



April 11, 2014

By Email

Lisa Lapointe
Chief Coroner
Province of British Columbia
Metrotower II
Suite 800 – 4720 Kingsway
Vancouver, BC, V5H 4N2

Dear Ms. Lapointe,

Re: BC Coroners Service Child Death Review Panel: A Review of Unexpected Infant Deaths 2008-2012

Thank you for your letter dated March 31, 2014 requesting what action(s) we plan to take, or have taken, with regard to Recommendation #1: *Investigative Practices: That the Deputy Commissioner RCMP E Division and the Chief Constables of the independent municipal police departments develop a standardized investigative protocol to support law enforcement investigations into unexpected infant deaths.*

Vancouver Police Department (VPD) policy requires field supervisors to notify the Duty Officer in all unexpected deaths involving a child or an infant. The Duty Officer in turn will notify the Major Crime Section – Homicide Unit supervisor who will review the circumstances and assign investigators accordingly.

In every case assigned to the Homicide Unit, current sudden death investigative protocols are utilized within a Major Case Management (MCM) framework. MCM is a national best practices methodology for managing major investigations which provides accountability, clear goals and objectives, planning, utilization of resources, and control over the speed, flow and direction of the investigation. It is a recognized model through which Canadian police can best manage investigations to ensure investigative excellence regardless of the scope or complexity of the case.

I have included VPD Investigation Division business rules and the MCM guide as a reference.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Palmer".

Adam Palmer
Deputy Chief, Investigation Division
Vancouver Police Department