

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

2024/25 Annual Service Plan Report

August 2025



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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2024/25 Annual Service Plan Report compares the ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2024/25 – 2026/27 Service Plan published in 2024. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nina Krieger'.

Honourable Nina Krieger
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
August 13, 2025

Minister of State's Accountability Statement

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2024/25 Annual Service Plan Report compares the ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2024/25 – 2026/27 Service Plan published in 2024. Under the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Act, I am accountable by [regulation](#) for achievement of the following results for 2024/25:



- Engaging with local governments, community associations and the Province's business community to discuss issues relating to the incidence of street disorder in the Province;
- Supporting ministries and stakeholders in the development of strategies to mitigate the impact of street disorder on local governments, community associations and the Province's business community; and
- Preparing a workplan respecting the fulfillment of each of the commitments identified in the mandate letter for the Minister of State for Community Safety and Integrated Services.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Yung'.

Honourable Terry Yung
Minister of State for Community Safety and Integrated Services
August 13, 2025

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Minister's Accountability Statement | 3 |
| Minister of State's Accountability Statement | 4 |
| Letter from the Minister | 6 |
| Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report | 8 |
| Strategic Direction | 8 |
| Purpose of the Ministry | 8 |
| Operating Environment | 9 |
| Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results | 12 |
| Financial Report | 31 |
| Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations | 33 |
| Appendix B: The Organized Crime Agency of BC and Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – BC | 34 |
| Appendix C: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities | 35 |

Letter from the Minister

I am pleased to introduce the 2024/25 Annual Service Plan Report for the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. This report outlines the significant progress we've made toward ensuring that people are safe and secure in British Columbia.

The ministry is making communities safer and protecting people throughout the province through continued investments and policy changes that advance a strong, fair and sustainable public safety sector.

Throughout the last year, we have taken steps to ensure the people of British Columbia have confidence in the public safety sector. Last spring, the Police Amendment Act, 2024 received Royal Assent, delivering changes to the Police Act focused on municipal police governance, police oversight and addressing gaps in public safety. Additionally, as part of our work to strengthen the public safety sector, the Province has made historic investments in policing, ensuring they have the staffing and resources they need to keep people safe.

Building on the success we saw last year, programs like the Repeat Violent Offending Intervention Initiative (ReVOII) and Special Investigation and Targeted Enforcement (SITE) program have continued to target repeat violent offending with 85 individuals prioritized through ReVOII and 70 projects funded through SITE in 2024/25. Police partners have widely recognized SITE as essential in addressing repeat offenders and violence in their communities. These programs are a key part of our strategy to advance safer communities throughout B.C.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant program provided \$7.5 million to support 166 projects working to advance community safety, including local restorative justice and crime prevention initiatives. Since its inception, the grant program has provided more than \$90 million in civil forfeiture recoveries to community organizations throughout B.C. By providing these grants, we are converting the proceeds of unlawful activities and organized crime into community-led safety projects.

In the past year, we have maintained our commitment to keeping people safe in their homes and on the road. The Fire Safety Act came into effect last August, reflecting significant advancements in fire protection, and ensuring fire services have the tools they need to protect lives, communities, and properties.

In September 2024, we increased penalties for drivers engaging in dangerous behaviours including impaired driving and excessive speeding, helping deter these reckless activities that put lives at risk.

Our ministry worked to reduce threats to public safety while balancing business and community interests. The Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch advanced policy changes that promote public safety and reduce regulatory burdens on businesses. We also made it easier for B.C. liquor manufacturers to participate in local markets.

The ministry continued to make progress on the development of the regulations that will bring a modernized Gaming Control Act into force, addressing issues such as problem gambling and strengthening the regulatory framework to effectively respond to money laundering.

As part of our ongoing commitment to reconciliation, we have continued work to address the disproportionate representation of Indigenous Peoples in the public safety sector while supporting Indigenous-led solutions. The Province has made significant progress on its commitments outlined in the BC First Nations Justice Strategy and BC Corrections has developed training and guidelines to ensure that programs are effective and culturally relevant. Additionally, we are supporting self-determined community safety plans and continuing our work to end violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit and gender diverse people.

The BC Coroners Service (BCCS) continued to fulfil its mandate of conducting objective, impartial, and culturally safe investigations into unexpected, sudden, and unnatural deaths, enhancing public safety in British Columbia. The BCCS continues to conduct investigations of all deaths of women and children related to violence and criminal activity, helping to inform the development of policy and legislation designed to protect and support victims of crime as well as identify opportunities for greater support for marginalized and vulnerable populations.

I want to acknowledge the commitment and professionalism of Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General staff and thank all our community partners and interest holders for your hard work, as we build a safer British Columbia for everyone.



Honourable Nina Krieger
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
August 13, 2025

Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

This annual service plan report has been developed to meet the requirements of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets stated in the service plan for the reported year.

Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by government in 2020 and former Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth's 2022 [mandate letter](#) shaped the goals, objectives, performance measures and financial plan outlined in the [Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2024/25 – 2026/27 Service Plan](#) and the actual results reported on in this annual report.

Purpose of the Ministry

The [Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General](#) (PSSG) and the [Ministry of Attorney General](#) (AG) work together as the justice and public safety sector to advance a shared vision of a safe, secure, just, and resilient British Columbia.

PSSG's mission is to develop public safety policy and legislation and deliver associated services and programs, and administer regulations for the liquor, cannabis, and gambling sectors.

The ministry is responsible for: [policing and law enforcement superintendence](#); [911 emergency communication services](#); [correctional services](#); [victim services](#); [crime prevention and reduction](#); [restorative justice](#); [civil forfeiture](#); [coroners' services](#); compliance and enforcement of [liquor and cannabis regulation](#)¹; [gambling regulation](#); [problem gambling prevention and treatment services](#); [road safety](#); [criminal record checks](#); the [protection order registry](#); [security industry regulation](#); and [structure fire prevention and fire safety](#).²

The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General is also responsible for Municipal Police Boards (see [Appendix A](#)) and the [Organized Crime Agency of BC](#) within the [Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia](#) (see [Appendix B](#)).³

¹ Effective July 17, 2025, oversight of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch was shared with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF). Compliance and enforcement remain under PSSG.

² On February 3, 2025, responsibility for consumer protection policy and legislation moved to AG.

³ On July 17, 2025, oversight of the Liquor Distribution Branch was transferred to AF and oversight of the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC) was transferred to AG.

Operating Environment

Throughout 2024/25, the ministry continued to strengthen partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations. These partnerships are integral to advancing the priorities of the ministry, including reducing the overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples adversely involved in and impacted by the justice and public safety system; addressing gender-based violence, especially against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people, who are disproportionately affected; and supporting culturally relevant policies, programs and services.⁴ This is consistent with government's commitment to true, lasting reconciliation, the [Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#), the [B.C. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) (DRIPA) and the associated [Declaration Act Action Plan](#), the [BC First Nations Justice Strategy](#), and the [Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples](#).

The ministry remained committed to advancing its work through a [Gender-Based Analysis Plus](#) lens and in alignment with the [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy](#) for the BC Public Service to deliver policies, programs, and services that are inclusive, intersectional, responsive, accessible, and culturally safe.

Community safety continued to be a concern in B.C. communities. Both urban and rural communities are facing increasing public safety challenges such as street disorder, property crimes, homelessness and individuals with mental health and substance use challenges. The ministry worked with key ministries and service delivery partners to deliver a range of important public safety initiatives to build safer and stronger communities.

The ongoing overrepresentation of Indigenous and other vulnerable peoples who experience adverse justice system interactions, combined with police capacity pressures, and the increasing complexity of mental health and substance use challenges, served as a prominent reminder of the continued need for additional police and public safety reforms. This need was further emphasized through [Public Safety Canada's](#) March 10, 2025 report: [A New Policing Vision for Canada: Modernizing the RCMP](#).

During the 2024/25 fiscal year, the Province continued its efforts to address the challenges communities face throughout B.C. with respect to repeat offending – criminal activity from a small group of people who are disproportionately committing crimes in neighbourhoods – as well as unprovoked violent stranger attacks.⁵

Cross sector collaboration resulted in the development and implementation of the [Repeat Violent Offending Intervention Initiative](#) (ReVOII), which has been in operation since May 2023. Designed to enhance collaborative efforts between police, dedicated prosecutors, probation

⁴ The acronym 2SLGBTQIA+ refers to people who are Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and/or asexual.

