

Boon, Emily MCF:EX

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 4:08 PM
To: Teng, Zita MCF:EX
Subject: FW: MEETING: Paige Recs

Here is a bit more information regarding your FOI request

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2015 8:31 AM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Mary Ellen
Dawn Thomas-Wightman
John Greschner
Jeff Rud
Bill Naughton

I'll forward the invite to anyone else who may need to attend.

Thanks!
C.

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2015 7:44 AM
To: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Our 4th fl brdrm is available so we can have this here.
Please send me the names of those who should be invited from your office.
Hope you had a good weekend.

---Penny

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 4:14 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Depends – where do you want to have the meeting?

If it's our office, I'll send the invite.... And if yours.... You send the invite. ☺

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 4:13 PM
To: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

We are going to go with the 15th 1-2pm.
Are you sending the meeting notice or am I? (But not until Monday)
Talk to you then.

---Penny

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 3:40 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Sounds good. Thanks! You have a nice weekend too! ☺

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Hi Carissa
I am trying to confirm with MCFD attendees which date works best but I am leaning towards the 15th.
I will connect with you on Monday to confirm.

Have a great weekend.

---Penny

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 3:02 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: MEETING: Paige Recs

Hi Penny,

As per our discussion earlier today, please find some windows of opportunity when our Senior Exec team is available to meet to discuss Paige recs:

Thursday, Oct 15th
1pm to 2pm

Friday, Oct 16th
All are available until 2pm (I can move some other meetings around to accommodate)

Tuesday, Oct 20th
Any time before Noon

Wednesday, Oct 21st
Any time that day

Let me know if you're able to make any of these work at your convenience.

Thanks!

Carissa Matheson | Executive Coordinator
Office: 250-356-2300 | Cell: 356-1517



REPRESENTATIVE FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH



This communication and any accompanying document, and any response to this communication and any accompanying document, is confidential and is intended solely for the intended recipient(s). This communication is not to be disclosed without the consent of the Representative for Children and Youth. To the extent that this communication may contain personal information regarding a child or third party, any disclosure of this communication by the intended recipient(s) may also constitute a violation of the personal privacy protections in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Part 3) and ss. 70 and 74 of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*.

Boon, Emily MCF:EX

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2015 4:07 PM
To: Teng, Zita MCF:EX
Subject: FW: MEETING: Paige Recs

As per your request.

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 3:58 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Hi Penny,

Let's try for the week of the 26th please – feel free to provide the best options for your staff and I'll work around it.

Thanks,
Carissa Matheson | Executive Coordinator
Office: 250-356-2300 | Cell: 1s.17



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From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 3:29 PM
To: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Sorry Carissa but there is no way I can get everyone together again next week.
I will leave this as it is (set for tomorrow) unless I hear from you again.

Thanks.
---Penny

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 2:04 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

I've been asked to move this to next week – what is your staff availability looking like for Wed? Thursday AM? Or next Friday?

Thanks!
Carissa

From: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Subject: RE: MEETING: Paige Recs

Hi Carissa
I am trying to confirm with MCFD attendees which date works best but I am leaning towards the 15th.
I will connect with you on Monday to confirm.

Have a great weekend.

---Penny

From: Matheson, Carissa RCY:EX
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2015 3:02 PM
To: Mathews, Penny MCF:EX
Subject: MEETING: Paige Recs

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1pm to 2pm

Friday, Oct 16th
All are available until 2pm (I can move some other meetings around to accommodate)

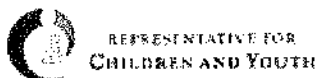
Tuesday, Oct 20th
Any time before Noon

Wednesday, Oct 21st
Any time that day

Let me know if you're able to make any of these work at your convenience.

Thanks!

