

AGENCY REPORT

CROWN WARD REVIEW

Version 2.0

Society Identifier: 27

Dates of the Review: 2015-04-27---2015-04-29

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Reviewers: batriemi, shawga, harrinjo, shieldju, pikordo

Exit Meeting Date: 2015-04-30

The following report provides a summary of the results of Crown Ward Reviews. It is based on the following tools:

- Crown Ward Review - Individual Case Report
- Crown Ward Review - Adoption Probation - Individual Case Report

Findings for each tool are presented in relation to:

- Compliance by Requirement;
- Compliance Summary
- Supplementary Information
- Outcome Measures

Colour coding shown on the "Compliance by Requirement" table indicates compliance results according to ranges of achievement:

- Gold for 'full' compliance at 100%;
- Green for 'high' compliance - 75% to 99%;
- Yellow for 'moderate' compliance - 51% to 74%;
- Red for 'low' compliance - 50% or less.

Results related to positive outcomes for children are identified by:

- 'S' for child safety;
- 'P' for permanence;
- 'W' for wellbeing.

A. CROWN WARD REVIEW

The annual Crown Ward Review (CWR) is undertaken by the Ministry of Children & Youth Services' Child Welfare Review Unit, in co-operation with each child welfare agency and ministry regional offices. The purpose of the review is to determine if the placement, services, educational and social needs of Crown wards in Ontario are being identified and appropriately addressed. The CWR is an accountability mechanism used by the ministry to determine if children's aid societies are undertaking appropriate planning and services for each child reviewed. The review monitors compliance with legislation and requirements related to the care of children.

The objectives of the CWR are:

- To monitor agency compliance with the *Child and Family Services Act* and its requirements in relation to the care of each Crown ward;
- To look for adequate assessment of needs, suitable placement, supporting services, and realistic planning for and with the Crown ward;
- To issue directives regarding non-compliance and to make recommendations concerning service provision in selected specific areas as appropriate;
- Using a strengths-based approach, identify and convey to societies the strengths of service delivery.

B. PHILOSOPHY AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Crown ward review process is in keeping with the principles identified in child welfare transformation as reflected in the 2006 revisions to the *CFSA*:

- A strengths and outcomes based approach to case planning;
- A recognition of children's need for continuity with family, community and culture;
- A commitment to best practice including a focus on child safety, permanency and wellbeing.

The Crown ward review process supports and promotes:

- Continuous quality improvement;
- Balanced reporting;
- Accountability;
- Transparency;
- An accurate reflection of CAS performance.

The Crown ward review process is part of a continuous quality improvement cycle with the expectation being that, over time, societies will strive to improve performance from one review to the next using the information collected from each review.

The CWR findings are based on the review of society files. In complex and/or high-risk cases, society caseworkers and managers may also be consulted. Each case file is reviewed in the year following 24 months of successive Crown wardship and every year after that.

PROFILE OF CROWN WARDS

Table 1 provides a summary description of the children and youth reviewed with the CWR tool.

Table 1 CWR Child Profile

CWR CHILD PROFILE		
Total Crown wards reviewed	27	
Gender	55.6% female 44.4% male	
Age at time of review	Average age: 16.0 # of children per age range o 0-9 years: 0 o 10-12 years: 1 o 13-17 years: 26	
Current placement type	Placement Type	%
	Family Based: 22	81.5%
	Group: 3	11.1%
	CMHC: 0	0.0%
	Independence: 1	3.7%
	Other: 1	3.7%
	Unapproved: 0	0.0%
Indian and native children/youth with status or eligible for status¹	6 or 22.2% of total Crown wards	
Children with prior admissions to care	21 or 77.8% of total Crown wards	
Average # of previous admissions to care	2.8	

¹ Children registered or entitled to be registered as an Indian or a native person.

FINDINGS

Compliance by Requirement/Directive

Table 2 shows agency compliance performance regarding the requirements reviewed with the CWR tool.

