

7 JULY, 2026
SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
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HONOURABLE DAVID EBY
PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
PO BOX 9041 STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, BC, V8W 9E1



Dear Premier Eby, Minister Osborne, and Minister Krieger,

Re: Voluntary & Involuntary Complex Care

On behalf of the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA), representing 37 municipalities and regional districts across British Columbia's Southern Interior, I am writing to urge the Province to expand its Complex Care initiative and increase treatment capacity to address the growing mental health, addiction, homelessness, and public safety challenges facing communities throughout our region.

While SILGA supports the Province's investment in Complex Care, local governments continue to experience the impacts of untreated mental illness and severe substance use disorders. Communities require additional treatment options for individuals who are unable or unwilling to access care voluntarily and whose conditions place themselves and others at risk.

We respectfully ask the Province to:

- Expand Complex Care facilities and treatment spaces throughout British Columbia.
- Increase both voluntary and involuntary care and treatment capacity.
- Develop secure, health-led facilities focused on stabilization, treatment, recovery, and reintegration.
- Review underutilized provincial assets, including appropriate spaces within provincial correctional institutions, for potential conversion to therapeutic treatment centres.
- Work with local governments, Indigenous communities, healthcare providers, and public safety agencies to create a coordinated continuum of care.

SILGA recognizes that correctional facilities are not a substitute for healthcare. However, some provincial facilities may offer secure infrastructure that can be adapted to address the critical shortage of treatment and recovery spaces while ensuring care remains health-led and recovery-focused.

Our communities are seeking compassionate and practical solutions that support vulnerable individuals while improving community safety and reducing pressures on emergency services, healthcare systems, and local governments.

We urge the Province to act with urgency and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these recommendations further.

Respectfully,

Bill Sarai, President
Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA)