

<i>Child Protection Act R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. C-5.1</i>	Program	Child Protection	
	Subject	Child Protection Inter-Provincial / Territorial Alerts	Policy # 1.13
Effective Date: July 5, 2010		Authorized by: Carol Anne Duffy	
Revised Date: July 18, 2013		Deputy Minister	

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 Child protection alerts provide a mechanism to ensure transition of child protection concerns among all Provincial and Territorial jurisdictions.

2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 All provincial requests to issue child protection alerts and all child protection alerts received from other jurisdictions will be given priority status by the Director of Child Protection.

2.2 Child protection concerns will be shared inter-provincially when high risk expectant mothers, children in care, or child protection clients move out of provincial jurisdiction without notice.

Issuing Alerts to other Provinces / Territories

2.3 Criteria for issuing interprovincial / territorial alerts include, but are not limited to, the following circumstances:

- a family or family member leaves the province or is unable to be located prior to the conclusion of a child protection service;
- a family under court-ordered supervision leaves the province without approval from child protection services;
- a parent or another person takes a child in care to another province without prior approval from Child Protection Services;
- a child in care has run from the child's placement and is believed to be in another province;

- a high risk expectant mother has or may have left the province; or
 - a child is taken to another province for the purpose of child sexual exploitation.
- 2.4 A Child Protection Social Worker, in consultation with a Child Protection Supervisor and the Provincial Coordinator of Child Protection Services, may make a request by completing a Child Protection Alert and forwarding it to the Director of Child Protection.
- 2.5 The Director of Child Protection will review the request to determine if the request meets the criteria for interprovincial / territorial alert and/or if additional information is required. If additional information is required, the Child Protection Supervisor will be contacted.
- 2.6 The Director of Child Protection will issue the alert per the Provincial / Territorial Protocol on Children and Families Moving Between Provinces and Territories. The alert will have an expiry date. The original copy, signed by the Director of Child Protection, will be returned to the Provincial Coordinator of Child Protection Services for inclusion on the client file.
- 2.7 If the person identified in the alert is located or information becomes available that the alert is no longer required, the Child Protection Social Worker will consult with the Child Protection Supervisor and the Provincial Coordinator of Child Protection Services, and if agreed that the alert is no longer required, the Child Protection Social Worker will notify the Director of Child Protection in writing requesting cancellation of the alert.
- 2.8 If, at the expiry date indicated on the alert, the child protection concerns remain, the Child Protection Social Worker, in consultation with the Child Protection Supervisor and the Provincial Coordinator of Child Protection Services, may request reissue of the alert using the same process.

Receiving Alerts from other Provinces / Territories

- 2.9 All child protection alerts are to be received by the Director of Child Protection. In the event that a child protection alert is received by any other person, the alert is to be immediately forwarded to the Director of Child Protection.
- 2.10 Upon receipt of an alert, the Director of Child Protection will review the information, and request additional information from the originating province/territory if required. The alert will be forwarded to the Provincial Intake Assessment Unit for distribution.
- 2.11 If the Director of Child Protection receives cancellation notice of the alert, the Director of Child Protection will forward the cancellation notice to the Provincial Intake Assessment Unit.

- 2.12 All child protection alerts received by the Provincial Intake Assessment Unit will be retained until the expiry date indicated on the alert and destroyed upon expiration. If no expiry date is indicated on the alert, the Provincial Intake Assessment Unit will destroy the alert six (6) months after the date of alert.
- 2.13 The Director of Child Protection will maintain a master file for all alerts issued and received from other provinces and territories.

3.0 REFERENCES

Provincial / Territorial Protocol on Children and Families Moving Between Provinces and Territories

HISTORY:

February 11, 2013 - Editorial and format changes

July 18, 2013 - Editorial and format changes