



Valuing Mental Health: Report of the Alberta Mental Health Review Committee 2015

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Background

- Represents the culmination of 6 months of study, analysis, deliberation and consultation with thousands of Albertans.
- For addiction and mental health, the system could and must work better for Albertans.
- Like the health care system generally, the addiction and mental health system continues to suffer from a lack of clarity and collaboration between Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services.
- These deficits have resulted in growing demands on first responders.
- Addiction and mental illness also contribute to high rates of incarceration.



Four priorities need to be addressed

- Alberta Health and AHS must establish a process to harmonize their respective roles and goals in the furtherance of integrated service delivery.
- Alberta Health and AHS and partners must measure progress towards achieving a person-centered system for addiction and mental health.
- Primary health care givers must play a stronger role in addiction and mental health with a greater focus on screening, prevention, early intervention, continuity of care, to reduce distress, suffering and health care costs.
- A leadership team must be established to implement the recommendations of the report and prioritize our system.



The Report Design

- The report consists of 32 recommendations broken into 6 different themes:
 - Finding your way: getting the help you need, when and where you need it.
 - Moving forward: a supported journey.
 - Empowering people: Strengthening our Communities.
 - First Nations, Metis, and Inuit People and Communities: Opening doors to Collaboration.
 - Investing in the future: Partnering for change.
 - Application to current issues.



Edmonton Police Service

- Appeared twice before the review panel and had a separate meeting with Dr. David SWANN.
- The majority of recommendations from this report help support much of the ongoing work being undertaken by EPS including:
 - Heavy Users of Service project.
 - Development of a Community Wellness Center proposal.
 - Reduction of wait times in hospitals for persons suffering from Mental Illness.
 - Continuing education of our members in dealing with persons suffering from Mental Illness.
 - We have established and maintain a strong relationship with Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services.



Questions?