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## INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release  
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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

### **Coroner's inquest scheduled into the death of Joshua Colton Beek**

VICTORIA – A coroner's inquest into the death of Joshua Colton Beek will begin on Monday, March 16, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at the Burnaby Coroners' Court (20th floor, 4720 Kingsway, Metrotower II, Metrotown, Burnaby).

The death of Joshua Colton Beek, 31, was reported to the BC Coroners Service on April 24, 2022, following events involving the Comox Valley RCMP detachment.

Under Section 18(2) of the Coroners Act, inquests are mandatory for any deaths that occur while a person was detained by or in the custody of a peace officer.

A coroner's inquest is a non-fault-finding public inquiry that serves three primary functions:

- to determine the facts related to a death, including the identity of the deceased and how, when, where and by what means the individual came to their death, as well as a classification for the death
- to make recommendations, where appropriate and supported by evidence, to prevent deaths in similar circumstances
- to ensure public confidence that the circumstances surrounding the death of an individual will not be overlooked, concealed or ignored

Presiding coroner Carolyn Maxwell and a five-person jury will hear evidence from witnesses under oath to determine the facts surrounding this death. The jury will have the opportunity to make recommendations, as outlined above, though a jury must not make any finding of legal responsibility or express any conclusion of law.

Anyone attending the inquest, including media, is prohibited from broadcasting and publishing inquest proceedings, including over social media. Supreme Court-accredited media are permitted to record the proceeding solely for the accuracy of their notes; the recording is not to be broadcast in any form. Accredited media members must provide proof to the sheriff and always visibly display their accreditation when they are recording or using electronic devices in court. Recording for any other purpose, or by anyone without appropriate accreditation, is strictly prohibited.

#### **Learn More:**

- For more information about inquests, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death/coroners-service/inquest-schedule-jury-findings-verdicts>
- To learn about the BC Coroners Service, visit: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/coroners/>

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