



## DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES SUPPORT SERVICES/EXTENDED SUPPORT AGREEMENT POLICY

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1. **POLICY STATEMENT** Under this Policy the Department will provide financial support to youth and young adults transitioning to independence, and out of care. This Policy is aligned with national efforts to provide adequate resources to youth and young adults who do not have the support of permanent families to help them succeed.

### 2. **PRINCIPLES**

This Policy is based on the following principles:

- (a) The Department is committed to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit concepts of *Pijitsirniq* (serving and providing for family and/or community), *Aajiiqatigiingniq* (decision-making through discussion and consensus), and *Havaqatigiingniq* (working together for a common cause).
- (b) Programs and services for youth in care must be holistic and uphold cultural values and traditions, language and Inuit knowledge. The entitlements under this Policy are intended to support not only the basic needs of youth in care, but maintain the cultural identities of youth in care.
- (c) Programs for youth transitioning out of care will operate in a way that is accountable, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of Nunavummiut.
- (d) All efforts must be made by the Department of Family Services to identify other coverage available to support children in care with high and/or complex needs.

### 3. **APPLICATION**

This Policy applies to:

- Children under any Court Order including a Supervision Order, Temporary Custody Order, or Permanent Custody Order;
- Youth (between 16-19) under a Support Services Agreement; and
- Young Adults (between 19-26) under an Extended Support Agreement.
- Caregivers providing room and board to Youth and Young Adults

### 4. **DEFINITIONS**

#### **Court Order**

Court Orders are utilized when a child is at significant risk, accessed when there are persistent and ongoing child protection concerns. There are 3 types of Court Orders,

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including a Supervision Order, Temporary Custody Order, and Permanent Custody Order.

### **Child in Care**

A child who is in the care or custody of the Director of Child and Family Services through Service Agreements (Voluntary Support Agreement, Support Services Agreement, Extended Support Agreement) or through Court Orders (Supervision Order, Temporary Custody Order, Permanent Custody Order).

### **Client**

A resident of Nunavut who has entered into a Service Agreement with the Department of Family Services, or is involved with the Department through a Court Order. For the purposes of this Policy, reference to a client can mean a child, youth, young adult, or the approved foster parents.

### **Community Social Service Worker (CSSW)**

A Community Social Service Worker (CSSW) is responsible for overseeing the client's file and coordinating service provision.

### **Caregiver**

Approved member of a person's social network who provides room and board and helps them with activities of daily living.

### **Director of Family Wellness**

The Director designated under the *Child and Family Services Act* or their designate.

### **Extended Support Agreement**

An agreement that allows the Department to provide supports to young adults between the ages of 19 and 26. These agreements are specifically for young adults who were in the care of the Director of Child and Family Services prior to their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **Monthly Allowance**

*For youth and young adults:* A monthly allowance provided to the youth or young adult to cover their room and board with a caregiver, as well as a monthly stipend for personal costs.. Amounts shall not exceed those set out in the Monthly Allowance Table for Youth and Young Adults in Schedule A-1.

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**Permanent Custody Order**

A Court Order that places a child in the permanent custody of the Director of Child and Family Services to age 16, extendable to 19 if the youth consents or if ordered by the court.

**Placement Planning Review Committee (PPRC)**

Provides support and direction to Family Wellness staff in placing children, youth and young adults in care and/or support service agreements. The Committee membership consists of the Executive Director for Family Wellness, the designated CSSW/Case Manager, the appropriate Territorial Specialist, and other appropriate Service provider as needed (Mental Health, School, RCMP, etc)

**Service Agreements**

Service Agreements are utilized when a child, youth, young adult or family would benefit from receiving supports, but no serious, persistent child protection concerns exist. There are 3 types of Service Agreements, including Voluntary Support Agreements, Support Services Agreements, and Extended Support Agreements.

**Supervision Order**

A Court Order that directs a CSSW to supervise the home of a child according to the terms and conditions of the court. The order cannot be for a period exceeding one year.

**Supervisor**

A Supervisor of Child and Family Services, or their designate.

**Support Services Agreement**

An agreement with a youth between the ages of 16 and 19 who cannot remain safely in their parents' home and are making efforts to care for themselves and live independently.

