



2018/19 ANNUAL REPORT



Prosecution
Service

Independent, Effective & Fair

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am very pleased to present the 2018/19 Annual Report for the BC Prosecution Service. Our lawyers, administrative staff, and managers have once again performed at an exceedingly high level during the past fiscal year. They have fulfilled our core mandate under the *Crown Counsel Act* of approving and conducting prosecutions and appeals, advising government, liaising with the public, and administering the criminal justice system of British Columbia and they have also initiated and implemented transformative changes that will make the system better, fairer, and more effective.



Peter Juk QC
Assistant Deputy Attorney General

In this Annual Report, you will find the following information:

- An overview of the criminal justice process in British Columbia and the role the BC Prosecution Service plays within it;
- Statistical summaries on some of the work of the BC Prosecution Service, including some measures of file volume and workload for the 2018/19 fiscal year;
- Some key performance indicators; and
- A description of our operational structure and a summary of our financial position at the end of the fiscal year.

In our [2018 –2021 BC Prosecution Service Strategic Plan](#), launched last year, we laid out the key goals and strategic priorities that will guide our work for the next three years. Our strategic priorities reflect the need to respond and adapt to the complex and rapidly changing legal and social context in which we work, while also supporting our people in meeting the challenges that change creates.

Some of our notable achievements this past year include:

- Implementing an Indigenous justice framework aimed at changing the status quo and addressing the overrepresentation of Indigenous persons in the criminal justice system. This includes extensive Cultural Safety Training and other educational opportunities for all employees and a series of new and revised policies that are both culturally-appropriate and legally-informed.
- Strengthening our efforts to support the mental health and wellness of our people by raising awareness and reducing stigma about mental health issues, while taking concrete steps to identify and address barriers to mental health education, awareness, resources, and treatment.
- Continuing to work on our Comprehensive Disclosure Solution, by adopting a common format for electronic disclosure, piloting new ways of marshalling disclosure at the front-end of files, and helping to develop a cloud-based, end-to-end digital evidence and disclosure management system.
- Assuming full responsibility for weekend charge assessment and bail processes, and planning for implementation of weekday evening bail this year. In addition to better access to justice, anticipated benefits from Crown-led after hours bail include more efficient file management and quality control, and improved workflows for police, Crown Counsel, and court registry staff.

In closing, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to each member of the BC Prosecution Service for their hard work, commitment, and professionalism.

Peter Juk QC
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
August 2019

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Vision

An independent prosecution service that people respect and trust.

Mission

We make timely, principled, and impartial charge assessment decisions that promote public safety, justice, and respect for the rule of law.

We conduct independent, effective, and fair prosecutions and appeals.

We strive to do the right thing for the right reasons and to be transparent about how we do it.

Values

Justice

Independence

Fairness

Integrity

Professionalism

These values guide us in everything we do.

OVERVIEW OF THE BC PROSECUTION SERVICE

The mandate of the BC Prosecution Service, the Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Attorney General, is defined by the *Crown Counsel Act*, RSBC 1996 Chapter 87.

Under the *Crown Counsel Act*, the BC Prosecution Service:

- a) approves and conducts prosecutions of all criminal and provincial offences in British Columbia;*
- b) initiates and conducts all appeals and other proceedings for these prosecutions;*
- c) conducts appeals or other proceedings for prosecutions in which the Crown is named as a respondent;*
- d) advises the government on all criminal law matters;*
- e) develops policies and procedures for the administration of criminal justice in British Columbia;*
- f) interacts with the media and affected members of the public on matters respecting the approval and conduct of prosecutions or related appeals; and,*
- g) completes any other function or responsibility assigned by the Attorney General.*

The Assistant Deputy Attorney General (ADAG) heads the BC Prosecution Service and is charged with administering the BC Prosecution Service and carrying out its mandate as outlined above. The ADAG designates “Crown Counsel”, who represent the Crown in all prosecution-related matters before all courts.

Subject to the ADAG’s direction, Crown Counsel are authorized to:

- a) Examine all relevant information and documents and, following the examination, to approve for prosecution any offence or offences they consider appropriate;
- b) Conduct the prosecutions approved; and
- c) Supervise prosecutions of offences that are being initiated or conducted by individuals who are not Crown counsel and, if the interests of justice require, to intervene and to conduct those prosecutions.

In carrying out these functions, Crown Counsel have legal and constitutional obligations to act as “ministers of justice” in court. They must exercise their responsibilities fairly, impartially, in good faith, and in accordance with the highest ethical standards. Political, personal, and private considerations must not affect the manner in which prosecutors proceed. The role of prosecutor excludes any notion of winning or losing. It is a public function carrying with it great personal responsibility, and it must be carried out efficiently, with a sense of dignity, seriousness, and justice.

While the BC Prosecution Service is part of the Ministry of Attorney General, its prosecutorial functions must be carried out independently of all outside political pressure. This independence is guaranteed by the Constitution and by the *Crown Counsel Act*, which permits the Attorney General, an elected official, to direct the ADAG’s conduct of individual prosecutions or appeals, only if he or she does so in a manner that is open to public scrutiny: by providing the direction in writing and publishing it in the BC Gazette, the official public record of all government notices.

Role of Crown Counsel

Crown Counsel exercise a *quasi*-judicial function under Canada's system of law. Their paramount duty is to see that justice is done in each case. When a crime is committed, it is a crime against society as a whole. Crown Counsel do not represent individual victims. They perform their function on behalf of the entire community. In practice, this means that while Crown Counsel conduct prosecutions vigorously, their first duty is to ensure that the trial process is fair, the evidence is presented thoroughly and accurately, and the integrity of the justice process is maintained. Crown Counsel are entrusted with the prosecution of all offences and appeals in British Columbia which arise under Canada's *Criminal Code* and do not fall within the jurisdiction of the federal prosecution service (such as prosecutions under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*). They also prosecute provincial regulatory offences.

British Columbia is one of three provinces in Canada where prosecutors decide whether criminal charges should be laid before a matter enters the court system. Police or another investigative agency prepare a Report to Crown Counsel (RCC) setting out the evidence relating to an alleged offence. Crown Counsel independently assess whether charges should be laid, based on the whole of the available evidence contained in the RCC.

The charge assessment guidelines that Crown Counsel must apply in reviewing all RCCs are established by policy and available online. When charges are not approved, Crown Counsel will make themselves available to explain the reasons for the decision when requested. In cases of significant public interest or concern, the reasons for charge assessment decisions may also be explained in "clear statements" disseminated by the Communications Crown Counsel and available online.

When charges are approved, the charge assessment standard continues to apply throughout the prosecution. If the standard for continuing a prosecution is no longer met, Crown Counsel must end the prosecution.

The requirement that Crown Counsel conduct charge assessment before charges are laid ensures, as much as reasonably possible, that only viable cases proceed to court. Oversight of the charging process by Crown Counsel also acts as a safeguard against miscarriages of justice.

Role of Special Prosecutors

Special prosecutors are appointed by the ADAG under the *Crown Counsel Act* when there is a significant potential for perceived or real improper influence in prosecutorial decision-making in a given case. The paramount consideration is the need to maintain public confidence in the administration of criminal justice. Special prosecutors are appointed from a list of senior lawyers in private practice. A lawyer's inclusion on the list is reviewed every five years, and approved by both the ADAG and the Deputy Attorney General.

The review includes asking the Law Society to conduct searches of its records to determine the standing of the lawyer. This helps to ensure a consistently high standard is applied to cases which are referred to a special prosecutor. Only the ADAG has authority to appoint a special prosecutor and to define the special prosecutor's mandate.

Once appointed, special prosecutors must adhere to the policies of the BC Prosecution Service when conducting their cases, including the charge assessment guidelines. However, they make their decisions independently of the BC Prosecution Service. Where there is a decision to prosecute, the special prosecutor ordinarily conducts the prosecution and any subsequent appeals.

OVERVIEW OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS

INVESTIGATION	CHARGE ASSESSMENT	PROSECUTION	SENTENCING	APPEALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police investigate possible crime. If warranted, police or other investigative agencies submit a Report to Crown Counsel (RCC) for charge assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crown Counsel receives RCC - which is then subject to charge assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a substantial likelihood of conviction? • Is a prosecution required in the public interest? • Crown Counsel can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lay charges • Not lay charges • Refer for alternative measures • Refer back to investigative agency for more information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If charges are laid, Crown Counsel conducts a prosecution against the accused on behalf of the community. • Trials may be held in Provincial Court or the Supreme Court of BC. • The trial will determine if the accused is found guilty or not guilty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the accused is found guilty after a trial, or pleads guilty, a sentence will be imposed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The decision of the judge or jury is final. However, that decision may be appealed. An appeal is a formal request to change or overturn the trial decision on the basis that an error was made in some important aspect of the trial. • Appeals can be initiated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From a conviction • From an acquittal, or • From sentence.

Investigation

When an alleged crime is reported to an investigative agency such as the police, or the agency itself identifies a possible offence, the agency will investigate and decide whether the incident warrants forwarding a RCC to the BC Prosecution Service. Crown Counsel do not investigate offences. It is the responsibility of the investigative agency, which functions independently from the BC Prosecution Service, to investigate and to exercise its own discretion in deciding whether to forward a RCC for charge assessment and prosecution.

Charge Assessment

When BC prosecutors receive a RCC from police or another investigative agency, they assess whether charges should be approved in accordance with the BC Prosecution Service’s charge assessment standard. Crown Counsel must fairly, independently, and objectively examine the available evidence in order to determine:

1. Whether there is a substantial likelihood of conviction; and, if so,
2. Whether a prosecution is required in the public interest.

Crown Counsel conduct charge assessments as quickly as possible, while still conducting a thorough analysis and making a principled decision. For more complex cases, the charge assessment process may take a considerable period of time. Crown Counsel may decide that no charges should be laid, charges should be laid, or the accused person should be referred for alternative measures rather than go to court. Annually, approximately 87 percent of the persons named in RCCs have charges against them approved.

Once the charge assessment has been conducted and charges are approved to court, a new prosecution file is created. The formal court process is initiated by the swearing of an Information (the charging document).

Prosecutions & Appeals

Crown Counsel conduct prosecutions and appeals in every level of court: the Provincial Court of BC, the BC Supreme Court, the BC Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court of Canada. When doing so, they are bound by the common law and statutory procedural and evidentiary rules that apply to criminal trials and appeals, including rules that govern the admissibility of evidence. Crown Counsel's decision making must also be informed by and be consistent with the constitutional rights that are guaranteed under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Crown Counsel do not act as the lawyers for victims of a crime. Rather, Crown Counsel appear in court as agents for the provincial Attorney General and conduct prosecutions on behalf of the entire community. However, both Crown Counsel and administrative staff are responsible under the provincial *Victims of Crime Act* and the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights* for ensuring that victims are made aware of available community and police-based victim assistance programs, and that there is a reasonable opportunity to have the impacts of an offence brought to the attention of the court in the form of a completed Victim Impact Statement.

Sentencing

Generally, about 60 percent of the matters for which charges are approved and which proceed to court result in a conviction – by way of guilty plea or a verdict after trial. The remaining 40 percent are concluded or resolved in other ways. Some are stayed (terminated) by the court, on legal grounds, or by Crown Counsel, because they no longer meet the charge assessment standard (and are therefore no longer viable for prosecution). In some cases, the accused are acquitted, the charges are abated when the accused dies, or the charges result in some other form of consequence for the accused. If an accused pleads guilty or is found guilty after a trial, Crown Counsel are responsible for making a recommendation on sentence. The final sentencing decision is made by the court. Post-sentence reviews, applications, appeals and other legal processes may result in some matters related to a concluded file being revisited.

Stays of Proceedings

Throughout the course of a prosecution, Crown Counsel have an ongoing obligation to assess the viability of each prosecution and ensure that it continues to meet the BC Prosecution Service's charge assessment standard. Many things can affect the viability of charges after they are initially approved, including (but not limited to): material changes in the strength of the prosecution's evidence; new evidence that would provide a principled basis for a finding of reasonable doubt; witness unavailability or lack of co-operation; or, information that changes the assessment of whether the public interest requires a formal prosecution.

If Crown Counsel determines that the charge assessment standard is no longer met, Crown Counsel must end the prosecution, usually by directing a stay of proceedings. Approximately half of all stays of proceedings directed by Crown Counsel still result in some form of consequence or guilty finding for the accused, such as a peace bond, referral to an alternative measures program, or a guilty plea on another file or to a different charge.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

This section provides a summary of statistics on the work of the BC Prosecution Service. The data source for the statistics, unless otherwise noted, is the Justice Information System (JUSTIN), a case management system that is used by investigative agencies, Crown Counsel, and the courts in BC.

Reports to Crown Counsel

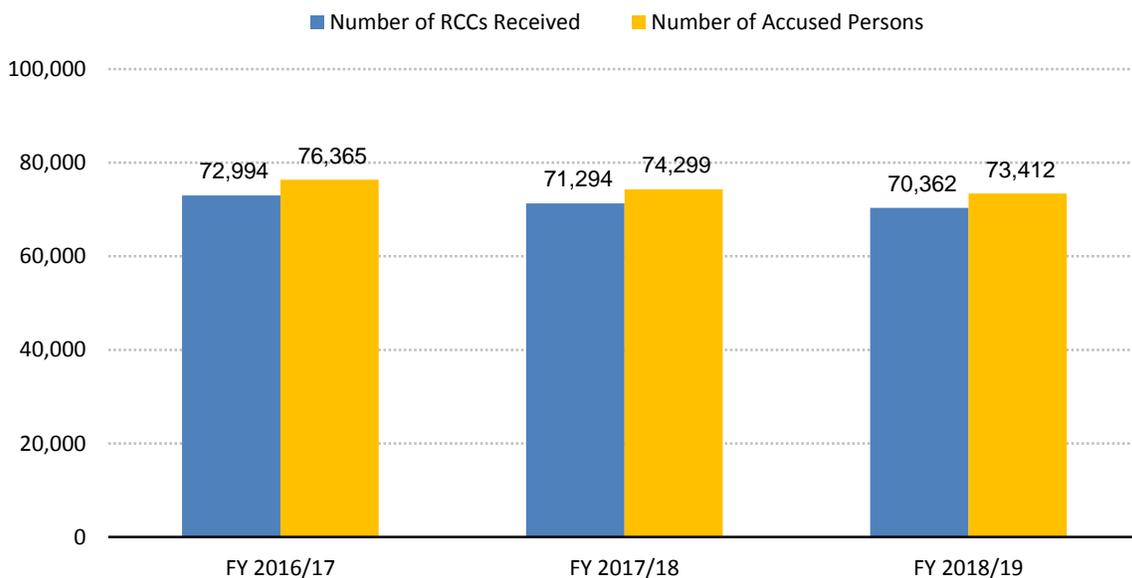
The number of RCCs submitted by investigative agencies is the single biggest driver of workload for the BC Prosecution Service. One or more accused persons may be named on an RCC, with one or more charges and one or more counts. Regardless of the number of accused persons, charges and counts, each RCC is counted once based on the date it was first entered in JUSTIN (i.e. received by the BC Prosecution Service).

