

Recommendations Tracking – Update (see Appendix A for assessment definitions)

RCY Report: Time to Listen: Youth Voices on Substance Use (November 2018)

Action Plans: Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions (MMHA) and Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and Ministry of Health (MoH)

April 16, 2020

Recommendation		Ministry's Response	RCY Assessment
#1	That the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions ensure that a commitment to youth engagement is embedded in its Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, that the engagement accounts for the diversity of youth who use substances, and that youth feedback informs the implementation and evaluation of all substance use services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MMHA is committed to embedding youth engagement in its Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (<i>A Pathway to Hope: A roadmap for making mental health and addictions care better for people in B.C.</i>, released in June 2019). MMHA is establishing youth advisory councils in five school districts over the next three years (in progress, target date Sept. 30, 2020). 	<p>Some progress</p> <p>MMHA has embedded youth engagement in its Mental Health and Addictions Strategy and is working toward establishing youth advisory councils.</p>
Recommendation		Ministries' Response	RCY Assessment
#2	<p>That the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, lead the creation of an accessible and youth-friendly single source of information about all publicly funded substance use services available in the province.</p> <p>The information source to be available by March 31, 2020, and updated annually, at minimum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MMHA in collaboration with Health and other stakeholders is currently in the pre-planning phase of developing a website that will help people search for information related to mental health and substance use online. The first phase of the project will focus on youth content and services. This will include providing families and caregivers with credible advice on the health system, evidence-based information on mental health and substance use and directing users to organizations such as Foundry where appropriate. The project is on track with a launch target of summer 2020. 	<p>Some progress</p> <p>MMHA is in the pre-planning phase of developing a website with youth content and available substance use services.</p>

	Recommendation	Ministries' Response	RCY Assessment
#3	<p>That the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Health – in association with other relevant partners – lead the development of, and ensure funding of, a comprehensive system of substance use services capable of consistently meeting the diverse needs of all youth in the context of the broader multi-sectoral continuum of care, with specific attention given to the development of culturally relevant and culturally safe services and supports for First Nations, Indigenous, Métis and Inuit youth and their families. The health authorities have a comprehensive system of substance use services for youth in place by April 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MMHA and Ministry of Health are committed to this recommendation and are partnering with Métis Nation BC, First Nations Health Authority and the BC Association of Friendship Centres to develop a comprehensive system of substance use services. • Integrated child and youth teams will be established in five school districts over the next three years (implementation of Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) teams in two school districts is underway. The implementation of ICY teams in the remaining three school districts is targeted for implementation by Dec. 2020. • Step-up and step-down mental health and substance use services that provide an alternative to hospitalization are in progress, with 20 short-term placements and two intensive day treatment programs being implemented over the next three years (target: phase 1 services in 2020). • Foundry (centres offering culturally safe health and wellness resources that embody Indigenous perspectives for ages 12 to 24) will be expanded (https://foundrybc.ca/expansion2020/). (Target is March 31, 2020.) • Primary care networks will be established across B.C. to provide quality team-based primary care services to the population of local communities and coordinating access to health authority specialized services through integration and service redesign. The goal is to have primary care networks in 70% of B.C. communities in the next three years (in progress; target is 2021/22). 	<p>Some progress</p> <p>MMHA and Ministry of Health are in the very early stages of creating a comprehensive system of substance use services for youth by launching some initiatives and expansion activities.</p>

	Recommendation	Ministries' Response	RCY Assessment
#4	<p>That the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Health lead the development of and implementation of a full spectrum of youth-specific harm reduction services, including the creation of youth-specific spaces for supervised consumption that is embedded within a system of wraparound services and supports. The full spectrum of youth harm reduction services be in place by March 31, 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm reduction and youth-specific interventions are key aspects of the Pathway to Hope roadmap. Youth specific initiatives include: (a) expansion of Foundry; (b) overdose prevention and response services including supervised consumption spaces; and (c) naloxone training: • Expansion of Foundry (eight new centres in implementation; target is March 31, 2022). Inclusion of harm reduction and substance use services will expand as Foundry sites expand to include a full suite of services. • Youth-specific overdose prevention and response services. Examples: drug checking for youth at festivals (in progress; target is March 2021); witnessed consumption within a youth group home. Work is underway with regional health authorities to ensure accommodation for youth access to overdose prevention sites and supervised consumption with staff support (in progress, target is March 2021). Currently, youth-specific overdose prevention services being provided ad hoc or youth can access adult overdose prevention sites. Harm reduction policies, guidelines are being updated to better support youth. • Ministries are working with BC Centre for Disease Control to provide youth with access to take-home naloxone (in progress; target is March 2020). Ongoing community training for overdose response and youth-specific naloxone training materials are in development. 	<p>Some Progress</p> <p>MMHA and Ministry of Health are leading the development of some youth-specific harm reduction services.</p>

	Recommendation	Ministries' Response	RCY Assessment
#5	<p>That the Ministry of Children and Family Development, in partnership with the Ministry of Health and other relevant youth-serving organizations, develop a comprehensive training program for foster parents that addresses the context in which youth use substances and supports the development of skills to cultivate open and safe dialogue about substance use with youth.</p> <p>The training program be finalized by Oct. 1, 2019, with training for all foster parents to begin immediately thereafter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCFD and Health are developing an online training course for foster caregivers. The training incorporates how to support caregivers in having conversations about safe use with youth in care and helping support safe homes for youth to come home if they have been using (in progress; target date March 30, 2020). • MCFD consulted with youth advisory council, Ministry of Health and internal MCFD subject matter experts and the Caregiver training team on development of training program. • As of Dec. 6, 2019, Health has reviewed and provided feedback on the full course outline and detailed feedback on four of the seven draft lessons that make up the training. • Partner with BC Federation of Foster Parent Association to create video(s) to accompany content in Problematic Substance Use training (in progress; target is March 30, 2020). • Begin implementation of training program for caregivers (target April 1, 2020). 	<p>Some progress</p> <p>MCFD and Ministry of Health are developing an online training program for foster caregivers. Content has been developed and consultations have occurred.</p>

Appendix A

RCY Assessment Definitions:

- **Complete/Implemented** = All activities that directly support the implementation of the recommendation are complete
- **Substantial Progress** = Most of the activities that directly support the implementation of the recommendation are complete
- **Some Progress** = Some of the activities that directly support the implementation of the recommendation are complete
- **No Progress** = None of the activities that directly support the implementation of the recommendation are complete (pre-planning may be underway but there has been no progress in formal planning or implementation).