

AGENCY REPORT

CROWN WARD REVIEW

Version 2.0

Society Identifier: 27

Dates of the Review: 2016-04-18---2016-04-20

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Exit Meeting Date: 2016-04-21

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	19	
Gender	52.6% female 47.4% male	
Age at time of review	Average age: 15.5 # of children per age range o 0-9 years: 0 o 10-12 years: 2 o 13-17 years: 17	
Current placement type	Placement Type	%
	Family Based: 14	73.7%
	Group: 2	10.5%
	CMHC: 0	0.0%
	Independence: 3	15.8%
	Other: 0	0.0%
	Unapproved: 0	0.0%
Indian and native children/youth with status or eligible for status¹	5 or 26.3% of total Crown wards	
Children with prior admissions to care	14 or 73.7% of total Crown wards	
Average # of previous admissions to care	2.6	

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	5	5	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	1	1	100.0%	P
Band/native community notified re child welfare legal proceedings	1	1	100.0%	
Band/native community notified re placement change	1	1	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	19	19	100.0%	P
Notify foster parents of child removal	0	0	N/A	
WELL-BEING				
Caseworker Contact				
Seven day visit	4	3	75.0%	W
30 day visit	4	3	75.0%	W
Three month visit	19	19	100.0%	W
Review of rights & responsibilities upon admission to placement	4	3	75.0%	W
Planning Requirements - OnLAC Dimensions				
All OnLAC dimensions addressed in Plan of Care re:	19	15	78.9%	W
a) Health	19	18	94.7%	
b) Education	19	19	100.0%	

CWR AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
c) Identity	19	19	100.0%	
d) Social and Family Relationships	19	18	94.7%	
e) Social Presentation	19	19	100.0%	
f) Emotional and Behavioural	19	19	100.0%	
g) Self-Care Skills	19	16	84.2%	
Planning Requirements - Development				
Development of Plans of Care	19	17	89.5%	W
a) Tasks realistic & achievable	19	19	100.0%	
b) Tasks support achievement of goal	19	18	94.7%	
c) Tasks specific & measureable	19	18	94.7%	
d) Target dates evident	19	19	100.0%	
e) Individuals identified for completing tasks	19	19	100.0%	
f) Recommendations of assessments integrated into plans of care	10	10	100.0%	
g) Reasons for failure to obtain specialized consultation and/or treatment and supports for the child within the specified timeframe	9	9	100.0%	
h) Child participated in planning	19	19	100.0%	
i) Significant others participated in planning as required/appropriate	19	18	94.7%	
j) Reasons for significant others not participating in planning documented	1	0	0.0%	
k) AAR/OnLAC used to develop plans of care	19	8	42.1%	
Planning Requirements - Timely Completion				
Timely completion plan of care				
30 Day	4	4	100.0%	W
Three months	4	4	100.0%	W
First six month	2	1	50.0%	W
Six month plan of care #1	18	13	72.2%	W
Six month plan of care #2	13	12	92.3%	W
AAR annual update completed within the required time frame	19	14	73.7%	W
Social History Requirements				
Social history on file	19	19	100.0%	W
Current social history update	19	17	89.5%	W
Required content of social history	19	18	94.7%	W
a) Child's history prior to care including birth history	19	19	100.0%	
b) Reason for admission and CW & history of court involvement	19	19	100.0%	

CWR AGENCY COMPLIANCE BY REQUIREMENT/DIRECTIVE				
REQUIREMENTS	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
c) Information about parents, siblings, extended family	19	19	100.0%	
d) Current family relationships functioning including information about access	19	17	89.5%	
e) Child's health	19	19	100.0%	
f) Child's physical and emotional development	19	18	94.7%	
g) Child's personality and behaviour	19	18	94.7%	
h) Child's academic history	19	17	89.5%	
i) Child's separation and placement history	19	19	100.0%	
j) Child's strengths, talents and interests	19	19	100.0%	
Medical & Dental Requirements				
Annual medical	19	17	89.5%	W
Annual dental	19	18	94.7%	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	40.9%
High	45.5%
Moderate	9.1%
Low	4.5%

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	5	5	100.0%	
Child/youth provided with opportunity for native services and programming	5	5	100.0%	W
Safety				
Protection concerns verified in the past 12 months ²	19	0	100.0%	S
Protection/safety concerns addressed in documentation	4	3	75.0%	S
Children/youth identified as high risk ³	19	3	84.2%	W
High risk children requiring follow-up ⁴	3	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	19	19	100.0%	P
Post-care planning for transitional aged youth 17+	6	4	66.7%	P
Adult developmental services planning for youth 16+	1	1	100.0%	P
Average number of placements per child/youth since most recent admission		3.7		
Average number of placements per child/youth since Crown Wardship		2.5		
Average placement duration since Crown wardship		33.7 months		
Documented issues with access addressed	14	11	78.6%	P
Well-Being: Child's Special Needs				
Children/youth diagnosed with a special need	19	14	73.7%	
Percentage of children diagnosed with a special need				
Medical		2	14.3%	
Developmental		9	64.3%	
Psychological/Psychiatric		11	78.6%	