Table 2 CWR Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive

CWR AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
Indian/Native Children & Youth				
Child/youth provided with the opportunity to have contact with their home community, family and/or extended family, band, or other native community	6	6	100.0%	W
Efforts have been made to place the child with a member of the child's extended family, a member of the child's band or native community or another Indian or native family	2	1	50.0%	P
Band/native community notified re child welfare legal proceedings	0	0	N/A	
Band/native community notified re placement change	2	2	100.0%	
Written notice provided to the band/native community at least 10 days prior to the removal or child from placement	0	0	N/A	W
CHILD SAFETY				
Kinship Care Home designated as Place of Safety when child placed prior to approval	0	0	N/A	S
Home designated Place of Safety for 60 days or less	0	0	N/A	S
Place of Safety requirements met	0	0	N/A	S
PERMANENCY				
Permanency plan reflects exploration of options	27	23	85.2%	P
Notify foster parents of child removal	0	0	N/A	
WELL-BEING				
Caseworker Contact				
Seven day visit	10	10	100.0%	W
30 day visit	10	10	100.0%	W
Three month visit	27	25	92.6%	W
Review of rights & responsibilities upon admission to placement	10	9	90.0%	W
Planning Requirements - OnLAC Dimensions				
All OnLAC dimensions addressed in Plan of Care re:	27	21	77.8%	W
a) Health	27	27	100.0%	
b) Education	27	24	88.9%	

CWR AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
c) Identity	27	26	96.3%	
d) Social and Family Relationships	27	27	100.0%	
e) Social Presentation	27	26	96.3%	
f) Emotional and Behavioural	27	27	100.0%	
g) Self-Care Skills	27	25	92.6%	
Planning Requirements - Development				
Development of Plans of Care	27	23	85.2%	W
a) Tasks realistic & achievable	27	26	96.3%	
b) Tasks support achievement of goal	27	23	85.2%	
c) Tasks specific & measureable	27	23	85.2%	
d) Target dates evident	27	24	88.9%	
e) Individuals identified for completing tasks	27	26	96.3%	
f) Recommendations of assessments integrated into plans of care	22	21	95.5%	
g) Reasons for failure to obtain specialized consultation and/or treatment and supports for the child within the specified timeframe	7	6	85.7%	
h) Child participated in planning	27	27	100.0%	
i) Significant others participated in planning as required/appropriate	27	27	100.0%	
j) Reasons for significant others not participating in planning documented	0	0	N/A	
k) AAR/OnLAC used to develop plans of care	27	11	40.7%	
Planning Requirements - Timely Completion				
Timely completion plan of care				
30 Day	9	8	88.9%	W
Three months	7	6	85.7%	W
First six month	6	2	33.3%	W
Six month plan of care #1	25	20	80.0%	W
Six month plan of care #2	19	14	73.7%	W
AAR annual update completed within the required time frame	27	21	77.8%	W
Social History Requirements				
Social history on file	27	27	100.0%	W
Current social history update	27	22	81.5%	W
Required content of social history	27	26	96.3%	W
a) Child's history prior to care including birth history	27	23	85.2%	
b) Reason for admission and CW & history of court involvement	27	26	96.3%	

CWR AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
c) Information about parents, siblings, extended family	27	26	96.3%	
d) Current family relationships functioning including information about access	27	26	96.3%	
e) Child's health	27	26	96.3%	
f) Child's physical and emotional development	27	27	100.0%	
g) Child's personality and behaviour	27	27	100.0%	
h) Child's academic history	27	26	96.3%	
i) Child's separation and placement history	27	27	100.0%	
j) Child's strengths, talents and interests	27	26	96.3%	
Medical & Dental Requirements				
Annual medical	27	22	81.5%	W
Annual dental	27	21	77.8%	W

Compliance Summary

Table 3 provides a summary of compliance in relation to the ranges of full, high, moderate, and low compliance.

Table 3 CWR Compliance Summary

CWR COMPLIANCE SUMMARY	
Compliance Performance	Percentage of Total Requirements
Full	23.8%
High	61.9%
Moderate	4.8%
Low	9.5%

Supplementary Information

Supplementary information re: findings related to outcomes as well as the number of directives to review of file by senior management or program supervisor and other is shown in Table 4.

