



August 22, 2023

23-24

## BC Prosecution Service approves charges against Prince George RCMP officer

**Victoria** – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that a charge of assault has been approved against Prince George RCMP Cst. Paul Ste-Marie in connection with their involvement in the arrest of an individual that is alleged to have occurred on August 22, 2022, in Prince George.

An information charging Cst. Ste-Marie with one count of assault contrary to section 266 of the *Criminal Code* was sworn on August 21, 2023, under Provincial Court file number 7825-1. The first appearance on this matter is scheduled for October 4, 2023, in Prince George Provincial Court.

The charge was approved by an experienced Crown Counsel with no connection with the officer. The charge assessment guidelines applied by the BC Prosecution Service in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are established in the BC Prosecution Service Crown Counsel Policy Manual and are available online at:

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

BCPS guidelines for assessing allegations against Peace Officers are also established in policy and are available at:

[www.gov.bc.ca/allegations-against-peace-officers](http://www.gov.bc.ca/allegations-against-peace-officers)

As this matter is now before the court the BCPS will not be releasing additional information or commenting further at this time.

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