Carissa Matheson | Executive Coordinator
Office: 250-356-2300 | Cell: s.17





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Boon, Emily MCF:EX

From: Teng, Zita MCF:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2015 1:49 PM
To: Boon, Emily MCF:EX
Subject: Fwd: urgent paige action plan
Attachments: ATT00001.htm; ATT00002.htm; image003.png; ATT00003.htm; image004.png; ATT00004.htm; image005.jpg; ATT00005.htm; MCFD Action Plan Final - RCY Paige's Story.docx; ATT00006.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Heavener, Cory R MCF:EX" <Cory.Heavener@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 28, 2015 at 7:44:48 PM PDT
To: "Teng, Zita MCF:EX" <Zita.Teng@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: urgent paige action plan

From: Heavener, Cory R MCF:EX
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 4:59 PM
To: Thomas-Wightman, Dawn RCY:EX
Cc: Naughton, Bill RCY:EX; Rud, Jeff RCY:EX; Sieben, Mark MCF:EX
Subject: RE: urgent paige action plan

Hi Dawn,
Here you go. I have attached our action plan. If you have any questions before the Oct 27th briefing I am available.
Cory

From: Thomas-Wightman, Dawn RCY:EX
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 3:51 PM
To: Heavener, Cory R MCF:EX
Cc: Naughton, Bill RCY:EX; Rud, Jeff RCY:EX
Subject: urgent paige action plan

We just found out there will be a press release on Monday-we will be asked to comment, can you get us something today or over weekend? There is no way we can get news-release and understand the response. METL wants to know if someone could be available to brief her...

Dawn Thomas-Wightman

Dawn Thomas-Wightman | Deputy Representative for Children and Youth
Office: 250-387-3293 | Cell: s.17



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

MCFD Action Plan – Paige’s Story

September 30, 2015

This Action Plan outlines MCFD’s approach and response to the Representative’s report. Actions from MCFD’s Initial Response in June 2015 are included in this plan

Recommendation 1

That the Province of British Columbia, led by the Ministry of Children and Family Development, respond forcefully to the persistent professional indifference shown to Aboriginal children and youth by many of those entrusted to work in this field, including some social workers, police, health care workers and educators. The Province and MCFD must also show a greater commitment to permanency for Aboriginal children and renewed efforts to work with family members when a parent cannot provide stability or safety for a child.

Details:

MCFD to take immediate steps to ensure that

- The Director of Child Welfare commence an immediate review of all the files of children and youth in care or receiving reviewable services who either reside in or frequent the DTES and immediately connect with those children, particularly those known to be living out of the parental home. A report from this review, including services offered, safety plans, and whether or not those working with these children and youth are aware of their duty to report to be presented to the Representative.
- Full and appropriate child protection investigations be conducted for children and youth identified in the above process as being at risk of harm, ensuring that family engagement reflects an Aboriginal-sensitive lens to supporting extended family members willing to assist.
- Structured Decision Making tools for Aboriginal children and youth be child-focused and that the desire to keep a child with a parent does not override protection concerns and the need for safety, which must be paramount.
- Mental health screening tools are immediately applied to assess the potential needs of any Aboriginal child or youth when taken into care, or with the consent of the parent during a safety assessment. Tracking and reporting on these children and youths' access to services to be made public.
- Timely decisions are made with respect to safety and permanency in the case of all Aboriginal children and youth in care. MCFD to develop a clear fund to support Aboriginal extended family members to allow them to do kinship care. This should allow for appropriate housing and adequate investment to ensure that a child at risk can be raised in safety and with adequate levels of food, shelter, clothing and readiness for school achievement.
- Enhanced transition planning is offered for Aboriginal youth who are aging out of government care, with the recognition that these youth may require particularly robust services including foster care and other supports that extend beyond the age of 19. Aboriginal girls in care who are at risk of drug overdose, involvement in survival sex trade, and poor school attendance to be offered extension of foster care to 24 years of age.
- Education on the effects of intergenerational trauma and evidence-based strategies to disrupt these patterns is added to the core training curriculum provided to all MCFD staff.
- MCFD provides an annual public report specifically on the reported abuse, neglect and maltreatment of Aboriginal girls and young women involved with the ministry for each year, with detailed breakdown by region, age and service provided.

Report from Director of Child Welfare to be presented to the Representative by Sept. 30, 2015.

MCFD Response to Recommendation 1

The Ministry is committed to improving and strengthening our approach in how we work, support and respond to youth who are high risk and their families. This means taking a look at how our policies, procedures and standards are effectively applied to the type of assessment, response and interventions that are expected from front line practitioners and ensure that practice decisions are appropriate to support youth who are high risk. This response will focus on key activities where the ministry can improve how we serve youth such as Paige.

