

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#); [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#); [Dowler, Thea AG:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FINAL--Abbotsford Courthouse NR  
**Date:** December 15, 2020 4:01:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [2020AG0073-002073.pdf](#)  
[Abbotsford Courthouse.jpg](#)

---

With photo too!

Cheers,

T

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts  
**Attachments:** QA\_Abbotsford Law Courts\_Feb 4 2021\_DRAFT--(MO).docx; NR\_Abbotsford Law Courts\_4 Feb 2021\_FINAL.pdf; Tweets\_ALC\_Eby\_Feb 4 2021.docx; SN\_EBY\_Abbotsford Law Courts Opening\_Feb 4 2021\_FINAL.pdf; ALC (2).JPG

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 4, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts  
**Attachments:** SN\_EBY\_Abbotsford Law Courts Opening\_Feb 4 2021\_FINAL.pdf

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX ; Milne, Gala AG:EX ; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX ; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 4:46 PM  
**To:** Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

Yes and yes. We will have a package with a photo that is coming up. Mita in my shop has been working on this.

Cheers,

T

**From:** Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 4:45 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX ; Harder, Derrick AG:EX ; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

Thanks. Do we have an image for this courthouse? And if your shop is not too strapped, could I request some draft tweets I can share with our local MLAs?

Gala

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 2:35 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX <[Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca)>; Milne, Gala AG:EX <[Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca)>; Dowler, Thea AG:EX <[Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

**FYI--Invite went out to the following people on Jan 25.**

Jong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <[Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Alexis, Pam LASS:EX <[Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Banman.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX <[Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Dykeman, Megan LASS:EX <[Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Mercier, Andrew LASS:EX <[Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Coulter, Dan LASS:EX <[Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Paddon, Kelli LASS:EX <[Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX <[Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>;

**From:** Lau, Alvin AG:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 5:16 PM  
**Subject:** INVITATION - Abbotsford Law Courts Virtual Opening Ceremony (February 4, 2021)

Hi:

Your invitation to the new Abbotsford Law Court's virtual opening ceremony on February 4, 2021 is attached.

Please join us for this special occasion. Thank you.

Regards,



## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

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**From:** Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:44 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX; Normand, Nicole AG:EX  
**Cc:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Thanks Tim.....I've uploaded to the AG's calendar and iPad

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX ; Normand, Nicole AG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Forgot to cc' you folks. Me bad.

Cheers,

T

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX <[Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca)>; Milne, Gala AG:EX <[Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca)>; Dowler, Thea AG:EX <[Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX

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**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 14, 2020 3:30 PM  
**To:** mayorbraun@abbotsford.ca  
**Subject:** Quote from Mayor

**Importance:** High

Hello,

The Province of BC, and Ministry of Attorney General is issuing a press release tomorrow regarding the opening of the new Abbotsford courthouse.

Would it be possible for the Mayor/Mayor's Office to provide a 1-2 sentence quote for the release? A focus on community or partnership in the region would be great.

Minister Eby and Minister Beare will also be providing quotes.

Apologies for the rush, but we would need this by mid-afternoon tomorrow for it to be included in the release.

Best,

Mita Naidu

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Attorney General  
E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)  
T: (250) 893-0975  
Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen First Nation*

**From:** [Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Translation?  
**Date:** December 16, 2020 7:54:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [Punjabi-NR Abbotsford Courthouse 16 Dec 20 FINAL.docx](#)  
[Punjabi-NR Abbotsford Courthouse 16 Dec 20 FINAL.pdf](#)

---

Hi Mita,

Here is the Punjabi translation of the Abbotsford court NR. Please send it to the editors for installing at the same time that the English NR goes out.

Thanks

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Dooner, Catherine AG:EX](#); [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford  
**Date:** January 19, 2021 2:37:03 PM

---

Looping in Tasha and Mita.

Yes, I think we can have drafts for you before the event date and (hopefully) enough time for you to turn the newsletter around.

On pictures, I'll defer to Mita/Tasha about whether or not they sorted it out with Alvin about which photos have been approved to live in perpetuity.

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Dooner, Catherine AG:EX <Catherine.Dooner@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 19, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Abbotsford

Hi Tim,

Am just looking at timings for Abbotsford for internal and it will be a bit of a tight turnaround for sign off as our newsletter goes out the day before the opening.

Do you think you might be able to share a draft of the news release in advance and we will draft something earlier than the launch date? If the pictures are approved that you are using – those should be fine.

Let me know what you think.

Catherine

**Catherine Dooner**

Director, Internal Communications

(she/her)

Business Planning and Priorities

Ministries of Attorney General and Public Safety and Solicitor General

Victoria, British Columbia

P: 250-419-8678 C: 250-886-7514



Grateful to live and work on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Comms package for Abbotsford Event  
**Date:** January 31, 2021 3:04:04 PM

---

Should also note, we'll need to get the NR translated into Punjabi.

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** January 31, 2021 3:01 PM  
**To:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Comms package for Abbotsford Event

My edits attached.

Please clean up and resolve all comments by 1pm, Feb 1 so I can send up to the MO.

Also, what do you mean by Flickr link in the Zoom chat?

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 28, 2021 5:04 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Comms package for Abbotsford Event

Hi Tim,

For your approval, here are all the items for ALC:

- All items are updated with Tasha edits, CITZ edits, MIRR's suggestions re. titles and program's edits.
- Approval from judiciary and CSB.
- A new gov Flickr link has been added to the NR. We will use this link if we decide to share in the Zoom chat.
- I have removed the section in the Emcee's notes that refers to the photos link. I will ask Alvin to put it in the Zoom chat if we decide to include it.
- A new background section was added to both sets of SN's (Eby's and Emcee's).

- The event plan has been updated.

Pending:

- I'm waiting for Alvin to confirm how to pronounce Lissa Smith's name. For now I have put the pronunciation as Lee-sa in the Emcee notes.
- Once we know where Minister Eby is located at the time of the event, we can be more specific in his land acknowledgment.
- I have sent a section (Question #6) of the QA to Colleen Spier to double-check as per Alvin's request.

Thanks,

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Attorney General  
E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)  
T: (250) 893-0975  
Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations*

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open  
**Date:** December 15, 2020 2:35:35 PM

---

If there are no changes from the version that AG approved, then I'm good.

T

-----Original Message-----

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: December 15, 2020 2:35 PM  
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
Subject: FW: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

This looks good to me, Tim did you want to review?

-----Original Message-----

From: McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <[Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: December 15, 2020 1:51 PM  
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
Cc: Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editorial Services <[GCPEWES@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEWES@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
Subject: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

Hello Mita -- draft copy of tomorrow's news release is attached, going at 4:15 p.m. on approval.

-----

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved

NR Type: UPDATE

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: December 16, 2020 at 4:15 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 002.0 - Abbotsford, 003.0 - Agassiz, 011.0 - Chilliwack, 028.0 - Hope, 037.0 - Langley, 044.0 - Mission, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN

No Lead Organization

Headline: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved

Dec. 16, 2020

Ministry of Attorney General

UPDATE

New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

ABBOTSFORD - Located in one of B.C.'s fastest-growing regions, the recently completed Abbotsford Law Courts will open in the new year.

"This long-awaited facility will offer a wider range of justice programs and services, making it more convenient for



the residents of Abbotsford and surrounding region," said David Eby, Attorney General. "The new courthouse will expand from five to 14 courtrooms, increasing access to justice."

The new state-of-the-art facility houses both the Provincial Court of British Columbia and the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Provincial court operations will commence at the new building on Jan. 18, 2021, followed by Supreme Court operations on Feb. 1, 2021. The new courthouse will also be able to accommodate proceedings of the Court of Appeal for British Columbia.

"The completion of the new Abbotsford Law Courts is welcome and exciting news for the project partners and community," said Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services. "This modern and fully accessible building was built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards and will provide safe, secure and effective justice services to the local community and region for years to come."

The 16,723 square-metre (180,000 square-foot), four-storey building houses 14 courtrooms - eight Provincial, three Supreme and three initial appearance/conference rooms.

The facility includes a law library and state-of-the-art technology to support the delivery of justice services well into the future. Best-practice building design was used to respond to the evolving needs for access to justice services.

"The City of Abbotsford is extremely grateful to the Government of British Columbia for this significant investment in our community and our region," said Henry Braun, mayor of Abbotsford. "The opening of the Abbotsford Law Courts with new Provincial and Supreme Court facilities not only means better access to our justice system, but also provides services and jobs to residents across the region and plays a foundational role in the city's civic precinct and our growing city centre."

The new courthouse also houses the BC Prosecution Service, Community Corrections and a Justice Access Centre to help people with their family and civil law issues.

The Abbotsford Law Courts building is located at 32375 Veterans Way (Trethewey Street and Veterans Way). It replaces the existing courthouse at 32203 South Fraser Way.

A virtual celebration is being planned for the new year.

Learn More:

For more information about the project, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018AG0056-001380>

For more information on B.C.'s courts, visit: <https://www.bccourts.ca/>

Contact:

Ministry of Attorney General  
Media Relations  
778 678-1572

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

**From:** [Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX](#); [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?  
**Date:** December 8, 2020 3:52:31 PM

---

Picture of a building. Its always nice to go along with a story.

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:51 PM  
**To:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?

Thanks Shruti,

I will send you the approved version as soon as I get it.

I'm not sure if any pics are being released as the judiciary plays a significant role in monitoring what we can show, but I will definitely inquire.

Mita

---

**From:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:46 PM  
**To:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?

Hi Mita,

It is a good idea to get it translated into these languages. Once you have the approved IB, please send it our way. We need at least 24 hours to get it translated (the more time the better it is).

Ideally it would be wonderful if it can be released at the same time as the English IB. it will be great if there are a few pictures of the new courthouse too.

Deadline for the Punjabi papers is Wednesday evening or at the most Thursday morning.

Thanks

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:40 PM

**To:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Translation?

Hi Shruti and Catherine,

I am putting together an IB to share the news about the opening of the new Abbotsford Courthouse. We would like to send the IB to MO by Monday latest (as the courthouse has already begun scheduling). It officially opens in January 2021.

Given that this brand new facility is going to bring much needed/improved access to justice in the community and region- I would love to see this IB translated (Punjabi and simplified Chinese).

Thoughts? Given the timeline would it even be possible?

Thanks,

Mita Naidu

Public Affairs Officer

Government Communications and Public Engagement

Ministry of Attorney General

E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)

T: (250) 893-0975

Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen First Nation*

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

2021AG0009-000197

Feb. 4, 2021

Ministry of Attorney General

### **New Abbotsford Law Courts open**

ABBOTSFORD – A state-of-the-art courthouse has opened in Abbotsford that will make justice services more accessible and convenient for people in the region.

David Eby, Attorney General, the chief justice of British Columbia, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, the chief judge of the Provincial Court, Indigenous leaders, Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services, and Henry Braun, mayor of Abbotsford, took part in a virtual event to mark the opening.

"This new courthouse facility, the first entirely new courthouse built in the province in almost 20 years, will double the capacity of the old courthouse and allow for future expansion to accommodate the rapid growth of Abbotsford and neighbouring communities," Eby said. "The Abbotsford Law Courts will improve access to justice for people, in an appropriately sized building that allows victims, offenders, lawyers, judges, court staff and the public access in a safe and responsible manner."

The Abbotsford Law Courts will house community corrections, prosecution services, legal aid, duty counsel, Aboriginal court workers, a justice access centre and an expanded courthouse library, consolidated in one facility.

The 16,723 square-metre (180,000 square-foot) building is located in Abbotsford's city centre. It houses 14 courtrooms: eight Provincial Court courtrooms, three Supreme Court courtrooms and three rooms suitable for case conferences, restorative justice and Indigenous justice cases. Court operations began at the new courthouse on Jan. 18, 2021. The new courthouse is also able to accommodate proceedings of the Court of Appeal for British Columbia.

The lack of updated technology in older buildings, such as the original Abbotsford courthouse, hampered the capacity of B.C. courts to maintain efficient operations. The new building is fully equipped with the latest technology supporting the convenience of remote appearances, reducing costs for litigants, lawyers and the court. All the rooms contain modern video conferencing and presentation systems for court hearings and other functions, resulting in efficiencies throughout the facility.

The Abbotsford Law Courts mark the first entirely new law courts facility built in B.C. since the Chilliwack Law Courts were completed in 2002.

#### **Quotes:**

#### **Chief Alice McKay, Matsqui First Nation –**

"Matsqui First Nation joins in the excitement to welcome this new facility in our core

traditional territory. It is a step forward in the process of connecting two communities and being good neighbours. It allows us to work together, build our relationships, share programs and services in the best interest of our citizens.”

**Lissa Dawn Smith, acting President and Minister of Justice, Métis Nation BC (MNBC) –**

“The opening of the new Abbotsford Law Courts, increasing capacity and including Indigenous cases in one location, is an innovative approach for people accessing justice services in the Fraser Valley region. With a recently completed Métis Justice Strategy soon to be released, Métis Nation BC looks forward to collaborating in initiatives supporting justice for Métis people and our Chartered Communities in the region. MNBC is pleased to be partnering with the Province on this momentous occasion.”

**Robert Bauman, Chief Justice of British Columbia –**

“The courthouse remains an important place in the community, where people can bring their disputes to receive fair and impartial resolution. The establishment of a new courthouse in Abbotsford represents a commitment to ensuring a reliable and accessible justice system for British Columbians.”

**Christopher Hinkson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia –**

“We are pleased to support increased access to justice for British Columbians with the opening of the Abbotsford Law Courts. The new facility will allow residents of the Fraser Valley to resolve their disputes closer to home and add much-needed court capacity in one of the province’s fastest-growing regions.”

**Melissa Gillespie, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia –**

“The Abbotsford courthouse has been the face of justice for people in Abbotsford, Mission and the surrounding areas of the Fraser Valley. The Provincial Court is delighted that the new Law Courts will provide the physical facilities needed to expand court services to better serve those communities. The addition of space for the B.C. Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, as well as rooms suitable for case conferences, restorative justice and Indigenous justice cases, and for a law library, Community Corrections and BC Prosecution Service offices, will provide Fraser Valley residents with improved access to a range of legal resources. The Provincial Court saw the collaborative process used to develop the new Law Courts as an opportunity to plan not just for 2021 but well into the future, incorporating innovative design and technology. We are excited by the opportunities the new building offers to improve access to justice in the Fraser Valley.”

**Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services –**

“Through innovative and green design, we’ve created a safe, fully accessible and energy-efficient building that will improve people’s access to justice services, meet the needs of a rapidly growing community and help put B.C. on a cleaner, more sustainable path.”

**Henry Braun, mayor, City of Abbotsford –**

“Today is an exciting day for our community. The opening of the Abbotsford Law Courts with the new Provincial and Supreme Court facilities not only means better access to our justice

system, but also services and jobs for residents across the region. The new Law Courts play a foundational role in the city's civic precinct and our growing city centre. Abbotsford is extremely grateful to the Government of British Columbia for this significant investment in our city and our region."

**Quick Facts:**

- The new courthouse has been constructed within the city centre civic precinct on land leased to the Province by the City of Abbotsford.
- The B.C. government contributed \$152.2 million in capital funding to the project, while the City of Abbotsford contributed \$5.7 million in a land leasing arrangement with the Province.
- The Abbotsford Law Courts building is located at 32375 Veteran's Way and replaces the former courthouse at 32203 South Fraser Way.
- The Abbotsford Law Courts are part of the Lower Fraser Valley Court Strategy, which is based on demographic and courtroom demand analysis over the next 20 years.
- During construction, the courthouse supported over 1,000 jobs.

**Learn More:**

For more information about the project, visit:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018AG0056-001380>

For more information on B.C.'s Courts: <https://www.bccourts.ca/>

For photos of the new Abbotsford Law Courts, visit:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/bcgovphotos/albums/72157683819329953/page5>

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## ਨਿਊਜ਼ ਰਿਲੀਜ਼

ਤੁਰੰਤ ਜਾਰੀ ਕਰਨ ਹਿਤ  
4 ਫ਼ਰਵਰੀ, 2021

ਅਟਰਨੀ ਜਨਰਲ ਮੰਤਰਾਲਾ

### ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹੀਆਂ

**ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ** - ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਅਤੀ ਆਧੁਨਿਕ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਨਾਲ ਇਸ ਖੇਤਰ ਦੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਹੋਰ ਵਧੇਗੀ ਅਤੇ ਜ਼ਿਆਦਾ ਸੁਖਾਲੀ ਹੋ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਡੇਵਿਡ ਇਬੀ, ਅਟਰਨੀ ਜਨਰਲ, ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਰੌਬਰਟ ਬਾਉਮੈਨ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜਸਟਿਸ, ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਕ੍ਰਿਸਟੋਫ਼ਰ ਹਿੰਕਸਨ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੀ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜਸਟਿਸ, ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਮੈਲੀਸਾ ਗਿਲਸਪੀ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਕੋਰਟ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜੱਜ, ਮੂਲਵਾਸੀ ਆਗੂ, ਲੀਸਾ ਬੇਅਰ, ਨਾਗਰਿਕ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਤਰੀ, ਅਤੇ ਹੈਨਰੀ ਬਰੋਨ, ਸਿਟੀ ਔਫ਼ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਦੇ ਮੇਅਰ ਇਸ ਉਦਘਾਟਨ ਦੇ ਮੌਕੇ 'ਤੇ ਇੱਕ ਵਰਚੁਅਲ ਸਮਾਗਮ ਵਿੱਚ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੋਏ।