⁵ Repeat violent offending has been linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and case law, and the increased mental health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis. For a detailed analysis of trends in repeat violent offending, see [A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia](#), released in September 2022 by Amanda Butler and Doug LePard.

officers, correctional supervisors and community integration specialists, ReVOII aims to identify and intervene in cases involving repeat violent offending at the earliest opportunity possible to mitigate public safety risks, hold individuals accountable and, where appropriate, connect them with services they need to help break the cycle of reoffending. A comprehensive evaluation of the program is underway and is expected to be complete in the fall of 2025; however, anecdotal evidence collected to date indicates that the program is improving justice response times. ReVOII is supported by the Special Investigation and Targeted Enforcement (SITE) program which provides operational funding to police for targeted investigations and broader public safety projects to address repeat violent offending.

The ministry recognizes the existing challenges associated with vacancies within the Provincial Police Service (PPS). Ensuring effective policing and law enforcement, particularly in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities, and specialized functions such as the Major Crime Section and the [BC Highway Patrol](#) is a top priority.

Gangs and organized crime continued to have an impact on all British Columbians. These organizations are involved in significant criminal activity within our communities, including drug trafficking, money laundering, cross-border smuggling, intimidation, and serious violence. The ministry remains dedicated to working with local, provincial, and federal partners, including police, to take action that keeps people and communities safe.

During the 2024/25 fiscal year, British Columbia continued to strengthen its commitment to advancing anti-money laundering efforts through greater coordination, legislative reform, and improved investigative and enforcement tools. The environment remains dynamic, requiring adaptability and strong inter-agency collaboration.

British Columbians continued to be impacted by the unregulated toxic drug supply, with 2,271 lives lost in 2024. Since the public health emergency into unregulated drug toxicity deaths was declared in B.C. in 2016, 16,047 people have died. As in previous years, Indigenous Peoples, especially Indigenous women, continue to be disproportionately impacted in toxic drug poisoning events and deaths.⁶

The BC Coroners Service (BCCS) continued to experience limitations in some rural and remote communities in B.C. due to a shortage of coroners. The information coroners collect is an integral part of death investigations. The ministry is working towards addressing the recruitment challenges that have been identified.

The Province also continued its work transitioning to a legal, well-regulated non-medical cannabis market. The provincially regulated cannabis sector continues to grow; in 2024, it contributed \$1.7 billion to the B.C. economy and over 5,200 jobs. B.C. has a long history with cannabis – and the illicit cannabis industry still holds about 40 per cent of the market, with practices that make it hard for consumers to identify legal cannabis sources and complex for agencies to enforce against. Tackling the remainder of the illicit market requires continuing

⁶ More information and data regarding the drug toxicity crisis and Indigenous Peoples can be found [here](#).

enforcement efforts, strong partnerships across provincial, federal, municipal and First Nations governments, and engagement with industry partners.

Throughout the 2024/25 fiscal year, there was a continued increase in illegal online gambling operations and marketing to the public in B.C. Illegal online gambling sites pose risks to residents of B.C., including access by minors, risk of fraud, money laundering, and inadequate protection from the harms of problem gambling. The ministry's Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch continued to investigate and work to suppress these activities. The ministry also worked with the Ministry of Finance and the BC Lottery Corporation (BCLC) to identify options to systemically address illegal online gambling operations in the province.

Speeding, impairment, and distracted driving continued to be the main factors in crashes resulting in the loss of life and serious injury on B.C. roads. B.C.'s [Enhanced Traffic Enforcement Program](#) augments existing provincial traffic enforcement and road safety efforts by deploying dedicated officers with specialized training, technology and enforcement, to target the province's most serious traffic issues. The [Driver Improvement Program](#) is one of several intervention-based programs aimed at improving public safety on B.C. roads using the penalty point system to identify drivers who engage in poor or dangerous driving behaviour, and driving prohibitions are imposed for those who are over the points threshold.

Fire-related deaths continued to remain a consistent concern in British Columbia, with fatalities increasing by 42 per cent from 2020 to 2024. In the 2024 calendar year alone, 80 people lost their lives to fire – many in residential settings where working smoke alarms or fire-safe behaviours could have made the difference. Older adults remain disproportionately affected by fire-related fatalities, with individuals aged 60 and over accounting for 44 per cent of all fire deaths. Ignition sources often stem from preventable causes like unattended cooking or smoking materials. Fires impact lives, displace families, disrupt local economies and strain emergency services. The Fire Safety Act came into force in August 2024, to strengthen the Province's ability to enforce fire prevention and fire safety measures. In addition, the [Office of the Fire Commissioner](#) (OFC) continued its work with the [BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit](#) to work with fire services across the province to provide fire safety information, and check and distribute smoke alarms to communities.

Lastly, the increased frequency and intensity of natural disasters resulting from climate change continued to affect British Columbians and the work of the ministry, as indicated by the more frequent implementation of emergency orders and states of emergency in recent years.

Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results

The following goals, objectives and performance measures have been restated from the 2024/25 – 2026/27 service plan. For forward-looking planning information, including current targets for 2025/26 – 2026/27, please see the [Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan](#).

Goal 1: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia protects people

Objective 1.1 Improved public safety for all British Columbians

A foundational role of British Columbia's justice and public safety sector is to protect people, especially those who are most vulnerable. Throughout 2024/25, PSSG continued to advance strategies to improve public safety through a broad range of program areas, including policing; crime prevention and reduction; support for integrated, community-based mental health and social services; road safety; structure fire prevention and fire safety; and other core functions such as corrections and coroners' services. Safe communities, along with positive public perceptions of safety, are central to the well-being of British Columbians.

Key results

- Throughout 2024/25, ReVOII prioritized 85 individuals to receive interventions through the 12 multi-agency ReVOII hubs operating in the province.⁷ Through ReVOII, individuals who repeatedly commit violent offences are subject to enhanced monitoring and are connected to supportive services to help break the cycle of offending.
- In 2024/25, there were 70 SITE projects funded across the province.⁸
- \$7.5 million in one-time grant funding was provided to 166 projects across the province in 2024/25 through the [Civil Forfeiture Grant Program](#).⁹
- Effective September 1, 2024, [penalties were increased](#) on drivers who engage in dangerous driving behaviours such as impaired driving, excessive speeding or street racing. In addition to criminal charges and administrative driving penalties, these

⁷ Since the Province launched ReVOII on May 1, 2023, over 500 individuals have been prioritized into the program. The 12 ReVOII hubs are located in Abbotsford, Cranbrook, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, New Westminster, Prince George, Surrey, Terrace, Vancouver, Victoria, and Williams Lake, and each hub supports the surrounding region.

⁸ A key strategic initiative to enhance community safety by combating repeat violent offending and street disorder, the SITE program provides supplemental funding to enhance police capacity and supports a more effective and coordinated response across jurisdictions.

⁹ The program has the following funding streams: crime prevention; Indigenous healing; restorative justice; gender-based violence prevention; domestic violence prevention/intervention programming; [Child and Youth Advocacy Centres](#); and other priority projects.

drivers will now face significantly higher fees for the towing and storage of their impounded vehicles.

- On August 1, 2024, the [Fire Safety Act](#) came into force. The OFC has made significant progress operationalizing various elements of the new Act, including developing multiple tools to support fire inspections, fire investigations, and compliance monitoring.
- Funding of \$3 million was allocated through the [Law Foundation of British Columbia](#) to be used in 2024/25 and beyond, to the [Restorative Justice Association of British Columbia](#) and the [Indigenous Justice Association](#) to support the execution of their respective strategic plans; to regionally-based restorative justice organizations across B.C.; and to support several innovative restorative justice pilots.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

The RCMP's BC Police Repeat Offending Programs team administers the SITE program on behalf of the Province; actively monitors crime reports; and engages in proactive outreach with all police of jurisdictions, especially those with publicized alarming repeat violent offences, to provide support in identifying potential candidates and providing statistical support in prioritizing persons/locations associated with such offences.

Results from a program evaluation of SITE demonstrate that police partners widely recognize the program as essential in addressing repeat violence and facilitating effective interventions with repeat violent offenders in their communities.

