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ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC: Ministry Overview and Mandate

Issue: Enquiries and questions have been raised by the media, public, and major mental health and addictions stakeholders in BC about the role of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Providing better access to mental health and addictions care is precisely why we created the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.**
- **By focusing exclusively on mental health and addictions program and service needs, we intend to make sure resources are there for people where and when they are needed.**
- **A comprehensive system will require a comprehensive resource plan — one that touches all agencies and ministries delivering programs and services.**
- **The ministry is leading the transformation of BC's mental health and addiction system by setting strategic direction through cross-sector planning and driving system-level improvement through research, policy development, and evaluation.**
- **On June 26, 2019, we launched *A Pathway to Hope: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in British Columbia.***
- **We are working across government to improve mental health and addictions services and supports, focused on prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery.**
- ***A Pathway to Hope* was informed by feedback from people from many perspectives, including Indigenous people, people with lived experiences, families, and health care professionals on how to deliver mental health and addictions services and supports more effectively.**
- **We are working with all partners to strengthen social supports and services that impact mental health and well-being.**

If asked what is the role of the Ministry of Health/Children and Family Development in the context of our ministry:

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- **The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions is not the service delivery arm for mental health and addictions services, therefore other ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Children and Families have dedicated MHA staffing.**
 - **The Ministry of Health remains responsible for overseeing addictions services for people of all ages and mental health services for adults through the health authorities and their funded agencies, and is responsible for the implementation of strategic direction provided by the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.**
 - **Each health authority is responsible for operational planning and delivering the full range of health services in its region. Government has given them the flexibility and mandate to make decisions about how best to do so.**
 - **The Ministry of Children and Family Development provides mental health services for children and youth across the province.**
 - **The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions is working closely with the ministries of Health and Children and Family Development to monitor and evaluate the access and quality of mental health and substance use services to ensure that people are receiving timely access to the services they need.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Minister of Mental Health and Addictions (MMHA) was appointed on July 18, 2017, by Order in Council, stating:
 - The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions is established.
 - The duties, powers, and functions of the Minister of Health respecting policy development, program evaluation, and research in relation to mental health and addiction, including in relation to designated facilities within the meaning of the *Mental Health Act*, are transferred to the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.
- The Premier's mandate letter to the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, dated November 26, 2020, identifies the following key deliverables:
 - 1) Given the impact of COVID-19 on people's mental health, continue building a comprehensive system of mental health and addictions care, including by implementing A Pathway to Hope, BC's roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people, and by expanding access to counselling, using

ESTIMATES NOTE

- new e-health and other technologies to bring care to more people in all regions of BC
- 2) Accelerate BC's response to the opioid crisis across the full continuum of care: prevention, harm reduction, safe prescription medications, treatment and recovery.
 - 3) Explore new ways to help prescribers separate more people from the toxic drug supply through safe prescription alternatives.
 - 4) Work with the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to fast track the move toward decriminalization by working with police chiefs to push Ottawa to decriminalize simple possession of small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use. In the absence of prompt federal action, develop a made-in-BC solution that will help save lives.
 - 5) With support from the Minister of Children and Family Development, lead work to continue our government's commitment to addressing mental health problems early by rolling out new mental health and addictions care initiatives for children and youth.
 - 6) Expand the availability of treatment beds for people by building new treatment, recovery, detox and after-care facilities across the province with some beds specifically for British Columbians under age 24.
 - 7) With support from the Minister of Health, transfer oversight of recovery homes and other private treatment providers to Mental Health and Addictions to ensure quality care, accountability and value for money.
 - 8) With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing and the Minister of Health, lead work to provide an increased level of support – including more access to nurses and psychiatrists – for BC's most vulnerable who need more intensive care than supportive housing provides by developing Complex Care housing.
 - 9) With support from the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, lead work to invest more in community-based mental health and social services so there are more trained front-line workers to help people in crisis, and free up police to focus on more serious crimes.
 - 10) Support communities in addressing street disorder and public safety concerns by expanding mental health intervention teams like the six new Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams recently announced for communities experiencing increased challenges with vulnerable residents.
 - 11) Support the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and interested municipalities to expand the successful 'situation table' model that connects front-line workers from different health, safety, and social service sectors to identify and help vulnerable people.
 - 12) Support the work of the Minister of Labour to develop better options for chronic workrelated pain, including improving pain management practices for injured workers and providing treatment on demand to those with chronic pain as a result of workplace injuries.
 - 13) Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including those living in encampments.

