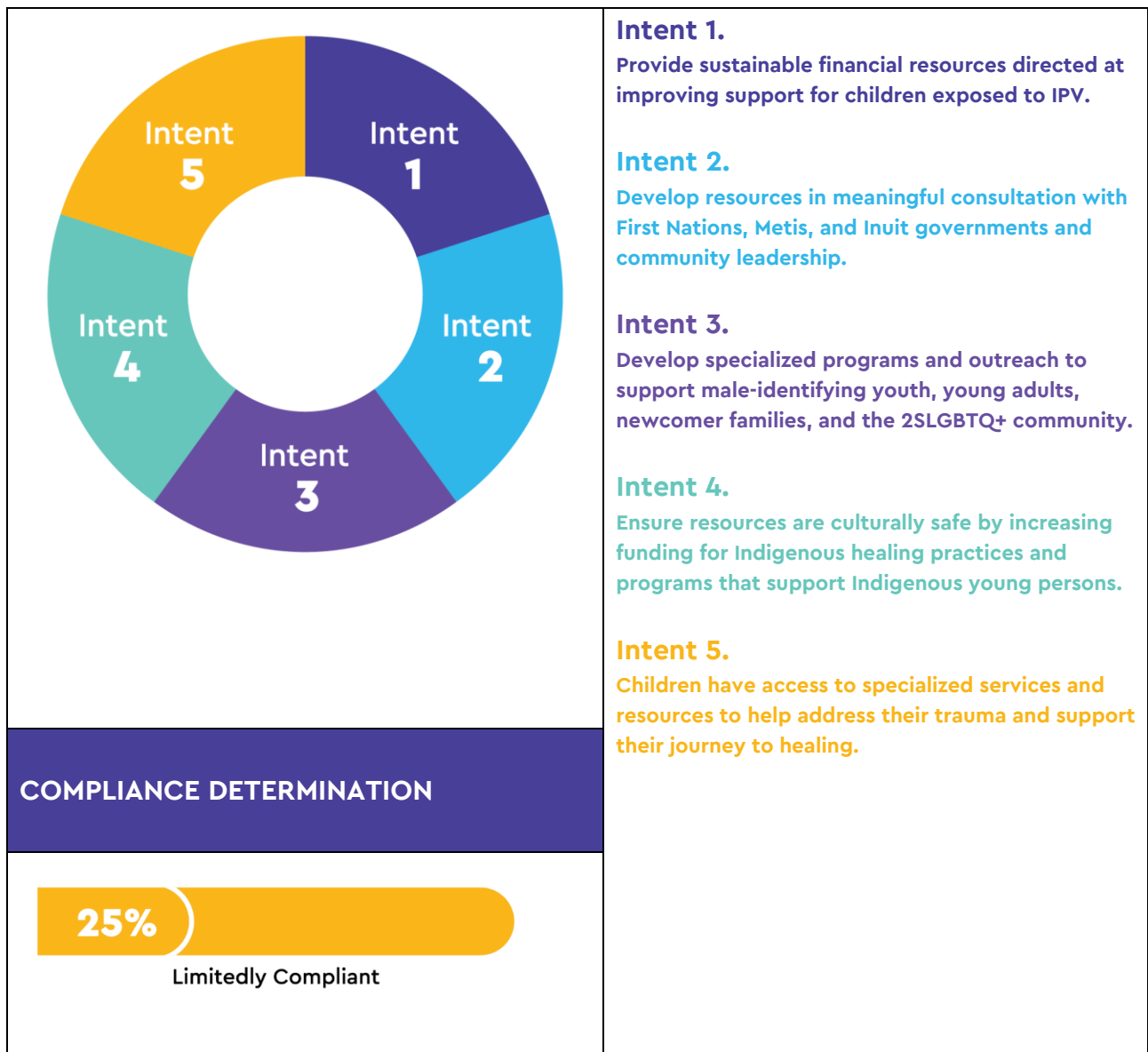


COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

IPV – Recommendation 5

Recommendation Summary: Wraparound supports for children exposed to intimate partner violence (IPV).

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Health



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 Five: The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that the Minister of Health, in collaboration with the Ministers of Mental Health and Community Wellness, Families, and Justice, fund specialized resource(s) that provide culturally safe therapeutic supports for children exposed to intimate partner violence (IPV) to address their trauma and support their journey to healing, consistent with Article 39 of the <i>United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child</i>.</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource development should follow meaningful consultation with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit governments and community leadership. • Resource(s) may be funded/located in a community-based organization. • Resource(s) will act as a point of referral for community agencies, Victim Services, CFS, and domestic violence shelters to provide specialized care to children exposed to IPV. • Include a continuum of supports that address various levels of acuity and consider both immediate and long-term supports. • Services include funding to Indigenous healing practices, including Elders and Knowledge Keepers, as well as programs that support Indigenous young people through land-based learning and healing. • Access should be barrier-free and avoid time limitations for children and youth who were exposed to IPV in their earlier child/youth years. • Enhance specialized programming for male-identifying youth and young adults to address violence normalization and intergenerational violence. • Promote services with specific outreach responses to newcomer families and the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for services must be sustainable and any contracts/agreements with service providers should be multi-year and renewable to ensure consistency of services for young people.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide sustainable financial resources directed at improving support for children exposed to IPV. Develop resources in meaningful consultation with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit governments and community leadership. Develop specialized programs and outreach to support male-identifying youth, young adults, newcomer families, and the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Ensure resources are culturally safe, by increasing funding for Indigenous healing practices and programs that support Indigenous young persons. Children have access to specialized services and resources to help address their trauma and support their journey to healing.
Issue:	Intimate Partner Violence
Public Body	Manitoba Health
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	May 31, 2023
2. Compliance Determination	
Limitedly Compliant 0.25	Actions taken only implement a small part of the recommendation, requirements are only fulfilled to a limited degree by actions taken, resulting in significant deficiency in implementation.
Self-Assessment	Partially Compliant
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
<p>Intent 1: Provide sustainable financial resources directed at improving support for children exposed to IPV.</p> <p>2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In response to this recommendation, Manitoba Health included the same working group development information as provided in the response to recommendation 4 of this report. The working group is tasked with addressing both recommendations 4 and 5. The information is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MACY-RAP committee reported that in February 2023, they were instructed to form a working group to engage with community partners to address coordination gaps for children exposed to intimate partner violence (IPV). 	