In 2018/19, the BC Prosecution Service received a total of 70,362 RCCs, a decrease of 1.3 percent from 2017/18. The 2018/19 RCCs received had a total of 73,412 accused persons named, a decrease of 1.2 percent from the previous year.

For the past three fiscal years, the total volume of RCCs submitted by investigative agencies has remained relatively stable.

RCCs Received by the BC Prosecution Service

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

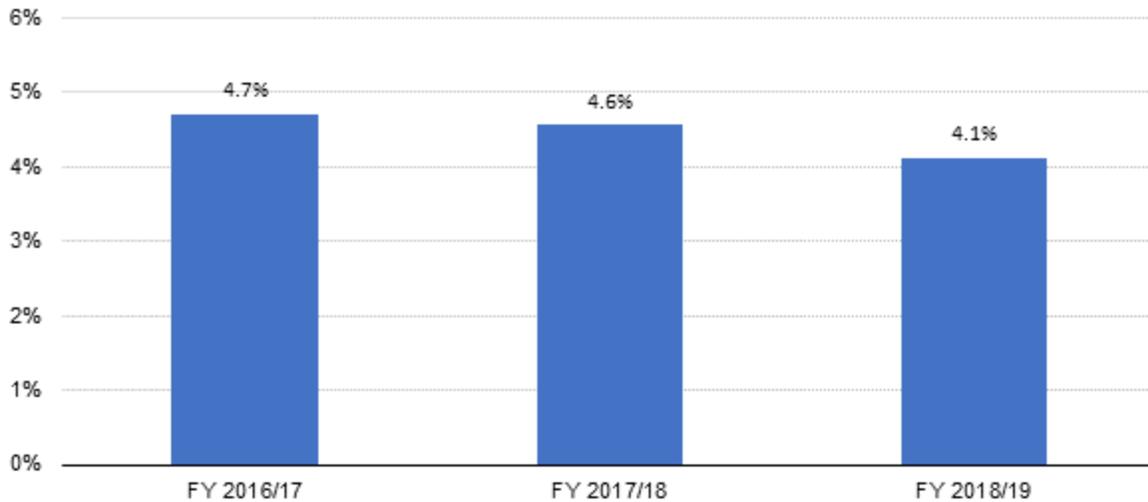
Note: An RCC is counted once based on the date it was first entered in JUSTIN, regardless of the number of accused persons, number of charges, or number of counts.

Accused Young Persons

As a percentage of all accused named on RCCs received, the number of accused young persons (those under the age of 18 and over age 11 on the offence date) has continued to decline over the last three years.

Percent of Accused Persons that were Youth

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

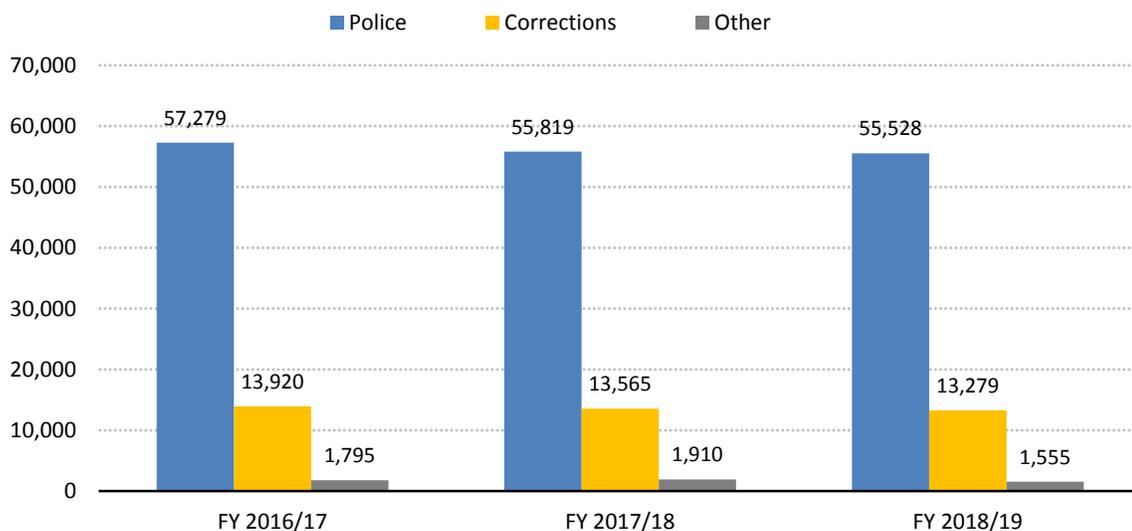
Note: An accused person is defined as a youth accused if they were under the age of 18 on the alleged offence date.

Types of Investigative Agencies

The BC Prosecution Service works with numerous investigative agencies with diverse mandates. Most of the RCCs received by the BC Prosecution Service are submitted by police agencies (79 percent). A significant proportion (19 percent) is submitted by BC Corrections. A small proportion (2 percent) is submitted by other types of investigative agencies such as the wildlife conservation service, and financial regulators.

