

**TABLE 1: DISTINCTION BETWEEN CHILDREN'S RESIDENCE  
AND FOSTER HOME**

DESCRIPTION	CHILDREN'S RESIDENCE (also known as group home)		FOSTER HOME	
	Staff Model	Parent Model	Parent Model "Traditional" Foster Home	Parent Model "Non-traditional" Foster Home
Ministry of Community and Social Services licensing	Licensed to operate as a children's residence (group home) specific to the residence.	Licensed to operate as a children's residence (group home) specific to the residence.	Licensed to provide residential care to foster care licensee, not the residence.	Licensed to provide residential care to foster care licensee, not the residence.
Number of children	Three (3) or more children.	Five (5) or more children.	Maximum four (4) children.	Maximum four (4) children.
Zoning By-law definition	Yes. Considered as a group home, subject to group home provisions.	Yes. Considered as a group home, subject to group home provisions.	No	No
Location	Permitted in most residential zones subject to a minimum of 800 m (2,625 ft.) separation distance from another group home.	Permitted in most residential zones subject to a minimum of 800 m (2,625 ft.) separation distance from another group home.	Permitted in all residential zones and agricultural zone. No minimum separation distance.	Permitted in all residential zones and agricultural zone. No minimum separation distance.
Dwelling type	Only in detached dwelling.	Only in detached dwelling.	All dwelling types.	All dwelling types.
Ownership of residence	Owned or rented by the group home service provider.	Owned or rented by the group home service provider or the house parent(s).	Owned or rented by the house parent(s).	Owned or rented by the foster care licensee.
Staff or parent model residence	Staff model residence: staff are employed for a scheduled period of work or duty (staff do not live in the residence).	Parent model residence: one or two persons residing in the home to provide care for the children on a continuous basis.	Parent model residence: one or two persons residing in the home to provide care for the children on a continuous basis.	Parent model residence: one or two persons residing in the home to provide care for the children on a continuous basis
Staffing	Staff are hired to work in the residence.	Live-in house parents are hired by the group home service provider to live in the home to provide care to five (5) or more children; or house parents taking in five (5) or more children into their home.	House parents taking in a maximum of four (4) children into their home.	Live-in house parents are hired by the foster care licensee to live in the home to provide care to a maximum of four (4) children.