

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services

2002/03 to 2004/05 Service Plan Summary

Mission

Working in partnerships to support safe, secure and healthy communities by:

- establishing appropriate legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks;
- delivering innovative services through e-government and third party service providers; and,
- promoting and protecting provincial interests by funding performance-based services for communities.

Strategic Shifts

To deliver its core functions, the ministry is making four strategic shifts:

1. *from provincial control to local autonomy* – through the Community Charter.
2. *from direct delivery of programs and services by provincial government employees, to delivery by communities and third parties* – while many programs and services are already delivered in this way, steps will be taken to make this approach consistent throughout the ministry. This shift may also involve the creation of independent entities for direct delivery in some cases.
3. *from unfocused funding to performance-based funding* – the ministry will fund activities that efficiently meet its mandate of supporting safe, secure and healthy communities.
4. *from provincial regulation to self-regulation and compliance monitoring* – the ministry will move from heavy prescriptive regulations to objective-based codes and standards.

Core Business Functions

The Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services is organized into five core functions:

- Effective local government, aboriginal and women's services
 - Safety and Standards
 - Citizen access to government
 - Services for communities and First Nations
 - Corporate services
-

Major Initiatives

<p>Enable Effective Local Government, Aboriginal and Women's Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop accountability framework for open, accountable and financially responsible local government through the Community Charter. Local government will have the power and tools to make local decisions and solve local problems. • Eliminate non-core programs and services. • These strategies will result in the reduction of 60 FTEs by the end of 2004/05. 		
Continue	Deliver Differently	Discontinue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Transfers • Public Library Services • Women's Policy • Aboriginal Policy • Administration of the University Endowment Lands 	<p>2003/04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Services in accordance with the Community Charter. <p>2004/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Transition 	<p>2002/03</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Enterprise, Co-operatives and Volunteers <p>2003/04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audiobook program
<p>Safety and Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move delivery of inspection/certification services to independent safety agency. • Streamline provincial safety codes and standards. • These strategies will result in the transfer of 200 FTEs to an independent agency by the end of 2004/05. 		
Continue	Deliver Differently	Discontinue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the Fire Commissioner • Building Policy • Safety policy, codes and legislation 	<p>2004/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Engineering Services – move to independent agency. 	
<p>Citizen Access to Government (Government Agents)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further integrate government service delivery using more efficient and effective business models and technologies. • Seek cost-recovery opportunities. • These strategies may mitigate the projected reduction of 50 FTEs by the end of 2004/05. 		
Continue	Deliver Differently	Discontinue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access to government services and information in communities across BC. However, Government Agent (GA) offices may be reduced. 	<p>2004/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop partnerships with other levels of government, non-government organizations and the private sector to provide efficient and effective access to services depending on citizen and community needs. • Use technology to increase choice and efficiency of service delivery, e.g. Community Access Terminals. 	

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services

Services for Communities and First Nations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop performance-based contracts for third party service providers. • Develop a single grant program for provision of childcare spaces. • Work with Intergovernmental Relations to maximize federal funding for health, education and economic development. • These strategies will result in the reduction of 115 FTEs by the end of 2004/05. 		
Continue	Deliver Differently	Discontinue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping the Violence programs including Transition Houses and counselling of abused women and children who witness abuse • Child Care Policy • Immigrant Services • BC Anti-racism and Multiculturalism Program • Aboriginal Directorate • First Citizens Fund Special Account • 2010 Winter Olympics Bid (planning and support) • Physical Fitness and Amateur Sports Fund • Sport and Physical Activity Programs • PST Relief and No-interest loan program for owners of leaky condos • Housing Policy • Subsidized housing • Historic Places Initiative • Olympic Arts Fund • Contribution to BC Arts Council • Royal BC Museum • Vancouver Agreement 	<p>2002/03</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Trust – role and mandate will be reviewed and options identified. <p>2003/04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement new child care operating grant for family and group providers by consolidating existing child care grant programs. <p>2004/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage Properties – devolution to non-profit organizations or community partners. 	<p>2002/03</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre for Workplace Excellence • Community Partners • Multicultural Language Program • Music Industry Travel Assistance Program • Grant to BC Festival of the Arts • Urban Development Unit and Social Alternatives – integrate program delivery with Vancouver Agreement <p>2003/04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Bridging Employability • In-Province Travel Grant Program • BladeRunners – alternative program delivery options will be reviewed <p>2004/05</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for Women's Centres (transition houses maintained) • Athlete Assistance Program • Funding to National Coaching Institute

