

VIA EMAIL

Ref: 635391

[DATE]

s.22

Dear s.22

Thank you for your email dated October 13, 2022, addressed to the Honourable Sheila Malcolmson, in which you express concerns for your safety in your community. As the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, with responsibility for victim services and violence against women programs across the province, your email has been referred to me.

I want to start by thanking you for reaching out to share your concerns regarding your recent experiences with regards to safety in your community. It is crucial that community members such as yourself take a vested interest in addressing important issues that communities are facing. These issues are complex and require a coordinated and multi-faceted response.

When people are in crisis because of mental health or addictions challenges, they must be met with appropriate care. The Province is working urgently to increase supports for people with complex mental health and substance use challenges and build a comprehensive and seamless continuum of care that works for all British Columbians. Since 2017, B.C. has been working to transform mental health and substance use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery, and life-saving harm reduction measures like prescribed safe supply.

Part of that work includes complex care housing, a ground-breaking approach to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental health, substance use, trauma and/or acquired brain injuries and are often experiencing homelessness or at risk of eviction. To that end, the Province is investing \$164 million over the next three years for complex care housing to serve up to 500 vulnerable people. So far, the Province has announced 355 complex care spaces across the province.

B.C. is also committed to supporting communities in addressing street disorder and public safety concerns by expanding mental health intervention teams, like Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams, to deliver mobile community based mental health services for people with serious, complex and often persistent mental health.

As you may know, under the *Police Act* (BC) the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General must ensure that an adequate and effective level of policing and law enforcement is maintained throughout British Columbia; however, day to day deployment of police services falls to the RCMP, the municipal police department, or the relevant designated policing and/or law enforcement unit. Government cannot interfere with or direct police on individual investigations or enforcement decisions.

On November 20, 2022, the Province announced the new Safer Communities Action Plan to help keep British Columbians safe. The action plan builds on work already underway by the Province to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system. You can find the Action Plan here: <https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>.

The Policing and Security Branch (PSB) of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is supporting Nanaimo in implementing a community safety and well-being initiative known as a Situation Table. Situation Tables allow a community's front-line service providers to enhance their ability to collaboratively respond to community safety challenges by rapidly connecting vulnerable people to the services they need to manage the risks present in their lives. Nanaimo's community safety partners and champions of the initiative will be meeting with PSB's subject matter experts to solidify agency awareness, understanding, and involvement in the initiative. More information is available here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/policing-in-bc/collaborative-public-safety-program/situation-tables?bcgovtm=may5>.

If you have not already done so, you may wish to contact the City of Nanaimo directly to outline your concerns. The City's website offers information that may be helpful, with details on the Community Policing and Services Office and other public safety measures/initiatives, and identifies policing priorities established by the City Council for Nanaimo RCMP, among which are crime reduction and mental health issues. Please see the following contact information:

Community Policing and Services Office
8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday
Telephone: 250-755-4468
www.nanaimo.ca/city-services/emergency-services/public-safety-contacts
www.nanaimo.ca/city-services/emergency-services/police-crime-prevention

Should you continue to have concerns with respect to the enforcement of laws in your community, you can also bring your concerns directly to the attention of your local RCMP responsible for enforcement decisions in your community. Nanaimo RCMP can be contacted at:

Nanaimo RCMP
303 Prideaux Street
Nanaimo, BC V9R 2N3
Telephone: 250-754-2345

In addition to the initiatives noted above, my branch supports innovative crime prevention initiatives through one-time grants from the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

In fiscal 2022/23, through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation grant program, PSSG provided \$5.4 million to support community-led projects that address domestic violence prevention and intervention programming, gender-based violence, human trafficking, restorative justice, and projects that enhance the capacity and improve the services of child and youth advocacy centres. PSSG has also awarded an additional \$1.2 million for projects that address crime prevention related initiatives in B.C. Since 2017/18, the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant program has distributed over \$38.6 million in funding to organizations throughout B.C. to assist with crime prevention and remediation programs at the community and province-wide level.

PSSG also provides over \$44 million in annual funding to support over 400 victim service and violence against women programs providing emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to all victims of crime and trauma in communities across the province. This includes \$823,283 in 2022/23 for seven programs in Nanaimo (Police-based Victim Services program, Community-based Victim Services programs, Domestic Violence Unit, Outreach program, PEACE program for Children and Youth Experiencing Violence, and Stopping the Violence Counselling program).

I want to thank you again for bringing your concerns forward. If you have further questions, please contact the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch directly at victimservices@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Taryn Walsh

Assistant Deputy Minister
Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

FW: Safer Communities Meeting Summary

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>, Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>, Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Booth, Kristen GCPE:EX <Kristen.Booth@gov.bc.ca>, Donnelly, Chris R GCPE:EX <Chris.R.Donnelly@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 15, 2022 10:52:11 AM PST
Attachments: image001.png, image002.jpg

Doug/Glen/Nikki/Ardys – apologies for yesterday's email confusing the Nov 20 announcement. I was working from an outdated doc. Thanks for your understanding. Note the below email from Will on request for stakeholder list. Glen – as discussed when you're comfortable with the stakeholder lists and validator recommendations please forward. In the meantime (as discussed) we're working on the draft news release and backgrounder which we'll share about noon today and are based on the direction below. Deadline is drafts to the centre by EOD today:

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Subject: Re: Safer Communities Meeting Summary

Not sure on muni. Will check.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:23:14 PM

To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Karimi, Nina PSSG:EX <Nina.Karimi@gov.bc.ca>; Barrett, Andrew PSSG:EX <Andrew.Barrett@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>

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W

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Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 1:43:30 PM

To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Karimi, Nina PSSG:EX <Nina.Karimi@gov.bc.ca>; Barrett, Andrew PSSG:EX <Andrew.Barrett@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>

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All – note below and role for MMF on Sunday Nov 20. I've already reached out to Doug/Wayne ect.

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Sent: November 14, 2022 1:35 PM


To: Aaron, Sage GCPE:EX <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>; Marriott, Sarah GCPE:EX <Sarah.Marriott@gov.bc.ca>; Ashbourne, Jade PREM:EX <Jade.Ashbourne@gov.bc.ca>; Harris, Megan GCPE:EX <Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca>; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX <Lisa.Leslie@gov.bc.ca>; Holmwood, Jen GCPE:EX <Jen.Holmwood@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX

<Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>; Thaw, Sara GCPE:EX <Sara.Thaw@gov.bc.ca>; Dinicol, Sam GCPE:EX <Sam.Dinicol@gov.bc.ca>; Walker, Alexa GCPE:EX <Alexa.Walker@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Safer Communities Meeting Summary

Hi everyone,

Please find a link to the draft communications and content plan here:  [Safer Communities Comms & Content Plan.docx](#). **Please track changes in that document.**

Please find a link to the Master KM-QA document here: [Safer Communities Action Plan - Master KM-QA](#)

Below is my understanding of meeting outcomes. Please let me know if I missed anything or represented it incorrectly.

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- First draft of the NR
- Validator identification
s.13

- Add program specific KM-QA to the Master KM-QA document
- Flag for the MO that MMF will be asked to attend the announcement and be available to support the media QA, as well as potential follow up interviews
- Work with MO to identify stakeholders who may need to be briefed in advance

AGH

- Review and add details to the Cross-Jurisdictional Analysis section
- Draft a backgrounder to be attached to the main NR on AGH programs that are being included in the announcement
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- Look into the potential of announcing two new Indigenous Justice Centres
 - Confirm locations: Nanaimo and Fraser Valley
- Flag for the MO that MMR will be asked to attend the announcement and be available to support the media QA, as well as potential follow up interviews
- Work with MO to identify stakeholders who may need to be briefed in advance

MMHA

- Check on status of CAR model
- Draft a backgrounder to be attached to the main NR on MMHA related programs that are being included in the announcement
- Add program specific KM-QA to the Master KM-QA document
- Flag for the MO that MSM will be asked to attend the announcement and be available to support the media QA, as well as potential follow up interviews
- Validator identification from the Peer Assisted Care Teams in North Vancouver or Mayor of North Vancouver to talk about difference this team has made
- Identify stakeholders who may need to be briefed in advance

PPS

- Review the Critical Path section and add in any key procedural dates (e.g. items going to TB minor)

Issues

- Review entire Comms & Content plan for accuracy
- Fill in Potential Issues section
- Review and add details to the Content Development Framework appendix
- Add non-program specific KM-QA to Master KM-QA document

Writing and Content

- Review and expand on Key Messages section
- Write SN for PDE

Media Relations

- Review and expand on the Earned Media section
- Suggest outlets and opportunities for PDE interviews

Multi-language

- Suggest translations and opportunities for transcreation

Marketing and Advertising

- Review and add details to the Paid-advertising section

Cabinet Priorities

- Will accept any edits and feedback to NR after PSSG finishes first draft of release
- Will collect and compile backgrounders to attach to NR
- Will work with Digital and Graphics on an overall graphic to be included in the embargoed media package
- Will help coordinate web copy
- Will draft the Media Advisory for approval
- Will work to find a potential validator quote from a Business Improvement District
- Will fill our Timeline Section based on feedback from PO

Thank you,

Shannon

Shannon Greer (*she/her*)

Executive Director | Cabinet Priorities

Government Communications and Public Engagement

250-360-6597



NR - Community Safety Action Plan - DRAFT 15Nov22 (002) hl & AB

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 15, 2022 1:59:20 PM PST
Attachments: NR - Community Safety Action Plan - DRAFT 15Nov22 (002) hl & AB.docx
Hi Glen, Hope and I have reviewed and have made a few comments for consideration. Did you want to review and make any final changes before sending to Doug/David?

Thanks
Ardys

RE: Safer Communities Meeting Summary

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 15, 2022 2:48:41 PM PST
Attachments: image001.png, image002.jpg
Hi David,

Some initial thoughts...

s.13

Looking forward to seeing the next draft, thanks
Ardys

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
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Subject: RE: Safer Communities Meeting Summary

Doug/Glen/Adys – attached is a draft news release for Nov 20 as well as a backgrounder. Please provide a review by 3 pm so we can get to the MO by 330 and then over to the centre by EOD. Happy to discuss - D

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- Will work with Digital and Graphics on an overall graphic to be included in the embargoed media package
- Will help coordinate web copy
- Will draft the Media Advisory for approval
- Will work to find a potential validator quote from a Business Improvement District
- Will fill our Timeline Section based on feedback from PO

Thank you,

Shannon

Shannon Greer (*she/her*)

Executive Director | Cabinet Priorities

Government Communications and Public Engagement

250-360-6597



RE: FOR REVIEW: KMQA - Community Safety Action Plan

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 9:59:26 AM PST
Attachments: KMQA - Community Safety Action Plan DRAFT 16Nov22 hl comments_AB comments.docx
Hi Hope, there's a bit of work needed on these KMs, mainly I think because GCPE/you don't have the full picture of what's going forward. I've made some comments in the document and would be happy to discuss. They should go to Glen before going back to Danielle.

Thanks,
Ardys

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 8:50 AM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOR REVIEW: KMQA - Community Safety Action Plan
Importance: High

Hey Ardys – here is the KMQA for our pieces. It's just for PSSG at this point – q's 5-8 have been reviewed by Jamie and Billy, and 9/10 are for CSCP. I made a few comments on the side and Danielle has some q's that we need to help advise on, but I don't know the answer to some of them.

Let me know if you have any q's – GCPE has advised they need this back by noon. My apologies!

H

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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NR - Safer Communities DRAFT 17Nov22

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX
<Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 10:32:59 AM PST
Attachments: NR - Safer Communities DRAFT 17Nov22.docx
Can you please review this NR now? I've reviewed and made some edits and comments. Thanks.

KMQA - Community Safety Action Plan DRAFT 16Nov22 hl comments_AB comments

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 10:33:54 AM PST
Attachments: KMQA - Community Safety Action Plan DRAFT 16Nov22 hl comments_AB comments.docx
I tweaked the wording again for Q1.

RE: NR - Safer Communities Action Plan - for PSB review

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>, Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 10:51:15 AM PST

Thx. No Corrections and Victim Services have not reviewed. We've been going thru PSB. The Corrections and Victim Services info is from approved messaging. That said we'll share the next draft with them.

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: November 17, 2022 10:45 AM

To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: NR - Safer Communities Action Plan - for PSB review

Importance: High

Hey there – PSB feedback attached, haven't had chance to sign off on Situation Tables yet. Several flags with this so we'll need to see another version when all edits have been combined.

Has corrections seen this as well?

Thanks,

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 10:00 AM

To: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: NR - Safer Communities Action Plan - for PSB review

Hi – attached is the latest draft of NR. PO is briefing PDE at 11 am and requested a quick review by 1045 am. Upon our review the only flags with comments in the margin are about police funding and also the number of police allocated to dedicated repeat offender teams. Apologies. The timeline was dropped on us

Re: Action Items needed today - Stakeholder quotes request

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>, Mezzarobba, Marcie PSSG:EX <Marcie.Mezzarobba@gov.bc.ca>, Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>, Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 11:33:30 AM PST
Thx Jason. Just spoke to Glen. He's working with Doug on some stakeholder issues that need to be addressed before we proceed with gathering quotes. Hold until we get his green light.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 11:25:56 AM
To: Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>; Mezzarobba, Marcie PSSG:EX <Marcie.Mezzarobba@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Action Items needed today - Stakeholder quotes request

Please see below for a generic email requesting these quotes from the stakeholders flagged by MO below.

Policing Branch:

- Confirm Deputy Chief Fiona Wilson's attendance at event and quote in NR (DM started this work yesterday so should loop in with Doug)

- Reach out to Del Manak for a validator quote

- Reach out to Dwayne Macdonald for a validator quote

Victim services:

- Ian Batey, ED of Police-based Victim Services

UBCM:

I think David will need to work through the MUNI CD to request a UBCM quote, requested below.

Quote request template:

Dear X,

I am writing to request a quote from your organization for a news release as part of Premier Eby's first public event on Sunday, which will be focussed on public safety.

This important announcement is happening on Sunday at 11:00 in Vancouver (location TBC), so we are requesting this quote ASAP.

Confidentially, please see below for the broad outlines of what will be announced, to help with your quote.

The Safer Communities Action Plan will take further steps to help prevent crime, address root causes and make communities across B.C. safer. The plan includes actions that fall under two pillars:

- Ending the cycle of crime for repeat and violent offenders
- Addressing the root causes of crime by providing support for mental health services, housing and poverty reduction.

Thanks for your assistance with this and apologies for the last minute request.

Regards,
ADM X

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 11:08 AM
To: Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Mezzarobba, Marcie PSSG:EX <Marcie.Mezzarobba@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Action Items needed today

We're going to need assistance from PSB and Victim Services to gather the quotes because they have the relationships. Jason will draft up an email and send around shortly. Including Glen, Ardys, Hope and Marcie on this.

From: Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2022 11:01 AM
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Action Items needed today

Thanks Will – I'm on the last one. David if you need any contact info for the other ones.

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 10:58 AM
To: Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Action Items needed today
Importance: High

Hi Nikki and David,

Couple urgent requests from us in support of PDE's public safety announcement on Sunday.

- Confirm Deputy Chief Fiona Wilson's attendance at event and quote in NR (DM started this work yesterday so should loop in with Doug)
- Reach out to Del Manak for a validator quote
- Reach out to Dwayne Macdonald for a validator quote
- Task program (maybe ADM Walsh) with connecting to Ian Batey, ED of Police-based Victim Services for a confidential heads up on the announcement. We would also like to ask for a validator quote.
- Connect with MUNI staff and through them confidentially brief UBCM executive on Sunday's announcement. We would also like to ask for a validator quote.
- Nikki – can you confirm some times on Friday that Doug (or staff) could give the confidential heads up to BEGEU's Vice President Judy Fox-McGuire who also represents the probation officers (and was one her self) We would also like to ask for a validator quote.

Urgency is requested on this – many many thanks in advance!

RE: RUSH: request for quote

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 18, 2022 10:34:01 AM PST
I believe Wil Ng is attending

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:33 AM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: RUSH: request for quote

Hey Wayne – just want to make sure I'm not missing anything before I go back to Dawn. I saw a note that Doug Scott confirmed that Acting Commissioner Maureen Langden will be speaking, just want to make sure that's what you've heard, and that we're still just looking for a quote from Dwayne.

Thanks! H

From: Roberts, Dawn <dawn.roberts@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:25 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: RUSH: request for quote

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

They reached out but didn't tell him what the announcement was – but were hoping he would be there. He can't attend on that day so now we are looking for alternates.

Dawn

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 18, 2022 10:23 AM
To: Roberts, Dawn <dawn.roberts@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: RUSH: request for quote

Thanks Dawn, sorry for the rush. I believe Wayne, Glen or Doug reached out to him directly so he should be aware.

Even if we can confirm and then if it's added last minute this afternoon that's fine!

Thanks,

H

From: Roberts, Dawn <dawn.roberts@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:21 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: RUSH: request for quote

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Okay... CO is in some meetings and I will see what we can do.

Dawn

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 18, 2022 10:13 AM
To: Roberts, Dawn <dawn.roberts@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: RUSH: request for quote
Importance: High

Hey Dawn,

Premier Eby will be holding his first public event on Sunday for an announcement focused on public safety. We're looking to have a validator quote from Commanding Officer Dwayne McDonald in it.

My apologies for the quick turnaround, this is all happening fast. We'll be needing the quote ASAP as the NR will need to go for translations this afternoon.

Confidentially, please see below for the broad outlines of what will be announced, to help with your quote.

The Safer Communities Action Plan will take further steps to help prevent crime, address root causes and make communities across B.C. safer. The plan includes actions that fall under two pillars:

- Ending the cycle of crime for repeat and violent offenders
- Addressing the root causes of crime by providing support for mental health services, housing and poverty reduction.

Give me a shout if you have any questions, thanks!

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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RE: URGENT - Community Safety Action Plan NR

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX
To: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 18, 2022 12:25:42 PM PST
Attachments: 448 DRAFT - Community Safety Action Plan NR and backgrounders - 2022.11.18_MMHA crPSB.docx

Quick comments from DPS

Thank you
Wayne Rideout
Assistant Deputy Minister & Director of Police Services, Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Telephone: 250-387-1100
Cellular: s.17
Email: wayne.rideout@gov.bc.ca

From: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 12:15 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: URGENT - Community Safety Action Plan NR
Importance: High

Hi – this is the latest version of the NR. We still need to add policing quotes.
Working on a very quick deadline – need to send up to central by 12:30pm.

If there are major flags, pls let us know asap. Sorry for the rush.

Thanks,
Danielle

Danielle Bourgeois
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Cell: 250-880-4738

RE: URGENT - Community Safety Action Plan NR

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 18, 2022 12:33:39 PM PST
Attachments: 448 DRAFT - Community Safety Action Plan NR and backgrounders - 2022.11.18_MMHA crPSB 2.docx

In addition to comments already provided, my input is attached. Thanks.

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 12:26 PM

To: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: URGENT - Community Safety Action Plan NR

Hi - in quick look:

First bullet under new measures says "dedicated" teams, same with the one in backgrounder 2 in last sentence above HealthIM piece.

Also just confirming that under backgrounder 2 it has the number of people in the teams. Police officers is removed, not the others. Wanting to make sure it was just police numbers, or all?

Thanks, H

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From: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 12:15:01 PM

To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: URGENT - Community Safety Action Plan NR

Hi – this is the latest version of the NR. We still need to add policing quotes.
Working on a very quick deadline – need to send up to central by 12:30pm.

If there are major flags, pls let us know asap. Sorry for the rush.

Thanks,
Danielle

Danielle Bourgeois
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Cell: 250-880-4738

RE: Validators list in case location changes

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>, Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2022 8:33:59 AM PST
Attachments: Community Safety Action Plan NR and backgrounders - 2022.11.19.docx
Here's the latest NR. You can share embargoed with Chief Palmer. Not to be distributed further. Thx

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2022 8:24 AM
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Validators list in case location changes

Chief Palmer has not yet received any materials. When we have a finalized itinerary I can forward to him. He has been alerted to be ready to attend with One or both Deputy Chiefs.

He will be ready to speak.

Thank you
Wayne Rideout
Assistant Deputy Minister & Director of Police Services, Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Telephone: 250-387-1100
Cellular: s.17
Email: wayne.rideout@gov.bc.ca

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2022 8:21:55 AM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Validators list in case location changes

Thx Wayne. I understand you were discussing VPD participation last night as well. Will is asking to confirm VPD is aware and prepared to speak. I'm including Will, Melissa and Doug so all in the loop.

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2022 8:19 AM
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Validators list in case location changes

I will obtain info

Thank you
Wayne Rideout
Assistant Deputy Minister & Director of Police Services, Policing and Security Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Telephone: 250-387-1100
Cellular: s.17
Email: wayne.rideout@gov.bc.ca

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2022 7:42:50 AM
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Validators list in case location changes

Hi all – PO coms is asking for cell and emails of all validators who are attending or invited because they're still undecided on the venue. I sent the municipal police force list (see below). I don't have the RCMP contacts for Dwayne MacDonald, Will NG and Maureen Langen. Apologies – can you please forward their contact info. Thx

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX
Sent: November 19, 2022 7:39 AM
To: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>; Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Cheema, Haiqa AG:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>; Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Newhook, Kelly MMHA:EX <Kelly.Newhook@gov.bc.ca>; Moraes, Josh AG:EX <Josh.Moraes@gov.bc.ca>; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Sali-TR, Meghan PREM:EX <LP022.Transition@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Validators list in case location changes

This has evolved so I'm sending all the contacts for municipal police forces. This includes Vancouver Police Dept and Victoria Police Dept. Both of whom have been approached. RCMP contacts to follow.

