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## Information Sharing Overview for Children and Youth in Saskatchewan

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### VISION

#### **"Together for Our Children"**

Integrated planning and service delivery for children, youth and their families is supported by appropriate cross-sector information sharing.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to be a quick reference guide for child service professionals to help them make decisions on how and when to share information about children and youth.

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### GREEN LIGHT

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General speaking, pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, Personal Information CAN be shared under the following circumstances:

With written consent

OR

Where necessary to protect the mental or physical health or safety of any individual,

OR

To report a child who might need protection under the *Child and Family Services Act*,

OR

For any purpose where, in the opinion of the head:

- the public interest in disclosure clearly outweighs any invasion of privacy that could result from the disclosure, or
- disclosure would clearly benefit the individual to whom the information relates.

OR

By order of the Court,

OR

As under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (Canada) to facilitate the rehabilitation of a young person,

OR

To cooperate with a police and/or child welfare investigation.

General speaking, pursuant to the *Health Information Protection Act*, Health information CAN be shared if the situation meets at least one of the following:

With written consent

OR

To avert or minimize danger to the health or safety of any child, who might need protection under the *Child and Family Services Act*

OR

Where the disclosure is being made for the provision of health or social services to the subject individual, if, in the opinion of the trustee, disclosure of the personal health information will clearly benefit the health or well-being of the subject individual, but only where it is not reasonably practicable to obtain consent,

OR

By order of the Court,  
OR

To a person who is responsible for providing continuing treatments and care to the individual (need not be a formal health services provider).

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**YELLOW LIGHT**

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In the following circumstances where the information does not relate to health information (HIPA), obtain more information and/or get advice from a supervisor, consultant or lawyer:

- Consent is not provided or refused but where there may be a health or safety issue for any individual or groups,
- To report criminal activity to police (pursuant to FOIP),
- Where there is a demand or request to produce information for a legal proceeding,
- When a professional code of ethics may limit disclosure.

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**RED LIGHT**

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Information can NEVER be shared if there is:

- A legislative requirement barring disclosure,
- No consent and no need to know nor overriding health/safety concerns,
- Consent but no need to know nor overriding health/safety concerns.

## **Interdepartmental Child Abuse Committee 2006**

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### **Social Services**

Janet Farnell, co-chair  
Denise McCafferty

### **Corrections and Public Safety**

Joyce Furman

### **First Nations and Métis Relations**

Trish LaFontaine

### **Health**

Joe Kluger

### **Justice**

Rod McKendrick, co-chair  
Kim Newsham

### **Learning**

Janice Stock

