

April 3, 2024

BY E-MAIL

Shalee Kushnerick
Associate General Counsel, Litigation
Legal & Privacy, Alberta Health Services
Seventh Street Plaza, North Tower, Floor 5
10030 107 Street
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Dear Madam:

**Subject: Eliana Rice (E.R.)– Public Fatality Inquiry
Response to Recommendation**

Please find enclosed a copy of the Honourable Justice T.D. DePoe's report to the Minister of Justice. This report will be publicly released on April 24, 2024. Please do not share the contents of the report in any manner that would cause it to become available publicly prior to this date.

The following recommendations made by His Honour may impact Alberta Health Services:

- The court would recommend that new mothers be advised not only of the issues raised by the use of toxic substances, including illicit drugs, by them, and the consequent impact on their child and their ability to parent, but also **the dangers of their use and mere presence** in the home of an infant.

I ask that you please advise the following:

1. Whether Alberta Health Services, accepts in principle, does not accept, or has a different response to the recommendation;
2. A brief explanation of why that decision was made; and
3. If Alberta Health Services intends to accept the recommendation, or to implement different measures, what steps will be taken in that regard.

A response to this enquiry is not mandatory. However, be advised that any response received will be publicly released and posted on the Open Government Portal:

<https://open.alberta.ca/opendata/responses-to-public-fatality-inquiry-recommendations>.

If a response has not been received by August 26, 2024, (four months after the public release date), that information will also be made publicly available.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours truly,

Abid Mavani

Abid Mavani
Fatality Inquiry Coordinator

Encl – Report of Justice DePoe