Table 4 CWR Supplementary Information

CWR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION				
CROWN WARD REVIEW	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Indian & Native Children & Youth				
Child has Band membership	8	6	75.0%	
Child/youth provided with opportunity for native services and programming	8	7	87.5%	W
Safety				
Protection concerns verified in the past 12 months ²	27	0	100.0%	S
Protection/safety concerns addressed in documentation	4	2	50.0%	S
Children/youth identified as high risk ³	27	5	81.5%	W
High risk children requiring follow-up ⁴	5	0	100.0%	S
Verified abuse/maltreatment occurred with:				
Current placement caregiver	0	0	N/A	
Current respite caregivers	0	0	N/A	
Past placement caregivers	0	0	N/A	
Natural family or kin	0	0	N/A	
Community caregiver	0	0	N/A	
No perpetrator identified	0	0	N/A	
Cannot determine	0	0	N/A	
Other	0	0	N/A	
Permanency				
Permanency plan addresses efforts to secure enduring relationships	27	27	100.0%	P
Post-care planning for transitional aged youth 17+	13	9	69.2%	P
Adult developmental services planning for youth 16+	5	5	100.0%	P
Average number of placements per child/youth since most recent admission		3.9		
Average number of placements per child/youth since Crown Wardship		2.6		
Average placement duration since Crown wardship		35.0 months		
Documented issues with access addressed	16	12	75.0%	P
Well-Being: Child's Special Needs				
Children/youth diagnosed with a special need	27	22	81.5%	
Percentage of children diagnosed with a special need				
Medical		0	0.0%	
Developmental		16	72.7%	
Psychological/Psychiatric		18	81.8%	

² This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.
³ This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.
⁴ This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.

CWR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION				
CROWN WARD REVIEW	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Well-Being: Child's Behaviour				
Children identified with clinically significant behavioural difficulties	27	20	74.1%	
Top 3 behavioural issues:				
#1 most frequent behaviour: Disrespectful – defiant, noncompliant, rude		14	70.0%	
#2 most frequent behaviour: Verbal assaultive/aggressive behaviour		8	40.0%	
#3 most frequent behaviour: Theft		6	30.0%	
Well-Being: Treatment Services				
Child received/completed treatment relevant to development, special needs or behavioural issues in the past 12 months	22	21	95.5%	W
Top 3 services provided:				
#1 most frequent service: Therapist/Counsellor		13	59.1%	
#2 most frequent service: Recreational activities/programming		12	54.5%	
#3 most frequent service: Psychologist		11	50.0%	
Children prescribed psychotropic medication	27	17	63.0%	
Well-Being: Education				
School-aged children registered in a school program	27	27	100.0%	W
Children/youth with an RESP	27	3	11.1%	
IIRC exceptional designation	20	20	100.0%	
Children provided with an IEP	27	20	74.1%	
Appropriate planning for new academic placement to ensure smooth transition	9	9	100.0%	W
Children provided with additional supports, services, or programming within the school setting	21	19	90.5%	W
Children experiencing progress at the elementary level (i.e., progressing well or progressing with difficulty)	6	6	100.0%	W
Youth experiencing progress (including some progress) at the secondary level	21	19	90.5%	W
Well-Being: Caseworker Continuity & Contact				
Caseworker change in the past 12 months ⁵	27	10	63.0%	W
Average number of caseworkers since the child's admission to care		4.3		
Average number of face to face contacts in the past 12 months		13.0		
Efforts to ensure visits with children placed outside of Ontario	0	0	N/A	W
Well-Being: Case Planning				
Plan of care reviewed for material change	1	1	100.0%	W
OCBE activity funds utilized	27	20	74.1%	W

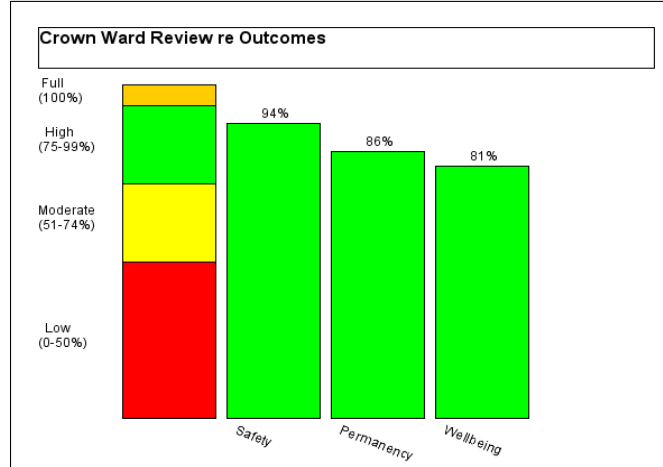
⁵ This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.

