

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

**2016/17
Annual Service Plan Report**



For contact information and hyperlinks to additional information about the
Ministry of Justice and the
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General,
see pages 28-29.

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and the
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Attorney General and Minister of Justice Message and Accountability Statement



As British Columbia's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, I am pleased to introduce this joint *2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report* for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

It is an honour to be named as Attorney General, and I am impressed with the work that has been done to transform the justice and public safety sector to improve access to justice for all British Columbians. Last year, in a fourth-anniversary update to his report on the criminal justice system, D. Geoffrey Cowper, Q.C. highlighted B.C.'s progress in improving early resolution rates, achieving better timeliness in criminal justice cases and improving the handling of complex prosecutions. This annual report underscores the many ways in which our sector has made progress over the past year, and the work we continue to do to make the sector more efficient, responsive, and fair.

In 2016 the ministry launched the Civil Resolution Tribunal, a user-focused, online platform that enables British Columbians to settle strata and small claims disputes out of court and at their convenience. We have also undertaken a larger transformation of administrative tribunals, by moving service delivery online and streamlining dispute resolution processes.

This year, the province reaffirmed its support for four Justice Innovation and Transformation Initiatives delivered by the Legal Services Society. For example, through the expanded Family LawLINE, those experiencing family law issues can access basic legal advice by phone or email at no cost. Not only do these initiatives provide critical services to those needing help with disputes and legal issues, they assist us in improving access to justice for all British Columbians.

As a sector, we continue to address the over-representation of Indigenous people as victims and offenders in the justice system by improving relationships with Indigenous leadership and communities. In November 2016, B.C. reiterated its support for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, granting the commissioners the authority to examine matters within the jurisdiction of the province.

These initiatives represent only a handful of the sector's achievements that are highlighted in this report. The joint *Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the ministries' actual results to the expected results identified in the ministries' joint *2016/17—2018/19 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

Andrew Wilkinson.

Honourable Andrew Wilkinson
Attorney General and
Minister of Justice

June 19, 2017

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Message and Accountability Statement



As British Columbia's Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am pleased to introduce this joint *2016/17 Annual Service Plan* Report for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

The justice and public safety sector continues to adapt to new challenges, and in the past year, our sector has taken action to ensure that British Columbians remain safe, secure, and confident in our justice system.

In July 2016, the province established the Joint Task Force on Overdose Response to integrate responses by law enforcement and the health sector. An additional \$3.3 million was provided to fund resources for the Coroners Service, naloxone kits and additional scanning equipment for police. The

Coroners Service continues to support critical evidence-based harm reduction and death prevention measures by providing monthly data, and following the formation of the Drug Death Investigation Team, it is better equipped to identify trends and patterns.

The Ministry established an inter-ministry Assistant Deputy Ministers' committee to contribute recommendations and to develop provincial strategic policy direction on the issues of cannabis legalization. British Columbia's approach, consistent with federal legislation introduced this past spring, is to prioritize public health and public safety concerns, including protecting young people, deterring illicit activities and crime, and enhancing public awareness of the health related risks associated with cannabis use.

We remain committed to our goal of having the safest roads in North America. Informed by extensive public consultation, new measures took effect June 1, 2016 to give B.C. one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada.

The Vision for a Violence Free BC strategy identifies addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls as a key priority. The province has committed more than \$70 million per year in prevention and intervention services for victims of crime, and in this past year we made further progress in addressing the major themes of the British Columbia Missing Women Commission of Inquiry report. In September 2016, the *Provincial Policing Standards on Missing Person Investigations* came into effect, which ensures that any missing person case is addressed promptly and proactively.

The joint *Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the ministries' actual results to the expected results identified in the ministries' joint *2016/17—2018/19 Service Plan*. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Morris', written in a cursive style.

Honourable Mike Morris
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

June 19, 2017

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Purpose of the Ministries

The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General share the vision of a safe, secure, just and resilient British Columbia. They work together to administer justice, deliver public safety services and programs, and provide legal advice to government.

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the following program areas: administrative, civil and family justice services; court services; family maintenance enforcement; legal advice and services to government; legal aid; and prosecution services.¹

The areas of responsibility of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General are: civil forfeiture; consumer protection; coroners service; correctional services; crime prevention; criminal record checks; policing and law enforcement; private security industry regulation; restorative justice; road safety; and victim services.²

Strategic Direction and Context

The ministries share the same goals and objectives for the justice and public safety sector in British Columbia, as identified in this joint 2016/17 annual report. Throughout 2016/17, the ministries supported government's commitment to a strong economy and secure tomorrow, and fulfilled their responsibilities in accordance with the [Taxpayer Accountability Principles](#) to ensure cost conscious governance and accountability to British Columbians.

The ministries have continued to transform the justice and public safety sector, working in collaboration with leaders, participants and stakeholders across the sector. This is consistent with the direction provided by the Premier in her December 2015 [mandate letters](#) to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Sector transformation has also been informed by ongoing engagement with Indigenous³ leadership and communities to build stronger relationships and reach an understanding of what can be done differently to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Indigenous peoples across B.C.

During 2016/17, numerous factors affected the ministries in delivering their responsibilities and shaped the transformation agenda of the justice and public safety sector, including:

- the national dialogue on the need to improve access to justice;
- the opioid public health emergency;
- mental health and addiction issues demanding increasing resources and enhanced coordination of services;
- over-representation of Indigenous people in the justice system, as both victims and offenders;
- violence against women remaining a significant concern;
- illegal guns and gang violence;

¹ The Ministry of Justice also oversees a number of agencies, boards, commissions and other tribunals. Overviews of these organizations are presented in Appendix B.

² See Appendix B for overviews of the agencies and boards overseen by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

³ The word Indigenous is used throughout this document and is intended to be inclusive of anyone who is Aboriginal, First Nations, Metis or Inuit in B.C.

- increasing service delivery demands and costs;
- rapidly changing technology and increased expectations for digitized services;
- federal government commitments that impact the province;
- constitutional and legislative requirements, including aligning with federal initiatives;
- external audits, reviews and commissions of inquiry; and,
- court decisions impacting service delivery, including timeliness of service.

The ministries are committed to a sustainable justice and public safety sector that is fair, protects people, and has the public's confidence. This demands that they:

- maintain efficient and affordable operations and service delivery;
- have effective governance structures;
- continue to implement a robust and evolving plan for transformation;
- ensure alignment between budget, investments and transformative goals and objectives;
- identify, understand, accept and manage the risks associated with transformation; and
- monitor, measure and report on performance for accountability.

Report on Performance

This section presents the ministries' goals and objectives, as set out in the joint [*Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan*](#), provides an update on the strategies to achieve them, and reports performance measures used to assess progress.

All of the mandate letter directions provided by the Premier to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General have been completed or are significantly underway.⁴ These and other key accomplishments of the ministries are highlighted here.

The ministries have operated in accordance with the Taxpayer Accountability Principles of cost consciousness (efficiency), accountability, appropriate compensation, service, respect and integrity. They regularly monitor operations and performance, including conducting evaluations of pilot initiatives.

The ability to measure performance well is a critical enabler for getting results and achieving goals, and strengthening the business intelligence and performance management capacity of the ministries is a key component of the justice and public safety transformation agenda.⁵

⁴ Status updates for the mandate letter directions are presented in Appendix D.

⁵ Protocols are in place to ensure compliance with the Taxpayer Accountability Principles by the Legal Services Society (LSS), an independent organization funded by the provincial government that reports its activities to government through the Attorney General and Minister of Justice. These include: quarterly meetings between the Attorney General and Minister of Justice and the Chair of the LSS Board of Directors; quarterly meetings between the Deputy Attorney General and the LSS Chief Executive Officer; and a Standing Committee of the Assistant Deputy Minister, Justice Services Branch, and the CEO for addressing any issues arising between the parties. Measures of LSS performance against the Taxpayer Accountability Principles are included in their *2016/17 Annual Service Plan Report*.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Results

The ministries have jointly adopted the goals and objectives developed by British Columbia's Justice and Public Safety Council, as set out in the first [Strategic Plan for the Justice and Public Safety Sector, April 2014 – March 2017](#) and reaffirmed in the [third annual update](#) to the plan, released by the Council in March 2017. This sector-wide strategic plan is based on a broad range of advice, consultation and recommendations from leaders, participants and stakeholders across the sector, and the goals and objectives identified in it are viewed as essential to the sector's health.

To maintain trust, we must ensure fairness. We must protect people, especially those who are most vulnerable. We must manage the sector in an innovative and sustainable way and, finally, we must ensure that the public has confidence in the integrity of the sector.

