

**Ministry of
Attorney General
and Ministry of Public Safety
and Solicitor General**

**2019/20
Annual Service Plan Report**



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Published by the Ministry of Attorney General
and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Ministers' Accountability Statements



The *Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the ministries' actual results to the expected results identified in the *2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan* created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Eby".

Honourable David Eby, QC
Attorney General
June 26, 2020



The *Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the ministries' actual results to the expected results identified in the *2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan* created in February 2019. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth".

Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
June 26, 2020

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Letter from the Attorney General

I am pleased to introduce this joint 2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report for the Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, highlighting the many ways in which the justice and public safety sector made significant progress toward our key priorities during the last fiscal year.

As British Columbians pulled together in response to the historic COVID-19 pandemic, the ministry took a series of unprecedented steps to protect the safety of the public and staff, continue key services, and maintain access to justice. These included supporting changes to court operations to reduce the risk to court users; changing the rules around time limits for legal proceedings; supporting essential service providers through protection against COVID-19 related liability; using technology to deliver vital services such as tribunal hearings, legal aid support and family justice counselling; putting safeguards in place to protect customers; amending liquor regulations to support the struggling hospitality industry; and offering virtual renewals for insurance and driver's licences.

We are honoured to be part of the new First Nations Justice Strategy, endorsed by the BC First Nations Justice Council and the Province on March 6, 2020 – the first justice strategy for Indigenous peoples in B.C. that is authored by Indigenous peoples themselves.

A new Crown agency, the BC Family Maintenance Agency, was established to provide stability to the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program and to help ensure that people meet their financial obligations for the benefit of children.

With respect to increasing access to justice, the ministry launched the Victoria Early Resolution and Case Management Model to provide families with early opportunities to settle family disputes outside of court. The Surrey Courthouse was expanded to support access to justice in the lower Fraser Valley to meet growing demand and will include a new Justice Access Centre that will provide services to address family and civil non-family issues.

Since government passed legislative amendments in the fall of 2018 to re-establish the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner, the ministry has supported implementation of this independent office. This support culminated in the launching of this office in Vancouver in September 2019. Further advancements were made to address money laundering, including establishing an independent Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in the province to assess money laundering in B.C.

I want to recognize the public service professionals across the justice and public safety sector for their commitment and professionalism. I am proud of the work we have accomplished together and look forward to achieving even more.



Honourable David Eby, QC
Attorney General
June 26, 2020

Letter from the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

As British Columbia's Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am pleased to introduce this *2019/20 Annual Service Plan Report* for the justice and public safety sector.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic required us to take significant and timely steps to protect British Columbians while continuing to provide critical services and programs, including: extensive coordination of responses at and across all levels of government, led by Emergency Management BC; swift action by B.C. Corrections to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in provincial correctional centres and among community corrections clients; supporting victim service and violence against women service providers to use technology to adapt how their services are provided; planning to expand capacity for secure, respectful body storage in the event that hospitals and funeral homes reached capacity; and creating streamlined processes to expedite licensing for security workers at health care facilities and criminal record checks for individuals such as nurses, early childhood educators and volunteers for seniors.

Along with the Ministry of Attorney General, we are honoured to be part of B.C.'s First Nations Justice Strategy, endorsed by the BC First Nations Justice Council and the Province on Snuneymuxw territory on March 6, 2020, and we are committed to leading the Province in the development and implementation of strategies to address the systemic causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA people.

We continued to strengthen public safety across the province by: working toward putting an end to gun and gang violence; implementing and supporting gang prevention and disruption strategies; supporting police efforts to disrupt illicit drug trafficking; working collaboratively in efforts to reduce the tragic number of illicit drug toxicity deaths in our communities; continuing to implement B.C.'s regulatory and enforcement framework for legal, non-medical cannabis; and further addressing high-risk driving behaviours and road safety compliance.

Advancements were made in strengthening emergency management, including initiating work to modernize the *Emergency Program Act* informed by extensive engagement with emergency management partners, communities and First Nations across the province. The importance of this work is highlighted by our recent experience facing a significant global pandemic.

We continued to strengthen consumer protection for British Columbians, and in November 2019, Premier John Horgan appointed Bob D'Eith, MLA for Maple Ridge-Mission, to stand up for B.C. families by advocating to Ottawa for more affordable and transparent cellphone options.

These and our many other significant accomplishments are a testament to the dedication of staff throughout the sector and our successful collaboration with our justice and public safety partners.



Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
June 26, 2020

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

The Annual Service Plan Report is designed to meet the requirements of the [Budget Transparency and Accountability Act](#) (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for government organizations. Under the BTAA, ministers are required to report on the actual results of their ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets documented in the previous year's service plan.

Purpose of the Ministries

The Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General work together as the justice and public safety sector to advance a shared vision of a safe, secure, just and resilient British Columbia. The mission of the ministries is to administer justice, deliver public safety services and programs, and provide legal advice to government.

The Ministry of Attorney General is responsible for the following program areas: administrative tribunals; civil and family justice services; sheriff and court administration services; legal advice and services to government; legal aid; prosecution services; protection and promotion of human rights; gambling regulation and enforcement; problem gambling prevention and treatment services; liquor and cannabis licensing, compliance and enforcement as well as distribution; and investigation of complaints made by inmates at provincial correctional centres and probationers supervised in the community.¹

The areas of responsibility within the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General are: oversight of policing and law enforcement; correctional services; crime prevention and reduction; victim services; restorative justice; coroners services; civil forfeiture; non-medical cannabis legalization and regulation, including security screening of cannabis retail store applicants and workers and enforcement against illegal cannabis sales; road safety; criminal record checks; the protection order registry; private security industry regulation; consumer protection; guide dog and service dog certification; emergency management, including mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery; and fire prevention and safety.²

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by government in 2017 and expanded upon in the [mandate letter](#) of the Attorney General and the [mandate letter](#) of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, as well as the key priorities of the Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness, shaped the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2019/20 – 2021/22 Service Plan](#) and the results reported in this annual report.

¹ The Attorney General is also responsible for a number of agencies, boards, commissions and tribunals (see Appendix A).

² The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General is also responsible for several agencies and boards (see Appendix A) and the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia (see Appendix B).

Operating Environment

The arrival of a significant global pandemic in the province overtook all other considerations in the latter part of the fiscal year. It has called for a re-prioritization of virtually all aspects of the justice and public safety sector as we work collectively to maintain public health and safety as our first priority. Our response was and remains informed by guidance from our public health officials and by a unified emergency management structure and process.

