Ministry of Attorney General

2023/24 – 2025/26 Service Plan

February 2023



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Attorney General 2023/24 – 2025/26 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

Honourable Niki Sharma, K.C. Attorney General February 13, 2023

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Strategic Direction

In 2023/24, the Government of British Columbia will continue our work to make life better for people in B.C., improve the services we all rely on, and ensure a sustainable province for future generations. Government will focus on building a secure, clean, and fair economy, and a province where everyone can find a good home – whether in a rural area, in a city, or in an Indigenous community. B.C. will continue working toward true and meaningful reconciliation by supporting opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in an inclusive and sustainable province. The policies, programs and projects developed over the course of this service plan period will focus on results that people can see and feel in four key areas: attainable and affordable housing, strengthened health care, safer communities, and a secure, clean and fair economy that can withstand global economic headwinds.

This 2023/24 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Attorney General will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the <u>December 2022 Minister's</u> <u>Mandate Letter</u> and the <u>December 2022 Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives'</u> <u>Mandate Letter</u>.

Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General work together as the justice and public safety sector to advance a shared vision of a safe, secure, just, and resilient British Columbia. The Ministry works to keep communities safe and provide certainty, proportionality and, above all, fairness when dealing with criminal, civil and family law matters and to protect people, especially those who are most vulnerable. The Ministry, while dealing with these matters, is focused on promoting confidence in the integrity of the sector and ensuring continued public participation and support.

The Ministry is responsible for sheriff and court administration services, legal aid, prosecution services, administrative tribunals, civil and family justice services, protection and promotion of human rights, providing legal advice to Government and providing policy and justice reform advice to the Attorney General. The Ministry is also responsible for promoting multi-culturalism and leading anti-racism initiatives through the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives.¹

¹ The Attorney General is also responsible for a number of agencies, boards, commissions and tribunals (see Appendix A).

Operating Environment

The justice system will continue efforts to advance commitments to fair, equitable and timely access to justice. The Ministry continues to explore and utilize an array of reforms (i.e. Civil Resolution Tribunal, Legal Professions Reform) as policy options to facilitate access to justice for more British Columbians. While these initiatives have long been significant and core elements of Ministry work, progressing these initiatives forward is particularly imperative at a time of high inflation. There are challenges inherent in transforming long established institutions and policies, with competing interests and perspectives in approaches to increasing access to justice. Cross-sector collaboration and consultation will be essential in moving these initiatives forward. In developing, implementing, improving and providing justice services, the Ministry will foster an environment of cultural awareness and advance principles of reconciliation to address the ongoing impacts of colonialism, which are imperative given the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the justice system.

The Ministry, alongside other ministries across government, has been tasked with initiatives responding to key recommendations from the Butler-LePard Report on repeat offending and random stranger violence. Communities across British Columbia have raised concerns about repeat offending by a relatively small group of people as well as unprovoked violent stranger attacks. These issues are complex, with overlapping challenges that have been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. They may be linked to changes in federal legislation and case law, and there is a need to continue rebuilding social and health care supports to address the underlying, root causes that can lead to a cycle of offending. Responding to these challenges will depend on many different ministries, other levels of government, law enforcement and other groups.

The Ministry will continue to collaborate with internal and external partners and communities to advance core anti-racism initiatives, working to prevent racism and hate crime. The Ministry will continue to develop cultural awareness and encourage and foster a culture of equity, diversity and inclusion, in alignment with Call to Action #57 from the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action*, which calls upon governments to provide education and training to public servants on "skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism".² Critical Ministry work will include developing the *Anti-Racism Act* and collaborating with the Ministry of Citizens' Services on implementation of the *Anti-Racism Data Act*. While the Ministry will continue to work toward the vision of creating a fully inclusive society, this work is a long-term project that is subject to many factors outside of the Ministry's control and will require commitment from all areas of British Columbia.

The Ministry of Attorney General continues to advance key actions necessary to meet government's commitments to reconciliation, such as the First Nations Justice Strategy and Métis Justice Strategy in partnership with the BC First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) and the

² <u>Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action | Canadian Religious Conference</u> (crc-canada.org)

Métis Nation of BC (MNBC); and aligning provincial laws under the Ministry's mandate with the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The Ministry will continue to work closely in partnership with Indigenous partners to advance this work.