Police Department Name	Title	Salutation	First Name	Last Name	
Abbotsford Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Mike	Serr	
Central Saanich Police Service	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Ian	Lawson	la
Delta Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Neil	Dubord	nd
Metro Vancouver Transit Police	Chief Officer	Chief Officer	Dave	Jones	dave.
Nelson Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Donovan	Fisher	Df
New Westminster Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Dave	Jansen	d
Oak Bay Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Mark	Fisher	mfi
Port Moody Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	David	Fleugel	dfleug
Saanich Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Dean	Duthie	dd

Stl'atl'imx Tribal Police Service	Chief Officer	Chief Officer	Deborah	Doss-Cody	<u>ddos</u>
Surrey Police Service	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Norm	Lipinski	<u>norm</u>
Vancouver Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Adam	Palmer	<u>a</u>
Victoria Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	Del	Manak	
West Vancouver Police Department	Chief Constable	Chief Constable	John	Lo	

From: Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: November 19, 2022 7:25 AM

To: Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>; Cheema, Haiqa AG:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>; Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Newhook, Kelly MMHA:EX <Kelly.Newhook@gov.bc.ca>; Moraes, Josh AG:EX <Josh.Moraes@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Sali-TR, Meghan PREM:EX <LP022.Transition@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: Validators list in case location changes

Hi Aileen,

Jonathan Morris:
ceobc@cmha.bc.ca
604-356-8409

Leah

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From: Machell, Aileen PREM:EX <Aileen.Machell@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Saturday, November 19, 2022 7:20:28 AM

To: Cheema, Haiqa AG:EX <Haiqa.Cheema@gov.bc.ca>; Marshall, Simka PREM:EX <Simka.Marshall@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Newhook, Kelly MMHA:EX <Kelly.Newhook@gov.bc.ca>; Moraes, Josh AG:EX <Josh.Moraes@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Grewal, Preet GCPE:EX <Preet.Grewal@gov.bc.ca>; Holoiday, Leah GCPE:EX <Leah.Holoiday@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX <Michael.McKinnon@gov.bc.ca>; Devereux, Rick GCPE:EX <Rick.Devereux@gov.bc.ca>; Greer, Shannon GCPE:EX <Shannon.Greer@gov.bc.ca>; Smith, Jimmy PREM:EX <Jimmy.Smith@gov.bc.ca>; Sali-TR, Meghan PREM:EX <LP022.Transition@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Validators list in case location changes

Good morning,

I'm hoping to get cell numbers for all of the people who are coming to tomorrow's event, either as speakers or just to attend. This way we can quickly contact them tomorrow if we change the location due to weather.

Please respond to this email with names and cell numbers. Thanks!

Aileen Machell

Communications Director, Office of the Premier

Pronouns: she/her

Untitled (7).msg

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
To: PALMER, Adam <adam.palmer@vpd.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2022 8:39:56 AM PST
Attachments: Community Safety Action Plan NR and backgrounders - 2022.11.19.docx
Good morning Chief

Attached is NR for tomorrow. It is currently embargoed and I ask that you utilize for your own preparation only.

I will send you a finally itinerary when I have it. Location may be changing within Vancouver.

Thank you

Wayne Rideout

Assistant Deputy Minister & Director of Police Services, Policing and Security Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Telephone: 250-387-1100

Cellular: s.17

Email: wayne.rideout@gov.bc.ca

Untitled.msg

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
To: Dwayne McDonald <dwayne.mcdonald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>, Levy, Maureen <maureen.levy@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>, Ng, Will <will.ng@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: November 19, 2022 11:54:38 AM PST
Attachments: Community Safety Action Plan NR and backgrounders - 2022.11.19.docx
Embargoed please

Thank you

Wayne Rideout

Assistant Deputy Minister & Director of Police Services, Policing and Security Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Telephone: 250-387-1100

Cellular: s.17

Email: wayne.rideout@gov.bc.ca

Safer Communities Com Products in One Email

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>, Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>, Karimi, Nina PSSG:EX <Nina.Karimi@gov.bc.ca>, Barrett, Andrew PSSG:EX <Andrew.Barrett@gov.bc.ca>, Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>, Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Donnelly, Chris R GCPE:EX <Chris.R.Donnelly@gov.bc.ca>, Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2022 7:28:41 AM PST
Attachments: DRAFT.pdf, Safer Communities Action Plan - Master KM-QA.docx, Safer Communities Action Plan - Top 10 - KM-QA.docx, 20221120 - DRAFT Itinerary - PREM V3.docx
Melissa/Will – I've assembled all the com products for the 11 am Safer Communities announcement:

The Master KM/QA - (50 questions)

Shorter KM/QA – it say's 10 but it's really about 20. I kept it in sequence from the Master so PSSG Qs are at the back of the doc

NR – says Draft – but is final and ready to go

Itinerary – final as of 715 am confirming Queen Elizabeth Park is the location

Including Doug and Wayne.

NEWS RELEASE

Not Approved

Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER – The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

“Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence,” said Premier David Eby. “Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe – ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail.”

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St Paul’s Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health;
- opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing “unexplained wealth order” legislation in spring 2023; and
- building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the

attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

Contact:

Aileen Machell
Director of Communications
Office of the Premier
250 361-5381

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BACKGROUND 1

Not Approved

Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, CMHA BC, Victoria –

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department –

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver –

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver –

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation –

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) –

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey –

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver –

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver –

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department –

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation –

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher

callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members.”

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT –

“It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care.”

Superintendent Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria –

“The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe.”

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union –

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on.”

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria –

“Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province.”

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace –

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community.”

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo –

“We’ve all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That’s why I’m pleased to see the Province’s co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community.”

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey –

“The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan.”

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons –

“Premier Eby’s Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system.”

Contact:

Aileen Machell
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Office of the Premier
250 361-5381

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BACKGROUND 2

Not Approved

Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe.

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- conduct investigations;
- share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- identify crime trends; and
- ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- BC Corrections;
- BC Prosecution Service;
- Correctional Service of Canada;
- Vancouver Police Department;
- RCMP;
- Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained Wealth Orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, “unexplained wealth order” laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the

public confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUND 3

Not Approved
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)
- Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)
- Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)
- Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)
- Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)
- Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUND 4

Not Approved
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction, etc.) Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health

and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from “A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia” was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

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

Event Itinerary

Queen Elizabeth Park Viewpoint

Located directly behind the Bloedel Conservatory, on the northeast side
4600 Cambie St, Vancouver

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Outdoor announcement at Queen Elizabeth Park Speakers and attendees are advised to dress suitably for cold weather Media dial-in: s.15: s.17 Passcode: s.15: . . .
Key contacts	Events: Marlene Behrens 778-584-1253 Media Relations: Meghan Sali s.22
7:00 a.m.	Weather check: Rain location decision made Rain location: Vancouver Cabinet Office, 740-999 Canada Place
8:00 a.m.	AV and events staff onsite for setup
10:30 a.m.	Speakers and media begin to arrive
10:45 a.m.	Premier Eby arrives onsite
10:50 a.m.	Pre-brief with participants, off to side, led by Marlene Behrens Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Eby, Premier • Kory Wilson, First Nations Justice Council • Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation. • Adam Palmer, Chief Constable, Vancouver Police Department • Jonathan Morris, CEO, CMHA BC Attending, not speaking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General • Murray Rankin, Attorney General • Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions • Ken Sim, Mayor of Vancouver
10:58 a.m.	Marlene Behrens directs speakers to podium area
11:00 a.m.	Event Begins Premier Eby welcomes everyone, delivers remarks
11:05 a.m.	Kory Wilson introduces herself, delivers remarks
11:07 a.m.	Carol Lee introduces herself, delivers remarks
11:09 a.m.	Adam Palmer introduces himself, delivers remarks
11:11 a.m.	Jonathan Morris introduces himself, delivers remarks
11:13 a.m.	Premier Eby delivers closing remarks.
11:15 a.m.	Media availability, moderated by Meghan Sali
11:30 a.m.	Event Concludes.

Events Lead – Marlene Behrens

Cell: s.17

Site Map: Event location circled in red

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Events Lead – Marlene Behrens
Cell: s.17

BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca
To: GCPE Minis <GCPEMINIS@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2022 11:38:03 AM PST

For Immediate Release
2022PREM0090-001743
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in

partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;

- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;

- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and

- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.

- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:

- * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
- * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
- * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
- * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
- * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:
<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:
https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:
<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

Contact:

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 250 361-5381

BACKGROUND 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our

collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and

addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

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BACKGROUND 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;

- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the

decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUNDER 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

* Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)

* Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)

* Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)

* Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)

* Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)

* Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support

groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUNDER 4

Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction, etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for

dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- * providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

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► [READ MORE](#)

FYI: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

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FYI – link to the online NR here as well: [Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe | BC Gov News](#)

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Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

For Immediate Release
2022PREM0090-001743
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;
- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and
- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

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BACKGROUND 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment

to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

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BACKGROUND 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated

prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the

decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUND 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

- * Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)

- * Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)

- * Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)

- * Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)

* Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)

* Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face

after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUNDER 4

Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction, etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);

- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
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In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (<mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca>)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

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Government Operations, Office of the Premier

Fwd: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Windsor, Devon PSSG:EX <Devon.Windsor@gov.bc.ca>, Lin, Sally PSSG:EX <Sally.Lin@gov.bc.ca>, Takkar, Nimmi PSSG:EX <Nimmi.Takkar@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2022 12:54:05 PM PST
FYI

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:45 AM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>; Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Matthew G PSSG:EX <Matthew.G.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>; Gunnarson, Jess PSSG:EX <Jess.Gunnarson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FYI: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

FYI – link to the online NR here as well: [Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe | BC Gov News](#)

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca <noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

For Immediate Release
2022PREM0090-001743
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is

structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;
- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and
- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving

correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

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Office of the Premier

BACKGROUNDER 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and

our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in

PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will

help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

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BACKGROUNDER 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from

home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public

confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUNDER 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

- * Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)

- * Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)

- * Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)

* Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)

* Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)

* Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support

groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUND 4 Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction, etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for

dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- * providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (<mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca>)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

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► [READ MORE](#)

Government Operations, Office of the Premier

Fwd: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

From: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
To: Rhodes, Vanessa PSSG:EX <Vanessa.Rhodes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2022 1:18:29 PM PST
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From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
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Subject: FYI: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

FYI – link to the online NR here as well: [Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe | BC Gov News](#)

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca <noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

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Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is

structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;
- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and
- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving

correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

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Office of the Premier

BACKGROUNDER 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and

our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in

PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will

help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

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BACKGROUNDER 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from

home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public

confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUNDER 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

* Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)

* Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)

* Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)

* Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)

* Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)

* Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support

groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUND 4 Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction, etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for

dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- * providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (<mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca>)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

Contact:

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250 361-5381

► [READ MORE](#)

Government Operations, Office of the Premier

Fwd: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

From: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2022 4:13:31 PM PST

Hi Ardys - hope all is well and you have enjoyed the weekend. Whoa! Talk about an announcement. I don't think I've seen so many supporting quotes in an announcement. I'm at FPT meetings in Ottawa as you know. I can glean from the NR etc but if you happen to have a KMQA or additional info you could flip me that would be great. Don't do any work or real digging or anything. Just if you have something on hand that's easy to flip.

Thanks.

Jamie

[Get Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 2:45:27 PM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>; Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Matthew G PSSG:EX <Matthew.G.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>; Gunnarson, Jess PSSG:EX <Jess.Gunnarson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FYI: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

FYI – link to the online NR here as well: [Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe | BC Gov News](#)

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca <noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

For Immediate Release
2022PREM0090-001743
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE

Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby.

"Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups

together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;
- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and
- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal

bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LeParé-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/bai-1.pdf>

Four backgrounders follow.

Contact:

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BACKGROUND 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities

from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

Contact:

Aileen Machell
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BACKGROUNDER 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUNDER 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

- * Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)
- * Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)
- * Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)
- * Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)
- * Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)
- * Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUNDER 4 Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction,

etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- * providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (<mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca>)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

Contact:

Aileen Machell
Director of Communications
Office of the Premier

250 361-5381

► **READ MORE**

Government Operations, Office of the Premier

Safe Communities Action Plan KMQA

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 21, 2022 7:27:48 AM PST
Attachments: Safer Communities Action Plan - Master KM-QA.docx, Safer Communities Action Plan - Top 10 - KM-QA.docx

Hi Jamie, here's the info current to 7:30 this morning. They might change but generally are okay. What else would be helpful for your FPT meetings from me?

Safe travels,
Ardys

Page 190 of 748 to/à Page 220 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Safe Communities Action Plan KMQA

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Safe travels,
Ardys

RE: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

From: Lin, Sally PSSG:EX
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 21, 2022 7:58:22 AM PST

Thanks, Ardys! I watched the press conference yesterday. Congrats on getting this action plan out there given the tight timelines you were all working under.

Sally

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 12:54 PM
To: Windsor, Devon PSSG:EX <Devon.Windsor@gov.bc.ca>; Lin, Sally PSSG:EX <Sally.Lin@gov.bc.ca>; Takkar, Nimmi PSSG:EX <Nimmi.Takkar@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

FYI

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:45 AM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>; Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Matthew G PSSG:EX <Matthew.G.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>; Gunnarson, Jess PSSG:EX <Jess.Gunnarson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FYI: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

FYI – link to the online NR here as well: [Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe | BC Gov News](#)

From: noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca <noreply.newsondemand@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Sunday, November 20, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC Gov News - Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

For Immediate Release
2022PREM0090-001743
Nov. 20, 2022

Office of the Premier

NEWS RELEASE
Premier Eby takes action to keep people, communities safe

VANCOUVER - The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe, launching a new Safer Communities Action Plan with immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental-health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis.

"Being compassionate, concerned and taking action on mental-health and addiction issues does not mean that we have to accept repeated criminal behaviour or violence," said Premier David Eby. "Everyone deserves to feel safe in their community. We are making changes to bring key groups together to keep people and communities safe - ensuring those who commit violent acts face consequences, and creating as many opportunities as possible for them to address mental-health and addiction issues to break the cycle of a life in and out of jail."

The Safer Communities Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement, and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve co-ordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, justice system actors, health providers and people who are recovering from addiction and mental-health challenges in a collaborative, co-ordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities.

New measures announced include:

- * launching new repeat violent offender co-ordinated response teams, made up of police, and dedicated prosecutors and probation officers;
- * expanding mental-health crisis response teams into more communities so police can focus on crime, and people in crisis are met early on by health-care workers and community members;
- * taking the next steps in creating a new model of addictions care at St. Paul's Hospital so people can seamlessly move from crisis response in the emergency room, to detox, to treatment services, in partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and Providence Health Care, with plans to expand this model in the future;
- * opening 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres to provide culturally appropriate support for Indigenous Peoples involved in the justice system to address the root causes of their involvement in the system and help them break the cycle;
- * going after the houses, cars and luxury goods of high-level organized criminals who profit on misery by introducing "unexplained wealth order" legislation in spring 2023; and
- * building public confidence in the prosecution system with new direction from the attorney general to prosecutors to implement a clear and understandable approach to bail for repeat violent offenders within the existing federal law. The new policy will take effect on Nov. 22, 2022.

The plan includes other co-ordination measures, such as better support for people with acquired brain injuries through overdose or other injury - with a focus on those involved in the criminal justice system - through increased funding for the Brain Injury Alliance, more integrated information sharing between justice and community partners to strengthen case management and expanding the use of technology to guide police in gathering, and sharing information with doctors and nurses during mental-health crisis situations.

These actions align with recommendations from a number of reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act, the First Nations Justice Strategy and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence.

The Safer Communities Action Plan complements the B.C.-led action with other provinces and territories to pressure the federal government to address the consequences of changes to the federal bail system that have made it more difficult to hold people who commit repeat, violent offences in custody while they are waiting for trial.

The action plan also builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending and build safe and healthy communities, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system.

Since 2017, the government has taken steps to make B.C. communities safer by taking action to stop the money laundering and organized crime that fuels the toxic drug crisis, providing resources to police, reversing cuts to sexual assault centres, increasing crime prevention and victim support services funding, and record investments in housing, mental health and poverty reduction.

Quick Facts:

- * The LePard-Butler investigation into repeat offending and violent stranger attacks' 28 recommendations were released on Sept. 21, 2022, and the full report was made public on Oct. 1, 2022.
- * The recommendations cover several areas, including:
 - * improving the system of care for people in the criminal justice system with mental-health and substance-use challenges;
 - * creating more opportunities to divert people from the criminal justice system;
 - * improving services for Indigenous Peoples;
 - * improving collaboration between partners, including community services, law enforcement, and all levels of government; and
 - * addressing repeat offending and improving public confidence in the justice system.

Learn More:

To read more about the Safer Communities Action Plan, visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

To read the full repeat offender investigation report, as well as the BC First Nations Justice Council's submission to the investigation panel, visit:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/Prolific_Offender_Report_BCFNJC_submission.pdf

To learn more about the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, visit:

<https://bcfnjc.com/landing-page/justice-strategy/>

To read the revised bail policy (effective Nov. 22, 2022), visit:

Four backgrounders follow.

Contact:

Aileen Machell
Director of Communications
Office of the Premier
250 361-5381

BACKGROUND 1

What people are saying about B.C.'s new Safer Communities Action Plan

Jonathan Morris, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division, Victoria branch -

"We know when a person is experiencing a mental-health or substance use crisis, what they need and want, is the support from someone who knows what they are going through. That is the heart of the Peer Assisted Care Team (PACT) model. We are very excited to lead this transformation of crisis care with partners in British Columbia. Today marks a bold commitment by this government to support mental health for all. A community-led care response, informed by people with lived and living experience, operated by local organizations is part of the transformation we need."

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department -

"Better co-ordination, information sharing and transparency will lead to better outcomes and overall improvements in community safety and well-being. We support any initiative that improves safety and ensures people living with mental-health issues get the care they need."

Jay Diell, clinical co-ordinator for Car 87/88, Vancouver -

"Car programs, which team up an officer with a mental-health professional, have helped many people in crisis. I'm thrilled this program is expanding to more communities across the province, so British Columbians can get the supports they need along with timely connections to appropriate services in the community."

Ken Sim, mayor of Vancouver -

"Today's announcement marks a significant step forward in addressing the ongoing challenges in Vancouver related to public safety, mental health and addictions. I applaud Premier Eby and the provincial government for their bold leadership and partnership in making these critical investments and policy changes. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve public safety outcomes and ensure the most-vulnerable members of our community have access to the support and care they need."

Carol Lee, chair, Vancouver Chinatown Foundation -

"Chinatown is a historic and important part of our community, but the pandemic and an increase in crime have really had a negative impact on the heart of the Chinese community in Vancouver. I am so glad that the Province is taking action to help people trapped in a cycle of offending find the

supports they need and strengthen enforcement so small businesses and neighbours alike can feel safer and continue to contribute to healthier communities."

Kory Wilson, director, First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) -

"The BC First Nations Justice Council is very grateful to our new Premier, David Eby, who has committed to advance Strategy 4 of the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, and has committed funding to establish 10 new Indigenous Justice Centres in B.C. The Indigenous justice centres are a cornerstone of the Justice Strategy and the solution to many public-safety issues our province and our communities are experiencing. Lifting up Indigenous people to lead this work for ourselves is the right approach: it aligns with B.C.'s commitment to implement the UN Declaration and has the potential to reverse decades of appalling statistics that speak to the growing overrepresentation of our people in the justice and child welfare systems. BCFNJC remains steadfast in our commitment to reforming colonial justice and child welfare systems, and today's announcement is an enormous step in the right direction."

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald, Commanding Officer of the BC RCMP, Surrey -

"Our police officers have seen first-hand the impacts and challenges of violent and repeat offenders, as well as mental health related calls. We are thankful that the Province has actioned a multi-agency approach that will bring the right people together to address the issues and ultimately strengthen our collective responses. These are complex issues that require more than enforcement, but also prevention, specifically care and support to those in need."

John Higenbottam, president, Brain Injury Alliance, Vancouver -

"People with different levels of acquired brain injuries struggle to find much-needed support services in the community. They are over-represented in the corrections system, homeless populations and people struggling with addiction. These individuals often have overlapping mental-health and substance-use challenges, requiring the highest level of support. The funding provided to the Brain Injury Alliance and brain injury associations across B.C. will go a long way to providing the specialized support that brain-injury survivors require."

Dr. Seonaid Nolan, Head, Interdepartmental Division of Addiction, St. Paul's Hospital/Providence Health Care, Vancouver -

"This is a new and exciting approach to how we deliver addiction care that has the potential to transform the treatment and recovery journey for British Columbians. I look forward to sharing more about this innovative pilot in the weeks ahead."

Chief Constable Del Manak, Victoria Police Department -

"Our police officers are dealing with the impacts that mental health and addictions have on our communities on a daily basis, including challenges with violent, repeat offenders. I support initiatives that enhance social services, connect people to the services they need and prioritize public safety. I look forward to working with government on our shared vision toward community safety and well-being."

Andrew Van Eden, community safety manager, Tsleil Waututh Nation -

"The North Shore of Vancouver is home to many diverse populations, including local First Nations communities from the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, and other Indigenous communities from across Canada. Systemic issues stemming from the traumas of the Residential School system, mistrust of police and poor treatment in the medical system (as outlined in the In Plain Sight report), and intergenerational trauma have resulted in higher callouts for mental-health related issues and crisis calls. The PACTWe will pull it all together! is able to provide culturally informed, community-based, empathic and relevant care to those in need. I welcome continued investments in PACT teams across the province and hope that one day soon all communities and Nations will be resourced to have their own care teams to respond to community members."

Skyler Oxley, mental health professional, North Shore PACT -

"It has been a great experience working as a member of PACT in its first year. We've helped a lot of people on the North Shore who otherwise would not have been able to access mental-health services. There is a need for preventative support and after-hours care that emergency services aren't able to provide, and it has been thoroughly rewarding to see those needs get met. I look forward to supporting more individuals and families in our community with care."

Supt. Todd Preston, president, British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP), Victoria -

"The BCACP is supportive of the announcement today from the provincial government for the provincial funding of HealthIM. This evidence-based app will provide British Columbia's law enforcement officers with another key de-escalation and risk-screening tool to navigate the complexities of mental-health emergencies and strengthen the ability to respond to and support those in crisis. Officers using HealthIM will better be able to communicate with health centres and community services to keep everyone safe. When police are called to intervene, HealthIM will provide them with the tools and information they need to keep everyone safe."

Stephanie Smith, president, BC General Employees' Union -

"Probation officers are on the front lines every day, helping to keep our communities safe. It's challenging and important work, and we welcome new supports announced in the Safer Communities Action Plan. The BCGEU and our members look forward to working with government to tackle big challenges and deliver the services people in B.C. rely on."