RCCs Received by the BC Prosecution Service by Investigative Agency Type

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

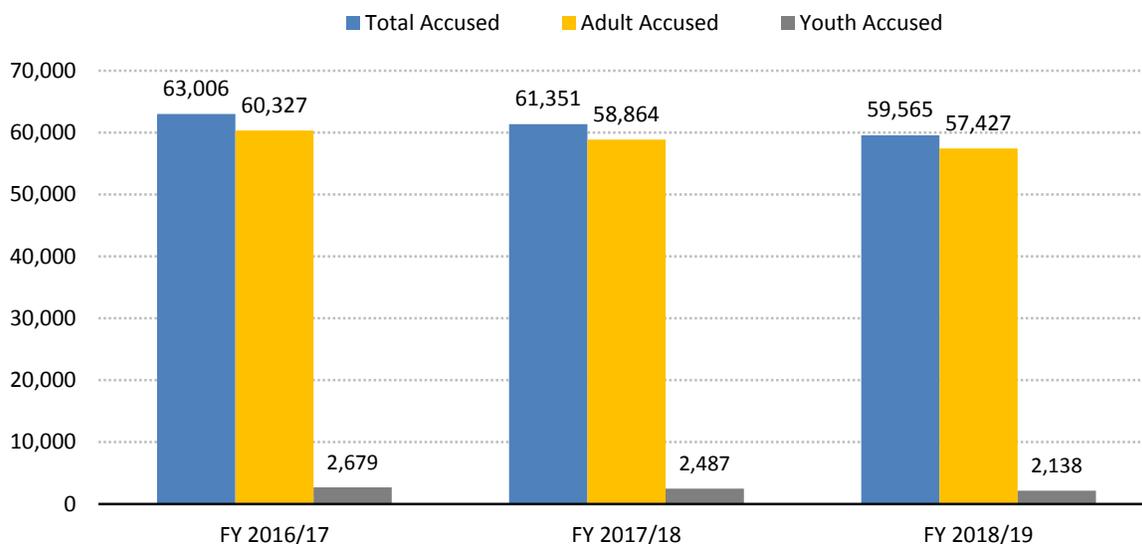
Note: An RCC is counted once based on the date it was first entered in JUSTIN, regardless of the number of accused persons, number of charges, or number of counts.

Charge Assessment Decisions

Charge assessment decisions are counted once for each accused person named on RCCs received in the fiscal year. If an accused person has at least one charge approved by Crown Counsel, the charge decision is recorded as “Approved to Court”. When a decision is made to approve charges, a new prosecution file (or multiple prosecution files) will be initiated. In 2018/19 a total of 59,565 accused persons were approved to court, of whom 57,427 were adults and 2,138 were youth. The number of youth approved to court has declined each year since 2014/15.

Number of Accused Persons Approved to Court

For Accused Persons Named on RCCs Received in Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

Of the 73,412 accused named on RCCs received in 2018/19, 69,734 had final charge assessment decisions at the time the data were extracted for this Annual Report. A total of 59,565 accused persons had charges approved, resulting in an overall 85 percent charge approval rate. Of those 13 percent had no charges approved and two percent were referred to alternative measures.

Percent Distribution of Charge Decisions

For Accused Named on RCCs Received in Fiscal Year 2018/19

Accused Persons	Approved to Court	No Charge	Alt Measures	Total
All Accused	85%	13%	2%	100%
Adult Accused	86%	13%	2%	100%
Youth Accused	75%	16%	9%	100%

Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

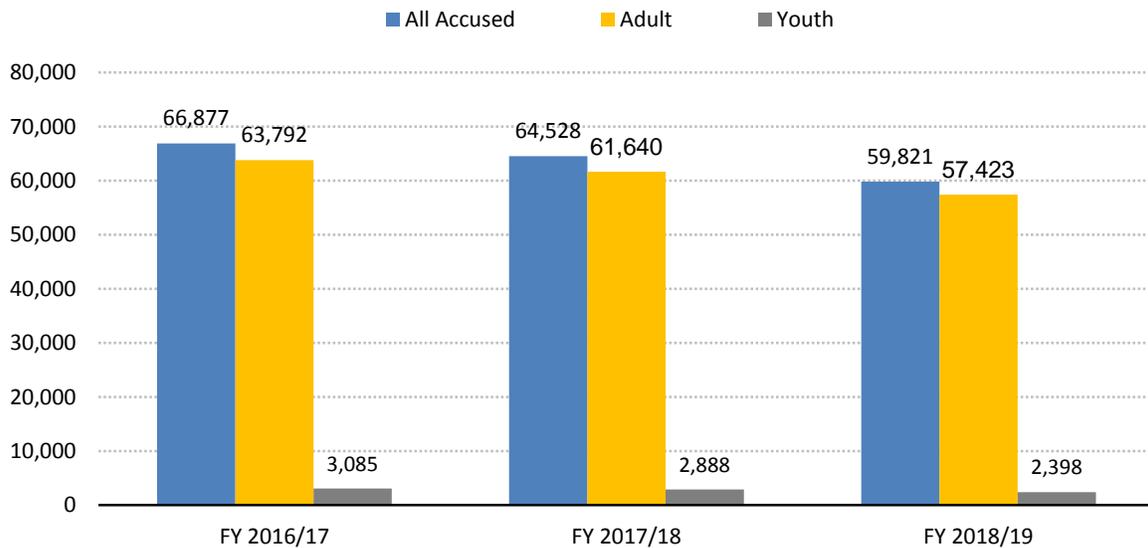
Note: Only includes final charge decisions as recorded in JUSTIN at the time of the data extract; does not include charge assessments that were still in progress or accused on RCCs that were returned to the investigative agency.

Concluded Prosecutions

A total of 59,821 prosecutions concluded in 2018/19, a decrease from the last two years. The number of concluded youth prosecutions has also decreased in each of the last three fiscal years.

Number of Concluded Prosecutions

Accused Persons on Prosecution Files that Concluded in Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

Note: A concluded prosecution is counted once for each accused person on a file that concluded in the fiscal year. If an accused person was on more than one file that concluded in the fiscal year, they are counted each time.

Of the accused persons on prosecution files that concluded in 2018/19, 60 percent had a guilty finding, one percent were not guilty, four percent entered into a recognizance to keep the peace (i.e. a peace bond), 34 percent had charges stayed (by the court or by Crown Counsel), and one percent concluded in some other fashion, such as a court finding of unfit to stand trial, or not criminally responsible due to mental disorder.

Percent Distribution of Concluded Prosecutions by Results Category For Accused Persons on Files that Concluded in Fiscal Year 2018/19

Accused Persons	Guilty	Not Guilty	Other	Peace Bond	Stayed	Total
All Accused	60%	1%	1%	4%	34%	100%
Adult Accused	60%	1%	1%	4%	33%	100%
Youth Accused	54%	2%	1%	3%	40%	100%

Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on July 10, 2018)

Note: Of the 34% of accused persons with charges stayed by Crown Counsel, approximately half received some other consequence for the accused or offender, including a peace bond, referral to alternative measures, or a plea on another file.

In 2018/19, a total of 14 prosecutions concluded with a Judicial Stay of Proceedings, for a variety of legal reasons, the most common being unreasonable delay.

HIGH-RISK OFFENDERS

The BC Prosecution Service is committed to protecting the community from high-risk sexual and violent offenders by making dangerous offender and long-term offender applications in appropriate cases. The protection of the public is the paramount concern.

Crown Counsel are responsible for identifying appropriate cases for dangerous or long-term offender applications, commencing with charge assessment for serious personal injury offences as defined by section 752 of the *Criminal Code*.