As a major component of the *Declaration Act* Action Plan, the Attorney General announced on April 22, 2022 that the Ministry has implemented new Directives on Civil Litigation involving Indigenous peoples. Developed collaboratively, these directives intend to better recognize the rights of Indigenous peoples by reducing the number of lengthy court proceedings and enabling more negotiated resolutions, guided by recognizing and respecting Indigenous human rights, and implementing Aboriginal Rights. In this new approach to litigation involving Indigenous peoples, factors that may impact Ministry work could include developments in the law from the courts; impacts on negotiated resolutions from progress in the implementation of the UN Declaration; whether a party in litigation wants a court decision rather than a negotiated outcome; costs and timeliness of negotiating resolutions as opposed to proceeding through the court process; obtaining mandates for offers in negotiations; the number of new court proceedings commenced or dormant proceedings moving forward; the extent to which costs and complexity can be minimized by parties if proceedings do not settle; and legal counsel's cultural competency, understanding of Indigenous human rights and standards affirmed under the UN Declaration, s.35 rights, Crown obligations and the constitutional imperative of reconciliation.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: The Justice Sector is fair and accessible

A foundational underpinning of British Columbia's justice system is to be fair, navigable, and accessible for all.

Objective 1.1: Enhance the user experience and modernize the justice system

In ensuring the justice system is fair and accessible, the Ministry will continually look to improve the experience of British Columbians interfacing with the justice system through service-design and offerings that are a part of the delivery of justice.

- Advance the Courthouse Capital Asset Management Plan, including courthouse replacement and renovations, infrastructure remediation and enhancements in facilities across the province.
- Improve access to justice for British Columbians through initiatives such as application modernization, virtual proceedings, enhancements to e-filing, online guided pathways, plain language, smart forms to help navigate the court system, and a Digital Evidence and Disclosure Management System.

- Advance justice modernization and court digital transformation initiatives, such as use of online resolution of violation ticket disputes, process improvements and technology deployment to support the Virtual Bail Initiative.
- Continue to improve early resolution services offered to families remotely and inperson at Family Justice Centres and Justice Access Centres.
- Support the 19 boards and tribunals accountable to the Ministry with business operations, transformation, innovation, and modernization, including the Civil Resolution Tribunal, Mental Health Review Board and BC Human Rights Tribunal.

Objective 1.1 reflects key initiatives that will be undertaken to continue improvements to the experiences of British Columbians that engage with the justice system. The Ministry will continue to advance initiatives and strategies that were accelerated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry will continue to improve the experience of people using the justice system through initiatives that embrace technology, address fundamental process and policy changes, and incorporate user experience research and design into its development.

Progress on these initiatives will lead to an enhanced array of services that are user-friendly, efficient, and accessible for all throughout the province. Increasing the availability and accessibility of resources in the justice system increases fairness for all British Columbians, as it empowers users to navigate the justice system more effectively. Efforts to enhance interactions with the justice system will continue to be improved both virtually and in-person, through incorporating service design tools to improve user experience. This objective will be monitored through continued progress on advancing the initiatives in the key strategies and through feedback from users and justice system partners.

Objective 1.2: Increase access to justice

The Ministry will continue to advance systemic regulatory and policy initiatives that will serve to enhance the public's access to justice.

- Advance the *Legal Profession Act* reform initiative to create a single and modernized regulator for all legal service providers in the province, including lawyers, notaries public and licensed paralegals. The proposed reforms will lead to improved access to legal services for British Columbians.
- Further family justice reform initiatives, including developing initiatives to support those experiencing intimate partner violence, and moving forward initial phases of *Family Law Act* modernization.
- Advance reform of the *Family Compensation Act* to facilitate increased transparency and access to compensation for families who lose a loved one.

- Continue to advance work toward implementing the Comprehensive Bail Program to expand access to justice across the province and improve fairness and effectiveness of bail hearings for all justice participants.
- Continue to work with and provide funding support to Legal Aid BC.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and the Ministry of Children and Family Development, implement the Rights Advice Service for patients who are involuntarily detained under the *Mental Health Act.*

The key strategies in objective 1.2 reflect core policy initiatives that will be taken by the Ministry to transform elements of the justice system, as part of an approach to enhance access to justice. Core components of this approach include work to reform the regulation of legal service providers, modernizing family law, and other approaches to make justice more accessible to all British Columbians, enhancing equity in the justice system.

This work requires policy development, consultation, data analysis and service-design capacity to advance user-centered outcomes. Success under this objective will require a resilient workforce and collaborative engagement across the sector and will be demonstrated through progress in the development and introduction of the legislative reforms and new programs identified in the key strategies.