ESTIMATES NOTE

- MMHA has a mandate to develop policies, standards, guidelines, and strategies, and monitor and evaluate programs across the sectors, using a multi-system level, “whole-of-government” approach in relation to mental health and substance use services, working with the Ministry of Health, social ministries, Indigenous peoples and organizations, local and federal levels of government, service delivery partners, researchers, families, youth, advocates, and people with lived experience in supporting the development of a cross-sector approach.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

April 8, 2021– Tamara Casanova, Director, Operations

April 16, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC Ministry FTEs

Issue: How many staff does the ministry currently have? Permanent?
Temporary?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Ministry has a total of 83 staff including the Minister's office — all positions are permanent.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- As of May 3, 2021, the Ministry has 83 staff including 5 Minister's Office staff.
- The FTE count for the Strategic Priorities & Initiatives Division includes 10 FTEs for the Overdose Emergency Response Centre: 3 secondees working in the Overdose Emergency Response Centre are not included in the FTE count.
- The FTE count for the Strategic Policy & Planning Division includes 10 FTEs for the Provincial Support Office.
- Government Communications & Public Engagement (GCPE) staff are not included in the Ministry's FTE counts.

	Minister's Office	Deputy Minister's Office	Corporate Services	Strategic Policy & Planning Division	Strategic Priorities & Initiatives Division	Total*
Total	5	6	10	33	29	83

*As at May 3, 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- The Ministry has an annual salaries/benefits budget of \$8.851 million in 2021/22, \$8.614 million in 2022/23, and \$8.623 million in 2023/24.

Approvals:

May 12, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services

April 16, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC MMHA Service Plan

Issue: The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan makes public the Ministry's goals, objectives, strategies and performance measures for the period, and also includes the Ministry's financial information, as required under the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*.

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Providing better access to mental health and addictions services is a key priority for our government, and this is precisely why we created the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.**
- **Through this ministry, we are addressing important gaps that have led to the fragmented mental health and addictions system we have today.**
- **The ministry is leading the transformation of BC's mental health and addiction system by setting strategic direction through cross-sector planning and driving system-level improvement through targeted investments supported by research, policy and evaluation.**
- **On June 26, 2019, we launched *A Pathway to Hope: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in British Columbia*.**
- **We are working across government to build systems of care in mental health and addictions focused on prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery.**
- **This strategy was informed by feedback from people from many perspectives, including Indigenous peoples, people with lived experiences, families, and health care professionals on how to deliver mental health and addictions services and supports more effectively.**
- **Transforming the system will take time and the impact of some of these efforts may not be seen until well after the initiatives have been implemented.**
- **If asked what is different since the 2020-21 Service Plan:**

ESTIMATES NOTE

- **The 2021/22 Service Plan aligns with the strategic priorities of the new mandate, including those related to pandemic response and those articulated in new mandate letters and establishes a series of performance and monitoring measures to ensure we are effectively and efficiently improving the mental health and addictions systems of care.**
- **Wording in Goal 1 and its objectives was updated to better reflect the breadth of actions being taken to address overdose and build a system of substance use treatment.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The service plan is intended to provide a high-level overview of the ministry's direction. It clearly identifies and communicates to the public and other stakeholders the purpose of the ministry, key priorities, and the results it expects to achieve with the use of its financial resources.
- The 2021/22 service plan was tabled in the Legislature and released publicly on Budget Day, April 20, 2021.
- The 2021/22 Service Plan goals reflect government's broader five foundational principles that inform each ministry's work and contribute to COVID recovery: putting people first, lasting and meaningful reconciliation, equity and anti-racism, a better future through fighting climate change and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction commitments, and a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.
- The Service Plan confirms the ministry's top priorities as outlined in the Minister's mandate letter of November 26, 2020, to:
 - **Goal 1:** Accelerate BC's response to the overdose crisis across a full continuum of substance use care that keeps people safe and improves the health and well-being of British Columbians.
 - **Goal 2:** Create a seamless, accessible, and culturally safe mental health and addictions system of care.
- MMHA is transforming BC's mental health and addictions system through the development and implementation of the priority actions and initiatives detailed in *A Pathway to Hope*. These priorities establish a three-year plan to begin transforming mental health and substance use care for children, youth, young adults, and their families and outline four immediate areas of focus, including improved wellness for children, youth, and young adults; supporting Indigenous-led solutions; improving substance use care; and improving access and quality of care.
- MMHA is working with Indigenous peoples, people with lived and living experience, direct service providers including physicians, social workers, and first responders, and with federal, provincial and local governments, including the education, justice, employment and housing systems to provide more culturally-safe and effective mental health and addictions services that better meet the needs of all British Columbians.

ESTIMATES NOTE

- The 2021-22 Service Plan includes performance measures related to the overdose emergency and *A Pathway to Hope*:
 - **Overdose emergency performance measures:**
 - 1) Projections for the number of naloxone kits to be shipped to Take Home Naloxone distribution sites.
 - 2) Increasing the percentage of people on opioid agonist treatment who have been retained for 12 months.
 - ***A Pathway to Hope* performance measures:**
 - 1) The number of communities (school districts) with Integrated Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Teams operating or in implementation.
 - 2) Establishing target numbers for the expansion of the number of Foundry centres across the province.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- The ministry's operating budget is \$12.735 million in 2021/22, \$12.743 million in 2022/23 and \$12.752 million in 2023/24 – over 70% is for salaries/benefits for ministry staff.
- Funding for mental health and addictions services is held by other ministries, mostly the Ministry of Health – estimated spending in 2020/21 was \$2.7 billion.
- Budget 2021 funding for mental health and addictions services will go to other ministries as well, again, mostly to the Ministry of Health.