Goal

- To better understand the needs of children and youth who frequent and/or reside in the DTES to ensure appropriate assessments, planning and services are in place.
- To ensure existing ministry policy addresses the issues faced by high risk youth and promotes practice and service delivery that supports the safety and needs of high risk youth population

Key Activity	Actions Completed	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
<p>1. Conduct a review of children and youth in care or receiving reviewable services who reside or frequent the Downtown Eastside.</p> <p>Complete a profile report to inform the development of a Rapid Response Team model</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of review methodology and tool • Identify sample populations for review • Phase 1 review and report of all youth in care who live/frequent DTES • Interviews with ministry staff were held to get their perspectives about the needs of high risk youth and serving this population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 review and report of all youth receiving service who live/frequent DTES • Phase 3 review and report of all other youth in care living in DTES served by other ministry offices outside DTES. 	<p>October 2015</p> <p>November 2015</p>	Cory Heavener

MCFD Action Plan 2015: *Support Margie's Story: Abuse, Indifference and a Young Life Discarded* (May 2014) – September 2015

Key Activity	Actions Completed	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
2. Review of High Risk Youth policy to determine how the ministry responds to and supports high risk youth, including the provision of service(s) and linkages to other service supports such as Health and Education. (Above work to inform the Rapid Response Team model)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and inventory of MCFD policies and standards focused on youth and young adults (including child protection and guardianship policies and standards). Creation of support materials for the field including a draft youth policy 'roadmap' to assist front line youth practitioners to better understand the application of various youth policies and standards and an outline of roles and responsibilities under the <i>Child, Family and Community Services Act</i> when responding to high risk youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the application of policy and procedures for youth service response. Update the Structured Decision Making guidelines. Communicate this information to front line practitioners and managers through written materials and live meetings. Provide support materials to front line practitioners and managers (e.g., roadmap, roles and responsibilities). Review results from other responses to determine whether additional policy changes or supports are required. Develop training modules for youth practitioners and supervisors that focus on working with high risk youth including engagement skills. 	<p>Fall 2015</p> <p>Fall 2015</p> <p>Fall 2015</p> <p>March 2016</p>	Christine Massey
3. Conduct an inter-provincial scan of Extended Foster Care Models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information requests to Provincial Directors of Child Welfare on extended foster care models. Responses summarized in a cross jurisdictional review table. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use results to inform service options for high risk youth transitioning to adulthood. 	Fall 2015	Christine Massey
4. Review the CFCSA legislation for the authority of the Director to conduct case reviews of children or youth over 19 years of age, if related to the provision of a service under the Act and/or informs the delivery of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of legislation Case Review policy revised to allow case reviews for fatalities of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the revised Case Review policy 	Fall 2015	Cory Heavener

MCFD Action Plan: RCY Report Paige's Story: Abuse, Indifference and a Young Life Discarded (May 2015) – September 2016

Key Activity	Actions Completed	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
provision of a service under the Act (s.93.2 CFCSA)	<p>adults up to 20 years of age who were in care until turning 19 years of age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revised policy also requires case reviews for all fatalities of a child/youth in care of the director. 			

Recommendation 2

That MCFD, the Ministry of Health, and the City of Vancouver conduct an urgent review of the current provision of services – including child protection, housing, health care and substance use treatment – to vulnerable children in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. This review should be informed by an accurate picture of the circumstances of children and youth living in or frequenting the Downtown Eastside and the social service agencies currently working with children in this area and it should be based on best research into the effects and mitigation of intergenerational trauma.

Details:

- The City of Vancouver, Ministry of Health, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, BC Housing and MCFD to analyze numbers of children and youth in care in the area, needs of these children, an inventory of service providers currently working in the Downtown Eastside and the gaps in the services provided. Detailed lead service responsibility is necessary and a full accounting of this inventory is required to both the Representative and the public.
- The City of Vancouver, Health and MCFD to follow up that analysis with timely creation and implementation of an action plan, including detailed public reporting on outcomes for the children and youth in this area.
- MCFD to take immediate steps to ensure that no children or youth in care or receiving services from MCFD are living in SROs. The City of Vancouver, in conjunction with MCFD, to coordinate regular inspections of SROs to ensure compliance with these rules.
- MCFD to explore the creation of a form of secure care, with all appropriate legal safeguards, that would allow for the apprehension of vulnerable children and youth whose situation places them at an unacceptable level of risk and the subsequent safe placement of these children in a service that will respond to their trauma and high risk of self-harm.

