

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: XT:Hudson, Kellie HLTH:IN
Sent: Tuesday, September 6, 2016 9:14 AM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: FYI: Diesel Spill near Courtenay
Attachments: KM fentanyl FOI 2016 08 18 version sent on August 24.docx

I don't think so. I know I didn't do one, but I started May 19, 2015.
I am checking to see when the actual drugs went missing in 2015.
Either way, no one told me. I heard about it through the FOI request.
I am working on draft IN from August 4 that never got approved internally. I then started working on the actual responses to Stanley, and looped you guys in on those.
Attached again as an FYI.
Kellie

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX [<mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2016 8:54 AM
To: Hudson, Kellie
Subject: RE: FYI: Diesel Spill near Courtenay

On the loss – did Island do up a note when it originally occurred or let MOH know?

Kristy Anderson
Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
250-952-3387 (office) 778-678-5200 (mobile)
Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

From: Hudson, Kellie [<mailto:Kellie.Hudson@viha.ca>]
Sent: Monday, September 5, 2016 10:12 AM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: FYI: Diesel Spill near Courtenay

Hi Kristy,
Thanks for the heads-up below. I forwarded to our on-call person. Val is still away for another two weeks.
Here's the amount of fentanyl:

Fentanyl 2MCG/ML w/Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML NS 100 ML = 251 ML
Fentanyl 5MCG/ML + Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML = 1,000 ML

This is from the Health Canada records that freelancer got through FOI so we did not release the 2 mcg or 5 mcg amounts, although he was sharing with other reporters.
As Richard said, the fentanyl was one of two drugs in a liquid compound. The 1,251 is a volume measurement. MCGs are 1/1000th of a millilitre.
It is the largest drug loss in recent history for Island Health – which I only discovered on Friday at our little media event.
It is a “meaningful” amount but not large, Jones said.
Hope that is what you needed.
Kellie

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX [<mailto:Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, September 05, 2016 9:57 AM
To: Wilson, Valerie (Communications)
Cc: Marshall, Shannon - Communications; Hudson, Kellie
Subject: FW: FYI: Diesel Spill near Courtenay

FYI

Kristy Anderson
Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
250-952-3387 (office) 778-678-5200 (mobile)
Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

From: "HLTH MOC Duty Officer HLTH:EX" <hlth.dutyofficer@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 5, 2016 at 9:07:11 AM PDT
To: "Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX" <Sarah.Plank@gov.bc.ca>, "Lambert, Tim HLTH:EX" <Tim.Lambert@gov.bc.ca>, "Kendall, Perry HLTH:EX" <Perry.Kendall@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Forge, Kathryn HLTH:EX" <Kathryn.Forge@gov.bc.ca>, "XT:Lavery, John HLTH:IN" <john.lavery@phsa.ca>
Subject: **FYI: Diesel Spill near Courtenay**

Good morning,

Heads up on an incident that occurred this morning 50m south of Hamm road off the highway near Courtenay.

A tanker truck has overturned in the wetlands and has released up to 50,000 litres of marine diesel. Courtenay and Comox Fire is on scene attempting to damn the leak and the MoE response officer, Island Health MHO, and VIHA Emergency Management are involved in coordinating response. There is no confirmation on the amount of fuel spilled at this time or if any drinking water has the potential to be affected. Will pass on any significant updates to this incident.

