

S. 56/Decrim Meeting Materials - March 4 Meeting

From: Butler, Ally MMHA:EX
To: Walsh, Taryn PSSG:EX <Taryn.Walsh@gov.bc.ca>, Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, Estiverne, Bethany MMHA:EX <Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca>, Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Carmichael, Barbara AG:EX <Barbara.Carmichael@gov.bc.ca>, Wheler, Francesca M MCF:EX <Francesca.Wheler@gov.bc.ca>, Gow, Fiona S AG:EX <Fiona.Gow@gov.bc.ca>, Hayward, Ross HLTH:EX <Ross.Hayward@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 3, 2021 4:26:45 PM PST
Attachments: Decrim ADM WG - Feb 2021.pdf, image001.jpg, ADM Committee - TOR V2.docx
Hi everyone,

Attached are the materials for discussion at tomorrow's S.56/decriminalization meeting:

- Slide Deck
- Draft TOR

Apologies that we've had to shift the timing of this meeting to start at 2:30 – hope most folks can still attend.

Best,

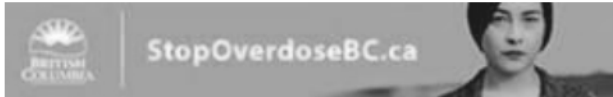
Ally Butler (she/her/hers)

A/Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Priorities & Initiatives

Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions

1515 Blanshard | Victoria, BC

778.366.5962 | 604.790.5874 (Cell)



Decriminalization - ADM Working Group Follow-up & Update

From: Butler, Ally MMHA:EX
To: Walsh, Taryn PSSG:EX <Taryn.Walsh@gov.bc.ca>, Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Emerson, Brian P HLTH:EX <Brian.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>, Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Gow, Fiona S AG:EX <Fiona.Gow@gov.bc.ca>, Carmichael, Barbara AG:EX <Barbara.Carmichael@gov.bc.ca>, Hayward, Ross HLTH:EX <Ross.Hayward@gov.bc.ca>, Wheler, Francesca M MCF:EX <Francesca.Wheler@gov.bc.ca>, Kamper, Carolyn MCF:EX <Carolyn.Kamper@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Estiverne, Bethany MMHA:EX <Bethany.Estiverne@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: March 8, 2021 1:45:35 PM PST
Attachments: ADM Meeting Notes - 2021-03-04.docx, image001.jpg, Decrim ADM WG - Feb 2021.pdf, ADM Committee - TOR V2.docx

Hi everyone,

Attached is a summary of the discussion and decision points coming out of last week's call. For easy reference, I am also recirculating the draft TOR and Slide Deck.

Action Items – please send me your feedback and input on the following by **Friday March 12:**

- Priority areas for any HC resources available to support the work going forward
- Any feedback on the draft TOR
- Any further feedback on the timelines and Governance Structure
- Confirmation of project team membership:
 - AG/Fiona – Confirmed
 - PHO - Brian, would you like Danielle to be included on future meeting invites?
 - PSSG - Matt from PSSG confirmed; other PSSG resources may be available
 - MCFD and HLTH - Francesca and Ross to identify project team member

Update on Mtg between HC, MMHA MO and COV:

The meeting this morning between Minister Malcolmson, Minister Hajdu and May Stewart did proceed.^{s.13}

s.13

by early next week.

We also anticipate getting a response to our letter

Taryn/Wayne – Christine is going to touch base with Mark to update him on where we are at and to get his thoughts^{s.13}

Finally, I have asked Val to set up monthly meetings for us. Looking forward to connecting on tomorrow's call with Health Canada.

Best,

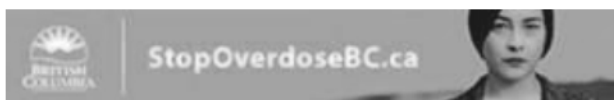
Ally Butler (she/her/hers)

A/Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Priorities & Initiatives

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Decriminalization/Section 56 Discussion

March 4, 2021

Meeting Representatives:

Ally Butler (chair), A/ADM, Strategic Priorities and Initiatives, MMHA
Brian Emerson, A/Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Population and Public Health, HLTH
Brian Sims, ED, Policing and Securities Branch, PSSG
Fiona Gow, Legal Counsel, Legal Services Branch, AG
Francesca Wheler, ED, Child Welfare and Reconciliation Policy, MCFD
Ross Hayward, ED, Mental Health and Substance Use, HLTH
Taryn Walsh, ADM, Community Safety and Crime Prevention, PSSG
Wayne Rideout, ADM and Director of Police Services, PSSG

Purpose:

- Update ministries on work underway to address mandate direction
- Discuss planning for next steps, in particular consider potential timelines and governance structures

Follow up Items:

- All representatives to consider other priority areas for any HC resources available to support the work going forward
- All representatives to review and provide any feedback on the draft TOR
- MMHA to share an update on timelines as soon as available
- Confirmation of project team memberships:
 - Brian may bring Daniele Behn Smith into this work
 - Matt from PSSG should be included and other PSSG resources maybe available to support
 - Francesca, Ross and Fiona will follow up with MMHA

Next Steps:

- Priority topics for BC's meeting with HC meeting next week:
 - BC will request an update from HC on work to consider international conventions
 - Provincial and federal work on key policy issues
 - Available federal resources

Discussion:

Topic	Key Points
Timelines	
Governance Structure	
Resources	



Decriminalization Update & Discussion

March 2021

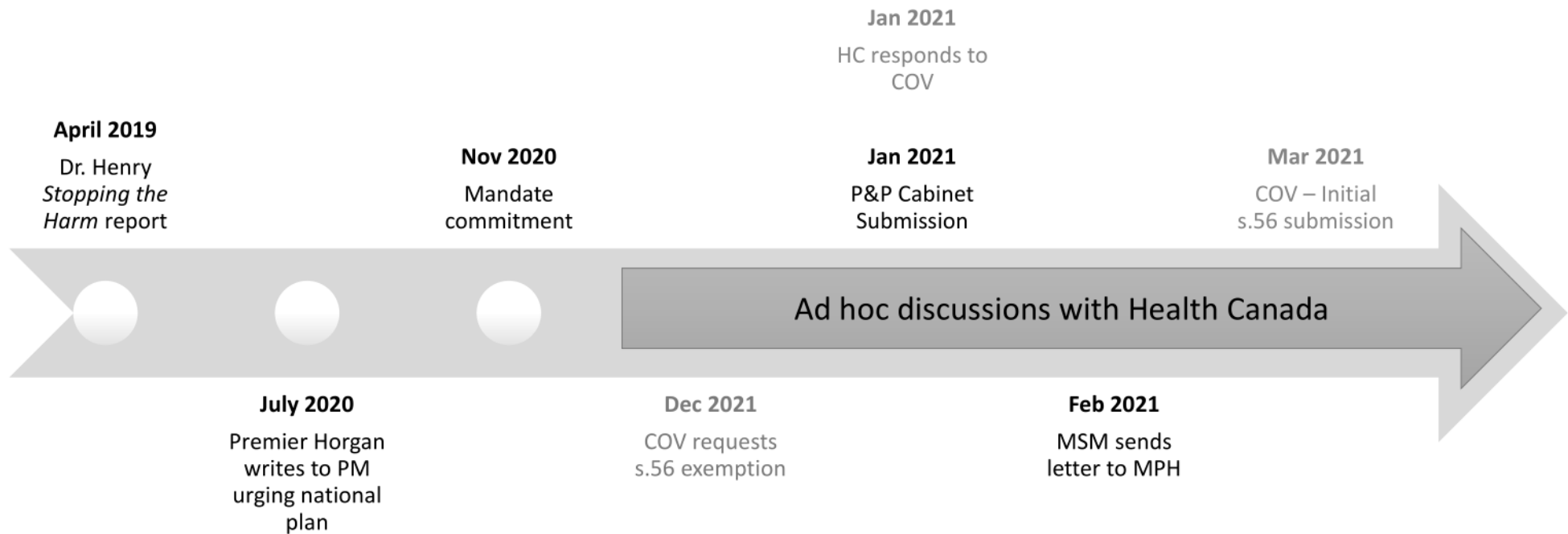
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Agenda

1. Recap: Actions to Date
2. Update
 - Health Canada
 - COV
 - Angus Reid Polling
3. Planning: Going Forward
 - Exemption Requirements
 - Approach & Timelines
 - Governance /TOR
 - Engagement
 - Timelines
4. Next Steps



Recap: Actions to Date



Recent Updates

- **Health Canada**

- Political level - Discussions underway between HC, MMHA and COV
- Cabinet Direction
- Response to Letter

- **COV**

- Significant work underway/completed
 - Hired two consultants – Kora DeBeck and Ted Bruce
 - Draft policy options - thresholds, seizure, etc
 - Engagement and support – Business community; CAT/PWLLE; Indigenous Leaders
- Submission of initial “Vancouver Model” to HC – March 1

Source: Angus Reid Poll, February 2021 - <https://angusreid.org/opioid-crisis-covid/>

Sec. 56 Application

Priority Information for Health Canada

An articulation of the operational considerations, including:

- how simple possession would be defined, and how any proposed threshold amounts (amounts above this level would still be subject to criminal penalties) were developed,
- to whom and when the exemption would apply, including the approach that would be taken to addressing possession by minors,
- any situations where the applicant is proposing exemption would not apply (if applicable); and
- any risk mitigation measures that would be put in place.

