

Protection of Children - Duty to Report Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect

General Principle

Under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*, any person who has reason to believe that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected has a legal duty to report the matter.

Policy

Any administering authority employee who has reason to believe that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected has a legal duty to report the matter to the Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD), or to the appropriate First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) agency.

Procedures

The report must be made by the employee who has reason to believe the abuse or neglect has occurred or is likely to occur.

The report must be made promptly to a child protection social worker with MCFD or FNCFS agency.

The employee must make note of the date and time of the report to MCFD or FNCFS agency, including the name of the protection social worker to whom the report was made.