



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

For Immediate Release

January 25, 2016

Standing Committee Seeks Input on Mental Health Legislation

EDMONTON –The Standing Committee on Families and Communities is seeking public input on the changes introduced by the *Mental Health Amendment Act, 2007*.

“Mental health is an issue that affects many Albertans, and as such it is critical that all Albertans have the opportunity to join our discussions on the *Mental Health Amendment Act, 2007*,” said Heather Sweet, committee chair and MLA for Edmonton-Manning. “I encourage anyone with concerns regarding the criteria for involuntary admissions or the use of community treatment orders to provide their thoughts to the committee.”

The committee’s review focuses on two distinct areas

- the criteria for involuntary admission of persons with mental disorders to health care facilities and
- the use of community treatment orders for persons requiring ongoing mental health services

Interested parties are encouraged to provide written submissions to the committee by February 29, 2016.

Submissions should be forwarded to the Standing Committee on Families and Communities, c/o Committee Clerk, 3rd Floor, 9820-107 Street NW, Edmonton, AB, T5K 1E7, or to FamiliesCommunities.committee@assembly.ab.ca.

Please note that all submissions and the identities of their authors may be made public.

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Since beginning its review on July 16, 2015, the committee has heard presentations from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General and has received written submissions from a number of stakeholders.

The Assembly referred this legislation to the committee for review on June 25, 2015. The committee must submit its report to the Assembly within one year after beginning the review.

The Standing Committee on Families and Communities is a multi-party committee of the Assembly. Its mandate relates to the areas of Health, Human Services, Justice and Solicitor General, Education, Seniors, Service Alberta and Status of Women.

For more information on the review or on how to make a submission, please visit the committee website at assembly.ab.ca/committees/familiesandcommunities.

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