**Temporary Custody Order**

A Court Order that directs that the child be placed in the custody of the Director for a specified period.

**Young Adult**

For the purpose of this Policy, a young adult is defined as anyone between the ages of 19 and 26 who is under an Extended Support Agreement with the Department of Family Services.

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**Youth**

For the purpose of this Policy, a youth is defined as anyone between the ages of 16 and 19 who is under a Support Services Agreement with the Department of Family Services.

**Voluntary Support Agreement**

An agreement with parents of children under the age of 16 who are not in need of protection, but require some form of support. The purpose of a Voluntary Support Agreement is to provide support services in a preventative and proactive way to prevent further intervention by CSSWs.

**5. AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Executive Council**

The Executive Council shall approve program provisions and any exceptions to this Policy.

**6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Minister**

- (a) The Minister of Family Services is accountable to the Executive Council for the implementation of this Policy.

**Deputy Minister**

- (a) The Deputy Minister of Family services is accountable to the Minister for the administration of this Policy;

**Director of Family Wellness**

- (a) The Director Family Wellness or designate is responsible for oversight and administrative compliance with the terms of this Policy.

**Placement Planning Review Committee (PPRC)**

The PPRC is responsible for development and oversight of the plan of care for each child in care of the Department. The PPRC shall review and approve the levels of special rates provided for children placed in foster homes.

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## **7. PROVISIONS**

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility for this Policy is restricted to:

- Youth (between 16-19) under a Support Services Agreement; and
- Young Adults (between 19-26) under an Extended Support Agreement.

### **Monthly Allowance**

At the age of 16, youth become eligible for the Monthly Allowance for Youth and Young Adults, as listed on A-1: Monthly Allowance Rates for Youth under Support Services Agreements (SSA) and Young Adults under Extended Support Agreement (ESA).

(a) Support Services Agreements Youth (16-19) and Extended Support Agreements Young Adults (19-26)

- Monthly Allowance for Youth or Young Adults help cover the daily costs associated with supporting a youth and/or supporting a young adult transition to independence (i.e., move out on their own).
- The Monthly Allowance is to cover room and board, and a stipend for the youth or young adult.

### **Payment**

The Monthly Allowance is paid directly to the Youth or Young Adult, who is then responsible for providing payment to the home provider in accordance with their service agreement.

### **Financial Considerations**

- (a) All relevant provisions contained in the *Financial Administration Act* and the Government of Nunavut's Financial Administration Manual shall apply to the financial administration of all funds issued by the Department of Family Services under this Policy.

## **8. FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

Financial resources required under this Policy are conditional on the approval of the Main Estimates by the Legislative Assembly and on the availability of funds in the appropriate annual budget.

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**9. PREROGATIVE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Nothing in this Policy shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Executive Council to make decisions or take action respecting the entitlements for foster parents outside the provisions of this Policy.

**10. SUNSET CLAUSE**

This Policy shall be in effect from the date of the signature until March 31, 2025.

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**A-1: Monthly Rates for Youth under Support Services Agreements (SSA) and Young Adults under Extended Support Agreement (ESA)**

Support Services Agreements and Extended Support agreements are intended to support youth or young adults in need of assistance. Support Services Agreements are for youth between the ages of 16 and 19 who cannot remain safely in their parents' home and are making efforts to care for themselves and live independently. Extended Support Agreements are agreements that allow the Department of Family Services to provide supports to young adults between the ages of 19 and 26.

Youth and young adults under the above noted agreements have access to monthly allowances for room and board (for the caregiver, where applicable) which includes a monthly stipend. The rates vary depending on the community zone one resides in.

| <b>Communities</b>  | <b>Monthly Allowance Rates for Youth under SSA and Young Adults under ESA</b>                                |
|---|--|
| <b>Zone 1:</b> Arviat, Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet  | Room and Board (for home provider):<br>\$1000.00<br><br>Monthly stipend (for youth/young adult):<br>\$330.00 |
| <b>Zone 2:</b> Arctic Bay, Baker Lake, Cambridge Bay, Chesterfield Inlet, Gjoa Haven, Hall Beach, Igloolik, Kugluktuk, Nauyasat, Whale Cove | Room and Board (for home provider):<br>\$1065.00<br><br>Monthly stipend (for youth/young adult):<br>\$330.00 |
| <b>Zone 3:</b> Cape Dorset, Kimmirut, Pangnirtung, Sanikiluaq, Taloyoak   | Room and Board (for home provider):<br>\$1127.00<br><br>Monthly stipend (for youth/young adult):<br>\$330.00 |
| <b>Zone 4:</b> Clyde River, Coral Harbour, Grise Fiord, Kugaaruk, Pond Inlet, Qikiqtarjuaq, Resolute Bay                                    | Room and Board (for home provider):<br>\$1220.00<br><br>Monthly stipend (for youth/young adult):\$330.00     |