CWR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION				
CROWN WARD REVIEW	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
OCBE Savings Program addressed in planning	20	8	40.0%	W
Plan of Care Implementation	27	20	74.1%	W
Health	27	27	100.0%	
Education	27	23	85.2%	
Identity	27	25	92.6%	
Social and Family Relationships	27	27	100.0%	
Social Presentation	27	25	92.6%	
Emotional and Behavioural	27	26	96.3%	
Self-Care Skills	27	25	92.6%	
Timely completion of supervisory endorsement of plans of care	27	9	33.3%	W
Other				
Review of file by senior management	27	0	0.0%	
Review of file by program supervisor	27	0	0.0%	
Other (directive)	27	0	0.0%	

Outcome Measures

The figure below provides a summary of agency performance for Crown wards in relation to child safety, permanency and wellbeing.

Figure 1 Crown Ward Review re Findings Related to Outcomes



Service User Feedback

- 8 Crown Ward Questionnaires completed
- 1 interview requested
- 1 interview completed

Table 5 provides a summary of responses to selected questions from the Crown Ward Questionnaire.

Table 5 Crown Ward Questionnaire - Key Responses

CROWN WARD QUESTIONNAIRE - KEY RESPONSES			
Q1. Do you feel valued and a part of this home?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	7	87.5%
	No	0	0.0%
	Not sure	0	0.0%
	Sometimes	1	12.5%
Q2. Do you feel that you are getting enough help with school?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	7	87.5%
	No	1	12.5%

CROWN WARD QUESTIONNAIRE - KEY RESPONSES

Q3. Besides school, are you involved in any other activities such as:	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Games	1	
	Sports	4	
	Brownies/Guides	0	
	Cubs/Scouts	0	
	Gym	1	
	Music	1	
	Art	0	
	Cadets	1	
	Hobbies	3	
	Camp	5	
	Dance	1	
	Drama	0	
	Craft classes	0	
	Youth groups	4	
	Cultural	0	
	Religious	2	
	Martial Arts	1	
After school programs	2		
Boys and Girls clubs	0		
Other	3		
Q4. Does your caseworker:	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	See you alone?	7	
	Help if you have problems with your placement?	7	
	Talk about why you are in care?	6	
	Talk to you about school?	7	
	Talk to you about visits with your family?	7	
	Talk to you about rights and responsibilities?	8	
	Talk about supports available to you at the age of 18?	4	
Q5. Do you trust your caseworker?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	7	87.5%
	No	0	0.0%
	Not sure	1	12.5%
Q6. Is there anything you would like to change about your visits?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	3	37.5%
	More often	2	
	Longer	2	
	Overnight	0	
	Unsupervised	0	
	Different location	0	
	To not have visits	0	
	Other	0	
No	5	62.5%	

CROWN WARD QUESTIONNAIRE - KEY RESPONSES			
Q7. Do you know why you came into care?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	6	75.0%
	No	1	12.5%
	Not sure	1	12.5%
Q8. What is your wish for the future?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Stay where you are currently living	3	
	Live elsewhere	2	
	To be adopted by the family you live with	1	
	To be adopted by a different family	0	
	Return to your family	2	
	Get an education	4	
	Get a job and live on your own	6	
Q9. If you could make being in care better, what would you change?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Change nothing/everything is fine	4	50.0%
	Other	4	50.0%

Table 6 CHILD/YOUTH COMMENT SUMMARY

CHILD/YOUTH COMMENT SUMMARY	
Other activities	Rebound
	Running group
	"Other" was checked but not specified.
Other changes to visits	N/A
Changes to being in care	The Rules
	not hogging the bedroom so the other kids can have their own room
	I want to know what my parents did wrong while raising me. And I want to know the truth about (removed due to privacy & confidentiality) and how she called CAS to take us away.
	"N/A"

C. CROWN WARD REVIEW - ADOPTION PROBATION

The files of children placed on Adoption Probation are reviewed with the Crown Ward Review Adoption Probation (CWR AP) tool if they have been Crown wards for more than 24 months.

