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May 24, 2024

Dr Caroline McIntyre
Kenton Starko
Via email: SidneyShouldBeHere@gmail.com

Dear Dr Caroline McIntyre and Kenton Starko:

I am writing to extend my deepest condolences for the loss of your daughter, Sidney. My Office received your May 15th letter, and I want to express my full support for each of the measures you recommend to prevent toxic drug deaths in BC.

Your insights and recommendations for comprehensive overdose prevention education, enhanced harm reduction, and meaningful student support are evidence-based solutions that will save lives in this province. I am particularly distressed at the inconsistencies in education about the toxic drug crises and access to naloxone in post secondary institutions that you have identified.

My Office and I are dedicated to advocating for and taking measures to support these changes and honouring Sidney's memory. I will be closely monitoring the response to your calls to action and to any further recommendations from the coroner's inquest.

I wish you continued resilience and strength.

With sincere gratitude,

Bonnie Henry
OBC, MD, MPH, FRCPC
Provincial Health Officer

Cc:

Honourable David Eby, Premier
Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health
Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills