

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Boys Report – Recommendation 4

Recommendation Summary: Fund a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy.

Primary Public Body: Government of Manitoba

1. Collaborate with the Government of Canada.

GOM reported ongoing collaboration between the Public Safety Division of Manitoba and Public Safety Canada through the Gangs and Gangs Suppression Strategy, Guns and Gangs funding, and other crime/gang prevention initiatives.

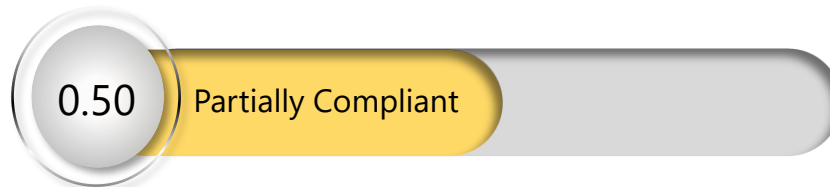
2. Extensive and inclusive consultation with communities throughout Manitoba.

On April 29, 2022, Manitoba Justice announced the Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSWB) Pilot Project, which will include 14 communities throughout Manitoba, including rural, urban and First Nation Communities. The initiative will involve local government, community stakeholders, community members, law enforcement, and government departments (e.g., Justice, Health, Education, Mental Health, and Families).

3. Update fund, and implement a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention.

GOM reported a number of crime prevention programs and initiatives, but no information to indicate that a comprehensive provincial strategy is being developed or adopted.

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION



Recommendation Compliance Summary

In accordance with subsection 11(1) clause (d) of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act (ACYA)*, the Advocate retains the responsibility "to monitor the implementation of recommendations included in reports made under section 27 (investigation) or special reports made under section 31."

This form details the assessment of implementation of compliance made under the referenced subsection of the ACYA. MACY assesses implementation of compliance with recommendations once a year but receives updates from public bodies every six months.

| 1. Recommendation Information | |
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| Special Report Name: | Finding the Way Back: An Aggregate Investigation of 45 Boys who died by Suicide or Homicide in Manitoba |
| Date Released: | 11/4/2021 |
| Full Recommendation: (including details) | <p>Recommendation Four: The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends the Government of Manitoba, in collaboration with the Government of Canada, extensively and inclusively consult with communities throughout Manitoba to update, fund, and implement a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy.</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ a community-led and informed by a whole-of-government approach, including stakeholder involvement from across the province with a particular focus on Indigenous and newcomer communities doing work related to rural, remote, and urban gang activity. • Include a provincial funding commitment for youth gang prevention initiatives on an annual basis determined by a needs-based assessment, with particular attention to Indigenous and newcomer communities. • Address gang prevention for youth through adequate supports tailored to the needs of boys from various backgrounds to help them transition to adulthood. This includes accessing basic needs and navigating through various systems such as housing, employment, and education. • Respond to the needs of gang-involved boys based on gender identity to ensure services are more welcoming and accessible to boys. • Incorporate prevention via recreation and cultural activities, including sports and art. This should include funding and supports for Elders and Knowledge Keepers in recognition of their essential and traditional role in supporting young people. • Include trauma-informed, youth-centred therapeutic interventions for boys at all stages. • Include gang prevention as a priority within the Government of Manitoba's review of the current youth justice system in Manitoba and its connections to the child welfare system. • Consider the unique risk and protective factors for newcomer youth. |
| Intent(s) of Recommendation: | <p>The intents of the recommendation are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with the Government of Canada. 2. Extensive and inclusive consultation with communities throughout Manitoba. 3. Update, fund, and implement a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy. |

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| Issue: | Boys Report |
| Public Body | Government of Manitoba |
| Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body: | June 30, 2022 |
| 2. Compliance Determination | |
| Partially Compliant 0.50 | Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation. Important requirements have been met and the recommendation is acted upon, however, deficiencies remain. |
| Self-Assessment | Partially-Compliant |
| Previous Compliance Determination | N/A |
| 3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i> | |
| <p>Intent 1: Collaborate with the Government of Canada. 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Manitoba reported that the Public Safety Division collaborates with Public Safety Canada on an ongoing basis through the Gangs and Gangs Suppression Strategy and the delivery of Guns and Gangs funding and support for crime/gang prevention initiatives. • The department further reported that the Policing Services and Public Safety Branch collaborates with Public Safety Canada and provides feedback and recommendations on Manitoba-based applicants for the Crime Prevention Action Fund and National Crime Prevention Strategy. • Manitoba Justice sits on the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Crime Prevention Working Group which provides a platform to share information and align provincial and national priorities within the National Crime Prevention Strategy. These meetings take place 3-4 times annually. <p>Intent 2: Extensive and inclusive consultation with communities throughout Manitoba. 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Manitoba reported that Manitoba’s Policing and Public Safety Strategy identifies enhancing and expanding Community Mobilization as a priority area. • Community Mobilization is a locally driven community-led, multi-sector/whole of government (approach to addressing risk and enhancing community safety and wellbeing. There are 14 community mobilization initiatives in Manitoba working to connect multi-barriered children, youth, and families to appropriate services and supports, with the aim of reducing involvement in the justice and child welfare systems. This includes working with justice-involved, youth and addressing community-level issues such as gang prevention. • On April 29, 2022, Manitoba Justice announced the Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSWB) Pilot Project, which will include 14 communities throughout Manitoba, including rural, urban and First Nation Communities. This process will work with local government, community stakeholders, community members, law enforcement, and government departments (Justice, Health, Education, Mental Health, Families, etc.). <p>Intent 3: Update, fund, and implement a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy. 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Manitoba reported that the Crime Prevention Branch continues to explore | |

how to better meet the needs of the community and implement evidence-based programming to help prevent individuals from being victimized or coming into contact with the law as offenders.

- They further reported certain crime prevention programs and initiatives as part of a comprehensive approach to address youth gang prevention and intervention. They include Turnabout, Lighthouses, community mobilization, mentorship programs such as Kistesimaw (Ka Ni Kanichihk), Ototema, Big Brothers Big Sisters Winnipeg, the Crime Prevention Branch, Community Alternatives to Detention, and SOURCE (Supporting Opportunities for youth Utilizing Recreation, Community and Education) through Broadway Neighborhood Centre.
- While these programs and initiatives point to positive steps taken towards crime and gang prevention, there is no indication of a comprehensive provincial strategy being developed or adopted.
- No report was given on efforts to fund a comprehensive prevention strategy.

Analysis Summary: There is evidence of collaboration with the Government of Canada on gang prevention. The Government of Manitoba also reported a number of efforts to consult and collaborate with communities throughout Manitoba. While there is evidence of actions taken to ensure crime and gang prevention, there is no information on the existence or development of a comprehensive provincial youth gang prevention strategy or of the funding of this strategy. As such, the status determination for this recommendation is partially complaint.