



Child Intervention in Alberta: What Caregivers need to know

In-Service Training

Course Description

This training will help increase the caregiver's knowledge of the legislation, policy and practice supports that apply to the intervention work done in Alberta with children and their families. It will focus primarily on the aspects of Child Intervention that directly impact caregivers in their role caring for children and youth. It will explore practical applications through realistic scenarios and casework examples.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Describe the laws that apply to Child Intervention in Alberta and how these laws impact decisions about children and youth in care.
- Describe why and how a child or youth comes into care in Alberta.
- Explain how the Matters to be Considered and Guiding Principles (contained in the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*) guide decision-making for children and youth in care.
- Identify approaches used by Child Intervention to assess, plan for, and make decisions about a child or youth's safety, well-being, and connection.

Key Messages

- The *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act (CYFEA)* provides the foundation for the important role of foster parents and caregivers.
- The *Matters to Be Considered* within the *CYFEA* provides guiding principles in law to direct the decisions made in the best interests of the child.
- Regulations such as the *CYFEA* Regulations and Residential Facilities Licensing Regulations provide the practices and procedures for application of the *CYFEA*.
- Preservation of an Indigenous child's cultural identity and connections while in the care of the director is focus of the Act.
- Kinship and foster caregivers provide temporary care and are an integral part of the team working together towards reunification of the child with their former guardians.
- All approved Caregivers are required to follow the legislation, policies and regulations set out to provide the best possible care for children and youth.
- Expectations of caregivers are built upon the foundations of legislation, regulations and policies that are built into the agreement to provide care and must be followed.

Guided Discussion Questions

- How do you ask for a child or youth's ideas and opinions?
- What do you do to support a child's lifelong relationship?

Resources

Resource one: Alberta Foster and Kinship Association

303, 9488 – 51 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 5A6

(780) 429-9923

Toll Free (within Alberta): 800-667-2372

Resource two: Caregiver Supports Program

Link: <https://afkaonline.ca/programs/caregiver-support-program/>