

November 1, 2018

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File: 450-30

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

**Re: Coroner's Inquest; William Ryan Fisher
BCCS Case Files # 2016:0225:0047**

Ms. Lapointe,

Thank you for your letter regarding the inquest into the death of William Fisher. BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) has reviewed the verdict and, the jury recommendations involving BCEHS ("BC Ambulance Services") and other agencies and provides the following response:

Recommendation 4: 'Consider establishing a paramedic station in Port Coquitlam'

BCEHS is undergoing a complete review of our deployment of Paramedics across British Columbia, which may result in changes to station location or staff configurations. Because of the 'dynamic deployment' system we use, and the fact that our ambulances are often already on the road, the location of stations is not often a key factor in getting paramedics to a scene.

Recommendation 5: 'Develop and implement inter-agency training programming to ensure effective communication of medical emergency scene information, ensuring a timely and effective response'

BCEHS uses the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS), a product of the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED) as the call processing and triage system to assign paramedic responses to requests for service. A component of this practice is a 'SEND' protocol for use with partner first response agencies, which is anticipated to roll out in November 2018. Implementation of this tool is associated with a training session for partners to ensure that the correct scene information is captured and generates an appropriate response level.

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In addition, BCEHS has reached out to our colleagues in the British Columbia Corrections Service to ensure that their staff is aware of the level of information required to trigger an appropriate response for the medical emergency they are reporting.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

Yours truly,



Barb Fitzsimmons
Chief Operating Officer
BC Emergency Health Services