

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:	Documenting the Decline: The Dangerous Space Between Good Intentions and Meaningful Interventions
Date Released:	10/19/2018
Full Recommendation: (including details)	<p>Recommendation Four: The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living, together with front-line addiction service providers in Manitoba, Healthy Child Manitoba, 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>DETAILS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living, 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. • That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living 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. • That the Manitoba’s Mental Health and Addictions Strategy developed by the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living include a plan that ensures implementation of evidence-informed family-centred substance use and addiction programs. • That the Department of Health, Seniors and Active Living 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 and youth. • 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> .
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	The intent of the recommendation is to: 1. Implement a youth addictions action strategy that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services • An evaluation of the gaps in treatment and addiction services • Implementation of substance use addictions programs • An evaluation of treatment and addictions programs • Implementation of policy and procedures for provincially-funded addictions services organizations that ensure ongoing training on the identification and reporting of child protection issues
Theme:	Mental Health and Addictions
Issue:	Substance Use Treatment
Public Body	Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	June 30, 2020
	December 31, 2019
	June 26, 2019
2. Compliance Determination	
Limitedly Compliant 0.25	Actions taken only implement a small part of the recommendation. Specifically the intent to conduct an evaluation of addictions and treatment programs was somewhat met, and; the implementation of substance use programs.
3. Rationale for Determination <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
1. Implement a youth addictions action strategy that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A service inventory of Manitoba youth addictions services No action, evidence, or justification for inaction reported in this requirement. • An evaluation of the gaps in treatment and addiction services No action, evidence, or justification for inaction reported associated with this requirement. • Implementation of substance use addictions programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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) ○ Community Emergency Department Violence Intervention Program (June 2020) ○ Other recent investments in MHSAL have included CEDVIP, expansion of NorWest Youth Hub and trauma services expansion (The Laurel Centre and Klinik) (June 2020) • An evaluation of treatment and addictions programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One service provider, the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) has undertaken an internal review of their 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 (June 	

2020). 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**
 - No action or evidence, or justification for inaction was reported for this requirement.

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 addressee identifies actions as an alternate solution, however, information provided does not provide sufficient justification or evidence for meeting the intent of the recommendation with alternative actions. Actions taken implement small parts of the recommendation. Thus, the response is limitedly compliant.