Thanks
Jocelyn Hawse

Duty Officer
BC Ministry of Health
24/7 Phone: 250-686-6061
hlth.dutyofficer@gov.bc.ca

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Sent: Sunday, September 11, 2016 8:15 PM
To: HLTH HAD Issues HLTH:EX
Cc: Belanger, Matthew GCPE:EX; Beneteau, Nicole GCPE:EX; MacDougall, Cindy GCPE:EX; May, Stephen GCPE:EX; Peaker, Alexandra GCPE:EX; Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX
Subject: Fentanyl FOI
Attachments: KM fentanyl FOI 2016 08 18 version sent on August 24.docx

FYI

Kristy Anderson
Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
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Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: XT:Hudson, Kellie HLTH:IN
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:48 PM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX
Cc: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Followup question

Hi there,
Here is what I just sent to Stanley Tromp.
Kellie

From: Hudson, Kellie
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 3:47 PM
To: 'stromp'
Subject: RE: Followup question

Hi Stanley,
Please see below for our answers to your follow-up questions. Island Health's FOI office has now responded fully to your access to records request under FIPPA, and we have willingly answered some of your follow-up questions based on the documents we released. At this point, we have provided you with sufficient information and will not be responding to subsequent questions regarding further analysis of the contents of the records.

1. **So was the first loss line in this PDF an error, a typo? Should this line have been 2 MCG instead of 2 MCG?**
2. **If so, was the error in this report made by VIHA, or was it by Health Canada? How can such a major error be made? (PS. Such a database error, of course, was not my fault.)**

ANSWER:

- There is a possibility of a typographical error in completing a form or transcribing information from a form into a database.
- Fentanyl is neither produced by pharmacy or administered in a hospital in any dose range other than MCG or micrograms.
- This is clearly a typographical error and no extrapolations of potential harm for such a concentration are appropriate or reasonable involving fentanyl.

3. **What Section of the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act prohibits you from disclosing these records under the BC FOIPP? I have looked at that Act [at <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/C-38.8.pdf>] and there is no mention there that records cannot be released under the BC FOIPP process.**

ANSWER:

- Our apologies for misquoting the specific Federal Act that requires us to withhold this information.
- To be clear, in this component of the response we are not applying the BC FIPPA to the Protected A documents as once submitted to Health Canada the contents of these documents are under their custody and control.
- We have consulted directly with Health Canada to clarify the appropriate legal authority to which these completed forms are subject.
- While the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act requires us to submit these loss or theft report forms, once completed and supplied in confidence to Health

Canada, they are classified as Protected A documents under their Federal classification schema.

- As such, the personal and business information contents are excepted from disclosure respectively under section 19(1)(c) of the Federal Privacy Act and under section 13(1)(c) of the Federal Access to Information Act.

4. In your FOI reply to me, you sent me detailed reports of fentanyl losses in Nanaimo and Cowichan hospitals. Then – for consistency’s sake – why did you not also send me the Jubilee fentanyl loss reports (or even note their existence)? Why were they treated differently?

ANSWER:

- The reports released in phase 1 for NGH and CDH were created by the Protection Services Department for their use and reporting of incidents on site.
- These reports are not submitted to Health Canada and are not a Protected A document.

4b. If this Jubilee information is indeed "Protected A" then why did VIHA release some other information that would also, perhaps, be "Protected A"? (Unless that second type of information was released in a different fashion or was otherwise different?)

ANSWER:

- The forms withheld in phase 2 were the Health Canada forms and these are a Protected A document when completed and submitted to Health Canada.
- There are no responsive Protection Services records for the incidents at the Royal Jubilee Hospital.

5. Your first FOI reply to me describes two Nanaimo cases [Incident file # IN20150005191, and Incident file # IN20150005565]. What amounts of fentanyl were lost there, in ANY format?

ANSWER:

- This is information detailed in the HC submitted form and is now Protected A information.

Kellie

From: stromp [mailto:stromp@telus.net]
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 2:57 PM
To: Hudson, Kellie
Cc: stromp@telus.net; Stanwick, Richard (Dr)
Subject: Followup question

For Richard Jones, Director of Pharmacy Services at Island Health, several important clarifying questions:

(You can see how hard I am working here to get these vital facts right, for the public interest; the alternative is the type of journalist who cares little or naught for accuracy. And fortunately VIHA pledges on its website that “staff are committed to provide timely responses to media inquiries” and “provide factual information.”)