To better protect people and communities from structure fires, the Fire Safety Act came into force on August 1, 2024. The [new legislation](#) provides fire services with the tools they need to improve compliance with fire-safety codes and legislation, ultimately protecting lives, communities, and properties. To ensure an understanding of the new legislation, regulations, and supporting tools, in late 2024, four province-wide engagement sessions that included over 350 local government and fire services representatives were delivered. These foundational efforts have strengthened the Province's fire safety framework and are a significant step forward in prioritizing public and firefighter safety.

Objective 1.2: Improved outcomes for Indigenous Peoples across the justice and public safety sector through strengthened partnerships with Indigenous leadership and communities

Social and economic disparities persist in B.C. with disproportionate impacts on Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples continue to be overrepresented in the justice and public safety sector as both offenders and victims, while being underrepresented in positions of leadership, and face unique challenges to their physical, social, and economic well-being.

Key results

- In partnership with AG, the ministry, through the Indigenous Justice Secretariat (IJS), established a cross-ministry Assistant Deputy Minister First Nations' Community Safety

Committee that will focus on coordinating government's response to requests from First Nations related to community safety planning and enforcement of First Nations' laws.

- In 2024/25, BC Corrections partnered with the [South Okanagan Restorative Justice Program](#), through the [En'owkin Centre](#), to strengthen relationships and deliver a cultural safety training event to increase staff understanding of the ongoing impacts of colonization and the importance of connection to culture and community.
- BC Corrections developed and implemented comprehensive orientation guidelines and resources for [Indigenous Justice Programs](#) and [Indigenous Cultural Liaisons](#) throughout 2024/25 to strengthen the delivery of culturally relevant programming in communities and correctional centres.
- To support Indigenous participation in B.C.'s regulated cannabis sector, the ministry expanded the scope of government-to-government cannabis agreements to include financial provisions and invested an additional \$1.25 million in the [BC Indigenous Cannabis Business Fund](#).
- On June 3, 2024, [Williams Lake First Nation](#), the Province, and the RCMP signed a [memorandum of understanding](#) (MOU) to guide future investigative work at the former St. Joseph's Mission Residential School site, reflecting a collaborative approach to seeking truth and justice for the generations of families affected.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

The ministry is working in partnership with AG to instill a collaborative cross-ministerial process for promoting safety and security in Indigenous communities across the province. Led by the IJS, work is underway to operationalize a cross-ministry table of Assistant Deputy Ministers that will facilitate responses to long-standing First Nations community safety and enforcement of laws requests. To ensure prioritization of these efforts, this committee will report directly to the newly established Cabinet Committee on Community Safety. This initiative will advance efforts to deliver results under Track 2 of the [BC First Nations Justice Strategy](#), supporting the development of First Nations' justice systems and institutions consistent with the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), and in particular reflecting the right of self-determination and the inherent right for self-government.

The ministry is also working collaboratively with AG via the IJS and several First Nations to support the implementation of self-determined community safety plans. The results of these efforts may broadly inform pathways for improved First Nations' community safety across the province.

Through partnership with the [BC First Nations Justice Council](#) (BCFNJC), the ministry continued to advance the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, which aims to reduce the number of First Nations people who become involved with the criminal justice system; improve the experience of those who do; increase the number of First Nations people working within the justice system; and support First Nations to restore their justice systems and structures. This includes changes to the Police Act (see Objective 4.1), and through priority work underway by BC Corrections to enhance the role of culture in healing and rehabilitation.

The [Métis Justice Strategy](#) was endorsed by the Province in June 2024. [Métis Nation BC](#) and the Province are jointly developing a plan to guide the implementation of the strategy. In doing so, B.C. moves closer to achieving the commitment set out in the Declaration Act Action Plan to develop and implement a Métis Justice Strategy. This action demonstrates the Province's commitment to improving justice outcomes in B.C. for Métis people.

The First Nations' Community Safety Pilot Project is in its early stages. The work involves engaging in meaningful discourse with First Nations' leadership, building trust, and ensuring long-term cooperation to accomplish practical and culturally relevant community safety outcomes. This initiative takes a collaborative cross-ministerial approach to promoting safety and security in First Nations communities and will advance efforts to deliver results under the BC First Nations Justice Strategy.

During the summer of 2024, the ministry collaborated with First Nations governments to develop and implement a new financial arrangement under [Section 119 of the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act](#) – government-to-government cannabis agreements. This arrangement enables a portion of the provincial cannabis wholesale mark-up to be transferred to First Nations governments. Throughout 2024/25, the ministry continued engaging with interested First Nations to explore and advance additional Section 119 agreements.

The [BC Indigenous Cannabis Business Fund](#), administered by the [New Relationship Trust](#), was developed by the [First Nations Leadership Council](#) (FNLC), the Province, [Health Canada](#) and [Indigenous Services Canada](#) in 2022. It provides financial and business planning support to First Nations communities and Indigenous entrepreneurs in B.C. that want to participate in and advance cannabis-related economic development opportunities. To date, the Province has provided \$6 million to the fund, including a final installment of \$1.25 million in 2024/25.

The ministry continued to collaborate with the FNLC, the [Declaration Act Secretariat](#), and other partners to plan next steps for advancing [Action 4.47 of the Declaration Act Action Plan](#), focused on supporting Indigenous self-determination in cannabis governance and jurisdiction.

The BCCS is committed to culturally respectful investigations and has policies in place that require coroners to do everything within their authority to endeavor to meet the needs of the cultural requirements and protocols of First Nations and Indigenous families and communities. In June 2024, the BCCS was one of the signatories on an MOU with Williams Lake First Nation and committed to co-designing a culturally safe and appropriate process for the disinterment, examination, and identification of human remains in a manner that is consistent with both the requirements of the [Coroners Act](#) and the wishes of those families and communities whose children died at St. Joseph's Mission. Work on implementing the MOU continues.

During 2024/25, the BCCS continued to provide comprehensive mortality data and analyses to the [First Nations Health Authority](#) and First Nations communities to inform community-based initiatives that reduce health and safety risks and support wellness.

Objective 1.3: Strengthened prevention, protection and support for victims of crime, and marginalized and vulnerable women and children

Gender-based violence (GBV) happens in communities of every kind, urban and rural. It happens at work, at school and in the home. Indigenous women and girls, immigrants and newcomers, racialized people, 2SLGBTQIA+ people, and people with disabilities, are especially targeted with violence.

Key results

- In June 2024, PSSG released a [status update](#) on the 28 commitments set out in A Path Forward: Priorities and Early Strategies for British Columbia to combat violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit and gender diverse people.
- The [Path Forward Community Fund](#) received an additional one-time investment of \$10 million in federal Women and Gender Equality funding to support Indigenous-led capacity building and safety planning, to assist communities in visioning what they need to create and implement their own culturally safe solutions to ending violence.¹⁰
- As part of B.C.'s [expect respect & a safe education \(erase\) strategy](#), the Province partnered with priority school districts in the Organized Crime and Exploitation pilot project to fund school district positions dedicated to the enhancement of local knowledge and capacity. Nine coordinators have been hired and are currently working across nine school districts to respond to student involvement and victimization in relation to gangs and organized crime.
- In July 2024, a set of [policing standards](#) for responding to sexual assaults (Standard 5.4) came into effect, requiring all police agencies in B.C. to investigate sexual assaults in a survivor-centred, trauma-informed and culturally safe way, promoting police coordination with community-based victim services and creating accountability for evidence-based investigations.
- An additional set of standards also came into effect in July 2024 (Standard 3.2.6), requiring police officers in B.C. to take training to enhance service delivery to vulnerable communities, including trauma-informed practice, and Indigenous cultural safety, among others, and to maintain records of training taken by officers.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

The Province is committed to a path forward to end violence against Indigenous women, girls, Two-Spirit, and gender-diverse people that is directly informed by survivors, family members and communities.

In June 2024, the ministry released a status update that highlights progress on the cross-ministry actions set out in A Path Forward: Priorities and Early Strategies for British Columbia. The status update reflects priorities that align with the 28 mandate commitments related to

¹⁰ Established in 2022 and managed by the [BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres](#), the Path Forward Community Fund has to date supported four rounds of applications for provincial and federal funding totalling \$15.84 million, resulting in 86 Indigenous-led, anti-violence projects across the province.

the provincially relevant [Calls for Justice](#) of the [National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#).¹¹ The 28 commitments recognize the interconnected, multi-dimensional nature of the inequities facing Indigenous Peoples and the multi-layered response that is needed to address the issues identified through the National Inquiry and the Calls for Justice. All 28 mandate commitments are well underway and six are complete.