Ian Batey, executive director, Police Victim Services of B.C., Victoria -

"Root causes of tragedy, crime and victimization are found in social, economic, cultural and societal systems that create inequities and disadvantages for individuals, families and communities. These result in negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, mental-health challenges, crime and victimization, as identified in Premier Eby's plan. Police Victim Services of B.C. looks forward to playing an integral part in ensuring those who are victimized by traumatic incidents are provided with compassionate, professional and consistent support throughout the province."

Sean Bujtas, mayor of Terrace -

"The struggles that we have experienced as a result of repeat offenders throughout Terrace, and especially in our downtown core, have been an ongoing issue that impacts everyone from families

to business owners. We are glad to see the Province working collaboratively with a wide variety of agencies to mitigate some of the challenges related to crime in our community."

Leonard Krog, mayor of Nanaimo -

"We've all seen the impacts of criminal behaviour in the downtown. That's why I'm pleased to see the Province's co-ordinated approach of both enforcement and strengthened services, which will help break the cycle of repeat offending, help people to receive the supports they need, and help people feel safe and secure in our community."

Brenda Locke, mayor of Surrey -

"The new Safer Communities Action Plan is comprehensive and multi-tiered. There is no question that a sharp change in direction in how we deal with repeat violent offenders is long overdue. A small number of career criminals have been, far too often, responsible for the violence that has been perpetrated on innocent individuals. For people and communities to feel safe, the revolving door of arrest and release has to stop. I also want to recognize how this plan addresses mental-health and addiction challenges. Tackling this issue on multiple fronts is a fresh step toward breaking the cycle of crime and addiction. The City of Surrey looks forward to working with Premier Eby and his team in a timely implementation of the new Safer Communities Action Plan."

Silas White, mayor of Gibsons -

"Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan is extremely well-thought-out and comprehensive. It assists those of us in smaller communities with mental-health response teams, and an enhanced focus on people troubled by brain injuries. The most frequent victims of violent crime are other vulnerable and marginalized people, and this plan will help them and all of us by keying in on the dangerous few who are either in need of much more institutional support, or have been taking unfair advantage of gaps in our justice system."

Janice Morrison, mayor of Nelson -

"Enhanced public safety and interventions regarding mental health and addictions are important to smaller communities. The Safer Communities Action Plan's two-pronged approach is inclusive. Our protective services are going to have increased capacity to deal with repeat offenders and our community intervention/support services are going to see much-needed increases in resources. We all want to live in safe and healthy communities and I look forward to working with the B.C. government and Premier Eby as the plan moves forward."

Jen Ford, president, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Whistler councillor -

"B.C.'s communities have seen a steady growth in random violence and unchecked vandalism in downtown cores due to repeat offenders. Local governments have been responding to this complex issue and we are pleased to see a provincial commitment to address it through improved enforcement measures and increased complex care resources. The new action plan promises to advance efforts in both areas, and UBCM welcomes its implementation."

Contact:

Aileen Machell

BACKGROUNDER 2

New measures to strengthen enforcement and keep people safe

New repeat violent offender response teams

The Province is standing up new co-ordinated multi-agency regional teams that will work together to stop violent crime before it starts. Comprised of police officers, as well as 21 dedicated prosecutors, 21 probation officers, 21 support personnel and nine correctional supervisors, the teams will:

- * monitor high-risk repeat offender cases through the criminal justice system;
- * conduct investigations;
- * share information to keep repeat violent offenders in custody before trial;
- * use that information for sentencing once a conviction has been entered;
- * promote rehabilitation through referrals to appropriate services;
- * identify crime trends; and
- * ensure information sharing across regions to help prevent repeat offending.

These collaborative teams are a new and improved version of B.C.'s Prolific Offender Management program. The former program, which ran from 2008 until 2012, and until it was defunded, had some success bringing together community partners such as police, mental-health and community support service providers to monitor and help offenders break the cycle of repeat offending.

HealthIM

HealthIM is a digital public safety system designed to improve emergency police response in mental-health and substance-use situations. It is a tool that increases safety for both the first responder and the person in crisis. The app guides police officers, who are first to respond, through questions to help them understand the behaviour of the person in crisis. It can help to facilitate better assessments and faster emergency room admissions because police and clinicians are using the same language and police have the information doctors and nurses need at hand immediately.

Crown prosecutor training and enhanced bail briefs

Training for Crown counsel on bail practices related to repeat violent offending is already underway and additional training will continue to cover new initiatives and reforms. In addition, Crown counsel and police will work together to ensure bail briefs are complete and prepared in accordance with best practices. This means that Crown counsel will always have the best information from police to present to the court, maximizing the ability of the court to make decisions that protect the public.

Virtual bail

To support timely, effective bail hearings that will protect the public and meet constitutional obligations, the Province is investing more than \$3 million per year to expand virtual bail hearings throughout B.C. By reducing the need for accused people to travel to larger centres, virtual bail hearings minimize the risk that alleged offenders will be transported hundreds of kilometres from home and get stuck, homeless, in a hub city like Terrace, Trail, Prince George, Williams Lake, Nanaimo, Kelowna, Kamloops or Campbell River. Instead, they can stay in their home communities and access existing supports, family and friends.

Information-sharing agreement

Co-ordination of information is key in responding to people who re-offend regularly, regardless of the nature of the crime. A new information-sharing agreement within existing privacy rules will remove barriers that can prevent prosecutors, police and social service providers from sharing information that is helpful to the work each is doing. Allowing different agencies to disclose information will reduce the duplication of resources and provide more efficient and effective case management and justice outcomes.

A steering committee will be set up to guide this work. Membership includes:

- * BC Corrections;
- * BC Prosecution Service;
- * Correctional Service of Canada;
- * Vancouver Police Department;
- * RCMP;
- * Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction;
- * the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of Public Safety and Solicitor General (PSSG); and
- * the Policing and Security Branch of PSSG.

Unexplained wealth orders

Young people are attracted to gang life by images of fast cars, fancy homes and luxury goods. By seizing this property from high-level, predatory criminal organizations and individuals, the Province can take away this incentive and send a clear message to organized crime. One of the key recommendations of the Cullen Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in British Columbia supported by an opinion from a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, "unexplained wealth order" laws will break new ground nationally in Canada and build on lessons learned from other jurisdictions like the United Kingdom.

Legislation on unexplained wealth orders will be introduced during the spring 2023 legislative session.

Clear and understandable approach to prosecution policy for repeat violent offenders

On Nov. 16, 2022, Attorney General Murray Rankin issued a directive to the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to amend their bail policy to help improve public confidence in the justice system in communities throughout B.C. through amendments to bail policy that are clear and understandable in the situation of repeat violent offenders. The revised policy will give the public confidence that prosecutors will always address, to the full extent possible under the law, the risk that repeat violent offenders pose to public safety in British Columbia, especially in relation to the decision to seek pre-trial detention of people who commit repeat violent offences. It will be implemented on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022.

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BACKGROUNDER 3

Strengthening services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone

Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACTs)

As a key action of the Safer Communities Action Plan and strengthening supports for people, the Province will be expanding civilian-led teams of trained peers and mental-health professionals, like social workers and psychiatric nurses, to provide trauma informed, culturally safe support for people in crisis. A total of 12 PACTs will be created, including some that are Indigenous-led teams.

Care teams made up of mental-health professionals and peer workers respond to calls related to feelings of hopelessness or despair, social isolation, loneliness, fear, anxiety, thoughts of self-harm and suicide, substance use or other mental-health challenges.

Responses range from crisis counselling and de-escalation to advocating for the person in distress and connecting them to appropriate resources and services. The teams can respond instead of police, but can also work alongside police and other responders depending on the situation.

Expanding car programs

In every region of the province, there are specialized mobile crisis-response units that partner an officer with a health-care worker to respond to mental-health calls.

These units, or Cars, are partnerships between local law enforcement or RCMP and the regional health authorities. To expand this program, the Province is establishing a new \$3-million fund for integrated mobile community crisis response by police and health-care workers in communities throughout B.C. An application process will be established for communities to apply for funding.

Current Car programs include:

- * Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH): Car 87/88 (Vancouver), Car 22 (North Shore), Fox 80 (Richmond)
- * Fraser Health: Car 67 (Surrey)
- * Interior Health: Car 40 (Kamloops), Police and Crisis Response Team (PACT) (Kelowna)
- * Northern Health: Car 60 (Prince George and Fort St. John), Northwest Specialized Response Team (Terrace)
- * Island Health: Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (Capital region)
- * Car 22 is a new partnership between VCH and the RCMP, Integrated First Nations Unit (IFNU) of the RCMP and the West Vancouver Police Department.

More Indigenous justice centres

Indigenous justice centres are operated by the BC First Nations Justice Council and support the shared commitment to addressing the over-representation of Indigenous Peoples in the criminal justice system, which has its roots in long-standing systemic racism and the impacts of intergenerational trauma. The centres offer culturally appropriate information, advice, support, and representation for Indigenous Peoples, and are focused on intervening to stop the risk of repeated interactions with the legal system for Indigenous people in the province.

There are currently three in-person Indigenous justice centres open in Merritt, Prince George and Prince Rupert, and one virtual Indigenous justice centre. The services help to identify and address the root causes of the actions of individuals in the criminal justice system to help prevent future negative interactions with police and the justice system.

To further improve access to culturally appropriate legal services for Indigenous Peoples, the Province is funding 10 additional centres. Five are set to open next year. To better support Indigenous Peoples in urban areas, the first five centres will open in metropolitan areas.

Increasing addictions treatment care

To help streamline access and fill gaps between services for people living with addiction challenges, the Province is working with St. Paul's Clinical Addiction Program, along with Providence Health Care and Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a model of addiction care that will improve access for British Columbians to treatment services. St. Paul's Hospital houses the largest interdepartmental Division of Addiction in the country and is internationally recognized.

The LePard-Butler report emphasized the need to improve access to addictions treatment services. Since 2017, the government has been working to transform mental-health and substance-use services in B.C. through historic investments across the full spectrum of treatment and recovery. Over the past five years, the Province has added 340 new substance-use beds throughout B.C., for a total of 3,272 publicly funded adult and youth community substance use beds.

Expanded funding for brain injury services

A dramatic increase in brain injuries due to the overdose crisis has led to reports from across the province of increased disorder and repeat hospitalizations and arrests of people living with acquired brain injuries. Regardless of the cause, but with a focus on people at risk of or actively involved in the criminal justice system, new funding will ensure British Columbians living with brain injuries will have increased access to important services, including life skills, behaviour coaching, support groups, and more. The Province is investing \$4.5 million over three years to the Brain Injury Alliance to support delivery of these services in 13 communities throughout B.C.

The Alliance, a non-profit organization comprised of 13 community brain-injury societies in B.C., helps more than 4,000 people each year learn how to live with the changes and challenges they face after injury, including those resulting from toxic drug poisoning. Alliance members are community associations that run rehabilitative programs and services, including in BC Corrections facilities, individual support such as life-skills assistance, and homelessness prevention and group services, such as drop-in sessions.

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BACKGROUNDER 4

Building on B.C.'s progress

These new initiatives build on the programs, services and initiatives the Province has undertaken or implemented to strengthen enforcement to break the cycle of violence and crime, and to strengthen services to keep communities safe and healthy.

Civil forfeiture proceeds

Since 2017-18, government has provided over \$38 million in grant funding to organizations in B.C. to prevent and reduce crime through the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Program.

The Civil Forfeiture Grant Program undermines the profit motive behind criminal activity by taking away tools and proceeds of crime and putting them back into programs that support community safety and crime prevention. The program provides annual, one-time funding to organizations throughout B.C. for the implementation of crime prevention and remediation projects.

Situation Tables

To improve information sharing between health care, justice and Indigenous partners, government is currently funding 17 Situation Tables in communities around the province. Situation Tables bring together front-line staff from the public safety, health and social service sectors to identify high-risk individuals and collaboratively and rapidly connect them to services and supports they need, before they experience a negative or traumatic event (e.g., victimization, overdose, incarceration, eviction,

etc.). Situation Tables empower agencies to work together to provide holistic supports to people and lower the risk of potential violence or re-offending.

Combating gang activities

The Province has a multi-pronged, comprehensive gun and gang strategy that involves focused and sustained initiatives over several years. In addition to standard and ongoing base-budget funding for dedicated investigative and enforcement teams, the Province has provided dedicated funding for a suite of innovative initiatives, including, but not limited to:

- * creating a provincial witness security program (WSP);
- * establishing a B.C. crime gun intelligence and investigation group (CGIIG);
- * enhancing/expanding the B.C. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit's (CFSEU-BC) Gang Intervention and Exiting Program (GIEP);
- * enhancing forensic firearms laboratory analysis and certification capabilities; and
- * providing dedicated funding to law enforcement operations focused on disrupting priority targets involved in trafficking in illegal firearms and harmful drugs (i.e., PTEP).

The newly created BC Witness Security Unit has resulted in 419 charges laid, including 134 murder charges (including attempt and accessory) and 77 firearm-related charges. Convictions of 32 accused has resulted in a cumulative total of 276 years in prison. These convictions have amounted to an estimated cost savings of over \$74 million to the province.

In addition to targeted enforcement, the Province funds the Gang Exiting and Outreach Program, which helps high-risk, gang-entrenched youth and adults leave a life of crime.

Supporting victims, preventing violence and discrimination

Government supports a range of services to support victims of domestic violence and sexual violence. This includes over 160 community and police-based victim service programs, which provide emotional support, information, referrals and practical assistance to victims of crime and trauma throughout B.C. In addition, this year more than \$4.1 million is being awarded to projects that prevent human trafficking, gender-based violence, and violence against children and youth.

Government is also taking action to meet the ongoing demand for services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support for women and children who experience domestic violence, sexual assault and other crimes, investing \$5 million starting in 2018-19 with an additional increase of \$3 million in 2020-21, for a total increase of \$8 million annually.

The Victim Court Support Program assists victims through the justice process by co-ordinating between victim service and justice system personnel (e.g., Crown).

The Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP) provides financial benefits to assist victims, immediate family members, and witnesses in dealing with the effects of violent crime. CVAP helps to offset financial loss and aid recovery from the impacts of crime.

Immediate crisis support for victims of family or sexual violence is available by calling or texting VictimLink BC's 24/7 service at 1 800 563-0808 or by email: VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca (<mailto:VictimLinkBC@bc211.ca>)

VictimLink BC also provides information and referral services for all victims of crime and immediate crisis support to victims of family and sexual violence.

Complex care housing

Complex care housing supports people living with complex mental-health and substance-use challenges who are at risk of homelessness. The program works to address the needs of people who have overlapping mental-health and substance-use issues, trauma or acquired brain injuries that are often left to experience homelessness or at risk of eviction. Government is investing \$164 million in this program to provide 500 new spaces.

Community transition teams

More people are getting mental-health and substance-use support when leaving correctional centres as B.C. creates new and expanded services for those at risk.

The Province has created Community Transition Teams to offer support services for people leaving all 10 provincial correctional centres. The teams help people with a safe and successful transition back into the community during a very vulnerable period in their life to break the cycle of reoffending. The teams connect people to lifesaving services, including mental-health and substance-use supports, for up to 90 days following their release.

The teams include social workers, nurses, peer support workers and Indigenous patient navigators, and a centralized hub to support specialized clinical and co-ordination needs throughout the province.

Funding for a restorative justice pilot program at the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre

One of the recommendations from "A Rapid Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence in British Columbia" was to fund a restorative justice pilot program in Prince George. This recommendation was put forward by the BC First Nations Justice Council and endorsed by LePard and Butler, co-authors of the report.

The Province has provided \$100,000 to the Prince George Indigenous Justice Centre for this program which aims to reduce criminal recidivism amongst Indigenous Peoples.

Restorative processes are voluntary and provide opportunities to victims, offenders and communities affected by a crime to communicate about the causes, circumstances and impact of the crime. The program will include a path to care and treatment while providing supports to reverse the current outcomes by promoting diversion and will utilize restorative justice approaches.

Contact:

Aileen Machell
Director of Communications
Office of the Premier

250 361-5381

► **READ MORE**

Government Operations, Office of the Premier

Page 237 of 748 to/à Page 249 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

Message for Douglas Scott

From: s.22
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX <PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 7:43:22 AM PST

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning Mr. Scott,
Hope you don't mind my reaching out to you directly. I just read some of the details about British Columbia's Safer Communities Action Plan and wanted to express my enthusiasm and support for the direction being taken to help build and sustain healthy, safe communities. s.22
s.22

Sincerely,
s.22

Virus-free.www.avast.com

RE: Draft NR - RCMP funding for PSB review

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 11:30:34 AM PST
Attachments: NR - RCMP Funding DRAFT 2 22Nov22_AB Nov 22 11am.docx
Hi– a few comments from me for consideration, thanks.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 10:14 AM
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Draft NR - RCMP funding for PSB review

Thx Jason. We're going to need a quote from RCMP and ideally a mayor or two if possible. Secondly – s.13
s.13

From: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 10:08 AM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Draft NR - RCMP funding for PSB review
Importance: High

Please see attached for an updated News Release, based on the latest TB Sub speaking notes doc (attached).

Possible to have PSB provide any edits or fact checks by 1:00 today? We need to build in time for MO and PO review and potential edits etc. If they request a quote from BC RCMP, we will let you know.

In terms of funding referenced in NR, we will go with this content from the TB Sub:

s.12; s.13; s.17

Thanks,
Jason

Jason Watson
Communications Manager
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Cell: 250-812-6531
Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 21, 2022 4:56 PM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: Draft NR - RCMP funding

Wayne – as discussed draft NR for your review and edits. Including Doug and Ardys. I expect that Issues and HQ/PO might have edits as well, but this gives us a starting point. We will draft up a quote for MMF and also start on a quick KMQA building off the one from Sunday (and including the content on the RCMCP funding boost that we pulled and set aside for Wed.)

NR - RCMP Funding DRAFT 2 22Nov22 hl edits

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 11:37:00 AM PST
Attachments: NR - RCMP Funding DRAFT 2 22Nov22 hl edits.docx
No issues with these changes (see my one comment), thanks.

RUSH REVIEW: tomorrow NR

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
To: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 12:10:36 PM PST
Attachments: NR - RCMP Funding DRAFT 21Nov22.docx hl.docx
Hey Brian –

I'm editing this news release on the CORE and C-IRG announcement tomorrow, I'm hoping you can take a look at the second to last para on C-IRG and on the 5th paragraph regarding the Cullen Commission recommendations – Wayne said you'd be able to provide a couple examples.

So sorry for the quick turnaround on this, GCPE are hoping for the NR back at 1. Please let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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Draft letter to Coquitlam re: Car program

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Poilievre, Tricia MMHA:EX <Tricia.Poilievre@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 12:56:12 PM PST
Attachments: 636196 Singh Draft.docx

Hi Tricia, I'm hoping to send this letter to the Coquitlam Joint Policing Committee re: Car programs and would like to get your review first. Any changes you think should be made?

Thanks,
Ardys

Re: September 29th, 2022, Committee Meeting

From: PSSG Policing and Security Branch PSSG:EX
To: ksingh@coquitlam.ca
Sent: November 22, 2022 2:14:09 PM PST
Attachments: 636196 Singh Final.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from Ardys Baker, Executive Director, Policy, Legislation, and Modernization Division, Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.

Thank you,

John Nielsen (He/Him)

Correspondence Coordinator, Assistant Deputy Minister's Office
Policing and Security Branch | Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9285 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC | V8W 9J7
SGPSPB@gov.bc.ca

A safe, secure, just, and resilient British Columbia

I acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples on whose traditional territories I live, work, and enjoy, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



VIA EMAIL

November 22, 2022

Ref: 636196

Kim Singh
Manager, Police Services
Coquitlam RCMP Detachment
Email: ksingh@coquitlam.ca

Dear Coquitlam Joint Policing Committee members:

Re: September 29th, 2022, Committee meeting

Thank you for sharing the challenges of implementing a Car program in the Port Coquitlam/Coquitlam communities. I am pleased to update the Committee that the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions is working in partnership with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General on a framework for the Car program and roll-out of provincial funding. We will provide more information in the near future.

In the meantime, you may be interested in the following announcement from the Office of the Premier, released November 20, 2022, which introduces the Safer Communities Action Plan:
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2022PREM0090-001743>

Sincerely,

Ardys Baker
Executive Director
Policy, Legislation, and Modernization Division
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Re: September 29th, 2022, Committee Meeting

From: PSSG Policing and Security Branch PSSG:EX <SGPSPB@gov.bc.ca>
To: ksingh@coquitlam.ca
Sent: November 22, 2022 2:14:10 PM PST
Attachments: 636196 Singh Final.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a letter from Ardys Baker, Executive Director, Policy, Legislation, and Modernization Division, Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.

Thank you,

John Nielsen (He/Him)

Correspondence Coordinator, Assistant Deputy Minister's Office
Policing and Security Branch | Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9285 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC | V8W 9J7
SGPSPB@gov.bc.ca

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I acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples on whose traditional territories I live, work, and enjoy, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

KMQA - RCMP funding DRAFT 22Nov22

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 22, 2022 4:13:15 PM PST
Attachments: KMQA - RCMP funding DRAFT 22Nov22.docx
My input, thanks.

RE: KMQA - draft - RCMP funding

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
To: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 8:55:18 AM PST
Attachments: KMQA - RCMP funding DRAFT 22Nov22.docx
Hey Brian – Ardys' feedback attached for your reference. Thanks!

H

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 3:56 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: KMQA - draft - RCMP funding

Hi both –

Please see the attached KMQA for your review. I've gone through and made some first look edits based off of the NR edits and conversations with yourselves and Wayne.

Brian – one q in particular that the MO is really looking for is 9, which is on how the funding will support IHIT and gang-related investigations. Hoping for a bit of guidance on that one.

Hoping to get this to Wayne tomorrow for a look, let me know if you have any q's.

Thanks!

H

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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FW: Message for Douglas Scott

From: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
To: s.22
Cc: Duncan, Nikki PSSG:EX <Nikki.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>, PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX <PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 10:56:27 AM PST
Good morning s.22

Thank you for email and support for the Safer Communities Action Plan. I appreciate you sharing your experiences and highlighting your expertise. We are in the early stages of planning but as we progress and develop plans, I will keep you in mind if there is some work to engage you in.