Approvals:

April 8, 2021 – Tamara Casanova, Director, Operations

April 15, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services & Financial Accountability

April 16, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC Budget 2021

Issue: Budget 2021 investments

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

TOP MESSAGES:

- **Our government is making an historic \$500 million investment in Budget 2021 that is focused on building a comprehensive system of mental health and addictions care that people in British Columbia need and deserve.**
- **This includes major investments across the lifespan in mental wellness for children, youth, and young adults, in addition to funding for the overdose response, and substance use treatment and recovery.**
- **This funding is critically important to turn the tide on the overdose crisis, improve wellness for children, youth, and young adults, and address the gaps in mental health and addictions services emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic.**

SECONDARY MESSAGES:

- **The investments further advance our plan, A Pathway to Hope, developed in consultation with stakeholders across the mental health and addictions sector.**
- **These investments signal our commitment to work across government on real, lasting solutions, and on upstream investments that will make a difference in the lives of many British Columbians for years to come.**
- **We know there's more to do, and we won't stop working until we build the comprehensive system of mental health and addictions care that people in B.C. need and deserve.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On April 20, 2021, the Province announced Budget 2021 with historic investments of over \$500 million for mental health and addictions services across the lifespan to support all pillars of A Pathway to Hope, BC's 10-year plan to build a comprehensive system of mental health and addictions care.
- Funding includes more than \$500 million base operating funding. Contingency funding cannot be publicly announced.

ESTIMATES NOTE

- The Budget 2021 investment is on top of the \$90M committed in Budget 2019 for the Pathway to Hope, and on top of the \$414M in Budget 2017 for the Overdose Response
- Altogether, this government has funded \$1B to mental health and addictions services since we were first elected in 2017.
- And once you add in federal funding, British Columbians will see new investments of \$1.247B over the next three years.
- These investments are in addition to the funding (\$2.2B per year) that previously existed in ministries' base budgets prior to 2017.
- Year end grants of \$5.2M are not included in the above and will be announced later.
- This investment over 3 years will allow real progress on building systems of care that offer coordinated, evidence-informed services for mental health and substance use as well as accelerating the response to the overdose emergency:
 - \$97 million for integrated mental health and substance use care for children, youth and young adults;
 - \$75 million to improve the access and quality of mental health services including \$53 million for early psychosis intervention programs, \$14 million for the First Nations Health Authority to deliver targeted mental health and addictions services to Indigenous peoples, and \$8 million to expand eating disorder care and maintain suicide prevention services;
 - \$133 million to address adult substance use treatment and recovery needs across the continuum of care, including withdrawal management and wraparound treatment services and other supports;
 - \$45 million to accelerate responses to the overdose emergency, including expanding access to safer supply, announced Apr. 14, 2021; and,
 - \$152 million to expand access to treatment services for mental health and addictions.
- Funding for these services will be delivered through the Ministries of Health, Children and Family Development, Education, Advanced Education and Skills Training and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation. The Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions works closely with these ministries to deliver on its mandate of building a comprehensive system of mental health and addictions care.
- MMHA has an annual operating budget of almost \$13 million for each of the next three years.
- Critics say that BC hasn't done nearly enough to help people, that there is no mental health or addictions system in place – just band-aid solutions – and that the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions doesn't have any budget to speak of, demonstrating what little importance these issues are to government. Questions have surfaced about progress on decriminalization, access to psychologists, and complex care housing.
- Budget 2021 represents the first real opportunity to begin turning this narrative around.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- \$500 million of operating funding over 3 years.

Approvals:

April 30, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services

May 6, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister.

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC: Federal Funding – Mental Health and Addictions Services Agreement

Issue: How is government spending the targeted federal funding for mental health and addictions services?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Using funding from the bilateral federal agreement for mental health and addictions services signed in 2018, the Ministry worked with its partner ministries to design initiatives to begin improving the mental health and addictions system of care for everyone in BC with an initial focus on addressing the needs of Indigenous peoples, children and youth, and vulnerable populations through prevention, early intervention and improving access to evidence-informed and culturally-safe services and supports.**
- **These initiatives align with *A Pathway to Hope* announced in June 2019 and investments in Budget 2021.**
- **A few examples of initiatives being funded with this federal funding are:**
 - 1. Improving mental health in schools**
 - 2. Expanding Indigenous land-based cultural and healing services**
 - 3. Integrating mental health and substance use professionals into team-based primary care**
 - 4. Support for the Confident Parents Thriving Kids and BounceBack programs**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- As part of the federal budget in 2017, the Government of Canada committed \$11 billionⁱ over 10 years in new funding for provinces and territories to improve access to home care and mental-health services for Canadians.
- In 2018, the Province and Federal Government signed the Canada-British Columbia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement which committed \$270 million of funding from the Federal Government through 2021/22.
- It is expected this agreement will be renewed in 2021/22 for the remaining five years of the 10-year commitment.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- The total federal funding of \$270.02 million provided to the Province for mental health and addiction services as part of the Canada-British Columbia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement from 2017/18 to 2021/22 are as follows:
 - 2017/18 - \$13.09 million
 - 2018/19 - \$33.67 million
 - 2019/20 - \$60.71 million
 - 2020/21 - \$81.27 million
 - 2021/22 - \$81.27 million (notional amounts subject to change due to census adjustments)
- This funding is held by the Ministry of Health.