In the 2024/25 fiscal year, 35 Indigenous-led, anti-violence [projects](#) were supported through the Path Forward Community Fund including: programming that helps people who have committed intimate partner assault, using Indigenous healing models; support for Walking in Wahkohtowin, an annual gathering for Métis people affected by gender-based violence; support for fathers moving toward healthier relationships with their families; support for First Nations to design crisis resource mapping and response plans to ensure 2SLGBTQIA+ people have clear pathways to safety; programs that empower Indigenous Peoples with tools and knowledge to prevent and respond to gender-based violence; and support to mothers and birthing parents who use or have used substances.

PSSG provides over \$60 million annually to support more than 475 victim service and violence against women programs across the province, including 158 police-based and community-based victim service programs, 91 Stopping the Violence Counselling programs, 53 outreach and 11 multicultural outreach programs, 84 Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling and Empowerment (also known as [PEACE](#)) programs, nine domestic violence units, one provincial helpline, 70 sexual assault services programs (22 of which provide Indigenous-focused services), and five sexual assault centres. These programs provide counselling, court support, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes. In the 2024 calendar year, over 49,000 new clients were supported/served by the ministry's contracted police-based and community-based victim service programs, and over 20,000 new referrals were made to Violence Against Women Counselling and Outreach Programs.

Throughout 2024/25, following the launch of the [Intimate Images Protection Act](#) in January 2024, the ministry, in partnership with AG's [Civil Resolution Tribunal](#) (CRT), continued to support services to help people who have had their intimate images shared without their consent quickly access self-help tools to diagnose their legal issues, get information about their rights, and connect to supports. The CRT received 220 disputes during the 2024/25 fiscal year.

To ensure that victims have dedicated services to support them, the ministry continued to support the [Intimate Images Protection Service](#) (IIPS), which provides emotional support, information, and resources; assists with applying to the CRT; and also assists in communicating protection orders issued by the CRT. The IIPS works collaboratively with the CRT to ensure trauma-informed information and support are available to victims throughout the process. Since inception in January 2024, the IIPS has supported almost 400 clients.

Through "Lifting Up Indigenous-led Approaches", a key priority under [Safe and Supported: British Columbia's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan](#), the Province firmly commits to

¹¹ A Path Forward is also reflected in Action 3.08 of B.C.'s Declaration Act Action Plan.

supporting Indigenous self-determination by placing resources in the hands of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and urban and rural or remote Indigenous communities to determine how best to move forward on preventing and addressing gender-based violence in their communities and in ways that build on Indigenous strengths. Safe and Supported is a three-year action plan that was released in December 2023 and sets out four priority areas to focus action and resources to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in the province. It was informed by initial engagements with community partners, service providers and advocates, and was then further shaped through focused engagement with Indigenous leadership and communities.

The BCCS continues to conduct investigations of all deaths of women and children related to violence and criminal activity. This work involves communicating with law enforcement investigators and providing them with key information. It also informs the development of policy and legislation that is designed to protect and support victims of crime. Coroner inquests and death review panels continue to highlight risks and identify opportunities for greater support for marginalized and vulnerable populations.

Performance measures and related discussion

| Performance Measures | 2022 Baseline ¹ | 2023 Actual ¹ | 2024 Target ² | 2024 Actual |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| [1a] Violent Crime Severity Index (CSI) for B.C. ⁴ | 100.78 | 96.89 | 100.79 | 94.30 |
| [1b] Non-violent CSI for B.C. ⁵ | 101.06 | 107.88 | 99.17 | 93.30 |

Data source: [Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics](#) (CCJCSS). Each index has been standardized at 100 for the base year of 2006. Results are reported by calendar year.

¹ 2024 is the most recent year for which results are available. The 2024 actual for B.C.'s Violent CSI is lower than the national Violent CSI for the same year, which is 99.87. However, B.C.'s actual for the Non-violent CSI is higher than the national Non-violent CSI which is 69.76.

² The ministry is targeting reductions in crime severity over time and the 2024 and subsequent year targets are based on projections of two per cent year-to-year decreases from the 2023 forecasts. Targets for 2025 and 2026 were stated in the 2024/25 service plan as 98.77 and 96.70, respectively for Violent CSI for B.C.; and 97.19 and 95.25, respectively for Non-violent CSI.

³ The Violent CSI is based on the total volume of police-reported violent federal statute offences and measures the relative severity of violent crime.

⁴ The Non-violent CSI is based on the total volume of police-reported federal statute offences not considered violent in nature and measures the relative severity of non-violent crime.

The CSI is a tool developed by the CCJCSS, a part of Statistics Canada, for measuring police-reported crime in Canada. The CSI is a better indicator of trends in crime than are police-reported crime rates as it takes into account both the volume and severity of crime. The CSI accounts for changes in the level of severity of crime from year to year in comparison to other crimes. The overall CSI for any given year can be separated into the Violent CSI and the Non-violent CSI as reported in the table above.

CSIs assign higher values to more serious crimes and lower values to less serious high-volume crimes based on actual sentences handed down by the courts in all provinces and territories. They are based on all Criminal Code violations including traffic, as well as drug violations and other federal statutes. A jurisdiction with a higher proportion of more serious crimes will have

a higher CSI value while a jurisdiction with a higher proportion of less serious crimes will have a lower CSI value.

While trends in crime rates and crime severity are influenced by factors outside of government's control, they are tracked by the ministry as a high-level indicator of community safety and are helpful in informing where attention needs to be directed.¹²

| Performance Measure | | 2022/23 Baseline | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Target ¹ | 2024/25 Actual |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| [1c] Percentage of the sentenced BC Corrections population, rated as moderate/high risk to reoffend ² , who have been referred to at least one cognitive behavioural and/or skills-based program. ³ | Indigenous ⁴ | 24.7 | 24.5 | 22.7 | 22.0 |
| | Non-Indigenous | 25.7 | 23.8 | 22.5 | 23.7 |

Data source: Results for this measure are derived from BC Corrections' case management system.

¹ The ministry is working to increase program referral rates and the 2024/25 and subsequent year targets are based on a conservative estimated trajectory of one per cent growth per year with an initial target of returning to 2022/23 rates. Due to the multitude of factors influencing program referrals, as discussed below, growth in this indicator is not expected to be linear. Targets for 2025/26 and 2026/27 were stated in the 2024/25 service plan as 23.7 and 24.7, respectively for Indigenous sentenced individuals; and 23.5 and 24.5, respectively for non-Indigenous sentenced individuals.

² Sentenced individuals rated as moderate/high risk on the Community Risk Needs Assessment, or moderate/high need on the Inmate Needs Assessment were considered for this metric, as per the [risk-need-responsivity principles](#); interventions for low risk/need clients should be kept to a minimum.

³ Rates reflect the percentage of Indigenous and non-Indigenous sentenced individuals, who are rated as moderate or high risk/need, who are referred to BC Corrections programs (core programs and/or Essential Skills for Success) in the year specified and the prior fiscal year. A two-year window was selected as BC Corrections supervises individuals sentenced to two years less a day; referrals are typically made at the outset of one's sentence while developing a case management plan, and the two-year timeframe was therefore selected to ensure all referrals were included.

⁴ Indigenous includes individuals who self-identify as Aboriginal, First Nations, Inuit, Métis, and Native.

Individuals who have been sentenced to custody or are under community supervision, and who are rated moderate or high risk to reoffend, may be referred to one or more of BC Corrections' programs to help them make positive changes in their lives. These include: [cognitive behavioural programs](#) (i.e., Respectful Relationships, Living Without Violence, Substance Abuse Management, and Thinking Leads 2 Change) designed to help people improve their coping skills, learn how attitudes lead to behaviour, and develop more positive ways of thinking and reacting to the world around them; and skills-based programming that targets living skills (e.g., goal setting, communication skills), and employability skills (e.g., resume writing, job search).