Thank you again and take care,

Douglas S. Scott
Deputy Solicitor General

From: s.22 >
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 7:43 AM
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX <PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Message for Douglas Scott

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning Mr. Scott,
Hope you don't mind my reaching out to you directly. I just read some of the details about British Columbia's Safer Communities Action Plan and wanted to express my enthusiasm and support for the direction being taken to help build and sustain healthy, safe communities. s.22
s.22

Sincerely,
s.22

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**Safer Communities Action Plan; Nominations for UBCM Executive; LGLA Elected
Official seminars**

From:	Union of BC Municipalities <ubcm+ubcm.ca@ccsend.com>
To:	Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
Sent:	November 23, 2022 2:14:48 PM PST

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When will police receive the funding.

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>, Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>, Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>, Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 3:23:34 PM PST

Last minute question from PO coms who are asking for clarification on budget. QA 3 below doesn't answer the question.
s.13

From: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 1:13 PM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Ditto!

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From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 1:11:36 PM
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

I am if the Mayor is!

Wayne

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 1:06 PM
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

I like it. If good with Wayne/Glen we would like to use this.

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From: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 12:51:27 PM
To: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Leonard Krog, Mayor of Nanaimo

"Community safety and security is top of mind for people in Nanaimo. We are glad that the BC Government is investing in the safety of our community and the safety of nearby towns by ensuring the RCMP's Detachment is fully staffed and serving the people in our region. As a medium sized municipality with close to 100,000 people we will benefit from the regional resource, BC Highway Patrol and provincial specialized investigative team increases which means faster response times for people in trouble, for businesses in need, and for reviving public confidence in our public safety system."

From: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:50 PM
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Do you mind sending up a clean copy so we can ask Nanaimo?

From: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:50 PM
To: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Thanks, those are great additions Wayne

From: Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:48 PM
To: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Suggest....

From: Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 23, 2022 12:47 PM
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Would something like this work?

s.13

Thanks,
Jason

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:45 PM
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Thanks all. Nanaimo's mayor would be the easiest if that makes sense.

W

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>; Bourgeois, Danielle GCPE:EX <Danielle.Bourgeois@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Rideout, Wayne PSSG:EX <Wayne.Rideout@gov.bc.ca>; Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

K. Including Glen and Wayne on below.

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 23, 2022 12:38 PM
To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Thanks David.

Can you pls have the below quote checked for accuracy?^{s.13}

s.13

s.13

From: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: November 23, 2022 12:21 PM

To: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

We're working through program edits to KM/QA. Expect it shortly. We have the RCMP quote. Close to UBCM quote. Will share your recommendation.

From: Maartman, William PSSG:EX <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: November 23, 2022 12:19 PM

To: Haslam, David GCPE:EX <David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca>; Watson, Jason GCPE:EX <Jason.Watson@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Maher, Melissa PSSG:EX <Melissa.Maher@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Quates/Validators and KMs/QA

Hi both

Game is exiting!!! Ok back to work...

1. Can we please get an ETA on the QA/KM doc. Really want to have a look through this soon.
2. I've spoken to Doug and Wayne and we should expect the RCMP quote soon. Please make sure that is on track
3. UBCM quote. What is the status on this? After speaking to Doug I know we aren't able to provide the NR in advance but we can tell them that govt is making a significant funding announcement for RCMP later today which aligns with years of resolutions and submissions from UBCM and we would like to include your quote.
 - a. Here is a suggested one if needed:
s.13

4. s.16

Following the same

approach as above we will work from our office on securing this quote. The other option could be Nanaimo. I will work on this more and report back.

Will Maartman

Senior Ministerial Advisor to the Deputy Premier and Government House Leader

Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

C: 778-679-4952

RE: Repeat Offenders - 635838

From: PSSG Policing and Security Branch PSSG:EX
To: s.22
Sent: November 24, 2022 11:50:04 AM PST
Attachments: 635838 s.22 Final.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached a letter from Mr. Wayne Rideout, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General.

Thank you,

John Nielsen (He/Him)

Correspondence Coordinator, Assistant Deputy Minister's Office
Policing and Security Branch | Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9285 STN PROV GOVT | Victoria BC | V8W 9J7
SGPSPB@gov.bc.ca

A safe, secure, just, and resilient British Columbia

I acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen-speaking Peoples on whose traditional territories I live, work, and enjoy, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

CLIFF# 635838



November 24, 2022
Ref: 635838

s.22

Email: s.22

Dear s.22

We thank you for your letter of November 8, 2022, regarding a meeting with Minister Farnworth to discuss a s.22

s.22 As the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Policing and Security Branch and Director of Police Services, I am pleased to respond.

The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe through the new Safer Communities Action Plan (the “action plan”). The action plan includes immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone. The action plan builds on work already underway by the provincial government to help break the cycle of repeat offending, including complex-care housing, new and expanded community transition teams to better support people who are leaving correctional facilities, and funding to support work by the BC First Nations Justice Council to develop better, culturally appropriate supports for Indigenous people in the legal system. It sets out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement and intervention services.

These actions align with recommendations from several reports on community safety, including the Special Committee on Reforming the *Police Act*, the First Nations Justice Strategy, and the Investigation into Repeat Offending and Random Stranger Violence. For more details on the action plan, please visit: <https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

Regards,

Wayne Rideout
Assistant Deputy Minister
And Director of Police Services
Policing and Security Branch

RE: Possible revisions to PSB's UBCM Resolution Responses

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
To: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 1:17:18 PM PST
Attachments: EB43 Rural Policing PSB DSG_revised.docx, EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB_ADM_revised.docx, NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB DSG_revised.docx, NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders DSG_revised.docx

Hi Kath,

Based on the gov.bc.ca press release here ([Province invests in specialized, rural police services | BC Gov News](#)) I've come up with some high-level revisions to the UBCM Resolution responses in light of recent announcements.

I haven't touched the original wording for any of these, but simply added my revision to the bottom. However, this does put the responses over the recommended length.

I made changes to these DSG-approved responses:

EB43 – Rural Policing
NR36 – Charging Prolific Offenders
NR37 – Justice Reform Repeat Offenders

And I made changes to this ADM approved responses:

EB44 – Alternative Crime Reduction Strategies

I didn't think any revisions were needed for these DSG-approved responses (or the outstanding response for NG911):

NR31 – Repeat First Responder Calls
NR33 – Policing Small Communities (Emerging)
NR34 – Police Costs Provincial Facilities

What I'm not sure about is the next steps for these. Do we send them back to EDs for their approval and/or any further necessary revisions to their initial submission?

We'll talk later this afternoon.

Kevin

From: Meseyton, Robert PSSG:EX <Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 12:23 PM
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Gergley, Meagan PSSG:EX <Meagan.Gergley@gov.bc.ca>; St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Possible revisions to PSB's UBCM Resolution Responses

Kevin:

Following up on our phone call...the DSG has approved all of PSB's Resolution Responses with the following comments.¹³

Attached are all of the formatted, DSG approved PSB Responses. I will let you determine which ones need updates based on Doug's comments. Remember to use wording that will remain current in February/March as this is when the Responses will be delivered to UBCM. Please indicate if any need to have the DSG approve them again. Doug did not say he needed to but I will let you make that determination.

MUNI has granted us an extension to the first week of December. Please have your ADM approved revised Responses back to me by Monday December 5. Ideally, if we could get the two outstanding Responses (EB42 New Provincial

Mandate and Funding for 911 and EB44 Alternative Crime Reduction Strategies) back at the same time then I send everything in one package to the MO for their review. Let me know if you need more time.

Thank you.

Robert Meseyton, BCom (Hon) [he, him, his]
Corporate Coordinator
Corporate Policy and Planning Office
Cannabis, Consumer Protection and Corporate Policy Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
11th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2C5
Phone: 778-974-3809
Email: Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca

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

Cold weather

From: Gunnarson, Jess PSSG:EX <Jess.Gunnarson@gov.bc.ca>
To: PSSG SPD <PSSGSPD@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 1:27:36 PM PST
Attachments: Disruption in office or telework services.pdf
Hi everyone,

With the last session provided today by the Ombudsperson's Office, I hope everyone who attended this learning over the past few weeks found benefit. I think we're fortunate to have access to training of this nature and I thank the Ombudsperson's Office, your leadership teams for supporting this training, and you for making the time for your professional development.

While it's hard to imagine cold weather as I look outside to the sun today, I understand that we are anticipating some cold weather with possible snow and wind in the next week. While forecasts shift quickly this time of year, I wanted to encourage everyone to make plans for next week in this context and, if you anticipate any disruption in your usual schedule as a result, to discuss with your supervisor in the context of the attached policy distributed earlier this year.

I wanted to also acknowledge that there have been significant public safety announcements over the past few days, including the launching of the [Safer Communities Action Plan](#) and a significant [investment in policing announced yesterday](#). We have a branch townhall scheduled for next week and I anticipate we'll hear more about these initiatives in the coming weeks.

Thanks, Jess

From: Gunnarson, Jess PSSG:EX <Jess.Gunnarson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2022 2:28 PM
To: PSSG SPD <PSSGSPD@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Subject: New SPD Policies

Good afternoon everyone,

I am writing today to share two new Security Programs Division (SPD) policies. Over the past months, I've heard questions related to these two matters and, following consultation with relevant colleagues in the Ministry and discussion and review by the leadership teams, I am sharing these policies with you to ensure clarity going forward. Specifically, these two policies address:

1. "Disruption in office or telework services": Provides policy on approach when there are disruptions (i.e. loss of power, loss of internet connectivity, commuter travel disruptions) which impact ability to work in-office or telework; and
2. "Generic email inbox_use of name_policy": Provides policy on inclusion of team member names in emails from our generic email inboxes.

These new policies, and other new divisional policies as they are developed and distributed, will be kept [here](#) on the LAN. If you have any questions regarding the attached, please speak with your supervisor.

Many thanks, Jess

Jess Gunnarson (he/him)
Executive Director, Security Programs Division
Policing & Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General
PHONE 250-419-8856; CELL 617

I would like to acknowledge that the land on which I work in southern Vancouver Island and the south Gulf Islands is located in the traditional territories of the Lək'wəḡən (Esquimalt and Songhees), Malahat, Pacheedaht, Scia'new, T'Sou-ke and W̱SÁNEĆ (Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tsawout, Tseycum) peoples. I acknowledge our traditional hosts and honour their welcome and graciousness to those who work, live, and play here.

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Revised UBCM Resolution Responses

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>, Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 3:49:18 PM PST
Attachments: NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders DSG_revised.docx, image001.png, NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB DSG_revised.docx, EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB_ADM_revised.docx

Hi Ardys and Brian,

I believe it was mentioned at the Executive Meeting this morning that last week DSG had redirected the approved UBCM Resolution responses back to our Branch in case any revisions would be required in anticipation of announcements.

To help speed things along and to help ensure a degree of consistency across all of the UBCM Resolution Responses, I've appended some suggested wording to the bottom of each response (in blue) based upon the public press releases this week. I've tried to keep it very high-level, without delving into specific initiatives, etc.

Can you please review the revised responses and confirm your agreement and, if necessary, make any changes to the main body of the response you'd previously provided to align with this week's announcements? If you do make further changes, can you please ensure they're clearly identified because the main body was already approved, and we'd like to make re-review / approval as smooth as possible.

Here are the specific UBCM resolutions attached above:

NR36 – Charging Prolific Offenders (Ardys)

NR37 – Justice Reform Repeat Offenders (Ardys)

EB44 – Alternative Crime Reduction Strategies (Brian / Ardys)

Given the tight timelines to provide ADM-approved revised responses to CPPO, can you please let me know by tomorrow afternoon?

Thanks,
Kevin

Kevin Plummer

Senior Program Manager, RCMP Contract Administration
Policing and Security Branch
kevin.plummer@gov.bc.ca
tel. 778-572-3403
cell. 236-818-2657



Revised UBCM Resolution Response for Rural Policing

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
To: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 3:57:37 PM PST
Attachments: EB43 Rural Policing PSB DSG_revised.docx
Hi Jamie,

I've added some language (in blue) to the EB43 – Rural Policing UBCM Resolution response to reflect the publicly-available news releases this week.

The main body of the text was already DSG approved, and I thought it was still accurate and current, even with the announcement(s) this week. So I left it as is, and simply added language to the end. But I've tried to keep it reasonably high level since we do not have the specifics of how things will roll out in the coming weeks/months.

If you approve of this, I'll get this resolution response (as well as the ones I sent to Ardys/Brian) back in eApps for ADM approval and resubmission to CPPO.

Based on my review of announcements on Sunday and yesterday, I do not believe that revisions are necessary for the following UBCM Resolution responses:

NR31 – Repeat First Responder Calls
NR33 – Policing Small Communities (Emerging)
NR34 – Police Costs Provincial Facilities

If you agree, I'll confirm the same to CPPO. If you'd like to re-review them before confirming, I can re-forward you these resolutions/responses to you. Just let me know.

I'm hoping to have responses from yourself, as well as Ardys and Brian regarding these revised responses by Friday afternoon, so that I can get them into eApps (and formally routed to you) by the end of the day tomorrow.

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 1:17 PM
To: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Possible revisions to PSB's UBCM Resolution Responses

Hi Kath,

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Corporate Coordinator
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RE: Revised UBCM Resolution Responses

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To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 4:00:47 PM PST
Attachments: NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB DSG_revised_AB.docx, image001.png, NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders DSG_revised_AB.docx, EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB_ADM_revised_AB.docx

Hi Kevin, a few edits for consideration. Thanks for the opportunity to review.
Ardys

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 3:49 PM

To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>; Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>; St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>

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Kevin Plummer

Senior Program Manager, RCMP Contract Administration

Policing and Security Branch

kevin.plummer@gov.bc.ca

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cell. 236-818-2657



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Cc: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 4:00:51 PM PST
Attachments: NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB DSG_revised_AB.docx, image001.png, NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders DSG_revised_AB.docx, EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB_ADM_revised_AB.docx

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Kevin Plummer

Senior Program Manager, RCMP Contract Administration

Policing and Security Branch

kevin.plummer@gov.bc.ca

tel. 778-572-3403

cell. 236-818-2657



PSSG Media Wrap: Thursday November 24, 2022

From: Donnelly, Chris R GCPE:EX <Chris.R.Donnelly@gov.bc.ca>
To: GCPE PSSG Media Wrap <PSSGMEWR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 24, 2022 5:23:28 PM PST
Underway:

Shannon Waters, Reporter, Capital Daily

Deadline: Friday November 24, 2022 11:00AM

Request:

I'm following up on the questions you received from my colleague Nina Grossman last week as the response from the ministry sent on Monday failed to address them.

Now that the new premier has been sworn in, I'm hoping you'll have the time to provide a relevant response. My deadline is 1PM tomorrow (Nov 24).

We are planning to run the story at the end of the week and will include any relevant information provided by the ministry by deadline.

Questions requiring response:

1. Paul Schacter was provincially appointed to the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board. He resigned, citing an inability to fulfill the role due to a lack of information available to the board and a lack of authority to address policy issues. How does the ministry plan to address these concerns as it considers a replacement for Schacter?
2. When does the province anticipate naming Schacter's replacement?
3. After speaking to Schacter further, it seems some of his concerns are addressed in the recommendations made in the Police Act reform report released in the spring. What is the ministry's timeline for implementing the recommended reforms to the police act?

Status: With Program

Tracey Prediger, Reporter, Castanet (Kelowna)

Deadline: Friday November 25, 2022 4:00PM

Request:

Thank you for the brief chat yesterday morning Mr. Coney. I would like to follow up on our conversation after this weekend's Cannabis Harvest Gathering.

The Syilx Cannabis Society has forward a resolution to the Federal Government in response to the Cannabis Act review. The resolution asks for autonomy when it comes to the sale, distribution and growing of cannabis on Territorial Lands.

What is the impact of this resolution if passed on the Province's ability to regulate the cannabis industry?

Here in Vernon, the area on Westside road is locally known as "the Green Mile" and is notorious for selling pot to underage kids. What is being done by the province to protect our youth?

Status: With Program

Andrew MacLeod, Reporter, The Tyee

Deadline: Friday November 25, 2022 2:00PM

Request:

Thanks Chris. I had a quick conversation with minister Farnworth about it as well. The short answer was that government's been working on it, made progress etc.. Any more specifics you can give me on what's been done would be welcome. Context is a visit to the legislature yesterday by professors from UBC with the Campaign for the Abolition of Solitary Confinement.

Status: With Program

Anna Mehler Paperny, Reporter, Reuters

Deadline: Friday November 25, 2022 4:00PM

Request

Can you please send me a breakdown of bail decisions by race, offence and presence or absence of a mental illness, from 2015 through 2022 to date?

Can you please also send me the number of person-days in segregation by race and presence or absence of a mental illness, for the same years?

I'm not on deadline so please let me know what time frame is realistic for you.

Status: With Program

Anna Mehler Paperny, Reporter, Reuters

Deadline: Monday December 5, 2022 4:00PM

Request:

Hope you're doing well. Can you please send me the number and percentage of accused alleged to have committed crimes while on bail in the province, by year for the most recent five years

Status: With Program

Ayesha Ghaffar, Reporter, The Ridge

Deadline: Friday November 25, 2022 4:00PM

Request:

Would like to Interview Jillian Currie from Fraser Valley Regional Correctional Centre on Indigenous activities and programs.

Status: With Program

Completed:

Gordon Hoekstra, Reporter, Vancouver Sun

Request:

1)The Surrey Police Service transition plan notes that the director of police service for the BC govt, "in his statutory role to superintend police in BC," set a limit of 175 SPS officers that could be deployed in 2022, in addition to a first cohort of 50.

The plan notes that: ^{Copyright}

Copyright

<https://www.surreypolice.ca/sites/surreypolice/files/media/documents/HR%20Strategy%20and%20Plan%202022.pdf>

Looking for a more fulsome explanation of why this target was set.

What were the considerations?

Concern that this was as many officers that could be practically deployed in a year?

Concern that a higher number would draw down officers in other police forces, particularly in Metro Vancouver?

Some other consideration?

Did the province take on any fiscal responsibility for this decision, in that it possibly could increase the operating costs of the transition? I.e. did it offer up any funding for setting a limit of how many officers can be deployed?

2)I understand there are more than 1,000 vacancies in the RCMP ranks in BC, which has an authorized strength across all services of 7,626 (as of the 2020 BC police resources report, the latest available).

Is that correct?

If not, what is the number of vacancies and/or positions not filled?

Is the BC govt concerned about the number of vacancies?

And what is being done to rectify it?

Response: Provided Background

- Under the *Police Act*, a municipality with 5,000 population or more is responsible for providing, and bearing the necessary expenses of, policing and law enforcement services within its boundaries. This includes all costs associated with any changes to service delivery models, including costs related to a transition of policing services.
- Under the *Police Act*, the Minister must ensure adequate and effective levels of policing and law enforcement are maintained throughout the province. The Act also states that the Director of Police Services is responsible for superintending policing and law enforcement functions in British Columbia. These responsibilities include ensuring an orderly police model transition in the City of Surrey, in order to mitigate any risk of destabilizing policing in BC.
- By January 2022, a deployment target for the year was crucial to maintaining transition momentum. The Director, giving consideration to RCMP and Surrey Police Service (SPS) planning analyses as well as broader regional and provincial considerations respective of policing in BC, determined that 175 SPS officers deployed into the Surrey RCMP Municipal Police Unit during the integrated phase of the transition was as an appropriate target for 2022.
- This deployment target also aligned with the guidance the Director provided to the Surrey Police Board and SPS regarding 175-200 officers being an appropriate hiring target for 2022.

Carla Wilson, Reporter, Times Colonist

Gordon Hoekstra, Reporter, Vancouver Sun

Rod Link, Reporter, Terrace Standard

Mark Nielsen, Reporter, PG Citizen

Request:

Reporters asking about RCMP hiring plans etc

Response:

- The BC RCMP operates at arm's length from government. Please contact them for details on current vacancies, staffing levels and plans for hiring new officers. See below for a Statement from Minister Farnworth.
- Funding will be allocated to the RCMP beginning April 1, 2023. However, planning with the RCMP to finalize priorities will begin immediately.

Statement from Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General:

"As a component of our Safer Communities Action Plan, our government is making a historic investment to help the BC RCMP hire more officers.

"This stable and sustained funding will facilitate RCMP recruiting efforts to bring the BC RCMP up to its full authorized strength and ensure adequate and effective levels of policing across BC, providing police with the resources they need to address public safety concerns head on. Once fully staffed up, police will be able to provide better service in all parts of the province.

"The funding will also support the work of specialized teams that investigate and prevent complex violent and organized crimes. We are working with the BC RCMP to identify these priority and highest risk specialized units and communities.

"The Safer Communities Action Plan strengthens enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthens services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone."

Gregor Craigie, Host, CBC - Victoria

Deadline: Thursday, November 24, 2022 2:00 PM

Request:

Gregor would like to speak to the minister at 7:10am Friday, Nov. 25 for 8 minutes to discuss the Safer Communities Plan (mental health community response teams) and its impact on Southern Vancouver Island in the context of having a mix of RCMP and city police. How will new programs work for the mix of police with mentally disordered people and drug issues?

Response: Provided Interview

- @8:10am Nov 25

Bianca Rego, Producer, CKNW AM 980

Request:

Jas Johal looking to discuss yesterday's Safer Communities police funding announcement.

Live or Pre-taped. Live @ 3:05p or pre-tape any time before 2pm.

Response: Provided Interview

- @2pm Nov 24

ICBC Media:

Jason Tchir, Reporter, Globe and Mail

Deadline Friday November 25, 2022 12:00PM

Request

I'm working on a story looking at the insurance, plate and registration requirements for out-of-province buyers who are picking up a model in BC and taking it to another province. - for example, either buying new or used from a dealer or buying used in a private sale.

It's a question that comes up a lot, especially with EVs (BC tends to get them before other provinces).

Wondering specifically

1) Does an out-of-province buyer who'll be driving a BC-bought car home need:

- a. BC registration?
- b. BC insurance?
- c. BC plates?

Or can they, for example, use their existing out-of-province plates and insurance?

Status: With GCPE

Elizabeth McSheffrey, Reporter, Global News

Request:

I just stumbled across this release from the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/dramatic-reduction-in-recovery-benefits-under-icbc-enhanced-care--820966685.html>

Can ICBC respond to the IBC's allegation that "ICBC is balancing its books by reducing what it provides to those injured in collisions?"

