



YOUTH TRANSITIONS
COVID-19 PANDEMIC SCENARIOS
MARCH 2021



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Turning 19 During the COVID-19 Pandemic	3
Jessica – Turned 19 During the COVID-19 Pandemic While Living in a Foster Home.	4
Sarah – Turned 19 During the COVID-19 Pandemic While Living in an Extended Family Program Placement.	5
Cassidy – Turned 19 During the COVID-19 Pandemic While on an Independent Living Agreement.	6
Currently On Or Planning to Go On Agreements with Young Adults (AYA) Program During the COVID-19 Pandemic	7
Habib – On AYA Attending Counseling and School Part-Time.	8
Tanisha – On AYA and in a Rehabilitation Program During the COVID-19 Pandemic.	9
Kasey – Interested in the AYA Program Through a Cultural Life-Skills Opportunity.	10
Joseph – On AYA and Has Two Children.	11
Income Assistance and Disability Assistance	12
Gilbert – On Income Assistance and was In-Care On a Continuing Custody Order When He Turned 19.	13
Gian – On Disability Assistance During the COVID -19 Pandemic, was on a Youth Agreement for 3 Months When He Was 17.	14
Experiencing Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic	15
River – Experiencing Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic.	16
Unemployed Due To The COVID-19 Pandemic	17
Stephen – Lost His Job Due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He Was on a Youth Agreement When He Turned 19.	18
Supports for Young Adults Previously On A Temporary Custody Order	19
Roxanne – In School and was Previously In-Care on a Temporary Custody Order.	20
Glossary	21

PREFACE

This document is intended to highlight emergency response services and supports that may be available to young adults from care during the COVID-19 pandemic until March 2022. It is important to note the short scenarios provided cannot capture the full essence of individual personalities, lives, and experiences of youth and young adults from care. To learn more about the specific COVID-19 Emergency Measures for Youth and Young Adults' in and from care outlined in these scenario's such as the Temporary Housing and Temporary Support Agreements please visit www.gov.bc.ca/covidyouthsupports.

TURNING 19 DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

JESSICA – TURNED 19 DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WHILE IN A FOSTER HOME.



Jessica turned 19 on March 1, 2021. She has not had her first job yet and has been living in a foster home through a **Continuing Custody Order (CCO)**.

- Jessica may stay in her foster home through a COVID-19 **Temporary Housing Agreement (THA)** with her foster parent. **This COVID-19 Emergency Measure is available until March 31st, 2022.**
- She could choose to go on **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** at the same time as a THA, a Social Worker will work with Jessica to determine how much money she can get on AYA and a THA.
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life-skills programs. Jessica can meet with a worker to learn more about what types of programs she could do.
- If Jessica needs a phone or laptop, she could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Jessica is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more she can talk to a worker or visit [online](#).
- If Jessica needs more information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122 or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Jessica is concerned about services she has received from MCFD, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

SARAH – TURNED 19 DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WHILE LIVING IN AN EXTENDED FAMILY PROGRAM PLACEMENT.



Sarah turns 19 on May 17th, 2021 and is living with her grandma in an **Extended Family Program placement**.

- Sarah may continue to stay with her grandma through a COVID-19 **Temporary Housing Agreement (THA)**. This **COVID-19 Emergency Measure** is available until **March 31st, 2022**.
- She may be eligible for Employment Insurance or Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if she earned more than \$5,000 in the past year. She can learn more [online](#).
- If Sarah needs more information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)** office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or contact the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- Sarah has rights as a youth in care that she can learn more about by talking to a worker, asking for a Know Your Rights handout from an MCFD or DAA office, or go [online](#).
- If Sarah is concerned about services she has received, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

CASSIDY – TURNED 19 DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WHILE ON AN INDEPENDENT LIVING AGREEMENT.



Cassidy is on an **Independent Living Agreement (ILA)** and turns 19 on April 3rd, 2021.

