



February 12, 2018

Dr. Dirk Huyer
Chief Coroner for Ontario,
25 Morton Shulman Avenue,
Toronto, ON
M3M 0B1

***RE: Correspondence- Jury-Inquest into the death of Michael MacIsaac -
OCC File # Q2017-25***

The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to the letter from the Chief Coroner dated August 28th, 2017 (re-sent January 26th, 2018), to the undersigned and I am pleased to respond.

I take note that recommendations 26 through 35 are directed jointly towards the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services (MCSCS) and the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP).

After careful consideration, it is our view, that all of the noted recommendations would be the responsibility of MCSCS. Although of interest to the police services and certainly to us, it has to be noted that the OACP does not set standards, nor determine policy for the police services in Ontario. That responsibility rests with the Ministry. It should also be noted that the OACP generally understands and supports the intent the recommendations.

In addition, it may be helpful for you to be aware that the Ministry also has an advisory committee (Use of Force Working Group) dealing with such issues, as does the Ontario Police College (OPC Advisory Committee). You may be pleased to know that OACP participates on both of these. We are aware of that work and are participating with the Ministry and other stakeholders on the review of the current Use of Force Model for Ontario. This includes a particular focus on how de-escalation is captured within the model and how it is applied with respect to training. This includes a scan of other use of force models. While it is always appropriate to conduct regular reviews, the Ontario model is viewed by many outside authorizing bodies as the 'gold standard'.

Changing the name of the model is a subject of much debate. Some suggest a change of name would place emphasis on other portions of the model while others point out that we should continue to call it what it is. The reality is that there remain times when police officers have to and are authorized, if not obliged to use force to protect themselves or other persons under their protection. In our view, there are sufficient and well exercised oversight bodies and agencies to address this. We are also aware that the Ministry is reviewing the way Use of Force incidents are recorded, reported and analyzed.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention and I trust that our response is of some assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Ron G. Bain
Executive Director
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Supporting the Ontario Law Enforcement Torch Run For Special Olympics