Performance Measures

Performance Measures	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Baseline	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
[1a] Percentage of					
respondents who agreed that					
the Parenting After					
Separation program gave					
them a better understanding	74%	88%	85%	85%	85%
of the family justice system					
including its relevant laws and					
services 1					
[1b] Percentage of					
respondents who agreed that					
the program gave them a	75%	90%	85%	85%	85%
better understanding of					
alternatives to court ¹					
[1c] Percentage of					
respondents who agreed that					
the program gave them a	77%	92%	85%	85%	85%
better understanding of					
making decisions in the best					
interests of the children ¹					

Data source: <u>Parenting After Separation</u> and <u>Parenting After Separation for Indigenous Families</u>. participant evaluation surveys, conducted by Family Justice Services Division, with results compiled by Business Research and Diagnostics Group, Ministry of Attorney General

¹ All information is presented in aggregate form to ensure respondent anonymity pursuant to provincial and federal legislation and research ethical guidelines. All data for this survey was collected and managed under PIA PSSG19023 and is consistent with the Tri Council Policy Statement on the Ethical Conduct of Research.

Discussion

The Parenting After Separation Programs are free online courses for B.C. parents and other family members who are dealing with separation or divorce and facing decisions about guardianship, parenting arrangements, contact, child support and spousal support. Most parents complete the course as an early step in a provincial court matter. The Programs assist parents in making informed decisions around separation, ensuring decisions are in the best interests of their children and improve access to justice for participants by providing them with information about the justice system and alternatives to court.

This performance measure reflects how the Parenting After Separation Program facilitates user understanding of navigating the justice system. Parents who complete the online course are invited to complete an anonymous online course evaluation form and results are compiled quarterly by the Business Research and Diagnostics Group of the Ministry of Attorney General. The baseline, forecast and targets are based on historical results. These targets reflect the expectation that there will be some fluctuation in results from year to year, but results should not fall below the stated targets. The online Parenting After Separation program was introduced in 2011 and revised in 2021. Online Parenting After Separation for Indigenous Families began in 2019. As of January 4, 2022, the Provincial Court Family Rules require that parties to Family Law Matter applications complete a Parenting After Separation course before a family management conference with a judge can be scheduled. As results for the new Punjabi version of the program, expected to begin in 2023, become available they will be incorporated into actual and future targets.

Performance Measure	2019/20	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Baseline	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
[1d] Percentage of eFiled Court Documents ^{1,2}	35.7%	44.3%	40.6%	41.6%	42.6%

Data source: Strategic Information and Business Applications, Court Services Branch. Extracted on October 24, 2022 1. Documents in scope are those that are eligible for electronic filing (eFile) through Court Services Online.

2. Targets are presented as baselines, taking into account the re-normalisation of eFile percentages after the large spike caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussion

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Court Services Branch and the three levels of Courts provided additional virtual mechanisms for users to interact with the Courts. This included provisions for users to eFile Court documents. The number of eFiled documents are those that

are submitted through Court Services Online (CSO). During the suspension of the court registry operations as a result of COVID-19, electronic filing through CSO was listed as an acceptable option to receive urgent Small Claims filings (March 19, 2020) and parties were strongly encouraged in Supreme Court to use electronic filing options wherever possible (July 13, 2020). In 2020/21, 51.6 per cent of documents were eFiled. This was a significant increase from the previous year as court users were encouraged to use virtual means to submit documents and even attend court appearances. As occupancy limits were lifted and more people were able to attend a courthouse, the number of eFiled documents decreased slightly in 2021/22 to 44.6 per cent. The forecast for 2022/23 of eFiled documents is 44.3 per cent as we can start to see the renormalization post pandemic.

This performance measure demonstrates progress in the Ministry's focus on modernizing processes or court forms to enhance user-experience when interfacing with the justice system. An uptake in the use of eFiling demonstrates that citizens are utilizing alternative means offered by the Ministry for advancing their court proceedings. The development or modernization of SmartForms, filing assistants, online applications, guided pathways, plain-language, and reformatting made the process easier for citizens during the height of the pandemic to ensure access to justice was maintained, and continues to be a significant component in making court processes more accessible and navigable for British Columbians. However, the Ministry recognizes the role in person filing will continue to play for some British Columbians, for those without access to technology or with the desire to access in person services.

Goal 2: British Columbian communities are protected and resilient

The justice sector plays a critical role in initiatives that help protect all British Columbians, including communities, vulnerable sectors, families, and racialized groups.

