

Info sheet no.7

Bill 10's impact on Advisory Committees

A lexicon of terms used is presented at the end of this sheet.

Bill 10, provides for a new volunteer committee available, if requested, to each and every merged institution under the responsibility of a Centre Intégré (CI). The committee is known as an Advisory Committee for the specific merged institution.

The role of an Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the board of the CI into which the former institution was merged with respect to preservation of the cultural, historic, linguistic, and local characteristics of the merged institution. When applicable it also establishes the necessary ties with the foundation related to, and with the persons responsible for research activities in the merged institution. For more about the reorganization of health institutions see Info sheet no. 1 on Bill 10's impact on the status of public institutions.

The legal basis for this committee and the way in which it is formed and operates can be found in section 148 of Bill 10:

148. At the request of one or more groups composed of employees or professionals who work at a facility of an integrated health and social services centre or of a grouped institution administered by the board of directors of such a centre, or composed of persons from any sector of the population served by those institutions, the Minister must, for all the institutions indicated on the most recent permit of an amalgamated institution or the permit of a grouped institution, set up a single advisory committee charged with making recommendations to the board of directors of the integrated centre on the measures to be implemented to preserve the cultural, historic, linguistic or local character of the amalgamated or grouped institution, and, if applicable, with establishing the necessary ties with the foundations of the institutions as well as the persons in charge of research activities.

The committee is composed of seven members who are qualified to carry out its mandate and appointed by the integrated centre's board of directors. The board must invite interested groups to provide it with lists of names from which it selects the committee members.

The committee must establish its operating rules.

In the preceding text the word 'institutions' is underlined to indicate it is an error of translation. Comparison to the French text of the same section, and application of the logic of Bill 10, shows that the word 'facilities' should have been used in the English text. In other words, if a group related to one of the facilities of a merged

institution requests an Advisory Committee, the committee is set to cover all the facilities of that merged institution.

The group interested in having an advisory Committee addresses its interest to the Minister, who must accept the request. In so doing, he/she advises the CI into which the former institution has been merged.

The CI invites the group that requested the Advisory Committee, and other groups that have a legitimate interest in the merged institution, to submit candidates. From these nominations, the CI board names seven people to sit on the committee. The committee determines its own rules of operation.

Bill 10 also makes special provisions for the Advisory Committee of Saint Brigid's-Jeffery Hale Hospital, a renowned English institution located in Quebec City:

209. Despite the provisions of section 148 relating to the setting up of the advisory committee and its composition, an advisory committee is set up to advise the board of directors of the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale, which administers the grouped institution Saint Brigid's-Jeffery Hale Hospital, on the administration of the health and social services provided in the facilities of the grouped institution.

The committee is composed of the nine following members:

(1) the director of the grouped institution Saint Brigid's-Jeffery Hale Hospital appointed under section 210;

(2) one person designated by and from among the members of the council of physicians, dentists and pharmacists practising in the facilities of the grouped institution;

(3) one person designated by and from among the members of the council of nurses who work in the facilities of the grouped institution;

(4) one person designated by and from among the members of the multidisciplinary council who work in the facilities of the grouped institution;

(5) one person designated by and from among the members of the users' committee of the grouped institution whose existence is continued under section 203;

(6) one person designated by the board of directors of the foundations of the grouped institution;

(7) one person designated by the members of the grouped institution;

(8) two persons co-opted by the members referred to in subparagraphs 1 to 7, to ensure the representation of the region's English-speaking community.

210. *The board of directors of the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de la Capitale-Nationale appoints the director of the grouped institution Saint Brigid's–Jeffery Hale Hospital after consulting with the members of the advisory committee referred to in subparagraphs 2 to 8 of the second paragraph of section 209. The director, under the authority of the president and executive director of the integrated centre, is responsible for, among other things, the operations of the grouped institution's facilities.*

211. *In addition to the functions assigned to it by section 148, the advisory committee referred to in section 209 exercises, with respect to the facilities of the grouped institution Saint Brigid's–Jeffery Hale Hospital, the following functions:*

(1) ensuring that the integrated centre's board of directors is informed of the English-speaking community's particular needs with respect to health and social services and recommending measures to the board to ensure that the services provided in the grouped institution's facilities meet those needs;

(2) making recommendations to the integrated centre's board of directors on the organization and operation of the grouped institution;

(3) acting as liaison between the integrated centre, the grouped institution, its members and the foundation of the grouped institution, and the region's English-speaking community;

(4) making recommendations to the integrated centre's board of directors to ensure the continuity of English-language services in the grouped institution's facilities, improve the quality of those services and facilitate their development;

(5) giving an opinion on the organization plan prepared under section 183 of the Act respecting health services and social services (chapter S-4.2) with respect to the integrated centre's structure, management, services and departments;

(6) assuming any other function the board of directors of the integrated centre entrusts to it.

The names of the facilities indicated on the first permit that the Minister issues to an integrated health and social services centre are those indicated on the most recent permit of each amalgamated institution.

Subsequently, the name of a facility of an integrated health and social services centre can only be amended at the latter's request, filed with the approval of the advisory committee set up under section 148, if applicable.

Inclusion of Advisory Committees in the final version of Bill 10 provides an important tool to the English-speaking and other minority communities that built some institutions now merged into CIs. It is important to the vitality of these communities that they have the ability to express their interests vis-à-vis the future of the institution now merged into a CI. Preserving local-level community input at a given institution provides some continuity with the past, and will be of benefit to both the former institution, the CI into which it has been merged, and in particular to the staff and users of the merged institution.

At the time this info sheet was written (March 2016), we understand that the Ministry may provide guidelines to the CIs regarding the functioning of their Advisory Committees. Some Advisory Committees had already been formed.

LEXICON

Terms in bold are those used in the Information Sheet series.

Terms following the = sign are the equivalent terms found in the English version of the laws referred to, where an English term exists.

Bill 10 = O 7.2 = the Act to modify the organization and governance of the health and social services network, in particular by abolishing the regional agencies

Charter = la Charte de la langue française

CI (Centre Intégré) = integrated health and social services centre

OQLF = Office Québécoise de la langue française

Provincial Advisory Committee = Provincial Committee on the dispensing of health and social services in the English language

Regional Access Committee = Regional Committee

Resident = In-patient

S 4.2 = the Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services

Specialized hospital = unamalgamated institution