In the final weeks of 2019/20, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic required a rapid and meaningful response from the justice and public safety sector. A provincial state of emergency was declared on March 18, 2020 and [Emergency Management BC](#) (EMBC) activated the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre to coordinate resources and communications, request provincial government assistance, and reach out to other provinces and the federal government. Six Provincial Regional Operations Centres, composed of emergency management staff trained to assist local governments with planning, coordination and logistics, were also opened across the province to provide support to local governments leading response efforts. On March 26, using the extraordinary powers under the *Emergency Program Act*, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued a [series of ministerial orders](#) to ensure a coordinated response at all levels of government to keep communities safe, maintain essential goods and services, and support essential service workers.

Throughout 2019/20, the ministries continued to strengthen partnerships with Indigenous leadership and communities to further our commitment to reducing the over-representation of Indigenous people in the justice and public safety sector, as accused, offenders and victims, and supporting culturally responsive and relevant policies, programs and services that address the specific needs of Indigenous peoples. This is consistent with government's commitment to true, lasting reconciliation and implementation of the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), the [Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#), the [B.C. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#), and the [Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples](#).

Other issues and trends continued to affect the ministries in delivering their responsibilities and shape the priorities of the justice and public safety sector, including:

- The ongoing dialogue on the need to improve access to justice;
- The illicit drug crisis and public health emergency;
- Legalization of non-medical cannabis by the federal government;
- Mental health and addiction challenges demanding increasing resources and enhanced coordination of services;
- Violence against women and girls – especially Indigenous women and girls;
- Gangs and gun violence;
- Organized crime and gang involvement in illegal gambling and money-laundering;
- Increasing vehicle crashes and traffic injury claims;
- Increasing service delivery demands and costs;
- Court decisions impacting service delivery, including timeliness of service;

- Rapidly changing technology and increased demand for digitized services;
- Federal government commitments that impact the province;
- Constitutional and legislative requirements;
- External audits, reviews and commissions of inquiry;
- The impact of climate change as it relates to emergency management; and
- The likelihood of catastrophic earthquakes along the coast of British Columbia.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, Measures and Targets

Goal 1: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia is fair

Fairness in the justice and public safety sector is bolstered by improving the public's access to justice, including affordable, effective and lasting resolution of civil and family disputes, as well as criminal legal proceedings.

Objective 1: Increased access to justice

Key Highlights

- The Province announced new funding to hire lawyers at Law Foundation legal advocacy clinics around the province who will be able to offer legal advice on issues including poverty, housing, immigration and disability, and act as counsel in legal proceedings at no cost to their clients.
- The [Victoria Early Resolution and Case Management Model](#) was launched in May 2019 to assist with family law matters, such as child and spousal support, parenting arrangements, contact and guardianship. The model is designed to provide families with early opportunities to get information, referrals and resolution services to help them settle family disputes outside of court. For those families that do need to go to court, this model is also intended to provide assistance to obtain just and timely decisions in Provincial Court.
- The Ministry of Attorney General's Dispute Resolution Suite allows for more timely and accessible access to justice in multiple program areas. This suite is currently in the third year of the four-year plan to onboard multiple tribunals onto the Justice Management Platform. In 2019/20, the following were onboarded to the suite: ICBC disputes for minor injury claims up to \$50,000 (onboarded to the Civil Resolution Tribunal); Employment Standards Tribunal; Human Rights Tribunal; Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office; Displaced Foreign Workers to the Employment Standards Branch; Passenger Transportation Board; and the Mental Health Review Board.
- In November 2019, the [BC Family Maintenance Agency](#) successfully took over operations of the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program. The model under this new Crown agency provides stability for the program and helps ensure people meet their financial obligations for the benefit of children. The Crown governance model will simplify the process of adding new services to help B.C. families (e.g. support for delivery of the ministry's broader response to COVID-19 in 2020). Over \$200 million is

collected and disbursed to about 37,000 families on an annual basis through Family Maintenance enforcement.

- [Parenting After Separation \(PAS\) for Indigenous Families](#) was launched in November 2019, in response to the identified need for an accessible learning support that addresses a diversity of Indigenous peoples’ histories, cultural perspectives and traumas. The Indigenous-led and created course content offers information about how Indigenous parents can honour their children while working through challenges like determining parenting time and child support. PAS for Indigenous Families also addresses how intergenerational trauma from colonization impacts experiences of separation and provides strategies to manage stress during these difficult transitions.
- Part of a \$33.5 million project, the Surrey Courthouse expansion supports access to justice in the lower Fraser Valley. Renovations to the courthouse began in 2016 and were completed in June 2019. Three new courtrooms and two hearing rooms were added, including a high-security courtroom for special-situation trials and a high-volume courtroom for preliminary and bail hearings. The expanded courthouse also contains a new Justice Access Centre, which will provide comprehensive services designed to address family and civil non-family issues.

| Performance Measure: Clients served through Virtual Initial Needs Determination (VIND) | 2017/18 Baseline | 2018/19 Actual | 2019/20 Target | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Target | 2021/22 Target |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.1 Number of client families served through expansion of the VIND program ¹ | 4,097 | 3,990 | 4,303 | 4,165 | 4,405 | 4,508 |

¹Data source: Family Justice Services Division, Ministry of Attorney General.

Discussion of Results

The 2019/20 result was slightly below target. This is likely due in part to staff vacancies in the first quarter, and in part to reduced VIND call volumes experienced in March 2020 as various COVID-19 response measures, including much reduced access to court, came into effect.

Goal 2: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia protects people

A key role of British Columbia's justice and public safety sector is to protect people, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Objective 2.1: Improved outcomes for Indigenous people across the justice and public safety sector through strengthened partnerships with Indigenous leadership and communities

