practices with Indigenous children, families and communities.
- Signed more than 40 information sharing agreements to improve collaboration with Indigenous communities and support strong connections to children and youth in care.

Continued to support Aboriginal Service Innovation: Child Safety and Permanence
(ASI:CSP) for several DAAs and Indigenous service providers, addressing the priorities
of ensuring that children and youth remain safely at home, and that permanency planning
for Indigenous children and youth in care supports their connection to community and
culture.

Objective 1.3: Create transparency and accountability to Indigenous children, youth, families and communities to work together to ensure our efforts achieve real results for this generation of families

Key Highlights

- Distributed annual accountability statements to inform communities on how much funding is spent in support of Indigenous children, youth and families, as well as the number of children in care, and the outcomes being achieved.
- Collaborated with the Government of Canada and, in February 2020, they made a formal commitment to MCFD to provide one-time funding of \$6 million for investment in First Nations prevention services.

Performance Measure	2016/17 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
1.3 Rate of children and youth in-care per 1,000 (0-18) population						
All children and youth	7.7	6.9	6.7	6.3	6.5	6.3
Indigenous children and youth	48.1	44.4	41.7	40.4	40.3	38.9
Non-Indigenous children and youth	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.5

Data Source: Integrated Case Management System (ICM)

Discussion of Results

In 2019/20, the Ministry focused on addressing issues related to jurisdiction, policy and practice, and transparency and accountability. Among other things, this involved implementing several important legislative changes, as well as putting the resources in place to ensure that these changes would be successful. It also involved improving how the Ministry works together with key partners, including the federal government, other provincial ministries, and Indigenous communities, nations and organizations. This resulted in marked improvements in this performance measure, with the Ministry exceeding its target for 2019/20 in all respects. Most notably, the rate of Indigenous children and youth in care declined by 4 per 1,000 in the population – an improvement of 9 per cent from 2018/19.

Goal 2: Strengthen supports and prioritize resources for families and children based on their needs, and in collaboration with communities and other partners, to keep families safely together and support improved outcomes

Objective 2.1: Recognize the importance of prevention, early intervention and voluntary services in keeping families safely together and review the Ministry's allocation of time, effort and funding dedicated towards these activities

Key Highlights

- Increased the monthly maintenance rate for the first time in a decade, bringing the payment of Extended Family Program caregivers up to parity with foster caregivers. This increase addresses the financial disincentive against out-of-care placements valuing the role that family and friends play in taking care of vulnerable children and youth.
- Began to develop a Prevention and Family Supports Service Framework, outlining a culturally-informed, consistent, flexible approach to keeping families safely together.
- Fully implemented and operationalized the Early Years Service Framework, enabling
 families with better access to direct services in local communities, such as opportunities
 to connect with other parents, help navigating challenging situations (from parenting
 skills to understanding their child's development), and opportunities for children to
 socialize and build strong foundations as they enter the formal school system.
- Completed the Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) Service Framework in fall 2019 and initiated work to support the alignment of services and the implementation of the Framework.
- Engaged with service providers, advocates, provincial organizations and families to develop a draft Child and Youth with Support Needs (CYSN) Service Framework, and increased CYSN respite funding by \$6.3 million \$5 million for families on the waitlist, and \$1.3 million to increase the base annual funding amount. This is the first increase to the base respite funding amount since 1989.

Performance Measure	2016/17 Baseline	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
2.1 Percent of children assessed with a protection concern that can safely live with family or extended family						
All children and youth	85.8%	89.9%	89.7%	91.3%	89.9%	90.2%
Indigenous children and youth	80.1%	84.8%	85.0%	86.6%	85.5%	86.0%
Non-Indigenous children and youth	89.4%	92.8%	92.5%	94.1%	92.6%	92.7%

Data Source: ICM

Discussion of Results

In 2019/20, more children were able to safely live with family or extended family than anticipated. This is due to continued investment in prevention, early intervention and voluntary services. In addition to increasing funding (such as CYSN respite funding), MCFD has developed several service frameworks, outlining the outcomes that the Ministry intends to achieve and the services that the Ministry intends to offer – so that children, youth and families know what to expect from the Ministry. These activities have supported the Ministry in exceeding each of its targets for this performance measure. In fact, the Ministry has since increased its targets for 2020/21 and 2021/22 due to the effectiveness of voluntary services, as well as prevention and early intervention efforts.

Objective 2.2: Implement short-term strategies and develop medium-and long-term strategies for a universal early care and learning system

Key Highlights

- Continued child care funding programs (Affordable Child Care Benefit, Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative and Childcare BC Universal Prototypes Sites), leading to almost 28,000 children receiving affordable child care at \$10 per day or less in 2019/20.
- Funded an additional 643 Aboriginal Head Start spaces, with 492 operational by March 31, 2020, providing more Indigenous families with access to no-fee, Indigenous-led child care for children aged 0 to 5 with additional wrap around supports.
- Via the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, Neighbourhood Learning Centres, and the Start-Up Grants program, funded 12,740 new spaces in fiscal 2019/20. Additionally, the maximum amount of funding available to non-profit and public sector organizations through the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund has been increased from \$1.5 million to \$3 million, which has resulted in an increase in the volume of applicants.
- Through the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) Child Care Community Planning Grants, delivered funding to more than 70 communities to help them complete child care needs assessments and create medium- and long-term action plans to address the needs in their communities.
- Awarded over 4,000 bursaries to students beginning or upgrading their Early Childhood Educators (ECE) post-secondary education, with two-thirds of these bursaries going to individuals in rural and remote communities.
- Provided supports to enable inclusive child care (through Supported Child Development and Aboriginal Supported Child Development programs) to an estimated average of 6,350 families each month.