Dangerous Offender and Long-Term Offender Applications

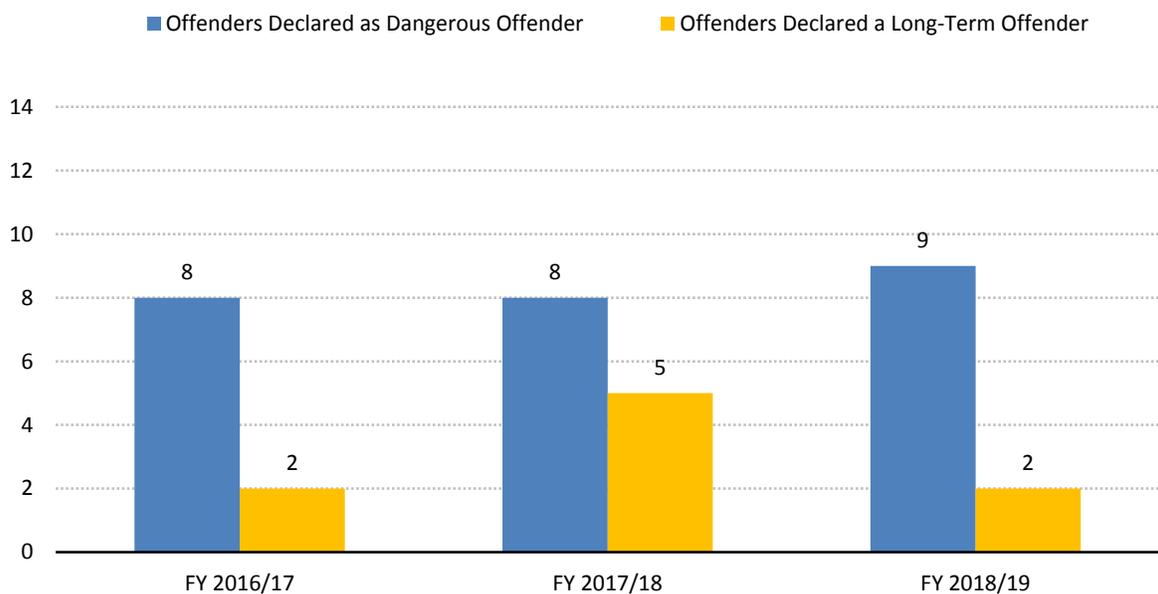
Section 753 of the *Criminal Code* sets out what findings are required to be made before an offender can be declared a “dangerous offender.” If the court declares an offender to be a “dangerous offender,” it has three sentencing options:

- Detention in a penitentiary for an indeterminate period;
- Incarceration for two years or more, followed by a long-term supervision order not to exceed 10 years in duration; or,
- An ordinary sentence, which may include incarceration or probation supervision, among other sentencing options.

The *Criminal Code* also sets out the circumstances in which the offender may be found to be a “long-term offender.” This designation is limited to cases where the offender has been convicted of certain specified sexual or violent offences or has engaged in serious conduct of a sexual or violent nature in the commission of another offence of which the offender was convicted. If the offender is found to be a long-term offender, the court will impose a sentence of two years or more, followed by a long-term supervision order not exceeding 10 years in duration.

Number of Dangerous and Long-Term Offenders Declared

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: High-Risk Offenders Identification Program, BC Prosecution Service

Recognizances to Keep the Peace – Section 810.1 and 810.2 Applications

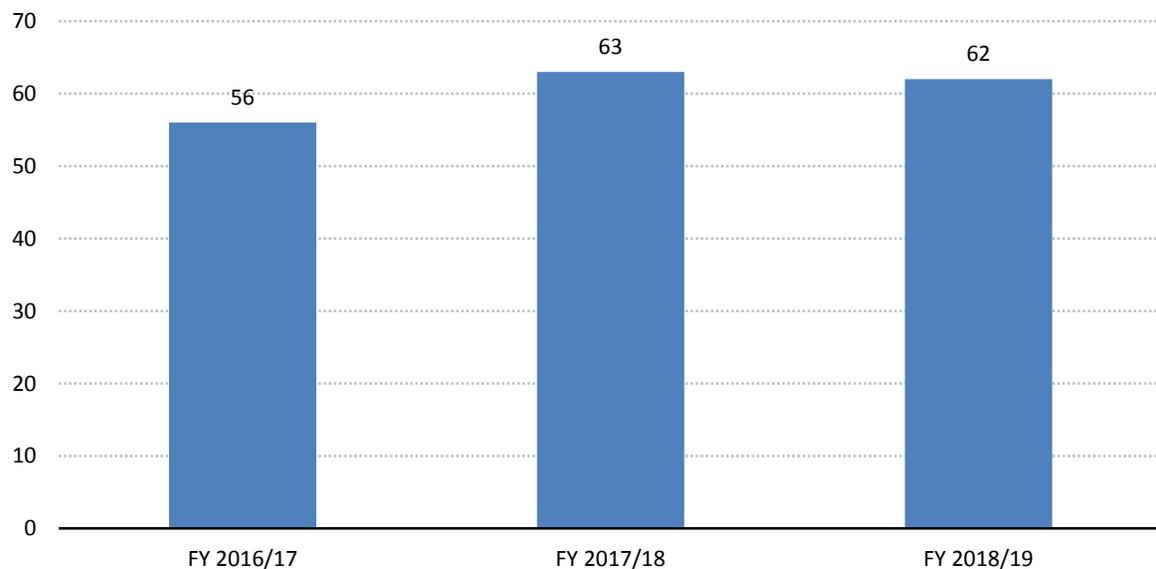
Section 810.1 and 810.2 of the *Criminal Code* provide a process for imposing restrictions on a defendant’s behaviour where there are reasonable grounds to believe that the defendant will commit certain sexual offences against children or other offences of serious violence. If the grounds are established and the person is ordered to enter into a recognizance, it is not considered either a sentence or a conviction since no offence is created by the provisions. The orders are designed to be preventative – placing the person under a court order not to engage in certain prohibited behaviours.

Section 810.1 of the *Criminal Code* allows for an Information to be laid before a provincial court judge for the purpose of having the defendant enter into a recognizance including conditions that he or she not engage in activity that involves contact with persons under 16 years of age and prohibiting him or her from attending certain places where persons under 16 years of age are likely to be present. The judge makes the order where satisfied on evidence that there are reasonable grounds to fear that the defendant will commit certain sexual offences against children under 16 years of age.

Section 810.2 of the *Criminal Code* allows anyone, with the consent of the Attorney General, to lay an Information before a provincial court judge for the purpose of having the defendant enter into a recognizance where there are reasonable grounds to fear that the defendant may commit a “serious personal injury offence” as defined in the *Criminal Code*. Conditions may be imposed, such as a weapons prohibition, to secure the good conduct of the defendant.

Number of s.810.1 and s.810.2 Applications Filed in Court

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted on June 18, 2019)

SUPPORTING VICTIMS

The BC Prosecution Service works diligently to ensure that all victims and witnesses have an equal opportunity to participate in the criminal justice process. As defined in BC *Victims of Crime Act* (VOCA), a victim is an individual who suffers physical or mental injury, or economic loss because of an offence. There can be secondary victims who have suffered emotional trauma because of an offence caused against a family member.