Approvals:

April 19, 2021 – Gordon Cross obo Philip Twyford, ADM, Finance and Corporate Services Division, Ministry of Health

April 21, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services & Financial Accountability

April 26, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister.

ⁱ <https://budget.gc.ca/2017/docs/themes/strong-canada-fort-en.html>

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC: Federal Agreement — Emergency Treatment Fund

Issue: How is BC improving access to treatment services through the Emergency Treatment Fund?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- In 2018, the federal government announced an Emergency Treatment Fund to provide funding to the provinces to assist in their responses to the overdose emergency.
- BC was allocated approximately \$34 million from the Emergency Treatment Fund to support expanded access to youth treatment, residential treatment beds, community-level linkage to care, enhanced treatment & therapy services, and supportive recovery standards. Examples include:
 - Hope Initiatives — designed to provide multidisciplinary resources to regional HAs to establish and/or expand local-level capacity to provide connections to care and system navigation support to help people link to services that are relevant, accessible and appropriate to their unique needs.
 - Enhance treatment services across all Health Authorities — a portion of this funding was used to support each regional health authority to work with First Nations Health Authority to enhance and expand targeted regional plans for treatment access.
 - In Budget 2021, the BC Government committed ongoing funding to support initiatives after the funding from the Emergency Treatment Fund agreement is used.

KEY FACTS

Background:

- In Budget 2018, the Government of Canada committed \$150 million in one-time emergency funding for provinces and territories to support multi-year projects that improve access to evidence-based treatment services for opioid use disorder.
- Eligible services must fall into one of three categories:
 - Enhancing existing treatment approaches;

ESTIMATES NOTE

- Supportive innovative treatment solutions; and
- Strategies to enhance access to treatment services.
- Funds were allocated to provinces and territories based on a weighted formula that accounted for the severity of the overdose emergency and the population of the jurisdiction.
- Funding provided under the agreement will cover the period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2023.
- In Budget 2021, Government committed ongoing funding to support HOPE initiatives - local level support to expand connections to care and system navigation, FNHA access to Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) and injectable OAT, and training/education for existing primary care providers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- The total funding being provided to the Ministry of Health through the Canada – British Columbia Emergency Treatment Fund Bilateral Agreement (the Agreement) by Health Canada over the term of the Agreement is \$33.98 million. This funding is to be fully spent by March 31, 2023. The funding has been allocated to support the following initiatives:
 - \$12.00 million to support HOPE initiatives, which provide robust post-overdose support by facilitating community-level linkage to care in high priority communities;
 - \$11.00 million to enhance treatment services across all health authorities;
 - \$4.43 million to enhance and improve treatment services by attracting, supporting, and engaging new providers to deliver care for people with opioid use disorder in areas of the province where gaps exist;
 - \$3.00 million to operate and evaluate the impact of 25 adult residential treatment beds that provide opioid agonist treatment (OAT);
 - \$2.00 million to expand injectable opioid agonist treatment (iOAT);
 - \$1.00 million to support the expansion of Foundry, which will provide youth with problematic opioid use with supports and services across all Foundry sites;
 - \$0.55 million to enhance supportive recovery services, which ensure that British Columbians experiencing problematic substance use are protected and receive safe, appropriate, and supportive recovery-oriented housing while on their path to recovery.
- The federal government requires provinces and territories to match the ETF funding received beyond the first \$0.250 million: B.C. met this requirement with the \$322 million of funding announced in Budget Update 2017 in response to the overdose emergency.
- In Budget 2021, \$35.7 million per year is committed over the next three years to support HOPE initiatives, FNHA access to OAT and iOAT, and primary care providers training and education.

Approvals:

April 19, 2021 – Gordon Cross obo Philip Twyford, ADM, Finance and Corporate Services Division, Ministry of Health

April 21, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services & Financial Accountability

