

# Collaborative Decision-Making in Child Welfare



## What is Collaborative Decision-Making?



Collaborative Decision-Making processes are meetings where families, social workers, and other support people discuss child welfare concerns and plan how to move forward.

## Why choose Collaborative Decision-Making?



Share opinions and participate in decision-making



Improve communication with your social worker and others



Bring people together to discuss options



Reduce time in court



Create plans to support you and your child



# Collaborative Decision-Making Options

## Mediation

- Families and social workers work through disagreements and create plans
- Facilitated by an impartial mediator
- Can include support people



## Family Case-Planning Conferences (FCPC)

- Families and social workers share information and create short-term plans
- Run by a facilitator



## Family Group Conferences (FGC)

- Families and their support people create long-term plans
- Families have private planning time
- Organized by a facilitator



## Youth Transition Conferences (YTC)

- Youth-focused planning for success on leaving foster care
- Run by a facilitator and the youth



## Traditional Decision-Making (TDM)

- Families participate in Indigenous decision-making practices
- Run by an Indigenous facilitator



## If you want to participate in a Collaborative Decision-Making process:

- Tell your social worker
- Ask your service provider or lawyer for help
- Contact a Navigator at Mediate BC at **1-877-656-1300 ext. 104** or [navigator@mediatebc.com](mailto:navigator@mediatebc.com)