Under the VOCA and the *Canadian Victims Bill of Rights*, victims are provided with Victim Impact Statement (VIS) forms and other guidance regarding the criminal justice process. If charges are approved, a VIS & Statement on Restitution (SOR) Information Guide is sent to victims by BC Prosecution Service local offices.

Crown Counsel prepare victims for court and provide them with appropriate information about the prosecution and the criminal justice system. For certain files, Crown Counsel may meet with victims and their families to assist them in understanding the prosecution process.

Where there are particular concerns for the safety of the victim, or there is a request by the victim for ongoing information, Crown Counsel take steps to ensure that the victim is notified, either directly by administrative staff or through a victim assistance program, of the course of the prosecution, any future court dates, any bail conditions, and any changes in those proceedings or conditions. In appropriate situations, Crown Counsel will make applications for testimonial accommodations.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The BC Prosecution Service has developed several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which help assess and measure progress on important metrics.

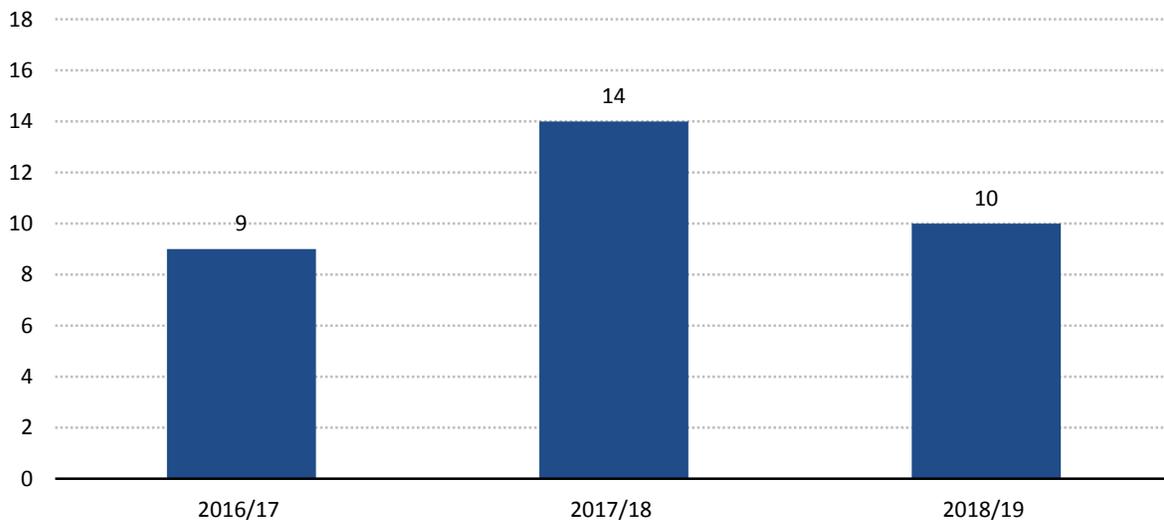
1. Judicial Stays of Proceedings (for delay only)
2. Charge Assessment Duration
3. Prosecution File Duration
4. Percent of all files and percent of intimate partner violence-related files that resolve at or before arraignment
5. Workforce Engagement Score

1. Number of Judicial Stays of Proceedings for Delay

This indicator measures the number of times in the reporting period that a judge stayed a criminal court case due specifically to delay. Each case is counted once based on the date of the judicial stay decision, regardless of how many accused persons were involved.

Number of Judicial Stay of Proceedings Decisions for Delay

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: Court Services Branch

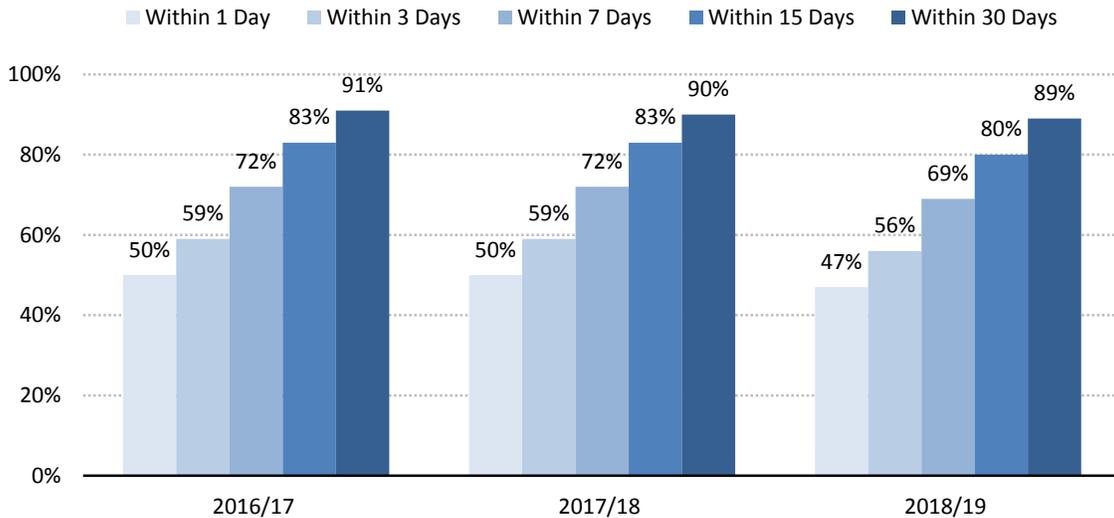
Note: Judicial Stay of Proceedings decisions are recorded in JUSTIN but the reason for the decision is not recorded. A Judicial stay of proceedings can be for reasons other than delay, such as abuse of process. To obtain a count of the Judicial stay decisions specifically for delay, the Court Services Branch contacts the relevant court registry for each Judicial stay decision to confirm what the reason was. This KPI includes only BC Prosecution Service files (i.e. federal files are excluded).

2. Charge Assessment Duration

This indicator measures how many days it takes Crown Counsel to complete charge assessment, from the date an RCC is received to the date Crown Counsel makes a charge decision.

Charge Assessment Duration

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted April 2, 2019)

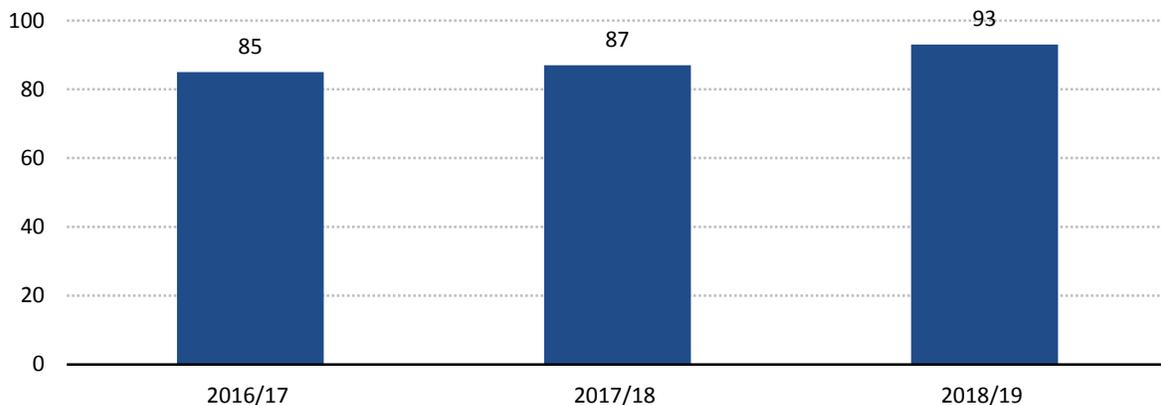
Note: The duration of a charge assessment is measured from the date the RCC was first received by the BCPS to the date of the final charge decision for each accused named on the RCC (i.e. approved to court, referred to alternative measures, or no charge).

