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CHIEF CORONER

March 8, 2016

Ref: 226336

Lisa Lapointe  
Chief Coroner  
PO Box 9272  
Victoria BC V8W 9J5

Dear Lisa Lapointe:

**Re: Review of Overdose Deaths in Youth and Young Adults 2009 - 2013**

Thank you for your letter in which you provided a copy of *Preventing Death after Overdose: A Review of Overdose Deaths in Youth and Young Adults 2009 – 2013* by the BC Coroners Service Child Death Review Panel.

This aggregate review highlights that young people who are in contact with child welfare services may be particularly vulnerable and may benefit from messaging about recognizing the signs of an overdose and the importance of seeking immediate medical intervention.

In response to recommendation number two in the report, the Provincial Director of Child Welfare will engage with the BC Federation of Youth in Care Networks, the BC Federation of Foster Parent Associations, the Federation of Community Social Services, the Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (Gathering Our Voices) and the Youth Advisory Council to obtain their input on effective messaging to young people to raise awareness about the signs of an overdose and the importance of calling emergency 911 immediately.

I would like to thank the BC Coroners Service and the death review panel for their work on the report and I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Yours truly,

  
Stephanie Cadieux  
Minister