

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 (Tina Fontaine)
Date Released:	3/12/2019
Full Recommendation: (including details)	<p>Recommendation One:</p> <p>The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that Manitoba Education and Training ensure its recently established <i>Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education</i> review the measurement of and response to absenteeism across Manitoba. It is further recommended that the Commission review the use of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions, with the goal of developing a province-wide strategy to limit, reduce, and phase-out exclusionary practices, except in situations of imminent safety risk to students and staff. This review and strategy should provide evidence-informed practices that are in line with the best interests of the child and respect the right to education for children and youth</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission to identify how school divisions can be resourced with the capacity to measure, assess, and respond to the underlying causes of school absenteeism. Building and sustaining relationships with students who are experiencing absenteeism and their families. • Manitoba Education and Training continue efforts to improve student attendance by increasing public awareness of the right to education, identifying improvements to communication with parents and guardians around absenteeism, and to provide transparent information to the public about suspensions and expulsions.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	<p>The intent of the recommendation is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manitoba Education to ensure the Commission to K-12 to review the measurement of and response to absenteeism across Manitoba 2. Commission to K-12 Education to review the use of out of school suspensions and expulsions 3. Use this information to develop a province-wide strategy to limit reduce and phase out exclusionary practices
Issue:	Chronic Absenteeism, Suspensions, and Expulsions
Primary Department:	Manitoba Education
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	June 30, 2020
	December 31, 2019
	June 30, 2019

2. Compliance Determination	
Partially Compliant 0.50	Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation.
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
<p>1) Manitoba Education to direct the Commission to review the measurement of and response to absenteeism across Manitoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minister of Education directed The Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 to review issues associated with this recommendation including, absenteeism, suspensions and expulsions in a letter dated April 11, 2019. This requirement of the recommendation has been completed. <p>2) Review the use of out of school suspensions and expulsions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Response from MACY-RAP indicated a commitment to achieving the intent of the recommendation. A Working Group was established that received feedback from school divisions related to how the divisions are tracking suspension and chronic absenteeism. The information is intended to form the basis of a template that can be used universally across school divisions to report on suspension and chronic absenteeism rates. The data collected is intended to provide an evidence base to inform strategies to identify trends and reduce use of suspensions. Work on this initiative will resume in the fall of 2020 with the return to in-class instruction. The review on how school division track suspensions and chronic absenteeism and the use of a single tracking forms is a promising and necessary first step to reviewing the current use of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions. However, a review of use of suspensions and chronic absenteeism is not yet completed. <p>3) Use this information to develop a province-wide strategy to limit reduce and phase out exclusionary practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of yet, a province-wide strategy has not been developed. Activities are focused on the development of tools to ensure reliable data on chronic absenteeism and suspensions. There have been promising steps to the implementation of this recommendation. Actions taken fulfill part of the recommendation, specifically the Minister of Education has instructed the Commission to review chronic absenteeism, suspensions, and expulsions in accordance to this recommendation. While important requirements have been met, certain deficiencies affect the adequacy of the implementation, of note: the process to review the practice and create a strategy is ongoing. 	