



# MEDIA STATEMENT

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH

March 20, 2017

17-04

### **Motor Vehicle Act Charge Approved Following IIO Investigation**

**Victoria** - The Criminal Justice Branch (CJB), Ministry of Justice announced today that a charge of driving without due care and attention has been approved against a member of the RCMP in connection with an incident which occurred in Coquitlam on the morning of March 21, 2016. The incident involved a collision between a vehicle operated by an off-duty member of the Professional Standards Unit of the RCMP, Sgt. Christopher Lee, and an adult female pedestrian. The Independent Investigation Office (IIO) was notified of the incident and subsequently conducted an investigation.

An Information charging Sgt. Lee with a single count of Driving without due care contrary to section 144 (1)(a) of the Motor Vehicle Act was sworn March 20, 2017 under file number 97710 in British Columbia Provincial Court in Coquitlam. An appearance in the case has been scheduled for April 27, 2017 in Coquitlam Provincial Court.

Following an investigation, where the Chief Civilian Director of the IIO determines that an officer may have committed an offence, the IIO submits a report to CJB. The Chief Civilian Director does not make a recommendation on whether charges should be approved.

The Charge Assessment Guidelines applied by the CJB in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are established in Branch policy and are available online at:

[www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/cha-1-charge-assessment-guidelines.pdf](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/cha-1-charge-assessment-guidelines.pdf)

As this matter is now before the Court, CJB is unable to release additional information or comment further at this time.

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To learn more about B.C.'s criminal justice system visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice](http://www.gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice)

### ***Branch Vision***

***Courageous, Fair and Efficient – A Prosecution Service that has the Confidence of the Public.***

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