

June 5, 2018 Ref: 544313

Lisa Lapointe, Chief Coroner Metrotower II Suite 800 - 4720 Kingsway Burnaby BC V5H 4N2

Mailing Address: PO Box 9259, Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9J4

Dear Ms. Lapointe:

I am responding to your letter dated April 30, 2018, forwarding the Verdict at Coroner's Inquest dated February 9, 2018 into the death of Mr. Phuong Du on November 22, 2014.

Recommendations 20 to 24 were directed to the Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General. Please find below my responses to these recommendations. I note that some of the recommendations involve matters which are also in the scope of the BC PRIME Corporation and the Justice Institute of BC Police Academy. I have copied the CEO of the BC PRIME Corporation and the Director of the Police Academy on my reply to ensure their awareness of the Inquest recommendations and to facilitate responsive actions.

Recommendation 20: Liaise with the proprietors of the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME) to facilitate the extrapolation of raw information from Subject Behaviour Officer Response (SBOR) reports in such a way that lends itself to efficient analysis for the purpose of future development of police use of force and de-escalation training.

Recommendation 21: Revise the SBOR template to ensure ease of information retrieval for future analysis.

Policing and Security Branch supports these recommendations. PRIME is a common records management system used by all police agencies in BC. Although the requirement for police to use an approved system comes from provincial legislation (i.e., the *Police Act*), PRIME operates at arms' length from the provincial government, under its own governance structure.

Recommendation 22. Establish a framework to solicit feedback from front line police officers with respect to use of force training, and provincially mandated Crisis Intervention and De-Escalation Training.

With the exception of specific courses mandated by BC Provincial Policing Standards (BCPPS), each police agency is responsible for their own in-service use-of-force training for their officers. For example, municipal agencies usually provide this twice a year. Informal feedback can be provided by the officers taking the training to their instructors or training section at any time.

The online portion of the Crisis Intervention and De-escalation Course (CID) is hosted on the Canadian Police Knowledge Network (CPKN). PSB will continue to request an annual report from CPKN, which contains information and feedback collected from applicable Learning Management Systems and post-course learner surveys. Survey data is provided in summary reports and as per CPKN policy, learner identification is protected. The report also allows learners to provide any general comments about the course.

There exists a Police Training Advisory Committee (PTAC), whose purpose is to provide a forum for the Justice Institute of BC (JIBC) Police Academy, PSB and police agencies to coordinate the development and implementation of effective, defensible and accessible recruit and advanced in-service police training within BC. PTAC is a conduit for gathering various forms of training-related feedback for the Province in different capacities and may be an appropriate resource to consider when assessing if further on-going feedback is required from frontline police officers regarding use-of-force and CID training. PTAC will be used for input and feedback where necessary.

Recommendation 23. Urgently prioritize the completion of provincial standards with respect to the use of body worn cameras by police officers.

PSB has been working with police agencies and other stakeholders regarding the development of BCPPS for body worn cameras (BWC). There is no intention of making BWCs mandatory, however PSB is working on standards so that agencies which choose to implement BWCs, will operate them in a consistent manner. The development of these BCPPS is complex as there are many competing interests and perspectives from different stakeholders on the value and utility of BWCs.

In our consultations regarding the development of BWC standards we heard significant concerns from many stakeholders that implementing a BWC program will have major cost and resource implications for municipalities. In addition, we heard concerns regarding the privacy impacts of using BWCs and the subsequent data management of any video collected and stored.

Recent international research has shown mixed results as to whether BWCs provide the expected benefits originally proposed. There have been multiple BWC pilot programs in Canada but this has not, as yet, led to any subsequent wide-scale adoption of BWCs. BWC programs are resource intensive and it is up to each police agency and their Police Board (if applicable) to determine what programs they will support.

Recommendation 24. The Province should mandate that all British Columbia municipal police recruits undergo (a) first aid training with a particular emphasis on deadly bleeding; (b) CPR training; and (c) less lethal weapon training and certification as part of the police training program at the Justice Institute of BC.

With regard to less-lethal weapon training for police recruits at the JIBC Police Academy, I can advise that this is included in the recruit training program. Recruits are given training in the use of both OC spray and batons.

Recruits are also given familiarization training in conducted energy weapons (CEWs). However, recruits are not trained to be CEW operators. The BCPPS identify prerequisites that must be met prior to an officer completing CEW operator training. These BCPPS were developed in response to the Braidwood Commission of Inquiry into the use of CEWs in BC and are consistent with its findings.

With regard to first-aid and CPR training, this is an issue for consideration for the JIBC Police Academy and the Police Academy Chiefs Committee. In order to facilitate this process, I have copied the Director of the Police Academy on this letter.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours truly

Clayton Pecknold // Assistant Deputy Minister

and Director of Police Services

Policing and Security Branch

cc:

Mr. Oliver Grueter-Andrew, Chief Executive Officer, BC PRIME Corporation Mr. Steve Schnitzer, Director, JIBC Police Academy