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Our File: B2011005

Electronic Delivery Only

November 30, 2020

Legislative Assembly of Alberta
Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship
3rd Floor, 9820 107 Street NW
EDMONTON AB T5K 1E7

Attention: Committee Clerk

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: Review of the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* ("Act")

As requested by the Committee on October 26, 2020, we write to provide the Committee with stakeholder input regarding the Act.

Alberta Health Services' values of accountability and safety are congruent with the purposes of the Act and our organization's *Whistleblower Policy* and supporting processes align with the Act.

We respectfully recommend for your consideration the following:

- a. Due to the complexity of investigations under the Act and the time required to ensure thorough investigation of those matters, expansion of various timelines under the Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Regulation AR 71/2013:
 - a. s. 3(7)(b): timeline for making a decision on whether or not to investigate a matter – recommend extending from 10 business days to 20 business days;
 - b. s. 3(7)(c): timeline for concluding an investigation – recommend extending from 110 business days to 180 business days; and
 - c. s. 5(1): extension period for investigation and provision of a report – recommend extending from 30 business days to 60 business days.
- b. Inclusion of Alberta Precision Laboratories Ltd. under the Act as the successor to Calgary Laboratory Services Ltd. - for reference, see, Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Regulation 71/2013, Schedule 1, section 2(b)(i) and Schedule 2, section 2(b).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Committee with feedback on this subject.

Sincerely,



David Weyant, Q.C.
Board Chair

C: Dr. Verna Yiu, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alberta Health Services
Andrea Beckwith-Ferraton, AHS Designated Officer under the Act