- Cassidy may stay on her ILA through a COVID-19 **Temporary Support Agreement (TSA)** and receive the same amount of funding. **This COVID-19 Emergency Measure is available until March 31st, 2022.**
- She could choose to transition to the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program,
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life skills programs. Cassidy can meet with a worker to learn more about what types of programs she could do.
- If Cassidy needs a phone or laptop, she could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Cassidy is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more she could talk to a worker or go [online](#).
- Cassidy may be eligible for Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if she was employed and earned over \$5,000 in the past year. She can learn more [online](#).
- If Cassidy needs additional information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122 or contact the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- Cassidy has rights as a youth in care that she can learn more about by talking to a worker, asking for a Know Your Rights handout from an MCFD or DAA office, or go [online](#).
- If Cassidy is concerned about services she has received from MCFD, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

**CURRENTLY ON OR PLANNING TO
GO ON AGREEMENTS WITH YOUNG
ADULTS (AYA) PROGRAM DURING
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

HABIB – ON AYA ATTENDING COUNSELING AND SCHOOL PART-TIME.



Habib has been on **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** for the past year. He was enrolled in a 60% course load (3 courses) at a post-secondary school but has been finding it difficult to manage with some of the other stresses occurring in his life. He is hoping to decrease his course load to focus on his mental health.

- Habib may choose to decrease his course load and combine his program with a rehabilitative or mental health program which includes cultural healing practices. He can talk to a worker to learn more about **this COVID-19 Emergency Measure that is available until September 30th, 2021.**
- If Habib needs access to a phone or laptop, he could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Habib is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more he can talk to a worker or go [online](#).
- Habib may be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) or the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if he was employed and earned over \$5,000 in the past year. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Habib may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if he filed his 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Habib needs more information or support, he could connect with his local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122 or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Habib is concerned about services he has received from MCFD, he can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

TANISHA – ON AYA AND IN A REHABILITATION PROGRAM DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.



Tanisha is 20 years old and is being supported through the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program while she is participating in a rehabilitative program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Tanisha may continue to be supported on an AYA.
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life skills programs. Tanisha can meet with a worker to learn more about what types of programs she could do.
- If she needs access a phone or laptop, she could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)** or MCFD to receive support. Tanisha is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more she can talk to a worker or going [online](#).
- She may be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) or Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if she earned more than \$5,000 in the past year. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Tanisha may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if she filed her 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Tanisha needs additional information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Tanisha is concerned about services she has received from MCFD, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

KASEY – INTERESTED IN THE AYA PROGRAM THROUGH A CULTURAL LIFE-SKILLS OPPORTUNITY.



Kasey is 23 years old and is interested in accessing the **Agreements with Young Adults program (AYA)** through a cultural life-skills opportunity. They haven't had a job in the past two years.

- Kasey may be eligible for AYA through a cultural learning opportunity as part of the life-skills area of the AYA program. Kasey can talk to a worker to learn more. **This option is part of the COVID-19 Emergency Measures that are available until September 30th, 2021.**
- Some examples of cultural life-skills opportunities include (but are not limited to):
 - Traditional cooking classes;
 - Learning from an Elder;
 - Beading classes;
 - Family mapping; and
 - Learning their traditional language.
- Until June 30, 2021, Kasey may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if they filed their 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. They can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Kasey needs access to a phone or laptop, they could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Kasey is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, they can learn more from a worker or going [online](#).
- If Kasey needs additional information or support, they could connect with their local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Kasey is concerned about services they have received from MCFD, they can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

JOSEPH – ON AYA AND HAS TWO CHILDREN.



Joseph is 24, has two children, and is on the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program attending post-secondary education.

- Joseph may continue to be supported on AYA if he hasn't used all of his 48 months of funding.
- He may be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) or the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if he earned more than \$5,000 in the past year. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If his children cannot attend school or daycare in-person, he may be eligible for the Canada Recovery Caregiver Benefit (CRCB). He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Joseph may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if he filed his 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Joseph needs access to a phone or laptop, he could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Joseph is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, he can learn more from a worker or going [online](#).
- If Joseph needs additional information or support, he could connect with his local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Joseph is concerned about services he has received from MCFD, he can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

INCOME ASSISTANCE AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE

GILBERT – ON INCOME ASSISTANCE AND WAS IN-CARE ON A CONTINUING CUSTODY ORDER WHEN HE TURNED 19.



Gilbert is 26 and on Income Assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. He was in care on a **Continuing Custody Order (CCO) when he turned 19.**

- Gilbert may continue to be supported on Income Assistance.
- He could choose to access the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program, instead of income assistance, if he was in a school or a program such as rehabilitative, mental health, or life-skills.
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life skills programs. Gilbert can work with a worker to learn more about what types of programs he could do.
- If Gilbert needs a phone or laptop, he could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Gilbert is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more he can talk to a worker or go [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Gilbert may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit and may be able to complete a modified application if he did not file his 2019 Canadian personal tax return. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- Gilbert may be eligible for Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if he was employed and earned over \$5,000 in the past year. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Gilbert needs additional information or support, he could connect with his local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Gilbert is concerned about services he has received from MCFD, he can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

GIAN – ON DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DURING THE COVID -19 PANDEMIC, WAS ON A YOUTH AGREEMENT FOR 3 MONTHS WHEN HE WAS 17.



Gian is 23 and he is on Disability Assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. He was on a **Youth Agreement (YAG) for three months when he was 17.**

- Gian may continue to be supported on Disability Assistance.
- Until June 30, 2021, Gian may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit and may be able to complete a modified application if he did not file his 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- Gian may be eligible the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if he was employed and earned over \$5,000 in the past year. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If he needs additional information or support, he could connect with his local MCFD **or Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)** office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Gian is concerned about services he has received from MCFD, he can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

RIVER – EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

River, 25, is experiencing homelessness as of February 1st, 2021. She was on a **Youth Agreement (YAG)** when she turned 19.



- River could choose to access the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program if she was in a school or a program such as rehabilitative, mental health, or life-skills.
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life-skills programs. River can work with a worker to learn more about what types of programs she could do.
- If River needs access to a phone or laptop, she could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. River is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more she can talk to a worker or go [online](#). Since River doesn't have a permanent residence, she could ask a friend, family member, or worker to use their address.
- Until June 30, 2021, River may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if she filed her 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- She may be eligible for Employment Insurance or Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if she earned more than \$5,000 in the past year. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If other options do not fit for River, she could choose to apply for Income Assistance, which can be fast tracked for young adults from care. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If River needs additional information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or contact the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If River is concerned about services she has received from MCFD, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

UNEMPLOYED DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

STEPHEN – LOST HIS JOB DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. HE WAS ON A YOUTH AGREEMENT WHEN HE TURNED 19.



Stephen has lost his job due to COVID-19. He is 21 years old and was on a **Youth Agreement (YAG)** when he turned 19.

- Stephen could choose to access the **Agreements with Young Adults (AYA)** program if he was in a school or a program such as rehabilitative, mental health, or life-skills.
 - **Until September 30th, 2021** there are temporary changes to AYA that make it easier to access like less hours per week and online options for life skills programs. Stephen can work with a worker to learn more about what types of programs he could do.
- If Stephen needs access to a phone or laptop, he could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Stephen is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more he can talk to a worker or go [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Stephen may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if he filed his 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- He may be eligible for Employment Insurance (EI) or the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB). He can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If he needs additional information or support, he could connect with his local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or contact the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Stephen is concerned about services he has received from MCFD, he can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

SUPPORTS FOR YOUNG ADULTS PREVIOUSLY ON A TEMPORARY CUSTODY ORDER

ROXANNE – IN SCHOOL AND WAS PREVIOUSLY IN-CARE ON A TEMPORARY CUSTODY ORDER.



