
INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Children and Family Development

SAFETY CHECKS STRENGTHENED FOR KIDS' CAREGIVERS

VICTORIA – In a move aimed to further improve the safety, security and well-being of vulnerable children and youth, the Ministry of Children and Family Development is expanding and improving criminal record checks for all care providers, including foster and adoptive parents and relief workers.

Working with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, the ministry has consolidated and streamlined the criminal record check process – results of checks with no criminal record will be available in about 48 hours. Those with a record will take about four to five days, significantly less than current criminal record check times that can take as long as several weeks.

Responsibility for record searches will lie with the ministry – not care providers – and information will be held and managed centrally. About 5,000 criminal record checks are conducted each year for ministry care providers, including delegated Aboriginal agencies.

The improved record checks will apply to all care providers in positions of and will utilize the more comprehensive resources of the Criminal Records Review Program, which has access to the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC), the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME), the Police Information Retrieval System (PIRS) and the Police Reporting Occurrence System (PROS), as well as the B.C. Court and Correctional Information Systems (CORNET and JUSTIN).

Phasing in of the new system will begin in June with the ministry's Extended Family Program, and will expand to include fostering and adoptions beginning in October of this year.

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