



December 19, 2019  
Ref: 561410

Chief Coroner Lisa Lapointe  
BC Coroners Service  
PO Box 9259  
STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria BC V8W 9J4

Dear Chief Coroner Lisa Lapointe:

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on recent changes to the BC Provincial Policing Standards (BCPPS) which may be of interest to the BC Coroners Service, particularly as they relate to recommendations from Coroner inquests into the deaths of Deanna Renee Desjarlais and Phuong Na (Tony) Du, as well as the BC Coroners Service Death Review Panel report, *Opportunities for Different Outcomes – Police: A crucial component of BC’s mental health system*.

In November 2019, the Solicitor General approved an amendment to BCPPS 5.1.3 Missing Persons Investigations - Response and Investigation, which will mandate participation in the Provincial Dental Databank. Specifically, a new standard has been added (Standard (6.1)) which requires a chief constable, chief officer or the commissioner of the provincial police force to ensure that, if a person remains missing for more than 90 days from the initial report, or if foul play is suspected, any dental records obtained must be submitted to the Non Commissioned Officer in charge (NCO i/c) Unidentified Human Remains Unit, RCMP “E” Division for entry into the Provincial Dental Databank.

In November 2019, the Solicitor General also approved a new standard which incorporates previous direction to police regarding use of force reporting into the BCPPS. The new BCPPS 1.7.2 Reporting and Investigation Following the Use of Force specifies the threshold and format (i.e., the Subject Behaviour-Officer Response (SBOR) report) for reporting an officer’s use of force. These standards also require supervisory review, monitoring of trends, and reporting of data to the Director of Police Services.

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I am also pleased to advise that Policing and Security Branch has developed a solution to the past challenges associated with extracting data from SBOR reports from the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME). Branch staff have also been working with police stakeholders to assist them in understanding the extraction method and how it can be used to provide insight into their police agency's use of force. We anticipate that this will allow the Policing Security Branch's existing police use-of-force publications (available online at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/policing-in-bc/publications-statistics-legislation/crime-police-resource-statistics>) to become more in depth in the future.

I trust this information will be of interest to you. If you would like further details about any of these developments, please contact Jenni Bard, Director of the Standards and Evaluation Unit ([jenni.bard@gov.bc.ca](mailto:jenni.bard@gov.bc.ca)).

Take care,



Brenda Butterworth-Carr; Tr'injà shär njit dintlät  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
And Director of Police Services  
Policing and Security Branch