



The PACE Program

Working together to foster emotional well-being
in our community through
connection, support and education

The PACE Program

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The Supporting Healthy Transitions Program: Consulting Service

When children move from one home to another, challenges can present themselves that can cause significant emotional stress. Our aim in the Supporting Healthy Transitions Program is to support permanency for children and work in collaboration with families, Nations, social workers and other professionals to ease the potential emotional impact. In addition to this in-depth involvement, we are now offering a consultation only service to the professionals involved with a transition. This part of our service does not include any front-line work with the families or children.

This program is offered by The PACE Program and is funded by Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). To learn more about our organization, please visit our website: www.thepaceprogram.ca

This consulting service is mainly available to: Metis Family Services; Vancouver Aboriginal Child & Family Services; Ayas Men Men Child & Family Services; and MCFD – Coastal North Shore and North Fraser regions

This service provides consultation and support to social workers and other professionals involved with a transition. Some common topics we consult about are:

- Transition planning - factors to take into consideration when planning the calendar.
- Helping a child understand what is happening during the transition according to their developmental stage, and ideas about “making the unknown known”.
- Understanding children's behaviours during a transition through a trauma informed lens, validating their feelings, and meeting their emotional needs during a time that may stir up a mix of feelings.
- Planning for both goodbyes and ongoing connection where possible.
- Supporting biological family during the reunification process.
- Approaching difficult conversations using a framework we have developed.
- Scripting using child friendly language.
- Using expressive arts and photos during a transition.
- Strengthening connections within the circle, particularly when there is conflict.
- Supporting foster parents who are experiencing strong feelings of grief and or resistance about the transition.

We also provide presentations & in-depth discussions with groups about practical topics & challenges that come up during transitions. We can follow up with ongoing individual consultations about specific cases.

Request for Consulting Service:

Please text, email, or call Liisa Laakso to book a consult. You will typically receive a reply within 24 hours.

- Phone: 604-306-5080
- Email: Liisa@thepaceprogram.ca
- Or, visit our website to find the brief “Request for Consulting Service” form:
<https://thepaceprogram.ca/programs/supporting-healthy-transitions-program/>