¹² There are many factors that influence police-reported crime statistics. First, an incident must come to the attention of police. The willingness of individuals to report criminal incidents to police has a considerable impact on the number of crimes ultimately recorded by police. Secondly, and more broadly, social and economic factors can influence the volume of police-reported crime. In particular, crime rates can be affected by changes in age demographics, economic conditions, neighbourhood characteristics, the emergence of new technologies, and attitudes toward crime.

These referrals link individuals to the programs that will help to address their needs. Referral, enrollment, and completion rates for these programs are dependent on a multitude of factors, including a sufficiently sized cohort to run a given program, sufficient time remaining on an individual's sentence to complete the program, client motivation to participate in the program, and appropriate staffing levels to deliver it.

The downward trend evident in 2024/25 data reflects the above noted factors, in addition to ongoing challenges with fewer individuals identified as suitable for programming due to the increasing complexity of clients under supervision and the recruitment and retention of correctional staff. BC Corrections is committed to monitoring program referral rates to ensure continued emphasis is placed on helping individuals gain new skills and improve their thinking, behaviour, and interactions with others.

It is important to note that in addition to programs delivered by BC Corrections staff, individuals are also referred to external programs offered by community agencies. Further, probation officers routinely provide cognitive-behaviourally based services one-on-one with clients that wouldn't be reflected in the results for this performance measure. As such, these rates only reflect one component of BC Corrections' services to clients.

| Performance Measure | 2019 - 2023 Baseline ¹ | 2023 Actual | 2024 Target ² | 2024 Actual ³ |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| [1d] Number, per 100,000 population, of fatalities and serious injuries resulting from a motor vehicle crash where alcohol, drugs, speeding and/or distraction were suspected to be a factor ⁴ | 31.7 | 31.1 | 27.0 | 27.8 |

Data source: Data on the number of traffic fatalities for the 2019-2023 baseline is from the Traffic Accident System (TAS) maintained by ICBC. Population estimates and projections are from BC Stats and are as of July 1 each year. Results are reported by calendar year rather than fiscal year. All numbers have been rounded to the closest tenth.

¹ The baseline is the average rate from 2019 through 2023. 2020 was artificially low due to decreased traffic volumes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Results for 2024 were not included in the baseline as the data has not yet settled for that year or been fully approved

² Targets for 2025 and 2026 were stated in the 2024/25 service plan as 23.0 and 21.9, respectively.

³ Annual fatal victim counts are not considered reportable publicly until after approximately six months have passed and are based on the annual summary shared by ICBC to the Data and Measurement Committee in July each year. The preliminary 2024 actual is based on the most recent RCMP PRIME data in 2023 Fatal Victims Report - Division (DM Committee) (May 8, 2025) – and is subject to change as the data settle.

⁴ Police attend most crashes occurring on a public road that result in serious injuries or fatalities. At the scene of such crashes, 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 the high-risk driving contributing factors (alcohol, drugs, speeding and/or distraction) will be counted once for each incidence reported.

This performance measure is an indicator of success in protecting the public from high-risk driving behaviours (alcohol, drugs, speeding and distraction), which are the leading cause of traffic fatalities and serious injuries in B.C. The ministry operates [high-risk driver programs](#) to combat these behaviours and contribute to improved road safety across the province.

Based on the preliminary actual rate for 2024, the 2024 target was achieved.

Goal 2: The justice and public safety sector in British Columbia is fair

Objective 2.1: Regulatory systems that promote public safety and interests, and fair and efficient business practices

Fairness in the justice and public safety sector requires sound regulatory measures that protect public safety and interests while minimizing regulatory impacts on businesses and restrictions on civil liberties. In regulating the liquor, cannabis, and gambling sectors, and overseeing ICBC, the ministry works to support and balance business and community interests. This is done through policy development and implementation and by ensuring compliance with regulatory frameworks to reduce related threats to public safety and well-being through public education and enforcement actions.

Key results

- The [Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch's](#) (LCRB) Compliance and Enforcement Division developed and implemented a risk assessment tool that leverages data to identify and quantify public safety risks – enhancing the ability to proactively target high-risk establishments and repeat non-compliance, ensuring enforcement resources are focused where they are needed most.
- In 2024/25, PSSG continued to make progress on the development of the regulations that will bring the new [Gaming Control Act](#) into force. These are new regulations for the gambling sector and have required significant time to thoroughly consult with the BCLC, gambling companies, charities, and Indigenous partners on a range of regulatory issues, such as prevention of problem gambling, prevention of unlawful activity, advertising, and training.
- In September 2024, ICBC developed a new vehicle insurance product for the film industry in B.C., which streamlines insurance requirements and supports the province continuing to be a destination of choice for the film sector.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

In 2024, LCRB advanced several policy changes designed to protect public safety while reducing regulatory burden on businesses. One such change allows Licensee Retail Store operators to apply for a temporary relocation of their store for up to five years to accommodate major renovations or redevelopment of their original site. This policy supports business continuity while maintaining safeguards – such as distance requirements from other liquor outlets – to ensure public safety. Licensees may also request a one-time, two-year extension if work is not completed within the initial five-year window.

LCRB also updated its market authorization rules to make it easier for B.C. liquor manufacturers to participate in local markets. Previously, markets had to consist entirely of artisan and agricultural vendors. Under the new criteria, a market qualifies as long as more

than half of the vendors are from key categories such as farmers, food producers, or artisans. This change presents no added risk to public safety and opens the door for more local manufacturers to showcase and sell their products at community events and markets beyond those endorsed by the [BC Association of Farmers' Markets](#).

To better support large-scale public gatherings, the LCRB introduced new policies for licensing outdoor event venues. The changes require security plans for events expecting over 500 attendees to mitigate risks such as overcrowding, service to minors, and overconsumption. At the same time, the new framework streamlines the process for event organizers by allowing eligible venues to apply for a permanent liquor licence instead of multiple one-time permits – balancing safety with operational efficiency.

ICBC's [new vehicle insurance product](#) supports the film industry in B.C., simplifying the insurance process by protecting multiple vehicles under one policy — without the need to list each vehicle individually. Additionally, with the previous British Columbia Utilities Commission's approval of ICBC's application for no overall change to Basic insurance rates for two years, there was no change in Basic rates in 2024/25. PSSG continues to monitor [Enhanced Care](#) to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of British Columbians.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

| Performance Measures | 2022/23 Baseline | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Target ¹ | 2024/25 Actual |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| [2a] Percentage of Food Primary liquor licences granted within four months of application ² | 81 | 78 ³ | 85 | 57 ³ |
| [2b] Percentage of Manufacturer liquor licences granted within six months of application | 85 | 91 ³ | 89 | 69 ³ |
| [2c] Percentage of Liquor Primary licences granted within six months of application ⁴ | 64 | 58 | 66 | 71 |
| [2d] Percentage of Cannabis Retail Store applications granted within 13 months of application ⁴ | 73 | 67 | 75 | 69 |

Data source: Results for this measure are derived from the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch's (LCRB) case management system.

¹ The targets for 2025/26 were stated in the ministry's 2024/25 - 2026/27 service plan as 87, 91, 68, and 77. These have been restated as 78, 83, 69, and 67 in the ministry's 2025/26 - 2027/28 service plan.

² Food Primary liquor licence application volumes lend themselves to potentially greater gains in processing times.

³ Food Primary and Manufacturer liquor licence application timelines were negatively impacted in 2024/25 as staff shifted focus to other application types. Over 1,000 permanent changes to a licensee and transfer applications were processed, bringing timelines for those application types closer to service standards. Initiatives were introduced in the third quarter (Q3) of 2024/25 to improve timelines across a range of application types and to address challenges with incomplete applications, as outlined in the discussion below. Immediate improvements in processing timeliness have been realized and are anticipated to continue into future reporting periods.

⁴ The processing times for Liquor Primary licences and Cannabis Retail Store licences can be impacted and made longer because they involve local government processes that are outside the ministry's control. Liquor Primary licence processing

timelines were previously measured for those completed in under 12 months. Consistent improvements in 2022/23 and 2023/24 have resulted in a new expected timeline of six months.

LCRB tracks the percentage of licences granted within established service standards for key licence classes as an indicator of the timeliness of service delivery.¹³ Efficient and timely licensing of liquor and cannabis establishments allows licensees to operate in the legal industry sooner, which ensures that products are sold safely to the public while contributing positively to British Columbia's economy.

