

AGENCY REPORT

Children in Extended Society Care Review

Version 2.0

Society Identifier: 51

Dates of the Review: 2020-08-17---2020-09-02

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Reviewers: harrisca, karirebl, shieldju, langstji, wentlabr, degnersu, andersbe

Exit Meeting Date: 2020-09-04

The following report provides a summary of the results of the Children in Extended Society Care Review (CESCR). It is based on the following tools:

- Children in Extended Society Care Review - Individual Case Report
- Children in Extended Society Care 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 permanency;
- 'W' for wellbeing.

A. Children in Extended Society Care Review

The annual Children in Extended Society Care Review (CESCR) is undertaken by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' Children in Extended Care Review Unit (CECRU), 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 children in extended society care (CESCs) in Ontario are being identified and appropriately addressed. The CESCR 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 CESCR are:

- To monitor society compliance with the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act (CYFSA)* and its requirements in relation to the care of each CESC;
- To look for adequate assessment of needs, suitable placement, supporting services, and realistic planning for and with the CESC;
- 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 CESCR process is in keeping with the principles identified in the *CYFSA*:

- 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 CESCR process supports and promotes:

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

The CESCR 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 CESCR 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 extended care status and every year after that.

Profile of Children in Extended Society Care

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

Table 1 CESC Child Profile

CESCR Child Profile		
Total children in extended society care reviewed	37	
Sex	40.5% female 59.5% male	
Age at time of review	Average age: 14.6 # of children per age range o 0-9 years: 2 o 10-12 years: 8 o 13-17 years: 27	
Current placement type	Placement Type	%
	Family Based: 35	94.6%
	Group: 0	0.0%
	CMHC: 0	0.0%
	Independence: 2	5.4%
	Other: 0	0.0%
	Unapproved: 0	0.0%
First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis children/youth with status or eligible for status¹	5 or 13.5% of total CESC	
Children with prior admissions to care	17 or 45.9% of total CESC	
Average # of previous admissions to care	1.8	

¹ Children registered or entitled to be registered as an Indian in accordance to the federal Indian Act.

Findings

Compliance by Requirement/Directive

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

Table 2 CESCER Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive

CESCER Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive				
Requirements	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
First Nations, Inuit, and/or Métis Children & Youth				
Child/youth provided with the opportunity to have contact with their home community, family and/or extended family, band(s), or other First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies)	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(s) and/or First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies) or another band(s), First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies)	0	0	N/A	P
Band(s) or First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies) notified re child welfare legal proceedings	0	0	N/A	
Band(s) or First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies) notified re placement change	0	0	N/A	
Written notice provided to the Band(s) or First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis community(ies) 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	1	1	100.0%	S
Home designated Place of Safety for 60 days or less	1	1	100.0%	S
Place of Safety requirements met	1	1	100.0%	S
Permanency				
Permanency plan reflects exploration of options	37	34	91.9%	P
Notify foster parents of child removal	0	0	N/A	
Well-Being Caseworker Contact				
Seven day visit	4	4	100.0%	W
30 day visit	3	3	100.0%	W
Three month visit	37	34	91.9%	W
Review of rights & responsibilities upon admission to placement	4	4	100.0%	W
Planning Requirements - OnLAC Dimensions				
All OnLAC dimensions addressed in Plan of Care re:	37	34	91.9%	W

CESCR Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive				
Requirements	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
a) Health	37	35	94.6%	
b) Education	37	36	97.3%	
c) Identity	37	36	97.3%	
d) Social and Family Relationships	37	36	97.3%	
e) Social Presentation	37	36	97.3%	
f) Emotional and Behavioural	37	37	100.0%	
g) Self-Care Skills	37	36	97.3%	
Planning Requirements - Development				
Development of Plans of Care	37	36	97.3%	W
a) Tasks realistic & achievable	37	37	100.0%	
b) Tasks support achievement of goal	37	33	89.2%	
c) Tasks specific & measurable	37	37	100.0%	
d) Target dates evident	37	34	91.9%	
e) Individuals identified for completing tasks	37	36	97.3%	
f) Recommendations of assessments integrated into plans of care	6	5	83.3%	
g) Reasons for failure to obtain specialized consultation and/or treatment and supports for the child within the specified timeframe	1	0	0.0%	
h) Child participated in planning	32	32	100.0%	
i) Significant others participated in planning as required/appropriate	35	35	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	37	34	91.9%	
Planning Requirements - Timely Completion				
Timely completion plan of care				
30 Day	3	3	100.0%	W
Three months	5	2	40.0%	W
First six month	6	5	83.3%	W
Six month plan of care #1	35	27	77.1%	W
Six month plan of care #2	28	23	82.1%	W
AAR annual update completed within the required time frame	37	31	83.8%	W
Social History Requirements				
Social history on file	37	37	100.0%	W
Current social history update	37	32	86.5%	W
Required content of social history	37	36	97.3%	W
a) Child's history prior to care including birth history	37	36	97.3%	

