

Information  
SHARING**Children First Act [CFA]****What:**

The *Children First Act* (CFA) is an important piece of new legislation:

- ✓ The CFA supports the health, safety, education, security and well-being of children.
- ✓ The CFA does not replace any existing piece of legislation.
- ✓ It provides collection, use and disclosure authorities in addition to those that are currently in the *Health Information Act (HIA)* and in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act)*.

**Who:**

When dealing with children, there are now provisions for greater information sharing among:

- ✓ Service providers:
  - government departments;
  - educational bodies;
  - police services; and
  - contracted service providers.
- ✓ Custodians under the *Health Information Act*.

**When:**

- ✓ On January 1, 2014, the Information Sharing Provisions of the *Children First Act* (CFA) became law in Alberta.

**Why:**

The *Children First Act* states:

- ✓ Programs and services for children are most effective when they are provided through a collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach.
- ✓ Appropriate sharing of information between individuals and organizations planning or providing programs and services for children is critical to ensuring successful outcomes for children and families.

**How:**

- ✓ The *Children First Act* enables information sharing where it is in the “best interests of the child,” providing a more holistic and yet simplified approach to sharing information in a timely and effective manner.

**Here are valuable links for reference:**

- *Children First Act* (CFA) [\[CFA\]](#)

- *Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) Act* [\[FOIP Act\]](#)

- *Health Information Act* (HIA) [\[HIA\]](#)

- *Personal Information Protection Act* (PIPA) [\[PIPA\]](#)

- Fact Sheet for the Information Sharing Strategy (*ISS*) [\[Fact Sheet\]](#)

**Coming soon!**

- Guide to the information sharing provisions under the *Children First Act* (CFA)