Response: Provided Background

- IBC is choosing to mislead British Columbians by looking at a single year of claims benefits paid, versus those paid over a lifetime – which is far greater than in the previous system.
- Under Enhanced Care, the money spent on legal costs went down dramatically, and while ICBC's claims costs also decreased, more money went toward care and recovery benefits than under the former litigation-based model.
- In the first year under Enhanced Care, 95% of claims costs went to customers while in the previous year under the old system, roughly 80% went to customers due to high legal costs.
- ICBC has among the lowest expense ratios in the industry, especially in contrast to those represented by IBC.
- Our operating costs support injury claims, driver licensing, road safety initiatives and material damage claims, which significantly outnumber injury claims.
- Government and ICBC were clear that with Enhanced Care, drivers would pay less for auto insurance and more money would go directly toward care, recovery and income replacement benefits than under the old litigation-based system and that is exactly what has happened.
- And unlike in other [jurisdictions](#) represented by the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC), the private insurance lobby group that represents a number of multi-national insurance corporations, there have been no basic rate increases. The reality is that auto insurance costs in B.C. are among the lowest in Canada for individuals and businesses.

Background:

- In 2021/22, operating expenses increased to \$931 million compared to \$837 million in 2020/21.
 - This is mainly due to a return to pre-COVID-19 levels in claims and claims-related areas.
 - In addition, an increase in demand for driver licensing services to address the backlog of driver knowledge and road tests resulted in higher average full-time equivalents (FTEs) and related costs.
 - Additionally, 2021/22 compensation increased for unionized employees as negotiated under the Collective Agreement.
- ICBC has been very clear that the biggest reason for the reduction in claims payments was the reduction in the cost of litigation where claimants were handing over up to 33% of their settlements to their lawyer.
- This has allowed ICBC to lower British Columbians auto insurance premiums by 28% during an affordability crisis.
- Contrast that to Ontario this year where the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario approved 31 rate increases for the IBC's members.

BCCS Media:

News Releases:

- [Coroner's inquest into the death of Nicole Chan begins in January 2023](#)

Media Requests:

- CHEK News/April Lawrence (alawrence@cheknews.ca) – Reporter following up regarding a death at the Howard Johnson building on Gorge Road. – IN PROGRESS
- CBC/Liam Britten (liam.britten@cbc.ca) – Hearing 2 dead in Coquitlam... any update coroner can provide? Confirmed that the BC Coroners Service was notified and is investigating two deaths. – COMPLETE
- Global/Rumina Daya (rumina.day@globalnews.ca) – Are you available for an interview on the Nicole Chan inquest? Also, have subpoenas been sent to David Van Patten and Greg McCullough? Will they be testifying? Could you please provide a witness list? Declined interview request as until the verdict is read in court, this investigation remains open and is therefore subject to a prohibition on information disclosure. Beyond speaking about the purpose of an inquest and/or reading back the content of the information bulletin, there's not much we'd be able to say. A witness list will be made available in the days leading up to the inquest. I'm unable to comment with regard to your other questions. – COMPLETE
- CHEK News/Jeff Lawrence (jlawrence@cheknews.ca) – Looking for confirmation that the BC Coroners Services responded to a float plane crash that occurred at around 12:52 p.m. yesterday (Wednesday) in Strachan Bay, about 28km north/northwest of Port Hardy. It's our understanding that at least one person was likely killed in the crash. Responded that I have no information to provide at this time. – COMPLETE

Previous Media Requests:

- Global/Simon Little (simon.little@globalnews.ca) – I'm wondering if you folks can give us any statistics on how many people died of suspected heat-related causes this summer in British Columbia. Request passed to BCCS Stats. – IN PROGRESS

FW: Work Plan

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
To: Lin, Sally PSSG:EX <Sally.Lin@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2022 8:25:31 AM PST
Attachments: s.12; s.13; s.15; s.16; s.19; s.22

Hi Sally, as discussed, attached are materials that set out the workplan for the civil disobedience file. s.13

s.13

s.13

We don't need

the level of detail in these materials, as I'm hoping for a two-pager only at this point.

Thanks,
Ardys

From: Kalman, Evelyn PSSG:EX <Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Work Plan

Hi Ardys,

Please find attached our Work Plan for context around how we formed our working groups pertaining to public order and critical incidents. I have also attached some supporting materials that we've shared with our cross-government partners at our Nov. 21st kick-off of our Committee on Public Order and Critical Incidents, and I will share some further information with you after our internal PSSG Working Group on Public Order and Critical Incidents meeting on Nov. 30th, as we will have even further information regarding this topic at that stage.

I am happy to discuss the work structure further through a meeting as well. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

With many thanks,

Evelyn Kalman | Senior Program Manager

Pronouns: she/her

Public Order and Critical Incidents

Serious and Organized Crime Division | Policing and Security Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

✉ Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca | 📞 (236) 478-1622

Grateful to work, live, and play on the traditional territories of the Kwantlen, Matsqui, Katzie, and Semiahmoo First Nations.

From: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 11:52 AM
To: Kalman, Evelyn PSSG:EX <Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Work Plan

Hi Evelyn,

Can you send Ardys a copy of our work plan setting out the structure of the WGs etc?

Thanks

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Page 322 of 748 to/à Page 323 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16 ; s.19 ; s.22

Page 324 of 748 to/à Page 325 of 748

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s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16

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s.13 ; s.15

Page 327 of 748 to/à Page 328 of 748

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s.12 ; s.13 ; s.15

Page 329 of 748

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s.12 ; s.13

Page 330 of 748

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s.13 ; s.16

Page 331 of 748

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s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16 ; s.19

Page 332 of 748

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s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16 ; s.17 ; s.19

Page 333 of 748

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s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16

Page 334 of 748

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s.13 ; s.14 ; s.15

Page 335 of 748

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s.13 ; s.15 ; s.16 ; s.19

Page 336 of 748 to/à Page 337 of 748

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s.13

Page 338 of 748 to/à Page 340 of 748

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s.12 ; s.13

Page 341 of 748

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s.13

Page 342 of 748 to/à Page 344 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13

Page 345 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.15 ; s.19

Dispatches from the sector - November 25, 2022 - Issue #93

From: Attorney General and Public Safety Communications AG:EX
<AGPSCommunications@gov.bc.ca>
To: All Staff – Attorney General and Public Safety and Solicitor General' <placeholder@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2022 11:48:23 AM PST
Attachments: image004.png, image022.png, image025.png, image035.png, image038.png, image040.png, image041.png, image042.png, image039.png, image037.png, image030.png, image032.png, image029.png, image005.png, image021.png, image043.png, image036.png, image031.png, image002.png, image033.gif, image027.png, image034.png, image024.png, image018.png, image014.png, image020.jpg, image016.png, image003.png, image013.png, image001.png

DISPATCHES

from the sector

November 25,

Nov 25-Dec 10



**6 Days of Activism
Against Gender-Based
Violence**



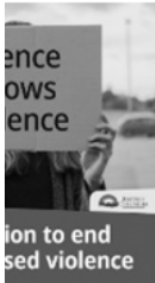
is – A legacy of justice

Freda Ens received the Premier’s Legacy Award and was inducted into the BC Public Service



career, Freda has worked tirelessly to fight for justice while providing victims and the family
ns - including missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls - with emotional support, court
and to **How BC Public Servants can be better allies** Check out our in-depth interview with
her Premier’s Legacy Award, her innovative approaches to victim support, and her insights
he justice system for everyone.

Ending gender-based violence in
British Columbia is everyone’s responsibility. [Read the latest Compass blog post](#)
about actions BC Public Service employees can take to help achieve a B.C. free from
gender-based violence.



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Nicole Bresser takes home Premier’s Award for Emerging Leader!

The [Premier’s Awards recipients were announced](#) on Nov 24 and huge
congratulations goes to our sector’s Nicole Bresser and the diverse range of
finalists and recipients from around the province for bringing home the BC Public
Service’s top honours.





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Recognition program includes e-cards -
Send one today and enter the naming contest!

We're excited to launch a new recognition program with lots of ways to share appreciation - including [e-cards](#) you can send today! The only problem?... We don't have a name. [Enter the naming contest](#) to help us come up with something catchy!



Don't miss your chance to join the Indigenous Leadership and Mentorship

The newly launched [Indigenous Leadership and Mentorship Program](#) is [accepting applications](#) for its January to August 2023 cohort.





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ements and reminders



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Executive updates

[Message from Shannon Salter about swearing in of new Premier](#)



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Our work in the news

- [Standalone ministry to tackle housing crisis, Premier Eby announces](#)
- [Premier Eby launches the Safer Communities Action Plan](#)
- [Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Province partner to create Oomiiqsu Mother Centre](#)

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intranet refresh survey – Enter to win two prizes valued at \$50

The Information Systems Branch (ISB) is refreshing their intranet site and would like your feedback! [Please take a moment to complete the ISB intranet survey.](#) As a thank you for your help, you'll be entered to win one of two prizes valued at \$50 each!

the sector is produced on the territory of the ləkʷəŋən People, which includes the Esquimalt and So
tions. Take some time to learn which territory you work/live on and how to acknowledge the land.

Contact us



DISPATCHES

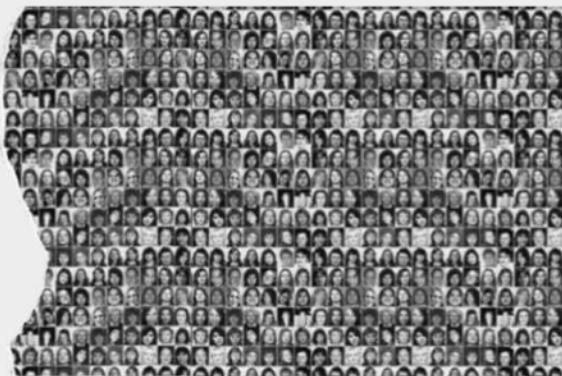
from the sector

November 25, 2022 | Issue #93

Nov 25-Dec 10



16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



Freda Ens – A legacy of justice

On November 24, Freda Ens received the Premier’s Legacy Award and was inducted into the BC Public Service Hall of Excellence.

Throughout her career, Freda has worked tirelessly to fight for justice while providing victims and the family members of victims - including missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls - with emotional support, court update information and orientation in preparation for the trial proceedings. [Check out our in-depth interview with Freda](#) to learn about her Premier’s Legacy Award, her innovative approaches to victim support, and her insights about improving the justice system for everyone.



B.C.’s Action Plan to end gender-based violence

Developed by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General and the Gender Equity Office, find out about the B.C. Government’s [multi-year gender-based violence action plan](#) to address gender-based violence.



How BC Public Servants can be better allies

Ending gender-based violence in British Columbia is everyone’s responsibility. [Read the latest Compass blog post](#) about actions BC Public Service employees can take to help achieve a B.C. free from gender-based violence.



In focus this issue

Anniversary of B.C.’s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Three years ago B.C. passed the Declaration Act. The Province’s [new Action Plan](#) involves every ministry and outlines 89 tangible steps that will advance this work in key areas over the next five years.



Nicole Bresser takes home Premier’s Award for Emerging Leader!

The [Premier’s Awards](#) recipients were announced on Nov 24 and huge congratulations goes to our sector’s Nicole Bresser and the diverse range of finalists and recipients from around the province for bringing home the BC Public Service’s top honours.



The Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Branch – an incredible year of initiatives

Did you know B.C. is the most multicultural province in the country? Find out about the initiatives this small but mighty team is doing to [advance anti-racism and promote multiculturalism in B.C.](#)



Recognition program includes e-cards - Send one today and enter the naming contest!

We’re excited to launch a new recognition program with lots of ways to share appreciation - including [e-cards](#) you can send today! The only problem?... We don’t have a name. [Enter the naming contest](#) to help us come up with something catchy!



Retroactive deadline Dec 2 - Employment Standards Act Paid Illness and Injury Leave (ESAPII)

Retroactive ESAPII for five instances of sick leave at full pay must be submitted to AskMyHR by December 2. Visit the [19th BCGEU Main Agreement FAQs](#) to learn more about ESAPII leave.



Don't miss your chance to join the Indigenous Leadership and Mentorship Program

The newly launched [Indigenous Leadership and Mentorship Program](#) is accepting applications for its January to August 2023 cohort.



Announcements and reminders

Job opportunities

- [Permanent opportunities](#)
- [Temporary opportunities](#)



Executive updates

[Message from Shannon Salter about swearing in of new Premier](#)



New in learning

- [Access to Justice Canada Week 2022: Event Recording – ‘We’ve Got the Data – Now What?’](#)
- [Seasonal Stress Workshop – Dec 8 at 9:30am](#)
- [Check out the Learning Hub courses like Mental Health in the Workplace and Occupational Safety for Supervisors](#)



Our work in the news

- [Standalone ministry to tackle housing crisis, Premier Eby announces](#)
- [Premier Eby launches the Safer Communities Action Plan](#)
- [Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Province partner to create Oomiiqsu Mother Centre](#)



Intranet refresh survey – Enter to win two prizes valued at \$50

The Information Systems Branch (ISB) is refreshing their intranet site and would like your feedback! Please take 5 minutes to complete the [ISB Intranet Survey](#). As a thank you for your help, you'll be entered to win one of two prizes valued at \$50 each!

[Visit Compass for the calendar of significant dates and events](#)

Dispatches from the sector is produced on the territory of the lək'wəŋən People, which includes the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations. Take some time to [learn which territory](#) you work/live on and how to acknowledge the land.

Contact us



RE: Briefing with Deputy Today - Police Modernization Sub

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>, s.15; s.19
Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2022 2:09:41 PM PST
Attachments: s.12; s.17 BN Ministry Fact Check - BC Edits_AB edits.docx
Hi David, we were happy to see it announced, as it'll be a very helpful tool for police in dealing with mental health and addictions calls for service. We have been working with police leaders on how to get it rolled out across the province.

If there is an opportunity to provide further notes to s.15; s.19 for her Briefing Note, I have made some tracked changes in the attachment.

Thanks,
Ardys

From: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 2:06 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>; s.15; s.19
Subject: RE: Briefing with Deputy Today -s.12; s.17

FYI, the Sunday's news release on the Safer Communities Action Plan announced HealthIM, which is s.12; s.17 s.12; s.17

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 1:41 PM
To: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>; s.15; s.19 Lewis,
Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Briefing with Deputy Today -s.12; s.17

Hi David, thanks for your voicemail and email. I am available for a 2:30 briefing with the DSG today.
Ardys

From: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 1:36 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; s.15; s.19
Cc: Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Briefing with Deputy Today -s.12; s.17
Importance: High

Ardys and s.15;
Doug has requested a briefing on the s.12; s.17 for today. The time mentioned was 2:30 today. Please see attached the sub, (For context, please also see attached the s.12 the suggested edits in the s.12 are Billy's.) Billy seems to be out of the office today. Are you available for the briefing with the Deputy?

Thanks!

From: Hay, Lorna AG:EX <Lorna.Hay@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 1:22 PM

To: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Rush - s.12; s.17

Hi David, DSG May want a briefing on this before approving. The time mentioned was 230pm today, but not confirmed.... Can you let the Program know as Tracy will be on her way to PO. Again, this isn't confirmed that he wants a briefing but should be prepared. sending as a heads up.

thx

From: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Hay, Lorna AG:EX <Lorna.Hay@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Rush - s.12; s.17

Lorna,
s.12

From: Hoadley, David AG:EX
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 9:00 AM
To: Hay, Lorna AG:EX <Lorna.Hay@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Rush -s.12; s.17

Hi Lorna,
Minister signature is required by Monday, Nov 28th. Yes, it is on a Dec 6ths.12

From: Hay, Lorna AG:EX <Lorna.Hay@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 8:57 AM
To: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Rush -s.12; s.17

Good morning David,

Can you please let me know when signature is needed for this s.12 Also, can you confirm that it was added to a s.12

From: Hoadley, David AG:EX <David.Hoadley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 4:27 PM
To: Hay, Lorna AG:EX <Lorna.Hay@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Rush - s.12; s.17
Importance: High

Lorna,
I just sent you another Rush s.12; s.17 In the rush, I skipped the Comments. Should have added "Minister signature required by Monday, Nov 28th. s.12 prepared by PSB, edited by CMSB. s.12 meeting Dec 6th. This is the s.12; s.17

Thanks!!

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

PSSG Media Wrap: Friday November 25, 2022

From: Donnelly, Chris R GCPE:EX <Chris.R.Donnelly@gov.bc.ca>
To: GCPE PSSG Media Wrap <PSSGMEWR@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 25, 2022 4:42:57 PM PST
FOI Requests:

PSS-2021-13282: Copy of any BC Liquor infractions for The Roxy Cabaret LTD, INC BC 1228906 (Date Range for Record Search: From 8/23/2011 To 7/20/2021)
Applicant Type: Law Firm

PSS-2021-13729: Regarding the Okanagan Correctional Centre's practice of using taxis to transport newly released inmates back to their community or court of origin: Copies of all agreements or contracts in place with taxi companies and all invoices from those same taxi companies. (Date Range for Record Search: From 4/1/2020 To 3/31/2021)
Applicant Type: Media

PSS-2021-13747: Copies of all records pertaining to the TEAM VICTORIA program which operates in the Capital Regional District (CRD). * (timeframe for Record: 2017 to 2021);
Copies of all records pertaining to any ICAT program that has operated in the Capital Regional District, or is operating in the Capital Regional District. * (timeframe for Records: 2012 to 2021)
Applicant Type: Individual

PSS-2021-15284: Memos, briefing notes, decision notes, final reports, and risk assessments addressed to the deputy minister's office or solicitor general's office that reference the Wet'suwet'en protest on the Morice River Forest Service Road or the enforcement of an injunction obtained by Coastal GasLink (Date Range for Record Search: From 11/12/2021 To 11/22/2021)
Applicant Type: Media

Above files viewable at
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/search?id=4BAD1D13C68243D1960FECBBF7B8B091&q=FOI>

Underway:

Tracey Prediger, Reporter, Castanet (Kelowna)

Deadline: Monday November 28, 2022 4:00PM

Request:

Thank you for the brief chat yesterday morning Mr. Coney. I would like to follow up on our conversation after this weekend's Cannabis Harvest Gathering.

The Syilx Cannabis Society has forward a resolution to the Federal Government in response to the Cannabis Act review. The resolution asks for autonomy when it comes to the sale, distribution and growing of cannabis on Territorial Lands. What is the impact of this resolution if passed on the Province's ability to regulate the cannabis industry? Here in Vernon, the area on Westside road is locally known as "the Green Mile" and is notorious for selling pot to underage kids. What is being done by the province to protect our youth?

Status: With MO

Anna Mehler Paperny, Reporter, Reuters

Deadline: Monday November 28, 2022 4:00PM

Request

Can you please send me a breakdown of bail decisions by race, offence and presence or absence of a mental illness, from 2015 through 2022 to date?

Can you please also send me the number of person-days in segregation by race and presence or absence of a mental illness, for the same years?

I'm not on deadline so please let me know what time frame is realistic for you.

Status: With GCPE

Completed:

Shannon Waters, Reporter, Capital Daily

Request:

I'm following up on the questions you received from my colleague Nina Grossman last week as the response from the ministry sent on Monday failed to address them.

Now that the new premier has been sworn in, I'm hoping you'll have the time to provide a relevant response. My deadline is 1PM tomorrow (Nov 24).

We are planning to run the story at the end of the week and will include any relevant information provided by the ministry by deadline.

Questions requiring response:

1. Paul Schacter was provincially appointed to the Victoria/Esquimalt Police Board. He resigned, citing an inability to fulfill the role due to a lack of information available to the board and a lack of authority to address policy issues. How does the ministry plan to address these concerns as it considers a replacement for Schacter?
2. When does the province anticipate naming Schacter's replacement?
3. After speaking to Schacter further, it seems some of his concerns are addressed in the recommendations made in the Police Act reform report released in the spring. What is the ministry's timeline for implementing the recommended reforms to the police act?

Response: Provided Background

- As with all board vacancies, the position will be filled through the standard appointment process <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/policing-in-bc/municipal-police-boards/becoming-board-member>
- Members of the public that are interested in applying to sit on a police board can do so through the Crown Agency and Board Resourcing Office website, when positions are posted online.
- This includes an extensive assessment and screening process to interview and appoint community members with the skills, competencies and attributes that align with the needs and responsibilities of the Board.
- Since the Report of the Special Committee of Reforming the Police Act was tabled in April, Ministry staff have carefully reviewed and analyzed the recommendations to determine where they align with existing initiatives and how they can help inform future work.
- The Ministry has also begun engagement with key partners on next steps, including meeting with Indigenous leadership organizations and local governments to hear how they want to be engaged.
- The Province plans to take a phased approach in responding to the recommendations to support the modernization of policing and public safety in B.C.
- Over the next two years, and working closely with First Nations and local governments, the Province will develop legislative policies to inform the new policing and oversight legislation.

Martin MacMahon, Reporter, CityNews 1130

Request:

I see the City of Surrey has the corporate report up online outlining the plan for keeping the RCMP/what that would require.

Any chance I could have a brief chat ideally over Zoom with Minister Farnworth – failing that a brief phone interview at 604-877-4400 would still work though Zoom is the preference.

Response: Declined

- MMF Unavailable

Amanda Follett Hosgood, Reporter, The Tyee

Request:

I'm wondering if you have additional information about Wednesday's announcement by the premier that the province will spend \$230 million over three years on policing in rural areas. I'm looking for details about which communities will be affected, whether there are plans for new detachments in remote communities, and which specialized units will benefit from the funding.

I don't know if your ministry is the one to ask about this or the premier's office, or how much of these details are being worked out by the province vs. RCMP. Any info is appreciated!

Response:

- The BC RCMP operates at arm's length from government. Please contact them for details on current vacancies, staffing levels and plans for hiring new officers. See below for a Statement from Minister Farnworth.

- Funding will be allocated to the RCMP beginning April 1, 2023. However, planning with the RCMP to finalize immediate priorities will begin right away.

Statement from Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General:

“As a component of our Safer Communities Action Plan, our government is making a historic investment to help the BC RCMP hire more officers.