CESCR Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive				
Requirements	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
b) Reason for admission and CW & history of court involvement	37	37	100.0%	
c) Information about parents, siblings, extended family	37	36	97.3%	
d) Current family relationships functioning including information about access	37	34	91.9%	
e) Child's health	37	37	100.0%	
f) Child's physical and emotional development	37	37	100.0%	
g) Child's personality and behaviour	37	36	97.3%	
h) Child's academic history	37	31	83.8%	
i) Child's separation and placement history	37	35	94.6%	
j) Child's strengths, talents and interests	37	37	100.0%	
Medical & Dental Requirements				
Annual medical	37	34	91.9%	W
Annual dental	37	35	94.6%	W
Criminal Injuries Compensation	0	0	N/A	W

Compliance Summary

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

Table 3 CESCR Compliance Summary

CESCR Compliance Summary	
Compliance Performance	Percentage of Total Requirements
Full	40.9%
High	54.5%
Moderate	0.0%
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 CECSCR Supplementary Information

CECSR Supplementary Information				
CECSR	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis Children & Youth				
Child has membership to a First Nations band(s), Inuk and/or Métis community(ies)	7	5	71.4%	
Child/youth provided with opportunity for First Nations, Inuk, and/or Métis services and programming	7	7	100.0%	W
Safety				
Protection concerns verified in the past 12 months ²	37	2	94.6%	S
Protection/safety concerns addressed in documentation	6	5	83.3%	S
Children/youth identified as high risk ³	37	4	89.2%	W
High risk children requiring follow-up ⁴	4	0	100.0%	S
Verified abuse/maltreatment occurred with:				
Current placement caregiver	2	2	100.0%	
Current respite caregivers	2	0	0.0%	
Past placement caregivers	2	0	0.0%	
Natural family or kin	2	0	0.0%	
Community caregiver	2	0	0.0%	
No perpetrator identified	2	0	0.0%	
Cannot determine	2	0	0.0%	
Other	2	0	0.0%	
Permanency				
Permanency plan addresses efforts to secure enduring relationships	37	37	100.0%	P
Post-care planning for transitional aged youth 17+	5	5	100.0%	P
Adult developmental services planning for youth 16+	3	3	100.0%	P
Average number of placements per child/youth since most recent admission		2.8		
Average number of placements per child/youth since child in extended society care status		2.2		
Average placement duration since child in extended society care status		59.0 months		
Documented issues with access addressed	8	8	100.0%	P
Well-Being: Child's Special Needs				
Children/youth diagnosed with a special need	37	30	81.1%	

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.

CECSR Supplementary Information				
CECSR	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Percentage of children diagnosed with a special need				
Medical		5	16.7%	
Developmental		16	53.3%	
Psychological/Psychiatric		26	86.7%	
Well-Being: Child's Behaviour				
Children identified with clinically significant behavioural difficulties	37	15	40.5%	
Top 3 behavioural issues:				
#1 most frequent behaviour: Verbal assaultive/aggressive behaviour		7	46.7%	
#2 most frequent behaviour: Disrespectful - defiant, noncompliant, rude		7	46.7%	
#3 most frequent behaviour: Substance abuse (drugs/alcohol)		6	40.0%	
Well-Being: Treatment Services				
Child received/completed treatment relevant to development, special needs or behavioural issues in the past 12 months	32	28	87.5%	W
Top 3 services provided:				
#1 most frequent service: Recreational activities/programming		21	65.6%	
#2 most frequent service: Therapist/Counsellor		14	43.8%	
#3 most frequent service: Specialized school supports		13	40.6%	
Children prescribed psychotropic medication	37	24	64.9%	
Well-Being: Education				
School-aged children registered in a school program	37	37	100.0%	W
Children/youth with an RESP	37	37	100.0%	
IPRC exceptional designation	12	12	100.0%	
Children provided with an IEP	37	19	51.4%	
Appropriate planning for new academic placement to ensure smooth transition	9	8	88.9%	W
Children provided with additional supports, services, or programming within the school setting	24	23	95.8%	W
Children experiencing progress at the elementary level (i.e., progressing well or progressing with difficulty)	14	14	100.0%	W
Youth experiencing progress (including some progress) at the secondary level	23	22	95.7%	W
Well-Being: Caseworker Continuity & Contact				
Caseworker change in the past 12 months ⁵	37	17	54.1%	W
Average number of caseworkers since the child's admission to care		3.2		