“ਇਹ ਨਵੀਂ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਸੁਵਿਧਾ, ਪਿਛਲੇ ਤਕਰੀਬਨ ਵੀਹ ਸਾਲਾਂ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਸੂਬੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੂਰੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਵਾਂ ਉਸਾਰਿਆ ਗਿਆ ਸਭ ਤੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਨਾਲ ਪੁਰਾਣੇ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਨਾਲੋਂ ਸਮਰੱਥਾ ਦੁਗਣੀ ਹੋ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ ਅਤੇ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਅਤੇ ਆਲੇ ਦੁਆਲੇ ਦੇ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਤੇਜ਼ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਨਾਲ ਤਾਲ ਮੇਲ ਬਿਠਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੋਰ ਵਾਧਾ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਗੁੰਜਾਇਸ਼ ਰਹੇਗੀ,” ਇਬੀ ਨੇ ਕਿਹਾ, “ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਬਿਹਤਰ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ, ਜੋ ਇੱਕ ਮੁਨਾਸਬ ਆਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਇਮਾਰਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਹਨ, ਜਿਸ ਤੱਕ ਪੀੜਤਾਂ, ਮੁਜਰਮਾਂ, ਵਕੀਲਾਂ, ਜੱਜਾਂ, ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਸਟਾਫ਼ ਅਤੇ ਆਮ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਇੱਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਅਤੇ ਜ਼ਿੰਮੇਵਾਰ ਢੰਗ ਨਾਲ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਹੋ ਸਕੇਗੀ।”

ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਕਮਿਊਨਿਟੀ ਕੁਰੈਕਸ਼ਨਜ਼, ਪ੍ਰੋਸੀਕਿਊਸ਼ਨ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ, ਲੀਗਲ ਏਡ, ਡਿਊਟੀ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਮੂਲਵਾਸੀ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਕਾਮੇ, ਜਸਟਿਸ ਐਕਸੈਸ ਸੈਂਟਰ (ਨਿਆਂ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕੇਂਦਰ) ਅਤੇ ਇੱਕ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਨਾਲੋਂ ਵੱਡੀ ਲਾਇਬ੍ਰੇਰੀ, ਸਭ ਕੁਝ ਇਕੱਠਾ ਇੱਕੋ ਸਥਾਨ 'ਤੇ ਮੌਜੂਦ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਇਹ ਇਮਾਰਤ 180,000 ਵਰਗ ਫੁੱਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਫੈਲੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਦੇ ਸਿਟੀ ਸੈਂਟਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਥਿਤ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਚੌਦਾਂ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਕਮਰੇ ਹਨ: ਅੱਠ ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਕਮਰੇ, ਤਿੰਨ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਕਮਰੇ ਅਤੇ ਕੇਸ ਕਾਨਫਰੰਸਾਂ, ਰੈਸਟੋਰੇਟਿਵ ਜਸਟਿਸ ਅਤੇ ਮੂਲਵਾਸੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਮਾਮਲਿਆਂ ਲਈ ਮੁਨਾਸਬ ਤਿੰਨ ਕਮਰੇ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਨਵੇਂ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਕੰਮਕਾਰ 18 ਜਨਵਰੀ, 2021 ਨੂੰ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਹੋ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ। ਇਸ ਨਵੇਂ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਲਈ ਕੋਰਟ ਔਫ਼ ਅਪੀਲ ਦੀਆਂ ਕਾਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਵੀ ਹੋ ਸਕਣਗੀਆਂ।

ਪੁਰਾਣੀਆਂ ਇਮਾਰਤਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਵਪੂਰਤ ਤਕਨਾਲੋਜੀ ਦੀ ਘਾਟ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਵਾਲੇ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਸੀ, ਦੇ ਕਾਰਣ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਦੇ ਕੰਮਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਕੁਸ਼ਲਤਾ ਨਾਲ ਚਲਾਉਂਦੇ ਰਹਿਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਵਿਘਨ ਪੈਂਦਾ ਸੀ। ਇਹ ਨਵੀਂ ਇਮਾਰਤ ਬਿਲਕੁਲ ਨਵੀਂ ਤਕਨਾਲੋਜੀ ਨਾਲ ਪੂਰੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਲੈਸ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਰਿਮੋਟ ਢੰਗ ਨਾਲ ਪੇਸ਼ੀਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹੂਲਤ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ, ਜਿਸ ਨਾਲ ਮੁਕੱਦਮੇ ਲੜਨ ਵਾਲਿਆਂ, ਵਕੀਲਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਦੇ ਖਰਚੇ ਘਟਣਗੇ। ਸਾਰੇ ਕਮਰਿਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਸੁਣਵਾਈਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਕਾਰਜਾਂ ਲਈ ਵਿਡੀਉ ਕਾਨਫਰੰਸ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਪੇਸ਼ਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ ਆਧੁਨਿਕ ਸਿਸਟਮ ਲੱਗੇ ਹੋਏ ਹਨ, ਜਿਸ ਦੇ ਨਤੀਜੇ ਵਜੋਂ ਪੂਰੀ ਸੁਵਿਧਾ ਕੁਸ਼ਲਤਾ-ਪੂਰਵਕ ਚੱਲੇਗੀ।

ਇਹ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਵਿੱਚ 2002 ਵਿੱਚ ਬਣਾਈਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਚਿਲਿਵੈਕ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਬਾਦ ਪਹਿਲੀਆਂ ਪੂਰੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਉਸਾਰੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਹਨ।

**ਕਥਨ:**

**ਚੀਫ਼ ਐਲਿਸ ਮੈਕ ਕੋਅ, ਮੈਟਸਕਿਉਈ ਫ਼ਸਟ ਨੇਸ਼ਨ-**

“ਮੈਟਸਕਿਉਈ ਫ਼ਸਟ ਨੇਸ਼ਨ ਸਾਡੇ ਕੇਂਦਰੀ ਪ੍ਰੋਗਰਾਮਾਂ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਸ ਨਵੀਂ ਸੁਵਿਧਾ ਦਾ ਸੁਆਗਤ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਦੋ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਜੋੜਨ ਅਤੇ ਵਧੀਆ ਗੁਆਂਢੀ ਬਣਨ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਗਾਂਹ ਵੱਲ ਵਧਦਾ ਇੱਕ ਹੋਰ ਕਦਮ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਗਰਿਕਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਰਵੋਤਮ ਹਿੱਤਾਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਆਪਣੇ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਧਾਉਣ, ਪ੍ਰੋਗਰਾਮ ਅਤੇ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਸਾਂਝੀਆਂ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਅਸੀਂ ਮਿਲ ਕੇ ਕੰਮ ਕਰ ਸਕਾਂਗੇ।”

**ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਅਤੇ ਨਿਆਂ ਮੰਤਰੀ, ਲਿਸਾ ਡਾਨ ਸਮਿਥ, ਮੈਟਿਸ ਨੇਸ਼ਨ ਬੀ ਸੀ-**

“ਨਵੀਆਂ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹਣ ਨਾਲ, ਸਮਰੱਥਾ ਵਧਣ ਨਾਲ ਅਤੇ ਜਿਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੂਲਵਾਸੀ ਮਾਮਲਿਆਂ ਦਾ ਇੱਕੋ ਸਥਾਨ ‘ਤੇ ਹੋਣਾ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹੈ, ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਿਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਇੱਕ ਨਵੀਨ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਹੈ। ਹੁਣੇ ਹੁਣੇ ਮੁਕੰਮਲ ਹੋਈ ਮੈਟਿਸ ਨਿਆਂ ਰਣਨੀਤੀ, ਜੋ ਜਲਦੀ ਹੀ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਹੈ, ਨਾਲ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਦੀ ਮੈਟਿਸ ਨੇਸ਼ਨ ਮੈਟਿਸ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਚਾਰਟਰਡ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਿਆਂ ਲਈ ਨਿਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲੀਆਂ ਪਹਿਲਕਦਮੀਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਉਮੀਦ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਐੱਮ ਐੱਨ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਸ਼ਾਨਦਾਰ ਮੌਕੇ ‘ਤੇ ਸੂਬਾ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨਾਲ ਭਾਈਵਾਲੀ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਨਤਾ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ।”

**ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਰੌਬਰਟ ਬਾਉਮੈਨ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜਸਟਿਸ-**

“ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਦਾ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਿਆਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਅਹਿਮ ਸਥਾਨ ਬਣਿਆ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ, ਜਿੱਥੇ ਲੋਕ ਇੱਕ ਨਿਆਂ-ਪੂਰਣ ਅਤੇ ਨਿਰਪੱਖ ਸਮਾਧਾਨ ਲਈ ਆਪਣੇ ਝਗੜੇ ਲੈ ਕੇ ਆ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ। ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਨਵਾਂ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਦਾ ਸਥਾਪਤ ਹੋਣਾ ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਨਿਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਲਈ ਇੱਕ ਭਰੋਸੇਮੰਦ ਅਤੇ ਪਹੁੰਚਯੋਗ ਨਿਆਂ ਪ੍ਰਣਾਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਯਕੀਨੀ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਬੱਧਤਾ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਕ ਹੈ।”

**ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਕ੍ਰਿਸਟੋਫ਼ਰ ਹਿੰਕਸਨ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੀ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜਸਟਿਸ -**

“ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹਣ ਨਾਲ ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਨਿਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਵਿੱਚ ਵਾਧਾ ਹੋਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਦਦ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਨਤਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਨਵੀਂ ਸੁਵਿਧਾ ਨਾਲ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਦੇ ਨਿਵਾਸੀ ਆਪਣੇ ਘਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਿਆਦਾ ਨਜ਼ਦੀਕ ਆਪਣੇ ਝਗੜਿਆਂ ਦਾ ਨਿਪਟਾਰਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਣਗੇ ਅਤੇ ਸੂਬੇ ਦੇ ਸਭ ਤੋਂ ਤੇਜ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਫੈਲ ਰਹੇ ਖੇਤਰਾਂ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਇੱਕ ਵਿੱਚ, ਅਦਾਲਤ ਦੀ ਸਮਰੱਥਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਤੀ ਲੋੜੀਂਦਾ ਵਾਧਾ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।”

**ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਮੈਲੀਸਾ ਗਿਲਸਪੀ, ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਕੋਰਟ ਦੇ ਚੀਫ਼ ਜੱਜ -**

“ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ, ਮਿਸ਼ਨ, ਅਤੇ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਦੇ ਆਲੇ ਦੁਆਲੇ ਦੇ ਇਲਾਕਿਆਂ ਦੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਲਈ ਇਨਸਾਫ਼ ਦਾ ਚਿਹਰਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ। ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਕੋਰਟ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰਸੰਨਤਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਇਹ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਭਾਈਚਾਰਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਬਿਹਤਰ ਸੇਵਾ ਲਈ ਅਦਾਲਤੀ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦਾ ਦਾਇਰਾ ਵਧਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੀਆਂ ਵਾਸਤਵਿਕ ਸਹੂਲਤਾਂ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਨਗੀਆਂ। ਬੀ ਸੀ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਅਤੇ ਕੋਰਟ ਔਫ਼ ਅਪੀਲ ਲਈ ਸਥਾਨ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਨਾਲ, ਕੇਸ ਕਾਨਫਰੰਸਾਂ, ਰੈਸਟੋਰੇਟਿਵ ਜਸਟਿਸ ਅਤੇ ਮੂਲਵਾਸੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਮਾਮਲਿਆਂ, ਅਤੇ ਇੱਕ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਲਾਇਬ੍ਰੇਰੀ, ਕਮਿਊਨਿਟੀ ਕੁਰੈਕਸ਼ਨਜ਼, ਅਤੇ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਪ੍ਰੋਸੀਕਿਊਸ਼ਨ ਸੇਵਾ ਦੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰਾਂ ਲਈ ਮੁਨਾਸਬ ਕਮਰੇ ਹੋਣ ਨਾਲ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਦੇ ਨਿਵਾਸੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਸ਼੍ਰੇਣੀ ਦੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਦਾਇਰੇ ਤੱਕ ਬਿਹਤਰ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਕੋਰਟ ਨੇ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਦੇ ਨਿਰਮਾਣ ਲਈ ਵਰਤੀ ਗਈ ਸਹਿਯੋਗਾਤਮਕ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਨੂੰ ਨਾ ਕੇਵਲ 2021 ਲਈ ਬਲਕਿ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਲਈ ਯੋਜਨਾਬੰਦੀ ਦੇ ਇੱਕ ਅਵਸਰ ਵੱਜੋਂ ਸਮਝਿਆ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਵੀਨਤਾਕਾਰੀ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਈਨ ਅਤੇ ਤਕਨਾਲੋਜੀ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਸਾਨੂੰ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਅਵਸਰਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਬਹੁਤ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਹਾਸਲ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਇਹ ਨਵੀਂ ਇਮਾਰਤ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਿਆਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਵਿੱਚ ਸੁਧਾਰ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ।”

**ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਲੀਸਾ ਬੇਅਰ, ਨਾਗਰਿਕ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਤਰੀ-**

“ਨਵੀਨਤਾਕਾਰੀ ਅਤੇ ਹਰਿਤ ਡਿਜ਼ਾਈਨ ਦੁਆਰਾ, ਅਸੀਂ ਇੱਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ, ਪੂਰੀ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਪਹੁੰਚਯੋਗ ਅਤੇ ਊਰਜਾ-ਕੁਸ਼ਲ ਇਮਾਰਤ ਬਣਾਈ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਬਿਹਤਰ ਬਣਾਏਗੀ, ਇੱਕ ਤੇਜ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਵਧ ਰਹੇ ਭਾਈਚਾਰੇ ਦੀਆਂ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਪੂਰਾ ਕਰੇਗੀ, ਅਤੇ ਬੀ ਸੀ ਨੂੰ ਇੱਕ ਵਧੇਰੇ ਸਵੱਛ, ਟਿਕਾਊ ਰਸਤੇ ‘ਤੇ ਤੋਰੇਗੀ।”



### **ਹਿਜ਼ ਵਰਸ਼ਿਪ ਮੇਅਰ ਹੈਨਰੀ ਬਰੌਨ, ਸਿਟੀ ਔਫ਼ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ-**

“ਅੱਜ ਸਾਡੇ ਭਾਈਚਾਰੇ ਲਈ ਇੱਕ ਖ਼ੁਸ਼ੀ ਦਾ ਦਿਨ ਹੈ। ਪ੍ਰੋਵਿੰਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਅਤੇ ਸੁਪਰੀਮ ਕੋਰਟ ਦੀਆਂ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਸੁਵਿਧਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹਣ ਦਾ ਅਰਥ ਕੇਵਲ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਿਆਂ ਸਿਸਟਮ ਤੱਕ ਬਿਹਤਰ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਹੋਣਾ ਹੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਬਲਕਿ ਇਸ ਪੂਰੇ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਰਹਿਣ ਵਾਲਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਨੌਕਰੀਆਂ ਵੀ ਮਿਲਣਗੀਆਂ। ਇਹ ਨਵੀਆਂ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਇਸ ਨਗਰਪਾਲਿਕਾ ਦੇ ਸ਼ਹਿਰੀ ਚੁਗਰਿਦੇ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਵਿਕਸਤ ਹੋ ਰਹੇ ਸਿਟੀ ਸੈਂਟਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਇੱਕ ਬੁਨਿਆਦੀ ਭੂਮਿਕਾ ਨਿਭਾਉਣਗੀਆਂ। ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਸਾਡੀ ਨਗਰਪਾਲਿਕਾ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਇਲਾਕੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਇਸ ਅਹਿਮ ਨਿਵੇਸ਼ ਲਈ ਬ੍ਰਿਟਿਸ਼ ਕੋਲੰਬੀਆ ਦੀ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦਾ ਬੇਹੱਦ ਰਿਣੀ ਹੈ।”

