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*“All British Columbians, no matter where in the province they live and whatever their health concerns, should have access to timely, high-quality health care.”<sup>1</sup>*

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## Summary of Recommendations

### Rural Health Care and Recruitment

- Encourage British Columbians from rural, remote and isolated communities to pursue health-related careers, and provide increased support for professional development for existing rural health care providers.
- Work with communities to promote the professional and personal benefits of living and working in rural B.C., and improve scheduling and work assignments to create a stable health care workforce in rural, remote and isolated areas of the province.
- Broaden opportunities for communities to collaborate with health authorities to identify local needs and concerns and develop solutions through mechanisms such as community advisory committees.
- Promote the wider application of a rural lens in the development of all health care policies, programs and initiatives.
- Mandate knowledge exchange within and between institutions, regional health authorities, and the First Nations Health Authority, to enhance the continuous cycle of assessment and improvement, and scale up effective service innovations
- As part of the K-12 health and wellness programming, provide age-appropriate information to children and youth regarding the health risks associated with substance abuse and dependence
- Provide more public education and awareness regarding addiction as a chronic illness to help diminish stigma and negative preconceptions about addiction and those living in recovery.

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<sup>1</sup> The Select Standing Committee on Health - Legislative Assembly of British Columbia – March 1, 2017