Key Highlights

- Endorsed by the BC First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) and the Province on Snuneymuxw territory on March 6, 2020, the [*BC First Nations Justice Strategy*](#) was developed in partnership by the BCFNJC and the Ministries of Attorney General and Public Safety and Solicitor General, in consultation with First Nations and their Chiefs, Elders and other leadership, communities and service providers. The strategy focuses on the following priority topics: reconciliation with Indigenous peoples; decreasing the overrepresentation of Indigenous peoples in the justice system; improving the experience of Indigenous peoples within the justice system; addressing violence against Indigenous peoples – especially women and girls; engagement with Indigenous communities and organizations in a respectful and culturally-appropriate manner; improved access to justice and justice services for Indigenous peoples; and designing services that provide Indigenous peoples with culturally-relevant, flexible and user-focused processes.
- The Province continued to work closely with the Judiciary, BCFNJC, Métis Nation British Columbia, Legal Aid BC, Indigenous communities, and other external stakeholders and partners to explore ways to improve the administration and delivery of Gladue reports.
- The ministries continued to promote cultural safety and humility training across the justice and public safety sector, with a variety of educational opportunities, resources and supports made available to service providers and other ministry staff;
- In April 2019, the Ministry of Attorney General's BC Prosecution Service introduced a series of new and revised policies directed at the unacceptable overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the criminal justice system. Implementation of these policies will aim to change the way cases involving Indigenous people – as victims, as witnesses, and as accused – are approached.
- The ministry continued working with the Provincial Court on the creation of Indigenous Courts, including the Williams Lake Indigenous Court, which was approved in December 2019.
- In October 2019, government brought into force amendments to the *Gaming Control Act* to allow the government and the First Nations Gaming Limited Partnership to finalize a long-term agreement to share seven per cent of net provincial gaming revenue with First Nations in B.C. for 25 years. The amendments create a revenue entitlement for First Nations that is expected to be approximately \$100 million per year, providing a stable, long-term source of funding for First Nations to invest in their own community priorities.

- The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General continued to provide evidence-based and culturally-appropriate programming in correctional centres and through community corrections offices. For example, the [Relationship Violence Prevention Program](#) is a two-part program aimed at reducing violence in family relationships. In partnership with Indigenous communities and other cultural groups, B.C. Corrections developed customized programs that speak to offenders through their own culture. More than 175 Indigenous justice partners have been trained to deliver the first part of the program, called Respectful Relationships, in a culturally-informed manner.
- The ministry funds 20 victim service and violence against women programs in B.C. that are contracted to serve Indigenous clients and/or are delivered by Indigenous organizations. The ministry also funds or oversees other specialized victim service programs that serve Indigenous victims of crime, such as the [Victim Court Support Program](#) which assists victims and families during court proceedings, including programs supporting Indigenous Courts in Metro Vancouver.
- The BC Coroners Service (BCCS) continued to provide timely mortality data and analyses on [illicit drug toxicity deaths in the province](#), including data involving First Nation communities to inform community-based initiatives that reduce health and safety risks and support wellness and safe communities. In May 2019, the First Nations Health Authority released an [update on the impact of the opioid crisis on First Nations in B.C.](#) based on data provided by the BCCS.
- The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is engaged with the First Nations Leadership Council through a Joint Working Group on Cannabis in respect to health and safety impacts and economic development opportunities for Indigenous communities arising from cannabis legalization.
- EMBC initiated a significant exercise to modernize the *Emergency Program Act*. Consistent with the spirit and intent of B.C.'s *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, EMBC led an extensive engagement with First Nations across the province, including provincial-level discussion with the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) and five regional engagement sessions with local First Nation leaders in Terrace, Prince George, Nanaimo, Kamloops and Fort St. John. The feedback from those sessions, the written submissions received on-line, and a specific engagement with a Technical Advisory Committee of the FNLC are informing the work to develop the revised legislation.

| Performance Measure: Letters of intent to create an MOU between B.C. Corrections and First Nations | 2017/18 Baseline | 2018/19 Actual | 2019/20 Target² | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Target | 2021/22 Target |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2.1a Total number of letters of intent to create MOUs between B.C. Corrections and First Nations to support the successful reintegration of Indigenous people returning to their community and/or remaining connected to their community. ¹ | 1 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 10 |

¹ Data source: Results for this measure are derived from B.C. Corrections, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. The actual and target numbers are cumulative and therefore represent the total number of signed letters of intent to create an MOU, not the number of letters of intent signed in a given fiscal year.

Discussion of Results

Supporting the successful reintegration of Indigenous people returning to their community and/or remaining connected to their community contributes to the objective of creating better outcomes for Indigenous people across the justice and public safety sector.

The MOUs between First Nations and B.C. Corrections outline the process to work with each client and the community to facilitate reintegration, including release planning for those in custody and collaborative supports for those under community supervision, through engagement with community resources and ongoing communication.

At present, B.C. Corrections has three signed MOUs in place with the following First Nations: Sts'Ailes Nation (Chehalis Indian Band); Tl'etinqox Government (Anaham); and Tsleil-Waututh Nation. In addition, a letter of intent has been signed with the Nicola Tribal Association to develop an MOU with the following five member communities: Nooaitch Indian Band; Lower Nicola Indian Band; Shackan Indian Band; Coldwater Indian Band; and Upper Nicola Indian Band.

Though no new letters of intent were signed in 2019/20, B.C. Corrections has been working on a letter of intent with the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council; one that, once complete, will be signed by 14 communities/member nations.

| Performance Measure: Community participation on First Nations Emergency Management Partnership Tables | 2017/18 Baseline | 2018/19 Actual | 2019/20 Target | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Target² | 2021/22 Target |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2.1b Percentage of on-reserve First Nation communities participating on First Nations Regional Emergency Management Partnership Tables. ¹ | N/A | 42 | 50 | 43 | 60 | 65 |

¹ Data source: EMBC First Nations Coordination Unit.

² The targets for 2020/21 and 2021/22 are those that were reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2019/20 – 2021/22](#). These targets have since been revised downward due to uncertainty related to COVID-19 recovery.

Discussion of Results

First Nations Emergency Management Regional Partnership Tables provide a venue for First Nations and provincial agency emergency managers to meet in partnership, share knowledge and provide guidance on emergency management issues and initiatives related to all phases of emergency management – mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

Through consensus building, each partnership table is comprised of a unique governance structure and sets their own topics for discussion, based on priorities identified.

Pathways to support small community participation include in community face-to-face partnership meetings and/or conference calls, reflecting preferences identified by Indigenous communities. The definition of participation reflects the value of varied forms of participation by First Nation communities, particularly those in remote locations.

The target for 2019/20 was substantially achieved. The variance is primarily a result of the impact of COVID-19, and the cancellation of planned First Nations Emergency Management Regional Partnership Table meetings in February and March 2020, such that new community participation could not be achieved or tallied. While the 2019/20 target was not met, progress continued including establishing seven Emergency Program Coordinators at the Nation level (with Indigenous Services Canada funding) who directly participated in the Regional Partnership Tables and provided additional representation of communities.

Objective 2.2: Strengthened prevention, protection and support for victims of crime, and marginalized and vulnerable women and children

Key Highlights

- In response to the [final report](#) of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General committed to leading the Province in the development of strategies and initiatives to address the systemic causes of violence against Indigenous women and girls in B.C. During the summer of 2019, Path Forward Women and Girls Safety Community Sessions

were held in 12 communities, with over 300 participants, across the province to inform strategy development while ensuring that information sharing was done in a manner that considered culture and protocol and supported healing. Following the community engagement sessions, a [summary report and action plan](#) was released. The ministry also continued to operate the B.C. [Family Information Liaison Unit](#) with federal funding, to assist families of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls in accessing information related to the loss of their loved one.

