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September 19, 2017

Mr. Philip Bryden, Q.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice
and Solicitor General
2nd Floor, Bowker Building
9833 – 109 Street
Edmonton AB T5K 2E8

Dear Mr. Bryden:

**Subject: Jolee Mary Acorn – Public Fatality Inquiry
Response to Recommendations**

Please find enclosed a copy of the Honourable Judge Paul J. Mason's report to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. This report will be publicly released on September 26, 2017.

Judge Mason made the following five recommendations:

- #1 Alberta Health Services should review the composition of its Admission History Form to add some form of indication on that form of whether the patient's previous medical file from CRC has been obtained, or is available, and whether or not that previous medical file has been reviewed.
- #2 Alberta Health Services should consider presenting an informational/education session for Correctional Peace Officers at provincial correctional institutions on opioid withdrawal to assist including, but not limited to, discussions of problematic levels of overall fluid loss by inmates.
- #3 In the case of inmates who are suffering from drug withdrawal symptoms that include significant levels of fluid loss, Alberta Health Services should look to consider whether or not to create a clear set of parameters at which an inmate's fluid intake and fluid loss are more closely monitored.

#4 Education for all corrections nursing staff on the physiological effects of opiate withdrawal and to specifically include assessing fluid volume loss and replacement as well as nursing management of the patient generally.

#5 Where possible all inmates entering corrections facilities should be able to access education and information about opiate withdrawal and anticipated symptoms.

While Alberta Health Services would be responsible for initiating the implementation of these recommendations (if ultimately accepted), I understand the Correctional Services Division of Justice and Solicitor General would be required to help facilitate implementation, specifically of recommendations #2 and #5. Accordingly, both entities have been asked to respond.

I ask that you please advise the following:

1. Whether Justice and Solicitor General accepts, accepts in principle, does not accept, or has a different response to each recommendation;
2. A brief explanation of why that decision was made; and
3. If Justice and Solicitor General 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, please 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 February 12, 2018 (four months from the public release of Judge Mason's report), that information will also be made publicly available.

Please ensure the response does not include any personal third party information.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours truly,

Jennifer Fuchinsky
Fatality Inquiry Coordinator
Enclosure