### **ਫ਼ੋਰੀ ਤੱਥ:**

- ਨਵੇਂ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਦਾ ਨਿਰਮਾਣ ਸਿਟੀ ਔਫ਼ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਸੂਬਾ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨੂੰ ਪਟੇ ‘ਤੇ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ‘ਤੇ, ਸਿਟੀ ਸੈਂਟਰ ਦੇ ਚੁਗਰਿਦੇ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ।
- ਬੀ ਸੀ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨੇ ਪੂੰਜੀਗਤ ਮਾਲੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਅਧੀਨ \$152.2 ਮਿਲੀਅਨ ਦਾ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਪਾਇਆ ਹੈ, ਜਦ ਕਿ ਸਿਟੀ ਔਫ਼ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਨੇ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਪਟੇ ‘ਤੇ ਦੇਣ ਦੇ ਸੂਬਾ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਨਾਲ ਇੱਕ ਇਕਰਾਰਨਾਮੇ ਦੀ ਸ਼ਕਲ ਵਿੱਚ \$5.7 ਮਿਲੀਅਨ ਦਾ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ।
- ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਇਹ ਇਮਾਰਤ 32375, ਵੈਟਰਨਜ਼ ਵੇਅ ‘ਤੇ ਸਥਿਤ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਇਹ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ 32203, ਸਾਊਥ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੇਅ ‘ਤੇ ਸਥਿਤ ਪੁਰਾਣੇ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਦੀ ਥਾਂ ਲਵੇਗੀ।
- ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਲੇਅਰ ਫ਼ਰੇਜ਼ਰ ਵੈਲੀ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਰਣਨੀਤੀ ਦਾ ਇੱਕ ਹਿੱਸਾ ਹਨ, ਜੋ ਅਗਲੇ 20 ਸਾਲਾਂ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਜਨਸੰਖਿਅਕ ਅਤੇ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਲਈ ਸਥਾਨ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਦੇ ਮੁਲਾਂਕਣ ‘ਤੇ ਅਧਾਰਤ ਹੈ।
- ਉਸਾਰੀ ਦੇ ਸਿਲਸਿਲੇ ਦੌਰਾਨ, ਇਸ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਭਵਨ ਕਰਕੇ 1,000 ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਨੌਕਰੀਆਂ ਪੈਦਾ ਹੋਈਆਂ।

### **ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣੋ:**

ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰੋਜੈਕਟ ਬਾਰੇ ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ:

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018AG0056-001380> ‘ਤੇ ਜਾਓ

ਬੀ ਸੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਬਾਰੇ ਹੋਰ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲਈ:

<https://www.bccourts.ca/> ‘ਤੇ ਜਾਓ

ਨਵੀਆਂ ਐਬਟਸਫੋਰਡ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਅਦਾਲਤਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਤਸਵੀਰਾਂ ਲਈ:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/bcgovphotos/shares/9fetr4> ‘ਤੇ ਜਾਓ

### **ਮੀਡੀਆ ਸੰਪਰਕ:**

ਅਟਰਨੀ ਜਨਰਲ ਮੰਤਰਾਲਾ

778 678-1572

## Abbotsford Law Courts Opening

### Questions & Answers

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#### Key messages:

- Our government is committed to supporting access to justice for all British Columbians.
- The Fraser Valley region is rapidly growing, and the new Abbotsford Courthouse will help deliver a court system that is able to hear and resolve disputes in a timely manner.
- The new building will double the capacity of the existing courthouse and allow future expansion.
- The facility will house both the Provincial Court of British Columbia and Supreme Court of British Columbia.
- By including space for a law library, Community Corrections, legal aid, Justice Access Centre and BC Prosecution Service, it will provide improved access to a range of legal resources.

#### Questions and Answers

##### **1. How much did this cost?**

- Our government is fully committed to improve the functioning of B.C.'s judicial system. But making these critical investments requires thoughtful planning, time and significant resources.
- The B.C. government contributed \$152.2M in capital to the project, while the City of Abbotsford contributed \$5.7M in the form of a land leasing arrangement with the Province.
- The two levels of government negotiated a 60-year lease of the city-owned property, with the potential for a further extension.
- The City has also contributed \$4.9M to the parkade project.
- Construction began in July 2018 and the Abbotsford Law Courts officially opened for business on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

##### **2. Will the Abbotsford courthouse include new technology?**

- The lack of updated technology in older buildings, like the original Abbotsford courthouse, hampered the capacity of B.C. courts to maintain efficient operations.
- The new building is fully equipped with the latest technology and it won't be long before we see efficiencies at the courthouse.
- Technology will support the convenience of remote appearances thereby reducing costs for litigants, lawyers and the court, and all rooms contain modern video conferencing, and presentation systems, creating efficiencies throughout the facility.

## **CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE – FEBRUARY 4, 2021 (DRAFT)**

- As a result of Covid-19, the Ministry is focusing on rapidly deploying technology and alternate locations to support the Courts in holding hearings, both to address the impact of the second wave and to continue and expand operations.

### **3. Tell me about the features of this courthouse?**

- The Abbotsford Law Courts will house both the Provincial Court of British Columbia and Supreme Court of British Columbia. And can accommodate proceeding of the Court of Appeal if required.
- The 180,000-square-foot four-storey building will house 14 courtrooms – eight Provincial, three Supreme and three initial appearance/conference rooms.
- The facility will include a law library and state-of-the-art technology to support the delivery of justice services well into the future.
- The new courthouse will house a Justice Access Centre to help support people with matters relating to family and civil law issues.
- BC Prosecution Service and Community Corrections are co-located in the facility, allowing for more integrated services.

### **4. What measures are being taken to ensure the safety of court users at this courthouse?**

- We are committed to supporting the courts in maintaining access to justice while protecting public health and safety.
- All courtrooms are inspected, sanitized and maintained in accordance with required standards, and those entering courthouses are subject to a pre-screening process that includes answering specific questions regarding health and travel.
- Access to the courthouses may be restricted or delayed at the discretion of the sheriff and/or direction of the judge based on health and safety considerations and maximum building occupancy.
- To protect the health and safety of courthouse employees and court users, court users are always encouraged to use online filing options wherever possible.
- The Ministry will continue to monitor the Provincial Health Officer's direction and adjust our response as needed to ensure our courthouses are safe.

### **5. What is the environmental impact of such a large facility?**

- The Abbotsford Law Courts is energy efficient and constructed to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Gold certification.
- The building orientation and envelope design have resulted in a highly energy efficient facility that aligns with the sustainability initiatives of the Province of B.C.
- The project features an energy target, which will be enforced by significant penalties for non-performance.
- The energy consumption for the Abbotsford Law Courts design solution will support the Government's goal to reduce energy consumption of public facilities.

**6. Which justice services are available for the Indigenous community at this facility?**

- It is one of our top priorities to make the existing provincial justice system work better for Indigenous governments, communities and peoples.
- At this facility, along with 14 courtrooms, the Abbotsford Law Courts has 3 rooms suitable for case conferences, restorative justice and Indigenous justice cases.
- With Indigenous communities leading the way, our government has dedicated resources to reshaping the criminal justice system for Indigenous peoples in several other ways:
  - We are establishing a network of 15 regional First Nations Justice Centres around the province as a resource and support for Indigenous communities.
  - We are diverting Indigenous peoples from the court system, wherever possible.
  - We are improving cultural competency in the justice system.
  - We are establishing roles for Elders and Knowledge Keepers within the justice system.
  - We are increasing community justice programming in each Indigenous community.
  - We have built Indigenous Courts in Duncan, Kamloops, Merritt, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Prince George and most recently Williams Lake, which use restorative justice and traditional ways to reach balance and healing.
- These are all important ways of addressing over-representation of Indigenous people in the province's justice system.

**-END-**

## Event Information/Speaking Notes

<b>Event:</b>	Abbotsford Law Courts – opening ceremony
<b>When:</b>	February 4th, 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Speaking time – 12:35 p.m.)
<b>Where:</b>	Virtual event
<b>Length:</b>	Event: Approx. 30 minutes. Speaking time: 2 minutes.

