

January 29, 2018

Honourable Thomas Cromwell <u>TCromwell@blg.com</u>

Dear Mr. Cromwell,

I am writing to you in response to your letter to me of October 12, 2017 where you, in your role as independent monitor, reported on the government's progress in implementing or giving effect to the recommendations in the Ombudsperson's Report Misfire: The 2012 Ministry of Health Employment Terminations and Related Matters.

On behalf of the BC Public Service, thank you for the thoroughness with which you have undertaken your role. I, along with my executive colleagues across the Public Service, remain resolved to uphold the commitment to use the report and its findings and recommendations as the foundation for meaningful action and change. Independent assessment is an important element in holding ourselves accountable for achieving results.

The Ombudsperson's report highlights both the failures of the Public Service and the significant toll the resulting events had on the lives of affected individuals. These impacts remain top of mind and serve as a foundation for my commitment to improving our human resources policies and processes to ensure such events cannot ever happen again.

The Public Service, with my support and direction, will continue to work diligently in the coming months to address the remaining recommendations. Though we expressed concern we might be challenged to meet the timelines for some of the recommendations, we are now confident we can meet the March 31, 2018 deadlines set by the Ombudsperson.

Thank you for your thorough review. In addition to acknowledging the significant work done to date toward addressing the Ombudsperson's recommendations, you raise some specific questions in the October 12, 2017 Monitoring Report. I have responded to each of these in the first attachment to this letter.

Office of the Premier

Deputy Minister's Office

Mailing Address: Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9E1 Telephone: 250 387-2226 Facsimile: 250 356-7258 Website: www.gov.bc.ca In keeping with the Public Service's commitment to transparency in our ongoing work to address the Ombudsperson's recommendations, this letter will be posted to government's website here.

I have also attached the Public Service's second status update, which we anticipate posting to the website tomorrow.

Sincerely,

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Don Wright Deputy Minister to the Premier, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Public Service