In 2024/25, the targets were not met for new food primary, new manufacturer and new cannabis retail store licences. During this time period, staff shifted focus to some of the other 95 application types licensing is responsible for, bringing those timelines closer to service standards.

Some delays are caused by factors outside the LCRB's control, including local government or Indigenous Nations' processes, security screening for cannabis applicants, and public input processes. These steps are important for public safety and to ensure community support of applications.

Delays also occur when applications are incomplete. In 2024/25, more applications were sent in incomplete, requiring the application to be put on hold while the applicant obtained required documents. For example, between January 1 and March 31, 2025, 90 per cent of new food primary applications were submitted without the required occupant load stamp.

In Q3 of 2024/25, two initiatives were introduced to reduce incomplete applications and simplify requirements. The first streamlined the corporate documents private corporations need to submit. The second added an early review to quickly identify incomplete applications and notify applicants.

When applications were submitted complete, 100 per cent of new food primary applications from January to March 2025 were processed within service standards, while incomplete applications were held until the required documents were submitted, negatively affecting the reported timeline.

¹³ The established service standards are informed by average processing times and incorporate consideration of the factors that can affect those averages, such as local government processes and the actions of applicants. Average processing times may be skewed by a small number of outliers where processing times were significantly extended through factors not in the control of LCRB. The established service standards serve as goalposts for licence applicants with what may be expected regarding processing times.

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

Objective 3.1: Strengthened sustainability of the justice and public safety sector to deliver accessible and effective programs and services

The justice and public safety sector must be innovative, adaptive, well-managed, and efficient to remain sustainable. PSSG continues efforts to ensure that appropriate resource levels are sustained to facilitate the successful delivery of core public safety services, with resources and decision making oriented to optimize public safety benefits to British Columbians.

Key results

- As of March 31, 2025, 50 Regular Member RCMP positions and two Public Service Employee positions within the BC Highway Patrol were filled, and an additional 59 Members and 16 support staff were placed to enhance front-line policing and support services in rural and remote areas.
- In January 2025, a cohort of 18 PSSG employees joined the Emerging Leaders program developed for the justice and public safety sector to build leadership capacity and foundational supervisory skills.
- In 2024/25, 80 per cent of traffic violation tickets were issued through electronic ticketing (eTicketing). eTicketing leverages technology with a process that is more efficient, facilitating faster identification of drivers and enforcement against unsafe driving behaviours and allowing police officers more time for additional enforcement.
- As part of the ongoing implementation of the [Justice and Public Safety Sector Digital Strategy](#), the Justice Application Modernization Project continued with approximately \$3.4 million in funding in 2024/25. The project continues to modernize the aging core justice and public safety sector information systems over several years.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

2024/25 was the second year of the three-year provincial investment in the BC RCMP as the PPS. The investment is addressing vacancies and resourcing pressures in the PPS with the aim of staffing 256 Regular Member and 80 Public Service Employee positions in key areas such as Major Crime Section and BC Highway Patrol, as well as front-line provincial detachment units serving rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

Throughout the 2024/25 fiscal year, the ministry continued to work with RCMP “E” Division and national partners to identify and prioritize the staffing of vacancies within the PPS. Staffing actions were increased within investigative services, including the BC Missing Persons Centre, Counter Human Trafficking Unit, Hate Crimes, Unit, Integrated Child Exploitation Unit, and the Southeast and North Districts Major Crimes Units. As of April 1, 2024, the number of Regular Member positions that were fully staffed and operational exceed the year two, 2024/25 provincial targets.

The ministry continued to enhance and support digital roadside tools for police through eTicketing, digitization of roadside forms, and enhanced and automated enforcement across the province. These tools and supports help police officers to intervene more quickly with dangerous drivers while allowing officers to spend more time on other enforcement activities and enabling more efficient information sharing between agencies.

The multi-year Justice and Public Safety Digital Strategy, released in 2019, was developed as a long-term strategy to unify digital transformation efforts and coordinate investments in data, technology, and resources to optimize how sector programs and services are delivered. As part of its ongoing implementation, approximately \$3.4 million was invested in 2024/25 to incrementally modernize legacy justice and public safety applications. Throughout 2024/25, work focused on completing development of a new modern user interface for four of these applications used by ministry staff and law enforcement agencies. The changes are intended to reduce the number of legacy technologies being maintained, decrease technical complexity for frontline staff, and pave the way for future enhancements for years to come.

In 2024/25, the ministry strengthened evidence-based workforce planning with a continued focus on supervisory development, employee health and wellbeing, and real-time access to workforce information to support better decision-making. The PSSG and AG Workforce Plan 2023–2026 emphasizes leadership capacity, along with recruitment, retention, and succession planning. Through the Succession Management Program, critical supervisory roles are identified to help sustain organizational capacity and ensure continuity of essential services. Concurrently, wellness initiatives and timely workforce data access are contributing to more informed, responsive, and resilient workplaces.

To expand access and shorten timelines, the former Leadership Development Program was restructured into two streams: the Emerging Leaders Program, a six-month program that supports newer supervisors in building foundational supervisory skills; and the Experienced Leaders Program, an eight-month program that targets established leaders seeking to deepen leadership competencies, self-awareness, and applied knowledge. Both programs incorporate formal courses from the BC Public Service Agency, assessments for self-reflection, Public Service Agency-facilitated coaching, and Ministry Human Resources sessions on emotional and cultural intelligence.

The Ministry Human Resources team led the development of six people leader guides to support equity, diversity, and inclusion in leadership. The team collaborated with the sector's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Health and Wellness Working Group, HR Working Group, and HR Governance. These resources focus on: EDI in recruitment; Indigenous cultural leave; mitigating bias in talent management; fostering psychological safety; intersectionality in leadership; and reflective learning. Each guide aligns with commitments in the PSSG and AG Workforce Plan, Corporate Plan, and public service diversity strategies.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

| Performance Measure | 2022/23 Baseline | 2023/24 Actual | 2024/25 Target ¹ | 2024/25 Actual |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| [3] Percentage of traffic violation tickets issued through eTicketing | 65 | 77 | 80 | 80 |

Data source: Results for this measure are derived from the eTicket Adoption Dashboard.

¹ The 2024/25 and subsequent year targets are based on ongoing training and adoption of the system throughout the province. Targets for 2025/26 and 2026/27 were stated as 90 respectively. It is anticipated that by 2026/27, the maximum rate for eTicketing will have been achieved as all police cars that enforce traffic will have adopted the system. The additional ten per cent includes traffic violation tickets that are issued by officers from police boats, horses, and foot patrols, which will remain paper-based tickets.

The 2024/25 target for issuing violation tickets through e-Ticketing was achieved.

During 2024/25, police officers continued to leverage technology through eTicketing. Through the eTicketing process, police officers scan drivers' licence information into an online ticket template that auto-populates offence details, ensuring accuracy while saving time. The vehicle-mounted equipment then rapidly shares this information with justice and public safety sector partners like ICBC, eliminating the need to mail tickets to these partners and for them to re-enter the details.

Through eTicketing, police officers can leverage technology with a process that is more efficient, facilitating faster identification of drivers and enforcement against unsafe driving behaviours and allowing police officers more time for additional enforcement activities.

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

Objective 4.1: Increased public confidence in the justice and public safety sector

British Columbians must have confidence in the integrity and effectiveness of the justice and public safety sector for it to function effectively and to ensure continued public participation and support. As well as supporting the above goal, this objective is linked to the three previous goals. For the public to have confidence in the justice and public safety sector, it must protect people and it must be fair and sustainable.

Public confidence in the police is of particular importance. How police are viewed affects the public's willingness to report crimes, to cooperate with police investigations, to contact the police if victimized, and to abide by laws and police orders. A positive perception of police among British Columbians is a critical aspect of public safety and contributes to lower levels of crime.