### Key Participants

<b>Speaking Order:</b>	Minister Lisa Beare, Emcee
	Alice McKay, Chief of the Matsqui Nation
	Lissa Smith, Acting President and Minister of Justice of Metis BC
	David Eby, Attorney General
	Robert Bauman, Chief Justice of British Columbia
	Christopher Hinkson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia
	Melissa Gillespie, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia
	Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services
	Henry Braun, Mayor of Abbotsford

<b>Speaking Backdrop:</b>	Zoom call
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<b>Audience Description:</b>	Public, media, court users, staff and representatives from justice organizations.
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Number of

**Participants:**

**All guests will be invited to watch virtually through a government YouTube link. All event speakers/participants are joining the emcee virtually to give their remarks over Zoom.**

### Agenda:

<b>Event Summary</b>	Virtual announcement done via ZOOM and conference call.
Key contacts	GCPE Events: Elena Banfield, <a href="mailto:Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca">Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca</a> , 604-842-0984
Zoom Login	s.15; s.17
<b>Time</b>	<b>Event Itinerary</b>
12:00 PM	Speakers all sign in to ZOOM call for final checks and run-through, led by Elena Banfield <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services (emcee)</li> <li>Chief Alice McKay, Chief of the Matsqui First Nation</li> <li>Minister Lissa Smith, Acting President and Minister of Justice for the Métis Nation of BC</li> <li>The Honourable David Eby, Attorney General (joining at 12:30pm)</li> <li>The Honourable Robert Bauman, Chief Justice of British Columbia</li> <li>The Honourable Christopher Hinkson, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia</li> <li>The Honourable Melissa Gillespie, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia</li> <li>His Worship Henry Braun, Mayor of the City of Abbotsford</li> </ul>
12:30 PM	On cue from GCPE Events, <b>Minister Beare</b> begins event with opening remarks, introduces speakers and invites Chief Alice McKay to open the event (1 min)
12:31pm-12:33pm	<b>Chief Alice McKay</b> gives welcome and blessing (2 mins)
12:33pm	<b>Minister Beare</b> thanks Chief Alice McKay, introduces Minister Lissa Smith (30 seconds)
12:33pm-12:35pm	<b>Minister Lissa Smith</b> speaks (2 mins)
12:35pm-12:36pm	<b>Minister Beare</b> thanks Lissa Smith, acknowledges remaining dignitaries and invites Attorney General to deliver remarks (1 min)
12:36pm-12:38pm	<b>Attorney General</b> speaks, then introduces Chief Justice Robert Bauman (2 mins)

12:38pm- 12:40pm	<b>Chief Justice Robert Bauman</b> speaks, then introduces Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson (2 mins)
12:40pm- 12:42pm	<b>Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson</b> speaks, then introduces Chief Judge Melissa Gillespie (2 mins)
12:42pm- 12:44pm	<b>Chief Judge Melissa Gillespie</b> speaks, then introduces Mayor Henry Braun (2 mins)
12:44pm- 12:46pm	<b>Mayor Henry Braun</b> speaks, then introduces Minister Lisa Beare (2 mins)
12:48pm- 12:50pm	<b>Minister Lisa Beare</b> speaks and closes the event (2 mins plus 30 second wrap up)

## Speaking Notes

for

Attorney General David Eby

(Virtual)

Thursday, February 4, 2021

12:30pm

Speaking time: 12:35 – 12:37 p.m.

*CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY*



## **Introduction**

- Thank you, Minister Beare, and good afternoon everyone.
- I'm joining you today from the territories of the Kwakiutl [pron: Kwog-you-tul] First Nation and the Namgis [pron: Nam-gees] First Nation
- I'm excited to take part in this significant event for the Abbotsford community and the Matsqui and Sumas First Nations.
- We are opening these Law Courts on the territory of the Stó:lō peoples, as we continue our journey to improving access to justice in the Fraser Valley.
- I would like to acknowledge Chief Alice McKay from the Matsqui First Nation and Lissa Smith, Acting President and Minister of Justice of Metis Nation BC for joining us.

- I would also like to thank:
- Chief Justice Robert Bauman,
- Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson,
- Chief Judge Melissa Gillespie and other members of the Provincial and Supreme Court of British Columbia;
- My colleague Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services; and Mayor Henry Braun of Abbotsford – who have played key roles in this project.

## **Opening of Abbotsford Law Courts**

- The Fraser Valley region has needed expanded access to court services for some time, and our government has been committed to supporting this.
- This was a collaborative effort.

- From the Judiciary, ministry staff and service providers across the Lower Mainland, to the City of Abbotsford...
- ... I want to extend my gratitude to everyone who has seen this immense project through to fruition, and for all the collective hard work.

## **The ALC Facility**

- The last entirely brand-new courthouse in BC was built in Chilliwack in 2002... over 19 years ago and we know much has changed over the last 19 years.
- The Fraser Valley has seen substantial population growth and with that growth, the demands on the justice system also increase.

- This facility will help address the justice needs for those living here.
- I'm proud our government invested over \$150 million to build this necessary state of the art building.
- Green design, new technologies and updated processes, will deliver a court system that is able to hear and resolve disputes in a timely manner.
- The courthouse features an expanded law library, and is also home to the BC Prosecution Service, Community Corrections and a Justice Access Centre to help people with their family and civil law issues.
- The new building will double the capacity of the existing courthouse and allow for future expansion.

- This means residents of the Fraser Valley will no longer have to travel great distances to access justice services – which are now at one convenient location.

## **Conclusion**

- This project marks an important milestone in our province and the continued push to improve access to justice.
- Again, thank you for joining us today in celebrating the opening of the new Abbotsford courthouse.

Tweets  
Abbotsford Law Courts Opening: Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Attorney General David Eby

The brand-new Abbotsford Law Courts open today! This facility will increase access to justice services across the Fraser Valley. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23717> @BCGovNews @City\_Abbotsford #accesstojustice #BC #FraserValley

Characters: 220

Great news for the Fraser Valley! The new Abbotsford Law Courts are open. This means better access to services and increased capacity. Proud of this achievement. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23717> @BCGovNews @City\_Abbotsford #accesstojustice #BC #FraserValley

Characters: 253

Important announcement today: the new Abbotsford Law Courts are open. Residents of the Fraser Valley will have much improved access to justice in a state-of-the-art facility. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23717> @BCGovNews @City\_Abbotsford #accesstojustice #BC #FraserValley

Characters: 266



**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#); [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#); [Dowler, Thea AG:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FINAL--Abbotsford Courthouse NR  
**Date:** December 15, 2020 4:01:23 PM  
**Attachments:** [2020AG0073-002073.pdf](#)  
[Abbotsford Courthouse.jpg](#)

---

With photo too!

Cheers,

T



## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts  
**Attachments:** QA\_Abbotsford Law Courts\_Feb 4 2021\_DRAFT--(MO).docx; NR\_Abbotsford Law Courts\_4 Feb 2021\_FINAL.pdf; Tweets\_ALC\_Eby\_Feb 4 2021.docx; SN\_EBY\_Abbotsford Law Courts Opening\_Feb 4 2021\_FINAL.pdf; ALC (2).JPG

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 4, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts  
**Attachments:** SN\_EBY\_Abbotsford Law Courts Opening\_Feb 4 2021\_FINAL.pdf

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX ; Milne, Gala AG:EX ; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX ; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 4:46 PM  
**To:** Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

Yes and yes. We will have a package with a photo that is coming up. Mita in my shop has been working on this.

Cheers,

T

**From:** Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 4:45 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX ; Harder, Derrick AG:EX ; Dowler, Thea AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

Thanks. Do we have an image for this courthouse? And if your shop is not too strapped, could I request some draft tweets I can share with our local MLAs?

Gala

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 2:35 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX <[Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca)>; Milne, Gala AG:EX <[Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca)>; Dowler, Thea AG:EX <[Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Abbotsford Courthouse invite confirmation

**FYI--Invite went out to the following people on Jan 25.**

Jong.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <[Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.deJong.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Alexis, Pam LASS:EX <[Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Pam.Alexis.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Banman.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX <[Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Bruce.Banman.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Dykeman, Megan LASS:EX <[Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Megan.Dykeman.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Mercier, Andrew LASS:EX <[Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Mercier.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Coulter, Dan LASS:EX <[Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Dan.Coulter.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Paddon, Kelli LASS:EX <[Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Kelli.Paddon.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; D'Eith.MLA, Bob LASS:EX <[Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Bob.Deith.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>;

**From:** Lau, Alvin AG:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 25, 2021 5:16 PM  
**Subject:** INVITATION - Abbotsford Law Courts Virtual Opening Ceremony (February 4, 2021)

Hi:

Your invitation to the new Abbotsford Law Court's virtual opening ceremony on February 4, 2021 is attached.

Please join us for this special occasion. Thank you.

Regards,

## Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:44 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX; Normand, Nicole AG:EX  
**Cc:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Thanks Tim.....I've uploaded to the AG's calendar and iPad

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX ; Normand, Nicole AG:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Forgot to cc' you folks. Me bad.