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File Name **File Name**

Worker Info



## SERVICE AGREEMENT [51F]

VSA  
  SSA  
  ESA  
  POC  
  APPR/TEMP  
  SUPERVISION  
  TW  
  PW

### Parties

| Children & Youth |           |                  |   |
|------------------|-----------|------------------|---|
| First Name       | Last Name | DOB (D:M:Y)      |   |
|                  |           | Date of birth... | + |

  

| Parents/Legal Guardians |           |                       |   |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| First Name              | Last Name | Relationship to Child |   |
|                         |           |                       | + |

  

| Additional Agreement Member(s) |              |                       |   |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---|
| First Name                     | Last Name    | Relationship to Child |   |
| First name...                  | Last name... | Relationship...       | + |

### Agreement

| Agreement  |
|--|
| 1. This is a service agreement contract between the above listed parties and the Director of Child & Family Services.                    |
| 2. The agreement shall cover a period of six (6) months.   |
| 3. The agreement shall start on      and shall end on      .   |
| 4. For the duration of the agreement, all aspects of planning and assessment shall be guided by and reflective of Inuit societal values. |

### Care & Custody

| Care & Custody  |
|---|
| 5. In circumstances involving <u>CFSA court orders</u> , the Order sets out which parties have lawful custody of dependants, and may also set out who has care and control.   |
| 6. In circumstances involving <u>voluntary agreements</u> (Voluntary Services Agreements, Support Services Agreements, or Plans of Care) legal guardians maintain lawful custody of dependants, but may elect to place a child or youth in the care and control of the Director or other persons. |

### Placements

| Persons Placed Outside the Home  |
|--|
| 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> There are <u>no</u> children or youth placed outside of the home at this time.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> There are children or youth placed outside the home and the details of the placements are as follows: |

| Client Name            | Placement Type    | Reason for Placement    | Person(s) with Care & Control                           |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Name of Child/Youth... | Placement Type... | Reason for Placement... | Select or Write... <span style="float: right;">+</span> |

### Issues

| Issues  |
|---|
| 8. A service agreement has been created in order to address the following issues: |
| a.  |
| +   |





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## Plan

**Family Responsibilities**

1. The family members agree to do the following:

a.

+

**Worker Responsibilities**

2. The assigned worker agrees to do the following:

a.

+

## Assessment

**Assessment**

3. The assigned worker and signed parties shall formally review this Service Agreement at a midway point and during the final two weeks of the Agreement.

4. The scheduled review dates are as follows:

|                     |               |                          |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Midway Review Date: | Nov. 21, 2017 | Location: Iqaluit office |
| Final Review Date:  |               | Location: Iqaluit office |

## Confidentiality

**Confidentiality**

5. I am aware that I have a duty to report to a Child Protection Worker any information I become aware of which leads to me to believe that a child age 0-16 is being - or is at risk of being - physically, sexually, or emotionally abused and/or neglected.

6. I am aware that any and all other information that become aware of regarding the parties of this agreement must be kept strictly confidential and cannot be shared in whole or in part without prior written permission.

## Signatures

**Children/Youth (where age 12 and older)**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Consent to Agreement  Do Not Consent to Agreement

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ +

**Parent/Guardian**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Consent to Agreement  Do Not Consent to Agreement

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ +

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Consent to Agreement  Do Not Consent to Agreement

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ +

**Additional Agreement Member(s)**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Consent to Agreement  Do Not Consent to Agreement

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_ +

**Community Social Service Worker (CSSW)**

CSSW: Administrator

Sunset Date:

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervisor**

Printed Name:

Signature: X \_\_\_\_\_