3. Prosecution File Duration

This indicator measures how many days it takes for a criminal file to conclude, from the sworn/ filed date to the date that all counts on the file have a final disposition, and there are no future scheduled appearances. The median time is used as it is less susceptible to the influence of outliers and skewed data.

Prosecution File Duration (Days)

Median Time in Days (Net of Bench Warrant Days) Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: JUSTIN (data extracted April 2, 2019)

Note: The duration of a prosecution file is measured from the date the file was first sworn or filed in court to the disposition date. A prosecution file is counted once for each accused person on a file that concluded in the fiscal year. Any bench warrant days associated with the file are excluded from the calculation.

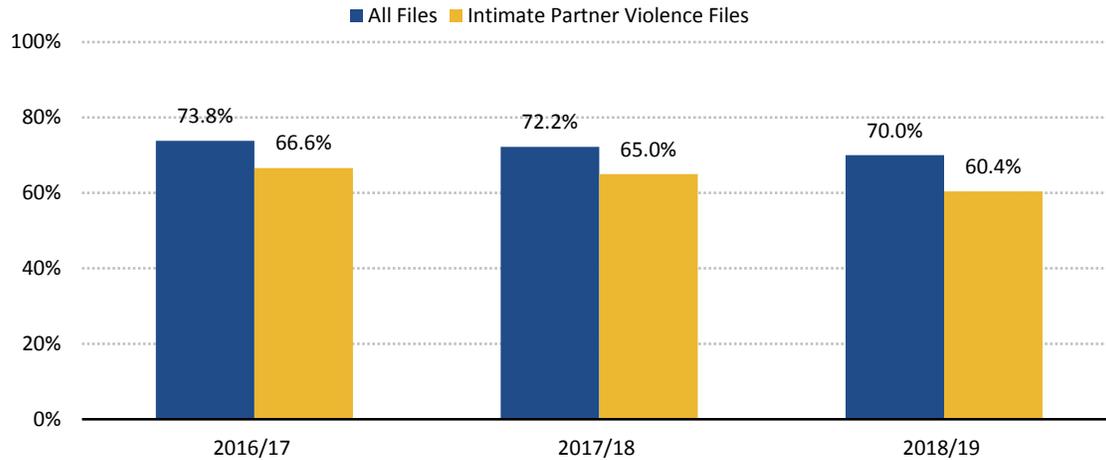
4. Percent of Files Concluded at or Before Arraignment

This indicator measures the percentage of files concluded at or before arraignment. A higher percentage means that a higher proportion of files are concluded at the earliest stages in the criminal process.

Data for both intimate partner (also known as domestic) violence-related files and all files are included in the graph below.

Percent of Files Concluded at or Before Arraignment

Fiscal Years 2016/17 to 2018/19



Source: BC Prosecution Service File Closing Survey (data extracted April 2, 2019)

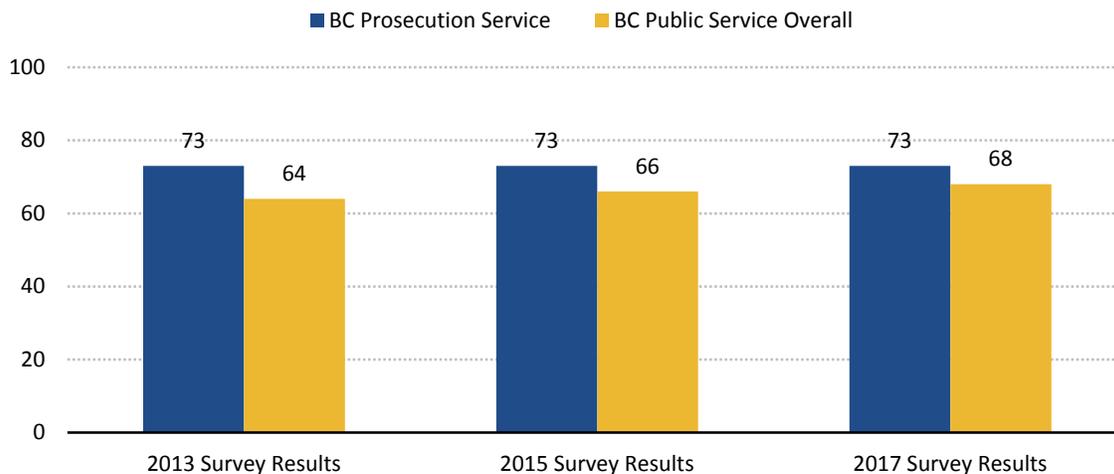
Note: The percent of files concluded at or before arraignment is a measure of early resolution; a higher percentage means a greater proportion of files are resolving at early stages.

5. Workforce Engagement Score

This indicator measures the overall level of employee engagement, as revealed through the Work Environment Survey (WES), which is commissioned by the BC Public Service Agency on behalf of the BC Public Service.

Workforce Engagement Score (Survey Results)

Years 2013 to 2017



Source: Work Environment Survey, BC Stats

Note: The Work Environment Survey is generally completed every other October. The 2017 survey was delayed slightly and took place in January 2018. The next survey is scheduled to take place in Fall 2019. Workforce engagement scores are an average of scores in three categories: Public Service Commitment, Job Satisfaction, and Organization Satisfaction.

REGIONAL PROFILES

The BC Prosecution Service has approximately 480 Crown Counsel and 390 administrative and management staff located in communities throughout the province. There are five regions: Northern, Interior, Fraser, Vancouver, and Vancouver Island, which conduct most prosecution functions at the regional and local level. The Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions (CASP) section, which has a province-wide mandate, has offices in Vancouver and Victoria. Headquarters personnel are located in Victoria and Vancouver.

Vancouver Island Region: The Vancouver Island region of the BC Prosecution Service encompasses Vancouver Island and the Powell River area of the Sunshine Coast. Nine prosecution offices serve nearly 100 communities. The regional headquarters is in Victoria.

Vancouver Region: The Vancouver region includes the urban communities of Vancouver, Burnaby, Richmond, West Vancouver, and the City and District of North Vancouver. It also encompasses the communities of Sechelt, Gibsons, Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, Mount Currie and the Bella Bella, Bella Coola, and Klemtu circuit courts. The regional headquarters is in downtown Vancouver.

Fraser Region: The Fraser region includes the communities of the Fraser Valley. Crown Counsel offices are located in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, New Westminster, Port Coquitlam, and Surrey. The regional headquarters is in New Westminster.

Interior Region: The Interior region comprises central and southeastern British Columbia, an area that includes the Thompson, Okanagan, and Kootenay River valleys. In conjunction with multiple RCMP detachments and seven prosecution offices, stretching from Kamloops to Cranbrook, BC Prosecution Service staff serve 23 court locations. The regional headquarters is in Kelowna.

Northern Region: The Northern region covers two-thirds of the province, a vast geographical area that stretches from the Yukon border in the north to 100 Mile House in the south, the Alberta border to the east, and Haida Gwaii to the west. With regional headquarters in Prince George, the Northern region operates out of 10 offices and serves 35 court locations.

Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions: Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions (CASP) has offices in Vancouver and Victoria. Serving the entire province, CASP operations include conducting indictable appeals in the B.C. Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada. CASP also houses the Major Case Management project team, and conducts specialized prosecutions and applications related to organized crime, proceeds of crime, securities, commercial crime, occupational health and safety, and police prosecutions. It provides policy coordination and constitutional litigation support to prosecutors across the province and manages the legal resources, learning and professional development services for Crown Counsel and administrative staff.

Headquarters: Headquarters has primary responsibility for the BC Prosecution Service business operations, as well as policy development, legislative updates, strategic planning, business intelligence, communications, security, financial, business applications and technology, information and privacy, and human resource services. Offices are located in Vancouver and Victoria.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The BC Prosecution Service’s fiscal environment in 2018/19 was similar to that of the previous fiscal year. Many expenditures remained subject to centralized controls including hiring, employee travel, and office supplies. Access to contingencies funding (the Contingencies Vote) was received for significant pressures resulting from major case costs, the Front End Efficiencies Project (FEEP), After-hours Bail, and Surrey Expansion, resulting in a modest reported surplus in the base budget.

Budget & Expenses 2018/19	
Estimates Budget	\$140,018,000
Other Authorizations	\$7,730,000
Total Authorized Budget	\$147,748,000
Expenses	\$147,276,000
Variance	\$472,000 (surplus reported)

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Administrative Crown Counsel Nina Purewal was awarded a Spring 2018 AG/PSSG *Leadership* award for skill and talent in running the Smithers Crown Counsel office, in the Northern Region.
- Office manager Tawnya Watson received a *Mentorship* award for her extensive knowledge and understanding of the court system and her ability to adapt her training styles to suit the needs of the individual.
- The BCPS-Financial Team won a *Spirit* award for consistently and accurately forecasting the BC Prosecution Service's fiscal year-end actuals to well within the required 1% of the Q3 forecast. Year after year, this group exceeds targets and expectations.
- The Continuous Improvement Plan/JUSTIN/Professional Development Integrated team won a *Collaboration* award for their leadership in working together to significantly enhance integration between their business areas, resulting in support and resources that are highly valued by employees.
- Stan Khan received a Spring 2019 AG/PSSG *Client Service* award for his extraordinary contribution to the Professional Development program within the BC Prosecution Service over the last seven years.
- Peter Hogg and James Whiting also won a Spring 2019 AG/PSSG award in the *Leadership* category. Peter is a much-valued senior leader at the Organized and Major Crime Unit (OMC) at CASP. James is the team lead and liaison for the BCPS with outside agencies for cannabis-related issues.
- In October 2018, the BC Prosecution Service had 39 Long Service Award recipients. Of note, Andrew Baldwin, Duncan Campbell, Peter Favell QC, Catherine Hagen, Shannon Halyk, Lindsay Herron, Lyle Hillaby, C. Crystal Jeffrey, Maureen Lewis, Jim MacAulay, Julie Mathias, Jennifer McAllister, Daniel Mulligan, Debra Pope, Tina Sanders, Winston Sayson QC, Phillip Sebellin, Liz Seward, Patti Tomasson and Grant Wong all received their 30-year Service Awards. Wendy Elizabeth, Allan Mandell, Tina Pasin and Lisa Wood received their 35-year Service Awards.
- In November 2018, James Macaulay received a Premier's Award for his outstanding legacy in the area of environmental prosecutions.
- Also in November, Carl Prophet and Steve Hoffman received a Compliance and Enforcement Collaborative (C&EC) challenge coin under the category of "going above and beyond to support the C&EC and C&E Sector" for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of the compliance and enforcement sector in British Columbia.
- On December 10, 2018, Barry Zacharias, Gordon Matei, and Susan Brown were all appointed Queen's Counsel by Attorney General David Eby QC. This honour is conferred on members of the legal profession to recognize exceptional merit and contribution.
- On January 24 and 25, 2019, the BCPS hosted 132 members along with Indigenous Elders from across the province for the Indigenous Justice Cultural Safety Gathering 2019. The event was held on the traditional territory of the Songhees First Nation at the Songhees Wellness Centre. Attendees learned about cultural safety and the lasting legacy of colonization and racism that Indigenous peoples in British Columbia have experienced and are experiencing. The Gathering was honoured by the Association of Continuing Legal Educators (ACLEA) with an award of professional excellence in the public interest

category at the ACLEA conference in Chicago on July 30th.

- During the May 2019 Crown Counsel Conference, recognition awards for excellence for 2018/2019 were presented to:
 - The After Hours Bail Team: Sunday Patola, Sophia Kim, and Vianna Desnoyers - Vancouver Island Region
 - Dasein Nearing – Vancouver Region
 - Alan Ip – Vancouver Region
 - Louise Kenworthy – Fraser Region
 - Nick Reithmeier – Fraser Region
 - Nashina Devji – Interior Region
 - The Crown Led Bail Team: Terry Lawrence, Richard Smith, Ashley Stevens, Marie-Noelle Nesbit – Northern Region
 - Lori McMorrان – Headquarters
 - The Handlen Team: Bethany Watson, Laura Ford, Mark Sheardown, Gordon Matei, Q.C., Lesley Ruzicka, Tim Livingston and Caroline Richardson – Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions
 - The Criminal Contempt Prosecution Team: Patti Tomasson, Monte Ruttan, Mark Crisp, Shelley Hulko, Lesley Ruzicka, Susan McCallum, Oliver Fleck, Nick Melling, James Patterson, Lauren Chu, Bill Hilderman, Angel Pedersen, Carol Ablitt, Joyce Sung, and Katy Workman – Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions

- During the May 2019 Crown Counsel Conference, Leadership awards were presented to:
 - Adrienne Venturini – Vancouver Island Region
 - Louise Krivel – Vancouver Region
 - Lori Ashton – Fraser Region
 - Jill Vivian – Interior Region
 - Joe Temple – Northern Region
 - Dolfi Havlovic – Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions

- During the 2019 Virtual Conference for Administrative staff, Leadership awards were presented to:
 - Kayla White – Vancouver Island Region
 - Sharon Savory – Vancouver Region
 - Shannon Simpson – Vancouver Region
 - Catharine Sloan – Fraser Region
 - Judy Jordan – Fraser Region
 - Stacey Allan – Interior Region
 - Cassandra Paterson – Northern Region
 - Sherry Northcott – Criminal Appeals and Special Prosecutions
 - Michelle Clough – Headquarters
 - Laura Ritchie – Headquarters



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