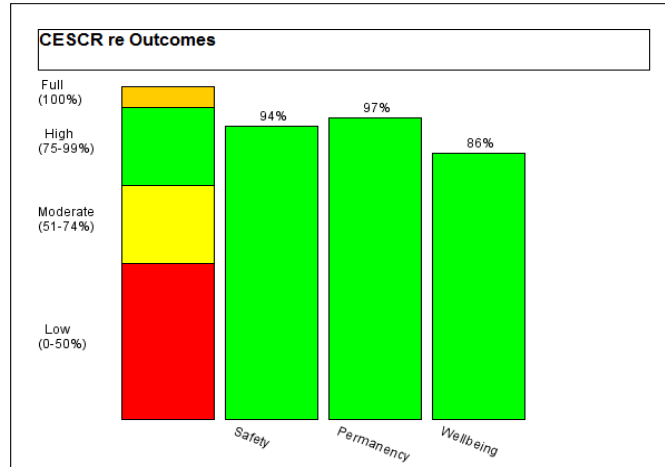
⁵ This area is based on an ideal rating of 0%. The percentage shown is inverted in order to ensure correct representation in the Outcome bar graph - Figure 1.

CECSR Supplementary Information				
CECSR	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Average number of face to face contacts in the past 12 months		11.6		
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	1	0	0.0%	W
OCBE activity funds utilized	37	35	94.6%	W
OCBE Savings Program addressed in planning	17	12	70.6%	W
Plan of Care Implementation	37	25	67.6%	W
Health	37	33	89.2%	
Education	37	31	83.8%	
Identity	37	34	91.9%	
Social and Family Relationships	37	34	91.9%	
Social Presentation	37	35	94.6%	
Emotional and Behavioural	37	34	91.9%	
Self-Care Skills	37	29	78.4%	
Timely completion of supervisory endorsement of plans of care	36	14	38.9%	W
Other				
Review of file by senior management	37	0	0.0%	
Review of file by Program Supervisor	37	0	0.0%	
Other (directive)	37	0	0.0%	

Outcome Measures

The figure below provides a summary of agency performance for children in extended society care in relation to child safety, permanency and wellbeing.

Figure 1 CESCRR Findings Related to Outcomes



Service User Feedback

- 0 CESCRR Questionnaires completed
- 0 interviews requested
- 0 interviews completed

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

Table 5 CESCRR Questionnaires - Key Responses

CESCRR Questionnaires - Key Responses			
Q1. Do you feel valued and a part of this home?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Yes	0	N/A
	No	0	N/A
	Not sure	0	N/A
	Sometimes	0	N/A
Q2. Do you feel that you are getting enough help with school?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Yes	0	N/A
	No	0	N/A

CESCR Questionnaires - Key Responses

Q3. Besides school, are you involved in any other activities such as:	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Games	0	
	Sports	0	
	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	N/A
	See you alone?	0	
	Help if you have problems with your placement?	0	
	Talk about why you are in care?	0	
	Talk to you about school?	0	
	Talk to you about visits with your family?	0	
	Talk to you about rights and responsibilities?	0	
	Talk about supports available to you at the age of 18?	0	
Q5. Do you trust your caseworker?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Yes	0	N/A
	No	0	N/A
	Not sure	0	N/A
Q6. Is there anything you would like to change about your visits?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Yes	0	N/A
	More often	0	
	Longer	0	
	Overnight	0	
	Unsupervised	0	
	Different location	0	
	To not have visits	0	
	Other	0	
No	0	N/A	

CESCR Questionnaires - Key Responses			
Q7. Do you know why you came into care?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Yes	0	N/A
	No	0	N/A
	Not sure	0	N/A
Q8. What is your wish for the future?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	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	0	
	Get a job and live on your own	0	
Q9. If you could make being in care better, what would you change?	Question not answered	0	N/A
	Change nothing/everything is fine	0	N/A
	Other	0	N/A

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

C. Children in Extended Society Care Review - Adoption Probation

The files of children placed on Adoption Probation are reviewed with the Children in Extended Society Care Review Adoption Probation (CESCR AP) tool if they have been children in extended society care (CESCs) for more than 24 months.

