

## Status of Evaluation Recommendations for Mental Health Commission of Canada

October 2016

This document summarizes the recommendations arising from the Evaluation of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada (conducted by Mental Health Commission of Canada) and Evaluation of Mental Health Mental Illness Activities of Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada 2010-2011 to 2014-2015 (conducted by Health Canada and Public Health Agency of Canada) and the current status of follow-up on these recommendations.

Recommendations		Status of Implementation
Mental Health Commission of Canada	Health Canada & Public Health Agency of Canada	
Seek for opportunities to promote the Mental Health Strategy for Canada with stakeholders who have not been traditionally affiliated with the mental health sector	Encourage the Mental Health Commission of Canada for the balance of its mandate to expand outreach to stakeholders, particularly organizations that the Commission has not traditionally worked closely with, such as organizations addressing substance abuse and National Aboriginal Organizations.	<p>The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) continues to promote the Mental Health Strategy for Canada at every conference attended, presentation delivered, or webinar hosted. The Mental Health Strategy for Canada remains one of the highest accessed, and most downloaded documents on the website.</p> <p>In addition, the MHCC has been collaborating and jointly implementing initiatives and activities with a number of new stakeholders, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First responders</li> <li>- Veterans</li> <li>- Corrections</li> <li>- Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (see below)</li> <li>- National Aboriginal Organizations (see below)</li> </ul>
	The Mental Health Commission of Canada and the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse could work more closely on issues of joint interest	<p>The MHCC has established quarterly management meetings with the Canadian Centre of Substance Abuse to highlight work being undertaken by both organizations, and to identify areas for collaboration. A few areas of collaboration to date include work in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recovery</li> <li>- Workplace</li> <li>- Knowledge Exchange/Mobilization</li> <li>- Issues of Substance Abuse Conference</li> <li>- e-mental Health</li> </ul>
	Stronger partnerships and relationships with National Aboriginal organizations, Aboriginal communities and Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch could improve efforts in this area. It will be important for the Mental Health Commission of Canada activities to include these important populations.	<p>The MHCC continues to improve existing relationships with National Indigenous Organizations. Organization wide, the MHCC is working on the implementing Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partnership with Reconciliation Canada to support the MHCC in reconciliation including training for ALL staff in Reconciliation Dialogue Workshops</li> <li>- Increase in representation on the MHCC board from one position to two, in spite of an overall reduction in board size</li> <li>- Creation of a new position in stakeholder relations to support Indigenous Affairs</li> <li>- Partnership with British Columbia's First Nation's Health Authority for support in cultural humility and exploration of areas of collaboration</li> <li>- Shift in approach in the development Mental Health policies and programming meaning that National Indigenous Organizations are included at the outset of the discussion before direction and intent is set.</li> <li>- A better understanding at the staff level that mental health includes wellness.</li> </ul> <p>Increase of equal representation for First Nations/Inuit/Métis groups at the MHCC's Youth Council.</p>

Place every activity of the Mental Health Commission of Canada within the context of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada	The Mental Health Commission of Canada continues to place all the initiatives and activities undertaken within the framework of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada.	The MHCC Canada recently released a five year Strategic Plan for 2017-2022. One of the strategic objectives in the plan is the promotion and advancement of The Mental Health Strategy for Canada. In addition, the MHCC is in the process of finalizing a performance measurement framework for the organisation, where the advancement of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada will have specific measurable indicators.
Encourage stakeholders to place the work they do in the context of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada.		<p>The Framework for Action provided the opportunity for a wide range of citizens, stakeholders, and organizations from across Canada to provide their vision on how to accelerate the implementation of recommendations made in The Mental Health Strategy Canada.</p> <p>The Framework consultations were held between January 2015 and February 2016, including roundtable dialogues in each province and territory, an online survey, four focus group workshops, and a Citizen's Reference Panel.</p>
Prepare an action plan		<p>The MHCC launched the Framework for Action in August 2016. The Framework for Action was released after over a year of consultations and advice from government officials, Indigenous peoples, local, regional, and national groups, and people lived experience of mental health conditions.</p> <p>The Framework for Action is intended to provide objectives and actions that have been prioritized because they would improve our mental health system over the next decade.</p>
Help stakeholders build a better investment / business case		The MHCC is working with the Institute of Health Economics to produce an update to the Case for Investment originally published in 2010. The updated Case for Investment will identify costs of illness, return on investment, and economic evaluation studies related to mental health.
Support stakeholders to prepare their own strategies		The MHCC's Framework for Action has become a tool utilized by provincial, territorial, and federal government, and stakeholders to assist the planning and preparation of their own strategies. The MHCC also provides specific input on strategies when requested by stakeholders.
Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada		As highlighted, the MHCC is in the process of finalizing a performance measurement framework for the organisation, where the advancement of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada will have specific and measurable indicators. In addition, the MHCC will collect feedback through in-person dialogues and surveys with stakeholders across the country on how they are utilizing and implementing recommendations from the Mental Health Strategy for Canada, and the Framework for Action.