Strategic Plan for the Justice and Public Safety Sector, April 2014 – March 2017

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

Objective 1.1 Accessible

Objective 1.2 Impartial

Objective 1.3 Timely

Strategies

Ministry of Justice

- The [Civil Resolution Tribunal](#), Canada's first online tribunal, offers 24/7 access to user-focused services through the use of self-help, online dispute resolution, assessment and triage services. The tribunal has been resolving strata disputes since July 2016, encouraging collaborative agreements and making binding decisions when people cannot agree. The first phase of the tribunal's small claims jurisdiction was also implemented in 2016/17, allowing the tribunal to begin resolving small claims disputes up to \$5,000 as of June 2017. Diverting lower limit monetary claims to the tribunal frees capacity within the justice and public safety sector to resolve other matters.
- Tribunal transformation is shifting the way B.C.'s administrative tribunals deliver services. The *Administrative Tribunals Statutes Amendment Act*, brought into force in December 2015, enables the clustering of administrative tribunals, gives tribunals the authority to make the use of early dispute resolution methods mandatory, and enhances their accountability through new reporting requirements. By moving service delivery online, integrating support services and systems, streamlining dispute resolution processes and clustering sector-based tribunals together, the infrastructure is being built for more efficient and effective tribunal services. A long term plan to co-locate administrative tribunals is being implemented for efficient resource management.
- Expansion of the Surrey Courthouse began in June 2016. The project will include three additional courtrooms and two other hearing rooms, increasing access to justice in B.C.'s busiest provincial court location. The expansion is expected to be completed by early 2018. Court capacity is also being increased with the development of a new Abbotsford courthouse, announced in February 2017. Both of these capital projects were recommended as priorities in the [Lower Fraser Valley Regional Plan Court Capacity Expansion Project Final Report](#), developed by municipalities in the region. (See also page 24.)

- Justice access centres in Vancouver, Victoria and Nanaimo maintain their vital function in providing support to families and self-represented litigants. Offering legal information and dispute resolution services, justice access centres enable citizens to access a number of justice service providers in one location.
- Reflecting a commitment to provide early assistance and support early resolution, dedicated funding of \$6 million was committed over three fiscal years since 2014/15 to support five Justice Innovation and Transformation Initiatives delivered by the Legal Services Society. The pilot projects were assessed in 2016/17 and approval was granted to continue the following four for further evaluation: expanded Family Duty Counsel at the Victoria Justice Access Centre; expanded Family LawLINE telephone and email advice service province-wide; the original Parents Legal Centre for child protection matters at the Robson Square Vancouver Courthouse; and expanded Criminal Duty Counsel in Port Coquitlam. The fifth pilot, a mediation referral service offered in collaboration with Mediate BC, was wound down due to low uptake.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- In September 2016 the province introduced a Community Impact Statement Program that enables the courts to admit – and judges to weigh – statements about how an offence has impacted a community. A community representative, such as a local organization, civic government, religious organization, or First Nations community, may prepare a statement on behalf of the people who live and work in the affected area. Like victim impact statements, community impact statements will describe the emotional, physical and financial impacts of an offence on a community.
- The Road Safety Initiative is expected to reduce traffic dispute pressures on the court system, improve police efficiency and road safety, and make justice more accessible for citizens. Phase one includes: electronic roadside ticketing; online payment of traffic tickets; and robust business intelligence, integrating data to take dangerous drivers off the roads sooner.

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

Objective 2.1 Preventative

Objective 2.2 Protective

Objective 2.3 Systemic Approach

Strategies

- The ministries are working to address the over-representation of Indigenous people as victims and offenders in the justice and public safety sector. Central to that work is improving the sector's relationship with Indigenous leadership and communities, and continuing to work across government toward long-term reconciliation.
- The ministries support the [*Federal-Provincial-Territorial Framework to Address Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls*](#), which identifies priorities to guide jurisdictions in a more coordinated approach to addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls. And in November 2016, the province passed an order in council that gives the commissioners of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls the authority to examine matters within the jurisdiction of the province.

- Through the federal [Aboriginal Justice Strategy](#), the ministries are working in partnership with Justice Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Children and Family Development to support culturally-relevant, community-based alternatives and supports to the formal justice system (e.g., diversion, restorative justice, crime prevention and early intervention, circle sentencing, court liaison).
- The Trauma Informed Practice Project (TIP) was announced in July 2016 as part of the federal investment of \$3.4 million over five years to enhance services to victims of crime in British Columbia. The TIP project is receiving \$785,000 in funding over five years as part of this agreement. A cross-sector training symposium was held in March 2017, and research to support development of a trauma-informed practice awareness, education and training curriculum was undertaken in 2016/17. The project fulfils a central recommendation from B.C.'s [fifth justice summit](#), held in November 2015.
- The ministries support the work of the Cabinet Working Group on Mental Health in developing a cross-government strategy on mental health. Additionally, the ministries support individuals with mental health and substance use needs through: integrated courts and corrections programs to reduce reoffending; the [Mental Health Strategy for Corrections in Canada](#) which ensures continuity of care; mandatory crisis intervention and de-escalation training for frontline police officers and supervisors, now taken by more than by 8,000 police officers in B.C.; and local police and health authority protocols for working with people with mental health and substance use needs.
- During 2016/17, the ministries continued to collaborate in the development and implementation of a comprehensive disclosure strategy with the goal of achieving more effective and efficient management of criminal case disclosure. The objectives are to: develop a system-wide understanding of the disclosure process; reduce the overall resource burden associated with disclosure management practices; and build awareness and understanding of disclosure obligations and best practices.

Ministry of Justice

- The [Specialized Courts Strategy](#) provides an evidence-based, integrated approach for specialized courts in the province. Vancouver's Downtown Community Court, the Drug Treatment Court of Vancouver, First Nations Courts, Domestic Violence Courts, and the Victoria Integrated Court are all examples of innovative approaches that bring together justice, corrections, health and social services to collaborate and respond to the complex needs of individuals involved in the criminal justice system.
- Launched in February 2017, the Aboriginal Family Healing Court Conference pilot program gives vulnerable Indigenous families at risk of having their children taken into care a stronger voice in the child protection process by including Elders in the proceedings. This initiative is led by the Ministry of Children and Family Development with support from Elders, the Office of the Chief Judge, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, and the Legal Services Society.
- The ministry supports the Integrated Services Network, a new initiative in Surrey that brings together agencies from justice, social services and health to address the root causes of crime. Fulfilling a recommendation in the [Surrey Criminal Justice Recommendations Report](#), the network targets 'social chronic' offenders whose interactions with the criminal justice system are a result of

their substance use, mental health and housing challenges. It aims to reduce relapses among prolific offenders with multiple disorders, including decreasing the severity of new charges.

- Following the June 26, 2014 Supreme Court of Canada landmark decision, which granted a declaration of Aboriginal title to the Tsilhqot'in Nation, the Ministry of Justice has been working with First Nations and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to develop a positive way forward. The goal is to ensure Indigenous rights are protected as the province pursues the economic growth that will benefit First Nations communities and all British Columbians.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- The [Vision for a Violence Free BC](#) strategy identifies addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls as a key priority. The province committed more than \$70 million in 2016/17 in prevention and intervention services for victims of crime, including women and children impacted by violence. Civil forfeiture grant funding was provided to support 111 community-led projects that align with the Vision for a Violence Free BC strategy and address violence against women, and 23 projects to support communities to heal and rebuild after violence against Indigenous women. In November 2016, the province submitted a proposal to the federal government for funding to establish a Family Information Liaison Unit in the ministry, designed to provide a 'one stop information service' to assist families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The proposal was approved and work to establish the unit commenced in early 2017.
- Work is substantially completed or underway on the major themes of the British Columbia Missing Women Commission of Inquiry [report](#). Progress to date includes violence prevention work, compensation to the children of the murdered and missing women, and improved policing practices. The [Provincial Policing Standards on Missing Person Investigations](#) came into effect in September 2016; major case management standards are now complete; and training to support unbiased policing is being rolled out across the province.
- The ministry continues work to combat domestic violence, including: supporting nine Domestic Violence Units; Domestic Violence Courts; domestic violence programming in Corrections; utilization of contracted professionals to serve protection orders where needed; and the www.saysomethingbc.ca radio and social media campaign. In March 2017 the province announced the Supporting Healthy Relationships program and provided grants of \$60,000 each to 11 community organizations to deliver domestic violence prevention/intervention programming to perpetrators prior to the charge, conviction or sentencing stage of the criminal justice process.
- A B.C. Coroners Service Death Review Panel was held in June 2016 and [A Review of Intimate Partner Violence Deaths 2010 – 2015](#) was released. The panel, composed of professionals with expertise in law, intimate partner violence, victim services, child welfare, Indigenous health, public health, education and law enforcement, reviewed the circumstances of the 75 fatal intimate partner violence incidents that resulted in 100 deaths from 2010 to 2015, and made three recommendations aimed at: intimate partner violence awareness and education; collaborative safety planning and case management; and data access, data quality and information sharing – all of which are intended to contribute to reducing intimate partner homicides in British Columbia.
- Government announced an additional \$23 million for the enhanced Guns and Gangs Strategy in April 2016. The expanded strategy aims to bolster public safety through: supporting effective enforcement and prosecution; furthering community safety and public engagement; and expanding

laws and sanctions targeting illegal guns and gang violence, profits and property. An Office of Crime Reduction and Gang Outreach was established to work with police agencies, local governments and communities to support evidence-based, coordinated and integrated policing-related and anti-gang activities. In addition, an Illegal Firearms Task Force was created in September 2016, comprised of key stakeholders and subject matter experts, to draft a series of recommendations to help identify, address and combat illegal firearms in British Columbia. The task force complements the work taking place on the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Crime Prevention and Policing Committee working group, which has been tasked with developing a national Guns and Gangs Strategy.

