



Memorandum

From Shannon Marchand
Deputy Minister

Our File Reference AR 8508

Your File Reference

To Rod Skura
Deputy Minister
Advanced Education

Date December 20, 2019

Telephone 780-427-6448

Fax

Subject **Family Violence Death Review Committee Case Review No. 8**

The Ministry of Community and Social Services established a Family Violence Death Review Committee (FVDRC) in 2013, to review deaths that have occurred as a result of family violence. During these reviews, the FVDRC identifies trends, risks and systemic gaps and provides recommendations to prevent and reduce family violence in our province.

Attached is the *FVDRC: Case Review Report No. 8, Confidential Contextual Report*. This report makes two new recommendations to government, and re-states five past recommendations from Case Review No. 4, to improve our response to family violence.

The following recommendation pertains to Advanced Education:

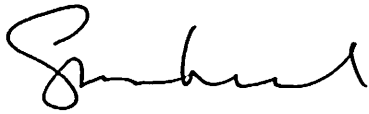
- 1) The ministries of Advanced Education, Children's Services and Indigenous Relations, in partnership with Indigenous expertise in child welfare, work with post-secondary institutions to develop, implement and evaluate core curricula for all social services disciplines on the history of colonialism in Canada; and the effects of intergenerational trauma on Indigenous individuals, families and communities.

Community and Social Services is responsible for tracking the FVDRC recommendations. Since the work of your ministry intersects with the recommendation made in this Case Review, please advise the following:

- 1) Whether Advanced Education accepts, accepts in principle, or does not accept the recommendation and a brief explanation of why that decision was made.
- 2) Whether Advanced Education intends to implement the recommendation or different measures, and what steps will be taken in that regard.

Please be advised any response received will be publicly released and posted on the [Open Government Portal](#) to support a transparent response by government to the committee's recommendations. If a response has not been received by March 30, 2020, that will also be noted on the site.

Thank you for your cooperation and support to improve government's response to ending family violence in Alberta.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Marchand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Shannon Marchand



Memorandum

From Shannon Marchand
Deputy Minister

Our File Reference AR 8508

Your File Reference

To Darlene Bouwsema
Deputy Minister
Children's Services

Date December 20, 2019

Telephone 780-427-6448

Fax

Subject **Family Violence Death Review Committee Case Review No. 8**

The Ministry of Community and Social Services established a Family Violence Death Review Committee (FVDRC) in 2013, to review deaths that have occurred as a result of family violence. During these reviews, the FVDRC identifies trends, risks and systemic gaps and provides recommendations to prevent and reduce family violence in our province.

Attached is the *FVDRC: Case Review Report No. 8, Confidential Contextual Report*. This report makes two new recommendations to government, and re-states five past recommendations from Case Review No. 4, to improve our response to family violence.

The following recommendations pertain to Children's Services:

- 1) Children's Services, in partnership with Indigenous expertise in child welfare, develop an online training tool for staff of all agencies that work or deal with Indigenous communities to increase the knowledge and skills required to respond to the effects of intergenerational trauma and the residential school system on Canadian Indigenous individuals, families and communities.
- 2) The ministry must make services and supports available to Indigenous persons working in agencies to ensure that they also have the supports available to them to heal from the trauma they have experienced in their lives so that they are healthy and effective community leaders.

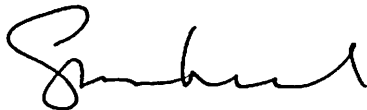
- 3) The ministries of Advanced Education, Children's Services and Indigenous Relations, in partnership with Indigenous expertise in child welfare, work with post-secondary institutions to develop, implement and evaluate core curricula for all social services disciplines on the history of colonialism in Canada; and the effects of intergenerational trauma on Indigenous individuals, families and communities.
- 4) In partnership with Indigenous expertise in child welfare, Children's Services must ensure that child welfare standards are adhered to when dealing with Indigenous families and communities. The ministry must regularly audit and evaluate interventions and work with relevant Indigenous partners and communities to improve and enhance practice standards and risk assessment tools to ensure child welfare practice standards are being complied with.

Community and Social Services is responsible for tracking the FVDRC recommendations. Since the work of your ministry intersects with the recommendations made in this Case Review, please advise the following:

- 1) Whether Children's Services accepts, accepts in principle, or does not accept each recommendation and a brief explanation of why that decision was made.
- 2) Whether Children's Services intends to implement the recommendations or different measures, and what steps will be taken in that regard.

Please be advised any response received will be publicly released and posted on the [Open Government Portal](#) to support a transparent response by government to the committee's recommendations. If a response has not been received by March 30, 2020, that will also be noted on the site.

Thank you for your cooperation and support to improve government's response to ending family violence in Alberta.