- The ministry continued to enhance the existing continuum of victim services and violence against women programs to better support people who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes. The ministry now provides over \$40 million in annual funding to support over 400 victim service and violence against women programs across the province.
- The ministry continued to support Domestic Violence Courts, domestic violence programming in Corrections, the Protection Order Registry, and Domestic Violence Units, which are teams of experts that take on the highest-risk cases of physical and psychological abuse by family members, providing an integrated approach to supporting victims and ensuring their safety.
- 2019/20 was year four of a five-year project to implement a cross-sector curriculum on trauma-informed practice for the justice, public safety and anti-violence community sectors to: support personnel to recognize and understand trauma and its possible effects on victims and witnesses and have a clear understanding of how violence and abuse may shape victims' responses; assess their own practices with a trauma-informed lens; and incorporate these learnings to reduce potential re-traumatization experienced by victims and witnesses participating in the justice system.
- The ministry awarded \$11.8 million in one-time funding to 267 projects through the 2019/20 cycle of the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program. The grant program supports projects that align with funding streams chosen on an annual basis based on ministry priorities. The 2019/20 funding streams were: Crime Prevention; Indigenous Healing and Rebuilding; Restorative Justice; Addressing Violence Against Women – Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Domestic Violence Prevention and Intervention Programming; Human Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and Vulnerable Women in the Sex Trade; and Child and Youth Advocacy Centres.
- The BCCS continued to conduct and report on death review panels that specifically explore marginalized and vulnerable populations, collect and analyse data on intimate partner violence, and conduct complex death investigations through the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). Comprised of a number of specialists, the SIU includes an Intimate Partner and Family Violence Coroner who provides specialized knowledge and expertise for deaths involving intimate partner and family violence.

| Performance Measure: Timeliness of Victim Financial Assistance claim adjudication | 2017/18 Baseline | 2018/19 Actual² | 2019/20 Target | 2019/20 Forecast³ | 2020/21 Target⁴ | 2021/22 Target |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2.2 Average number of days to adjudicate claims for financial assistance from victims and others impacted by violent crime ¹ | 88 | 108 | 90 | 109 | 85 | 80 |

¹ Data source: Results for this measure are derived from the Electronic Victim Information System, considering the dates claims were received and the dates they were completed, as well as the cases that remain outstanding.

² The 2018/19 actual has been revised from the 95 forecast reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2019/20 – 2021/22](#) and 102 reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23](#) to reflect additional adjudicated applications. This figure remains subject to change as approximately two per cent of 2018/19 files are still being adjudicated.

³ The 2019/20 forecast remains subject to change as it represents an estimate based on the adjudication of 63 per cent of applications received.

⁴ The targets for 2020/21 and 2021/22 are those that were reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2019/20 – 2021/22](#). The targets have been revised since publication of that service plan due to significant increases in the volume of applications received by the program that have affected average adjudication times. The new targets are reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23](#).

Discussion of Results

This measure indicates the level of client service and system efficiency in administering the [Crime Victim Assistance Program](#) (CVAP) within the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General under the *Crime Victim Assistance Act*. The program assists victims, immediate family members and some witnesses in coping with the effects of violent crime by providing financial benefits to help offset financial losses and assist in recovery, including funding for counselling or memorial services. In 2019/20, CVAP provided a total of \$15.115 million to claimants.

To determine claimants' eligibility for benefits, the ministry must obtain supporting information from third parties, such as police and medical professionals. This reliance on third parties to provide information results in the majority of claims being adjudicated within approximately two to three months under optimal circumstances; urgent cases requiring immediate assistance are expedited.

The upward trend in days to adjudicate a claim reflects a significant increase in the volume of applications received by the program over the past several years, including a 20 per cent increase in 2019/20.

There are many factors that influence the demand for the program and measures are being implemented to increase program efficiencies and mitigate the effects of this growth. Ensuring that victims of violent crime and their family members have access to the supports and services they need in a timely manner is a priority of the justice and public safety sector and adjudication times are tracked to ensure progress is made.

Objective 2.3: Improved public safety for all British Columbians

Key Highlights

- During 2019/20, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General continued to address gang and gun violence in B.C. through a number of comprehensive, focused and sustained initiatives that build upon past successes and bolster the Province's response to gangs and guns in B.C. communities. Recommendations from the [Illegal Firearms Task Force](#) are largely complete with a few remaining recommendations in progress. In addition, the ministry continued to work in partnership with Public Safety Canada to leverage the federal Guns and Gangs Violence Action Fund and advance a number of initiatives to combat gangs and associated violent activities in the province.
- The ministry continued its work to develop and implement an integrated, cross-sector, strategic approach to enhancing the use of restorative justice in B.C. and to support the restorative justice community in delivering trauma-informed, victim-centric restorative justice programs. In 2019/20, the ministry provided \$194,750 in funding through the Community Accountability Program and \$809,104 in funding through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program to organizations that deliver restorative justice programs in communities across the province.
- The ministry continued to strengthen the ability of police to interdict the supply of illicit drugs in the province, targeting mid-level and high-level drug traffickers, including supporting the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – BC (see Appendix B) and establishing more sophisticated performance metrics for monitoring outcomes of the Anti-Trafficking Task Force.
- Initiatives to increase the efficiency of traffic enforcement, with a focus on reducing high-risk driving behaviours (alcohol, drugs, speeding and distraction), continued, including expansion of the [Administrative Driving Prohibition Program](#) which, as of July 2019, now includes drug-affected driving. In addition, the Intersection Safety Camera Program was expanded. There are now intersection safety cameras at 140 high-crash intersections province-wide, with 105 of them monitoring red light violations and 34 monitoring both red light and speed violations. A map showing all of the sites is available [online](#) and [quarterly data](#) for red-light and speed violation tickets are also available.
- The ministry continued efforts to shift consumers of non-medical cannabis to legal, regulated products and away from illicit sources. In 2019/20, the ministry conducted security screenings for more than 200 cannabis retail applications and nearly 2,500 cannabis workers. In addition, the ministry undertook policy analysis and stakeholder engagement to identify mechanisms and potential changes to the regulatory regime to increase the transition of small-scale producers into the legal market. Compliance and enforcement against the illegal retail sale of cannabis was strengthened through the establishment of the Community Safety Unit (CSU). As of March 2020, CSU officers had completed 264 outreach visits to unlicensed cannabis retailers for the purpose of education and awareness about cannabis laws, taken enforcement actions on 34 occasions and recorded 88 voluntary closures as a result of CSU presence.