Analysis to be presented to the Representative by Sept. 30, 2015.

Action plan to be presented to the Representative by Dec. 31, 2015

MCFD Response to Recommendation 2

The Ministry in partnership with cross government ministries, City of Vancouver, Health Authorities, First Nations Health Authority, police and education system is committed to the development and implementation of a Rapid Response Team in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

MCFD Action Plan: RCY Report Paige's Story: Abuse, Indifference and a Young Life Discarded (May 2015) – September 2015

Goal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with service providers to coordinate and improve services and delivery of services in the DTES for children, youth and families. To develop and deploy an integrated and coordinated rapid response team to serve and address the needs and safety of children and youth in the DTES. To ensure that questions about the ministry's involvement and services to a child/youth or young adult's death are answered.

Key Activity	Actions Completed	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
1. Engage and collaborate with service providers and ministries across health, education, justice and Aboriginal service sectors to broaden discussions about how to coordinate services to improve outcomes for youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters to senior officials on duty to report and request to respond to joint cross-sector establishment of a Rapid Response Team Facilitated sessions to inform senior officials on duty to report, establishment of a Rapid Response Team and information sharing required for child welfare purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of a cross sector action plan, outlining roles and responsibilities and services in DTES to support the Rapid Response Team. Regular engagement meetings of coordination efforts of MCFD and service providers/ministries and improvements in responding to high risk youth in DTES Integrated planning and service supports to high risk youth in DTES with service providers/ministries 	<p>Fall 2015</p> <p>On going</p> <p>On going</p>	Mark Sieben/ Dennis Padmore
2. Create a service delivery model on the Downtown Eastside for an integrated and coordinated Rapid Response Team (RRT) for youth on the Downtown Eastside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultations with service providers in DTES to outline purpose of RRT, and roles and responsibilities in monitoring and responding to high risk youth Protocols/Memoranda of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RRT in place by Sept 30, 2015 Work with key leads from service providers/ministries to ensure appropriate service and information sharing protocols in place to support RRT 	<p>Sept 2015</p> <p>Spring 2016</p>	Dennis Padmore

MCFD Action Plan: RCY Report: Paige's Story: Abuse, Indifference and a Young Life Interrupted (May 2015) – September 2015

Key Activity	Actions Completed	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding for coordination of services explored Conceptual model for RRT with coordinated Three- Tiered team approach with clear roles and responsibilities Catalogue of services for high risk youth in DTES for RRT Identification and monitoring of high risk youth population to be served Review of DTES profile report to inform service delivery and response to high risk youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular Tier Team meetings to discuss the deployment and progress of RRT Improve transition planning and coordination of services for high risk youth post 19 years (i.e. 19 to 24 years). Evaluation of the effectiveness/responsiveness of the RRT service model and, if needed, recommend changes to enhance/improve RRT model 	<p>Fall 2015</p> <p>Quarterly</p> <p>March 2016</p>	
<p>3. Conduct a review of children and youth in care or receiving reviewable services who reside or frequent the Downtown Eastside. Complete a profile to inform the development of a Rapid Response Team model.</p> <p>Scan all records from review to ensure no child or youth who reside or frequent DTES is living in a Single Room Occupancy hotel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 profile report of all youth in care who live/frequent DTES Interviews with ministry staff were held to get their perspectives about the needs of high risk youth and serving this population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2 review of all youth receiving service who live/frequent DTES Phase 2 report Phase 3 review and report of all other youth in care living in DTES served by other ministry offices outside DTES. 	<p>Sept/Oct 2015</p> <p>October 2015</p> <p>November 2015</p>	Cory Heavener
<p>4. Conduct a jurisdictional scan of secure care models, including policies and continuum of community-based supports and service model(s)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jurisdictional scan on secure care models across Canada Summary paper analyzing previous work done regarding secure care in British Columbia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give further consideration to secure care as part of the cross ministry work on CYMH services 	<p>March 2016</p>	Christine Massey

Recommendation 3

That the Attorney General of British Columbia provide the public with a clear explanation as to why agencies and service providers are persistently permitted to fail to report harm and abuse, as was the case in Paige's experience, contrary to the *CFCS Act*.

