

Social Services Sector Roundtable: Terms of Reference

Purpose: Social services organizations, in partnership with government and other public sector agencies, provide an important array of services that people count on everyday. There is mutual recognition that a strong and sustainable social services sector is essential for ensuring quality services and better outcomes for British Columbians.

The purpose of the Social Services Sector Roundtable (SSSRT) is to provide a forum for Ministers and senior executives in government and social services sector representatives to: maintain good relations through on-going communications; discuss matters of importance within the sector; and address issues in a coordinated and collaborative way.

Objectives: The SSSRT will:

- Provide a forum to discuss matters of importance within the social services sector and propose actions to respond to issues identified.
- Provide the social services sector with a formal channel for on-going communications and engagement with senior levels of government to foster and ensure a collaborative and respectful relationship.
- Provide opportunities to ensure more coordinated and strategic approaches for the delivery of services and to build a shared vision for the future of social services in British Columbia.

Membership: The SSSRT will be comprised of Ministers and senior executives from government ministries and agencies and from representatives of the social services sector. It is expected that members are authorized to speak on behalf of and can represent the interests of their respective organizations.

Membership is set out in Appendix A and will be updated to reflect changes in the composition of members.

The SSSRT Chair will be the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and the Vice Chair, the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

Key Principles:

- Commitment to open, respectful, and timely communications as well as active participation.
- Commitment to constructive and collaborative discussions and problem-solving - taking into account the shared interest to develop solutions that will lead to better services and outcomes for British Columbians.
- Respect for the diversity of people, interests, organizations, and communities, including Indigenous communities, as represented by members of the SSSRT.
- Respect for the confidentiality of issues that may be brought to the SSSRT for discussion.
- Proactively strive for action orientated outcomes.

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Roles and Responsibilities

- The Chair of the SSSRT is responsible for setting meeting agendas on behalf of government, seeking advice and input from SSSRT members on approved agenda items.
- Members commit to attending meetings and only to send delegates when it is required.
- The SSSRT can establish sub-committees and working groups as needed and the associated governance and scope. Sub-committees and/ or working groups established by the SSSRT are set out in Appendix B.
- The SSSRT Reference Group members are included in Appendix C.
- A Secretariat for the SSSRT will: document discussions and prepare minutes; inventory issues impacting the social services sector as identified by members and any actions proposed for implementation in the short, medium and longer term to address those issues.

Support and Administration:

The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction will provide secretariat support for the SSSRT.

Agreed/ Approved

October 1, 2019 (updated May 3, 2021)

Updated Quarterly

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APPENDIX A

SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR ROUNDTABLE MEMBERSHIP
Minister Nicholas Simons (Chair)
Parliamentary Secretary Niki Sharma (Community Development & Non-profits)
ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED
Aboriginal Housing Management Association
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
BC CEO Network
BC Government and Service Employees' Union
BC Housing
BC Non-Profit Housing Association
Board Voice Society of BC
Canadian Union of Public Employees
Community Living BC
Community Social Services Employers Association of BC
Ending Violence Association of BC
Federation of Community Social Services of BC
Ministry of Attorney General (responsible for Housing)
Ministry of Children and Family Development
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Provincial Association of Residential & Community Agencies
Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat

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APPENDIX B

WORKING GROUP	
ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE(S)

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APPENDIX C

SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR REFERENCE GROUP	
ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BC CEO Network	Karyn Santiago
BC CEO Network	Brenda Gillette
Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC Association	Katie Rosenberger
ASPECT - The Association of Service Providers for Employability and Career Training	Janet Morris-Reade
BC Association of Community Response Networks	Sherry Baker
BC Non-Profit Housing Association	Jill Atkey
BC Society of Transition Houses	Amy FitzGerald
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres	Leslie Varley
BC Association of Child Development Interventionists	Jason Gordon
Board Voice	Jody Patterson
Board Voice	Terry Anne Boyles
Ending Violence Association of BC	Tracy Porteous
Ending Violence Association of BC	Natalie Dunbar
Inclusion BC	Karla Verschoor
Options for Sexual Health, and Feminists Deliver	Michelle Fortin
Pacific Aids Network	Evin Jones
PARCA - Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies	Paul Barnett
PARCA - Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies	Tim Agg
Police Victim Services Association of BC	Ian Batey
Realize Strategies	John Kay
The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs	Etti Goldman
Volunteer BC	Lawrie Portigal
The Federation of Community Social Services of BC	Rick FitzZaland
The Federation of Community Social Services of BC	Rebecca Ataya Lang