April 26, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC MMHA Grants

Issue: What year-end grants did the Ministry issue last year?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Ministry issued \$5.2 million in grants in 2020/21 to community organizations to help improve access to, and the quality of mental health and substance use services and programs.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- MMHA receives funding requests throughout the year from various organizations throughout the province.
- See Table 1 below for detailed listing.
- Each request was assessed using a two-tier approach across a number of criteria (i.e. one time versus annualized funding, value for money, meeting community and/or client need, indigenous perspective, organizational capacity etc.) to ensure strategic alignment to the ministry's mandate.
- Since its inception in 2017, the ministry has issued 53 grants totaling \$32.395 million in support of mental health and addictions services and initiatives such as:
 - \$13.5 million to the Canadian Mental Health Association – BC Division to support increased substance use treatment beds throughout the province
 - \$4.7 million Our Place Society to support the development of a therapeutic recovery centre
 - \$1.350 million Dan's Legacy to support Emergency on-call therapists for youth following overdose in hospitals
 - \$1.069 million BC Schizophrenia Society to support operations and expand into rural and underserved areas within the province
 - \$1.0 million to the Canadian Mental Health Association – BC Division to support awareness of harms reduction, pain management, pathways to treatment, and other information about mental health and substance use within the trades and construction sector
 - \$1.0 million to St. Paul's Foundation to support Foundry phase III development and \$1.0 million to St. Paul's Foundation to support an Indigenous Substance Use Leadership Professorship at UBC
 - \$1.0 million to BC Campus to support mental health and substance use peer support training

ESTIMATES NOTE

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Table 1

Fiscal Year	Recipient Organization	Description	TB Approved Funding
2021	Anxiety Canada	AC is requesting funding to develop a post pandemic mental health literacy campaign to directly benefit children and youth. Specifically, AC will design and develop animated content for children and youth (with captioning for people who are hearing impaired) and launch an anxiety awareness campaign.	\$ 555,000
2021	BC Addiction Recovery Association	Funding would be used to for continuing to develop the BCARA, specifically hiring staff to help policy and procedure development, conduct research and help them develop the best practices in addiction operations.	\$ 50,000
2021	BC Schizophrenia Society	Funding to maintain operations and expand into rural and underserved areas within the province.	\$ 1,069,000
2021	Bridges for Women Society	Request for funding to provide help to recovery and referral services for women. This investment would ensure that all women whose mental health has been negatively affected by the ongoing health and economic crisis will have access to necessary support.	\$ 50,000
2021	Canadian Mental Health Association - BC/Community Action Initiative	Rural, Remote, and Indigenous Overdose Grants	\$ 250,000
2021	Canadian Mental Health Association - BC/Community Action Initiative	Work with building trades/construction sector to prevent overdoses through awareness of harms reduction, pain management, pathways to treatment, and other information about mental health and substance use. Develop standardized trades/transport/industry tailored curriculum that focuses on harm reduction, chronic pain education pathways to treatment, and Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT), and information about mental health and substance use.	\$ 1,000,000
2021	Canadian Mental Health Association - BC/Community Action Initiative	To support the provincial network of people who use drugs to respond to increased service provision resulting from COVID related community service interruptions. Increasing services and supports to underserved populations.	\$ 220,000
2021	Dan's Legacy	Emergency on-call therapists for youth following overdose in hospitals. Increased support for Emergency Department staff and better outcomes for marginalized youth. Up to 6 full time trauma informed therapists for hospital emergency on-call program (Vancouver, and potential Victoria and Kelowna.	\$ 1,350,000
2021	Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society	Requested funding would be used to support the Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society's Community Based Mental Health Counselling service for Adults.	\$ 85,000
2021	International Centre for Excellence in Emotionally Focused Therapy (ICEEFT)	Seeking funding to continue to provide an online workshop (Hold Me Tight) for relationship enhancement and education.	\$ 40,000
2021	Last Door Recovery Society	Seeking funding that would go towards 'Building Recovery Capital' Campaign. This campaign includes Recovery Capital workshops, Clean Sober Proud events, and Recovery Day events	\$ 50,000
2021	Looking Glass Foundation	Funding to address operational capacity to expand remote programming including licensing a technology platform used to provide province-wide support to people with eating disorders. Also, supporting Phase I funding from MMHA to enable a Bridge the Gap feasibility study, business plan and pilot	\$ 87,000
2021	Stigma Free Society	Expansion and digitization of the Stigma-Free School program and the Student Mental Health Toolkit services into schools to continue to have conversations and education surrounding mental health and destigmatization.	\$ 45,000
2021	Vancouver Island University Foundation	Vancouver Island Drug Checking pilot - The project is in urgent need of a paper spray mass spectrometry drug checking machine. The Thermo Scientific TSQ Fortis provides best in class sensitivity and robustness.	\$ 305,000
2021	Westminster House Society	Continued delivery of their Wellness Program, which includes activities such as yoga, art therapy, fitness etc.	\$ 45,000
Total 2021			\$ 5,201,000

Approvals:

April 13, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services and Financial Accountability (CFSA)

April 16, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC Ministry Operations Budget

Issue: What is the operating budget for the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **The Ministry has an annual operating budget of \$13 million per year over the next three years.**
- **Close to 70% of this budget is allocated to salaries/benefits and the remainder to other operating costs (e.g. professional services, travel, information technology).**
- **The budget includes just over \$0.600 million per year for the Minister's Office.**
- **None of the budget is for ongoing mental health and addictions programs or services – these budgets are held by other ministries.**
- **The Ministry at times issues one-time grants to community organizations to provide services aligned with the Pathway to Hope.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Ministry currently has 79 FTEs including the Minister's Office (5).
- The FTE count does not include 4 secondments in the Overdose Emergency Treatment Centre (OERC). Government Communications & Public Engagement (GCPE) staff are not included in the Ministry's FTE counts.
- The Ministry received a budget transfer of \$3.000 million from the Ministry of Children and Family Development to support ongoing operations of the Provincial Support Office. This has been included in the restated 2020/21 estimates.
- The Minister's Office has an annual operating budget of \$0.631 million in 2021/22, \$0.639 million in 2022/23, and \$0.648 million in 2023/24.

ESTIMATES NOTE

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Ministry operations budget by major expense category:

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Salaries/benefits	\$8,851,000	\$8,614,000	\$8,623,000
Travel	\$271,000	\$271,000	\$271,000
Professional Services	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$400,000
Information Systems	\$159,000	\$159,000	\$159,000
Office & Business Expenses	\$219,000	\$219,000	\$219,000
Building Occupancy	\$69,000	\$69,000	\$69,000
Legislative Assembly	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Other	\$3,001,000	\$3,001,000	\$3,001,000
Internal Recoveries	-\$95,000	\$0	\$0
External Recoveries	-\$150,000	\$0	\$0
Total	\$12,735,000	\$12,743,000	\$12,752,000

Minister's Office budget by major expense category:

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Salaries/benefits	\$521,000	\$529,000	\$538,000
Travel	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Information Systems	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Office & Business Expenses	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Legislative Assembly	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total	\$631,000	\$639,000	\$648,000

Budget 2020 change summary

Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions 3 yr. Allocation	Operating Expenses (\$000)		
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
	Estimate	Plan	Plan
Budget 2020 total*	\$12,712	\$12,712	\$12,712
<i>Deputy Minister Adjustment</i>	-\$12	-\$4	\$5
<i>Benefit Rates Adjustment</i>	-\$1	-\$1	-\$1
<i>Sustainable Services Negotiating Mandate</i>	\$36	\$36	\$36
Total	\$12,735	\$12,743	\$12,752

Approvals:

April 21, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services and Financial Accountability (CFSA)

April 22, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC Overdose – Financial Overview

Issue: What funding has Government provided in response to the Overdose Emergency?

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **Budget 2021 funding provides a full spectrum of treatment and recovery services for individuals experiencing issues with substance use.**
- **Budget 2021 commits sustained funding towards services (e.g. Outdoor Inhalation Overdose Prevention Sites) launched in 2020 and services (e.g. HOPE Teams) previously funded through the Emergency Treatment Fund bilateral agreement with the Federal government.**
- **Budget 2021 also continues investments that were announced in Budget Update 2017 and Budget 2019.**
- **The Province continues to utilize funding from the Canada-British Columbia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services agreement to enhance substance use treatment services (e.g. Injectable opioid agonist treatment (iOAT) services).**
- **Funding was also provided to launch services (e.g. Lifeguard App) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Budget 2021 continues previously announced funding of approximately \$128 million per year from Budget Update 2017 and Budget 2019:
 - Saving Lives - \$26.97 million
 - Overdose prevention, drug checking, Naloxone kits, psychosocial supports, BC Health Services.
 - Ending Stigma - \$2.37 million
 - Communications and public engagement.
 - Treatment and Recovery - \$67.79 million
 - Various treatment services including suboxone, methadone, opioid agnostic treatment, hospital services, and professional education and training.
 - Advancing Prevention - \$3.59 million
 - Data analysis and enhanced prescription monitoring.
 - Improving Public Safety - \$12.81 million
 - Via Public Safety and Solicitor General.

ESTIMATES NOTE

- Initiatives that address all goals - \$14.68 million
 - Indigenous health and culturally based services, community crisis fund, and regional Health Authority Lead supports.
- The Federal Government has provided \$270 million over 5 years (2017/18 to 2021/22) through the Canada-British Columbia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services Funding Agreement. Through this funding, the Province has been able to expand access to evidence-based treatments and recovery options for vulnerable populations including:
 - Mother/Baby Substance Use Program
 - Increased access to iOAT services and tablet iOAT
 - BC Centre Substance Use Cost Pressures
 - Needs Based Gap Analysis
 - Adult Surge Substance Use Treatment Beds
 - Social Emotional Development in the Early Years
- Through the Federal Emergency Treatment Fund, the Province has been able to invest approximately \$34 million in the following priority interventions over 5 years (2018/19 to 2022/23):
 - Support the expansion of Foundry, which will provide youth with problematic opioid use with supports and services across all Foundry sites;
 - Expand injectable opioid agonist treatment (iOAT);
 - Operate and evaluate the impact of adult residential treatment beds;
 - Support HOPE initiatives, which provide robust post-overdose support by facilitating community-level linkage to care in high priority communities;
 - Enhance and improve treatment service where gaps exist;
 - Enhance treatment services across all health authorities; and
 - Enhance supportive recovery services.
- Through one-time only COVID-19 funding, the Province provided \$1.05 million to the PHSA to fund the Lifeguard App which was launched on May 20, 2020, another tool in the Province's tool box to ensure a comprehensive response to the overdose crisis, that can directly link people to emergency responders if an overdose occurs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Budget 2021 provides \$330 million over the fiscal plan to provide a full spectrum of treatment and recovery services for individuals experiencing issues with substance use.
- In Budget 2021, the Province continues previously committed annual funding of approximately \$128 million through 2023/24 to address the ongoing overdose crisis.
- The Federal Government has provided \$270 million over 5 years (2017/18 to 2021/22), through the Canada-British Columbia Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions Services agreement.
- The Federal Government has provided approximately \$34 million over 4 years (2018/19 to 2022/23) through the Emergency Treatment Fund agreement.