Cheers,

T

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** Harder, Derrick AG:EX <[Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca)>; Milne, Gala AG:EX <[Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca)>; Dowler, Thea AG:EX <[Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Thea.Dowler@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>; Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Finals: Abbotsford Law Courts

Hey MO,

Here's the Abbotsford Law Courts package. It includes:

- SNs for the AG
- Draft tweets that can be shared with MLAs
- A photo of the courthouse. More photos of inside of the courthouse can be found here:  
[https://www.flickr.com/search/?user\\_id=45802067%40N03&view\\_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court](https://www.flickr.com/search/?user_id=45802067%40N03&view_all=1&text=Abbotsford%20Court)
- The Final NR and QA.

Cheers,

T

## Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** December 14, 2020 3:30 PM  
**To:** mayorbraun@abbotsford.ca  
**Subject:** Quote from Mayor

**Importance:** High

Hello,

The Province of BC, and Ministry of Attorney General is issuing a press release tomorrow regarding the opening of the new Abbotsford courthouse.

Would it be possible for the Mayor/Mayor's Office to provide a 1-2 sentence quote for the release? A focus on community or partnership in the region would be great.

Minister Eby and Minister Beare will also be providing quotes.

Apologies for the rush, but we would need this by mid-afternoon tomorrow for it to be included in the release.

Best,

Mita Naidu

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Attorney General  
E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)  
T: (250) 893-0975  
Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen First Nation*

**From:** [Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Translation?  
**Date:** December 16, 2020 7:54:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [Punjabi-NR Abbotsford Courthouse 16 Dec 20 FINAL.docx](#)  
[Punjabi-NR Abbotsford Courthouse 16 Dec 20 FINAL.pdf](#)

---

Hi Mita,

Here is the Punjabi translation of the Abbotsford court NR. Please send it to the editors for installing at the same time that the English NR goes out.

Thanks

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Dooner, Catherine AG:EX](#); [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Abbotsford  
**Date:** January 19, 2021 2:37:03 PM

---

Looping in Tasha and Mita.

Yes, I think we can have drafts for you before the event date and (hopefully) enough time for you to turn the newsletter around.

On pictures, I'll defer to Mita/Tasha about whether or not they sorted it out with Alvin about which photos have been approved to live in perpetuity.

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Dooner, Catherine AG:EX <Catherine.Dooner@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 19, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Abbotsford

Hi Tim,

Am just looking at timings for Abbotsford for internal and it will be a bit of a tight turnaround for sign off as our newsletter goes out the day before the opening.

Do you think you might be able to share a draft of the news release in advance and we will draft something earlier than the launch date? If the pictures are approved that you are using – those should be fine.

Let me know what you think.

Catherine

**Catherine Dooner**

Director, Internal Communications

(she/her)

Business Planning and Priorities

Ministries of Attorney General and Public Safety and Solicitor General

Victoria, British Columbia

P: 250-419-8678 C: 250-886-7514



Grateful to live and work on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen-speaking peoples



**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Comms package for Abbotsford Event  
**Date:** January 31, 2021 3:04:04 PM

---

Should also note, we'll need to get the NR translated into Punjabi.

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** January 31, 2021 3:01 PM  
**To:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Comms package for Abbotsford Event

My edits attached.

Please clean up and resolve all comments by 1pm, Feb 1 so I can send up to the MO.

Also, what do you mean by Flickr link in the Zoom chat?

Cheers,

T

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 28, 2021 5:04 PM  
**To:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Comms package for Abbotsford Event

Hi Tim,

For your approval, here are all the items for ALC:

- All items are updated with Tasha edits, CITZ edits, MIRR's suggestions re. titles and program's edits.
- Approval from judiciary and CSB.
- A new gov Flickr link has been added to the NR. We will use this link if we decide to share in the Zoom chat.
- I have removed the section in the Emcee's notes that refers to the photos link. I will ask Alvin to put it in the Zoom chat if we decide to include it.
- A new background section was added to both sets of SN's (Eby's and Emcee's).

- The event plan has been updated.

Pending:

- I'm waiting for Alvin to confirm how to pronounce Lissa Smith's name. For now I have put the pronunciation as Lee-sa in the Emcee notes.
- Once we know where Minister Eby is located at the time of the event, we can be more specific in his land acknowledgment.
- I have sent a section (Question #6) of the QA to Colleen Spier to double-check as per Alvin's request.

Thanks,

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Attorney General  
E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)  
T: (250) 893-0975  
Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations*

**From:** [Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#); [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open  
**Date:** December 15, 2020 2:35:35 PM

---

If there are no changes from the version that AG approved, then I'm good.

T

-----Original Message-----

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: December 15, 2020 2:35 PM  
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>; Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>  
Subject: FW: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

This looks good to me, Tim did you want to review?

-----Original Message-----

From: McKill, Colin GCPE:EX <[Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Colin.McKill@gov.bc.ca)>  
Sent: December 15, 2020 1:51 PM  
To: Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
Cc: Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>; GCPE Editorial Services <[GCPEWES@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPEWES@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
Subject: For approval - FW: DRAFT: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

Hello Mita -- draft copy of tomorrow's news release is attached, going at 4:15 p.m. on approval.

-----

Please refer to the files attached to this email. The following is the summary of the News Release

NR Number: Not Approved

NR Type: UPDATE

State: Planned

Planned Release Date: December 16, 2020 at 4:15 pm

Media Distribution Lists: 002.0 - Abbotsford, 003.0 - Agassiz, 011.0 - Chilliwack, 028.0 - Hope, 037.0 - Langley, 044.0 - Mission, LMain, MEDIA, MMVAN\_MMVAN

No Lead Organization

Headline: New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

This email was auto-generated.

Not Approved

Dec. 16, 2020

Ministry of Attorney General

UPDATE

New Abbotsford Law Courts set to open

ABBOTSFORD - Located in one of B.C.'s fastest-growing regions, the recently completed Abbotsford Law Courts will open in the new year.

"This long-awaited facility will offer a wider range of justice programs and services, making it more convenient for

the residents of Abbotsford and surrounding region," said David Eby, Attorney General. "The new courthouse will expand from five to 14 courtrooms, increasing access to justice."

The new state-of-the-art facility houses both the Provincial Court of British Columbia and the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Provincial court operations will commence at the new building on Jan. 18, 2021, followed by Supreme Court operations on Feb. 1, 2021. The new courthouse will also be able to accommodate proceedings of the Court of Appeal for British Columbia.

"The completion of the new Abbotsford Law Courts is welcome and exciting news for the project partners and community," said Lisa Beare, Minister of Citizens' Services. "This modern and fully accessible building was built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards and will provide safe, secure and effective justice services to the local community and region for years to come."

The 16,723 square-metre (180,000 square-foot), four-storey building houses 14 courtrooms - eight Provincial, three Supreme and three initial appearance/conference rooms.

The facility includes a law library and state-of-the-art technology to support the delivery of justice services well into the future. Best-practice building design was used to respond to the evolving needs for access to justice services.

"The City of Abbotsford is extremely grateful to the Government of British Columbia for this significant investment in our community and our region," said Henry Braun, mayor of Abbotsford. "The opening of the Abbotsford Law Courts with new Provincial and Supreme Court facilities not only means better access to our justice system, but also provides services and jobs to residents across the region and plays a foundational role in the city's civic precinct and our growing city centre."

The new courthouse also houses the BC Prosecution Service, Community Corrections and a Justice Access Centre to help people with their family and civil law issues.

The Abbotsford Law Courts building is located at 32375 Veterans Way (Trethewey Street and Veterans Way). It replaces the existing courthouse at 32203 South Fraser Way.

A virtual celebration is being planned for the new year.

Learn More:

For more information about the project, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2018AG0056-001380>

For more information on B.C.'s courts, visit: <https://www.bccourts.ca/>

Contact:

Ministry of Attorney General  
Media Relations  
778 678-1572

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: <http://news.gov.bc.ca/connect>

**From:** [Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX](#); [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?  
**Date:** December 8, 2020 3:52:31 PM

---

Picture of a building. Its always nice to go along with a story.

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:51 PM  
**To:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?

Thanks Shruti,

I will send you the approved version as soon as I get it.

I'm not sure if any pics are being released as the judiciary plays a significant role in monitoring what we can show, but I will definitely inquire.

Mita

---

**From:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:46 PM  
**To:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Translation?

Hi Mita,

It is a good idea to get it translated into these languages. Once you have the approved IB, please send it our way. We need at least 24 hours to get it translated (the more time the better it is).

Ideally it would be wonderful if it can be released at the same time as the English IB. it will be great if there are a few pictures of the new courthouse too.

Deadline for the Punjabi papers is Wednesday evening or at the most Thursday morning.

Thanks

**Shruti Prakash Joshi | Director**

Community and Media Relations

Government Communications & Public Engagement

Tel: 778-587-4521

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** December 8, 2020 3:40 PM

**To:** Joshi, Shruti GCPE:EX <[Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shruti.Joshi@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Chan, Catherine GCPE:EX <[Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Catherine.Chan@gov.bc.ca)>; Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <[Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Translation?

