



January 31, 2019

19-02

Appointment of Special Prosecutor

Victoria – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that on March 20, 2017, the Acting Assistant Deputy Attorney General John Labossiere appointed a Special Prosecutor in relation to allegations of theft of money from the constituency office of Chilliwack MLA John Martin.

Robin McFee QC was appointed Special Prosecutor when the RCMP requested that a Special Prosecutor be appointed for the purpose of providing legal advice during the investigation and any resulting prosecution. Mr. Labossiere made the appointment under s. 7 of the *Crown Counsel Act* because he considered it in the public interest to do so. The appointment of a Special Prosecutor is intended to avoid any potential for real or perceived improper influence in the administration of justice.

Mr. McFee is a senior Vancouver lawyer in private practice. He was given a mandate to provide legal advice to the RCMP investigators as may be necessary, conduct any related charge assessment, and assume conduct of the prosecution if charges were approved. A Report to Crown Counsel (RCC) was submitted to the Special Prosecutor. Mr. McFee requested and received further investigative materials, and the charge assessment process is now underway.

Announcement of the appointment of the Special Prosecutor was initially postponed pending completion of the investigation and submission of the RCC. Following consultation with the Special Prosecutor, and taking into account the specific circumstances of the case, the BCPS concluded that issuing a Media Statement announcing the appointment was appropriate at this time.

As this matter is now under charge assessment, neither the BCPS nor Mr. McFee will comment further or release any additional information at this time.

Media Contact: Dan McLaughlin
Communications Counsel
Daniel.McLaughlin@gov.bc.ca
250.387.5169

To learn more about B.C.'s criminal justice system, visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice or follow [@bcprosecution](https://twitter.com/bcprosecution) on Twitter.