Approvals:

May 18, 2021 – Gordon Cross obo Philip Twyford, ADM, Finance and Corporate Services Division, HLTH

May 21, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services & Financial Accountability

May 27, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister.

BUDGET NOTE

TOPIC Pathway to Hope

Issue: Budget 2021 investments

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- **With approved investments of over \$500M in Budget 2021, plus previous investments in Budget 2017 and 2019 and federal funding, a total of \$1.247 billion will be spent over the fiscal plan across all pillars of the Pathway to Hope allowing real progress on true systems of care that offer coordinated services for mental health and substance use as well as accelerating the response to the overdose emergency.**
- **Budget 2021 investments will support:**
 - **Improved wellness for children, youth and young adults through increased access to children and youth teams, transitional supports, early childhood services, investment in mental health in schools, youth substance use treatment and wraparound services, and expansion of Foundry centres and Foundry virtual supports.**
 - **Improved access and better quality through increased community counselling, eating disorder care, suicide/life promotion, and early psychosis interventions.**
 - **Improved substance use care through the development of a comprehensive model of care that supports withdrawal management, transition, assessment, treatment, and wraparound services for adults, as well as, aftercare and psychosocial supports.**
 - **Saving lives through continued investments in response to the overdose emergency (launched in 2020) and new investments for prescribed safe supply, nurse prescribing and opioid use disorder treatment services.**

BUDGET NOTE

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Budget 2021 commits \$500M over 3 years to enable real progress on systems of care for mental health and addictions
- This is on top of the \$90M committed in Budget 2019 for the Pathway to Hope, and on top of the \$414M in Budget 2017 for the Overdose Response
- Altogether, this government has funded \$1B to mental health and addictions services since we were first elected in 2017
- And once you add in federal funding, British Columbians will see new investments of \$1.247B over the next three years
- These investments are in addition to the funding (\$2.2B per year) that previously existed in ministries' base budgets prior to 2017.
- Year end grants of \$5.2M are not included in the above and will be announced at a later date.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- There is \$1,247 million committed to supporting A Pathway to Hope over the next three years:

(\$millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total**
Budget 2021 – PTH	\$146	\$165	\$189	\$500
Budget 2019 – PTH	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$90
Budget 2017 – Overdose Response	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$414
Federal – MHA	\$81	\$81*	\$81*	\$243
Total	\$395	\$414*	\$438*	\$1,247

*Subject to Federal MHA agreement renewal
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Approvals:

April 13, 2021 – Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services & Financial Accountability

April 16, 2021 – Christine Massey, Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC: A Pathway to Hope

Issue: An overview of *A Pathway to Hope*: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in British Columbia

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- ***A Pathway to Hope, released in 2019, sets the 10-year vision for a new system of mental health and substance use care, with an emphasis on prevention, promotion, early intervention and integrated services, that builds on existing initiatives and implements new, innovative approaches.***
- **Actions to improve wellness of children, youth, and young adults, support Indigenous-led solutions and improve access and quality of care are well underway, in addition to the ongoing work to address the overdose crisis and establish systems of treatment and recovery for substance use.**
- **Our government is taking action to give British Columbians what they so desperately need and deserve: a seamless network of mental health and addictions care where people get the help they need when and where they need it.**
- **With approved investments of over \$500M in Budget 2021, plus previous investments in Budget 2017 and 2019 and federal funding, a total of \$1.247 billion will be spent over the fiscal plan across all pillars of the Pathway to Hope allowing real progress on true systems of care that offer coordinated services for mental health and substance use as well as accelerating the response to the overdose emergency.**

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- *A Pathway to Hope* actions work together to improve access to culturally safe, effective, seamless and integrated services and supports, and focus on prevention and early intervention. It sets the direction to create a coordinated and comprehensive mental health and addictions system for all people living in British Columbia with an initial focus on First Nations, Métis people and other Indigenous peoples and children, youth, and young adults.
- The Roadmap lays out government's 10-year vision for mental health and addictions care that gets people the services they need in order to tackle problems early on and support their well-being.

