

FGDM PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Introduction of Self and FGDM

- Greeting
- Who you are – how you are associated with CAS or not
- How you maintain neutrality or impartiality
- Why this is important
- Importance of confidentiality and how your conversations are protected (exceptions) agreement

What is FGDM?

- FGDM: what it is, why doing it and how it now fits into the provincial legislation
- Where FGDM came from – brief and its use around world
- Importance of concept of “village” and collective decision making
- Principles of FGDM (inclusiveness, no one person has decision making power, acknowledges expertise of family, shared decision making with CAS, private family time)
- Importance of family’s acceptance of child safety concerns and CAS position about worries
- Importance of children’s involvement (why and how)
- Get confidentiality agreement signed before proceeding to next section

CAS Role and Summary and “Position”

CAS summary and “position”

- Whose summary it is and why that is important
- Read summary and CAS position
- Worker will bring their report on day of meeting (similar but updated)
- CAS position doesn’t change (except in exceptional circumstances)
- How the FGDM day works (go through each phase and what happens and why)
- Importance of safety for everyone and role of support people

Widening the Circle

- Who is in the family circle; who you have to date; who should be added (family tree with caregivers or parents)
- Any concerns about anyone in circle – safety planning
- Name, address and phone numbers of circle members, relationship to child
- Any service providers to be invited (get consent); role of OCL if applicable

Preparation

- What does participant think
- Anything s/he is worried about (problem solve, safety plan, prepare)
- Will participant attend (get consent to participate signed if parent/caregiver)
- Ability to voice opinion (e.g., literacy, cognitive or medical challenges of participant)
- How to prepare self for day (e.g., other ways to have voice heard or participate)
- Full day so be prepared
- Date, time, location, food, what you will take care of (any special needs)

Wrap Up

- Reiterate confidentiality; can only share his/her information with permission
- Family members can talk amongst themselves and importance of this
- Leave your phone numbers and workers if requested, card, brochure, caregiver’s handbook (if appropriate), confidentiality agreement if requested and ‘CAS Position’ if requested
- Thank participant for time and for sharing