



March 4, 2019

Ms. Lisa Lapointe
Chief Coroner
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9259 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9J4

Dear Ms. Lapointe:

I am responding to your October 24, 2018 letter, regarding the jury's recommendations from the Coroner's Inquest into the death of Ms. Lisa Cheryl Dudley.

The following two recommendations were directed to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General:

Recommendation 8 - Review implementation of a First Responder Investigation Policy (including mandatory follow up with a complainant) for complaints of potential grievous bodily harm (e.g. shooting, stabbing, etc.) for all police agencies in the province of BC.

Recommendation 9 - Explore implementation of mandatory training regarding response to complaints of potential grievous bodily harm (e.g. shooting, stabbing, etc.).

Similar policy and training recommendations were also directed to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). I note that the response to these recommendations by RCMP "E" Division Assistant Commissioner Eric Stubbs, dated December 18, 2018 and posted on the BC Coroners Service website, indicates that the RCMP has implemented procedures and training that addresses these recommendations.

Procedures and training regarding the response to these types of incidents are appropriately directed to the officers in charge of police agencies, who are responsible for operational matters, such as the manner of responding to calls for service. There are specific aspects of policing for which the Director of Police Services has the authority to establish provincial policing standards aimed at harmonizing high level policing practices in the province. These are listed in Section 40 of the *Police Act*. The Director's authority does not extend to first response investigations, which was noted in the Presiding Coroner's comments.

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In the interest of promoting consistent practices in this area by British Columbia police agencies, I have asked the Director of Police Services to share these recommendations with the BC Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP) for their awareness and consideration, and to encourage the BCACP membership to ensure that their respective procedures and training in this area are in alignment with the Inquest findings and recommendations.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: Ms. Tonia Enger, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services