PROFILE OF CROWN WARDS ON ADOPTION PROBATION

A total of 1 child was reviewed:

- 1 Male
- 0 Females

A total of 0 children or 0.0% were identified as registered or entitled to be registered.

FINDINGS

Compliance by Requirement/Directive

Table 7 shows agency compliance performance regarding the requirements reviewed with the CWR-AP tool.

Table 7 CWR - AP Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive

CWR - AP AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
Pre-placement visit	1	1	100.0%	W
Review of AAR prior to placement	1	1	100.0%	W
Registration of Placement on file	1	1	100.0%	P
Supplement to Registration of Placement on file	1	1	100.0%	P
Acknowledgement of Adoption on file	1	1	100.0%	P
Statement of Live Birth filed	1	1	100.0%	P
Post adoption services addressed	1	0	0.0%	W
Child participated in plan	1	1	100.0%	W
Life book prepared	1	1	100.0%	W
Non-identifying information social/medical history given to adoptive parents	1	1	100.0%	W
Recording requirements				
All OnLAC dimensions addressed in recording	1	1	100.0%	W
30 day recording	1	1	100.0%	W
3 month recording	1	1	100.0%	W
6 month recording	0	0	N/A	W

CWR - AP AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
Timely completion of recording				
30 days	1	1	100.0%	W
3 month	1	1	100.0%	W
First six months	0	0	N/A	W
Six month plan of care #1	0	0	N/A	W
Six month plan of care #2	0	0	N/A	W
Indian & Native requirements				
Indian/native person, Band/native community given 60 days notice re adoption	0	0	N/A	P
Where child's Band or native community submitted its own plan, the society considered the plan	0	0	N/A	P
Social history requirements				
Social history of child on file	1	1	100.0%	W
Medical history of child on file	1	1	100.0%	W
Social/Medical history of birth mother on file	1	1	100.0%	W
Social/Medical history of birth father on file	1	1	100.0%	W
Contact requirements				
30 day visit	1	1	100.0%	W
3 month visit	1	1	100.0%	W

Compliance Summary

Table 8 provides a summary of compliance in relation to the ranges of full, high, moderate, and low compliance.

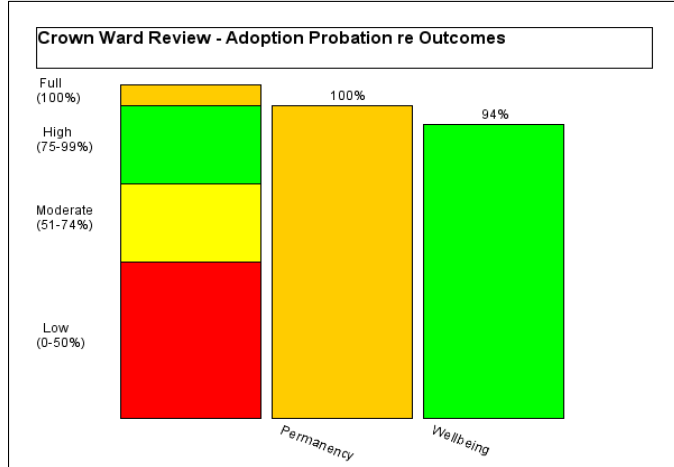
Table 8 CWR - AP Compliance Summary

CWR - AP COMPLIANCE SUMMARY	
Compliance Performance	Percentage of Total Requirements
Full	95.2%
High	0.0%
Moderate	0.0%
Low	4.8%

Outcome Measures

The figure below provides a summary of agency performance regarding requirements for Crown wards on Adoption Probation in relation to permanency and wellbeing.

Figure 2 CWR AP Agency Performance re Findings Related to Outcomes



Supplementary Information

Supplementary information re: findings related to outcomes is shown in Table 9.

Table 9 CWR - AP Supplementary Information

CWR - AP SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION				
CROWN WARD REVIEW - ADOPTION PROBATION	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Review of file by senior management	1	0	0.0%	
Review of file by program supervisor	1	0	0.0%	
Other (directive)	1	0	0.0%	
Average length of adoption probation at time of review		5.0 months		
Average number of supervisory visits since placement		4.0		