Profile of Children in Extended Society Care on Adoption Probation

A total of 6 children were reviewed:

- 4 Males
- 2 Females

A total of 1 child or 16.7% were identified as registered or entitled to be registered as an Indian in accordance with the federal Indian Act.

Findings

Compliance by Requirement/Directive

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

Table 7 CESCR - AP Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive

CESCR - AP Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive				
Requirements	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
Pre-placement visit	6	6	100.0%	W
Review of AAR prior to placement	5	5	100.0%	W
Registration of Placement on file	6	6	100.0%	P
Supplement to Registration of Placement on file	6	6	100.0%	P
Acknowledgement of Adoption on file	6	6	100.0%	P
Statement of Live Birth filed	6	5	83.3%	P
Post adoption services addressed	6	4	66.7%	W
Child participated in plan	1	1	100.0%	W
Life book prepared	6	3	50.0%	W
Non-identifying information social/medical history given to adoptive parents	6	1	16.7%	W
Recording Requirements				
All OnLAC dimensions addressed in recording	4	3	75.0%	W
30 day recording	4	2	50.0%	W
3 month recording	2	1	50.0%	W
6 month recording	2	1	50.0%	W

CESCR - AP Agency Compliance by Requirement/Directive				
Requirements	# of eligible files	# files meeting requirements	% Compliance	Outcome
Timely Completion of Recording				
30 days	2	1	50.0%	W
3 month	1	0	0.0%	W
First six months	0	0	N/A	W
Six month plan of care #1	2	2	100.0%	W
Six month plan of care #2	2	2	100.0%	W
First Nations, Inuit and/or Métis Requirements				
First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis band(s) and/or community(ies) given 60 days notice re adoption	1	1	100.0%	P
Where child's First Nations, Inuk and/or Métis band(s) and/or community(ies) submitted its own plan, the society considered the plan	1	1	100.0%	P
Social History Requirements				
Social history of child on file	6	6	100.0%	W
Medical history of child on file	6	6	100.0%	W
Social/Medical history of birth mother on file	6	6	100.0%	W
Social/Medical history of birth father on file	6	6	100.0%	W
Contact Requirements				
30 day visit	2	2	100.0%	W
3 month visit	3	1	33.3%	W

Compliance Summary

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

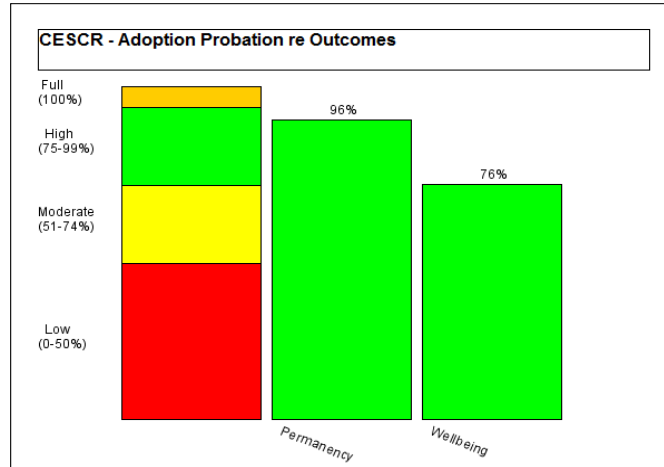
Table 8 CESCR - AP Compliance Summary

CESCR - AP Compliance Summary	
Compliance Performance	Percentage of Total Requirements
Full	57.7%
High	7.7%
Moderate	3.8%
Low	30.8%

Outcome Measures

The figure below provides a summary of agency performance regarding requirements for children in extended society care on Adoption Probation in relation to permanency and wellbeing.

Figure 2 CESCRA AP Agency Performance re Findings Related to Outcomes



Supplementary Information

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

Table 9 CESCRA - AP Supplementary Information

CESCRA - AP Supplementary Information				
CESCRA - Adoption Probation	# of eligible files	Actual #	%	Outcome
Review of file by senior management	6	0	0.0%	
Review of file by Program Supervisor	6	0	0.0%	
Other (directive)	6	0	0.0%	
Average length of Adoption Probation at time of review		9.3 months		
Average number of supervisory visits since placement		8.0		