

GUIDANCE FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS:

Supporting Significant Connections for Youth in Care

Canadian service providers with a connection to child welfare must be creative and determined in their efforts to protect, maintain and increase young people's connection to family, community, culture and language now, and after the pandemic.

- 1** Create space and opportunity for significant family, cultural, and community connection. Particular attention should be paid to children that are overrepresented in child welfare (First Nations, Métis, Inuit, African Canadian, and LGBTQ2S+ children).
- 2** Accommodate youth with the necessary means to continue connections: via phone, text, online chat or video conference, through the sending and receiving of care packages/letters, and other activities
- 3** Create environments to connect while adhering to any necessary guidelines
- 4** Offer extended in-home visits for families approaching reunification and advocate for forms of care permanency.
- 5** Reach out to youth who have aged out of care to provide support
- 6** Keep record of services accessed within your agency to assess for effectiveness