

April 7, 2017

CLIFF #5963

To: BC Public Service Agency Executive

Re: **Policy change – excluded employee suspensions**

The Ombudsperson's report on the 2012 Ministry of Health employment terminations released on April 6, 2017 included a recommendation that "effective immediately, government cease its practice of suspending excluded employees without pay pending an investigation in the absence of authority in the *Public Service Act* to do so."

The government has accepted this recommendation from the Ombudsperson. Accordingly, effective today, it is the policy of the public service that all suspensions of excluded employees pending an investigation into alleged misconduct must always be with pay. No exceptions to this policy are permitted.

Please ensure that all of our human resource policies are promptly updated to reflect this change and that all necessary Agency staff are informed so that our clients receive accurate advice effective immediately and going forward.

Lori Halls
Deputy Minister

cc: Deputy Ministers' Council