ESTIMATES NOTE

- At the heart of the Roadmap are actions to transform mental health and substance use care and to reach them where they are — in their homes, communities, and schools. Including investments from Budget 2021, actions include:
 - establishing integrated child and youth teams in 20 school districts
 - opening more Foundry centres for a total of 23 across the Province
 - implementing specialized step up/step down services for children and youth
 - supporting mental health programming in schools
 - expanding First Nations-run treatment services
 - expanding access to affordable counselling services
 - continuing to accelerate BC’s response to the overdose emergency
 - increasing access to adult substance use and recovery needs across the continuum of care
 - implemented new regulations for supportive recovery assisted living residences
- We are working with our ministry and Indigenous partners to continue to fill gaps in services and build a comprehensive and effective network of services to support positive mental health and reduce substance use harms for all British Columbians.
- Government is monitoring progress on *A Pathway to Hope* through a performance monitoring and evaluation framework. Internal monitoring reports are produced twice per year, and government is committed to reporting publicly on progress. The first public report on progress was intended to be released in the fall of 2020 but was delayed due to the election. A public report is slated for release in Summer 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- There is \$1,247 million committed to supporting A Pathway to Hope over the next three years:

(\$millions)	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	Total**
Budget 2021 – PTH	\$146	\$165	\$189	\$500
Budget 2019 – PTH	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$90
Budget 2017 – Overdose Response	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$414
Federal – MHA	\$81	\$81*	\$81*	\$243
Total	\$395	\$414*	\$438*	\$1,247

*Subject to Federal MHA agreement renewal

**Does not include \$141 million notional contingency vote access

Approvals:

April 16, 2021 – Nick Grant, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Practice

April 22, 2021 - Dara Landry, Executive Lead, Corporate Services and Financial Accountability

April 26, 2021 – Christine Massey , Deputy Minister

ESTIMATES NOTE

TOPIC Children, Youth and Young Adults Mental Health and Addictions - Overview

Issue: Improving Wellness for Children, Youth, and Young Adults

Key Messaging and Recommended Response:

- We are committed to ensuring children, youth and young adults receive the supports they need so they have the greatest chance for success and wellbeing.
- Through *A Pathway to Hope* we are building an integrated network of services to support children, youth, young adults and families in our province by promoting mental wellness, preventing the onset of mental health and substance use challenges, identifying those who are struggling with mental illness or addiction early and connecting them to effective and culturally safe services and supports.
- This government is currently implementing multi-disciplinary Integrated Child and Youth Teams in Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows, Comox Valley, Richmond, Coast Mountain, and Okanagan-Similkameen School Districts, and will be expanding to another 15 school districts over the next three years.
- We are also expanding Foundry Centres, which bring together mental health and substance use and core health and social services for youth ages 12-24 in a single location.
- BC students in all school districts will benefit from programming in schools on prevention and wellness promotion.
- Young people aged 12 to 24 and their families will benefit from 123 new beds for youth substance-use treatment and withdrawal-management, helping fill a long-standing gap in youth treatment services.
- We know many young people first look online to find help and services, and it can be an overwhelming experience, which is why we're also working on the launch of www.wellbeing.gov.bc.ca to lead people to trusted help day and night.

ESTIMATES NOTE

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Approximately 95,000 children and youth aged 4-18 years, or an estimated 12.7%, are experiencing a mental disorder causing significant symptoms and impairment. Only approximately 44.2% of these children and youth are receiving specialized mental health services.
- Overall, 26.5% of children with disorders had two or more disorders concurrently.
- Just over 25,000 children and youth were served through community-based CYMH services, from March 31 to December 31, 2020.
- Indigenous children and youth are at higher risk for mental health and addiction problems due to the enduring effects of colonization, such as intergenerational trauma. Indigenous youth aged 10 to 19 years are almost five times more likely to die by suicide compared to non-Indigenous youth.
- Through *A Pathway to Hope*, we are implementing the following priority actions:
 - Support for pregnant and parenting individuals with substance use challenges
 - Promotion of early childhood social emotional development
 - Enhancement of programming in early childhood centres
 - Expansion of Confident Parents: Thriving Kids
 - Expansion of Foundry Centres
 - Mental Health in Schools
 - Establishment of Integrated Child and Youth Teams
 - Step Up/Step Down specialized supports
 - Virtual 24/7 counselling for post-secondary students
 - Launching www.wellbeing.gov.bc.ca in the Spring of 2021 to support children, youth, young adults and families.
 - Adding 123 new youth substance use beds across the province
- The emphasis on prevention and early intervention with investments in services for children, youth and young adults is critical because we know that 70% of serious mental health challenges start before age 25. Intervening early can prevent problems from becoming more severe or developing into lifelong conditions.
- We are taking a whole of government, cross-sector approach and working collaboratively with partners including First Nations, Métis and other Indigenous peoples.
- The Ministry is partnering with Ministries of Children and Family Development, Health, Education, and Advanced Education, Skills and Training, as well as Indigenous governments and peoples, local and federal governments, education, justice, employment, housing systems, advocates, community organizations, and people with lived experience to implement a coordinated system of mental health and addictions services for children and youth in British Columbia.
- We are working on the launch of www.wellbeing.gov.bc.ca to provide children, youth and their families with credible mental health and substance use information and links to services and resources