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services

Corporate Services		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase emphasis on decision support and corporate service planning. • This strategy will result in the reduction of 10 FTEs by the end of 2004/05. • Participate in corporate shared service initiatives resulting in the transfer of approximately 50 FTEs to a shared service agency. 		
Continue	Deliver Differently	Discontinue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of ministry finance, human resources, information technology and management and planning 	2002/03 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized contract management • Shared services for all transactional functions 	

Ministry Resources (million \$)

	Fiscal Year				Percent Change (%) 2001/02 to 2004/05
	(restated Estimates) 2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	
Operating Expenses					
• Local Government Transfers	130	130	130	130	0
• BC Housing/ Homeowner Protection Office	131	134	145	148	13
• BC 2000 (Millennium Project funding - program ended)/University Endowment Lands (one-time funding)	10	0	0	0	(100)
• All Other Programs	<u>288</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>258</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>(31)</u>
Total Operating Expenses	559	555	533	478	(15)
FTEs	1177	1122	1019	742	(37)

Government Priorities Relating to Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services



New Era Commitments Initiated

- Double the First Citizens Fund to \$72 million (by April 1, 2004);
- Double the Physical Fitness and Sport Fund to \$44 million (by April 1, 2004);
- Create a new Olympic Arts Fund to include \$20 million by April 1, 2004; and,
- Initiate a process for implementation of the Community Charter.



Other Commitments

- Transfer payments to local governments have been maintained in accordance with the Premier's September 27, 2001 commitment to the Union of BC Municipalities.

New Era Commitments Included in 02/03 – 04/05 Service Plan

- Give local governments more control over their affairs through a new Community Charter.
- Outlaw "off-loading" of provincial government costs onto the backs of local property taxpayers.
- Implement a flexible, innovative program to increase the supply of affordable housing.
- Aggressively support and champion BC's bid to host the 2010 Olympic Winter Games and Paralympic Games.
- Increase childcare choices for parents by encouraging the expansion of safe, affordable child care spaces.
- Pass a Domestic Violence Prevention Act that would allow police to remove violent offenders from the home, rather than forcing the victims to leave to find safe shelter (working with the Ministry of Attorney General).
- Devote special attention and resources to addressing the challenges and needs of aboriginal women and youth, and to helping aboriginal families bridge the "digital divide".
- Increase efforts to protect and promote aboriginal languages.
- Create a permanent First Citizens Forum that will provide aboriginal citizens living on and off reserves a direct means to communicate with government about their priorities and ideas to materially improve their quality of life today.
- Increase funding to the BC Arts Council to promote and support BC arts, music, artists and culture.

Key Projects Included in 02/03 – 04/05 Service Plan

Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services

- Examine all service agreements with aboriginal communities and develop a strategy to improve the delivery of services (health, education, etc.) to all aboriginal communities.
- With the UBCM, establish a process to review regional governance structures to meet the diverse needs of all parts of BC.
- Review Homeowner Protection Office, work with the Minister of State for Intergovernmental Relations on federal/provincial funding issues.
- Review Housing, Homeowner and Code issues and rationalize regulation of the construction/housing industry, and develop a plan to deal with the immediate "leaky condominium" problem.
- Examine the feasibility of a strategic plan for library services throughout British Columbia.

Minister of State – Community Charter and 2010 Winter Olympic Bid

- Finalise and implement the Community Charter.
- Improve relations with local governments.
- With the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, establish a process to review regional governance structures to meet the diverse needs of all parts of BC.
- Support and planning for a successful 2010 Winter Olympic bid.

Minister of State – Women's Equality

- Review and make recommendations on the provincial inventory of transition houses and emergency shelters.
- Develop a safer community strategy for women in provincial emergency shelters and transition houses
- Review and make recommendations on the feasibility of developing a province-wide perspective on the delivery of women's services.