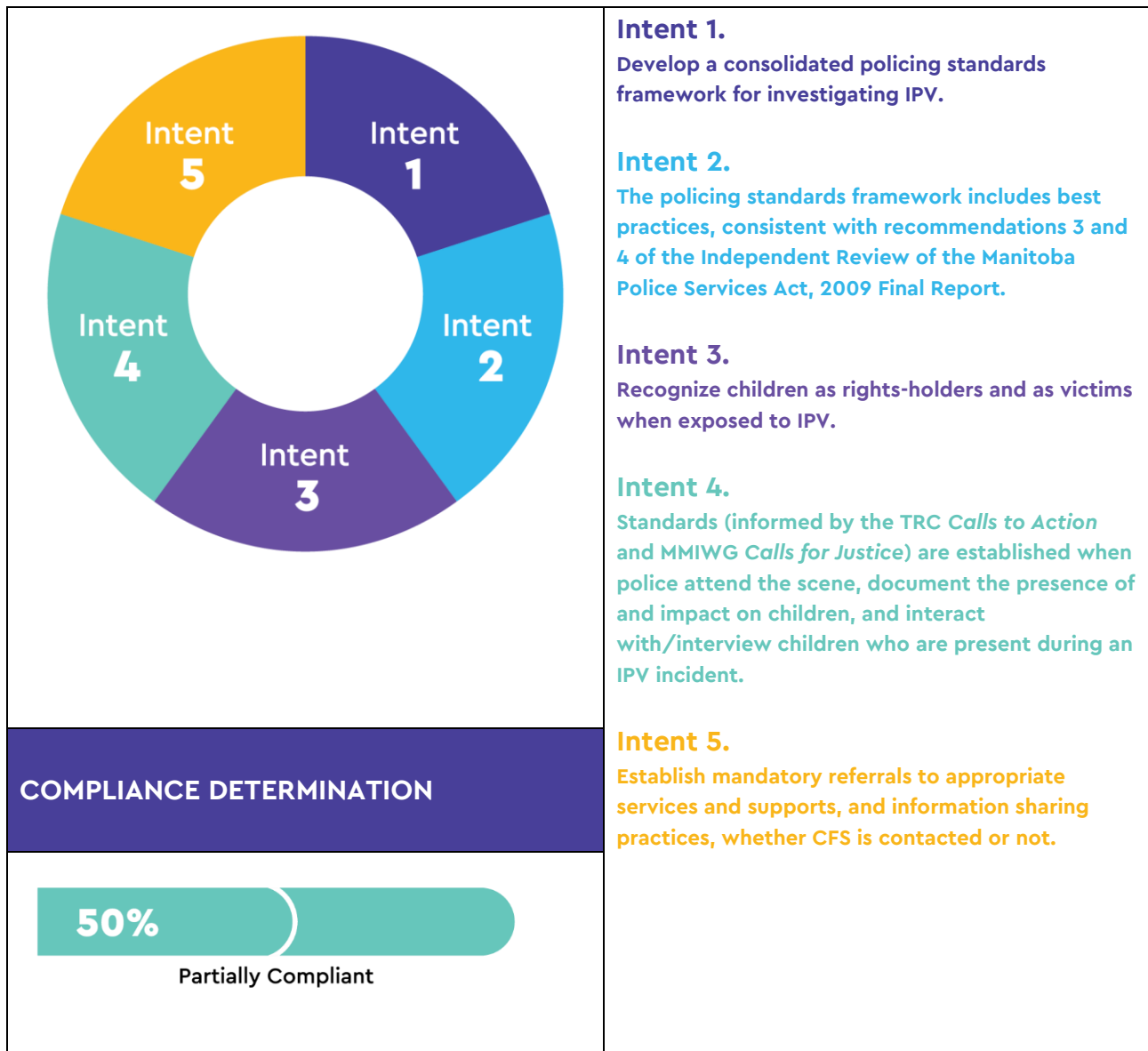


COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

IPV – Recommendation 2

Recommendation Summary: Policing standards framework for investigating IPV.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Justice



