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Kendrick Report - Coalition

Key Messages

- ▶ We commissioned the Kendrick Report. It is one of the tools being used to study the entire continuum of services for persons with disabilities.
 - ▶ The Kendrick report itself says it will take time to make significant changes to the system. Members of the joint committee undertaking this review, from Community Services and Health, are continuing their work. I expect we will hear sometime later this year on what our next steps will be in this review process.
 - ▶ We always make every effort to ensure that our stakeholders are kept up-to-date in this review process. I have met with some of these stakeholders. We will certainly make sure that any planned changes are discussed and communicated.
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Background

On February 14, the Community Action Coalition held vigils and news conferences in Halifax and Sydney criticizing the government for not acting quickly on the recommendations of the Kendrick Report, including the creation of a Blue Ribbon Committee to oversee the redesign of the system.

The Department had commissioned the Kendrick Report as part of a larger examination , which is still underway, of the continuing care system. The examination involves more than just the Kendrick Report.

Dr. Kendrick's report and recommendations, released on February 13, 2001, recommends improvements to the current Community Based Options Program over the next five to ten years. It points out the strengths of our CBO system and supports the direction the government has been taking with the Community Supports for Adults sector.

The Report does not address a number of issues that the Department of Community Services had asked Dr. Kendrick to provide including a look at "best practices" or models of service delivery in other jurisdictions. As part of his terms of reference, he was asked to provide specific recommendations how to move towards a regulatory system. It's taking time to get those answers.

The Department has not shelved the Kendrick Report. It is one of the tools being used to examine the larger system – and the intent is to plan the changes needed to ensure a safe, affordable and sustainable system for persons with disabilities.

Date: March 19, 2002
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