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	19	10	52.6%	
Top 3 behavioural issues:				
#1 most frequent behaviour: Physical assaultive/aggressive behaviour		6	60.0%	
#2 most frequent behaviour: Verbal assaultive/aggressive behaviour		5	50.0%	
#3 most frequent behaviour: Disrespectful – defiant, noncompliant, rude		5	50.0%	
Well-Being: Treatment Services				
Child received/completed treatment relevant to development, special needs or behavioural issues in the past 12 months	14	12	85.7%	W
Top 3 services provided:				
#1 most frequent service: Social skills programming – group or individual		10	71.4%	
#2 most frequent service: Therapist/Counsellor		10	71.4%	
#3 most frequent service: Recreational activities/programming		9	64.3%	
Children prescribed psychotropic medication	19	9	47.4%	
Well-Being: Education				
School-aged children registered in a school program	19	18	94.7%	W
Children/youth with an RESP	19	15	78.9%	
IPRC exceptional designation	13	12	92.3%	
Children provided with an IEP	18	13	72.2%	
Appropriate planning for new academic placement to ensure smooth transition	6	6	100.0%	W
Children provided with additional supports, services, or programming within the school setting	14	14	100.0%	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	12	11	91.7%	W
Well-Being: Caseworker Continuity & Contact				
Caseworker change in the past 12 months ⁵	19	3	84.2%	W
Average number of caseworkers since the child's admission to care		3.8		
Average number of face to face contacts in the past 12 months		14.6		
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	0	0	N/A	W

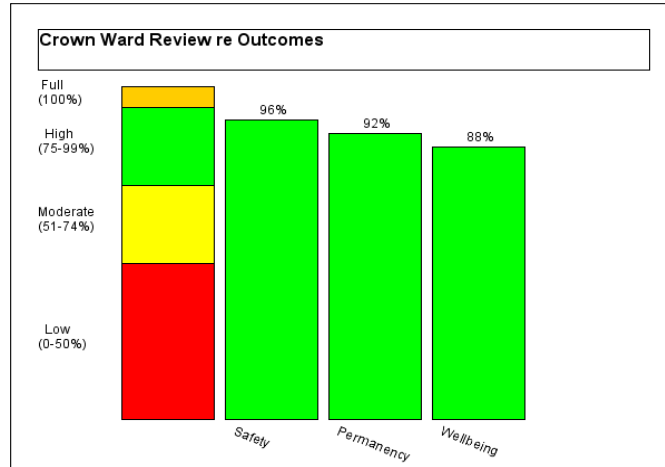
⁵ This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.

CWR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION				
CROWN WARD REVIEW	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
OCBE activity funds utilized	19	19	100.0%	W
OCBE Savings Program addressed in planning	12	8	66.7%	W
Plan of Care Implementation	19	17	89.5%	W
Health	19	18	94.7%	
Education	19	19	100.0%	
Identity	19	19	100.0%	
Social and Family Relationships	19	19	100.0%	
Social Presentation	19	19	100.0%	
Emotional and Behavioural	19	18	94.7%	
Self-Care Skills	19	18	94.7%	
Timely completion of supervisory endorsement of plans of care	19	11	57.9%	W
Other				
Review of file by senior management	19	0	0.0%	
Review of file by program supervisor	19	0	0.0%	
Other (directive)	19	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

- 1 Crown Ward Questionnaire completed
- 0 interviews requested
- 0 interviews 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	1	100.0%
	No	0	0.0%
	Not sure	0	0.0%
	Sometimes	0	0.0%
Q2. Do you feel that you are getting enough help with school?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	1	100.0%
	No	0	0.0%

CROWN WARD QUESTIONNAIRE - KEY RESPONSES

Q3. Besides school, are you involved in any other activities such as:	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Games	0	
	Sports	1	
	Brownies/Guides	0	
	Cubs/Scouts	0	
	Gym	0	
	Music	0	
	Art	0	
	Cadets	0	
	Hobbies	0	
	Camp	0	
	Dance	0	
	Drama	0	
	Craft classes	0	
	Youth groups	0	
	Cultural	0	
	Religious	0	
	Martial Arts	0	
	After school programs	0	
Boys and Girls clubs	0		
Other	0		
Q4. Does your caseworker:	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	See you alone?	1	
	Help if you have problems with your placement?	1	
	Talk about why you are in care?	1	
	Talk to you about school?	1	
	Talk to you about visits with your family?	1	
	Talk to you about rights and responsibilities?	1	
	Talk about supports available to you at the age of 18?	1	
Q5. Do you trust your caseworker?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	1	100.0%
	No	0	0.0%
	Not sure	0	0.0%
Q6. Is there anything you would like to change about your visits?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	0	0.0%
	More often	0	
	Longer	0	
	Overnight	0	
	Unsupervised	0	
	Different location	0	
	To not have visits	0	
	Other	0	
	No	1	100.0%

CROWN WARD QUESTIONNAIRE - KEY RESPONSES			
Q7. Do you know why you came into care?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Yes	1	100.0%
	No	0	0.0%
	Not sure	0	0.0%
Q8. What is your wish for the future?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Stay where you are currently living	0	
	Live elsewhere	0	
	To be adopted by the family you live with	0	
	To be adopted by a different family	0	
	Return to your family	0	
	Get an education	1	
	Get a job and live on your own	1	
Q9. If you could make being in care better, what would you change?	Question not answered	0	0.0%
	Change nothing/everything is fine	1	100.0%
	Other	0	0.0%

Table 6 CHILD/YOUTH COMMENT SUMMARY

CHILD/YOUTH COMMENT SUMMARY	
Other activities	N/A
Other changes to visits	N/A
Changes to being in care	N/A