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:	Every Two Hours: A Special Report on Children and Youth Exposed to Intimate Partner Violence in Manitoba
Date Released:	6/22/2022
Full Recommendation: (including details)	<p>Recommendation Two:</p> <p>The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that the Minister of Justice develop a consolidated policing standards framework for investigating intimate partner violence (IPV) that includes best practices for responding to children exposed to IPV in Manitoba, consistent with recommendations 3 and 4 of the Independent Review of the Manitoba Police Services Act, 2009 Final Report.</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize children as right-holders under the <i>United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child</i>. • Include clear language that designates children exposed to IPV as victims. • Clearly define children exposed to IPV and when a child is considered 'present' in the residence. • Document the presence of children in the residence at the time and the immediate effects of IPV on the child. • Establish age-appropriate, trauma-informed, and culturally/linguistically appropriate standards for speaking to children who are present during an IPV incident. • If there is an immediate protection concern, CFS should be contacted. Establish mandatory referrals to appropriate services and supports by officers when children are identified in IPV incident but are not referred to CFS. • Include a requirement to document referrals and reasons for referrals. • Include information sharing practices that connect police forces to Victim Services to ensure follow-up for all cases, similar to the existing arrangements between WPS and Victim Services. • Consider provisions for officers attending to the scene of IPV incidents be partnered with civilians who have an expertise in IPV and trauma-informed practices in interviewing children (e.g., social workers, Victim Service workers), where appropriate.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align with the <i>Calls to Action</i> 36 and 40 of the TRC and the <i>Calls for Justice</i> 1.1 to 1.13 of the MMIWG Inquiry.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a consolidated policing standards framework for investigating IPV. The policing standards framework includes best practices, consistent with recommendations 3 and 4 of the Independent Review of the Manitoba Police Services Act, 2009 Final Report. Recognize children as rights-holders and as victims when exposed to IPV. Standards (informed by the TRC <i>Calls to Action</i> and MMIWG <i>Calls for Justice</i>) are established when police attend the scene, document the presence of and impact on children, and interact with/interview children who are present during an IPV incident. Establish mandatory referrals to appropriate services and supports, and information sharing practices, whether CFS is contacted or not.
Issue:	IPV
Public Body	Manitoba Justice
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	May 31, 2023
2. Compliance Determination	
Partially Compliant 0.5	Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation. Important requirements have been met and the recommendation is acted upon, however, deficiencies remain.
Self-Assessment	Largely Compliant
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
Intent 1: Develop a consolidated policing standards framework for investigating IPV.	
2023	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manitoba Justice reported Policing Standards are in development, which will include the creation of an Investigative Guide on IPV. The Department anticipates this work will be complete by the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year. Manitoba Justice indicated drafting standards are one component of this work, and an implementation phase will follow to allow for changes to policy and training to meet the needs of each policing agency. 	

Intent 2: The policing standards framework includes best practices, consistent with recommendations 3 and 4 of the Independent Review of the Manitoba Police Services Act, 2009 Final Report.

2023

- The Department reported police are often trained in trauma-informed practices and approaches to interact with victims. Manitoba Justice continues to work with law enforcement partners to emphasize best practices related to inter-agency collaboration.
- Manitoba Justice advised policing standards will include guidelines to ensure victims of IPV are supported throughout the process, including interviews and investigation, to ensure proper resources and services are available.

Intent 3: Recognize children as rights-holders and as victims when exposed to IPV.

2023

- Manitoba Justice reported policing standards and the framework around IPV recognizes children as rights holders, with attention to wraparound and supportive services to reduce the impact of IPV.

Intent 4: Standards (informed by the TRC *Calls to Action* and MMIWG *Calls for Justice*) are established when police attend the scene, document the presence of and impact on children, and interact with/interview children who are present during an IPV incident.

2023

- Manitoba Justice reiterated policing standards are in development, which will include an Investigative Guide on IPV. The Department indicated standards will include child-centred and wraparound supports and services for children who are exposed (both directly and indirectly) to violence. These standards are anticipated to be complete by the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year.

Intent 5: Establish mandatory referrals to appropriate services and supports, and information sharing practices, whether CFS is contacted or not.

2023

- The Department reports there is extensive police collaboration involved in creating policing standards. Guidelines related to IPV will be included, mandating a referral to Child and Family Services where children are present when responding to matters related to IPV, and for all suspected injuries. Standards will include ensuring supports and services are available during the involvement of law enforcement.
- Manitoba Justice maintains it is not in a position to direct specific policies or procedures, but can simply require a framework.

Analysis Summary: Manitoba Justice advised policing standards are in development, and it anticipates completion within the 2023-24 fiscal year. The Department reported the standards include the creation of an Investigative Guide on IPV, which references child-centred considerations and ensures responses occur when children are directly and indirectly exposed to IPV. MACY's requests for additional detail on what the standards may include (i.e., increased detail anticipated to be taken into consideration as it relates to the noted Reports in the wording of intents 2 and 4, reflections of age-appropriate interventions, what supports and services are being referred to in the justification of intent 5, whether civilian partnership is being considered, whether children will explicitly be referenced as rights holders/victims, and documentation requisites) were not responded to within this assessment period. It is recognized, however, that the clarity of this information is preliminary, provided the standards are in development. Without further information on the standards, it is difficult to wholly assess degrees of compliance as is written within the intents of this recommendation. The notion policing standards will be finalized within the next year, with acknowledgement of the requisites relayed, is an optimistic finding. Provided movement to develop standards and recognition of the intents of this recommendation are acknowledged, MACY deems this recommendation Partially Compliant.