“This stable and sustained funding will facilitate RCMP recruiting efforts to bring the BC RCMP up to its full authorized strength and ensure adequate and effective levels of policing across BC, providing police with the resources they need to address public safety concerns head on. Once fully staffed up, police will be able to provide better service in all parts of the province.

“The funding will also support the work of specialized teams that investigate and prevent complex violent and organized crimes. We are working with the BC RCMP to identify these priority and highest risk specialized units and communities.

“The Safer Communities Action Plan strengthens enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthens services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.”

Anna Mehler Paperny, Reporter, Reuters

Request:

Hope you’re doing well. Can you please send me the number and percentage of accused alleged to have committed crimes while on bail in the province, by year for the most recent five years

Response:

- This will require a Freedom of Information request, given the staff time and resources required to compile this info

Gordon Hoekstra, Reporter, Vancouver Sun

Request:

So, to be clear. Is the province saying it doesn’t know what the staffing levels of RCMP are in BC, and what are the vacancy levels?

I would note, the B.C. government has a clear role and oversight in terms of policing in the province, particularly in terms of safety.

And it would seem difficult to argue that asking for staffing numbers involves something to do with the RCMP operating at arm’s length from the BC government.

The government provided some numbers during Wednesday’s announcement.

I am asking for fulsome numbers.

Response: Reporter Dropped

Andrew MacLeod, Reporter, The Tyee

Request:

Thanks Chris. I had a quick conversation with minister Farnworth about it as well. The short answer was that government’s been working on it, made progress etc.. Any more specifics you can give me on what’s been done would be welcome. Context is a visit to the legislature yesterday by professors from UBC with the Campaign for the Abolition of Solitary Confinement.

Response: Provided Background

Over the last several years, BC Corrections has been working to change its segregation practices to better safeguard the well-being of individuals in its custody.

This work includes:

- Enhanced case management for high-risk, high-needs individuals in custody;
- Alternative placement options outside of segregation units in addition to increased time out of cell and meaningful human contact;
- Enhanced independent oversight and administrative fairness;
- Changes to the disciplinary process, including exploring restorative justice as an alternative measure;

- A review of the classification process related to where individuals are placed within correctional centres;
- Enhanced services provided by Indigenous Cultural Liaisons and Elders to better support Indigenous individuals; and
- Ongoing staff training to support trauma informed practices and increased cultural competency.

BC Corrections is committed to only using segregation/separate confinement as a last resort. Between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2022, there has been a 54% reduction in the use of segregation/separate confinement (178 individuals on January 1, 2020, to 82 individuals in January 2022)^[1].

The use of alternative placement options such as Supported Integration Placements (SIP) have helped to support this reduction. SIP provides the option to safely house individuals outside of segregation units with a modified living unit routine and an enhanced case plan to address any risks, needs or behaviours to support integration to the safest and least restrictive placement possible.

In addition to SIP, other alternatives such as Complex Needs Units, provide intensive supervision and healthcare supports in an environment better suited to individuals with unique and challenging complex needs.

In 2019, government allocated \$30M over four years in capital funding to renovate segregation spaces to add program and socialization space, as well as access to recreation space, to enhance meaningful human contact. These funds will also support continued renovations to create alternative placement options.

When an individual is placed in segregation, they receive an individualized Intensive Case Management Plan that focusses on identifying and addressing their unique needs through additional programs, interventions and supports.

Individuals in separate confinement/segregation are monitored by health and mental health support staff every 24-hours and have access to many of the same programs and services that others in custody receive, such as daily exercise, reading materials, mail, phone calls, video visits, healthcare and hygiene facilities.

As well, individuals may participate in programs, services, and activities outside of the segregation unit if, through case planning, supervising staff determine those programs are beneficial and their participation presents no safety risk. This further supports the ability to provide meaningful human contact and further increase time out of cell.

BC Corrections will continue this important work to reduce the use of segregation/separate confinement and support the complex individuals in their care.

ICBC Media:

Jason Tchir, Reporter, Globe and Mail

Request:

I'm working on a story looking at the insurance, plate and registration requirements for out-of-province buyers who are picking up a model in BC and taking it to another province. - for example, either buying new or used from a dealer or buying used in a private sale.

It's a question that comes up a lot, especially with EVs (BC tends to get them before other provinces).

Wondering specifically

1) Does an out-of-province buyer who'll be driving a BC-bought car home need:

- BC registration?
- BC insurance?
- BC plates?

Or can they, for example, use their existing out-of-province plates and insurance?

Response: Provided Background

- To drive a vehicle purchased in B.C. to another jurisdiction, a person from outside of B.C. may purchase a temporary operation permit (TOP), which provides insurance and licensing for 15 days or less, from any B.C.

Autoplan. Any sales tax due by the other jurisdiction should be paid to that jurisdiction as required (note: there is a B.C. PST exemption if the vehicle is purchased for use outside of B.C.).

- B.C. licence plates are not required but the paper TOP must be displayed as instructed.
- Existing out-of-province licence plates and insurance can't be used to drive the newly purchased vehicle from B.C. to another jurisdiction.

BCCS Media:

Media Requests:

- CHEK News/April Lawrence (alawrence@cheknews.ca) – Reporter following up regarding a death at the Howard Johnson building on Gorge Road. Confirmed that the BC Coroners Service was notified and is investigating a death matching the date and location you've provided. As our investigation remains open I'm unable to provide any additional information at this time. – COMPLETE
- Vista Radio/Brendan Pawliw (bpawliw@vistaradio.ca) - I am looking to see if you have any information about a medical event that occurred on Sunday (November 20th) at Superstore in PG. I was driving by and saw fire trucks and ambulances in the area and wanted to if you heard anything. Responded that I'm unaware of any Coroners Service-related involvement. – COMPLETE
- Global/Kristen Robinson (kristen.robinson@globalnews.ca); Global/Mike MacDonald (mike.macdonald@globalnews.ca); Surrey Now Leader/Tom Zilich (tom.zilich@surreynowleader.com); CBC/Cory Correia (cory.correia@cbc.ca); CTV/Spencer Harwood (spencer.harwood@bellmedia.ca) – Provided coroner's reports into the deaths of Parker Magnuson, Caleb Reimer and Ronin Sharma. Advised that these reports are not public documents and should not be posted or shared in their entirety. I also request that you exercise care and discretion in your dissemination of the findings. – COMPLETE

Previous Media Requests:

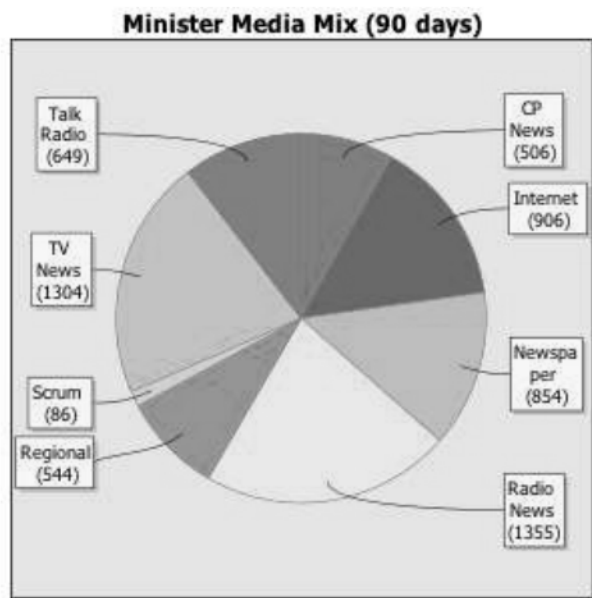
- Global/Simon Little (simon.little@globalnews.ca) – I'm wondering if you folks can give us any statistics on how many people died of suspected heat-related causes this summer in British Columbia. Request passed to BCCS Stats. – IN PROGRESS

From: David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca
Sent: November 26, 2022 9:03 AM
To: Today's News Online GCPE:EX
Subject: SG morning summary - Saturday, November 26, 2022

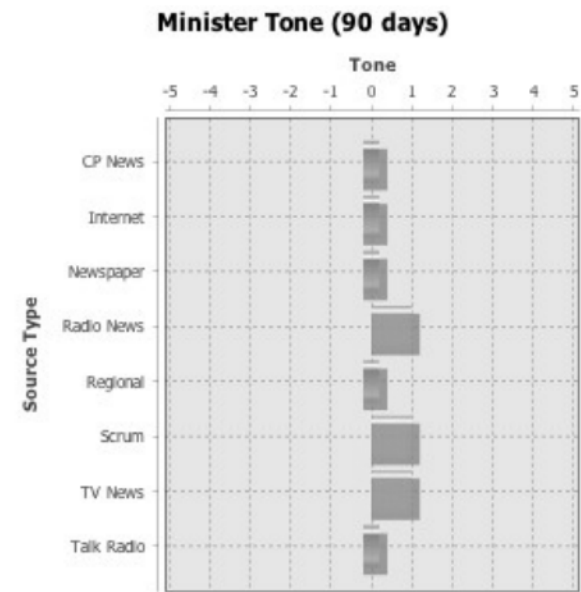
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Saturday, November 26, 2022

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B.C. cannabis sales hit all-time high in September

BiV
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Chilliwack daughter of homicide victim left with questions after her father's alleged killer dies
Chilliwack Progress
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Daughter of Vancouver homicide victim left with questions after her father's alleged killer dies

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Homicide investigation underway in Maple Ridge
Abbotsford News
Friday, November 25, 2022

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Long list of past offences for man arrested in standoff in Merritt
Kelowna Capital News
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jake Courtepatte¹

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Opinion: BC's updated bail policy for prolific offenders seems to be all bark, no bite

DailyHive

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Sarah Leamon-2

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A Canadian money laundering organization tied to real estate has been dismantled

DailyHive

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Amir Ali 

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Addison/Tao - VPD arrest tactics

CIVT

Friday, November 25, 2022, 17:33

By CTV News at Five-1

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Age-progression sketch of missing Emma Fillipoff released ahead of 10-year anniversary

Victoria News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Hollie Ferguson-1

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Annis - Surrey Police Service
CIVT
Friday, November 25, 2022, 18:05
By CTV News at Six

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B.C. forecasts surplus of \$5.7 billion, but 'shock rebound' may not last: minister
CP News
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Dirk Meissner

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B.C.'s strong economy, inflation concerns part of fiscal picture, minister says

Abbotsford News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Staff 

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BC Update - Autism Support - UVic Space - RCMP body - NAIG BC - VCR Fiji
CP News
Saturday, November 26, 2022



(Autism-Support)

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BC Update - Fiscal Update - BC Ferry Second Quarter - Float Plane Crash - Employment Standards Protest
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Friday, November 25, 2022



(BC-Fiscal-Update)

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BC Update - Fiscal Update - Wu Sentencing - IIO Pedestrian Collision - Missing Woman - Stabbing Arrest
CP News
Friday, November 25, 2022



(BC-Fiscal-Update)

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Bains/Hunter - Eby announcements

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By CBC Early Editions

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Bikes thefts from TransLink parkades up nearly 50% this year
Ming Pao News
Friday, November 25, 2022

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Chong/Wightman - Vancouver police budget

CFTV

Thursday, November 24, 2022, 19:05

By CFTV Fairchild Evening News0

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Church doors set on fire: police
Times Colonist (Victoria)
Saturday, November 26, 2022
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City of Vancouver staff propose 5% property tax hike in 2023
DailyHive
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Kenneth Chan



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City's "Unmet Needs Committee" struck to help residents displaced by apartment fire
Cranbrook Townsman
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Barry Coulter

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Consider factors behind criminal activity

Summerland Review

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Staff-1

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Crews find wreckage of fatal B.C. plane crash, TSB team deployed to site

Abbotsford News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Staff-1

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Crews find wreckage of fatal North Island plane crash, TSB team deployed to site
Vancouver Island Free Daily
Friday, November 25, 2022

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Crews find wreckage of fatal plane crash
Vancouver Sun
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Criticism of mayor unjustified
Vancouver Sun
Saturday, November 26, 2022
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By John Pavlovich

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Crown declines to charge Grand Forks cop who shot a suspected impaired driver in 2018 at an altercation
Castanet
Friday, November 25, 2022
By Castanet

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Ethnic voting patterns not what you'd think

Vancouver Sun

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Fry - VPD budget
CKNW
Friday, November 25, 2022, 07:01
By CKNW 

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Fry - VPD budget request
CHAN
Friday, November 25, 2022, 12:13
By Global BC Noon News

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Govender - School Liaison Officer program
CKWX
Friday, November 25, 2022, 16:02
By CityNews1130

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International students are now able to work full time. What that means for BC's economy

CBC Online

Saturday, November 26, 2022

By CBC Online



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Investigation underway after body is located in burnt vehicle in BC

DailyHive

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Amir Ali 1

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Kaur/Choi/Huberman - international student workers
CBU
Saturday, November 26, 2022, 07:32
By CBU0

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Kelowna Hells Angels prospect dies in car crash
Kelowna Capital News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jen Zielinski¹

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Kelowna Hells Angels prospect dies in car crash
Vernon Morning Star
Friday, November 25, 2022

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Lipinski - Surrey stabbing/SPS update

CKYE

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By CKYE Harjinder Thind 

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Locke - Surrey policing
CBU
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Lore/len - crisis line services

Media Availability
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By SFU Vancouver Campus 

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Man embraced by officer after standoff was distraught by Const. Yang's death

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Man thought to be victim now considered aggressor in Nanaimo stabbing

Times Colonist (Victoria)

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Mission's Candlelight Parade returns

Mission City Record

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Murder trial continues on Nov. 28

Kamloops This Week

Saturday, November 26, 2022

By Breanne Massey¹

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Nanaimo's stabbing 'victim' turns out to be the aggressor in altercation on Thursday

Victoria Buzz

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Curtis Blandy⁰

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Nelson Police Department asks city council for 6.8% increase for 2023

Nelson Star

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Bill Metcalfe⁻¹

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One dead, one injured after police shoot two men in Markham, Ont.; SIU investigating
CP News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jessica Smith 0

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Ottawa to give \$3M to B.C. crisis hotlines
Vancouver Sun
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Pair of women jump into lake to escape cougar in Coldstream
Vernon Morning Star
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Brendan Shykora-1

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Pair of women jump into lake to escape cougar in Okanagan
Abbotsford News
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Brendan Shykora-1

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Panel - Eby first week
CBCV
Friday, November 25, 2022, 07:45
By CBC On the Island

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Person who was stabbed in Nanaimo yesterday is the one facing charges

Alberni Valley News

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Person who was stabbed in Nanaimo yesterday is the one facing charges

Nanaimo News Bulletin

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Pierotti - Coquitlam homicide gang-related

CKNW

Friday, November 25, 2022, 06:30

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Police watchdog clears B.C. RCMP officer in shooting death of Indigenous man

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Police watchdog clears Tofino RCMP officer in shooting death of Julian Jones

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Progressive-left outlets sound alarm over 'fossil fuel' lobby boom and Canada's 'carbon bombs'

iPolitics

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RCMP continue search for missing Ontario man, ask for public's help, again
Castanet
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Castanet

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RCMP searching for person of interest in suspicious death from town east of Creston
Ferne Free Press
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Joshua Fischlin

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RCMP searching for person of interest in suspicious death from town east of Creston

Nelson Star

Friday, November 25, 2022

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Resilient District of Kent showing signs of recovery a year after unprecedented landslides and floods

Agassiz-Harrison Observer
Saturday, November 26, 2022

By Adam Louis 

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By CKNW Jill Bennett3

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Saanich Police cleared of any wrongdoing in man's death by crossbow

Victoria Buzz

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By Curtis Blandy 

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Saving lives from B.C.'s overdose crisis, one bathroom at a time
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South Delta crime beat, week of Nov 21
North Delta Reporter
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Staff-1

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Spence - VPD arrest video

CBU

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By CBU-1

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Stolen Coquitlam truck in B.C. highway chase not linked to recent crime spree

Castanet

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By Castanet0

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Suicide of Vancouver police officer will be subject of coroner's inquest

CP News

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Surrey's KTRIS fined \$250 by Elections BC

Surrey Now-Leader

Friday, November 25, 2022

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Surrey's KTRIS fined \$250 by Elections BC
Surrey Now-Leader
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Suspicious church fire now being investigated as arson: Saanich Police

Victoria Buzz

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By Curtis Blandy0

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Tao/Affleck - street cleaning contract

CKNW

Friday, November 25, 2022, 17:01

By CKNW 

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Things are changing for the Canadian autism community

BiV

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Wendy Lisogar-Cocchia 

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Traffic flowing again after vehicle crashes into barrier on Hwy 1 near Chilliwack

Chilliwack Progress

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jenna Hauck¹

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VANCOUVER OFFICER'S SUICIDE TO BE SUBJECT OF CORONER'S INQUEST

Globe and Mail


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VPD arrest video
CKWX
Friday, November 25, 2022, 11:06
By CKWX 

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VPD arrest video
CKWX
Friday, November 25, 2022, 06:05
By CityNews1130 

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VPD defends violent arrest of "armed and dangerous" offender in DTES

DailyHive

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Megan Devlin-1

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VPD investigated after officer pulled on Indigenous activist's braid: OPCC
DailyHive
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Amir Ali¹

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Vancouver police budget increases more than 10% to \$383 million, to be approved by city council

Ming Pao News

Friday, November 25, 2022

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Vancouver police defend suspect injured by police dog during arrest

Sing Tao Daily

Friday, November 25, 2022



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Video shows Vancouver police shoot man with beanbag gun

CBC Online

Friday, November 25, 2022

By CBC Online-3

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Visintin/Ballance - Breakout Festival riot suspects/Chan death inquest
CFTV
Thursday, November 24, 2022, 19:07
By CFTV Fairchild Evening News0

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Watchdog absolves police after Island man fatally shoots himself with a crossbow
Nanaimo News Bulletin
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Austin Westphal0

Weber - BC budget surplus

BNN

Friday, November 25, 2022, 13:14

By BNN2

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Yukon RCMP shoot and kill man in Whitehorse near airport

CP News

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Zussman - fiscal update

CKNW

Friday, November 25, 2022, 10:06

By CKNW Mike Smyth¹

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B.C. used car buyers furious over provincial tax changes that have them paying more

CBC Online

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By CBC Online-3

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Baldrey - economic update

Global News: BC 1

Friday, November 25, 2022, 10:00

By Global News: BC 13

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Robinson - BC budget surplus
CIVT
Friday, November 25, 2022, 17:02
By CTV News at Five

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Robinson - BC fiscal update

CJVB

Friday, November 25, 2022, 12:01

By CJVB

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Robinson - second quarterly report

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By Legislature Press Theatre

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Robinson/Baldrey - budget surplus

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By Global BC Noon News⁴

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The most dangerous intersections in the Central Okanagan
Kelowna Capital News
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jake Courtepatte¹

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The most dangerous intersections in the Central Okanagan
Vernon Morning Star
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jake Courtepatte¹

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Dutton/Norris - truck driver shortage

CIVI

Friday, November 25, 2022, 17:27

By CTV News Live @ 5-1

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Impaired driving with infant

CKNW

Friday, November 25, 2022, 06:31

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Norris/Holdworth - Parksville highway spill

CHEK

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Pitt Meadows residents urged to speak out over removal of traffic calming on Park Road
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Darlene Mercer

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Truck hauling hydrogen peroxide rolls near Parksville, driver OK

Times Colonist (Victoria)

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By Jeff Bell 

Victims/Crime Prevention

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Conflict of Interest Alleged in BC Housing Decisions

The Tyee

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jen St Denis¹

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Crisis centre and the RCMP launch third party reporting in the North Island
North Island Gazette
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Staff

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Keremeos crime steady over first 9 months of 2022
Keremeos Review

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Brennan Phillips0

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Port Alberni to get safe homes for women and children escaping violence
Victoria Buzz
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Curtis Blandy1

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How Idle No More transformed Canada
CBC Online
Saturday, November 26, 2022

By CBC Online0



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Johnson leaves behind legacy at Valley's I-Hos Gallery and beyond

Comox Valley Record

Saturday, November 26, 2022

By Erin Haluschak

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Fatal Surrey crash

Global News: BC 1

Friday, November 25, 2022, 15:30

By Global News: BC 10

The BC Coroners Service has released its report into a 2021 crash in Surrey that killed three teenage hockey players. The report found that both speed and alcohol were contributing factors to the crash. [pssg]

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Robert Macaskill takes the stand in Chilliwack aggravated assault trial

Chilliwack Progress

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Eric Welsh1

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Street drugs unsafe for smoking: officials
Vancouver Sun
Saturday, November 26, 2022
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Yarschenko - harm reduction delivery
CHAN
Friday, November 25, 2022, 17:13
By Global BC Early News

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Consumer Protection

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Longtime volunteer named 108 Mile Citizen of the Year
100 Mile House Free Press
Saturday, November 26, 2022

By Patrick Davies¹

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School briefs: Central Okanagan trustees get committee assignments

Kelowna Capital News

Friday, November 25, 2022

By Barry Gerding¹

TMP Protests

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Olsen - resource extraction protests

CHNL

Thursday, November 24, 2022, 16:42

By CHNL Brett Mineer⁻³

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Greater Victoria spirits are high with the return of whisky fest

Victoria News

Saturday, November 26, 2022

By Staff¹

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Notice of Public Information Meeting
Chilliwack Progress
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jacqueline Morgan0

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Public Information Meeting - Liquor License Application LLA00101

By Staff

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Canada health act transformed medicare, but 38 years on, it's failing us
National Post
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By Mark Hill 

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Unexplained Wealth Orders and the Amphetamine King
BiV

Friday, November 25, 2022


By Christine Duhaime¹

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What's happening around the North Okanagan
Vernon Morning Star
Friday, November 25, 2022

By Jennifer Smith 

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Why is it so hard to get a family doctor in Canada?
Globe and Mail

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By Karen Howlett, Kelly Grant, Tu Thanh Ha-1

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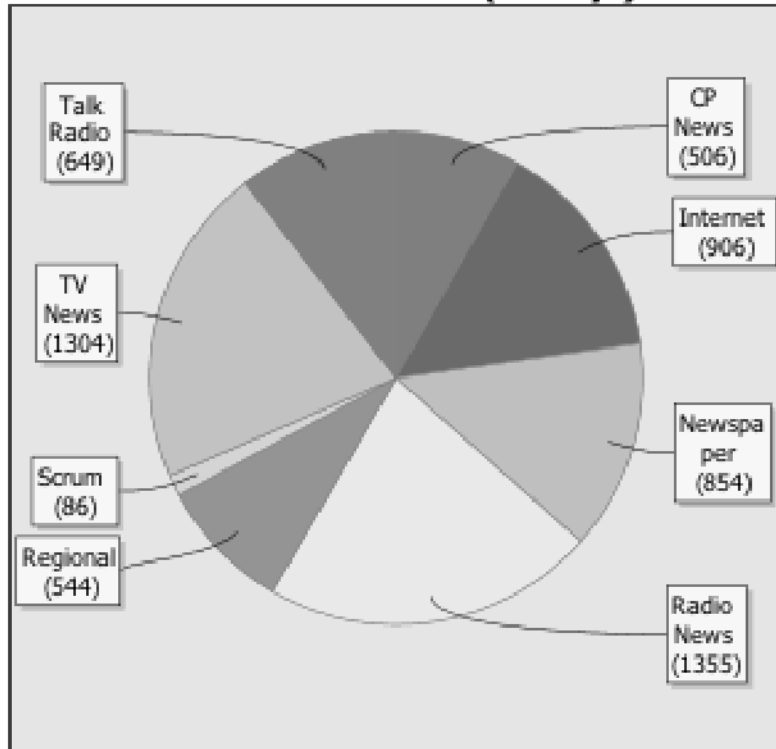
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Minister Media Mix (90 days)



DSG BN: Safer Communities Action Plan

From: Lin, Sally PSSG:EX
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 28, 2022 9:30:01 AM PST
Hi Ardys,

Thanks very much for these materials. They were helpful in putting together the first draft of the Safer Communities Action Plan BN for the Deputy.

