

# COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

## Circling Star - Recommendation 4

**Recommendation Summary:** Develop a youth addiction strategy.  
**Primary Public Body:** Manitoba Health and Seniors Care

### 5. Implement policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services organizations that ensure ongoing training on the identification and reporting of child protection issues

There has been no evidence provided that speaks to this intent of the recommendation.

**Outstanding Action:** Evidence-based documentation that describes the steps taken towards developing policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services.

### 4. Evaluate treatment and addictions programs

This intent is on hold until work at a national level is complete.

**Outstanding Action:** Evidence-based documentation that describes the findings of the evaluation of treatment and addictions programs.

### 1. Create a service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services

Planning is underway with national leaders regarding the development of a Needs-Based Planning Framework.

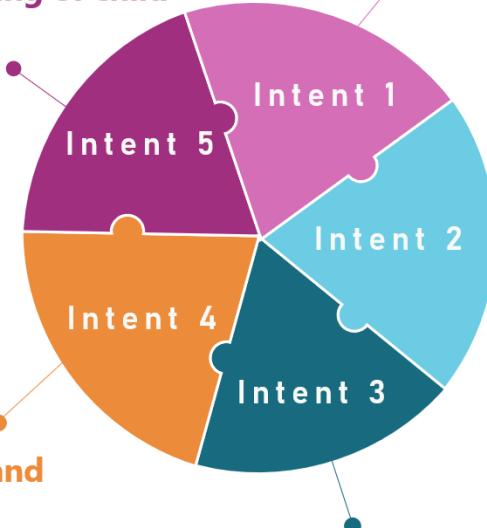
**Outstanding Action:** Evidence-based documentation that describes the inventory of addictions services in Manitoba.

### Intent 2

### Intent 3

### Intent 4

### Intent 1



### 2. Evaluate the gaps in treatment and addiction services

This intent is on hold until work at a national level is complete.

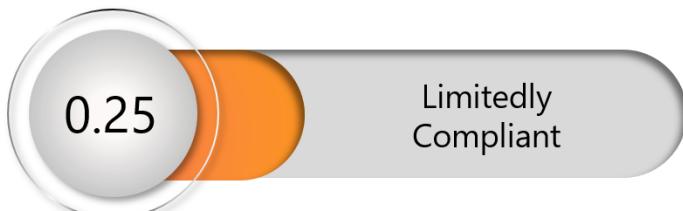
**Outstanding Action:** Evidence-based documentation that summarizes the findings of the evaluation of gaps in treatment services.

### 3. Implement substance use addictions programs

Five youth hubs were created for the purpose of providing mental health and addiction services.

**Outstanding Action:** Further information is needed that describes the programs being offered at the youth hubs.

## COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION



Actions taken only implement a small part of the recommendation. More description is required on what has been done to develop a youth-specific addictions strategy.

## 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.

<b>1. Recommendation Information</b>	
<b>Report Name:</b>	<b>Documenting the Decline: The Dangerous Space Between Good Intentions and Meaningful Interventions</b>
<b>Date Released:</b>	10/19/2018
<b>Full Recommendation:</b> (including details)	<p><b>Recommendation Four:</b> The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Health and Seniors Care), together with front-line addiction service providers in Manitoba, Healthy Child Manitoba (now Social Innovation Office), Indigenous communities, and subject matter experts on addictions, immediately respond to the lack of effective substance use treatment services for youth by prioritizing the development and implementation of a youth addiction action strategy. This strategy should be based on best practice evidence with the objective of ensuring that children and youth across Manitoba can exercise their right to the highest attainable standards of health.</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Health and Seniors Care), go beyond the VIRGO analysis and conduct a service inventory of all child and youth addiction services in Manitoba, their locations, target populations, philosophies, eligibility criteria, utilization rates, and occupancy rates.</li> <li>• That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Health and Seniors Care) expand upon the VIRGO analysis to evaluate existing gaps in substance use treatment and addiction services available to children and youth, including recommendations as to how existing services could be repurposed.</li> <li>• That the Manitoba's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy developed by the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Health and Seniors Care) include a plan that ensures implementation of evidence-informed family-centred substance use and addiction programs.</li> <li>• That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living (now Health and Seniors Care) oversee regular performance monitoring and program evaluations to ensure that all publicly-funded and provincially-mandated agencies are accountable to provide evidence-informed addiction services and programs for children</li> </ul>