Performance Measure	2016/17	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Baseline	Actuals	Target	Actuals	Target	Target
2.2 Average monthly number of funded licensed child care spaces in operation	108,110	114,672	121,000	121,000	128,000	135,000

Data Source: Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF) Program Datamart and Prototype Site data

Discussion of Results

In 2019/20, the number of funded child care spaces increased by the largest amount in over a decade, due to a combination of investments through the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund, the Childcare BC Start Up Grant program, and Neighbourhood Learning Centres. These historic investments supporting the creation of new licensed spaces enabled the Ministry to meet the provincial target of 121,000 total spaces in 2019/20. Overall, government investment has supported growth in the sector, and provided more incentives for providers to create more spaces.

Goal 3: Engage young people and work with the rest of government to design a social support system for youth and young adults who are transitioning into adulthood from ministry services

Objective 3.1: Support youth and young adults to successfully transition to adulthood

Key Highlights

- Began to develop a Youth Justice Service Framework to inform the continuum of supports, services and interventions available to youth involved in, or at risk of being involved in, the youth justice system.
- Worked with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST) to improve access to the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program, and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction (SDPR) to promote the expansion of WorkBC programming.
- Engaged a range of internal and external partners, including the Representative for Children and Youth, the Youth Advisory Council and DAAs, to improve programs and services that support youth and young adults.
- Implemented updates to policies and practices to comply with amendments to the Federal *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, as well as trained Community Youth Justice staff on changes to policy and practice (while other MCFD staff continue to complete the online training).

Performance Measure	2016/17 Baseline	2018/19 Target	2018/19 Actuals	2019/20 Target	2019/20 Actuals ¹	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target
3.1a Percent of youth in-care who turn 19 with a high school credential							
All children and youth	55.4%	55.5%	56.0%	57.0%	Data not yet	57.5%	58.0%
Indigenous children and youth	49.0%	n/a	54.4%	52.0%	available.	52.5%	53.0%
Non-Indigenous children and youth	61.1%	n/a	57.6%	62.5%		63.0%	63.5%

Data Source: ICM and Ministry of Education enrolment data

Discussion of Results

In addition to being a determinant of things like social inclusion and child development, education is a barometer for children and youth's well-being. Therefore, the percent of youth in care who turn 19 with a high school credential is an indicator of whether the system of support for children and youth in care is working. Although this performance measure is, and will always be, one year behind – due to it being based on the most recent completed school year, which has not yet finished – this report shows that the 2018/19 Target of 55.5 per cent (set in the 2018/19 Service Plan) was exceeded.

Performance Measure	2016/17	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Baseline ¹	Actuals	Target	Actuals	Target	Target
3.1b Youth under Continuing Custody Orders (CCOs) and Youth Aging-out that receive an Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) benefit payment within the next year	21.6%	34.4%	36.0%	36.9%	38.0%	40.0%

Data Source: Resource and Payment System

Discussion of Results

Over 2019/20, the Ministry improved significantly in this area, increasing the percentage of youth under Continuing Custody Orders (CCOs) and Youth Aging-out that receive an Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) benefit payment within the next year from 34.4 per cent in 2018/19 to 36.9 per cent in 2019/20. This is an improvement of 2.5 per cent upon 2018/19, and 0.9 per cent above the Ministry's target for 2019/20.

Among other things, this improvement can be attributed to a continued focus on supporting those transitioning out of care. For instance, the Agreement with Young Adults (AYA) program was expanded in 2018, which provided additional funding opportunities such as increasing the age of eligibility to the 27th birthday. Additionally, the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program (which waives tuition fees at public post-secondary institutions for students who are former youth in

¹ Reporting is matched to B.C. school records. As a result, this performance measure will always be one year behind. The most recent data available is for the 2018/19 school year.

¹ Baseline updated to reflect the correct baseline for 2016/17. 2017/18 results (based on the 2016/17 aging-out cohort) were mistakenly used in the 2019/20 service plan.

care) has continued to increase the number of former youth in care who are able to access post-secondary education, which has in turn increased the demand for AYA benefits.