Details:

- The Attorney General to report annually on the number of investigations and prosecutions for this offence, as well as other actions taken to ensure compliance with the legislation.
- The Attorney General to detail the number of cases brought forward by the Director of Child Welfare for attention and investigation.
- Individual professional bodies governing those who work with children and youth – including but not limited to social workers, health care workers, educators and police – to begin applying professional sanctions to members who have failed to report instances of neglect or abuse.
- The Attorney General and **Director of Child Welfare** to embark on a substantial and meaningful public awareness campaign emphasizing that no person should fail to report suspected child abuse. The campaign should educate the public on what specifically constitutes child abuse and promote an active approach rather than one which allows bystanders and professionals to continue to accept the status quo.

First annual report to be presented to the Representative by Sept. 30, 2015.

Draft public awareness campaign to be presented to the Representative by Oct. 31, 2015.

MICFD Response to Recommendation 3

The Ministry is committed to engaging with professional bodies and individuals who work with children and youth to review the statutory responsibility to report child protection concerns pursuant to section 14 of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act* (CFCSA). A service provider awareness campaign roll-out aims to address the issue around duty to report and work with professional bodies and individuals in clarifying this requirement in their own policies. The campaign is provincial in scope with priority being given to Downtown Eastside service providers and agencies.

MCFD Action Plan: Duty to Report: Paige's Story: Abuse, Neglect and a Young Life Discarded (May 2015) - September 2015

Goal				
To raise awareness and understanding of the legal requirement to report under the <i>Child, Family and Community Service Act</i> when service providers have reason to believe a child or youth may be in need of protection.				
Key Activity	Actions to Date	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
1. Implement a service provider awareness campaign for professional organizations on the Duty to Report, prioritizing organizations in the DTES.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters to senior officials from ministries/agencies/service providers on reminder of the Duty to Report under Section 14 of the CFCSA Identified service providers/organizations for duty to report information and training Duty to report materials reviewed and revised including the BC Handbook for Action on Child Abuse and Neglect for Service Providers, Responding to Child Welfare Concerns – Your Role in Knowing When and What to Report. New materials including a brochure, poster, orientation package, and service provider contact letters developed. Link to CFCSA Section 14 Duty to Report on external MCFD website for contracted service providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating the Duty to Report materials Launch awareness campaign and training to DTES service providers/organizations Expand campaign to other service providers and professionals province wide Work with professional bodies to include duty to report requirements in policies/standards. Report on all service providers in the DTES and other professional bodies who have received Duty to Report materials and/or training. 	<p>Fall 2015</p> <p>October to December 2015</p> <p>October 2015 to March 2016</p> <p>January 2016</p> <p>March 2016</p>	Cory Heavener

Recommendation 4

That MCFD, the Ministry of Education through its own initiative and with its partners, and the First Nations Education Steering Committee work together to create a system that ensures attendance at school by all Aboriginal children in the care of MCFD is closely monitored and encouraged, that MCFD actually fulfills its role as an active and engaged parent with regard to the education of these children, and that the Ministry of Education and school districts ensure that a flexible and adaptive system, including active outreach to vulnerable Aboriginal children not currently attending school, is in place and appropriately funded.

Details:

- School districts to be required to monitor the attendance of Aboriginal children in care and report any unexplained absence to MCFD.
- If an Aboriginal child in care has an unexplained absence of two days, MCFD to be in contact immediately with the caregiver or family to determine the reason and share this with school authorities so that a plan can be developed to quickly reconnect the child with school.
- Every school district to report annually to the Ministry of Education on Aboriginal children in care who have missed more than five days without an explanation for their absence, and also report to MCFD for those children who are in care, on Youth Agreements or on independent living arrangements through
- MCFD.
- Schools to develop a comprehensive plan for the successful enrolment of Aboriginal children after extended absences.
- MCFD to reinforce that education is a major component of a child's Care Plan and that any prolonged absence or lack of achievement is monitored and addressed on a yearly basis.
- The Ministry of Education to explore the feasibility of offering monetary incentives to school districts that improve the attendance and graduation rates of vulnerable Aboriginal children.