Objective 2.1: Improved community and public safety for all British Columbians

The Ministry will contribute to a multi-faceted and cross-sectoral approach to protecting communities and individuals throughout the province. This will include addressing concerns about repeat violent offending, advancing legislation that protects vulnerable British Columbians, and implementing safe supports for family justice.

Key Strategies

• The BC Prosecution Service will assign dedicated prosecutors and professional staff to repeat violent offending coordinated response teams, in connection with police and probation officers, as part of the Safer Communities Action Plan³, in response to concerns about repeat violent offending and recommendations coming from *A*

³ <u>Safer communities | StrongerBC (gov.bc.ca)</u>

Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia.

- Apply the BC Prosecution Service Bail Policy to seek pre-trial detention of repeat violent offenders whenever the risk they pose to public safety cannot be reduced to an acceptable level by a release on bail conditions.
- Support the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop a pilot project to support Indigenous peoples who come into conflict with the law, operating out of the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre.
- Develop and implement new federally funded pilot programs to support those experiencing intimate partner violence as they navigate the family justice system.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the province's gender-based violence action plan.
- Collaborate on a provincial framework for assisting people victimized by nonconsensual disclosure of intimate images.

Discussion

Objective 2.1 reflects initiatives across the Ministry taken to enhance the safety of British Columbians in their communities. The Ministry will support the Safer Communities Action Plan with dedicated Crown Counsel and staff working with police and corrections to make sure repeat offenders are dealt with according to law. As described in the Butler-LePard Report⁴, the factors that lead to repeat offending are complex and multifaceted, with personal and social determinants playing a significant role in crime. The Ministry acknowledges that federal criminal law and an independent judiciary determine whether accused persons should and will be detained in custody before trial.

This objective also reflects other initiatives that will be advanced by the Ministry to protect vulnerable British Columbians, including reforms to the *Adult Guardianship Act*, the development and implementation of initiatives to assist those experiencing gender-based and intimate partner violence, and a framework for assisting people victimized by non-consensual disclosure of intimate images. Work to advance these initiatives forward will help protect British Columbians' safety, security, and well-being.

Objective 2.2: Address systemic racism and support Indigenous and other racialized communities to respond to public incidents of racism and hate

Advancing equity and social justice is the cornerstone of new strategies to combat racism, reduce systemic barriers, and build understanding and respect for one another across British Columbia's diverse society.

⁴ <u>Prolific Offender Report BCFNJC submission.pdf (gov.bc.ca)</u>

Key Strategies

- Introduce a new *Anti-Racism Act* that better serves everyone in British Columbia. In developing this legislation, the Ministry will also work closely with Indigenous partners and communities to address Indigenous-specific racism, to fulfill its commitment to Action 3.6 of the *Declaration Act* Action Plan.
- Work with the Ministry of Citizen Services to implement the *Anti-Racism Data Act* to reduce systemic racism and pave the way for race-based data collection essential to modernizing sectors like policing, healthcare, and education.
- Engage communities through the Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network and related initiatives to provide them with information, supports and training they need to respond to, and prevent future incidents of racism.
- Honour the Japanese-Canadian community by providing lasting recognition of historical wrongs.

Discussion

The Ministry will continue engagement for the development of the *Anti-Racism Act*. This legislation will be developed with Indigenous peoples and other racialized communities; as well as partners like the B.C. Human Rights Commissioner. When this work shifts to the implementation stage, following the introduction of legislation, collaboration will continue with Indigenous peoples and other racialized communities.

The Ministry will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Citizen Services to assist with the implementation of the *Anti-Racism Data Act*, to dismantle systemic racism and improve access to government programs and services for Indigenous and other racialized British Columbians. The result of this work will improve the ability for the Ministry and the Province in identifying areas for improvement and measuring its performance in addressing systemic racism.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2017/18	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Baseline	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
[2a] Number of B.C. communities engaged in projects that build intercultural trust and understanding and reduce racism and systemic barriers	45	50	50	50	50

Data source: Internally compiled data from the BC Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Grants Program, and the Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network.

Discussion

This performance measure reflects provincial support for community-led engagements that work to build intercultural trust and understanding, combat racism and promote diversity and

inclusion in B.C. This is a core component of supporting Indigenous and other racialized communities throughout British Columbia.

Following the full implementation of the *Anti-Racism Data Act*, the Ministry will be able to leverage captured data to develop new performance measures that demonstrate progress in addressing systemic racism in government.

Goal 3: The justice sector is safe and responsive to Indigenous peoples

The justice sector will continue to contribute to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through partnerships, facilitating restoration of traditional justice systems, and taking a more collaborative approach to litigation with Indigenous groups.