Goal 4: A child or youth's needs drives their placement

Objective 4.1: In collaboration with partners, design a high quality network that meets a child or youth's needs, nurtures a sense of love and belonging, and prioritizes cultural and family connections

Key Highlights

- Developed, and began to implement, an In Care Service Framework, outlining how the Ministry will consistently provide a network of placement options and wrap around supports that respond to the full range of a child or youth's in care needs.
- With input from DAAs, as well as Indigenous communities and other partners, began to develop a Quality Assurance Framework, ensuring the quality of services across all six service lines, and that services are responsive to the voices of children, youth, families, communities and partners.
- Began to develop a Procurement and Contract Management Strategy, leveraging the Ministry's various service frameworks, focusing on outcomes-based quality assurance and a defined benefits realization plan that concentrates on the needs and rights of children and youth in care.

Performance Measure	2016/17	2018/19	2019/20	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Baseline	Actuals	Target	Actuals	Target	Target
4.1 Percentage of children and youth in-care with no moves in the first 12 months since their last admission to care ¹	67.9%	66.10%	68%	65.30%	68.5%	68.8%

Data Source: ICM

Discussion of Results

The target for 2019/20 has not been met. Following a June 2019 Office of the Auditor General Report – titled *Oversight of Contracted Residential Services for Children and Youth in Care* – there was a focus on reassessing whether contracted residential agencies were meeting the needs of the children and youth placed in their care, which led to additional moves. With the implementation of *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*, and a new obligation for ongoing reassessment of the placement of Indigenous children and youth in care, further changes might be made to this metric.

¹ This measure includes both planned and unplanned moves.

Financial Report

Financial Summary

	Estimated ¹	Other Authorizations ²	Total	Actual ³	Variance ⁴
	Operatio	ng Expenses (\$000)			
Early Childhood Development & Child Care Services	624,807	59,996	684,803	648,239	(36,564)
Services for Children & Youth with Special Needs	386,669	375	387,044	402,359	15,315
Child & Youth Mental Health Services	109,396		109,396	96,941	(12,455)
Child Safety. Family Support & Children in Care Services	682,677	16,130	698,807	728,515	29,708
Adoption Services	34,752		34,752	34,878	126
Youth Justice Services	47,421		47,421	41,233	(6,188)
Service Delivery Support	159,902	2,545	162,447	172,598	10,151
Executive & Support Services	19,103	3,712	22,815	22,722	(93)
Sub-total	2,064,727	82,758	2,147,485	2,147,485	-
Statutory (Transfer fro	om the Ministry	y of Social Developm	ent and Pove	rty Reduction	n)
Disability Assistance	0	735	735	0	(735)
Community Living Services	0	3,265	3,265	1,112	(2,153)
Sub-total	2,064,727	86,758	2,151,485	2,148,597	(2,888)
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ⁵				(874)	(874)
Total	2,064,727	86,758	2,151,485	2,147,723	(3,762)

Financial Report Summary Table- 2019/20 continued								
	Estimated ¹	Other Authorizations ²	Total Estimated	Actual ³	Variance ⁴			
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)								
Service Delivery Support (Specialized Equipment & Fleet Vehicles)	4,510		4,510	1,025	(3,485)			
Total	4,510		4,510	1,025	(3,485)			
	Other Financi	ing Transactions (\$0	000)6					
Executive & Support Services (Human Services Providers Financing Program)								
Receipts	(31)		(31)	(31)				
Disbursements	-		-	-				
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	(31)		(31)	(31)				
Total Receipts	(31)		(31)	(31)	-			
Total Disbursements	-		-	-	-			
Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)	(31)		(31)	(31)	-			

¹ The amounts in the "Estimated" column correspond to the Estimates budget as presented on February 19, 2019.

² "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

³ The numbers presented are subject to rounding to the thousands level.

⁴ Variance represents "Actuals" minus "Total Estimated".

⁵ The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual **of \$0.874** million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

⁶ Human Services Providers financing program receipts represent the repayment of one outstanding loan by a community social services provider. The funding for capital purposes was provided for under the Human Resource Facility Act.

Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals

As of July 1, 2020, the Minister of Children and Family Development is responsible and accountable for the following:

BC College of Social Workers:

<u>The British Columbia College of Social Workers</u> regulates the social work profession in British Columbia. Its mandate is to protect members of the public from preventable harm while they are interacting with Registered Social Workers. The College maintains an online registry of all social workers authorized to practice as Registered Social Workers.

Provincial Child Care Council:

<u>The Provincial Child Care Council</u> provides advice on the policies and programs that affect the affordability, quality, stability and accessibility of child care. Its members are appointed from throughout the province, and represent five key sectors: Aboriginal, law/business, child care, education and non-profit/local government.

Columbia Power Corporation:

<u>The Columbia Power Corporation</u> mission is to efficiently develop and operate commercially viable, environmentally sound and safe power project investments for the benefit of the province and the residents of the Columbia Basin. In making power project investments, Columbia Power Corporation's goal is to support the employment, economic development and resource management objectives of the province and Columbia Basin Trust, within the constraints of a commercial enterprise.

Columbia Basin Trust:

The Columbia Basin Trust (the Trust) is mandated under the *Columbia Basin Trust Act* to manage Columbia Basin Trust's assets for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the region, without relieving governments of any obligations in the region. The Trust is also mandated under the Columbia Basin Management Plan to include the people of the Basin in planning for the management of the assets and to work with others to coordinate activities related to the purpose of the Trust.