- The ministry has been following through on recommendations set out in [*Getting Serious About Crime Reduction*](#), a report from Parliamentary Secretary, Darryl Plecas, and the Blue Ribbon Panel on Crime Reduction released in December 2014. The report made six broad recommendations for a more cohesive and collaborative approach aimed at preventing and reducing crime in British Columbia. An additional \$5 million was invested in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to enhance community safety across the province through a number of initiatives, including: youth gang crime prevention projects focused on at-risk and Indigenous youth; the Williams Lake and Region Integrated Community Safety Initiative, to address safety priorities in the area in a collaborative manner; expansion and enhancement of Domestic Violence Units focused on addressing high-risk cases of domestic violence; developing a Gang Exiting and Outreach pilot project; and an expansion of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia (CFSEU-BC) Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority (PTEP).
- In addition to the enhanced Guns and Gangs Strategy, the province has invested approximately \$64 million annually (including federal contributions of \$19 million) to support B.C.'s anti-gang unit CFSEU-BC, which is the largest integrated joint forces police program in Canada. This investment supports frontline efforts to keep young people out of gangs and remove gangsters, their associates and illegal weapons from the streets. (For more information on CFSEU-BC, see page 36.)
- In July 2016, the province established the Joint Task Force on Overdose Response to integrate health and public safety sector responses and law enforcement efforts, and to ensure cooperation between the sectors in addressing the overdose crisis. The province's response focuses on seven key areas: immediate response to an overdose; preventing overdoses; public education and awareness about overdose prevention and response; monitoring, surveillance and applied research; improving the scheduling of substances and equipment under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and the Precursor Control Regulations; improving federal enforcement and interdiction strategies; and enhancing the capacity of police to support harm reduction efforts related to street drugs. In 2016/17 an additional \$3.3 million was provided to fund additional resources for the B.C. Coroners Service, naloxone kits (the opioid antidote) and additional scanning equipment for police, enhanced community outreach, and to supplement CFSEU-BC's PTEP program. Key data provided monthly by the B.C. Coroners Service continues to support critical evidence-based harm reduction and death prevention measures.
- The Child Death Review Unit of the B.C. Coroners Service reviews the deaths of all children age 18 and under in the province to better understand how and why children die, and to use those findings to prevent other deaths and improve the health, safety and wellbeing of all children in B.C. Through these reviews, data are gathered that can show trends in child deaths. In some cases, deaths are further reviewed by way of a cluster review or through the multidisciplinary death

review panel process. Information arising from these reviews is analyzed and shared with other agencies to inform programs to deter or prevent child deaths.

- The health, safety and wellbeing of First Nations and Indigenous people in B.C. is supported through the collaborative work of the Coroners Service and the First Nations Health Authority to: ensure meaningful mortality data surveillance; review Coroners Service practices to ensure they are culturally safe and that the agency's staff are culturally competent; strengthen relationships with First Nations communities, families and individuals to ensure respect for the community-driven and nation-based decision making of First Nations; and the appointment of First Nations people as coroners in their communities.
- Work is underway on all of the recommendations related to safety in correctional centres put forward in [*Standing Against Violence*](#), the report by Parliamentary Secretary for Corrections, Laurie Throness. This work includes: a new policy regarding opioid agonist therapy policy released in April 2016; implementation of a correctional officer screening tool that targets de-escalation skills; and enhanced privacy training delivered to Corrections staff.
- The ministry continues to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to combat distracted driving. Informed by extensive public consultations, new measures were announced in May 2016 to give B.C. one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada. Each distracted driving offence now results in a fine of \$368 (up from \$167) combined with escalating driver penalty points and possible driving prohibitions. Distracted driving is now considered a high-risk driving offence, equivalent to alcohol and drug impaired driving, excessive speeding, and driving without due care and attention. An ongoing education and awareness campaign launched in September 2016 will also help encourage drivers to understand that distracted driving is high-risk behaviour with potentially fatal consequences.
- The result of collaboration by more than 40 road safety experts, [*Moving to Vision Zero: Road Safety Strategy Update and Showcase of Innovation in British Columbia*](#) aligns with Canada's [*Road Safety Strategy 2025*](#) and highlights the application of the safe systems approach – the understanding that road safety developments must account for the inevitability of human error, the limitations of the human body in withstanding force, and the responsibility of road and vehicle designers, policy makers and users. With this approach and implementation of evidence-based practices, and through a thorough study of how road safety is managed around the globe, the ministry is reinforcing its commitment to road safety principles that will lead to the province having the safest roads in North America.
- The [*B.C. Community Road Safety Toolkit*](#) details some of the most effective and innovative road design ideas for cities, gathered from jurisdictions worldwide. The toolkit was developed in 2016/17 through RoadSafetyBC in collaboration with local governments, academia, the private sector, ICBC, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Health and others. It's a resource to support municipalities as they make infrastructure or other road safety related changes.
- In April 2016, the federal government announced that new legislation would be introduced in the spring of 2017 to legalize cannabis across Canada. In response, the cross-ministry Public Safety Issues Committee on Cannabis Legalization was established by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to lead efforts in B.C. to identify concerns that will need to be considered.

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

Objective 3.1 Focused

Objective 3.2 Managed

Objective 3.3 Effective

Strategies

- The ministries have been working toward information management and information technology systems modernization to: increase integration and information sharing across the justice and public safety sector; ensure that information is accessible, accurate, complete and secure; and increase citizen access to, and improve interaction with, justice and public safety services.
- The ministries undertake evidence-based workforce planning and support an informed, engaged, innovative and performance-focused workforce that is prepared for the future. Initiatives underway include: developing a leadership framework to support succession management; promoting and reinforcing respectful workplace practices; and improving staffing practices to reduce time and effort and meet future workforce needs while reinforcing meritorious staffing.
- The Lean⁶ approach continues to be deployed throughout the ministries to support improvement of processes and services while building internal capacity through the elimination of unnecessary rules, processes, activities and non-essential steps.
- The ministries actively participate in the [Reducing Red Tape for British Columbians](#) initiative – a key government priority to improve the service experience of citizens – and are committed to exploring citizens’ ideas and acting on feasible improvements to deliver services that are faster, easier to access and simpler to use.

Ministry of Justice

- The Court Administration Transformation Suite refers to a series of service-focused initiatives that, building on existing court technologies and processes, will allow court matters to be conducted more efficiently both inside and outside the courtroom, and allow court information to be entered, accessed and shared more quickly and accurately among justice and public safety sector partners.
- As part of continuing efforts to ensure the most effective management of existing resources, the ministry has been working with the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of British Columbia to support them in developing potential efficiencies and appropriate performance measures, with the goal of enhancing the business administration processes of the Superior Courts.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- As part of its long-term policing strategy, set out in the [British Columbia Policing and Community Safety Plan](#), the ministry established the Police Structure and Funding Expert Committee in 2014, comprising representatives from First Nations, local government, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, the RCMP, independent police forces, a designated policing unit, and the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. The goal of the committee was to assess how

⁶ Lean is a process improvement methodology that originated over 50 years ago. It encourages innovation and recognizes quality, cost, productivity, safety and people as key drivers of organizational performance and effectiveness. It’s a way of putting value on those steps that benefit citizens and stakeholders, and eliminating steps that don’t contribute to beneficial citizen outcomes.

police services should be delivered and to determine which level of government should be responsible for their delivery. An analysis and review of the structure of policing in other provinces was conducted by the committee, as well as an environmental scan of police services being delivered in B.C., and findings from the review are being used to inform policy analysis.

