

**SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**



Room 224, Parliament Buildings
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March 3, 2016

Dave Sangha and Marisa Tuzi
Co-Chairs, Multicultural and Antiracism Committee
BC Association of Social Workers
401 – 1755 West Broadway
Vancouver, British Columbia V6J 4S5

Dear Mr. Sangha and Ms. Tuzi:

Thank you for your letter dated February 22, 2016 regarding the final report of the Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth on child and youth mental health, entitled *Concrete Actions for Systemic Change*.

This final report was the result of a two-year special project examining the delivery of child and youth mental health services in British Columbia. In its interim report, the Committee identified six priority areas needing improvement and in its final report focused on identifying concrete and practical initiatives to enhance the delivery of child and youth mental health services.

I appreciate you bringing your concerns with respect to the conclusions and recommendations made in the final report to my attention. Given your expertise as social workers and experience as Co-Chairs of the Multicultural and Antiracism Committee of the BC Association of Social Workers, you are well-positioned to fully understand and recognize that the special needs of immigrant, refugee, ethnocultural and racialized children and youth must be considered in order to improve the effectiveness of services delivered to them.

With the release of our final report, the Committee's special project has now concluded. I have taken the liberty, however, of forwarding a copy of your correspondence to the Hon. Stephanie Cadieux, Minister of Children and Family Development so that she is aware of your views as government gives consideration to the Committee's report.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me with respect to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jane Thornthwaite, MLA
Convener, Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth

cc: Hon. Stephanie Cadieux, Minister of Children and Family Development
Members, Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth
Kate Ryan-Lloyd, Deputy Clerk and Clerk of Committees