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18-13

## Special Prosecutors approve criminal contempt proceedings

**Victoria** - The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that the Special Prosecutors appointed to handle the matters of two Members of Parliament arrested along with other protestors at the Trans Mountain Pipeline work site have each, independently, concluded that criminal contempt proceedings for breaches of the injunction are warranted.

On April 11, 2018 Assistant Deputy Attorney General Peter Juk QC appointed two Special Prosecutors to handle the matters of the Members of Parliament who were arrested along with other protestors at the work site on March 23, 2018.

Mr. Michael Klein QC has been appointed to deal with the case involving Mr. Kennedy Stewart and Mr. Greg DelBigio QC has been appointed to deal with the case involving Ms. Elizabeth May. Both Special Prosecutors have been given mandates to conduct an independent review of the evidence to determine whether the actions amount to criminal contempt of court.

Having now concluded the review and conducted the charge assessment, the two will now assume conduct of the prosecutions and any subsequent appeals.

The Charge Assessment Guidelines that are applied by the BCPS and Special Prosecutors in reviewing all RCCs are established in Branch policy and are available at:

[www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines](http://www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines)

As the matters remain before the court, neither the BC Prosecution Service nor the Special Prosecutors will have any further comment.

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