- During 2019/20, EMBC continued to enhance emergency management, consistent with the adoption of the [United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#), through:
 - Continued implementation of [Government’s Action Plan: Responding to Wildfire and Flood Risks](#);
 - Work toward modernizing the *Emergency Program Act* to adopt a more comprehensive approach to managing disaster risk with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. This included release of a public [discussion paper](#) in October 2019 and significant engagement with key partners, including UBCM’s Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee (see also page 12);
 - Work toward modernizing [Emergency Support Services](#), informed by an integrated, province-wide framework for disaster recovery – a specific result being the establishment of the Evacuee Registration and Assistance which allows for digital self registration for Emergency Support Services;
 - Development of a sustainable funding model for [Ground Search and Rescue](#), a resource of critical importance to the emergency management system; and
 - Development of a comprehensive recovery program that addresses legislative gaps and critical recovery needs of local and First Nation governments.

| Performance Measure: Police-reported crime rates (<i>Criminal Code</i> offences per 1,000 persons)¹ | 2017 Baseline² | 2018 Actual | 2019 Target³ | 2019 Forecast⁴ | 2020 Target | 2021 Target |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2.3a Violent crime rate ⁵ | 11.0 | 11.6 | 10.6 | 11.3 | 10.3 | 10.0 |
| 2.3b Property crime rate ⁶ | 48.1 | 47.7 | 49.1 | 47.4 | 47.8 | 46.6 |
| 2.3c Other crime rate ⁷ | 15.0 | 14.7 | 14.9 | 14.4 | 14.5 | 14.1 |
| 2.3d Overall <i>Criminal Code</i> crime rate | 74.2 | 74.0 | 74.5 | 73.1 | 72.6 | 70.8 |

¹ Data source: Criminal incident counts are obtained through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, administered by Statistics Canada’s Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, and population estimates are obtained through BC Stats. Crime rates are based on all police-reported violent crime, property crime, and other *Criminal Code* offences, but do not include traffic, drug, or other federal-statute violations. Results are reported by calendar year. The most recent year for which data are available is 2018.

² The 2017 baselines reported here are those that were reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2019/20 – 2021/22](#). They have subsequently been revised based on updated Statistics Canada crime data and updated BC Stats population estimates to 2018. The updated baseline figures can be found in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23](#)

³ The 2019 and subsequent year targets are those that were reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2019/20 – 2021/22](#). They have subsequently been updated based on the 2018 actual and the 2019 forecast, calculated as a 2.5 percent year to year decrease.

⁴ The forecasts for 2019 were calculated based on the linear trend from the last five years. It is anticipated that actual results for 2019 will be available in August 2020.

⁵ Violent offences include homicide, attempted murder, sexual and non-sexual assault, firearm offences, robbery, forcible confinement or kidnapping, abduction, extortion, criminal harassment, uttering threats, threatening or harassing phone calls, and other violent offences.

⁶ Property offences include theft, motor vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, trafficking in stolen goods, identity theft, identity fraud, breaking and entering, arson, mischief, fraud, and other property offences.

⁷ Non-traffic *Criminal Code* offences which are not violent or property-related are classified as “other” offences. These include but are not limited to: counterfeiting, disturbing the peace, and offences against the administration of justice.

Discussion of Results

The crime rate is the number of *Criminal Code* offences (excluding drug crimes and traffic-related offences) reported for every 1,000 persons. It is a better measure of trends in crime than is the actual number of offences because it accounts for population differences.

Many factors influence police-reported crime rates, including changes to scoring rules, demographic changes, neighbourhood conditions, social and economic factors, public reporting practices, technological advancements, legislative amendments, local police service priorities, and social perceptions and attitudes toward certain crimes.

While government does not control crime rates, crime prevention and reduction are a priority of the justice and public safety sector and these rates are tracked as an indicator of progress toward increased public safety for all British Columbians.

In January 2018, Statistics Canada updated the definitions of “founded” and “unfounded” crimes in its scoring rules. This change represents a “victim-centred approach” to recording crimes, which means it is to be believed that the crime occurred (“founded”) unless there is credible evidence to prove it did not (“unfounded”). Statistics Canada predicts that as a result of this change, the number of “founded” incidents for some types of crimes will likely increase. As of January 2019, all police services across B.C. have implemented these scoring changes and it is anticipated that this will affect B.C.’s 2019 crime rates. Estimates of the impact have not been factored into the targets listed in the above table.

Goal 3: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia is sustainable

The justice and public safety sector must be innovative and efficient to remain sustainable.

Objective 3.1: Strengthened sustainability of the justice and public safety sector to deliver accessible and effective programs and services

Key Highlights

- During 2019/20, the ministries continued to strengthen evidence-based workforce planning with a focus on and commitment to fostering innovation, managing change, continuous improvement, diversity and inclusion, succession planning and leadership development – laying the foundation through governance to move forward in achieving the strategic goals of the justice and public safety sector.

- Work continued across ministries and with other levels of government to provide assistance to establish and maintain overall provincial business continuity plans, including prioritization of the critical infrastructure assets and services that our governments, citizens, businesses and visitors rely on, and continuity of government operations to ensure an effective command and control structure following an emergency or disaster.
- The Accident Claims Transformation Project, completed in April 2019, supported changes required to enable the Civil Resolution Tribunal’s (CRT) increased mandate to handle ICBC minor injury claim disputes using online dispute resolution where there is disagreement between the customer and ICBC. These disputes include the entitlement to receive accident benefits, the classification of an injury as a minor injury, and liability and quantum decisions for motor vehicle injury claims up to \$50,000. As a result, these types of civil disputes have been moved out of courtrooms so that court resources may be reserved for the most serious matters.
- In December 2019, the Ministry of Attorney General’s Liquor Distribution Branch began distributing [new categories of legal non-medical cannabis products](#), which include edibles, extracts and topicals.
- Provincial implementation of electronic ticketing (eTicketing) continued across the province to: help intervene more quickly with dangerous drivers; leverage technology for quicker and more efficient police and ICBC processes; enable online violation ticket payment; and gather improved business intelligence on road safety enforcement. By March 31, 2020, 24 police agencies (11 municipal police departments, one Tribal police and 12 RCMP detachments) were undertaking implementation of eTicketing, with training and installation of vehicle-mounted equipment underway.

| Performance Measure: User satisfaction results for minor injury accident claims assessed by the Civil Resolution Tribunal^{1,2} | 2019/20 Baseline | 2019/20 Forecast | 2019/20 Actual | 2020/21 Target | 2021/22 Target |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 3.1a Percentage of respondents who felt the CRT treated them fairly throughout the process | 75 | 75 | 95 | 75 | 75 |
| 3.1b Percentage of respondents who felt CRT staff were professional | 80 | 80 | 95 | 80 | 80 |
| 3.1c Percentage of respondents who felt the CRT handled their dispute in a timely manner | 65 | 65 | 95 | 75 | 75 |
| 3.1d Percentage of respondents who would recommend the CRT to others | 70 | 70 | 95 | 75 | 75 |

¹Data source: Civil Resolution Tribunal, Ministry of Attorney General.

