

**MANITOBA CITIZENS ON PATROL PROGRAM  
POLICY & PROCEDURE #7 – Vulnerable Youth and Children Policy**

**MB COPP PROVINCIAL  
BOARD**

**Policies and Procedures  
Subject: Vulnerable Youth &  
Children Policy  
(persons aged 18- 21)**

**Date of Issue: September 25, 2021**

**Requirements Criteria:**

**When MB COPP members knowingly have direct contact and engage with vulnerable children or youth (persons under 21) participating with MB COPP activities.**

1. A COPP group may receive a request to consider offering a volunteer opportunity to potentially vulnerable persons under age 21, from an agency such as Child and Family Services or an agency in authority to oversee care of the persons.
2. Such individuals could include those with a disability, cognitive impairment or mental disability, under custody or under supervision of youth justice services, youth placed in an extension of care, or receiving designated addiction services for children provided by or on behalf of a public body or a health care facility, or other support services for vulnerable persons.
3. MB COPP groups shall require everyone eighteen (18) years of age and older who will have direct contact with vulnerable children or youth (persons under 21) in connection with the Activities:
  - (a) To obtain and deliver to MB COPP a current original Criminal Record Check, including Vulnerable Sector Check; a current original Child Abuse Registry Check; and a current original Adult Abuse Registry Check for review by MB COPP prior to having any direct or indirect contact with children or youth (persons under 21) in connection with the Activities;
  - (b) To consent to a review of the criminal record check, Provincial Child Abuse Registry and Adult Abuse Registry Check by the Government of Manitoba prior to having any direct or indirect contact with youth (persons under 21) in connection with the Activities;
  - (c) To notify MB COPP immediately upon any contact with law enforcement authorities or any change in the information contained in the Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse Registry Check and /or Adult Abuse Registry Check;

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- (d) To require every staff, volunteer and work experience student who will have direct contact with children or youth (persons under 21) that in addition to other checks, they provide a criminal history disclosure statement that confirms they have not been charged or convicted of any crime during the one (1) year period prior to beginning work with the MB COPP;
- (e) On an annual basis, provide a statement to the MB COPP confirming that the information and documentation contained in the Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse Registry Check and Adult Abuse Registry Check has not changed during the past year and provide a new Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse Registry Check and Adult Abuse Registry Check based on MB COPP's organizational policy and procedure;
4. The COPP group shall forward, upon request, all original current criminal record checks, checks of the Provincial Child Abuse Registry and Adult Abuse Registry Check received under clause 3(a) to MB COPP to be reviewed by the Government of Manitoba and shall notify of any contact with law enforcement authorities provided under clause 3(c).
  5. The COPP group shall discontinue an individual's contact with youth under the age of twenty-one (21) in connection with the Activities where the review of the current criminal record check, check of the Provincial Child Abuse Registry and Adult Abuse Registry check by the COPP group or by the Government of Manitoba or where any information provided under clause 3(c) raises any apprehension regarding youth safety.
  6. If the MB COPP group obtains any information that raises an apprehension regarding child or youth safety, the MB COPP group must immediately discontinue the staff, volunteer or work experience student's contact with children or youth (persons under 21), and must in appropriate circumstances contact law enforcement authorities, and notify MB COPP who will further notify Government of Manitoba of the situation and steps taken in the circumstance.
  7. The COPP Group shall immediately notify MB COPP of any incident occurring in conjunction with the Activities which might reasonably be anticipated to reflect negatively on MB COPP activities or on the Government of Manitoba.