

Schedule A

Child Protection Services

A1. Schedule Application

Schedule A applies to:

- a. child protection alerts issued to one or more receiving provinces;
- b. child protection requests and referrals; and
- c. repatriating children from a receiving province to an originating province.

A2. Child Protection Alerts

A2.1 *Criteria for Issuing Alerts*

An originating province may issue a child protection alert when a person or family is missing and a child is or may be in need of protection. Circumstances that may lead to the issuing of an inter-provincial alert include the following:

- a. a family or family member absconds prior to the conclusion of a child protection investigation;
- b. a family or family member receiving child protection services disappears prior to closing the case;
- c. a family under court-ordered supervision leaves the province without approval from the child welfare authority;
- d. a parent or guardian takes a child in care to another province without prior approval from the child welfare authority;
- e. a child in care has run from the child's placement;
- f. a high-risk expectant mother has or may have left the province; or
- g. a child is taken to another province for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation.

A2.2 *Issuing and Receiving Alerts*

Each province agrees to implement a process for ensuring that alerts are issued and received in a secure and timely manner. At a minimum, each province shall:

- a. designate one or more provincial contacts responsible for issuing and receiving alerts; and
- b. provide direction to local authorities as to the information to be included in alerts and assist them as required in preparing the alerts.

A2.3 *Content of Alerts*

When issuing an alert, the originating province shall distribute relevant and available information including:

- a. the name and birth date of each subject of the alert;
- b. the name, address and facsimile of local authority that issued the alert and date sent;
- c. the name of the worker and supervisor who issued the alert and how to contact them or their alternates;
- d. the reason for issuing the alert including details of child protection concerns and risk factors related to the child;
- e. possible destinations and other information that may assist a receiving province in locating the person or family;
- f. actions requested of local authorities and collateral agencies in the receiving provinces;
- g. known history or risk of violence toward authorities;
- h. expiry date if less than six months;
- i. if applicable, the name of the provincial contact who sent the alert and how to contact that person.

A2.4 *Responding to Alerts*

Upon receiving an alert, provincial authorities in receiving provinces shall:

- a. request additional information from the originating province if required to initiate the alert or request local authorities to do so;
- b. distribute the alert to appropriate local authorities and collateral agencies or request local authorities to do so;
- c. request local authorities to inform designated contacts in the originating province when the missing person or family is located;

- d. develop a plan of action in consultation with contacts in the originating province; and
- e. close the alert when it expires or extend it for a further period if requested by the originating province.

A3. Child Protection Requests and Referrals

A3.1 Request and Referral Procedures

In child protection cases, the provincial or local authority in an originating province may request services from, or refer a family requiring services to, a local authority in a receiving province pursuant to this section. At the request of the provincial authority in the originating province, the provincial authority in the receiving province shall identify the appropriate local authority and assist the originating province in making the request or referral as may be required.

A3.2 Child Protection Requests

A3.2.1 An originating province may request a receiving province to provide services in a child protection case including:

- a. prior contact checks and record searches;
- b. interviews with alleged perpetrators or victims of abuse;
- c. serving court documents;
- d. supervising contacts or visits between children and family members; and
- e. other services agreed to by the receiving province.

A3.2.2 Upon receiving the request under paragraph A3.2.1, the receiving province agrees to provide services as they are provided to its own residents and based on a service plan developed in consultation with the originating province.

A3.3 Child Protection Referrals

A3.3.1 An originating province shall refer an individual or family moving to a receiving province for services when:

- a. the individual or family has requested the referral;
- b. the originating province is in the process of conducting a child protection investigation;
- c. there is an open child protection case;
- d. child protection court proceedings are pending or in process;

- e. there is an order of supervision; or
- f. there is a need for ongoing services to prepare the family for the return of children.

A3.3.2 When making a child protection referral, the originating province shall:

- a. if possible, inform the individual or family of the decision to refer and, if appropriate, obtain consents to share information with the receiving province;
- b. if time and circumstances permit, consult with the receiving province prior to the family moving with the goal of reaching an agreement on the services to be provided by the receiving province; and
- c. send a summary of the case, including investigation reports and findings, risk assessments, case plans, and all relevant court documents to the appropriate local authority in the receiving province.

A3.3.3 Upon receiving a child protection referral, the receiving province shall:

- a. accept the referral as an intake using the same intake process as normally provided by local authorities;
- b. if necessary, advise the originating province as to which local child welfare authority will be responsible for accepting the referral;
- c. if the referral involves an open protection case, open a child protection case, as appropriate, under its legislation and policy; and
- d. if required by the originating province, send copies of documents and correspondence to the provincial authority in that province.

A3.3.4 Open child protection cases must be referred by a director or supervisor at the local authority in the originating province to the director or a supervisor of the local authority in the receiving province.

A4. Repatriation Services

A4.1 Eligibility

A4.1.1 Repatriation services may be considered for a child who has fled to or been abducted to a receiving province and who:

- a. is in care of an originating province; or
- b. is or may be in need of protection in a receiving province.

A4.1.2 On learning of a child who may need to be repatriated, a receiving province agrees to accommodate the concerns of an originating province and parents or guardians of a child to the extent possible under its legislation. For example, a receiving province would repatriate a sexually exploited child at the request of an originating province if possible under the receiving province's legislation and if the repatriation is for the protection and in the best interests of the child.

A.4.1.3 When considering repatriation of a child to an originating province, a receiving province shall:

- a. check with police or justice officials in the receiving province to determine if there is a missing person report filed or if the child is under investigation, charged with or found guilty of an offence, on probation or otherwise involved with the law;
- b. when applicable, obtain approval in writing from police or justice officials in the receiving province to repatriate the child; and
- c. collaborate with the originating province and police and justice officials when necessary to arrange appropriate escort services.

A4.2 *Exclusions*

This Schedule does not apply to the return of children who have been abducted and who are the subjects of a custody or access dispute between parents when there are no child protection concerns.

A4.3 *Children in Care*

A4.3.1 With respect to the repatriation of a child who is in care of an originating province, the receiving province shall:

- a. gather information on the child and his or her present situation;
- b. notify the originating province as soon as a decision is made to repatriate the child;
- c. provide necessary services pending repatriation of the child;
- d. arrange for the most expedient form of travel appropriate to needs of the child and for any supervision required by the child while travelling;
- e. contact the originating province as required to advise of the repatriation arrangements in a timely manner and to provide any follow-up that is indicated or recommended.

- f. forward to the originating province a written summary of the services provided and any relevant comments, reports or recommendations.

A4.3.2 To assist in repatriating a child under paragraph A4.3.1, the originating province shall:

- a. provide any relevant information about the child to assist the receiving province in making appropriate repatriation arrangements;
- b. when necessary, advise the receiving province as to which local authority will be responsible for providing services; and
- c. immediately notify the receiving province if a child does not arrive as planned.

A4.3.3 Subject to paragraph A4.3.4, the receiving province assumes all expenses related to the child's care and repatriation, including travel costs, unless otherwise negotiated with the originating province.

A4.3.4 Notwithstanding A4.3.3 and pursuant to subsection B6.4 in Schedule B, the originating province assumes responsibility for all costs directly related to repatriating a child or young adult that the originating province places in a residential care facility in a receiving province. Pursuant to subsection 5.1 of the Protocol, these costs do not include salaries and operating costs normally incurred by a provincial or local authority in delivering child welfare services.

A4.4 *Other Eligible Children*

A4.4.1 With respect to a child who is not in care of an originating province, but who is or may be in need of protection in a receiving province, the receiving province shall:

- a. gather information on the child and his or her present situation;
- b. contact the parent or guardian, if available, to make arrangements for the child's return;
- c. if necessary, contact the originating province:
 - i. to arrange for repatriation if the parent or guardian cannot be contacted within a reasonable period or refuses to accept responsibility for the child, and
 - ii. to alert the originating province to any child protection concerns or follow-up services that may be required;

- d. provide necessary services pending repatriation of the child;
- e. arrange for the most expedient form of travel appropriate to the child's needs and for any supervision required by the child while travelling;
- f. contact the parent or guardian and, if necessary, the originating province as required to advise of the repatriation arrangements in a timely manner and of any follow-up that is indicated or recommended.
- g. forward a written summary of the services provided and any relevant comments, reports or recommendations if requested by the originating province.

A4.4.2 If contacted to assist in repatriating a child who is not in care, the originating province shall:

- a. provide any relevant information about the child to assist the receiving province in making appropriate repatriation arrangements;
- b. when necessary, advise the receiving province as to which local authority will be responsible for providing services; and
- c. immediately notify the receiving province if a child does not arrive as planned.

A4.4.3 At the request of the receiving province, the originating province shall determine the amount the parent or guardian is capable of paying. If the parent or guardian is able to undertake the total cost of the repatriation, the parent is responsible for arranging and paying for the return ticket. If the parent or guardian cannot or will not cover the cost of the repatriation in full or in part, the receiving province assumes the full or remaining cost.