

May 23, 2019

Via Email to [ChiefCoronerCorrespondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ChiefCoronerCorrespondence@gov.bc.ca)

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

Dear Chief Coroner Lapointe:

**Re: Response to Recommendations regarding the Coroner's Inquest into the death Of Juan Carlos Salvany Sailes (BCCS Case File #2016-0380-0010)**

Thank you for your letter dated March 19, 2019, regarding the death of Juan Carlos Salvany Sailes, who died from cardiac arrest as a consequence of self-inflicted wounds in Coquitlam, British Columbia on October 19, 2016.

Fraser Health has reviewed *Recommendation 3*, as it pertains to Mental Health and Substance Use Services.

**Recommendation 3 specifically states:**

*Re-examine the importance of mental health treatment in regards to addiction recovery, and to make available mental health services on-site to support clients.*

Information available to the Health Authority indicates that Mr. Juan Carlos Salvany Sailes was unknown to Fraser Health as he was accessing a privately funded bed through Last Door. Though Fraser Health funds a limited number of beds at Last Door, it does not oversee the clinical or operational aspects pertaining to privately funded services.

All Fraser Health funded Substance Use Services screen for mental health conditions and concurrent disorders, and refer to appropriate services in the community as needed (e.g. Community Mental Health Centres). Mental Health and Substance Use Services respond to every referral and work collaboratively with other providers in the Mental Health and Substance Use Services system of care.

For health authority clients in a publicly funded bed, Fraser Health expects contracted agencies to inform us when concerning clinical issues arise. Fraser Health Mental Health and Substance Use provides appropriate mental health and substance use care, up to and including hospitalization. Clients in private pay beds who are assessed as psychiatrically unwell would receive the same level of response as clinically indicated.

Fraser Health Mental Health and Substance Use meets regularly with all funded partner agencies and provides shared learning education opportunities including a twice yearly all day meeting.

Sincerely,



**J. Alexis Kerr**

Barrister and Solicitor

General Counsel & Acting Coroner Liaison

Legal Services | Risk Management | Adult Guardianship | Information Privacy

Cc. Dr. Victoria Lee, President and CEO, Fraser Health  
Norm Peters, VP, Regional Care Integration  
Executive Director, Mental Health and Substance Use c/o Christine Intile, EA  
Dr. Anson Koo, Regional Department Head/Program Medical Director, Mental Health and  
Psychiatry  
Denyse Houde, Clinical Director, Mental Health and Substance Use