Hi Shruti and Catherine,

I am putting together an IB to share the news about the opening of the new Abbotsford Courthouse. We would like to send the IB to MO by Monday latest (as the courthouse has already begun scheduling). It officially opens in January 2021.

Given that this brand new facility is going to bring much needed/improved access to justice in the community and region- I would love to see this IB translated (Punjabi and simplified Chinese).

Thoughts? Given the timeline would it even be possible?

Thanks,

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Attorney General  
E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)  
T: (250) 893-0975  
Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen First Nation*

**From:** [Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Copeland, Alison CITZ:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** ALC social media  
**Date:** February 4, 2021 3:57:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Abbotsford Law Courts event.png](#)

---

Hi Alison,

Here's some social media for today's Abbotsford Law Courts announcement. Also attaching a photo if you'd like to include that!

Courtney

## Twitter

Link to: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23717> Post with included photo

It was a pleasure to help open the new state-of-the-art courthouse in Abbotsford virtually today with local Indigenous & civic leaders, the judiciary and Attorney General @Dave\_Eby. It's innovative, modern and will improve people's access to justice.

## Facebook

Link to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDiRyQlcBQ0&feature=youtu.be> Post with included photo

Today was an exciting day! I had the honour of helping officially open the new state-of-the-art Abbotsford Law Courts, alongside Matsqui Chief Alice McKay, Métis Nation BC acting President and Minister of Justice Lissa Dawn Smith, Attorney General David Eby, Chief Justice of British Columbia Robert Bauman, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia Christopher Hinkson, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia Melissa Gillespie, and Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun.

The innovative, green, safe, fully accessible and energy-efficient building is the first entirely new courthouse built in the province in nearly 20 years. It will expand capacity in Abbotsford and surrounding communities in the Fraser Valley and will improve people's access to justice.

Check out the news release here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/23717>

**From:** Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX  
**To:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Abbotsford Law Courts docs  
**Date:** February 19, 2021 2:30:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [itinerary ALC Opening Virtual Event.docx](#)  
[sp Abbotsford Law Courts 22Jan21 DRAFT5ke.doc](#)

---

---

**From:** Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** January 29, 2021 11:29 AM  
**To:** Smith, Krystal CITZ:EX <Krystal.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca>; Brooke, Daisy GCPE:EX <Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Abbotsford Law Courts docs

Hello

Here are the materials for the Abbotsford Law Courts opening.

***Kim Emerson***

Communications Manager  
**Ministry of Citizens' Services**  
(Cell) 250-812-8768



**From:** Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX  
**To:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: ALC  
**Date:** February 19, 2021 2:30:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [itinerary ALC Opening Virtual Event.docx](#)  
[sp Abbotsford Law Courts 22Jan21 DRAFT5ke.doc](#)

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---

**From:** Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** February 1, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca>; Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca>; Brooke, Daisy GCPE:EX <Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** ALC

Hello

The event coordinator for the ALC event has changed. Name and number is here. I have also updated the itinerary for the event and am resending that along with MLB speaking notes.

Elena Banfield  
GCPE Events Coordinator  
604 842-0984  
[Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca)

**Kim Emerson**  
Communications Manager  
**Ministry of Citizens' Services**  
(Cell) 250-812-8768

**From:** [Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Krystal CITZ:EX](#); [Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: ALC Opening Event: Feb 4th, 2021  
**Date:** January 12, 2021 1:35:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [EP Abbotsford Court Opening\\_draft.doc](#)

---

Kassandra,

Attorney General is getting underway planning the (virtual) opening event for the Abbotsford Law Courts. They've scheduled it for Feb. 4. From 12:30-1pm.

They've asked if our Minister would like to speak – I imagine so, but wanted to check with you to be sure. I'll offer for our shop to prepare her speaking notes for her if that works. They'll be 2 mins long.

Thanks,

Courtney

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** January 12, 2021 12:39 PM  
**To:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca>; Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX <Kim.Emerson@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** ALC Opening Event: Feb 4th, 2021

Hi Courtney and Kim,

As we pull closer to the opening event for the new Abbotsford Law Courts, we would like to extend a speaking invitation to Minister Beare.

I would also like to share our event plan with you. It outlines everything, with a few details yet to be confirmed.

We have added Minister Beare to the speaker's list to hold her spot if she wishes to speak.

The maximum allotment is 2 mins per speaker.

As you will see several Chief Justices, the Mayor of Abbotsford and Attorney General Eby are also slated to speak.

If she is interested in speaking- please let me know if you would like to write her speaking notes, or prefer to leave that with us.

Thanks both,  
Mita

Mita Naidu  
Public Affairs Officer  
Government Communications and Public Engagement

Ministry of Attorney General

E: [mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:mita.naidu@gov.bc.ca)

T: (250) 893-0975

Pr: She/Her/Hers

*Sent from the traditional territory of the Lekwungen First Nation*

**From:** [Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX](#); [Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Fleurant, Kathleen CITZ:EX](#); [Hubley, Holly CITZ:EX](#); [Copeland, Alison CITZ:EX](#); [Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX](#); [Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Finals for ALC opening  
**Date:** February 3, 2021 3:02:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [SN Emcee Abbotsford Law Courts Feb 4 2021 CITZ FINAL.docx](#)  
[NR Abbotsford Law Courts 4 Feb 2021 FINAL.pdf](#)  
[QA Abbotsford Law Courts Feb 4 2021 FINAL.docx](#)  
[Itinerary Abbotsford Law Courts Feb 4 2021 FINAL.docx](#)

---

Kassandra,

Here are the finals for tomorrow's event, sent over by AG this afternoon.

Thanks,

Courtney

---

**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <[Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca)>  
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**Subject:** RE: Finals for ALC opening  
**Date:** February 3, 2021 5:26:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [SN\\_Emcee\\_Abbotsford Law Courts\\_Feb 4 2021\\_CITZ\\_FINAL\\_rvsd.docx](#)

---

Kass,

Please use this version of the speaking notes. The attached SN have updated titles from the judiciary and an updated agenda. I've adjusted the pronunciation for Sto:lo on page 10 so it's consistent.

Thanks,

Courtney

---

**From:** Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX <[Cassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Cassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca)>  
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Thanks  
kass

**Kassandra Lawal**

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Kassandra,

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Courtney

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**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:26 PM

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**Cc:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>; Brooke, Daisy GCPE:EX <[Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca)>

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*Sent from the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations*

**From:** [Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Finals for ALC opening  
**Date:** February 3, 2021 4:38:03 PM

---

AG tells me the judiciary adjusted their titles. I'll reconcile the two.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2021, at 3:54 PM, Lawal, Cassandra CITZ:EX  
<[Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Were there no other changes in the final – I can provide your copy with the corrected pronunciation as the final?

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Thx for the flag. Will share this version with them to ensure they have the correct pronunciation in both places.

C

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Thanks  
kass

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---

No other changes that I'm aware of

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[kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:kassandra.lawal@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <[Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 3:03 PM  
**To:** Lawal, Kassandra CITZ:EX <[Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kassandra.Lawal@gov.bc.ca)>; Brouwer, Shauna CITZ:EX <[Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Shauna.Brouwer@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Fleurant, Kathleen CITZ:EX <[Kathleen.Fleurant@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kathleen.Fleurant@gov.bc.ca)>; Hubley, Holly CITZ:EX <[Holly.Hubley@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Holly.Hubley@gov.bc.ca)>; Copeland, Alison CITZ:EX <[Alison.Copeland@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alison.Copeland@gov.bc.ca)>; Cook, Jeannette CITZ:EX <[Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jeannette.Cook@gov.bc.ca)>; Emerson, Kim GCPE:EX <[Kim.Emerson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kim.Emerson@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Finals for ALC opening

Kassandra,

Here are the finals for tomorrow's event, sent over by AG this afternoon.

Thanks,

Courtney

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**From:** Naidu, Mita GCPE:EX <[Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mita.Naidu@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 3, 2021 2:26 PM  
**To:** Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX <[Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Courtney.Stewart@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Chu, Timothy GCPE:EX <[Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Timothy.Chu@gov.bc.ca)>; Brooke, Daisy GCPE:EX <[Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Daisy.Brooke@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Finals for ALC opening

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Hi Courtney and Daisy,

Attached are the emcee speaking notes, the NR, the QA, and the final itinerary for your records.

All have been approved by Tim, CSB & judiciary. Editors have also approved the final NR.

Thanks both for all your help,

Mita

Mita Naidu  
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*Sent from the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations*