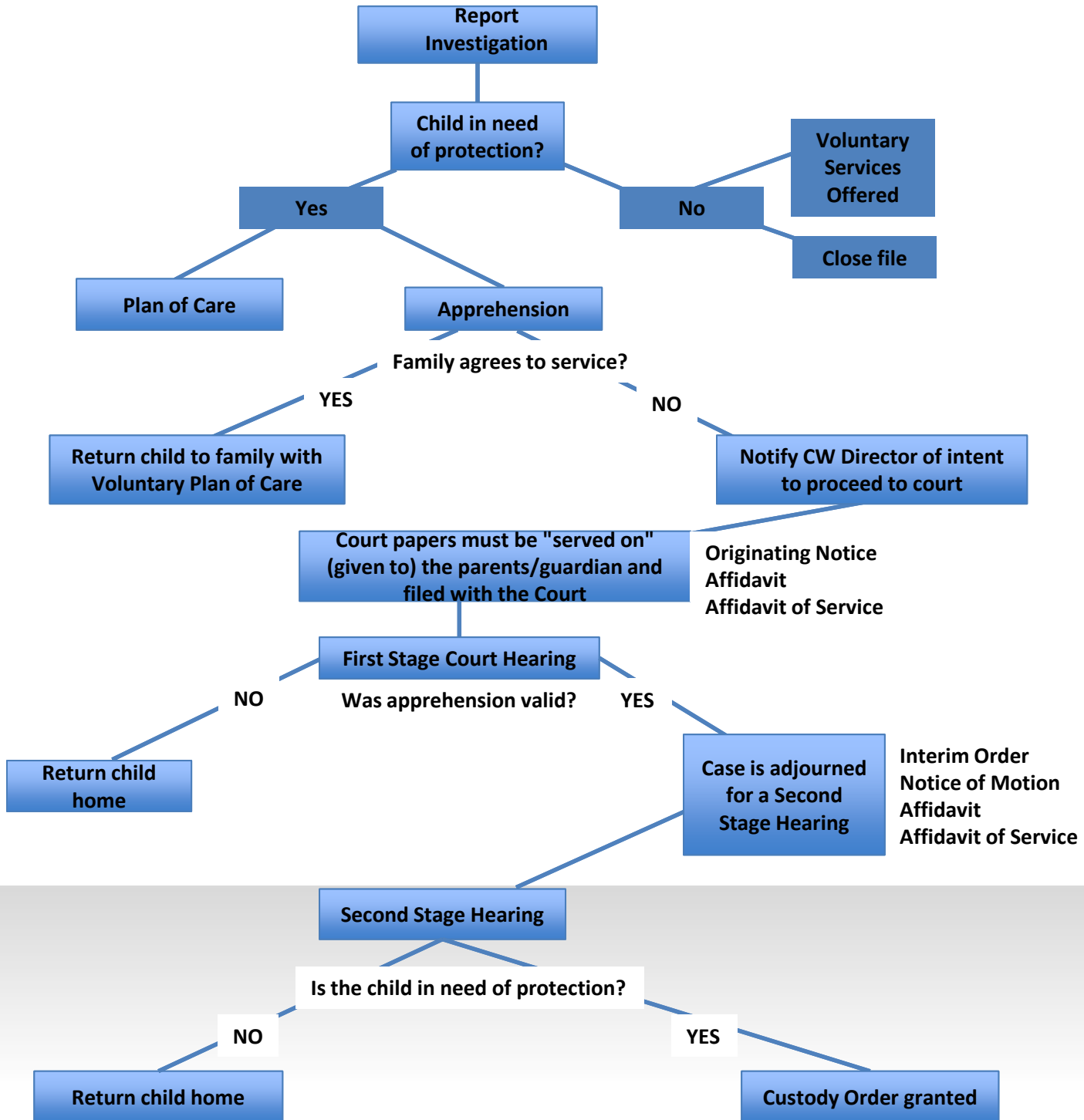


STEPS IN THE CHILD PROTECTION PROCESS



* There are strict timelines for the various stages of this process. There is usually a period of a few days (3-5 days) between when a child is apprehended and when the agency must decide to return the child or apply to court to confirm the apprehension. There is then a short time period for the agency to prepare its papers, give them to the parent(s) and file them with the Court. A first appearance in court must then occur usually within 20-30 days of the apprehension.

** First Nations Bands or Inuit organizations are entitled to notice of apprehension or an application for permanent guardianship or adoption and to participate in the hearing. The stage at which the Aboriginal nation/community is entitled to notice and to participate varies in each province/territory.

***This chart is adapted from a flowchart prepared by the Department of Family Services, Government of Nunavut.