Key results

- On February 4, 2025, the BCCS [reported](#) on the continued impact of unregulated drug toxicity in communities throughout B.C. with 2,253 lives lost in the 2024 calendar year. The cumulative number of unregulated drug deaths represented a 13 per cent decrease from the number of deaths in 2023 and was less than the annual figure from the previous three years.
- [The Police Amendment Act, 2024](#), received Royal Assent on April 25, 2024. This bill delivered an initial set of changes to the Police Act, focusing on the important issues of municipal police governance, police oversight, and addressing gaps in the public safety and law enforcement service continuum.
- To effectively inform the next phase of policing policy reforms, ministry staff undertook extensive consultations in various formats with a wide range of diverse partners and interest holders
- The ministry's Police Governance Unit completed a review of the police board appointment process in partnership with the [Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office](#), to ensure efficient and fair steps in recruitment, candidate screening and recommendations for appointments. The process supports equity, diversity and inclusion to ensure qualified candidates are appointed who reflect the diversity of the communities served to strengthen police governance and oversight.
- In December 2024, the Province [announced](#) the initiation of an independent review of [E-Comm](#) and 911 service to ensure there is a reliable and sustainable model for 911 services in British Columbia.

Summary of progress made in 2024/25

The initial amendments to the Police Act were directly responsive to recommendations of the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act and the 2019 Special Committee to Review the Police Complaints Process. In the final months of the 2024/25 fiscal year, ministry staff leading the consultation process to inform the next phase of policing and public safety modernization in B.C. began analyzing the extensive input received by partners and interest holders which will be used for a collaborative review with key partners. Work was also initiated to develop and implement several regulations that will bring the recent changes made through the Police Amendment Act, 2024, into force.

In 2024/25, the ministry undertook extensive consultation to inform the next phase of policing policy reforms with 85 First Nations, Indigenous leadership organizations, the [Union of BC Municipalities](#), police leaders, the [BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner](#), the [Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner](#), the [Independent Investigations Office](#), the [BC Civil Liberties Association](#), the BC Association of Police Boards, and numerous community service organizations.

Throughout 2024/25, the BCCS continued fulfilling its key role of conducting objective, impartial, and culturally safe investigations into unexpected, sudden, and unnatural deaths that identify the circumstances of deaths and enhance public safety in British Columbia; and

informing the public of findings and recommendations of coroners, juries, and review panels to promote health and safety and reduce deaths.

Throughout 2024/25, the [Civil Forfeiture Office](#) (CFO) explored opportunities for implementing another Cullen Commission recommendation (99): “that the Civil Forfeiture Office significantly expand its operational capacity by adding investigators and analysts capable of identifying and targeting unlawfully obtained assets and instruments of unlawful activity beyond those identified in the police file”.¹⁴ A business plan to expand the CFO is currently in development.

Ensuring 911 services across the province are effective, sustainable, and have the public’s confidence are priorities for the ministry. E-Comm is responsible for 99 per cent of the province’s 911 call volume and answers calls for the majority of regions across B.C. The independent review, set to be completed in 2025, will examine and provide recommendations on the financial, governance and operational performance of E-Comm to ensure there is a dependable, reliable and accessible 911 system across the province for years to come.

Performance measure(s) and related discussion

| Performance Measures | 2022 Baseline ¹ | 2023 Actual | 2024 Target ² | 2024 Actual |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| [4a]. Percentage of British Columbians who have “complete confidence” or “a lot of confidence” in the RCMP ³ | 45 | Not available | 50 | 40 |
| [4b]. Percentage of British Columbians who have “complete confidence” or “a lot of confidence” in their local municipal police (or local RCMP detachment) | 50 | Not available | 55 | 49 |

Data source: The [Angus Reid Institute](#) conducts a biennial series of surveys assessing Canadians’ experiences with and opinions of the justice system, with responses broken down to the provincial level. The surveys sample Canadian adults who are members of the [Angus Reid Forum](#).

¹ In the [2024 Angus Reid survey](#), there were 200 survey participants from B.C., compared to 577 survey participants in 2022. More detailed results from the 2024 survey are available [here](#).

² Targets for 2025 were stated as 52.5 and 57.5 respectively; and 55.0 and 60.0 for 2026 in the ministry’s 2024/25 – 2025/26 service plan. These have been restated as 46.0 and 51.0 respectively for 2025, and 47.0 and 52.0 for 2026 in the ministry’s 2025/26 – 2027/28 service plan.

³ The RCMP is British Columbia’s provincial police force. An overview of the structure of police services in British Columbia is available [here](#).

For any police department to be effective in serving and safeguarding the public, promoting public confidence is critical. Public confidence is a precursor to peoples’ willingness to call upon the police when needed, to freely share information with police, and to maintain a cooperative and trust-based relationship with police in their community.

¹⁴ The [Unexplained Wealth Order](#) regime was enacted in May 2023, to better pursue the forfeiture of proceeds of crime laundered and hidden by criminal organizations, and thereby fulfilling one of the key recommendations of the [final report](#) of the Cullen Commission into Money Laundering.

In August 2024, the Angus Reid Institute conducted an online survey among a representative randomized sample of 1,600 Canadian adults who are members of the Angus Reid Forum. British Columbians were asked to assess the level of confidence they have in each element of the Canadian justice system, including policing. Results showed that 40 per cent of survey participants had “complete confidence” or “a lot of confidence” in the RCMP. With respect to local municipal police, 49 per cent of participants have “complete confidence” or “a lot of confidence”. British Columbia is not the only province experiencing a downward trend in confidence in policing services. For example, in Alberta, confidence in the RCMP dropped from 42 per cent in 2022 to 32 per cent in 2024. While the 2024 Angus Reid survey does not discuss the variance between the baseline, target, or actuals, the results appear to reflect broader national trends. This shift may also be influenced by methodological factors, including a smaller sample size in British Columbia (200 respondents in 2024 compared to 577 in 2022) which could affect year-over-year comparability.

The ministry will continue to monitor trends in public confidence in police and is exploring other potential performance measures as indicators of public confidence in the justice and public safety sector.

| Performance Measure | 2022/23 Baseline ¹ | 2023/24 Actual ² | 2024/25 Target ³ | 2024/25 Actual ⁴ |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| [4c] Median time, in months, to conclude coroner investigations ⁵ | 16 | 10 | 11 | Not available |

Data source: Results for this measure are from the BCCS.

¹ The 2022/23 baseline is subject to change as the data is finalized.

² The 2023/24 actual is subject to change as the data is finalized.

³ The 2024/25 targets were established based on historical actuals and anticipated case closure improvements. Targets for 2025/26 and 2026/27 were stated in the 2024/25 service plan as 9 and 7, respectively, and are subject to change.

⁴ Preliminary results for 2024/25 are not yet available as many investigations from that fiscal year remain active.

⁵ The median time from when the BCCS is notified of a death until the investigation is closed, after which the coroner's report is distributed.

Through its impartial and independent investigations, the BCCS continued to support public safety and confidence in the justice and public safety sector by providing information about individual deaths and aggregated data reporting to inform evidence-based public safety legislation, policies, and programs.

Under the [Coroners Act](#), the BCCS is mandated to investigate all sudden and unexpected, unexplained, or unattended deaths in the province, including:

- deaths which appear to be the result of violence, injury, or self-harm;
- deaths in which the cause of death is unexplained;
- deaths that do not meet the above criteria but where the deceased person has not been under the care of a physician;
- all deaths which occur in provincial correctional facilities, federal penitentiaries, or other facilities where a person is involuntarily detained, such as those committed to a facility under the [Mental Health Act](#); and

- all deaths of children under the age of 19 years.¹⁵

At the conclusion of each investigation, a coroner's report is completed that confirms the identity of the decedent and how, where, when and by what means their death occurred. These reports determine the facts surrounding the death, do not determine fault or blame and, where appropriate, may include recommendations aimed at preventing future similar deaths. Every investigation is unique, and individual timelines for completion can be impacted by the complexity of the case, parallel investigations by other agencies, case loads, and other factors.

Due to these factors, many investigations from 2024/25 remain active and preliminary results for that fiscal year are not yet available. It is anticipated that the 2024/25 actual will represent a reduction in median times for case completion resulting from the hiring of more investigating coroners and support staff, and identification of efficiencies in the file closing process.

¹⁵ In 2024/25, 13,570 deaths were reported to the BCCS; of those, 6,666 – or approximately 49 per cent – met at least one of these criteria and proceeded to an investigation.