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

Objective 4.1 Adaptive

Objective 4.2 Performance-focused

Objective 4.3 Empowering

Strategies

- Sector-wide consultations on transforming the justice and public safety sector continue, and the 6th and 7th B.C. justice summits were held in June and November 2016. Focusing on justice, mental health and substance misuse, the summits brought together representatives from the leadership of the justice and public safety and health sectors, Indigenous organizations, police agencies, health authorities, health clinicians, non-governmental organizations and service agencies, the professions, and other subject matter experts. The goal of the 7th summit was to formalize a recommendation that an action plan be established to address two key issues raised at the 6th summit: coordination of response to those with mental health and substance use disorders who are in crisis in the community; and ensuring continuity of care regarding treatment of mental health and substance use disorders where the justice and mental health systems intersect.⁷
- Coordinated business intelligence and performance measurement systems are being strengthened to assist with strategic planning, monitoring and decision making within the ministries and across the broader justice and public safety sector, and to enable better public reporting of progress toward goals and objectives. The ministries also continue to facilitate the publication of data sets via the [DataBC](#) website and through justice data dashboards to support informed dialogue between citizens and government regarding the functioning, accountability and performance of the sector.

Ministry of Justice

- A review of the BC Prosecution Service was conducted by Murray D. Segal, LLB, BCL. The focus of the review was on the branch's efficiency, approaches to transformation and collaborative practices. The branch's current initiatives were also compared with promising practices in similar jurisdictions, especially across Canada and in Australia, England and New Zealand. Released in August 2016, the report, [Championing Positive Change: Findings of the Review of the BC Prosecution Service](#), included the key finding that the BC Prosecution Service is at the top of prosecution services in relation to innovation, collaboration, communication, efficiency and continuous improvement. A number of recommendations were also included in the report for additional steps that could be taken to strengthen efficiency and effective resource allocation.

⁷ The report of proceedings of the 6th justice summit is available at: <https://www.justicebc.ca/app/uploads/sites/11/2016/03/SixthBCJusticeSummitReport.pdf>.
The report of proceedings of the 7th justice summit is available at: <https://www.justicebc.ca/app/uploads/sites/11/2016/03/SeventhSummitReport.pdf>.

- British Columbia continues in a leadership role in working with jurisdictions across Canada to enforce interjurisdictional support orders. Amendments to the *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act* have allowed a more efficient process for the collection of funds from assets or payors located in British Columbia, thereby cutting red tape and helping speed up enforcement action for those not making their payments. Amendments to the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act* have eliminated the need to require certified copies or orders in some cases, making this process more efficient. The amendments also facilitate the transfer of responsibility for serving support applications received from other jurisdictions from the Court to the British Columbia designated authority.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Through its independent investigations, inquests and death review panels, the B.C. Coroners Service continues to provide the public with information about individual deaths, mortality trends and health and safety risks. Findings and verdicts provide the province with meaningful recommendations to help prevent future deaths in similar circumstances. The agency continues to enhance its data collection, data management and information sharing with groups and agencies to inform and support evidence-based, targeted safety initiatives. Recommendations formulated by coroners and inquest juries are aimed at preventing future deaths in similar circumstances.

Performance Measure 1: Crime rates

Police-reported crime rates in B.C. (Criminal Code offences per 1,000 persons)	2014 Baseline	2015 Actual	2016 Target	2016 Actual ¹	2017 Target ²	2018 Target
Violent crime ³	11.5	12.2	10.4	NOT AVAILABLE	12.0	12.0
Property crime ⁴	48.8 ⁵	49.8	44.1	NOT AVAILABLE	52.0	52.0
Other crime ⁶	15.6	16.5	14.1	NOT AVAILABLE	16.7	16.7
Overall crime rate	76.0 ⁷	78.4	68.6	NOT AVAILABLE	80.6	80.6

Data Source: Crime data are obtained through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. Every police agency across Canada participates in this annual survey, which is managed nationally by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, a part of Statistics Canada. The data are reported by calendar year.

¹ It is anticipated that the rates for 2016 will be available late summer 2017, which is consistent with prior year reporting.

² The targets for 2017/18 and 2018/19 have been revised based on forecast rates for 2016, as reflected in the joint *2017/18 – 2019/20 Service Plan* for the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. After ten years of consecutive annual decreases, British Columbia's overall crime rate increased in 2014 (by 2.2 per cent) and increased again by 3.5 per cent in 2015. In 2014 the increase was driven entirely by property crimes, while in 2015 all three offence types saw year-to-year increases. The 2017 and 2018 targets have therefore been revised to maintain the rates forecasted for 2016, rather than targeting reductions in crime rates as in the past.

³ Violent offences include homicide, attempted murder, sexual and non-sexual assaults, firearm offences, robbery, forcible confinement or kidnapping, abduction, extortion, criminal harassment, uttering threats, threatening or harassing phone calls, and other violent offences.

⁴ Property offences include the offence categories of theft, motor vehicle theft, possession of stolen property, trafficking in stolen goods, identity theft, identity fraud, breaking and entering, arson, mischief, fraud, and altering/removing/destroying a vehicle identification number.

⁵ This actual has been revised from the 48.9 per cent reported in the *2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* based on updated data for 2014 reported by Statistics Canada.

⁶ *Criminal Code* offences which are not violent or property related are classified as 'other' offences. These include, but are

not limited to, counterfeiting, offensive weapons, child pornography, prostitution, gaming and betting, offences related to currency, disturbing the peace, and offences against the administration of justice.

⁷ This actual has been revised from the 75.8 per cent reported in the *2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan* based on updated data for 2014 reported by Statistics Canada.

Discussion

- 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 indicator of trends in crime than is the actual number of offences because it allows for population differences.
- Many factors influence police-reported crime rates, including demographic changes, social and economic factors, public reporting practices, Crown and police charging practices, technological advancements, legislative amendments, local police service priorities, and social perceptions and attitudes towards certain crimes.
- While government does not control crime rates, crime reduction strategies are a priority of the justice and public safety sector and these rates are tracked as an indicator of progress toward the goal of protecting people.

Performance Measure 2: Rates of Non-reoffending

Percentage of adult offenders who are not re-convicted in B.C. within two years of release from custody, commencement of community supervision, or active supervision ¹	2014/15 Baseline	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target ²	2018/19 Target
Community Corrections	75.9	74.6	76	74.5	73.5	73.8
Custody	48.7	47.9	50	40.8	48.8	49.0
Overall rate of non-reoffending	71.6	70.1	72	69.4	69.3	69.6

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from B.C. Corrections data, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

¹ This measure is defined as the per cent of offenders who are not re-convicted within two years of their release from custody or commencement and/or continuation of a community sentence and return to B.C. Corrections. The 2016/17 rate is based on sentenced offenders under supervision in 2014/15. The rates are calculated on the first day of each fiscal year for the purpose of service plans and annual reports.

² The targets for 2017/18 and 2018/19 have been revised based on previously forecasted rates for 2016/17, as reflected in the *Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2017/18 – 2019/20 Service Plan*.

Discussion

- Rates of non-reoffending are used as a litmus test when assessing the overall effectiveness of the justice and public safety sector in deterring and rehabilitating offenders, and thereby contributing to the goal of protecting people. However, criminal behavior is highly complex, involving a variety of individual and societal factors, and overall rates are slow to change. Therefore, targeting modest gains in these rates is appropriate. It should also be noted that trends in non-reoffending rates are best examined over the long term, as it is expected there will be minor fluctuations in the rates from year to year.

- The 2016/17 targets for this measure were not met. B.C. Corrections will be examining factors that may have contributed to the variance in rates of non-reoffending for those released from custody (e.g., changing offender demographics, offence types, and other external factors) to inform a response to improve outcomes for these offenders. Improving rates of non-reoffending remains a priority and efforts to do so will continue to focus on evidence-based strategies and increased collaboration among justice, public safety, social services and health partners.

Performance Measure 3: Traffic fatality and serious injury rates

Traffic fatality and serious injury rates	2010 -2014 Baseline¹	2015 Actual	2016 Target	2016 Actual²	2017 Target³	2018 Target
Number of traffic fatalities per 100,000 population	6.6	6.3	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.5
Number of serious traffic injuries per 100,000 population	55.3	55.9	52.2	53.5	51.3	49.1

Data Source: Data on the number of traffic fatalities are from the Traffic Accident System maintained by the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia. Data on serious injuries are from the Ministry of Health’s Discharge Abstract Database. Serious injuries are defined as those requiring overnight hospitalization. Population estimates and projections are from BC Stats as of July 1 each year.