Objective 3.1: Facilitate self-determination and restoration of traditional Indigenous justice systems in partnership with Indigenous leadership and communities

Government has made commitments to reconciliation through the *Declaration Act* Action Plan and annual reporting processes. The Ministry's actions in that plan aim to make the justice system safer and more responsive to Indigenous peoples. This includes advancing the B.C. First Nations Justice Strategy which aims to reduce the overincarceration of Indigenous peoples and restore and revitalize First Nations legal institutions. Further, advancing the Métis Justice Strategy will make the justice system safer and more culturally relevant for Métis people in B.C. These goals can only be achieved in strong partnership with BC First Nations Justice Council, Métis Nation BC, and other Indigenous partner organizations.

- In partnership with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, the Federal Government and Indigenous communities, continue work with the BC First Nations Justice Council to advance the B.C. First Nations Justice Strategy and work with the Métis Nation BC to develop, endorse and advance the Métis Justice Strategy.
- Improve access to culturally appropriate justice services, including expanding the network of Indigenous Justice Centres to 15 centres across the province, in alignment with the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Safer Communities Action Plan.
- Advance design of a legal aid model for Indigenous peoples and develop a comprehensive work plan to transfer control of legal aid services to the BC First Nations Justice Council.
- Reduce Indigenous over-representation in the criminal justice system through ongoing policy review and changes, justice sector employee education, expansion of Indigenous courts, and outreach and partnerships with Indigenous communities.

- Continue to promote resources and available supports to help Indigenous peoples navigate administrative boards and tribunals.
- Support treaty negotiations and enforcement of the laws of Treaty Nations through changes to provincial statutes as needed.
- In consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, continue reviewing and ensuring alignment of B.C. laws with UNDRIP for all statutes within the Ministry's mandate including new and amending bills.

In partnership with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the BC First Nations Justice Council, the Ministry will continue work to advance Track 1 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy which works to reform the Justice system to be safer and more responsive to Indigenous peoples⁵. Outcomes aim to reduce the number of Indigenous peoples who become involved with the criminal justice system and improve the experience of those who do. Simultaneously, in partnership with Indigenous leadership and communities, the ministries will continue to facilitate Track 2 of the Strategy, which looks to restore First Nations justice systems, legal traditions, and structures in support of self-determination. The ministries will also continue to work with Métis Nation BC to develop, endorse and advance the Métis Justice Strategy.

These initiatives are Indigenous-led and require ongoing collaboration with Indigenous partners.

Objective 3.2: Advance reconciliation through use of the Directives on Civil Litigation involving Indigenous peoples

While Indigenous claims can be pursued through litigation, negotiation is a preferrable way of reconciling the complex and competing interests at stake. The core objectives are to prioritize and promote resolution, innovation and negotiated settlement, in efforts to reduce the potential for litigation.

- Continue to work with Indigenous peoples on the implementation of the Directives and training of counsel, as well as performance metrics and changes as identified.
- Review active litigation to ensure the Directives are being implemented as intended, which may include making pleadings amendments.
- Work with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation on identifying potential avenues for negotiation of the dispute, such as forms of alternative dispute resolution.

⁵ Justice Strategy - BC First Nations Justice Council (bcfnjc.com)

- Seek early internal government meetings to discuss the possible effects of litigation on the work of reconciliation and try to identify collaborative ways to resolve all or part of the potential or newly filed legal proceedings.
- When litigation has concluded, meet with clients to discuss preventing similar litigation in the future; as well as debriefing with counsel for the Indigenous parties to identify potential areas for improvement.

This objective reflects a major component of the Ministry's reconciliation commitments. On April 22, 2022, the Attorney General formally issued direction to legal counsel working for the Province on civil litigation involving Indigenous peoples and their interests. The Directives were co-developed with the First Nations Leadership Council, and work is underway for training of legal counsel on their interpretation and implementation. The Directives are consistent with the 10 Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous People⁶ which reflect a desire to achieve government-to-government relationships based on respect, recognition, and exercise of Aboriginal title and rights, and to the reconciliation of Aboriginal and Crown titles and jurisdictions.