Financial Report

Financial Summary

| | Estimated (\$000) | Other Authoriz- ations ¹ (\$000) | Total Estimated (\$000) | Actual (\$000) | Variance (\$000) |
|---|----------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Operating Expenses | | | | | |
| Corrections | 316,846 | 18,946 | 335,792 | 339,156 | 3,364 |
| Policing and Security | 541,647 | 65,781 | 607,428 | 604,883 | (2,545) |
| Community Safety and Victim Services | 88,310 | 1,293 | 89,603 | 86,402 | (3,201) |
| BC Coroners Service | 29,284 | 0 | 29,284 | 30,018 | 734 |
| RoadSafetyBC | 36,440 | 407 | 36,847 | 37,839 | 992 |
| Liquor and Cannabis Regulation | 8,275 | 93 | 8,368 | 8,559 | 191 |
| Gaming Policy and Enforcement | 21,461 | 0 | 21,461 | 21,462 | 1 |
| Cannabis, Consumer Protection and Corporate Policy ² | 3,830 | 4,267 | 8,097 | 7,780 | (317) |
| Office of the Fire Commissioner | 3,261 | 0 | 3,261 | 3,087 | (174) |
| Executive and Support Services | 19,077 | 271 | 19,348 | 20,303 | 955 |
| Statutory Services ³ | 15,222 | (659) | 14,563 | 13,590 | (973) |
| Sub-total | 1,083,653 | 90,399 | 1,174,052 | 1,173,079 | (973) |
| Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual ⁴ | 0 | 0 | 0 | (341) | (341) |
| Total | 1,083,653 | 90,399 | 1,174,052 | 1,172,738 | (1,314) |
| Ministry Capital Expenditures | | | | | |
| Corrections | 1,062 | 455 | 1,517 | 1,546 | 29 |
| BC Coroners Service | 12 | 129 | 141 | 163 | 22 |
| Office of the Fire Commissioner | 36 | 0 | 36 | 0 | (36) |
| Executive and Support Services | 1,887 | 0 | 1,887 | 1,872 | (15) |
| Total | 2,997 | 584 | 3,581 | 3,581 | 0 |

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

² There was an in-year transfer of Consumer Protection to AG.

³ Statutory Services includes Civil Forfeiture Account, Corrections Work Program Account, Criminal Asset Management Fund, and Victim Surcharge Special Account.

⁴ The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.341 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

Capital Expenditures

| Major Capital Projects (over \$50 million in total) | Targeted Year of Completion | Project Cost to Mar 31, 2025 (\$m) | Estimated Cost to Complete (\$m) | Anticipated Total Cost (\$m) |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Nanaimo Correctional Centre Replacement Project | 2024 | 179 | 2 | 181 |
| <p>Objective: The Nanaimo Correctional Centre (NCC) Replacement Project replaced the aging and outdated 190-cell correctional centre located in Nanaimo, B.C. The new centre was constructed on the existing site while the current centre remained operational, after which the existing centre will be deconstructed. The new NCC is a 202-cell, multi-security level facility, including a 12-cell unit for short-term accommodation of women from Vancouver Island.</p> <p>Costs: NCC Replacement Project costs remain at the increased amount of \$181 million due to higher construction costs.</p> <p>Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new centre will better support staff and enhance the NCC's unique, effective programs, including the Guthrie Therapeutic Community and vocational and educational programs delivered in partnership with Vancouver Island University. The project is expected to bring major regional economic benefits, including approximately 1,000 jobs during construction (650 direct and 275 indirect jobs, plus nearly 100 additional jobs associated with spending by workers). <p>Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable | | | | |

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of August 13, 2025, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:¹⁶

Municipal Police Boards

Independent municipal police departments are overseen by appointed police boards made up of civilian members of the community. The role of these police boards is to provide general governance, oversight, and direction to the department, in accordance with relevant legislation and in response to community needs.

Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia and Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – British Columbia

See Appendix B

¹⁶ On February 3, 2025, oversight of [Consumer Protection BC](#) and [Vehicle Sales Authority of BC](#) moved to AG.

Appendix B: The Organized Crime Agency of BC and Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – BC

Purpose of the Organization

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.

In 2024, CFSEU-BC concluded its first three-year strategic plan, setting out its mission to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime that poses the highest public safety risk to British Columbians. Its mandate is to investigate, support the prosecution of, 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.

Governance Overview

The Board of Governance for the OCABC also acts as the Board of Governance for the CFSEU – BC.

The board is currently comprised of two civilian members who are community leaders in the areas of finance and governance, the Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department; the Chief Constable of the Victoria Police Department; the Deputy Commissioner Pacific Region and Commanding Officer “E” Division RCMP; the Assistant Commissioners of the “E” Division RCMP; and the Associate Director of Police Services of PSSG’s Policing and Security Branch. The Director of Police Services sits as an ex officio member of the board.

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.

The Chief Officer in charge of the CFSEU-BC leads an executive team comprised of civilian members, in addition to regular RCMP and municipal officers seconded from across the province. The CFSEU-BC Gang Enforcement Unit, Investigation Teams, and the Joint Illegal Gaming Investigation Team are just a few of the teams that fall under the responsibility of the CFSEU-BC. Offices for the CFSEU-BC are located in the Lower Mainland, Prince George, Kelowna, and Victoria.

Appendix C: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities

The following is a summary of progress made on priorities as stated in former Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth's 2022 mandate letter.

| 2022 Mandate Letter Priority | Status as of March 31, 2025 |
|---|--|
| Work with ICBC to improve the experience of pedestrians and cyclists involved in vehicle collisions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • In support of vulnerable road users, ICBC has updated its claims handling process and created a dedicated webpage to better serve road users like pedestrians and cyclists, who have injuries and/or property damage from a motor vehicle accident. |
| Work with the Attorney General and the BCFNJC to address the disproportionate incarceration of Indigenous Peoples through the implementation of the First Nations Justice Strategy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress (see Objective 1.2) • Progress to March 31, 2025, includes working in partnership with AG to instill a collaborative cross-ministerial process for promoting safety and security in Indigenous communities across the province. Work is underway to operationalize a cross-ministry table, under the newly established Cabinet on Community Safety, that will facilitate responses to long-standing First Nations' community safety and enforcement of laws requests. |
| With support from the Attorney General, explore coordination of provincial regulatory enforcement teams, including for tobacco, liquor, gambling and cannabis. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress • The ministry continues to explore options for enhancement and increased coordination of enforcement in these areas. |

| 2022 Mandate Letter Priority | Status as of March 31, 2025 |
|--|--|
| <p>Work with the Minister of Finance to target proceeds of crime for high level organized criminals, in line with Cullen Commission recommendations.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress (see Objective 4.1) • The Unexplained Wealth Order (UWO) regime was enacted by the Province in May 2023, providing an important investigative tool to combat money laundering and organized crime. • The Province continues to participate in ongoing consultations with the federal government regarding anti-money laundering legislation and enforcement. |
| <p>With support from your Cabinet colleagues, continue work to implement the Calls for Justice of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress (see Objective 1.3) • The ministry released a June 2024 status report for A Path Forward: Priorities and Early Strategies for B.C. The Path Forward document reflects community-based priorities aligned with the 28 mandate commitments related to the provincially relevant Calls for Justice. All 28 commitments are well underway or completed. |
| <p>Work with the Law Foundation of British Columbia to develop a proposal to enhance and expand restorative justice programs across the province.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed • The recipients of the Province's 2022/23 investment of \$3 million were announced in March 2024. The funds were allocated through the Law Foundation of British Columbia to several restorative justice organizations throughout B.C. who were selected through extensive community and partner engagement. |

| 2022 Mandate Letter Priority | Status as of March 31, 2025 |
|--|---|
| <p>Support police efforts to combat gangs and criminal organizations that fuel the toxic drug supply and increase support for initiatives that are proven to prevent and reduce serious crime.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress (see Objective 4.1 and Appendix B) • The UWO regime was enacted by the Province in May 2023 to combat money laundering and organized crime. • The Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – BC completed development of its first three-year strategic plan targeting organized crime groups that pose the highest risk to public safety in the province. • The BC Provincial Forensic Firearms Laboratory operates as a centralized firearms intelligence hub, helping increase police capacity to analyze illegal firearms that were used for criminal activity and seized by police. • The B.C. Witness Security Program continues to prove its success using innovative and witness-centric approaches leading to convictions in a number of serious, high-profile criminal cases. |