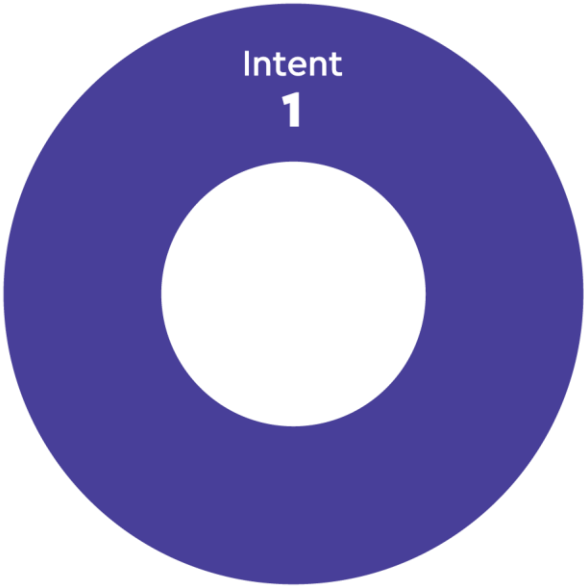



COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Tina Fontaine – Recommendation 2

Recommendation Summary: Release a plan to implement the child and youth specific recommendations in the Virgo Report.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Mental Health and Community Wellness

	<p>Intent 1. Release a plan to address the child and youth specific Virgo recommendations.</p>
<p>COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION</p>	
	

Recommendation Compliance Summary



This form details the assessment of compliance with recommendations made under Section 27 and Section 31 of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. MACY assesses recommendations for compliance once a year but receives updates from the public bodies every six months.

1. Recommendation Information	
Report Name:	A Place Where It Feels Like Home: The Story of Tina Fontaine
Date Released:	3/12/2019
Full Recommendation: (including details)	<p>Recommendation Two:</p> <p>The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living expedite the public release of a clear implementation plan to address the child and youth-specific recommendations contained in the report on Improving Access and Coordination of Mental Health and Addiction Services: A Provincial Strategy for all Manitobans ("Virgo Report").</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living's plan must ensure that resources are prioritized in rural and remote locations to ensure equitable service levels for children and youth regardless of where they are living. The implementation plan must reflect the client populations who require them and must, therefore, be culturally-informed, and be developed in ways that reflect the voices and preferences of Indigenous health experts, Indigenous leadership, children and youth, and others with lived experiences.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	1. Release a plan to address the child and youth specific Virgo recommendations.
Issue:	Mental Health and Addictions Mental Health and Addictions
Public Body	Manitoba Mental Health and Community Wellness
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	September 6, 2023
	July 21, 2023
	June 30, 2022
	July 13, 2021
	June 30, 2020
	December 31, 2019
	June 30, 2019
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	Fully Compliant

Prior Assessment

Partially Compliant

3. Rationale for Determination

(How did you reach this compliance determination)

Intent 1: A plan to address the child and youth specific Virgo recommendations.

2023

- Mental Health again reported the release of the Roadmap, which it explained is highly responsive to the Virgo report.
- Mental Health reported that it previously shared the Child and Youth Virgo recommendations outline in Appendix E of last year's report.
- Mental Health shared an updated youth-specific Virgo tracker, which identifies seven out of 21 recommendations as being "addressed" (Rec # 2.15, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.8, 4.9 and 7.2), 10 as being "partially addressed," and the remaining four as being "not addressed".
- The tracker also lists the initiatives justifying these determinations and some very basic plans, including forecasting "cross-departmental conversations," to address the remaining recommendations.
- While this does demonstrate some progress and provides evidence that there has been some planning for the implementation and evaluation of child and youth Virgo recommendations, important gaps remain and a more comprehensive, long-term plan must be developed and made public. This plan should include clear timelines.
- Mental Health proposed that the release and ongoing implementation of the Roadmap be considered an alternate solution to this recommendation.

2022

- Manitoba Mental Health reported the release of A Path to Mental Health and Community Wellness: A Roadmap for Manitoba. This is a broad document, however, with no indication of specific provisions to address the child and youth-focused recommendations of the Virgo Report.
- Manitoba Mental Health also submitted an outline of child and youth-specific Virgo recommendations and its efforts to achieve these recommendations, most of which are still at the planning and foundational stages, not yet launched or completed.
- For rec 1.6 of the Virgo report, the department indicated that the roadmap includes a plan to develop a coordinated provincial response to the prevention of suicide for children, youth, and adults, with special consideration for at-risk communities and populations, and outlines the roadmap as a partial fulfillment of rec 1.6.
- The department lists the Newcomer Trauma Initiative, the Integrated Youth Services, and the roadmap as initiatives partially addressing rec 1.9.
- The department indicates an investment of \$600K was made to Addictions

Foundation of Manitoba to double the number of treatment beds for women, and an investment of \$3.8M to Neechewan to improve access to Indigenous-led healing, care, and treatment services for youth experiencing sexual exploitation as actions taken to partially implement rec 2.15.

- The department admits that rec 3.1 has not been addressed.
- The department mentions the decentralization of AFM services, expansion of NorWest Youth Hub, investment of \$1.55M for IYS Expansion, and an investment of \$7.7M to establish Hope North Recovery Centre for Youth in Thompson, as actions taken in partial fulfillment of rec 3.2.
- The department acknowledges that no action has been taken to address rec 3.6.
- The department outlines an investment of \$1M in Strong Families Institute, the expansion of NorWest Youth Hub, IYS Expansion, investment of \$2.1M in StreetReach in Thomson, \$370K investment in StreetReach Winnipeg, an investment of \$1.4M in Thrival Kits, investment of \$675K in PAX Dream Makers, investment of \$1.6M for expanding Community Schools Program, and an investment of \$400K to launch Granny's House, as partial fulfillment of rec 4.1.
- The department acknowledges that rec 4.11 has not been addressed.
- It is unclear whether these initiatives are pre-existing, new, or modified.

2021

- Actions taken in the last year to implement this recommendation include discussions and planning with national leaders to develop a child and youth National Needs Based Planning Framework. While this work is endorsed and recommended by experts on the subject matter, Manitoba Health and Seniors Care advised this recommendation will be put on hold until this National Framework is developed.

2020

- Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living provided a summary chart outlining the recommendations it had determined as being 'complete' or 'partially complete' along with the associated activities completed thus far. While the summary chart provided in 2020 was helpful in determining the activities that have occurred in association to 10 of the youth-specific recommendations named in the report, questions remain regarding the strategy to implement the remaining 29 recommendations. Further, clarification around whether the projects and initiatives named in the chart are long-term projects or pilot projects is required.

Analysis Summary: While some progress has been made, the current efforts communicated are not sufficient to meet the requirements of this recommendation. The release of the Roadmap and its ongoing implementation, while important steps in the right direction, cannot be considered an alternate solution as the Roadmap framework is broad and does not include specific provisions to address the child- and youth-focused

recommendations of the Virgo report. This recommendation requires the development and release of a specific, comprehensive, and long-term implementation plan, inclusive of timelines, to address each youth-focused Virgo recommendation. The plan must ensure the prioritization of resources in rural and remote locations, and must be culturally-informed. Until concrete steps are taken in this regard, this recommendation will remain Partially Compliant.