

# Social Services Sector **Roundtable**: Guiding Charter

## **Vision statement:**

All British Columbians are able to live healthy and fulfilling lives, in inclusive and safe communities, strengthened by a network of responsive, caring and culturally safe supports.

## **Mission statement:**

By bringing together social service organizations, government and other public sector agencies, the Social Service Sector Roundtable strives to achieve a just, sustainable, and robust system of social care in British Columbia.

## **Purpose:**

Community social services organizations, in partnership with government and other public sector agencies, provide an important array of services that people count on everyday. There is mutual recognition that a strong and sustainable social services sector is essential for ensuring quality services and better outcomes for British Columbians.

The purpose of the Social Services Sector Roundtable (SSSRT) is to provide a forum for Ministers, senior executives in government and social services sector representatives to:

- Maintain good relations through on-going communications;
- Discuss matters of importance within the sector;
- Address issues in a coordinated and collaborative manner; and
- Influence change in the social services sector to reflect the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, demonstrating support for true and lasting reconciliation.

## **Goals:**

The SSSRT aims to:

- Support a sector where clients and employees experience cultural safety;
- Support a sector where clients have positive service experiences leading to the social health of the province of BC;
- Increase the capacity of the sector;
- Improve collaboration between community-based service delivery agencies and government; and
- Improve clients' service experience.
- Influence change in the social services sector to reflect the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, demonstrating support for true and lasting reconciliation.



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## **Objectives:**

The SSSRT will:

- Provide a forum to discuss matters of importance within the social services sector and propose actions to respond to issues identified;
- Provide the social services sector with a formal channel for on-going communications and engagement with senior levels of government to foster and ensure a collaborative and respectful relationship; and
- Provide opportunities to ensure more coordinated and strategic approaches for the delivery of services and to build a shared vision for the future of social services in British Columbia.

## **Priorities:**

Members agree on the following short-term to medium-term priorities:

- Developing a Sector Human Resources Strategy and compensation plan;
- Progressing work on procurement and contracting;
- Progressing work to ensure that services for Indigenous people are delivered by Indigenous organizations; and
- Developing a broader collaborative process (relationships).

## **Membership:**

The SSSRT will be comprised of Ministers and senior executives from government ministries and agencies and from representatives of the social services sector. It is expected that members are authorized to speak on behalf of and can represent the interests of their respective organizations.

Membership is set out in Appendix A and will be updated quarterly to reflect changes in the composition of members.

The SSSRT Chair will be the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and the Vice Chair, the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.



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## **Key principles:**

- Commitment to open, respectful, and timely communications as well as active participation;
- Commitment to constructive and collaborative discussions and problem-solving - taking into account the shared interest to develop solutions that will lead to better services and outcomes for British Columbians;
- An active commitment to learn from each other and the diversity represented by the group, and a commitment to bring a diversity lens and perspectives of those not in the room into decision making;
- A commitment to decolonization in the provision and planning of social services in BC;
- A commitment to the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and use the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action as a decision-making lens in the work of the SSSRT, and that members commit to using this as a lens in their work outside of the SSSRT;
- Members are accountable to each other;
- Respect for the confidentiality of issues that may be brought to the SSSRT for discussion; and
- Proactively strive for action orientated outcomes.

## **Roles and responsibilities:**

- The Chair of the SSSRT is responsible for setting meeting agendas on behalf of government, seeking advice and input from SSSRT members on approved agenda items.
- Members commit to attending meetings and only to send delegates when it is required;
- The SSSRT Reference Group members are included in Appendix B; and
- A Secretariat for the SSSRT will: document discussions and prepare minutes; inventory issues impacting the social services sector as identified by members and any actions proposed for implementation in the short, medium and longer term to address those issues.

## **Support and administration:**

The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction will provide secretariat support for the SSSRT.

July 20, 2020 (updated June 2023)

## **Agreed/Approved:**

Updated Bi-Annually



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## Appendix A:

### Social services sector roundtable membership

- Minister Sheila Malcolmson (Chair)
- Parliamentary Secretary Community Development and Non-Profits – Megan Dykeman

### Organizations represented:

- Aboriginal Housing Management Association
- BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
- BC CEO Network
- BC General Employees' Union
- BC Housing
- BC Non-Profit Housing Association
- Board Voice Society of BC
- Canadian Union of Public Employees
- Community Living BC
- Community Social Services Employers Association of BC
- Ending Violence Association of BC
- Federation of Community Social Services of BC
- Ministry of Attorney General (responsible for Housing)
- Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
- Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
- Provincial Association of Residential & Community Agencies
- Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat



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## Appendix B:

### Social services sector reference group

Organization	Representative(s)
BC CEO Network	Brandon Arnett
BC CEO Network	Brenda Gillette
Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC Association	Katie Rosenberger
ASPECT - The Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training	Janet Morris-Reade
BC Association of Community Response Networks	Sherry Baker
BC Non-Profit Housing Association	Jill Atkey
BC Society of Transition Houses	Amy FitzGerald
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres	Leslie Varley
BC Association of Child Development Interventionists	Jason Gordon
Board Voice	Louella Mathias
Board Voice	Tim Agg
Ending Violence Association of BC	Ninu Kang
Ending Violence Association of BC	Kate Rossiter
Inclusion BC	Karla Verschoor
Options for Sexual Health, and Feminists Deliver	Michelle Fortin
PAN (Pacific Aids Network)	Evin Jones
PARCA - Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies	Anne Kimmitt
PARCA - Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies	Paul Barnett
Police Victim Services Association of BC	Ian Batey
Realize Strategies	John Kay
The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs	Shirly Berelowitz
Volunteer BC	Lawrie Portigal
The Federation of Community Social Services of BC	Julia Staub-French
The Federation of Community Social Services of BC	Kishone Roy
Vantage Point	Cherie Payne
Canadian Mental Health Association	Jonny Morris