	<p>and youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>That all provincially-funded addiction service providers working with children and youth implement policies and procedures for ongoing training on the identification and reporting of cases where a child is in need of protection as outlined in <i>The Child and Family Services Act</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Intent(s) of Recommendation:</b>	<p>The intent of the recommendation is to:</p> <p><b>1. Implement a youth addictions action strategy that includes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services.</b></li> <li><b>An evaluation of the gaps in treatment and addiction services.</b></li> <li><b>Implementation of substance use addictions programs.</b></li> <li><b>An evaluation of treatment and addictions programs.</b></li> <li><b>Implementation of policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services organizations that ensure ongoing training on the identification and reporting of child protection issues.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Issue:</b>	Mental Health and Addictions
<b>Public Body</b>	Manitoba Health and Seniors Care
<b>Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:</b>	<p>July 13, 2021</p> <p>June 30, 2020</p> <p>December 31, 2019</p> <p>June 26, 2019</p>
<b>2. Compliance Determination</b>	
<b>Limitedly Compliant 0.25</b>	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.
<b>Self-Assessed</b>	Partially Compliant
<b>Prior Assessment</b>	Limitedly Compliant
<b>3. Rationale for Determination</b> <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
<p><b>Intent 1: Implement a youth addictions action strategy that includes: A service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services.</b></p> <p><b>2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manitoba Health and Seniors Care (MHSC) reported that planning is underway with national leaders regarding the development of a child and youth Needs Based Planning (NBP) framework. External stakeholders have cautioned against an individual provincial approach to developing provincial frameworks as there are risks to doing this work in isolation. Stakeholders have advised that developing benchmarks that are consistent on a national level is recommended.</li> </ul> <p><b>2020</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No action, evidence, or justification for inaction reported in this requirement.</li> </ul> <p><b>An evaluation of the gaps in treatment and addiction services.</b></p> <p><b>2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adhering to external stakeholder advice and recognizing that work on a national level will take one to two years, the MHSC reported it will work to fill critical gaps identified in the VIRGO report for the purpose of making services more accessible for children and youth,</li> </ul>	

until a national framework is created for child and youth services.

**2020**

- No action, evidence, or justification for inaction reported associated with this requirement.

**Implementation of substance use programs cited by MHSC:**

**2021**

- Five new Youth Hubs that will provide mental health and addiction services, primary health care, and other social services have been selected. These are located in Winnipeg, Brandon, and Selkirk (also serving Peguis First Nations). More information is needed in regards to the services being delivered and the programming criteria intended to address youth mental health and addictions.

**2020**

- Community Emergency Department Violence Intervention Program
- Expansion of NorWest Youth Hub and trauma services expansion (The Laurel Centre and Klinik).

**2019**

- Expanding Neechewam's Winnipeg Facility (News Release, December 2019).
- Provincial investment of \$4.4 million to enhance access to mental health and addictions supports in school (News Release, December 2019).

**An evaluation of substance use treatment programs**

**2021**

- Work on this third intent will also be on hold until a National Framework is developed.

**2020**

- One service provider, the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM), has undertaken an internal review of its youth programs that has resulted in increased occupancy at Compass as well as moving youth addiction counsellors into community organizations to improve accessibility of youth services. No actions were reported on evaluations of programs not implemented through AFM.

**Implementation of policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services organizations that ensure ongoing training on the identification and reporting of child protection issues**

**2021**

- The actions taken in the last year to implement this recommendation include:
  - Meeting with external stakeholders to initiate discussions of a National Needs Based Planning Framework. While this work is endorsed and recommended by experts on the subject matter, it seems that in relation to this recommendation, work for intents 1, 2, and 4 will be put on hold until this National Framework is developed.
  - On March 18, 2021, the Government of Manitoba announced the creation of five new Youth Hubs that will provide mental health and addiction services, primary health care, and other social services.  
[\(https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=51010\)](https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=51010)
- Update provided October 13: activities currently underway include:
  - Developing a needs-based provincial model.
  - Quarterly Needs Based Planning Advisory Committee meetings.
  - Prairie Mountain Health Authority participated as a pilot site, in the development and refinement of the needs-based planning model.

- MHWR has begun to track service coverage of core services, according to the NBP model, as outlined in the VIRGO Report gap analysis. As investments are made, gaps outlined in the NBP model and the VIRGO Report are being monitored for progress towards meeting the appropriate level of service coverage. MHWR also uses the model to preliminarily measure the impact investments are having on service coverage.
- Developing an action plan/roadmap.
- MHWR is leading an engagement process, including a series of consultations, to inform an integrated, whole-of-government five-year roadmap. This will guide the work of the department, and is aligned with the department's mission to provide access to mental health and addictions support and treatment to improve the life outcomes for Manitobans in their journey through recovery and healing. This will include services and systems for children and youth.
- MHWR is in the process of hiring a consultant to conduct a system-mapping of mental health and addictions services and systems in Manitoba, which will inform the development of a Stepped-Care model.

**Analysis Summary:** While it is clear that there have been actions taken to promote and enhance mental health resources in Manitoba, it remains unclear what steps have been taken to develop a youth addictions strategy that considers: a service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services; an evaluation of the gaps in treatment and addiction services; and implementation of policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services organizations that ensure ongoing training on the identification and reporting of child protection issues. The creation of five youth hubs is promising, however, more information and action is required to meet the intent of this recommendation and move it towards completion. As such, at this time, this recommendation remains assessed as limitedly compliant.