- The IPV Interdepartmental Working Group had its Terms of Reference, (about which MACY provided feedback), approved on March 10, 2023, and subsequently held meetings through April and May. The working group has been tasked with connecting with stakeholders around what coordination gaps exist for children exposed to IPV, and what specialized resources are needed to support those children. This included an exploration of programs for young men to address violence normalization and intergenerational violence.
 - The feedback gained through engagement efforts will reportedly be used as the foundational information for addressing this recommendation.
 - A joint briefing note with amalgamated findings is expected as a first output of the working group.
 - The briefing note will be utilized by the Department of Mental Health and Community Wellness as a starting point to determine how financial resources are best directed.
 - The determination of resource allocation will require a planning assessment phase that will reportedly include a fulsome analysis, implementation planning, and funding approval.
- In addition to the working group information, Manitoba Health provided information on resources funded in 2023.
 - Joint funding through the Departments of Health, Justice, and Families was approved to be provided to Toba Centre for Children & Youth. Toba Centre is a charitable organization that coordinates a collaborative approach to child abuse response, including interviewing children who are victims of abuse or have witnessed violent crimes and providing support, advocacy, and coordination for children and their care providers. The funding is to be used to support current operations, and to support engagement with Indigenous communities and other stakeholders to develop a new model of community-based care.
 - An additional funding commitment from the Government of Manitoba was made towards Toba Centre's WE WILL capital campaign.
 - Budget 2023 provided a funding commitment to policing resources for the establishment of a provincial-level integrated child abuse response. That investigative team will reportedly have police operational resources to investigate and address issues such as child abuse and children witnessing violence.
- It was also reported that Gender Equity Manitoba (GEM) entered into a bilateral agreement with the Government of Canada for the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence, as of July 2023. Part of GEM's implementation plan for the first year of funding included \$300,000 focused on improving child-centred services for children and youth who have experienced or witnessed gender-based violence. This work is underway, including working with community organizations

(Indigenous-led and newcomer serving) to co-design future work supported by this funding. GEM has been in the early stages of this work, including building relationships with partners doing work in this space, and scanning available services to prevent duplication.

- Overall, the working group and GEM are actively involved in the planning phase of the work to implement this recommendation in full.

Intent 2: Develop resources in meaningful consultation with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit governments and community leadership.

2023

- Towards this intent, Manitoba Health reiterated the information regarding the development of the IPV Interdepartmental Working Group.
- In addition, the following funding information was provided:
 - As part of a whole-of-government approach to address gender-based violence, the Government of Manitoba is providing \$600,000 from the Indigenous Reconciliation Initiatives Fund to Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata to support two projects: "Empower Men Project" and the Manitoba MMIWG2S+ Partnership Implementation.
 - The goal of the Empower Men project is to educate men and boys about the demand side of sexual exploitation and its harms.
 - The Manitoba MMIWG2S+ Partnership Implementation Plan is an Indigenous-led project that will work to strategically implement the inquiry's MMIWG's *Calls for Justice* in a culturally relevant way. This is to be guided by a traditional Indigenous matriarchal governing body.

Intent 3: Develop specialized programs and outreach to support male-identifying youth, young adults, newcomer families, and the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

2023

- Same information as provided under intent 2.

Intent 4: Ensure resources are culturally safe, by increasing funding for Indigenous healing practices and programs that support Indigenous young persons.

2023

- Same information as provided under intent 2.

Intent 5: Children have access to specialized services and resources to help address their trauma and support their journey to healing.

2023

- Same information as provided under intent 1.

Analysis Summary: As indicated in the response to recommendation 4 of *Every Two Hours*, the development of the IPV Interdepartmental Working Group represents a strong commitment to the fulfillment of this recommendation. The working group has engaged in consultation and continues to work towards building relationships in order to fulfil the service gaps which inspired this recommendation. The additional funding put towards services for children and youth through Gender Equity Manitoba also indicates a positive step to increasing services for children and youth impacted by IPV. While the funding announcements provided as additional information with this recommendation response represent a commitment to relevant organizations and initiatives, there is not yet enough variety of funded programs and/or information to consider the intents of this recommendation as met. As indicated in the information provided by Manitoba Health, the work of both the IPV Working Group and GEM, is in the early planning stages. The work of the IPV Interdepartmental Working Group will be influential on future responses to this recommendation, and in identifying the necessary sustainable resource funding to bring this recommendation to completion. MACY is encouraged by the positive reception of this recommendation and the progress to come in future reporting periods. As there are many stages of planning and implementation to come, this recommendation is considered Limitedly Compliant.