Please let me know if you have further guidance and edits.

Thanks,
Sally

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 25, 2022 8:26 AM
To: Lin, Sally PSSG:EX <Sally.Lin@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Work Plan

Hi Sally, as discussed, attached are materials that set out the ^{s.13} We are proposing to follow a similar plan in terms of coordinating cross-gov't activities that are responsive to the Safer Communities Action Plan and relevant work under PPSM (and leading those activities that are within PSB's responsibilities). We don't need the level of detail in these materials, as I'm hoping for a two-pager only at this point.

Thanks,
Ardys

From: Kalman, Evelyn PSSG:EX <Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Work Plan

Hi Ardys,

Please find attached our Work Plan for context around how we formed our working groups pertaining to public order and critical incidents. I have also attached some supporting materials that we've shared with our cross-government partners at our Nov. 21st kick-off of our Committee on Public Order and Critical Incidents, and I will share some further information with you after our internal PSSG Working Group on Public Order and Critical Incidents meeting on Nov. 30th, as we will have even further information regarding this topic at that stage.

I am happy to discuss the work structure further through a meeting as well. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

With many thanks,

Evelyn Kalman | Senior Program Manager

Pronouns: she/her

Public Order and Critical Incidents

Serious and Organized Crime Division | Policing and Security Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

✉ Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca | 📞 (236) 478-1622

Grateful to work, live, and play on the traditional territories of the Kwantlen, Matsqui, Katzie, and Semiahmoo First Nations.

From: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, November 24, 2022 11:52 AM

To: Kalman, Evelyn PSSG:EX <Evelyn.Kalman@gov.bc.ca>; Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Work Plan

Hi Evelyn,

Can you send Ardys a copy of our work plan setting out the structure of the WGs etc?

Thanks

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s.16

PPSM TB Sub - Minister SNs

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Castillo, Billy R PSSG:EX <Billy.Castillo@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Windsor, Devon PSSG:EX <Devon.Windsor@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 28, 2022 10:57:55 AM PST
Attachments: s.12; s.17 - Minister SNs.docx

Hi Billy, attached are the draft speaking notes we've done for the Minister to use at s.12
quick work on them. Please let us know if changes are needed.

Thanks to Devon for

Thanks,
Ardys

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s.12 ; s.13 ; s.17

RE: Updates for townhall

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 28, 2022 1:25:25 PM PST

Hi Hope – I've reworked the info, so feel free to use from what's below:

- Core Policing^{s.12; s.17} (joint PPSM/Finance/Contracts team) → has been approved, Wayne will definitely discuss this
 - Team conducted and provided analysis to support the case for additional funding to 'rightsize' the Provincial Police Service
 - Information was provided by multiple team members.
 - Eric Huang, supported by Melissa Yau and Kevin Plummer, had the opportunity to lead on a lot of this work
- PPSM Unit:
 - s.12
 - Will be taking a phased approach to reform, including:
 - s.12; s.16
 - Broad engagement on the legislative policies that will inform development of the new legislation,
 - Starting the analysis to come up with options for creation of a new police oversight agency and any transition to a new provincial police service, so gov't can make informed decisions in a couple of years.
 - Coordination across gov't on enhanced first response to mental health and addictions calls for service.
- s.12; s.17
- "Repeat Offender" report:
 - Some staff from PPSM Unit helped put together quick s.12 on initiatives that could address the report, which were considered by new Premier and his transition team, and were ultimately included as part of 'Safer Communities Action Plan'.
- Legislation Unit:
 - Continue drafting of regulatory scheme to support and bring into force the Firearm Violence Prevention Act.
 - Worked with David and others to develop the legislative package needed for creation of the new Transit Police Designated Law Enforcement Unit.
- s.12; s.16; s.17

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Updates for townhall

Hey Ardys,

Just checking in to see the highlights from your team in the last few months, or anything you want to highlight within the last two years while Wayne has been here, as he requested on exec this morning.

Last time we had these, wondering if there are any further updates or things you want to mention:

- PPSM/Core Policing^{s.12} (joint PPSM/Finance/Contracts team) → has been approved, Wayne will definitely discuss this

s.12; s.16; s.17

- Team conducted and provided analysis to support the case for additional funding to 'rightsize' the Provincial Police Service
 - Information was provided by multiple team members.
 - Eric Huang, supported by Melissa Yau and Kevin Plummer, had the opportunity to lead on a lot of this work
 - Continued development of the regulatory scheme to support and bring into force the Firearm Violence Prevention Act
- s.12; s.17

Looking to get a list compiled by noon tomorrow – doesn't need to be too detailed, thanks!

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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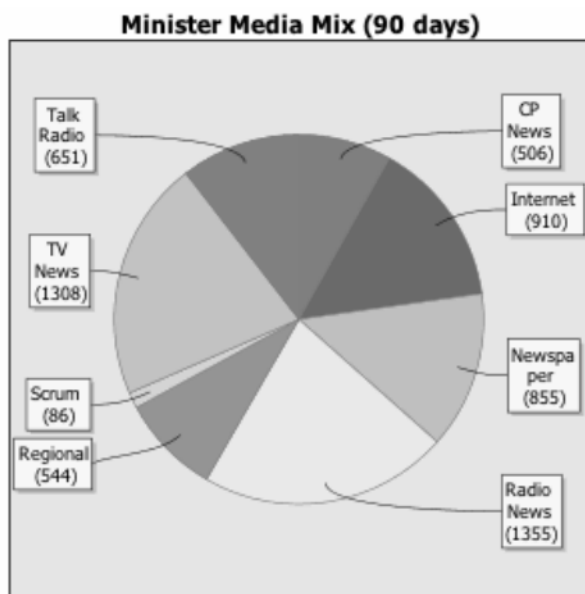
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To: Today's News Online GCPE:EX <TNO@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 29, 2022 6:44:31 AM PST
Attachments: analysis.gif, analysis.gif

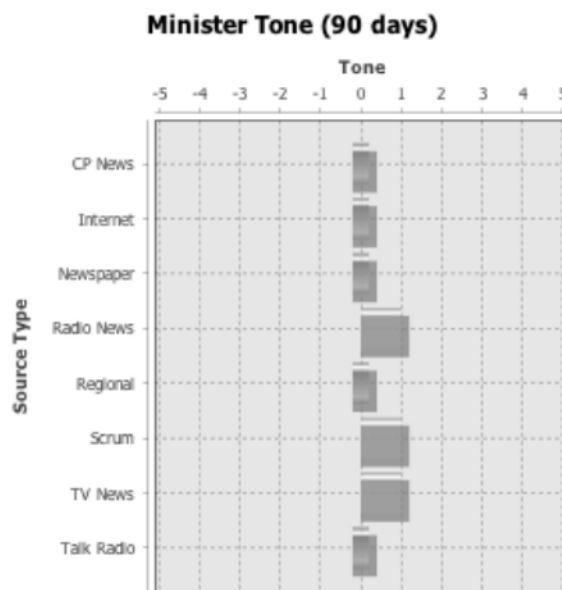
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Watchdog to probe whether police had role in man's fall from Uptown parking lot - Staff - Times Colonist (Victoria) - 29-Nov-2022 ■

West Kelowna RCMP investigate pedestrian fatality - The Daily Courier (Kelowna) - 29-Nov-2022 ■

Who was the Prime Minister who testified at the Emergencies Act inquiry? - Robyn Urback - Globe and Mail - 29-Nov-2022 ■

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BC surplus expected to soar \$5 billion - Ming Pao News - 26-Nov-2022 ■

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Keremeos' worst intersection is the Hilltop - Brennan Phillips - Keremeos Review - 28-Nov-2022 ■

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[In Sooke, red dress sculpture focuses on missing, murdered Indigenous women - Kevin Laird - Sooke News Mirror - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

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[Freedom Mobile under Videotron would be effective competitor, tribunal hears - CP News - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

[Insider alleges Ontario gambling VIP programs aim to stop high-spenders from quitting - even when they want to - Christine Dobby - Toronto Star - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

[Regulator eyes ban on selling charges - Barbara Shecter - National Post - 29-Nov-2022](#) ■

[Sihota/Olsen - Q2 report/autism funding - CBC Early Edition - CBU - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

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[Emergencies Act use questionable in recent review - Dan Albas - The Daily Courier \(Kelowna\) - 29-Nov-2022](#) ■

[Senate set to vote on bill protecting same sex marriages - CP News - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

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[A Tiny Christmas Carol challenges expectations at the Chemainus Theatre - Don Bodger - Nanaimo News Bulletin - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

[No Salvation Army Kettles in BC Liquor stores this holiday season - Staff - Parksville Qualicum Beach News - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

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[\\$500,000 winning lottery ticket sold in Comox Valley - Terry Farrell - Comox Valley Record - 28-Nov-2022](#) ■

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Proposed Tilbury cannabis store headed to public hearing

North Delta Reporter

Monday, November 28, 2022

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RCMP begin annual counter-attack on drinking and driving

Castanet

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

By Castanet 

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'Charity Checkstop' event returning for third straight year

Campbell River Mirror

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff 1

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'Cyber incident' cancels online classes, knocks out email, phones at Durham board

CP News

Monday, November 28, 2022

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'Stonewalled': Trans Mountain hides dealings with private security and spy firms

CBC Online

Monday, November 28, 2022

By CBC Online

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911 service to expand choice of first responders

The Daily Courier (Kelowna)

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By Ron Seymour 3

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Abbotsford PD violence

CHAN

Monday, November 28, 2022, 17:10

By Global BC Early News 0

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Abbotsford cop filmed punching man twice during arrest after The Offspring concert

Abbotsford News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Vikki Hopes 

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Abbotsford cop filmed punching man twice during arrest after The Offspring concert

Nelson Star

Monday, November 28, 2022

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AbbyPD arrest investigation

CKWX

Monday, November 28, 2022, 16:03

By CityNews1130 0

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AbbyPD officer punches man in face outside Offspring concert

DailyHive

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Megan Devlin 

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Age-progression sketch of missing Emma Fillipoff released ahead of 10-year anniversary

Nanaimo News Bulletin

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Hollie Ferguson

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Alberta man charged with first-degree murder in 2018 Chilliwack cold case

Chilliwack Progress

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Paul Henderson

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Arctic air to hit Metro Vancouver, snow to arrive on Tuesday

Sing Tao Daily

Monday, November 28, 2022

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Aslam - Surrey policing

CKWX

Monday, November 28, 2022, 06:03

By CityNews1130 0

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BC Update - SFU med school - Desjarlais inquest - school liaison officers

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BC Update - School Officers

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BC Update - School Officers - Teen Inquest BC - Canucks Doerrie Complaint - WEA Bluster BC

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Bodies recovered from last week's float-plane crash north of Port Hardy
Times Colonist (Victoria)

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Bond - SFU medical school

CFAX

Monday, November 28, 2022, 16:42

By CFAx Ryan Price

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Callers - CKNW Buzz Line

CKNW

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Chaudhry - SLO program

CKNW

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China's Xi faces threat from public anger over 'zero COVID'

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By Dake Kang

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Chinese student protests spread to Vancouver

BiV

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By Bob Mackin 

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Coroner's inquest hears wrenching testimony from mother of Traevon Chalifoux-Desjarlais

CBC Online

Monday, November 28, 2022

By CBC Online

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Coroner's inquest starts into death of Cree teen who died in Abbotsford group home

Abbotsford News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff -3

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Coroner's inquest starts into death of Cree teen who died in B.C. group home

Nelson Star

Monday, November 28, 2022

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Desjarlais coroner inquest

CBU

Monday, November 28, 2022, 16:30

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

CBU

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

CKNW

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

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Director of Inuit counselling program in Nunavut charged with sexual assault

Globe and Mail

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Kelly Grant 0


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Dozens gather for vigil honouring 18-year-old stabbed outside B.C. high school

CBC Online

Monday, November 28, 2022

By CBC Online 

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Farrer - officer ambush assault probation

CKPG

Monday, November 28, 2022, 12:02

By CKPG at Noon -2

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First-degree murder charge laid in 2018 B.C. cold case

Nelson Star

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Paul Henderson 1

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Furstenau - RCMP project protection
CBYG
Monday, November 28, 2022, 07:37
By CBC Daybreak North 0

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Gastown police incident

CHAN

Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 06:03

By Global BC Morning News 

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Govender - SLO programs

CBUT

Monday, November 28, 2022, 18:08

By CBC News Vancouver 

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Govender - SLO programs

CBU

Monday, November 28, 2022, 16:17

By CBC On the Coast 0

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Govender - School Liaison Officers

CKNW

Monday, November 28, 2022, 13:01

By CKNW 

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Govender - School Liaison Officers
CKNW

Monday, November 28, 2022, 13:31

By CKNW 0

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Govender/Rowe - school officer liaison program
CBU

Monday, November 28, 2022, 06:36

By CBU -2

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Head of paramedics union optimistic three ambulances recently cut from the Kelowna fleet will soon be back in service

Castanet

Tuesday, November 29, 2022


By Castanet 1

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Head-on collision on Nanaimo Parkway sends one to hospital

Nanaimo News Bulletin
Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff 

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Heed - Surrey police transition

CHAN

Monday, November 28, 2022, 18:08

By Global BC News Hour 0

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Human Rights Commissioner pans cops in B.C. schools

The Daily Courier (Kelowna)

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Human rights commissioner calls for an end to police officer program in B.C. schools

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Human rights commissioner calls for an end to police officer program in B.C. schools

CP News

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IIO Uptown investigation

CHEK

Monday, November 28, 2022, 17:03

By CHEK News at Five 0

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IIO investigates APD

CIVT

Monday, November 28, 2022, 18:04

By CTV News at Six 0

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Loud bang heard across Abbotsford confirmed as explosives disposal in US

Abbotsford News

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By Vikki Hopes 0

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McBain - involuntary treatment

CBU

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By CBC On the Coast -2

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Mission RCMP recruits 'Constable Scarecrow' to combat speeding

Mission City Record

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Dillon White 


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More check stops coming to Kelowna roads as holiday season approaches

Kelowna Capital News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Jake Courtepatte 

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Nelson police budget

CBTK

Monday, November 28, 2022, 07:13

By CBC Daybreak South 0

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No charges in Grand Forks RCMP non-fatal shooting in 2018 incident

Grand Forks Gazette

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Barry Coulter 0

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
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Officer punched 'drunk' man: witness

Vancouver Sun

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Cheryl Chan  -1

chchan@postmedia.com

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One person hurt in head-on crash on the highway in Nanaimo
Alberni Valley News
Monday, November 28, 2022

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Ottawa's new police chief has work to do to earn community's trust: advocates
CP News
Monday, November 28, 2022

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Pardeep Kooner looking at the long term

Surrey Now-Leader

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Tom Zytaruk 

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Plane crash update

CKNW

Monday, November 28, 2022, 13:00

By CKNW 

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Police budget request could add to proposed property tax increase

Vancouver Sun

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Joanne Lee-Young 

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Police suspect drunk driving linked to crash that left 3 passengers injured

The Province

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By David Carrigg 

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
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Police watchdog investigating after Saanich shoplifting suspect falls several storeys at Uptown

Saanich News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff 

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Retailers Alliance - contraband tobacco advertisement

CKNW

Monday, November 28, 2022, 10:27

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Robinson - second quarterly report

CFAX

Monday, November 28, 2022, 07:21

By CFXA Mornings with Al Ferraby 3

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Saving municipal forests a good investment
Cowichan Valley Citizen

Monday, November 28, 2022

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School Liaison Officers

CBU

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School Liaison Officers

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School Liaison Officers
CKNW
Monday, November 28, 2022, 15:32
By CKNW 0

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School Liaison Officers
CKNW
Monday, November 28, 2022, 06:32
By CKNW 0

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Senior Air Force officers charged over 'inappropriate' fighter pilot nickname

CP News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Lee Berthiaume 

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Showtime for Smith's Sovereignty Act

National Post

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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Surrey City Council to consider reviving municipal-owned real estate development firm

DailyHive

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By Kenneth Chan 

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Surrey city council expected to discuss report on stopping transition to municipal police force today

Ming Pao News

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Surrey policing

CHAN

Tuesday, November 29, 2022, 06:05

By Global BC Morning News

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Surrey policing report

CBU

Monday, November 28, 2022, 08:30

By CBU 

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Surrey policing report

CKNW

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Surrey policing report

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Monday, November 28, 2022, 10:03

By CityNews1130 

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Suspected drunk driving crash leaves Vancouver passengers with broken bones, teeth

Abbotsford News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff -1

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The battle over school liaison officers continues in Penticton

Lake Country Calendar

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Monique Tamminga 0

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The forgotten stories of BC's missing and murdered

The Tyee

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

By Jen St. Denis 

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Toronto to prioritize TDSB schools requiring programming, supports after violence

CP News

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By Maan Alhmidi 

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Two Air Force officers charged over 'inappropriate' pilot call sign

Globe and Mail

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By Staff 0

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Vernon council seeks more info on scathing homelessness letter

Castanet

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

By Castanet

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Watchdog to probe whether police had role in man's fall from Uptown parking lot

Times Colonist (Victoria)

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Staff -1

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West Kelowna RCMP investigate pedestrian fatality

The Daily Courier (Kelowna)

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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Who was the Prime Minister who testified at the Emergencies Act inquiry?

Globe and Mail

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Robyn Urback 

ICBC

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BC surplus expected to soar \$5 billion

Ming Pao News

Saturday, November 26, 2022

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ICBC

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Cowley/Dunn - winter driving conditions
CHEK
Monday, November 28, 2022, 17:08
By CHEK News at Five 0

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Hugill - used vehicle tax petition
CBYK
Monday, November 28, 2022, 08:10
By CBC Daybreak Kamloops -3

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Keremeos' worst intersection is the Hilltop

Keremeos Review

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Brennan Phillips 

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Robinson - provincial surplus disbursements
CFAX
Monday, November 28, 2022, 08:00
By CFAX -3

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Sutherland - no-fault insurance
CHNL
Friday, November 25, 2022, 15:42
By CHNL Brett Mineer -3

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_____Road Safety BC

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Conditions on Highway 1 put roadside workers, drivers at risk near Golden
Golden Star
Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff -2

Road Safety BC

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Lee - foreign home buyers ban

CHNL

Monday, November 28, 2022, 07:42

By CHNL Jeff Andreas 0

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Road Safety BC

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Massive Christmas display lights up the night in Cloverdale

Cloverdale Reporter

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Malin Jordan 1

Road Safety BC

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Troubles and aberrations

iPolitics

Monday, November 28, 2022

Victims/Crime Prevention

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Deadline looms for Shoebox Project
Campbell River Mirror

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff

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Golden recognizes 16 days of 'Activism Against Gender Based Violence'

Golden Star

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Sarah Peacock: Golden Women's Resource Centre

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Lore - drag queen protest

CKNW

Monday, November 28, 2022, 11:21

By CKNW Mike Smyth 1

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Victims/Crime Prevention

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Lots to consider in Kamloops on Giving Tuesday

Kamloops This Week

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

By Kamloops This Week Staff 1

Nearly two dozen new RCMP officers to call Kelowna home
Kelowna Capital News
Monday, November 28, 2022

By Gary Barnes 

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Nearly two dozen new RCMP officers to call Kelowna home
Vernon Morning Star
Monday, November 28, 2022

By Gary Barnes 

Victims/Crime Prevention

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Woman brain injury program

CFOX

Monday, November 28, 2022, 12:02

By CFOX 0

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In Sooke, red dress sculpture focuses on missing, murdered Indigenous women

Sooke News Mirror

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Kevin Laird 1

Coroners Service

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Campiou - Desjarlais inquest

CHAN

Monday, November 28, 2022, 18:06

By Global BC News Hour 0

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Coroners Service

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Desjarlais coroner inquest

CKWX

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

CHEK

Monday, November 28, 2022, 17:05

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest

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Desjarlais coroner's inquest
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Monday, November 28, 2022, 06:34
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Desjarlais coroner's inquest
CHAN
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Desjarlais-Chalifoux inquest
CIVT
Monday, November 28, 2022, 18:08
By CTV News at Six -1

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Mother of Cree teen who died in B.C. group home testifies at coroner's inquest
CP News
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Mother of Cree teen who died in B.C. group home testifies at coroner's inquest

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B.C. Women's Hospital allegedly accepted photocopy of altered cheque as only ID for fake nurse

CBC Online

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

By CBC Online 

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Overdose

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Retailer blasted for assisted-suicide ad

National Post

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Tristin Hopper

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Consumer Protection

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Freedom Mobile under Videotron would be effective competitor, tribunal hears

CP News

Monday, November 28, 2022



Consumer Protection

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Insider alleges Ontario gambling VIP programs aim to stop high-spenders from quitting - even when they want to

Toronto Star

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Christine Dobby 

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Consumer Protection


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Regulator eyes ban on selling charges

National Post

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By Barbara Shecter 

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Sihota/Olsen - Q2 report/autism funding

CBU

Monday, November 28, 2022, 07:42

By CBC Early Edition 0

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Justice Transformation

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Emergencies Act use questionable in recent review

The Daily Courier (Kelowna)

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Dan Albas 

Justice Transformation

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Senate set to vote on bill protecting same sex marriages

CP News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Mary Clare Jalonick And Lisa Mascaro

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A Tiny Christmas Carol challenges expectations at the Chemainus Theatre

Nanaimo News Bulletin

Monday, November 28, 2022

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No Salvation Army Kettles in BC Liquor stores this holiday season

Parksville Qualicum Beach News

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Staff -1

Gaming

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\$500,000 winning lottery ticket sold in Comox Valley

Comox Valley Record

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Terry Farrell 1

Gaming

[top](#) [previous](#) [next](#)

\$500,000 winning lottery ticket sold on Vancouver Island

Vancouver Island Free Daily

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Terry Farrell 1

Copyright

Gaming

[top](#) [previous](#) [next](#)

Employee sentenced for stealing gambling chips from Burnaby casino

Burnaby Now

Monday, November 28, 2022

By Cornelia Naylor 0

Copyright

Gaming

[top](#) [previous](#)

Top NHL prospect on display at Prospera Place

The Daily Courier (Kelowna)

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

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By Staff 0

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RE: Repeat Offenders - 635796

From: PSSG Policing and Security Branch PSSG:EX
To: s.22
Sent: November 30, 2022 11:18:17 AM PST
s.22

Dear s.22

Thank you for your emails of October 5, 2022, and October 25, 2022, addressed to the Honorable Murray Rankin, Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing, regarding repeat offenders. Your letter has been referred to the Policing and Security Branch, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, for response.

