

January 27, 2026

Honourable Rick Wilson
Minister of Mental Health and Addiction
MLA, Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin
403 Legislature Building, 10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Honourable Rick Wilson,

Thank-you for your letter dated January 7th, 2026 that was addressed to the Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine members, and specifically to the authors of the recently released [CSAM-SMCA Position Statement on Involuntary Treatment](#). We are pleased that you are aware of the position statement, and that you are considering how and where the Compassionate Intervention Act aligns with the recommendations. CSAM-SMCA currently recommends against the widespread implementation of involuntary treatment for addiction given the limited evidence-base, but recognizes that it is a nuanced issue where involuntary treatment may be considered for some individuals when there is imminent risk and all other treatment approaches have proven unsuccessful.

As a national organization of clinicians and scientists committed to advancing the understanding and treatment of substance-related and behavioural addictions, CSAM-SMCA will continue to monitor developments in related policy and services across the country and engage with topics of importance to our membership. A key message from our organization, highlighted in both the above statement and our April 2025 position statement on [Supervised Consumption Services](#), is the need for "all leaders and jurisdictions to continue to fund and support expansion of evidence-based interventions across the four pillars of addiction care: prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement".

We thank you for your engagement on this topic.

Sincerely,

Erin Knight

Erin Knight
MD, CCFP(AM), CCSAM
President, Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM-SMCA)