²The targets are those that are reported in the [Ministry of Attorney General and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General Service Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23](#) and will be revisited moving forward.

Discussion of Results

This measure tracks dispute participants' experience of minor injury accident claims assessed by the CRT, which results in fewer cases ending up in the court system. Dispute participants are invited to take a survey if, and once, their dispute reaches the Tribunal Decision stage of the CRT process. It is important to understand the user experience as the sector continues to find innovative ways to move certain types of disputes out of courtrooms and strengthen the sustainability of the sector.

Goal 4: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia has the public's confidence

Citizens must have confidence in the integrity and effectiveness of the justice and public safety sector for it to function effectively and to ensure continued public participation and support.

Objective 4.1: Increased public confidence in the justice and public safety sector

Key Highlights

- The Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General continue to apply the [Gender-Based Analysis Plus](#) (GBA+) lens to budgeting, policy and program development. GBA+ is a well-established analytical process used to assess how diverse groups of women, men and non-binary people may experience policies, programs and initiatives. The “plus” in GBA+ acknowledges that GBA goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences. We all have multiple identity factors that intersect to make us who we are; GBA+ also considers many other identity factors, like race, ethnicity, religion, age, and mental or physical disability. In applying the GBA+ lens across the justice and public safety sector, the ministries work to ensure that equity is reflected in sector budgets, policies and programs.
- Government passed legislative amendments in the fall of 2018 to re-establish the [Office of the Human Rights Commissioner](#), which has a mandate to provide education, as well as examine and address issues of discrimination, to promote human rights and combat widespread patterns of inequality and discrimination in society. The Ministry of Attorney General has supported implementation of the independent Office of the Human Rights Commissioner in Vancouver, which became operational in September 2019.
- In May 2019, the Province established an [independent Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering](#) in the province – led by B.C. Supreme Court Justice Austin F. Cullen – to assess the full scope of money laundering in British Columbia, including real estate, gaming, financial institutions and the corporate and professional sectors. The Commission will deliver an interim report by November 2020 and a final report by May 2021.

- In June 2019, the Ministry of Attorney General created the [Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance](#) to carry out various functions as required or authorized by the *Professional Governance Act* (PGA). The Superintendent is responsible for oversight of systemic or general matters relating to professional governance of the regulatory bodies under the PGA and acting to protect the public interest.
- The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General prepared a [2020 Status Update](#) on the Province's response to the recommendations of the [report](#) of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (MWCI). Among other recommendations, the MWCI report included a series of recommendations aimed at ensuring equality in the delivery of policing services and supporting effective police responses to vulnerable people. As part of the continuing work toward addressing these recommendations, the ministry developed *Provincial Policing Standards on Police Stops* which came into effect on January 15, 2020.
- The BCCS continued to conduct independent investigations, inquests and death review panels into unexpected deaths, including overdose deaths, to: determine the facts related to a death, including the identity of the deceased, and how, when, where and by what means they came to their death; make recommendations, where appropriate and supported by evidence, aimed at preventing deaths in similar circumstances; ensure that the circumstances surrounding the death of an individual will not be overlooked, concealed or ignored; and review public safety concerns or concerns about dangerous practices.
- EMBC made significant progress in implementing recommendations made by George Abbott and Chief Maureen Chapman in the report commissioned by the Province, [Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in B.C.](#), after extensive consultations with First Nations, local governments, residents, industry and other stakeholders affected by recent flood and wildfire events. The second and most recent [report](#) on implementing the recommendations was released on October 31, 2019, detailing the work that has been done on each of the Abbott and Chapman report's 108 recommendations.
- EMBC maintained specialized regional emergency management partnership agreements with local governments as well as cross-border arrangements and agreements with key stakeholders aimed at enhancing B.C.'s emergency preparedness, response and recovery efforts for catastrophic or emergency events. In addition, in collaboration with local governments and First Nations, EMBC continued to lead training and exercise events to prepare for Exercise Coastal Response 2022, which will be B.C.'s second major earthquake and tsunami response exercise.
- The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General continued to inform and support initiatives to strengthen consumer protection, including supporting MLA Bob D'Eith, B.C.'s lead on telecommunications, to advocate to the federal government to reduce the cost of wireless services for British Columbians and to enhance contract and billing transparency. On November 19, 2020, the Province released a report titled [Cellphone Billing Transparency: What We Heard](#), summarizing 15,549 public survey responses received between May 29 and July 5, 2019. In February 2020, MLA D'Eith presented B.C.'s survey findings to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), which is reviewing mobile wireless services in the country.

| Performance Measure: Public confidence in the justice system, the courts and police | 2013 Baseline | 2018 Actual³ | 2019 Target | 2019 Actual | 2020 Target | 2021 Target |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 4.1a Percentage of British Columbians who have confidence in the justice system and courts ² | 51 | NOT AVAILABLE | 53 | NOT AVAILABLE | 54 | 55 |
| 4.1b Percentage of British Columbians who have confidence in the police ² | 74 | NOT AVAILABLE | 76 | NOT AVAILABLE | 77 | 78 |

¹ Data Source: Statistics Canada General Social Survey (GSS) on Social Identity. Established in 1985, Statistics Canada's GSS program was designed as a series of independent, annual, cross-sectional surveys, each covering one topic in-depth. The GSS on Social Identity is conducted every five years and includes questions on confidence in public institutions.

² Includes those respondents who stated they had a great deal of confidence or some confidence. Responses of "don't know/not stated" are excluded from the calculation of percentages.

³ The results of the 2018 GSS on Social Identity are expected to be released later in 2020.

Discussion of Results

The ministries track long-term trends in public confidence in the justice system, the courts and police as indicators of public confidence in the justice and public safety sector. Citizens must have confidence in the justice system, the courts and police for them to function effectively and to ensure continued public participation and support.

Financial Report

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Attorney General

The Estimates operating expense budget of the ministry in 2019/20 was \$605.6 million. The ministry received a budget increase of \$22.6 million compared to the 2018/19 fiscal plan for the Civil Resolution Tribunal – Small Claims and Strata, wage adjustments, courthouse mandatory operating equipment, Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance, Independent Investigations Office, Provincial Court Judiciary caseload, and prior decisions for wage adjustments.

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of \$114.2 million, including \$57.6 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for: Legal Aid; Civil Resolution Tribunal – Vehicle Accident Claims; Cannabis Legalization Impacts; major cases and prosecutions; Surrey and Fort St. John Courthouse expansions; Crown led after hours bail hearings; anti-money laundering report implementation; legal clinics; justice innovation and transformation; intersection safety camera and violation ticket court costs; sheriff overtime; Indigenous Justice Strategy, Prosecution Services efficiencies; Public Guardian and Trustee - *Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act* implementation; in custody air transportation; BC Family Maintenance Agency transition costs; Employer Health Tax and ministry operating pressures. Spending under the statutory appropriation for the *Crown Proceeding Act* was \$78.7 million and reflects the cost of settlements or judgments, as well as adjustments to accrued liabilities for civil litigation against the Province and \$3.1 million was also expended under the *Public Inquiry Act* for the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's Total Estimated budget was \$719.8 million compared to actual expenditures of \$716.4 million, prior to the adjustment for Prior Year's Accruals.

Financial Summary – Ministry of Attorney General

| | Estimates | Other Authorizations ¹ | Total Estimated | Actual | Variance |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Operating Expenses (\$000) | | | | | |
| Justice Services | 129,131 | 23,024 | 152,155 | 152,395 | 240 |
| Prosecution Services | 143,091 | 8,651 | 151,742 | 152,209 | 467 |
| Court Services | 115,865 | 4,987 | 120,852 | 122,331 | 1,479 |
| Legal Services | 28,098 | 422 | 28,520 | 28,477 | (43) |
| Agencies, Boards, Commissions and other Tribunals | 30,766 | 757 | 31,523 | 31,071 | (452) |
| Liquor Control and Licensing | 1 | 5,196 | 5,197 | 5,196 | (1) |
| Gaming Policy and Enforcement | 19,437 | 2,378 | 21,815 | 21,476 | (339) |
| Executive and Support Services | 24,327 | 8,771 | 33,098 | 31,748 | (1,350) |
| Judiciary | 80,984 | 3,390 | 84,374 | 84,374 | 0 |
| <i>Crown Proceeding Act</i> | 24,500 | 54,241 | 78,741 | 78,741 | 0 |
| Independent Investigations Office | 9,400 | 0 | 9,400 | 8,725 | (675) |
| Public Guardian and Trustee Operating Account | 0 | (757) | (757) | (1,299) | (542) |
| <i>Public Inquiry Act</i> | 0 | 3,146 | 3,146 | 3,146 | 0 |
| Sub-Total | 605,600 | 114,206 | 719,806 | 718,590 | (1,216) |
| Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ² | 0 | 0 | 0 | (2,227) | (2,227) |
| Total | 605,600 | 114,206 | 719,806 | 716,363 | (3,443) |
| Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000) | | | | | |
| Justice Services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 77 | 77 |
| Prosecution Services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 |
| Court Services | 0 | 750 | 750 | 4,074 | 3,324 |
| Legal Services | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Agencies, Boards, Commissions and other Tribunals | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 | (10) |
| Liquor and Cannabis Regulation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gaming Policy and Enforcement | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Executive and Support Services | 5,093 | 2,065 | 7,158 | 2,822 | (4,336) |
| Judiciary | 570 | 0 | 570 | 620 | 50 |

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <i>Crown Proceeding Act</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Independent Investigations Office | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Public Guardian and Trustee Operating Account | 363 | 355 | 718 | 386 | (332) |
| <i>Public Inquiry Act</i> | 0 | 200 | 200 | 105 | (95) |
| Total | 6,036 | 3,370 | 9,406 | 8,093 | (1,313) |

¹ “Other Authorizations” includes Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the “estimated amount” under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

² The Adjustment of Prior Year Accruals of \$0.983 million is the reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Capital Expenditures – Ministry of Attorney General

| Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million) | Year of Completion | Project Cost to March 31, 2019 (\$ millions) | Estimated Cost to Complete (\$ millions) | Anticipated Total Cost (\$ millions) |
|---|--------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| Abbotsford Courthouse | 2020 ¹ | 119.67 | 32.66 | 152.33 |
| <p>Construction of a new 14-room courthouse in Abbotsford will add needed court capacity and addresses recommendations in the Lower Fraser Valley Regional Plan Court Capacity Expansion Project Final Report.</p> <p>The project is being delivered as a public-private partnership, with the private partner providing the design, construction, partial financing and facility maintenance for a 30-year period following construction. Construction began in the summer of 2018 with project completion in 2020.²</p> <p>The new courthouse will double the number of courtrooms available in the current facility and create over 1,000 jobs throughout the course of construction.</p> | | | | |

¹ Updated completion date amended in the February 2020 Service Plan.

² Note that the Ministry of Attorney General is the project lead for reporting purposes, while the project capital budget resides with the Ministry of Citizens’ Services.

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The Estimates operating expense budget of the ministry in 2019/20 was \$800.5 million. The ministry's budget increased by \$15.9 million compared to the restated 2018/19 fiscal plan primarily as a result of budget lifts for: RCMP 'E' Division Headquarters at Green Timbers - \$4.860 million; Intersection Safety Camera - Red Light Program - \$2.487 million; Crime Victim Assistance Program - \$1.700 million; Social Program (Probation) officer reclassification - \$0.103 million; salary and benefits adjustment - \$7.228 million; and wage adjustments - \$1.83 million. Budget lifts were offset by budget reductions for Civil Forfeiture Account adjustment - (\$1.499 million) and decreases in the budget for the Cannabis Secretariat - (\$0.780 million).

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of \$161.9 million, including \$72.5 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for: sexual assault services grants; road safety initiatives; *Emergency Program Act* funding; Crime Victim Assistance Program entitlements; Gang Suppression Action Plan funding; Corrections' recruitment and retention funding; and Intersection Safety Camera Program funding.

\$89.4 million was also expended under the statutory appropriation primarily for the *Emergency Program Act* and reflects cost relating to emergency mitigation, preparedness and response to wildfire and flooding disasters.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's total Estimated Budget was \$962.4 million compared to actual expenditures of \$962.2 million, prior to the adjustment for prior year's accruals.

Financial Summary – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

| | Estimated | Other Authorizations ¹ | Total Estimated | Actual | Variance |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Operating Expenses (\$000) | | | | | |
| Corrections | 250,648 | 10,189 | 260,837 | 262,244 | 1,407 |
| Policing and Security | 398,003 | 18,244 | 416,247 | 417,456 | 1,209 |
| Victim Services and Crime Prevention | 51,369 | 19,240 | 70,609 | 71,599 | 990 |
| BC Coroners Service | 16,667 | 1,128 | 17,795 | 16,914 | (881) |
| RoadSafetyBC | 16,192 | 16,711 | 32,903 | 30,605 | (2,297) |
| Emergency Management BC | 17,517 | 1,051 | 18,568 | 18,604 | 36 |
| Executive and Support Services | 20,493 | 711 | 21,204 | 20,634 | (570) |
| <i>Emergency Program Act</i> | 14,819 | 93,668 | 108,487 | 108,487 | 0 |
| Statutory Services ² | 14,796 | 979 | 15,775 | 15,607 | (168) |
| Sub-total | 800,504 | 161,921 | 962,425 | 962,150 | (275) |
| Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ³ | 0 | 0 | 0 | (819) | (819) |
| Total | 800,504 | 161,921 | 962,425 | 961,331 | (1,094) |
| Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000) | | | | | |
| Corrections | 0 | 3,695 | 3,695 | 5,408 | 1,713 |
| Policing and Security | 0 | 0 | 0 | 139 | 139 |
| Victim Services and Crime Prevention | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| BC Coroners Service | 0 | 150 | 150 | 127 | (23) |
| RoadSafetyBC | 0 | 120 | 120 | 884 | 764 |
| Emergency Management BC | 0 | 367 | 367 | 239 | (128) |
| Executive and Support Services | 12,059 | 0 | 12,059 | 27 | (12,032) |
| <i>Emergency Program Act</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 12,059 | 4,332 | 16,391 | 6,824 | (9,567) |

¹ “Other Authorizations” include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations (89.4 million) and Contingencies (72.5 million). Amounts in this column are not related to the “estimated amount” under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the *Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act* for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

² Statutory Services includes Civil Forfeiture Account, Corrections Work Program Account, Criminal Asset Management Fund, and Victim Surcharge Special Account.

³ The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.819 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Capital Expenditures – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

| Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million) | Year of Completion | Project Cost to March 31, 2020 (\$m) | Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m) | Anticipated Total Cost (\$m) |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Nanaimo Correctional Centre | 2023 | 3.605 | 153.378 | 156.983 |
| <p>The Nanaimo Correctional Centre (NCC) Replacement Project will replace the current aging and outdated 190-cell correctional centre located in Nanaimo, B.C. The new centre will be constructed on the existing site while the current centre remains operational, after which the existing centre will be deconstructed. The new NCC will be a 202-cell, multi-security level facility with a campus-type configuration, including a 12-cell unit for short-term accommodation of women from Vancouver Island.</p> <p>The new centre will better support staff and enhance the NCC’s unique, effective programs, including the Guthrie Therapeutic Community and vocational and educational programs delivered in partnership with Vancouver Island University.</p> <p>In addition to an estimated \$140 million in direct capital expenditures, it is estimated that a project of this size will generate approximately 650 direct jobs during development, 275 jobs associated with indirect activity, and 95 jobs associated with re-spending by workers.</p> | | | | |

Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals³

Ministry of Attorney General

- Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC
- Association of BC Forest Professionals
- Attorney General’s BC Supreme Court Rules Committee
- British Columbia Ferry Commission
- BC Family Maintenance Agency
- BC Human Rights Tribunal
- BC Lottery Corporation
- British Columbia Institute of Agrologists
- British Columbia Review Board
- British Columbia Utilities Commission
- Building Code Appeal Board
- Civil Resolution Tribunal
- College of Applied Biology
- Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board
- Employment Standards Tribunal
- Engineers and Geoscientists BC
- Environmental Appeal Board
- Financial Services Tribunal
- Forest Appeals Commission
- Health Professions Review Board
- Hospital Appeal Board
- Independent Investigations Office of BC
- Industry Training Appeal Board
- Insurance Corporation of British Columbia
- Investigation and Standards Office
- Judicial Council of the Province of BC
- Labor Relations Board
- Legal Aid BC (formerly Legal Services Society)
- Liquor Distribution Branch
- Mental Health Review Board
- Notaries Public Board of Examiners
- Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal
- Property Assessment Appeal Board
- Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia
- Safety Standards Appeal Board
- Surface Rights Board

³ <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/about-bcs-justice-system/crowns-agencies-boards-commissions>

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Consumer Protection BC
- Motor Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia
- Police Boards

Appendix B: Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia

In 1999, the Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia (OCABC) was created as an independent Designated Policing and Law Enforcement Unit under the *Provincial Police Act*. In 2004, the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia (CFSEU-BC) was developed in consultation with the provincial government as an initiative to integrate the OCABC, the municipal police departments and the RCMP. The Board of Governance for the OCABC also acts as the Board of Governance for the CFSEU-BC. The board is comprised of: the Deputy Commissioner Pacific Region and Commanding Officer “E” Division RCMP; the Assistant Commissioner “E” Division RCMP and Lower Mainland District Commander; the Chief Superintendent and Southeast District Commander RCMP; the Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department; the Chief Constable of the BC Transit Authority Police Service; one municipal police Chief Constable from Vancouver Island; and one civilian member. The Director of Police Services sits as an *ex officio* member of the board. The board determines the strategic direction of the CFSEU-BC and ensures its operational priorities are aligned with the policing priorities for British Columbia. The CFSEU-BC operates under the RCMP policies and procedures. Board members do not receive any remuneration.

The Chief Officer in charge of the CFSEU-BC leads an executive team comprised of civilian members in addition to regular RCMP and municipal officers seconded from across the province. The CFSEU-BC Gang Enforcement Unit, Investigation Teams, and the Joint Illegal Gaming Investigation Team are just a few of the teams that fall under the responsibility of the CFSEU-BC. Offices for the CFSEU-BC are located in the Lower Mainland, Prince George, Kelowna and Victoria.

The mission of the CFSEU-BC is to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime that affects British Columbians. Its mandate is to investigate, prosecute, disrupt and suppress criminal organizations, consistent with local, regional, national and international priorities. The CFSEU-BC also supports other agencies by assisting in organized crime and major crime investigations. More information can be found at: www.cfseu.bc.ca.