

FAMILY CROWN SERVICES OPERATIONAL MANUAL

PRACTICE DIRECTIVES	New	Office of the Attorney General / Family Crown Services	Policy 18
Policy Title	New or Amended	Division / Branch / Section	Policy #

SLT		June 1, 2022	June 1, 2025
Approved by	This policy was approved on:	This version takes effect on:	This policy will be reviewed by:

PRACTICE DIRECTIVES

1. Introduction

Practice Directives for child and adult protection hearings came into force on September 1, 2017 for the Judicial District of Moncton and they have successfully reduced court time in child protection cases and improved access to justice. The project was expanded to the Judicial District of Saint John effective January 1, 2020. The Pilot project is based on a successful model developed in St-John’s Newfoundland and Labrador. The Practice Directives include the utilization of Judicial Case Conferences with the objective of resolving cases through proactive mediation without the necessity of full hearings.

There will be a dedicated child and adult protection docket thus separating protection matters from other Family Division matters.

The objective of the pilot project will to better manage child and adult protection matters before the courts, reduce court time and ensure timely access to family justice for all.

2. Statement of the policy

Family Crown Counsel shall comply with the Practice Directives in the Judicial Districts in which they have been introduced. Family Crown Counsel may assist self-represented respondents and colleagues at the bar by providing them with a copy of the Practice Directives or making such copy available to them.

Family Crown Counsel shall forthwith refer any concerns brought to their attention arising out of the Practice Directives to the Assistant Deputy Attorney General of Family Crown Services.

3. Related Documents

None