The first annual reports to the Ministry of Education by school districts to be completed by July 1, 2016.

MCFD Response to Recommendation 4

The Ministry is committed to working with the Ministry of Education in keeping children and youth in care in school, including improving information sharing and identification of children in care attending BC schools.

BCPL Action Plan: RCY Report Paige's Story: Abuse, Indifference and a Young Life Discarded (May 2015) – September 2015

Goal				
To improve the ministry's role in responding to and addressing school attendance issues for children and youth in care.				
Key Activity	Actions to Date	Planned Actions	Target Date	Lead
1. Continued improvement of the identification and information sharing of children and youth in care with the school system to better support the educational needs of children in care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual updates to school enrolment list of children in continuing care attending schools in B.C. Streamline reporting processes to provide timely identification of children in permanent care to schools, including when a child moves to a new school School personnel contact list for social workers to discuss education planning and services for children/youth in care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue communication with Ministry of Education and education partners on improving information sharing of children and youth in continuing care 	On Going	Cory Heavener
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Ministry of Education and education partners to review the <i>Joint Educational Planning and Support for Children and Youth in Care: Cross-Ministry Guidelines (2008)</i> and explore opportunities to reinforce practice at the local level 	TBD	Christine Massey
2. Review and clarify the roles and responsibilities of front line practitioners and caregivers in responding to and addressing attendance issues of children and youth in care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised Care Plan has an education domain where SW's will track school assessments, reports and IEPs. Updated practice directives and planning guides for front line practitioners and managers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarify the role of the guardianship worker and caregiver(s) regarding responding to attendance issues Work with Ministry of Education and school districts to review the approach to Care Plans and how a child's education, including attendance, can be reinforced and monitored. 	Spring 2016 TBD	Cory Heavener

Recommendation 5

That the Ministry of Health, working with the First Nations Health Authority, take immediate steps to enhance services to vulnerable Aboriginal children and youth, particularly in the Downtown Eastside and within the City of Vancouver.

Details:

- Proper reproductive health services and reproductive education to be provided by Health, ensuring that termination of unplanned pregnancy does not become the substitute for effective contraception in this group.
- Adequate after-care planning and follow-up services to be ensured by Health, including the expansion of outreach initiatives targeted at vulnerable Aboriginal children and youth.
- Female children in care to be offered follow-up appointments with a medical doctor (preferably a family physician) after the termination of a pregnancy so that follow-up service can be provided, including accessible and supportive reproductive education and birth control.
- Intensive drug and alcohol services with an Aboriginal trauma lens and a family-centred model be provided, identifying and creating an appropriate service pathway that involves best practices and avoids further stigmatizing and traumatizing of these vulnerable populations.
- Aboriginal youth addiction services, including secure short-term care, be provided at a high professional standard, with strong after-care, and a focus on education and resilience.

MCFD Response to Recommendation 5

Recommendation is directed to the Ministry of Health and First Nations Health Authority. MCFD will make itself available for consultation.

Recommendation 6

That the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, with support from MCFD and Justice, prepare a detailed annual report for the Minister's Advisory Council on Aboriginal Women on every unexpected death of an Aboriginal girl or woman in care, or formerly in care, in B.C. and that a review of urban Aboriginal program funding is conducted.

Details:

- The annual review to be conducted with the goal of identifying the role that neglect, abuse and maltreatment of these women played in their deaths and to make recommendations to government on appropriate actions to mitigate the risk to future generations, with a goal to protect Aboriginal girls and women from the pathways that Paige experienced.
- The annual review to be accompanied by an annual public report of sufficient detail to demonstrate that a serious and meaningful review was conducted, what improvements were identified by members of the Advisory Council and how these recommendations would enhance supports for Aboriginal girls and women.
- Consistent with the Premier's public commitment of June 2014 to end violence against Aboriginal women and girls, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation lead a rigorous review of urban Aboriginal program funding and report to the public on the model, expenditures and services to ensure that provincially supported initiatives are addressing the need for specific services and improving outcomes for the cohort of youth such as Paige.

The first report to the Advisory Council to be completed by Dec. 31, 2015.

Report of urban Aboriginal program funding to be released by Dec. 31, 2015.

MCFD Response to Recommendation 6

Recommendation is directed to the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. MCFD will make itself available for consultation.