Please see the attached PDF of 2015 from Health Canada, top of page 4, on Jubilee drug losses. There are two “losses unexplained” of liquid fentanyl in Jubilee in 2015:

Fentanyl 2MG/ML w/Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML NS 100 ML = 251 ML

Fentanyl 5MCG/ML + Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML = 1,000 ML

VIHA REPLY - We do not make a product with this concentration of fentanyl (for eg 2MG/ML).

This drug is always dosed in microgram (MCG) quantities.

Any solution is always MCG/ML not MG/ML.

Question 1 - So was the first loss line in this PDF an error, a typo? Should this line have been 2 MCG instead of 2 MCG?

Question 2 - If so, was the error in this report made by VIHA, or was it by Health Canada? How can such a major error be made? (PS. Such a database error, of course, was not my fault.)

VIHA reply – [4] **As reflected in our formal FOI response, Island Health sent you all responsive records to your request that we were legally authorized to disclose.**

As specifically highlighted in our response, the Health Canada reports (which are inclusive of the data) are classified as Protected A records and we are prohibited from disclosing them under the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act.

Question 3 - What Section of the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act prohibits you from disclosing these records under the BC FOIPP? I have looked at that Act [at <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/PDF/C-38.8.pdf>] and there is no mention there that records cannot be released under the BC FOIPP process.

Question 4 – In your FOI reply to me, you sent me detailed reports of fentanyl losses in Nanaimo and Cowichan hospitals. Then – for consistency's sake – why did you not also send me the Jubilee fentanyl loss reports (or even note their existence)? Why were they treated differently?

If this Jubilee information is indeed "Protected A" then why did VIHA release some other information that would also, perhaps, be "Protected A"? (Unless that second type of information was released in a different fashion or was otherwise different?)

Your first FOI reply to me describes two Nanaimo cases [Incident file # IN20150005191, and Incident file # IN20150005565].

Question 5 – What amounts of fentanyl were lost there, in ANY format?

Thank you,

Stanley Tromp. 604-733-7595

Page 08 to/à Page 11

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Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 6:56 PM
To: O'Brien, Kellie HLTH:EX
Cc: hlth Ministerial and Executive Assistants; Belanger, Matthew GCPE:EX; Beneteau, Nicole GCPE:EX; Lawrie, Hannah GCPE:EX; MacDougall, Cindy GCPE:EX; May, Stephen GCPE:EX; Peaker, Alexandra GCPE:EX; Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: Island Health media heads-up(s) :)

Couple Island media calls to flag for you

Kristy Anderson
Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
250-952-3387 (office) 778-678-5200 (mobile)
Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

- Carol Fuller, HR Director, did fairly short interview with Cindy Harnett re: executive compensation.



- We did a quick hit on CBC Radio re: homeless guy released from hospital last week.
- Dr. Murray Fyfe did phone interview with Stanley Trompe on our fentanyl/drug overdose response.
- Dr. Paul Hasselback did quick radio interview with Island Radio re: carfentanil.

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: XT:Hudson, Kellie HLTH:IN
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 10:27 AM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX
Cc: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX; May, Stephen GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: QUESTIONS on Jubilee fentanyl losses 2015
Attachments: Full year 2015 drug losses.pdf

Hi there,

Stromp has come back with more questions. Some ridiculous.

Richard Jones, Director of Pharmacy, is helping with responses and we'll run by legal.

Wanted to flag reference to Kendall. See below in bold, red.

Did Stromp even talk to Kendall? Do we know?

Jones says we don't even mix fentanyl in those measurements...

Kellie

From: stromp [mailto:stromp@telus.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 4:57 PM
To: Stanwick, Richard (Dr)
Cc: Etherington, Jeremy; stromp@telus.net; Cathy.Yaksow@viha.ca; Hudson, Kellie
Subject: QUESTIONS on Jubilee fentanyl losses 2015

Questions for VIHA CEO, on narcotics losses, and FOI.

