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VIA EMAIL

Ref. 628249

August 23, 2024

Dr. Jatinder Baidwan  
Chief Coroner  
Office of the Chief Coroner  
PO Box 9259 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9J4  
Email: [Jatinder.Baidwan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jatinder.Baidwan@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Dr. Baidwan:

I am writing in response to Ms. Lapointe's letter of February 3, 2022, providing the Verdict at Coroner's Inquest into the death of Lindsey Gauthier which occurred in Chilliwack on April 6, 2016.

***Recommendation 1- To develop a standardized form of documentation to ensure the full transfer of information of circumstances of why an individual is brought to the emergency room in order to ensure that the attending physician has all the relevant background information.***

The transfer of information between police officers and other organizations, including health agencies, is important for ensuring positive outcomes for the public, specifically those who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. In particular, procedures must be in place to ensure that both police officers and health care professionals know what is required of them to ensure the safety and security of persons in custody.

I am pleased to report that work is underway to address the intent of this recommendation through the implementation of HealthIM. HealthIM is a digital system that allows mobile access to review client-specific safety and de-escalation information when responding to urgent mental health calls for service. The app supports and documents police officers' field investigations by prompting answers for a risk assessment, evaluating risk for potential Mental Health Act (MHA) Section 28 apprehensions, transmitting the resulting report to the local hospital when needed. A summary of the officer's report is automatically generated and securely transmitted to the appropriate emergency department to prepare staff for the arrival of a patient.

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Throughout 2024, the project will continue to focus on the significant due diligence work to ensure successful implementation across all health authorities and police agencies. Active implementation will occur for several police agencies in 2024 and finalize by the end of 2025.

It is important to ensure that police throughout the province are well equipped to serve and protect all British Columbians in any crisis situation and I recognize this requires strong collaboration between public safety and public health responders, as well as other key partners, to make sure protocols, policies, and best practices continue to evolve.

I look forward to continuing to work with the BC Association of Chiefs of Police on this important project and are committed to updating our impacted partners on the status of implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mike Farnworth  
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
and Deputy Premier

pc: BC Association of Chiefs of Police