The Directives are in response to the need to shift from patterns of lengthy and expensive litigation to cooperative implementation through effective relationships and negotiations, consistent with the articles of the UN Declaration. The court process is generally adversarial for the parties involved and provides limited capacity to deal with these complex issues. This often drives the parties further apart rather than advance reconciliation. Traditional court processes can also be very damaging to the relationship between Indigenous and Crown parties. While some specific legal issues may get resolved (and the court process may be necessary for those purposes), the broader relationship may be significantly damaged, and the process of lasting reconciliation may not be advanced to any great degree. The Directives prioritize and promote resolution, innovation and negotiated settlement, and reduce the potential for traditional litigation.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2020/21	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	Baseline	Forecast	Target	Target	Target
[3a] Number of Indigenous Clients supported at Indigenous Justice Centres ¹	254	400	655	655	655

Data source: BC First Nations Justice Council data from Indigenous Justice Centres in Prince George, Prince Rupert and Nicola Valley/Merritt.

¹ Targets will be revised when new IJC sites open.

⁶ <u>Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous People</u> (gov.bc.ca)

The objective of improved outcomes for Indigenous peoples in their interactions with the justice system will be met by more Indigenous clients receiving high quality legal and other services in a culturally safe and relevant way. Indigenous Justice Centres (IJCs) were designed with this objective in mind.

The targets in this performance measure were developed based on the current Indigenous Justice Centre caseloads and the planned opening of two additional IJCs to be opened in 2022/23. These targets will be adjusted when the ten additional IJC sites open; five in 2023/24 and five in 2024/25 as the specific dates, sites, and target client volumes are not yet known. The BC First Nations Justice Council directly provides the data as the service provider, with performance evaluation conducted annually by a third-party to validate this data.

J								
Core Business	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26				
	Restated	Estimates	Plan	Plan				
	Estimates ¹							
	Operating Expenses (\$000)							
Justice Services	171,440	200,577	201,766	199,793				
Prosecution Services	167,852	173,671	174,674	174,674				
Court Services	135,111	148,684	151,080	151,080				
Legal Services	28,317	32,267	32,555	32,555				
Agencies, Boards, Commissions & other Tribunals	43,753	48,279	48,614	48,614				
Multiculturalism & Antiracism	1,916	1,987	2,004	2,004				
Executive and Support Services	33,029	38,176	40,058	39,604				
Judiciary	92,325	93,617	93,751	93,751				
Crown Proceeding Act	24,500	24,500	24,500	24,500				
Independent Investigations Office	9,093	11,564	11,591	11,591				
Public Guardian and Trustee	0	0	0	0				

Financial Summary

Public Inquiry Act	850	0	0	0
Total	708,186	773,322	780,593	778,166
Ministry Capita	l Expenditures (Con	solidated Reve	nue Fund) (\$000))
Agencies, Boards, Commissions & other Tribunals	10	10	10	10
Executive and Support Services	13,944	5,768	4,450	4,450
Judiciary	770	770	770	770
Public Guardian and Trustee Operating Account	363	363	363	363
Total	15,087	6,911	5,593	5,593

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2022/23 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the *2023/24 Estimates*.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the <u>Estimates and Supplement to the</u> <u>Estimates</u>.

Electoral Boundaries Commission

While the Electoral Boundaries Commission operates independently from the Ministry of Attorney General, their expenditures report out as the responsibility of the ministry. Therefore, they are not considered one of the core business areas accountable to the Attorney General, but they are included in the Annual Report.

	2022/23 Restated Estimates ¹	2023/24 Estimates	2024/25 Plan	2025/26 Plan			
Operating Expenses (\$000)							
Electoral Boundaries Commission	2,194	147	0	0			
Total	2,194	147	0	0			

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of January 24, 2023, the Ministry of Attorney General is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

- Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of BC
- Association of BC Forest Professionals
- British Columbia Ferry Commission
- BC Family Maintenance Agency
- BC Human Rights Tribunal
- British Columbia Institute of Agrologists
- British Columbia Review Board
- British Columbia Utilities Commission
- <u>Civil Resolution Tribunal</u>
- <u>College of Applied Biology</u>
- Community Care and Assisted Living Appeal Board
- Employment Standards Tribunal
- Engineers and Geoscientists BC
- Environmental Appeal Board
- Financial Services Tribunal
- Forest Appeals Commission
- Health Professions Review Board
- Hospital Appeal Board
- Independent Investigations Office of BC
- Industry Training Appeal Board
- Investigation and Standards Office
- Judicial Council of the Provincial Court of BC
- Labour Relations Board
- Legal Aid BC
- Mental Health Review Board

- Notaries Public Foundation and Board of Examiners
- Oil and Gas Appeal Tribunal
- Property Assessment Appeal Board
- Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia
- Surface Rights Board
- Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal