

Are you a youth who grew up in care?

Are you 16 years old or older?

Do you:

- ◆ Know where you will live when you turn 19?
- ◆ Have goals for you life?
- ◆ Have your driver's license?
- ◆ Have plans for continuing your education?
- ◆ Know how to get a job?
- ◆ Have your own bank account and/ or credit?
- ◆ Have personal documents such as:
 - Citizenship/Passport
 - Status Card
 - Social Insurance Number
 - Voters Card/ Registered Voter
- ◆ Have a health and fitness plan?

If you have answered, "No," to any of these questions a conference can help you get there.



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YOUTH TRANSITION CONFERENCE

FAMILY JUSTICE PROGRAM



Creating wellness together.



CARRIER SEKANI
FAMILY SERVICES

FAMILY JUSTICE PROGRAM HISTORY & MISSION

In 1999 Carrier Sekani Family Services conducted research to determine the magnitude of family disputes within the communities the organization serves.

It was determined that a community driven response was needed to deal with family disputes in a culturally appropriate manner that respects Carrier values and laws.

Based on Community consultation, a model of Carrier dispute resolution was developed.

Aims of the Program

- ◆ Reduce the number of children entering ministry care
- ◆ Reduce tensions between and within families
- ◆ Increase community satisfaction and confidence in the family justice system
- ◆ Increase integrated service delivery
- ◆ Increase community transparency, responsibility-taking, problem solving skills and accountability
- ◆ Increase the use of Carrier systems in resolving disputes
- ◆ Assist youth in care in addressing their future needs

The mission of the Family Justice Program is, 'To improve the health of the community by facilitating the participants' ability to speak on their own behalf in legal matters, while emphasizing healthy choices and responsibility towards family and community.'



WHAT IS YOUTH TRANSITION CONFERENCE?

YTC's are a series of meetings to address a youth's future needs. They are confidential, respectful, future focused, youth driven, voluntary and based on the strengths of the youth.

What is the purpose of the meeting?

To help a youth create a plan to transition from life in care to life in the community.

Who is included in a YTC?

The youth will work with a YTC Facilitator to identify a network of family, support workers and resource professionals they may need or want to help make decisions regarding their future.

Who organizes the meeting?

Once a referral has been accepted, the facilitator will work with the youth to identify goals and needs and to create a list of people to invite; together they will determine a date and venue for the meeting. The facilitator will contact everyone identified by the youth and invite them and explain the process, their roles etc. Depending on the youth's abilities they may or may not lead the meeting.



What happens during a YTC?

During the initial meeting the youths goals will be identified and discussed. Participants will help with brainstorming solutions and commit to assisting the youth in meeting those goals. At the end of the meeting the facilitator will type up the plan that has been created; each participant will receive a copy. A date is set for approximately 6 months down the road when everyone will meet again to determine the success of the plan and goals and to create new goals identified by the youth.

Meetings will continue every 6 months until the youth has reached 19 years of age and has been successfully empowered to live on their own with a network of people to support and engage with.

When to use a YTC:

A YTC can be used for planning and decision making for a youth in care until the age of 19 or when youth are on a Youth Agreement. A YTC can be used when transition plans need to be made for a youth or a youth needs helping with transition planning.

Will I be charged a fee for the YTC?

No, YTC's are provided free of charge to all clients and are funded by the Province of British Columbia.



REFERRALS

Criteria for a Referral

Youth who are in the continuing custody of the Director or Delegated Aboriginal Agency who are:

- ◆ 16– 18 years of age
- ◆ On a Youth Agreement
- ◆ Thinking about their future
- ◆ Engaging with their Social Worker or Caregiver to develop skills for independence

Are eligible for the YTC program.

YTC's are not appropriate for youth who:

- ◆ Are less than 3 months away from their 19th birthday
- ◆ Choose not to participate

Who can make a referral?

- ◆ A youth
- ◆ Family members
- ◆ Chief and council
- ◆ Clan leaders (hereditary chiefs)
- ◆ Community Organizations
- ◆ Carrier Sekani Family Services Staff
- ◆ Group Home Staff
- ◆ Caregiver
- ◆ The Ministry of Children and Family Development

Please contact a family justice facilitator if you have any questions or would like more information on the Youth Transition Conference.



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