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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Justice

### **Statement of the Chief Coroner**

**VICTORIA** – Chief Coroner Lisa Lapointe today responded to the Report of the Child Death Review Panel on Unexpected Infant Death:

“I would like to begin by thanking the members of the Child Death Review Panel for sharing their valuable time and expertise in the difficult, but important work of reviewing unexpected deaths of infants in BC. Every death of an infant is a tragedy – to his or her parents, to extended family members, and to the community in which the child would have been raised.

“One of the strengths of the Coroners Service Death Review Panel process is that it brings together expertise from a wide variety of fields to produce the best possible recommendations on issues such as this. The panel’s thoughtful recommendations are aimed at preventing future infant deaths and are much appreciated.

“Several of the recommendations of the panel are directed to the Coroners Service itself to solidify our investigations of unexpected infant deaths by further clarifying some of the factors involved. Clearly, enhanced surveillance of patterns and commonalities in these deaths will support prevention efforts.. As Chief Coroner, I accept these Recommendations and assure the panel and the public that we will begin work immediately on implementing them within our service and, where suggested, with our partners and stakeholders.”

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