



TERMS OF REFERENCE

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR CHILD MENTAL HEALTH AND ANTI-BULLYING EXPECTED RESULTS FOR 2014/15 FISCAL YEAR

Introduction

The Minister of Children and Family Development, Stephanie Cadieux (the Minister) has responsibility for a number of initiatives as directed by Premier Christy Clark. This includes balancing the Ministry of Children and Family Development's (MCFD) budget, and continuing to make measurable improvements in the provision of accessible and effective services for the children, youth and families served by MCFD. This applies to Child and Youth Mental Health services, which MCFD has responsibility for and delivers in conjunction with services available from other ministries, family doctors, health authorities and school districts. Improving consistency and accessibility of child and youth mental health services is a priority in MCFD's Strategic Plan for 2015-2018. This work is best managed through continued collaboration with the Ministries of Health, Education and Social Development and Social Innovation

Continuing to strengthen the province's *Expect Respect, and a Safe Education* strategy (ERASE strategy), managed through the Ministry of Education, remains a government priority.

Jane Thornthwaite has been appointed the *Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister of Children and Family Development* to support these priorities focused on Child Mental Health and Anti-bullying.

The role played by the Parliamentary Secretary is extremely important with respect to engaging with key partners across the province and particularly with parents on topics related to their child's mental health or their experiences related to bullying. Research of the last 10 years indicates that positive child-parent relationships and active parental involvement including in their child's learning and their school environment are critical components to support children's positive mental well-being and school achievement.

Purpose and Authority

The *Parliamentary Secretary* will support the Minister in achieving specific outcomes outlined in *MCFD's Strategic Plan 2015 – 2018* related to child and youth mental health, and will continue to support the implementation of the provincial ERASE strategy in BC schools. The *Parliamentary Secretary* will be authorized by the Minister to act as her agent, working under her authority and direction.

Duties and Deliverables

As Parliamentary Secretary for Child Mental Health and Anti-bullying, your **duties** include:

1. Acting as the Minister's representative in the Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative to support pursuit of measurable improvements in the provision of consistent, accessible and effective services to meet the mental health needs of children, youth and families in BC with a focus on parent engagement.
2. Participating in review of current research and best practices to support improvements to child and youth mental health services in BC.

3. Promoting the expansion of telemental health services and, leveraging available research, identifying other opportunities to improve mental health services in rural and remote communities.
4. At the Minister's request, meet with parent and stakeholder groups on matters relating to transition from child and youth to adult services.
5. Promoting the ERASE strategy with parents and other community partners.
6. Representing the Minister of Children and Family Development as requested by the Minister, such as attending events, giving speeches, and engaging with the media, with full communications support from MCFD Government Communications and Public Engagement .

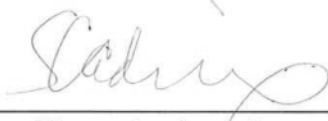
These are high priorities for the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and the Premier, as reflected by their inclusion in the respective Ministers' Mandate Letters and MCFD's Strategic Plan.

Deliverables for fiscal year 2014/2015 are:

1. Attend and participate in partner group events and link ongoing public engagement to MCFD and MED priorities related to Child Mental Health and bullying and violence prevention.
2. Engage with key child and youth mental health and education partners such as Families Organized for Care Equality and the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils to improve parent involvement and increase opportunities for them to contribute to system improvements.
3. Make use of non-traditional tools for public outreach, such as existing bullying prevention and social media awareness videos, and including social media outreach where relevant and appropriate, to engage with parents on child mental health and education related topics and the ERASE strategy.
4. Report monthly to the Deputy Minister of Children and Family Development on progress to date and any issues arising.
5. Provide monthly reports and a six month update report for the Minister of Children and Family Development to report on progress related to each project in the written work plan, and support discussion about potential new actions.
6. Provide an annual fiscal end report related to each project in the written work plan.

Support

The *Parliamentary Secretary* will be supported through active relationship with key ministry contacts; Mark Sieben, Deputy Minister, MCFD, Christine Massey, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Provincial Services (PPS), MCFD and Sandy Wiens, Executive Director Child and Youth Mental Health Services, PPS. Karen Johnston, Communications Director, MCFD will ensure full communications support is provided when the Parliamentary Secretary is representing the Minister. Linkages to key Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health staff will also be facilitated by MCFD key contacts to assist the Parliamentary Secretary in her efforts to advance the deliverables listed herein. In order to ensure our collective efforts remain focused and effective, contact with ministry staff will occur through the Minister's Office and Minister Stephanie Cadieux will approve all initiatives requiring ministry support and resources. Given government's commitment to working within a balanced budget, initiatives will need to be conducted within existing resources and balanced against other ministry priorities.



Honourable Stephanie Cadieux
Minister of Children and Family Development



Date



Jane Thornthwaite
Parliamentary Secretary for the
Minister of Children and Family Development



Date