Roxanne is 24 years old and was in care through a **Temporary Custody Order when she turned 19. She is in a virtual post-secondary program.**

- If Roxanne needs a phone or laptop, she could connect with a worker at a **Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA)**, or MCFD to receive support. Roxanne is eligible for **Mobility for Good**, to learn more she can talk to a worker or go [online](#).
- Until June 30, 2021, Roxanne may be eligible for the BC Recovery Benefit if she filed her 2019 Canadian personal income tax return. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- She may be eligible for Employment Insurance or Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) if she earned more than \$5,000 in the past year. She can learn more and apply [online](#).
- If Roxanne needs additional information or support, she could connect with her local MCFD or DAA office, call MCFD at 1 800-663-9122, or contact the **Representative for Children and Youth (RCY)** at 1-800-476-3933.
- If Roxanne is concerned about services she has received from MCFD, she can contact 1-877-387-7072 to reach an MCFD complaints specialist.

GLOSSARY

Agreements with Young Adults (AYA): The Agreements with a Young Adult (AYA) program helps cover the cost of things like housing, childcare, tuition and health care while you go to school or do job training, attend a rehabilitation program, a mental health program, or a life skills program. To apply for an agreement, you must be between 19 and 26 years old (up to 27th birthday), and on your 19th birthday were receiving services under:

- A Continuing Custody Order;
- A Youth Agreement; or
- Were in the guardianship of the director of adoption or of a director under Section 51 of the Infants Act.

Continuing Custody Order (CCO): Continuing Custody Order (CCO) is made by a family court judge when a child is found to be in need of protection and is unable to return home and other family or community members are unable to care for the child.

COVID-19 Emergency Measure: Are changes to the administration of programs to assist children, youth, families and young adults involved with MCFD who have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and to be better supported during this difficult time.

Delegated Aboriginal Agency (DAA): Through delegation agreements, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare (the Director) gives authority to Delegated Aboriginal Agencies, and their employees, to undertake administration of all or parts of the CHILD, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT. The amount of responsibility undertaken by each agency is the result of negotiations between the ministry and the Indigenous community served by the agency, and the level of delegation provided by the Director. There are currently twenty-four Delegated Aboriginal Agencies in British Columbia.

Extended Family Program (EFP): Extended Family Program (EFP) supports out-of-home living arrangements with extended family or individuals who have a relationship with the child or youth but who are not their legal guardian. Parents give care of the child to the care provider and the Director then provides financial and other supports to the care provider, to care for the child or youth.

Independent Living Agreement (ILA): Independent Living Agreement (ILA) enables youth receiving services under a temporary or continuing custody order and are 17 years of age and older to continue to receive ongoing support in order to increase the likelihood of a positive transition to adulthood. Independent Living Agreements for youth may be considered based on the following: emotional and behavioral development; attendance at school or employment; and their current level of independent functioning.

Mobility for Good (M4G): The M4G program offers young adults aged 19-26 inclusive who were in the care of MCFD/DAA or on a Youth Agreement at 19 or are eligible for the AYA program with a free phone and 2-year data plan at no cost with a reduced rate plan costing \$35 per month indefinitely after.

Representative for Children and Youth (RCY): Is mandated to advocate on the behalf of children, youth and young adults to improve their understanding and access to designated services, review and publicly report on designated services and to conduct independent reviews and investigations into the critical injuries or deaths of children receiving reviewable services.

Temporary Custody Order (TCO): Temporary Custody Order (TCO) is made by a family court judge during a protection hearing to have a child remain in the custody of the Director for a specified time.

Temporary Housing Agreement (THA): Temporary Housing Agreement (THA) enables a young adult who has reached the age of 19 to remain living in foster care or with a contracted residential agency or with their relatives through an out-of-care option. This is an emergency measure and is available until March 31, 2022.

Temporary Support Agreement (TSA): Temporary Support Agreement (TSA) enables a young adult who has reached the age of 19 to remain on an Independent Living Agreement or a Youth Agreement. This is an emergency measure and is available until March 31, 2022.

Youth Agreement (YAG): Youth Agreement (YAG) provides support to a youth between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age who are living out of their home and cannot return to live with family or extended family.