

<p style="text-align: center;">Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Policy Area</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHILD CARE Fee Subsidy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FAMILY COMPOSITION</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Policy Number</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CC-6.4</p>

Preamble

As part of the responsibility for managing the delivery of Child Care services, the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB) must administer the Fee Subsidy Program.

Family composition is a key component in determining eligibility for fee subsidy. The definition of the family unit, including those who identify themselves as a “parent”, and the determination of adjusted income to be used in calculating the parental contribution toward the cost of Child Care are included in the application process.

Policy

In determining eligibility for subsidized Child Care and the adjusted income to be used in calculating the parental contribution toward the cost of Child Care, the RRDSSAB refers to *Section 1 of Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 262 under the Day Nurseries Act (DNA)* which defines a parent:

to include a person having lawful custody of a child or a person who has demonstrated a settled intention to treat a child as a child of his or her family.

When determining adjusted income, RRDSSAB includes income from couples who identify themselves as being in a relationship with some permanence and/or those who have cohabitated for a period of not less than three years.

The RRDSSAB also recognizes and adheres to *Section 29 of the Family Law Act (FLA)* which states that:

“spouse” means a spouse, as defined in Subsection 1 (1), and, in addition, includes either of two persons who are not married to each other and have cohabited:

- a) *continuously for a period of not less than three years, or*
- b) *in a relationship of some permanence, if they are the natural or adoptive parents of a child.*

The RRDSSAB acknowledges that, in cases where the applicants (couples) have cohabited for a period less than three years and have a child together, the parents have an obligation to support the child, as referenced in *Subsection 31 (1)* of the *Family Law Act (FLA)* which states:

“every parent has an obligation to provide support for his or her unmarried child who is a minor or is enrolled in a program of education, to the extent that the parent is capable of doing so.”

In all cases, staff refers to the *Ontario Child Care Service Management (OCCSM) Guidelines* for fee subsidy matters.

ADOPTION & REVIEW GUIDELINES

Administrative Approval: 30 Dec, 2010 Signature of D. Dittaro, CAO: Donna Dittaro

Approximate date of next review: February, 2015

REFERENCES:	POLICY AREA	POLICY NUMBER
	<i>Child Care</i>	<i>CC-6.2 Eligibility/Income Test</i>