¹ The baseline is the average per year from 2010 to 2014.

² Results for 2016 are preliminary as there is typically a six-month delay for the data to be finalized.

³ The targets for 2017 and 2018 have been revised based on previously forecasted rates for 2016, as reflected in the *Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2017/18 – 2019/20 Service Plan*.

Discussion

- Traffic fatality and serious injury rates are indicators linked to the goal of protecting people. Based on preliminary results, the targets for 2016 were not met. As the rates are affected by random variations from year to year, trends are most meaningful when considered over the long term. The influence of factors external to government must also be taken into account. Despite these considerations, reductions in traffic fatalities and serious injuries over the long term remain good indicators of road safety improvements.

Performance Measure 4: Rate of traffic fatalities and serious injuries involving high-risk driving behaviours

Rate of traffic fatalities and serious injuries involving high-risk driving behaviours	2014 Baseline	2015 Actual	2016 Target	2016 Actual ¹	2017 Target ²	2018 Target
The number, per 100,000 B.C. population, of serious injuries and fatalities resulting from a crash where alcohol, drugs, speed and/or distraction/inattention were assessed to be a factor.	31.6	33.7	29.0	32.5	29.1	27.9

Data Source: These rates are based on data collected from police attended crashes occurring on public roads that result in serious injuries or fatalities. Police record the factors they believe influenced the crash and assess whether victims have serious or fatal injuries. Serious injuries are assessed by the officer and may differ from hospitalization counts. A fatality or serious injury with more than one of these three contributing factors will be counted once for each incidence reported. Population estimates and projections are from BC Stats as of July 1 each year.

¹ Results for 2016 are preliminary as there is typically a six-month delay for the data to be finalized.

² The targets for 2017 and 2018 have been revised based on previously forecasted rates for 2016, as reflected in the *Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2017/18 – 2019/20 Service Plan*.

Discussion

- This measure is an indicator of success in protecting the public from the high-risk driving behaviours within the scope of the measure (alcohol, drugs, speeding and distraction).
- Based on preliminary results, the 2016 target was not met. As with the traffic fatality and serious injury rates, this rate is affected by random variations from year to year, and trends are most meaningful when considered over the long term.
- Combatting high-risk driving behaviours remains a priority of the justice and public safety sector.

Performance Measure 5: Timeliness of Victim Financial Assistance claim adjudication

Timeliness of victim financial assistance claim adjudication	2014/15 Baseline	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target ¹	2016/17 Actual ²	2017/18 Target ³	2018/19 Target
Average number of days to adjudicate claims for financial assistance from victims and others impacted by violent crime	63	75	65	76	75	75

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

¹ The 2016/17 target was based on a forecast of 65 days for 2015/16.

² The 2016/17 actual reported is a projection of final results for 2016/17, based on decisions completed for 83 per cent of the applications received. Final results for 2016/17 will not be available until all cases received in that fiscal year have been closed.

³ The targets for 2017/18 and 2018/19 have been revised based on a previously forecasted rate for 2016/17, as reflected in the *Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2017/18 – 2019/20 Service Plan*.

Discussion

- This measure indicates the level of client service and system efficiency in administering the Crime Victim Assistance Program under the *Crime Victim Assistance Act*.
- Targets for the measure are based on forecasts, staffing levels and projections for the number of applications that will be received by the program.
- Based on the preliminary results, the 2016/17 target for this measure was not met, primarily due to increasing application volume in the last year combined with staffing challenges.
- To determine claimants' eligibility for benefits, the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 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 months; urgent cases requiring immediate assistance are expedited.

Performance Measure 6: British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards

Policing standards	2014/15 Actual	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target	2016/17 Actual	2017/18 Target	2018/19 Target
Cumulative number of <i>British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards</i> approved for implementation	27	29	34	34	38	42

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from records kept by the Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Discussion

- The [*British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards*](#) serve to set benchmarks against which certain aspects of police activities are measured. They are designed to ensure the safe and effective delivery of policing and to strengthen police accountability.
- The target for 2016/17 was met. The development of new policing standards is undertaken by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in consultation with an advisory committee comprised of interested stakeholders. Fiscal implications are considered during the development of new standards and significant efforts are made to mitigate costs.

Performance Measure 7: Average child and family support payments per case per year recovered through the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program

Performance Measure	2010/11 – 2014/15 Baseline ¹	2015/16 Actual	2016/17 Target ²	2016/17 Actual ³	2017/18 Target ⁴	2018/19 Target
Average child and family support payments per case per year recovered through the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program	\$4,479	\$5,163	\$5,150	\$5,319	\$5,425	\$5,533

Data Source: Results for this measure are derived from the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program Case Management Application, Ministry of Justice. Results are calculated as total payments per fiscal year divided by the total number of cases. A case is defined as a court order for support with a payor and a recipient.

¹ The baseline is the average for the five-year period from 2010/11 to 2014/15.

² The 2016/17 target was based on a previously forecasted rate for 2015/16.

³ The 2016/17 actual is based on preliminary results for the program. Final results will be available in July 2017.

⁴ The targets for 2017/18 and 2018/19 have been adjusted since publication of the *Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2016/17 – 2018/19 Service Plan*. They are based on two per cent year to year increases from the 2016/17 actual.

Discussion

- The Family Maintenance Enforcement Program in the Ministry of Justice was responsible for the administration of 39,881 cases in 2016/17, including necessary enforcement measures to ensure payment of child and family support. Case management activities are carefully tracked, including enrolment of cases, payments, enforcement measures taken (administrative and court), and communications with clients.
- A key outcome for the program is the average payments per year to families enrolled in the program. The target for established for 2016/17 was exceeded.

Financial Report

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Justice

The Estimates operating expense budget of the Ministry of Justice in 2016/17 was \$491.0 million. The ministry received a budget increase of \$14.8 million compared to the 2015/16 fiscal plan for salary increases for Crown and Legal Counsel and for the Economic Stability Dividend for eligible union employee groups.

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of \$57.1 million including \$9.7 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for major cases and prosecutions, Civil Resolution Tribunal and Tribunal Transformation, Family Maintenance and Enforcement Program, Guns and Gangs Strategy, the Independent Investigations Office, the Okanagan Correctional Centre, and support services, as well as \$47.5 million statutory appropriation under the Crown Proceeding Act for settled claims against the government.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's Total Estimated budget was \$548.1 million compared to Actuals of \$547.5 million; the savings in actual expenses as compared to the total estimated amounts was primarily a result of adjustment of Prior Year's Accruals.

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Justice

	Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Justice Services	110,362	5,633	115,995	116,671	675
Prosecution Services	126,598	1,676	128,274	126,328	(1,946)
Court Services	99,852	1,024	100,876	102,868	1,992
Legal Services	21,207	0	21,207	16,916	(4,291)
Agencies, Boards and Commissions	13,305	0	13,305	13,068	(237)
Executive and Support Services	15,833	0	15,833	19,639	3,807
Judiciary	71,786	1,118	72,904	72,904	0
Crown Proceeding Act	24,500	47,468	71,968	71,968	0
Independent Investigations Office	7,552	218	7,770	7,770	0
British Columbia Utilities Commission	1	0	1	0	(1)
Statutory Services²	0	0	0	0	0
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(645)	(645)
Total	490,996	57,137	548,133	547,487	(646)

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

Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)					
Justice Services	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecution Services	0	0	0	124	124
Court Services	0	0	0	3,091	3,091
Legal Services	0	0	0	5	5
Agencies, Boards and Commissions	0	0	0	0	0
Executive and Support Services	4,842	0	4,842	1,660	(3,182)
Judiciary	570	0	570	508	(62)
<i>Crown Proceeding Act</i>	0	0	0	0	0
Independent Investigations Office	145	0	145	142	(3)
British Columbia Utilities Commission	10	0	10	0	(10)
Statutory Services²	363	0	363	364	1
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5,930	0	5,930	5,896	(34)
Other Financing Transactions (\$000)					
Executive and Support Services (Interest on trusts and deposits)	0	0	0	0	0
Receipts	(2,900)	0	(2,900)	(593)	2,307
Disbursements	2,900	0	2,900	593	(2,307)
Net Cash Source (Requirements)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts	(2,900)	0	(2,900)	(593)	2,307
Total Disbursements	2,900	0	2,900	593	(2,307)
Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)	0	0	0	0	0

¹ Other Authorizations include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

² Statutory Services includes the Public Guardian and Trustee Operating Account.

Environmental Appeal Board and Forest Appeals Commission Resource Summary Table

The board and the commission operate independently from the Ministry of Justice; however, their budget vote is the responsibility of the ministry.

	Estimated	Other Authorizations	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Administration and Support Services	1,461	0	1,461	1,361	(100)
Environmental Appeal Board	312	0	312	198	(114)
Forest Appeals Commission	310	0	310	121	(189)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(25)	(25)
Total	2,083	0	2,083	1,655	(428)

Major Capital Projects – Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice	Targeted Completion Date (Year)	Approved Anticipated Total Cost of Project (\$ millions)	Project Cost to March 31, 2017
<p>Abbotsford Courthouse</p> <p>Construction of a new 14 room courthouse in Abbotsford adds needed court capacity and supports the Lower Fraser Valley Regional Plan Court Capacity Expansion Project Final Report.</p> <p>The project is to be 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 is to begin in 2018 with facility operations beginning in 2020.</p> <p>The new construction will double the number of courtrooms available in the current facility and create over a thousand jobs during the course of construction.</p>	2020	157	2

Discussion of Results – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

The Estimates operating expense budget of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General in 2016/17 was \$681.3 million. The ministry received a budget increase of \$9.9 million compared to the 2015/16 fiscal plan that includes \$10.3 million for Okanagan Correctional Centre operating costs, \$0.7 million for the Economic Stability Dividend for eligible union employee groups, and \$0.2 million to support the new Minister's Office after the December 2015 reorganization⁸, offset by program transfers and employee benefit rate adjustments.

The Public Accounts shows Other Authorizations of \$35.2 million, including \$33.2 million in Contingencies Vote access primarily for costs related to the Guns and Gangs Strategy, the Joint Task Force on Overdose Response, the Road Safety Initiative, Immediate Roadside Prohibition Program, the Driver Medical Fitness Program, increased inmate count in Adult Custody, the new Okanagan Correctional Centre, the provincial policing RCMP agreement, major cases, and support services, and \$2.0 million in additional statutory appropriation under the Criminal Asset Management Fund Special Account, Civil Forfeiture Special Account, and Victim Surcharge Special Account.

Including the Other Authorizations, the ministry's Total Estimated budget was \$716.6 million compared to Actuals of \$716.5 million; the savings in actual expenses as compared to the total estimated amounts is primarily due to savings in shared cost agreements.

⁸ In December 2015, the Ministry of Justice became two ministries: the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Financial Report Summary Tables – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

	Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Operating Expenses (\$000)					
Corrections	231,805	6,797	238,602	238,602	0
Policing and Security Programs	356,850	14,116	370,966	370,966	0
Victim Services and Crime Prevention	40,387	0	40,387	38,067	(2,320)
BC Coroners Service	12,339	751	13,090	13,090	0
RoadSafetyBC	9,202	11,330	20,532	20,532	0
Executive and Support Services	15,969	250	16,219	18,540	2,320
Statutory Services²	14,785	1,995	16,780	16,699	(81)
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	(1)	(1)
Total	681,337	35,240	716,577	716,495	(82)
	Estimated	Other Authorizations ¹	Total Estimated	Actual	Variance
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue) (\$000)					
Corrections	0	0	0	4,863	4,863
Policing and Security Programs	0	0	0	22	22
Victim Services and Crime Prevention	0	0	0	0	0
BC Coroners Service	0	0	0	117	117
RoadSafetyBC	0	0	0	980	980
Executive and Support Services	16,342	0	16,342	0	(16,342)
Statutory Services	0	0	0	0	0
Adjustment of Prior Year's Accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16,342	0	16,342	5,982	(10,360)

¹ Other Authorizations include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies.

² Statutory Services includes the following Special Accounts: Civil Forfeiture Account; Corrections Work Program Account; Criminal Asset Management Fund; and Victim Surcharge Special Account.

Major Capital Projects – Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Major Capital Projects	Targeted Completion Date (Year)	Approved Anticipated Total Cost of Project (\$ millions)	Project Cost to March 31, 2017 (\$ millions)
<p>Okanagan Correctional Centre: Construction of a new 378-cell correctional centre near Oliver to add required inmate capacity in accordance with the Corrections Capital Asset Management Plan.</p> <p>The project is being delivered as a public-private partnership, with the private partner providing the design, construction, financing and facility maintenance for a 30-year period following construction. Construction was completed in October 2016 on time and under budget. Staff hiring is complete with the final phases of staff training underway.</p> <p>BC Corrections began transferring inmates to the centre on January 16, 2017 using a gradual phased approach which will proceed through to summer 2017.</p>	2016	217	213

Appendix A – Contact Information and Hyperlinks to Additional Information

[Domestic Violence Helpline](#)

1-800-563-0808

Confidential; Free; 24 hours/7 days; Multiple Languages

[Families Change](#)

Age-appropriate information to help kids, teens and parents deal with a family break up. The website was produced by the Justice Education Society in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice.

[#SaySomething](#)

Social media site; Multiple Languages

Resources for domestic violence victims, perpetrators, service providers and the family members, friends and bystanders who want to help.

[Human Trafficking Helpline](#)

1-888-712-7974

Confidential; Free; 24 hours/7 days; Multiple Languages

For assistance with human trafficking cases, including emergency services, and accessing shelter, interpretation and translation services.

[VictimLink BC](#)

1-800-563-0808

Confidential; Free; 24 hours/7 days; Multiple Languages

Provides help and information for victims of family and sexual violence and all other crimes.

Ministry of Justice

Office of the Deputy Attorney General and Deputy Minister, Justice

- 250-356-0149

Court Services Branch

- 250-356-1550

Criminal Justice Branch

- 250-387-3840

Justice Services Branch

- 250-356-6582
 - [Civil Resolution Tribunal](#)
 - [Family Maintenance Enforcement Program](#)
 - [Family Justice Centres](#)
 - [Investigation and Standards Office](#)
 - [Justice Access Centres](#)

Legal Services Branch

- 250-356-8467

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Office of the Deputy Solicitor General

- 250-356-0149

BC Coroners Service

Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch

- 604-660-5199
 - [Civil Forfeiture Office](#)
 - [Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons](#)
 - [Victim Services](#)

Corrections Branch

- 250-387-5059

Policing and Security Branch

- 250-387-1100

RoadSafetyBC

- 250-387-7747

Appendix B – Agencies, Boards, Commissions and other Tribunals

Ministry of Justice

Attorney General’s BC Supreme Court Rules Committee

The Attorney General’s BC Supreme Court Rules Committee assists the Attorney General in making recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in Council respecting changes to the written rules governing the conduct of litigation in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. The Committee actively pursues opportunities to simplify the language and procedures in the rules to make them more accessible to the public while seeking opportunity to enhance access to justice through the rules.

[British Columbia Ferry Commission](#)

The BC Ferry Commission is a quasi-judicial regulatory agency operating under the *Coastal Ferry Act*. The Commission regulates the ferry operator, British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. (BC Ferries) on 25 saltwater routes and is independent of the government and BC Ferries. The primary responsibility of the Commissioner is to regulate ferry fares. The Commissioner sets a price cap on the average level of fares which BC Ferries can charge, the goal of which is to balance the interests of ferry users with the interests of taxpayers while protecting the financial sustainability of the ferry operator. Other key tasks include: monitoring adherence to the terms of the Coastal Ferry Services Contract; approval of major capital expenditures; regulating unfair competitive advantage; and the approval and monitoring of BC Ferries’ customer complaints process.

[BC Human Rights Tribunal](#)

The British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal is responsible for accepting, screening, mediating and adjudicating complaints under the *Human Rights Code*. It provides parties the opportunity to resolve complaints through mediation; complaints that are not resolved through mediation proceed to a hearing before the Tribunal. The Tribunal is accountable to the legislature through the Attorney General and functions independently of government on all matters related to adjudication of complaints. Orders of the Tribunal are enforceable in the British Columbia Supreme Court.

[British Columbia Review Board](#)

The British Columbia Review Board conducts hearings to review and assess the mental condition and level of threat to the public posed by mentally disordered accused persons for the purpose of determining whether they should be absolutely or conditionally discharged, or detained in a designated place of custody.

[British Columbia Utilities Commission](#)

The British Columbia Utilities Commission operates under the *Utilities Commission Act*, regulating utilities to ensure customers receive safe, reliable and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates, and that shareholders of those utilities are afforded a reasonable opportunity to earn a fair return on their invested capital.

Building Code Appeal Board⁹

Under the *Building Act (Part 4, sections 19-21)*, the Building Code Appeal Board resolves disputes regarding the *British Columbia Building Code* on whether a matter conforms to a building regulation. The *British Columbia Building Code* establishes minimum standards for residential and commercial building construction.

Civil Resolution Tribunal

The British Columbia Civil Resolution Tribunal is responsible for providing online, facilitation and adjudication services under the *Civil Resolution Tribunal Act*. It provides parties with the opportunity to resolve complaints through online self-help information and tools, through facilitation services delivered mainly by tribunal staff, and through adjudications delivered by tribunal members. The Tribunal is accountable to the legislature through the Attorney General and functions independently of government on all matters related to adjudication of complaints. Orders of the Tribunal are enforceable in British Columbia's Provincial Court and Supreme Court.

Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board¹⁰

The Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board was created under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* to hear and decide appeals from licensing, registration and certification decisions about community care facilities, assisted living residences, and early childhood educators.

Employment Standards Tribunal¹¹

The Employment Standards Tribunal was established under the *Employment Standards Act* with a mandate to conduct appeals of Determinations issued by the Director of Employment Standards and to reconsider decisions made by the Tribunal.

Environmental Appeal Board

The Environmental Appeal Board resolves disputes related to decisions made by government officials on environmental issues. These decisions include water licences, contaminated site remediation orders, pesticide permits and the cancellation of hunting licences, among other things. The Environmental Appeal Board plays a role in ensuring the protection and wise use of the environment by providing a quasi-judicial access point for the public and industry to appeal certain government decisions.

Financial Services Tribunal¹²

The Financial Services Tribunal hears appeals from individuals and institutions who want to contest enforcement decisions made by the Insurance Council of British Columbia, Real Estate Council of British Columbia, Superintendent of Real Estate, Superintendent of Pensions, Registrar of Mortgage Brokers and Superintendent of Financial Institutions. It provides an avenue of appeal for those who believe that they have been wrongly limited or denied the ability to work in one of the regulated

⁹ Responsibility for the Building Code Appeal Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing on April 1, 2017.

¹⁰ Responsibility for the Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Health on April 1, 2017.

¹¹ Responsibility for the Employment Standards Tribunal was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour on April 1, 2017.

¹² Responsibility for the Financial Services Tribunal was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Finance on April 1, 2017.

occupations to which an appeal lies to the tribunal. The Financial Services Tribunal has jurisdiction to hear appeals under the following statutes: *Financial Institutions Act*, *Credit Union Incorporation Act*, *Mortgage Brokers Act*, *Real Estate Services Act*, *Pension Benefits Standards Act* and *Real Estate Development Marketing Act*.

Forest Appeals Commission

The Forest Appeals Commission resolves disputes related to decisions made by government officials on forests and the environment under the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* and continued under the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Health Professions Review Board¹³

The Health Professions Review Board was created under the *Health Professions Act* to provide an independent review of certain decisions made by the self-governing colleges of designated health professions regarding the registration of their members and the timeliness and disposition of complaints made against their registrants.

Hospital Appeal Board¹⁴

The Hospital Appeal Board was created under the *Hospital Act* to provide medical practitioners with an avenue of appeal from hospital board of management decisions affecting hospital privileges.

Independent Investigations Office of BC

The Independent Investigation Office was established to conduct civilian-based investigations of police officer involved incidents of death or serious harm. The Office is under the direction of the Chief Civilian Director, a position for which one cannot have ever served as a police officer.

Industry Training Appeal Board¹⁵

The Industry Training Appeal Board hears appeals under section 10 of the *Industry Training Authority Act*. The Board's fundamental purpose is to provide a specialized independent, accessible and cost-effective forum for the hearing of appeals from decisions of the Industry Training Authority regarding trainees and industry training credentials.

Investigation and Standards Office

The Investigation and Standards Office is an independent body of the Ministry of Justice. Its responsibilities include: investigating complaints made by inmates at provincial correctional centres and probationers supervised in the community; reviewing inmate disciplinary appeals; inspecting facilities and processes used by court services; and participating in critical incident reviews conducted by BC Corrections, or as determined by the director.

¹³ Responsibility for the Health Professionals Review Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Health on April 1, 2017.

¹⁴ Responsibility for the Hospital Review Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Health on April 1, 2017.

¹⁵ Responsibility for the Industry Training Appeal Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour on April 1, 2017.

Judicial Council of the Province of BC

The *Provincial Court Act* of B.C. establishes the Judicial Council, a body of nine people with responsibility for improving the quality of services provided by the judicial officers of the Provincial Court. Its main functions are to advise the government on the appointment of Provincial Court judges and judicial justices and, when necessary, to undertake inquiries into their conduct. Its duties under the *Provincial Court Act* include: screening candidates applying for appointment as judges and judicial justices, and retired judges' applications for reappointment; conducting inquiries regarding the conduct of judges and judicial justices; considering proposals for improving the Court's judicial services' continuing education of judicial officers; preparing and revising, in consultation with the judicial officers, a Code of Ethics for the judiciary; and reporting to the Attorney General on matters which the Attorney General considers necessary.

Labour Relations Board¹⁶

The Labour Relations Board has a mandate to mediate and adjudicate employment and labour relations matters related to unionized workplaces. The *Labour Relations Code* establishes the Board and governs all aspects of collective bargaining amongst the provincially-regulated employers and employees. This includes the acquisition of collective bargaining rights, the process of collective bargaining, the settlement and regulation of disputes in both the public and private sectors, and the regulation of the representation of persons by their bargaining agents.

Legal Services Society

The Legal Services Society provides legal aid in British Columbia as set out in the *Legal Services Society Act*. Services include legal information and advice to, and representation of, people with low incomes. The Province provides most of the society's funding, but the Legal Services Society remains independent of government. The society reports its activities to government through the Attorney General and determines the range of services it will provide within the framework of a memorandum of understanding negotiated with the Attorney General every three years.

Mental Health Review Board¹⁷

The Mental Health Review Board was created under the *Mental Health Act* to conduct hearings to review and decide whether persons certified /detained at any mental health facility in B.C. should continue to be certified /detained based on criteria in the Act. The Board's function is to ensure that patients who are certified by physicians and detained involuntarily in provincial mental health facilities have access to an objective and timely review process.

Notaries Public Board of Examiners

BC Notaries provide non-contentious legal services to the public. The purpose of the Board of Examiners is to conduct and mark the statutory examinations of all applicants for enrolment as members of the Society of Notaries Public of British Columbia.

¹⁶ Responsibility for the Labour Relations Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training and Minister Responsible for Labour on April 1, 2017.

¹⁷ Responsibility for the Mental Health Review Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Health on April 1, 2017.

Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal

The Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal is an agency tribunal that hears appeals from decisions of the Oil and Gas Commission which include certain orders, declarations, findings of contravention, administrative penalties and permitting decisions in relation to an ‘oil and gas activity’ such as geophysical exploration, the construction or operation of a pipeline, road construction, and the production, gathering, processing, storage or disposal of petroleum, natural gas or both.

Property Assessment Appeal Board¹⁸

The Property Assessment Appeal Board was established under the *Assessment Act* and is the second level of appeal following the Property Assessment Review Panels. The most common issues in assessment appeals deal with the property’s market value, fairness compared to the assessments of other similar properties, property classification and exemptions from taxation.

Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia

The Public Guardian and Trustee is a corporation sole established under the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* with a unique statutory role to protect the interests of British Columbians who lack legal capacity to protect their own interests. The mandate of the Public Guardian and Trustee is to: protect the legal and financial interests of children under the age of 19 years; protect the legal, financial, personal and health care interests of adults who require assistance in decision making; and administer the estates of deceased and missing persons.

Safety Standards Appeal Board¹⁹

The Safety Standards Appeal Board was created under section 43 of the *Safety Standards Act*. The Board hears appeals of decisions made under the *Safety Standards Act* by provincial safety officers and safety managers. The Board also hears appeals of decisions made by the Registrar of the Homeowner Protection Office under the *Homeowner Protection Act*.

Surface Rights Board²⁰

The Surface Rights Board was established under the *Petroleum and Natural Gas Act (PNGA)*. Under the *PNGA*, *Mining Right of Way Act*, *Mineral Tenure Act*, *Geothermal Resources Act*, and *Coal Act*, the Board has jurisdiction to resolve disputes between landowners and companies that require access to private land to explore for, develop, or produce Crown-owned subsurface resources such as oil, gas, coal, minerals and geothermal.

¹⁸ Responsibility for the Property Assessment Appeal Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing on April 1, 2017.

¹⁹ Responsibility for the Safety Standards Appeal Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing on April 1, 2017.

