

Chapter 34

Health – Regulating Personal Care Homes

1.0 MAIN POINTS

By August 2017, the Ministry of Health had improved its processes to regulate personal care homes in accordance with *The Personal Care Homes Act, 1991*. It fully addressed the one remaining recommendation we initially made in our 2012 audit by implementing an IT system to track personal care home inspection dates, non-compliance issues, required actions, and dates that personal care homes complete these actions.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the results of our second follow-up of the actions of the Ministry on one outstanding recommendation from our 2012 audit of the Ministry's processes to regulate personal care homes in accordance with *The Personal Care Homes Act, 1991*.¹ We made five recommendations. By September 22, 2014, as reported in our *2014 Report – Volume 2*, Chapter 48, the Ministry had implemented four of the five recommendations.

The Ministry is responsible for regulating personal care homes in the province. This includes setting licensing requirements and standards for personal care homes, as well as inspecting personal care homes to ensure they meet established standards.

To conduct this audit engagement, we followed the standards for assurance engagements published in the *CPA Canada Handbook – Assurance* (including CSAE 3001). To evaluate the Ministry's progress towards meeting our recommendation, we used the relevant criteria from the original audit. The Ministry's management agreed with the criteria in the original audit.

To perform our follow-up on our recommendation, we observed the IT system used to track personal care home inspection dates, non-compliance issues, required actions, and dates that personal care homes complete these actions. We also conducted interviews with Ministry officials as necessary.

3.0 STATUS OF RECOMMENDATION

This section sets out the recommendation including the date on which the Standing Committee on Public Accounts agreed to the recommendation, the status of the recommendation at August 25, 2017, and the Ministry's actions up to that date. We found that the Ministry had fully implemented the recommendation.

¹ 2012 Report – Volume 2, Chapter 34.



3.1 Tracking System Used

We recommended that the Ministry of Health use a system to track personal care home inspection dates, non-compliance issues, required actions, and dates that personal care homes complete these actions.

(2012 Report – Volume 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement January 15, 2015)

Status – Implemented

In September 2015, the Ministry began using a centralized IT system to track inspection results. The IT system tracks personal care home inspection dates, non-compliance issues, required actions, and dates that personal care home operators complete these actions.

The Ministry also publicly reports summarized inspection results for each home on its website.²

² See <http://personalcarehomes.saskatchewan.ca/PersonalCareHomes> (24 August 2017).