In your correspondence, you describe concerns involving repeat offenders and refer to the report conducted by retired deputy police chief Doug LePard and Dr. Amanda Butler. You express concern with respect to the danger individuals may cause to the community of Ladysmith, and you urge the government to take action.

Under the *Police Act* (BC), the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General must ensure that an adequate and effective level of policing and law enforcement is maintained throughout British Columbia and is responsible for setting the goals, objectives and priorities for policing and law enforcement in BC. Day-to-day deployment of police services falls to the RCMP, municipal police department, or relevant designated policing and/or law enforcement unit. Individual investigations and enforcement decisions occur at arm's length from government, and we cannot interfere with or direct police on such matters. As such, the Minister is statutorily limited in relation to directing police agency investigations and enforcement decisions. An appropriate course of action available to you is to contact the Officer-in-Charge of Ladysmith RCMP, who may be reached as follows:

Sgt. Tim Desaulniers
Ladysmith RCMP
320 6th Ave
Ladysmith BC V9G 1A2
Telephone: 250-245-2215

As noted in your emails, government, in conjunction with the British Columbia's Urban Mayors' Caucus (BCUMC), received a report to help shape actions to break the cycle of repeat offending and address random violent attacks in urban centres across the province. This expert investigation provided 28 recommendations directed at addressing the root causes of these problems. The Province is making changes to help keep British Columbians safe through the new Safer Communities Action Plan (the "Action Plan"). The Action Plan includes immediate steps that will strengthen enforcement to keep those who commit repeat violent offences off our streets, and strengthen services to build safe, healthy communities for everyone.

The Action Plan lays out concrete steps at the provincial level to make communities safer under two tracks: enforcement and intervention services. Each initiative is structured to improve coordination between law enforcement, community service organizations, the justice system, health providers, and people who are recovering from addiction and mental health challenges in a collaborative, coordinated approach to address the issues people are seeing in their communities. The new measures respond to a rise in repeat violent offending linked to unintended impacts of federal law changes and subsequent Supreme Court decisions, and increased mental health and addiction challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toxic drug crisis. For more information on the new measures, please visit:

<https://strongerbc.gov.bc.ca/safer-communities>

As you may be aware, bail and sentencing provisions under the *Criminal Code* are the responsibility of the federal Department of Justice and may only be amended by the federal government. If you are of the view that the *Criminal Code* provisions related to these matters require changes, then you may wish to share your views with the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada who is responsible for proposing such changes to Parliament. Minister Lametti may be reached as follows:

The Honourable David Lametti, PC, QC, MP
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Email: MCU@Justice.gc.ca

Your emails express concern about the release of offenders back into the community, also known as parole. You may find it useful to know that the Attorney General does not have jurisdiction over parole. The federal Parole Board of Canada is responsible for assessing whether an offender should be granted parole and may be reached as follows:

Parole Board of Canada
Communications Division
410 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa ON K1A 0R1
Telephone: 613-956-7474
Email: info@pbc-clcc.gc.ca

We understand that communities across British Columbia are facing similar difficult circumstances such as those you describe, and we will continue to work hard with local communities to address these challenges in a proactive and effective manner.

Thank you again for your email. We trust this information is of assistance.

Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General

RE: Safer Communities Action Plan Wording

From: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
To: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>, Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>, Nielsen, John PSSG:EX <John.Nielsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 30, 2022 1:06:35 PM PST
Attachments: Safer Communities Action Plan Wording_KSD.docx
Hi folks,

I asked Kath to have a look as she and her team have developed responses to a few media requests and inquiries lately where it has been important that we are clear on what the investment is intended for. Please see tracks and comments in the attached.

Good that we are being proactive here and developing some key messages.

Thanks all.

Jamie

From: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 10:55 AM
To: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>; Nielsen, John PSSG:EX <John.Nielsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Safer Communities Action Plan Wording

Thanks Ardys and for looping Jamie in. I have no additional changes to this set of bullets.

Appreciate John taking the initiative to develop some ready messaging to reply to incoming correspondence. To your question Ardys, I agree that we should have messaging around the Nov 20/23 announcements as well. They could be mixed and matched as appropriate. As per normal process, any correspondence using this messaging will be sent up through appropriate divisions.

From: Baker, Ardys PSSG:EX <Ardys.Baker@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 10:48 AM
To: Nielsen, John PSSG:EX <John.Nielsen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Sims, Brian A PSSG:EX <Brian.Sims@gov.bc.ca>; Lipp, Jamie M PSSG:EX <Jamie.Lipp@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Safer Communities Action Plan Wording

Hi John, I've made a few minor edits and am looping Jamie in, given the info on the increase to core RCMP funding. I wonder whether the items included in the Nov 20th announcement should also be included, e.g., funding for new 'repeat offender response teams', PACTs, Car program, HealthIM, Crown training and enhanced bail briefs, etc. (the RCMP funding announcement was made on the 23rd) ?

Thanks,
Ardys

Page 704 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Safer Communities Action Plan - Expression of Interest for Director position - BC Corrections

From: Kiewiet, Nargis PSSG:EX <Nargis.Kiewiet@gov.bc.ca>
To: PSSG PSD Victoria Police Services Division <PSDVPSD@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, PSSG SPD <PSSGSPD@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, PSSG PSD Vancouver Police Services Division <PSDVANCPD@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>, CSU All Staff <CSUAST@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 30, 2022 1:40:55 PM PST
Attachments: Director - Repeat Offending Initiative - Job Profile.pdf, Expression of Interest - Director Band 4 - Repeat Offending Initiative.pdf

Good afternoon

Please see attached EOI director position that will be responsible for leading the development, implementation, and operations of the BC Corrections component of the program to address repeat offending.

Thank you

Nargis

TITLE: DIRECTOR (Title TBD)

CLASSIFICATION: Band 4

MINISTRY: PUBLIC SAFETY & SOLICITOR GENERAL

WORK UNIT: COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

BRANCH: BC CORRECTIONS

SUPERVISOR TITLE: PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

SUPERVISOR POSITION #: 056603

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BC Corrections has a mandate to safely hold individuals 18 years or older in provincial custody who are serving sentences of less than two years and/or are awaiting trial as well as to supervise individuals on court-ordered community supervision. BC Corrections achieves its mandate by working with individuals to address their needs with the goal of reducing reoffending in the community. Through coordinated case management activities, clients are connected with service providers and criminal justice partners to coordinate services.

JOB OVERVIEW

A key member of the senior management team of the Community Corrections Division, the Director is responsible for providing leadership in linking client risk assessment, case management and the development, implementation, and ongoing operation and quality assurance of a program to address repeat offending. The Director is responsible for all aspects of the development, implementation, and operation of the program, including providing leadership to the assigned team.

The Director provides oversight and advice on program planning, research, design and development, and ensures that goals of the program are aligned with branch, ministry and government's strategic priorities.

The Director is responsible for initiating and maintaining strong working relationships with branch staff and external stakeholders for the development and oversight of integrated correctional programs and initiatives.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

Responsible for the design, development and operation of a program to address repeat offending:

- Develop, monitor and adjust, as required, overall plans for program research, planning, and development and initial implementation, ensuring the program is consistent and complementary to other branch and ministry initiatives and meets BC Corrections strategic direction;
- Lead ongoing support, quality assurance, review and program realignment to ensure design and delivery maximizes impact and are aligned with branch strategic direction;
- Supervise and provide direction to the program manager to ensure training and staff supports align with branch and ministry strategic priorities;
- Establish performance plan and evaluates performance of the program manager;

- Provide oversight on the delivery of training of staff as provided by the program manager, and BC Corrections staff in the facilitation of the program;
- Monitor the delivery and effectiveness of the program, identifying and participating in program evaluations, initiatives and integrate evaluation findings into practice;
- Provide advice and recommendations to senior management to assist in shaping and articulating long-range policies for the ongoing development and delivery of the program and other related BC Corrections programs;
- Conduct jurisdictional reviews to identify best practices and adaptability of programs to the needs of each individual community;
- Develop and negotiate MOUs between government jurisdictions and external agencies for the operation of the program;
- Work closely with senior leadership and staff in all BC Corrections divisions, contractors, and stakeholders in other ministries or branches and outside of government to ensure the program is delivered effectively and is successful in achieving the desired outcomes;
- Build alliances and strategic partnerships in order to develop and maintain effective working relationships with clients, local government, special interest groups, federal and provincial governments, and related ministries and academic institutions;
- Lead and contribute to the development of reports, briefing materials, Treasury Board and Cabinet Submissions, budget issue papers, and briefing materials for the preparation of the annual estimates briefing book and other briefing materials required due to a change in minister or deputy minister, or for meetings of senior officials;
- Develop and deliver presentations to various audiences, to communicate emerging issues, their implications, and recommended strategic response initiatives;
- Represent the assistant deputy minister or provincial director in various inter-ministry committees and federal/provincial committees and projects focusing on policy, program and planning issues.
- Provide leadership in developing joint programs and on cross-Ministry management committees formed to oversee the joint programs;
- Lead and contribute to the development of training curriculum, reports and presentations to staff and partners.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Degree in an appropriate discipline (criminology, public administration, social sciences, business administration, or law); AND a minimum of 3 years management experience; OR an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.
- Minimum of 3 years (demonstrated) experience in the following areas:
 - Managing complex projects, strategic corporate, business, and performance planning and goal setting;
 - Senior management experience in and advanced knowledge of policy and legislation development and interpretation, criminal justice systems, correctional programs and assessments; and
 - Experience providing leadership and management of multi-disciplinary staff and experience providing support to the development and maintenance of a high performing professional team.
- Travel is a requirement of this position. A class 5 driver's license is required.

Successful completion of security screening requirement of the BC Public Service, which may include a criminal records check, and/or Criminal Records Review Act (CRRA) check, and/or enhanced security screening checks as required by the ministry.

Preference may be given to the following:

- Experience in a corrections-related role
- Supervisory experience in a union environment
- Experience establishing and reconciling program and project objectives, priorities and budgets.

BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES:

- **Promoting Empowerment** involves knowledge and skills in using processes such as delegation and information sharing to enhance subordinate ownership and empowerment over their task and performance
- **Vision and Goal Setting** involves knowledge and skills in establishing official and operative goals for the organization/units and to establish a system of measuring effectiveness of goal attainment
- **Creating and Managing Change** involves knowledge and skills to manage in the organization through setting direction and urgency, building a coalition of support, communicating widely, handling resistance to change and facilitating implementation of successful change actions
- **Solving Problems Creatively** involves knowledge and skills in fostering creative problem solving in the organization through critical reflection, problem analysis, risk assessment and rewarding innovation
- **Building Strategic Alliances** involves knowledge and skill to engage in internal and external stakeholder analysis and to negotiate agreements and alliances based on a full understanding of power and politics
- **Executive Presence** involves knowledge and skills in influencing others and having an observable impact at the executive level, through personal credibility, leadership, confidence and an understanding of other people's perspectives and interests

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Director - Band 4

BC Corrections, Community Corrections Division

Temporary appointment – seven months, may be extended

Open to Employees of the Justice and Public Safety Sector

Applications must be received by 4:00pm on Wednesday December 7, 2022

Description of the role:

A key member of the senior management team of the Community Corrections Division, the Director is responsible for providing leadership in linking client risk assessment, case management and the development, implementation, and ongoing operation and quality assurance of a program to address repeat offending. The Director is responsible for supporting BC Corrections to reinforce the application of effective policies and programs and is responsible for all aspects of the development, implementation, and operation of the program.

The Director provides oversight and advice on program planning, research, design and development undertaken by a team and ensures that goals of the program are aligned with branch and ministry strategic priorities.

The Director is responsible for initiating and maintaining strong working relationships with branch staff, ministry partners and external stakeholders on the development and oversight of integrated correctional programs and initiatives.

The successful applicant should possess:

- A degree in an appropriate discipline (criminology, public administration, social sciences, business administration, or law); AND a minimum of 3 years management experience; OR an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered.
- A minimum of 3 years (demonstrated) experience in the following areas:
 - Managing complex projects, strategic corporate, business, and performance planning and goal setting;
 - Senior management experience in and advanced knowledge of policy and legislation development and interpretation, criminal justice systems, correctional programs and assessments; and
 - Experience providing leadership and management of multi-disciplinary staff and experience providing support to the development and maintenance of a high performing professional team.
- Travel is a requirement of this position. A class 5 driver's license is required.

Successful completion of security screening requirement of the BC Public Service, which may include a criminal records check, and/or Criminal Records Review Act (CRRRA) check, and/or enhanced security screening checks as required by the ministry.

Preference may be given to the following:

- Experience in a corrections-related role
- Supervisory experience in a union environment
- Experience establishing and reconciling program and project objectives, priorities, and budgets.

Position location: Victoria, the Lower Mainland, or another BC community that allows for reasonable travel to Victoria, as required.

Applicants who meet the education and experience requirements will be assessed based on a suitability interview which may be preceded by a written assignment.

The Indigenous Applicant Advisory Service is available to applicants that self-identify as Indigenous (First Nations, status or non-status, Métis, or Inuit) seeking work or already employed in the BC Public Service. For advice and guidance on applying and/or preparing for an interview for this opportunity, we invite applicants to connect with the Indigenous Applicant Advisor Amanda by email: IndigenousApplicants@gov.bc.ca or by phone: 778-698-1336.

To be considered for this opportunity, please review the attached job profile and provide your:

- **Cover letter** – A cover letter highlighting how you meet the job requirements and reason for your interest in this opportunity – maximum two pages in length. The content and/or format of your cover letter may be evaluated as part of the assessment process.
- **Résumé** - Ensure your résumé includes your educational accomplishments, employment history including start and end dates (month and year) of your employment, and any relevant information that relates to the position.

Please submit your cover letter and resume to:

Contact: Jewel Vilaisane
Email: Jewel.Vilaisane@gov.bc.ca
Phone: 236-478-2813
Close date: 4:00pm on Wednesday December 7, 2022

For review: internal PSB KMQA

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 11:42:52 AM PST
Attachments: INTERNAL KMQA - RCMP funding 1Dec22 clean.docx, INTERNAL KMQA - RCMP funding 1Dec22 track.docx

Hi both –

I've pulled from the KMQA that was PSB ADM and executive approved for last weeks announcement. The initial draft was done by GCPE so I've removed some of the more political, corporate pieces for our internal purposes for the Branch to use as mentioned on BMC.

I've attached in both track and clean for your awareness so you can see where I made the changes and if you feel something needed to be put back in. Please also feel free to remove some of the questions if you don't think they're relevant.

I'd like to get something to BMC today and I'll need to quickly run this through Jamie again and then up the chain. I'm so sorry for the last minute on this.

Please let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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RE: For review: internal PSB KMQA

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 1:01:20 PM PST
Attachments: INTERNAL KMQA - RCMP funding 1Dec22 clean_KP.docx
Hi Hope,

From BMC this morning, I'd thought we were just providing a couple of bullets for internal use, rather than the full Q&A. But I think this works because the main message is at the top.

I've revised based on a discussion Kath and I had this morning. I added a couple bullets to the key messages to try and help branch staff to manage expectations should they receive any inquiries (ie. not actually an increase in new positions, and that decisions are per established processes and the PPSA).

I tried to clarify the presentation of the cost-share dollar figures in the fourth bullet, but please let revert these changes if I misinterpreted the original phrasing.

I didn't change the title of the document, but I did change some references to "core" within the body of the KMs and QAs. Our team is just trying to be careful to distinguish between this being for the RCMP's base (core) budget, and not strictly for "core policing".

Katherine and Jamie are both in a steering committee meeting all afternoon, but my edits reflect conversation with Kath this morning (in case you need to share a draft in advance of Kath reviewing fully tomorrow morning).

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 11:43 AM
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>; St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: For review: internal PSB KMQA
Importance: High

Hi both –

I've pulled from the KMQA that was PSB ADM and executive approved for last weeks announcement. The initial draft was done by GCPE so I've removed some of the more political, corporate pieces for our internal purposes for the Branch to use as mentioned on BMC.

I've attached in both track and clean for your awareness so you can see where I made the changes and if you feel something needed to be put back in. Please also feel free to remove some of the questions if you don't think they're relevant.

I'd like to get something to BMC today and I'll need to quickly run this through Jamie again and then up the chain. I'm so sorry for the last minute on this.

Please let me know if you have any questions, thanks!

Hope Latham
Manager, Strategic Communications
Policing and Security Branch
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
778 698-5698

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Possible problems with UBCM Resolution Response EB44, NR36 and NR37 related to Repeat Offending

From: Meseyton, Robert PSSG:EX <Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca>
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 1:24:31 PM PST
Attachments: EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB questions.docx, NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB questions.docx, NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders PSB questions.docx
Kevin:

We are seeing some possible problems with the Responses to EB44, NR36 and NR37 (attached).

The instructions imbedded in the template for each of these Resolution Responses are below. EB44 in particular reads like a briefing note but all three are too long, as well they provide far too much background information and explanations for government's actions. They need to clearly state government's position.

While the last three paragraphs address what the DSG asked to be added regarding the recent funding announcements, could I ask that you try to be briefer and clearly state government's position?

Would it be possible to have these three sent to me with the remaining EB42 New Provincial Mandate and Funding for 911 which is coming next week?

I am happy to discuss this if you like.

Thank you.

s.13; s.16

Robert Meseyton, BCom (Hon) [he, him, his]
Corporate Coordinator
Corporate Policy and Planning Office
Cannabis, Consumer Protection and Corporate Policy Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
11th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2C5
Phone: 778-974-3809
Email: Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca

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

INTERNAL KMQA - RCMP funding 1Dec22 clean_KP

From: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
To: Latham, Hope PSSG:EX <Hope.Latham@gov.bc.ca>, Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
<Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 1:42:13 PM PST
Attachments: INTERNAL KMQA - RCMP funding 1Dec22 clean_KP.docx
Couple of tweaks

Possible problems with UBCM Resolution Response EB44, NR36 and NR37 related to Repeat Offending and EB43 Rural Policing

From: Meseyton, Robert PSSG:EX <Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca>
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 2:00:49 PM PST
Attachments: NR36 Charging Prolific Offenders PSB questions.docx, NR37 Justice Reform Repeat Offenders PSB questions.docx, EB43 Rural Policing PSB questions.docx, EB44 Crime Reduction Strategies PSB questions.docx
Kevin:

As discussed, I have resending this email to now include EB43 so that whatever is decided for the last three paragraphs in the first three is consistent with EB43. The wording does not need to be exactly the same but the message should be consistent.

Thank you.

Robert Meseyton, BCom (Hon) [he, him, his]
Corporate Coordinator
Corporate Policy and Planning Office
Cannabis, Consumer Protection and Corporate Policy Branch

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
11th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2C5
Phone: 778-974-3809
Email: Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca

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

From: Meseyton, Robert PSSG:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:25 PM
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Possible problems with UBCM Resolution Response EB44, NR36 and NR37 related to Repeat Offending

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Page 739 of 748 to/à Page 746 of 748

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

RE: Possible problems with UBCM Resolution Response EB44, NR36 and NR37 related to Repeat Offending

From: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX
To: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: December 1, 2022 2:12:18 PM PST
Hi Kath,

Can you please let Jamie know that we'll need to provide these back to the relevant EDs for revision, and ask how he wants to handle that (eg. just have me share back or if he wants an ED-to-ED discussion first)?

CPPO is anticipating that DSG will reject these three (done by Ardys and Ardys/Brian). As you and I had previously discussed, other divisions didn't really follow the directions embedded within the template.

Given CPPO is wanting a more clear articulation of the Province's position, I can at least shorten the announcement-related bit to simply say that the government is demonstrating its position/commitment on this through the funding of Premier Eby's Safer Communities Action Plan – without much more detail.

Note – I've also asked Robert to send back the Rural Policing one. He was generally happy with it, so he could live with the announcement-related content. But I asked for it back so we can ensure consistency across all of these responses.

Thanks,
Kevin

From: Meseyton, Robert PSSG:EX <Robert.Meseyton@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, December 1, 2022 1:25 PM
To: Plummer, Kevin PSSG:EX <Kevin.Plummer@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX <Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca>
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Corporate Coordinator
Corporate Policy and Planning Office
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