²⁰ Responsibility for the Surface Rights Board was transferred to the Ministry of Justice from the Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing on April 1, 2017.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Consumer Protection BC

Consumer Protection BC was established in 2004 under the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Authority Act* and, as delegated by the provincial government, is responsible for administering British Columbia's consumer protection laws – namely the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*, the *Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act*, and the *Motion Picture Act* – along with a variety of associated consumer protection regulations. It is a not-for-profit corporation that protects consumers and encourages a fair marketplace in the province.

Motor Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia

The Motor Vehicle Sales Authority of British Columbia is an administrative authority delegated by the provincial government to administer and enforce the *Motor Dealer Act* and its regulations, the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act* as it relates to the sale of motor vehicles, and other related statutes. Founded in 2004 and formerly named the Motor Dealer Council of BC, the agency became one of the first examples of government's new approach for administering public policy through a delegated administrative authority.

Police Boards

Under the *Police Act* in British Columbia, municipal police departments are overseen by an appointed police board consisting of civilian members of the community. Police Boards act as the conduit between the community and the police. Police Boards set the priorities, goals and objectives for the department and are responsible for developing the annual department budget.

Appendix C – 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 Commanding Officer of RCMP “E” Division (Chair); three RCMP representatives (the Criminal Operations Officer for RCMP “E” Division, the RCMP Lower Mainland District Commander, and a senior RCMP Commissioned Officer from the district areas served by the CFSEU-BC), three independent municipal police representatives (Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department, a Chief Constable of the Lower Mainland area, and a Chief Constable of the Vancouver Island area), and the Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services (non-voting member). 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 police officers seconded from across the province. The CFSEU-BC Gang Enforcement Unit, Investigation Team, and the Joint Illegal Gaming Investigation Team are just a few of the teams that fall under the responsibility of 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.

Appendix D – Ministers’ Mandates and Actions Summary

Ministry of Justice

In the Premier’s July 2015 and December 2015 mandate letters to the Attorney General and Minister of Justice, the minister received direction on strategic priorities for the 2016/17 fiscal year. These priorities and the ministry’s resulting actions are summarized below:

Mandate Letter Direction July 2015	Ministry’s Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See pages 22 - 23) • The ministry ended fiscal 2016/17 under budget.
2. Work with the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and Minister Responsible for TransLink, and the UBCM on ways to improve community safety in British Columbia and report back to Cabinet on these initiatives by March 31, 2016.	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See pages 11 - 12) • The province has advanced a number of ways to improve community safety, including: projects that address violence against women; youth gang crime prevention initiatives focused on at-risk and Indigenous youth; the Williams Lake and Region Integrated Community Safety Initiative; expansion and enhancement of Domestic Violence Units; development of a Gang Exiting and Outreach pilot project; and expansion of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority.
3. Work with the Government of Canada on ways to reduce the incidence of gun violence in British Columbia, including, but not limited to, an examination of whether or not sentences for crimes committed with illegal firearms need to be increased and whether there needs to be increased police resources dedicated to reducing the number of illegal guns in British Columbia.	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See pages 11 – 12) • A key deliverable of the expanded Guns and Gangs Strategy was the creation of an Illegal Firearms Task Force. The task force complements the work taking place on the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Crime Prevention and Policing Committee working group, which has been tasked with developing a national Guns and Gangs Strategy.

<p>4. Working with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, support the Provincial Office of Domestic Violence, #saysomething programs and Violence Free BC.</p>	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See page 11) • The Vision for a Violence Free BC Strategy lays out a long-term vision of ending violence against women in British Columbia. The ministry continues work to combat domestic violence, including: supporting nine Domestic Violence Units; Domestic Violence Courts; domestic violence programming in Corrections; utilization of contracted professionals to serve protection orders where needed; and the http://www.saysomethingbc.ca/radio and social media campaign.
<p>5. Review and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to better enforce inter-jurisdictional support orders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See page 16) • Amendments to the <i>Family Maintenance Enforcement Act</i> and the <i>Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act</i> have allowed for more efficient and effective enforcement of inter-jurisdictional support orders.
<p>6. Complete the new Okanagan Correctional Centre on time and on budget.</p>	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See page 27) • Construction was completed in October 2016 on time and under budget and BC Corrections began transferring inmates to the centre in January 2017.
<p>7. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and make recommendations to Cabinet on the potential of increasing fines in addition to driver demerit points for distracted driving offences.</p>	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See page 13) • New distracted driving measures were announced in May 2016, giving B.C. one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada.
<p>8. Review electronic monitoring practices and, if required, make improvements to electronic monitoring technology in B.C.</p>	<p><i>Note: As of December 2015, this area of responsibility resides with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed in 2015/16 • The Electronic Supervision program was implemented in January 2016.

Mandate Letter Direction December 2015	Ministry's Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See pages 22 – 23) • The ministry ended fiscal 2016/17 under budget.
2. Continue and accelerate the work you have been spearheading to significantly transform justice in British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See pages 8 – 16) • Examples of the many transformation initiatives included in this report are: the Civil Resolution Tribunal (page 8); the Justice Innovation and Transformation Initiatives delivered by the Legal Services Society (page 9); and the Road Safety Initiative (page 9). Sector-wide consultations on transforming the justice and public safety sector continued in 2016/17, with two Justice Summits focused on justice, mental health and substance misuse (page 15).
3. Work with the federal government as they implement their commitment to a national inquiry into murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls in Canada.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See page 9) • In November 2016, the province passed an order in council that gives the commissioners of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls the authority to examine matters within the jurisdiction of the province.
4. Work with the federal government and other provinces and territories to further the use of Civil Resolution Tribunals to resolve issues for British Columbians outside of a courtroom environment for non-criminal litigation and strata matters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See page 8) • The Civil Resolution Tribunal has been resolving strata disputes since July 2016, and work was underway in 2016/17 to implement the first phase of the tribunal's small claims jurisdiction.
5. Review and make recommendations to Cabinet on ways to better enforce interjurisdictional support orders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See page 16) • Amendments to the <i>Family Maintenance Enforcement Act</i> and the <i>Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act</i> have allowed for more efficient and effective enforcement of interjurisdictional support orders.

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

In the Premier’s December 2015 mandate letter to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, the minister received direction on strategic priorities for the 2016/17 fiscal year. These priorities and status are identified summarized below:

Mandate Letter Direction	Ministry’s Action
1. Balance your ministerial budget in order to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the province of British Columbia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See pages 25 – 26) • The ministry ended fiscal 2016/17 under budget.
2. Work on ways to improve community safety in British Columbia and report back to Cabinet on those initiatives by March 31, 2016. This should include a strategy to maximize our recent \$5 million investment towards integrating community partnership pilot projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed (See pages 11 - 12) • The province has advanced a number of ways to improve community safety in B.C., including: projects that address violence against women; youth gang crime prevention projects focused on at-risk and Indigenous youth; the Williams Lake and Region Integrated Community Safety Initiative; expansion and enhancement of Domestic Violence Units; development of a Gang Exiting and Outreach pilot project; and expansion of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority.
3. Work with communities to advance crime reduction initiatives and implement the lessons of the Blue Ribbon Panel Crime Reduction Report with an emphasis on prolific and violent offenders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See page 12) • The ministry has been following through on the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Crime Reduction. An additional \$5 million was invested in 2015/16 and 2016/17 to support a number of initiatives focusing on prolific and violent offenders.
4. Work with the federal government to advance initiatives to combat illegal firearms, organised crime and extremism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing (See pages 11- 12 and 36) • A key deliverable of the expanded Guns and Gangs Strategy was the creation of an Illegal Firearms Task Force to complement the work taking place on the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Crime Prevention and Policing Committee working group, which has been tasked with developing a national Guns and Gangs Strategy. Additionally, the province supports the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit-BC, which works to investigate, prosecute, disrupt and suppress organized crime, keep young people out of gangs, and remove gangsters, their associates and illegal weapons from the streets.

<p>5. Work with police, local and First Nations communities to enhance the protection of vulnerable persons with an emphasis on violence against women.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing (See page 11)• The <i>Vision for a Violence Free BC</i> strategy lays out a long-term vision of ending violence against women in B.C. and identifies addressing violence against Indigenous women and girls as a key priority. Under the strategy, civil forfeiture grant funding was provided to support community-led projects that aim to address violence against women, and to support communities to heal and rebuild after violence against Indigenous women.
<p>6. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to review and make recommendations to Cabinet on the potential of increasing fines in addition to driver demerit points for distracted driving offences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed (See page 13)• New distracted driving measures were announced in May 2016, giving B.C. one of the most comprehensive sets of penalties for distracted driving in Canada.