[1] Please see the attached PDF of 2015 from Health Canada, top of page 4, on Jubilee drug losses. There are two "losses unexplained" of liquid fentanyl in Jubilee in 2015:

Fentanyl 2MG/ML w/Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML NS 100 ML = 251 ML

Fentanyl 5MCG/ML + Bupivacaine 0.8 MG/ML = 1,000 ML

Do you know how many overdose deaths this amount (of both together) - at 2 mg. per death - could have been caused, in theory?

In the first case, it is 2 mg per 1 ml - so with 251 ml missing, that would account for 251 lethal doses of 2 mg each. In the second case, it is 1,000 ml, which is a litre, is actually 5 milligrams. The dose people would use to get high is about half a milligram [$\times 4 = 2$ mg, which is OD fatal] So would this be 4 overdoses? If so, in sum these would seem to have the potential for about 255 deaths. **The BC chief medical officer says "I think your math is correct." Do you agree?**

[2] The key question - how possible, or likely, is it that any of the lost Jubilee fentanyl of 2015 made it to BC users and contributed to any of the fentanyl overdoses, or deaths, even one? Is it impossible?

[3] In your numbers of VIHA drug losses sent to me by two FOI replies, vs. the reports of VIHA to Health Canada (See PDF) - none of your first numbers (e.g., Nanaimo and Cowichan hospital losses) match with the second report, and there is no mention of the Jubilee fentanyl loss. Why is that?

[4] Why were all the reports and data VIHA sent to Health Canada not also sent by VIHA to me in response to my BC FOI request?

[My FOI request was for - “Please send me all reports and detailed statistics of drug losses and thefts from VIHA hospitals and other drug distribution centres from Jan. 1, 2015 to the present day (i.e., each amount of each named drug from each location).”]

[5] The Nanaimo and Cowichan hospital losses were reported to local RCMP; so why was the Jubilee loss not reported to Victoria police? Should it have been, or will it be? i.e., what are the legal obligations of VIHA to report such losses.

[6] How can it just be called “loss unexplained”? What are all the ways this Jubilee fentanyl could have been “lost”, and what is the most likely? Could it have been stolen?

[7] Your first FOI reply to me says there were three incident reports of fentanyl losses, one from Cowichan and two from Nanaimo hospitals.

In one [Incident file # IN20150005191] from Nanaimo, there was a loss of two bottles of fentanyl, but it did not say how many tablets with what mg. amounts there were. In another Nanaimo case [Incident file # IN20150005565], it does say the amount lost. What were these amounts of fentanyl?

[8] This one Jubilee fentanyl number of 2015 is all the more striking for two reasons. First, since 2012 Jubilee had reported barely any losses of any kind of drug to Health Canada. Second, I have seen all the Health Canada reports since 2012, and prior to this Jubilee event, losses of fentanyl from all other B.C. hospitals were extremely rare and small. See my Globe report at - <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/prescription-drug-losses-thefts-on-the-rise-at-smaller-bc-hospitals/article28826576/> [Also see PDF]

In response to my Globe story, a Times-Colonist editorial of last Feb. 28 said – “Island Health reports that narcotic losses from facilities on Vancouver Island are minuscule. The health authority maintains a team of security officers to watch over the handling of these drugs.”

Why did VIHA say that its drug losses of 2015 were “miniscule” – in light of this large fentanyl loss? How many officers, or PSOs, does VIHA have for this, and who is the person in charge?

We have waited months for such answers. We require a response by noon of Aug. 19, 2016, and ideally earlier.

Thank you,
Stanley Tromp, writing for Focus Magazine
604-733-7595
My profile - <http://www3.telus.net/index100/author>

Page 15 to/à Page 18

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Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 3:22 PM
To: 'Yvonne.raymond@bellmedia.ca'
Subject: Ministry of Health

Hi Yvonne

I was able to get you the follow which you can attribute to the ministry or myself. I hope your interview with Island Health went well.
Have a good long weekend.

The Ministry and health authorities want to prevent people from inappropriately accessing hospital medications. Following the tragic O'Keefe case, the Minister of Health wrote to the health authorities and instructed them to make sure policies were in place to keep people from inappropriately accessing drugs. It goes without saying that those policies were not to have a negative effect on patient care.

The health authorities have reported some initial actions to the Ministry of Health including reviewing current medication disposal practices and identifying where improvements can be made and developing education tools and training sessions for staff.

We are pleased to see the health authorities taking these important steps to help better protect patients and staff. The ministry will continue to work with the health authorities to ensure systems are in place to prevent inappropriate access to medications.

In addition we are taking many actions to prevent future overdoses – information on this can be seen here:
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/factsheets/actions-to-prevent-overdoses-in-british-columbia>

Kristy Anderson
Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
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Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 3:22 PM
To: 'Yvonne.raymond@bellmedia.ca'
Subject: Ministry of Health

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<https://news.gov.bc.ca/factsheets/actions-to-prevent-overdoses-in-british-columbia>

Kristy Anderson

Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
250-952-3387 (office) 778-678-5200 (mobile)
Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 1:35 PM
To: hlth Regional Communications Directors
Subject: RE: MEDIA REQUEST: missing fentanyl - Yvonne Raymond - CTV Victoria - 250-661-2072

FYI, here is the article, in case you want to have a look at it: http://focusonline.ca/sites/default/files/Focus_2016-09_September-October.pdf - page 26

From: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 1:09 PM
To: hlth Regional Communications Directors
Subject: FW: MEDIA REQUEST: missing fentanyl - Yvonne Raymond - CTV Victoria - 250-661-2072

Just a heads up on the below media request – you may recall Kellie Hudson talking about this on our morning calls – an FOI with Stanley Tromp on unaccounted fentanyl. Main stream media have picked on Stanley's story. Just wanted you to be aware in case they come to you.

Kristy Anderson

Director, Media Relations
Ministry of Health
250-952-3387 (office) 778-678-5200 (mobile)
Kristy.Anderson@gov.bc.ca

From: Peaker, Alexandra GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX
Cc: May, Stephen GCPE:EX; Belanger, Matthew GCPE:EX; MacDougall, Cindy GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX; Shepherd, Brent GCPE:EX; Beneteau, Nicole GCPE:EX; Lawrie, Hannah GCPE:EX; Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX; Peaker, Alexandra GCPE:EX
Subject: MEDIA REQUEST: missing fentanyl - Yvonne Raymond - CTV Victoria - 250-661-2072

Reporter: Yvonne Raymond

Media Outlet: CTV Victoria

Phone Number: 250-661-2072

Email: Yvonne.raymond@bellmedia.ca

Deadline: 14:00

Call Time: 11:53

Topic: Wants to speak with the Minister on camera in light of a Focus Magazine article where an FOI revealed that Royal Jubilee lost 1251mL of liquid fentanyl in late 2015. The same FOI request to Island Health revealed no losses from any Victoria hospital. Wants reaction to what happened and recapping the province's concerns re: fentanyl and overdose deaths, how likely it is that any of this ended up on the street or contributed to overdoses. I've been trying to find the article online with no luck yet. I'll send link if I find it.

