

Healthy Albertans. Healthy Communities. **Together.**



DATE: February 3, 2022

Mr. Abid Mavani Fatality Inquiry Coordinator Justice and Solicitor General 9th Floor Peace Hills Trust Tower 10011-109 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S8 <u>Abid.mavani@gov.ab.ca</u>

Dear Abid:

Re: Curtis Hill– Public Fatality Inquiry, Response to Recommendations

Thank you for providing the Honourable Judge J.L. Dixon's report. This letter is to provide a response to the three recommendations with potential impact for AHS.

Recommendation 1

Corrections management ensure that Correctional Peace Officers receive mental health-related education and training to understand signs and symptoms of mental illness; to be better equipped to share relevant observations with the AHS health team; to be prepared to make referrals of inmates for mental health and other services; and to consider the potential impact of mental health related behaviours on inmate placement within a Unit.

Response: This recommendation is for Corrections management and should be responded to by Correctional Services Division, JSG.

Recommendation 2

Alberta Health Services management develop a standard list of medications to be available at all Corrections facilities to be dispensed to an inmate to avoid any interruption in the treatment of a diagnosed health condition without an updated assessment.

Response:

This recommendation is not necessary as AHS Correctional Health Services already has a medication formulary that outlines all medications available within Correctional Health Services. This formulary is available to physicians and nurse practitioners who prescribe medication in Provincial Correctional Facilities. In addition, stock medications are available on site if needed for orders that occur during off hours or those requiring quick access. Urgent procurement options

are also in place for all centers to procure medications from local pharmacies if they are required before they can be received through usual processes so there is no delay.

Recommendation 3

Alberta Health Services management disclose all Fatality Inquiry Reports which include a discussion of AHS policies or practices to all future accreditation processes conducted by Accreditation Canada.

Response: AHS accepts this recommendation in principle. AHS is committed to meeting the standards set out by Accreditation Canada. As part of the review process, Accreditation Canada can access any and all Correctional Health Services policies and procedures. Recommendations in Fatality Inquiry reports related to AHS policies or practices may or may not align with Accreditation Canada standards or best practice.

Sincerely,

Forençaes & Billing

Dr. Francois Belanger Vice President Quality and Chief Medical Officer Alberta Health Services

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Deb Gordon Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Clinical Operations Alberta Health Services