Shannon Marchand

Memorandum

From Shannon Marchand
Deputy Minister

Our File Reference AR 8508

Your File Reference

To Donavon Young
Deputy Minister
Indigenous Relations

Date December 20, 2019

Telephone 780-427-6448

Fax

Subject **Family Violence Death Review Committee Case Review No. 8**

The Ministry of Community and Social Services established a Family Violence Death Review Committee (FVDRC) in 2013, to review deaths that have occurred as a result of family violence. During these reviews, the FVDRC identifies trends, risks and systemic gaps and provides recommendations to prevent and reduce family violence in our province.

Attached is the *FVDRC: Case Review Report No. 8, Confidential Contextual Report*. This report makes two new recommendations to government, and re-states five past recommendations from Case Review No. 4, to improve our response to family violence.

The following recommendations pertain to Indigenous Relations:

- 1) The ministries of Advanced Education, Children's Services and Indigenous Relations, in partnership with Indigenous expertise in child welfare, work with post-secondary institutions to develop, implement and evaluate core curricula for all social services disciplines on the history of colonialism in Canada; and the effects of intergenerational trauma on Indigenous individuals, families and communities.
- 2) The Government of Alberta to identify and increase support for successful programs aimed at reducing family violence in Indigenous communities. Programs must be community-based, culturally relevant, led by Elders and incorporate a collaborative community development approach. The lessons learned need to be disseminated and shared.

- 3) Taking into consideration the history of colonialism and the effects of intergenerational trauma, it is recommended that the Government of Alberta, in collaboration with relevant Indigenous partners, develop an action plan to prevent family violence in Indigenous communities in Alberta, with the action plan focusing on the root causes of family violence in Alberta's Indigenous communities. The action plan needs to complement and inform the provincial framework to end family violence and be published and be made publicly accessible.

Community and Social Services is responsible for tracking the FVDRC recommendations. Since the work of your ministry intersects with the recommendations made in this Case Review, please advise the following:

- 1) Whether Indigenous Relations accepts, accepts in principle, or does not accept each recommendation and a brief explanation of why that decision was made.
- 2) Whether Indigenous Relations intends to implement the recommendations or different measures, and what steps will be taken in that regard.

Please be advised any response received will be publicly released and posted on the [Open Government Portal](#) to support a transparent response by government to the committee's recommendations. If a response has not been received by March 30, 2020, that will also be noted on the site.

Thank you for your cooperation and support to improve government's response to ending family violence in Alberta.



Shannon Marchand

Memorandum

From Shannon Marchand
Deputy Minister

Our File Reference AR 8508

Your File Reference

To Lorna Rosen
Deputy Minister
Health

Date December 20, 2019

Telephone 780-427-6448

Fax

Subject **Family Violence Death Review Committee Case Review No. 8**

The Ministry of Community and Social Services established a Family Violence Death Review Committee (FVDRC) in 2013, to review deaths that have occurred as a result of family violence. During these reviews, the FVDRC identifies trends, risks and systemic gaps and provides recommendations to prevent and reduce family violence in our province.

Attached is the *FVDRC: Case Review Report No. 8, Confidential Contextual Report*. This report makes two new recommendations to government, and re-states five past recommendations from Case Review No. 4, to improve our response to family violence.

The following recommendations pertain to Health and Alberta Health Services:

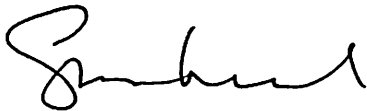
- 1) The FVDRC recommends that Health and Alberta Health Services require hospitals and medical professionals to complete family/domestic violence screening at all health care facilities and centres.
- 2) The FVDRC also recommends that Health and Alberta Health Services work in concert with Community and Social Services to make available training for medical staff and professionals that addresses the importance of screening for abuse in clinical settings, and that the training on screening is made part of all employees' annual training requirements.
- 3) The FVDRC recommends that Health and Alberta Health Services expand the best practice model of the Calgary Domestic Violence Coordinator to be scaled up to the provincial level.

Community and Social Services is responsible for tracking the FVDRC recommendations. Since the work of your ministry intersects with the recommendations made in this Case Review, please advise the following:

- 1) Whether Health and Alberta Health Services accept, accept in principle, or do not accept each recommendation and a brief explanation of why that decision was made.
- 2) Whether Health and Alberta Health Services intend to implement the recommendations or different measures, and what steps will be taken in that regard.

Please be advised any response received will be publicly released and posted on the Open Government Portal to support a transparent response by government to the committee's recommendations. If a response has not been received by March 30, 2020, that will also be noted on the site.

Thank you for your cooperation and support to improve government's response to ending family violence in Alberta.



Shannon Marchand