Alex Peaker
Junior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Health
778.698.2381
alexandra.peaker@gov.bc.ca

Smith, Justin GCPE:EX

From: XT:Hudson, Kellie HLTH:IN
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 1:36 PM
To: Anderson, Kristy GCPE:EX; Thistle-Walker, Carlene GCPE:EX
Cc: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX; May, Stephen GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: QUESTIONS on Jubilee fentanyl losses 2015

Importance: High

Hi there,
Please see our response, sent at 12:04 p.m.
Kellie

From: Hudson, Kellie
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 12:04 PM
To: 'stromp'
Subject: RE: QUESTIONS on Jubilee fentanyl losses 2015
Importance: High

Hi there,
Please find our responses below, corresponding to your numbered questions:

1. **We do not make a product with this concentration of fentanyl (for eg 2MG/ML).
This drug is always dosed in microgram (MCG) quantities.
Any solution is always MCG/ML not MG/ML.**
2. **We will not speculate on where lost drugs end up.
We also can't predict how much fentanyl will cause an overdose.
That depends on the individual's physiology, prior drug use, and size of dose.
A larger dose is inherently more risky.**
3. **We cannot speak to what information, and its presentation, that Health Canada chooses to include in its statistics.
We recommend you ask Health Canada.**
4. **As reflected in our formal FOI response, Island Health sent you all responsive records to your request that we were legally authorized to disclose.
As specifically highlighted in our response, the Health Canada reports (which are inclusive of the data) are classified as Protected A records and we are prohibited from disclosing them under the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act.**
5. **There is no requirement to inform police of a loss at the federal or provincial level.
A College of Pharmacists of BC bylaw requests that local police be informed.
We are reviewing our policy on this matter.**
6. **"Loss unexplained" is a checkbox on the Health Canada form.
It is one of several options on the form.
Drugs go missing for a variety of reasons, and the form provides for these options with other checkboxes.
The form also provides for free text to further inform the checkbox selection.**

7. This question is not relevant since we do not use fentanyl tablets or any oral form of the drug.
8. Compared to the volumes we use in the provision of care of patients across Island Health facilities, the loss is very small in relative terms.

Island Health works very hard to make sure people do not inappropriately access hospital medications. We have a comprehensive policy in place that addresses all narcotic and controlled drugs disposition across all Island Health facilities. That policy was last reviewed and updated in September 2014. It is in compliance with the College of Pharmacists' current licensing requirements for the operation of hospital pharmacies and comprehensively addresses all the requirements of the current federal *Controlled Drugs Substances Act* and Regulations. We continue to improve protocols, policies and systems, as well as develop relevant educational tools and training sessions for staff, in our efforts to prevent future inappropriate access medications.

Please attribute the above to Richard Jones, Director of Pharmacy Services at Island Health.

Thanks.

Kellie

From: stromp [mailto:stromp@telus.net]

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 4:57 PM

To: Stanwick, Richard (Dr)

Cc: Etherington, Jeremy; stromp@telus.net; Cathy.Yaksow@viha.ca; Hudson, Kellie

Subject: QUESTIONS on Jubilee fentanyl losses 2015

Questions for VIHA CEO, on narcotics losses, and FOI.

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[2] The key question - how possible, or likely, is it that any of the lost Jubilee fentanyl of 2015 made it to BC users and contributed to any of the fentanyl overdoses, or deaths, even one? Is it impossible?

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[8] This one Jubilee fentanyl number of 2015 is all the more striking for two reasons. First, since 2012 Jubilee had reported barely any losses of any kind of drug to Health Canada. Second, I have seen all the Health Canada reports since 2012, and prior to this Jubilee event, losses of fentanyl from all other B.C. hospitals were extremely rare and small. See my Globe report at - <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/prescription-drug-losses-thefts-on-the-rise-at-smaller-bc-hospitals/article28826576/> [Also see PDF]

In response to my Globe story, a Times-Colonist editorial of last Feb. 28 said – “Island Health reports that narcotic losses from facilities on Vancouver Island are minuscule. The health authority maintains a team of security officers to watch over the handling of these drugs.”

Why did VIHA say that its drug losses of 2015 were “miniscule” – in light of this large fentanyl loss? How many officers, or PSOs, does VIHA have for this, and who is the person in charge?

We have waited months for such answers. We require a response by noon of Aug. 19, 2016, and ideally earlier.

Thank you,
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