

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20



Justice and Public Safety



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In accordance with Government's commitment to the requirements of a Category One Entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, we, the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General, submit the Annual Report for the Department of Justice and Public Safety for April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020. In August 2020, the responsibilities of the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General were assigned to two separate Ministers. As the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General, we share joint responsibilities for preparation of the Annual Report.

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, 2020 proved to be a year unlike any other. In March 2020, the spread of COVID-19 necessitated a transition from normal operations to a focus on maintaining critical services. Government implemented the **Temporary Variation of Statutory Deadlines Act** to authorize the temporary variation of deadlines in which an activity needed to be completed. As a result, the tabling date of Annual Reports in the House of Assembly was varied from September 30 to December 31, 2020. The Department of Justice and Public Safety worked diligently to fulfill commitments made in the 2017-20 Strategic Plan, the mandate letters, and policy commitments. This included:

- implementation of a Drug Treatment Court;
- introduction of an Adult Diversion program, based on the principles of restorative justice;
- establishment of a Serious Incident Response Team;
- introduction of the **Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Act**;
- A partnership with University of Saskatchewan and Indigenous organizations for two seats in the College of Law for Indigenous students from Newfoundland and Labrador; and,
- development of an electronic monitoring program and a bail supervision program.

These are just some of the many commitments carried out by officials and staff of the Department of Justice and Public Safety to ensure the safety of our province. We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that our province continues to be a safe place to live, and that our justice system is responsive to the people it serves. We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our responsibilities and signatures demonstrating our accountability for the results contained in this report.

Sincerely,

Hon. Steve Crocker
Minister of Justice and Public Safety

Sincerely,

Hon. Andrew Parsons, QC
Attorney General

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Departmental Overview

Mandate

The Department of Justice and Public Safety provides legal services to Government and is primarily responsible for the protection of residents of the Province in respect of their persons and property. This objective is met through the provision of legal advice to Government departments, police protection, the prosecution of accused persons, the administration of the courts, including family justice services, operation of the Province's correctional systems, services to victims of crime, protection of human rights and legal aid services. The Department is also responsible for the provision of legislative drafting services by the Office of the Legislative Counsel; the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Office, the Support Enforcement Program, Fines Administration, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Serious Incident Response Team, and the administration of public inquiries. In August 2020, the Department of Justice and Public Safety was assigned responsibility for Fire and Emergency Services, which includes the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

The Department's branches and divisions include:

- Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Office;
- Civil Division;
- Corrections and Community Services Division – Adult Custody, Adult Probation, Youth Secure Custody, and Victims Services;
- Emergency Services and Fire Services;
- Finance and General Operations;
- Fines Administration Division;
- Human Rights Commission;
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME);
- Office of the High Sheriff;
- Office of the Legislative Counsel;
- Office of the Public Trustee (OPT);
- Policy and Strategic Planning;
- Provincial and Supreme Courts;
- Public Prosecutions Division;
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP);
- Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC);
- Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT); and,
- Support Enforcement Division.

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Staff and Budget

In 2019-2020, the Department employed 1,356 individuals, including the RNC. The overall gender breakdown for staffing in the Department is approximately 52 per cent women (707) and 48 per cent men (649).

In addition, pursuant to the Provincial Policing Services Agreement and Community Tripartite Agreements, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) employed approximately 436 officers and 112 civilian members and support staff to provide frontline policing services in approximately 44 locations throughout the province.

The Department employs lawyers, police officers, social workers, psychologists, counselors, correctional officers, youth care counselors, deputy sheriffs, information management specialists, administrators, financial managers, nurses, educators and administrative support staff. Efforts continue towards employment equity within sectors of justice and public safety that have historically been comprised of disproportionate numbers of men to women or people who identify as non-binary.

Branch	Staff Complement			2019-20 Budget (\$)
	Total	Women	Men	
Courts and Corporate Services	264	223	41	41,349,600
Legal Services	55	37	18	28,961,200
Public Safety and Enforcement	971	401	570	163,667,800
Public Prosecutions	66	46	20	7,047,100
Total	1,356	707	649	241,025,700

- The overall gender breakdown for staffing in the Department is 52 per cent female and 48 per cent male.
- The staffing count for Legal Services does not include the Legal Aid Commission, but does include its budget.
- The staffing count for Public Safety and Enforcement does not include the RCMP, but does include its budget.

More information can be found on the Department of Justice and Public Safety's webpage at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/jps/>.

Highlights

New Correctional Facility

Her Majesty's Penitentiary's (HMP) centre block dates back to 1859. HMP is expensive to maintain, is not designed to support contemporary corrections approaches and has outlived its usefulness. In April 2019, Government announced that a new correctional facility will be built to replace HMP. Budget 2019 allocated \$600,000 to planning the new facility. In February 2019, contracts were awarded for technical, financial, procurement and fairness advisors. The Department worked in conjunction with the then Department of Transportation and Works to develop a Request for Qualifications to establish an industry short list of businesses interested in designing, building, financing and maintaining the facility, which was issued in July 2020. It is anticipated that construction will commence in 2022 and be completed by 2024. A modern penitentiary will support improvements to policies and programs focused on rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates. The new design is expected to be larger, allowing for more programming, recreation, and enhanced mental health services. A new penitentiary will also make better use of technology to increase safety and will be built utilizing best practices in facility design.

Serious Incident Response Team Director Appointed

Michael King was appointed as the Director for the Newfoundland and Labrador SIRT, effective September 30, 2019. The establishment of a provincial SIRT was a recommendation from the Inquiry into the Death of Donald Dunphy. SIRT investigates all matters that involve death, serious injury, sexual offences and domestic violence, as well as other matters of significant public interest that involve the actions of a police officer. Since his appointment, Mr. King has been working with the Department to support the necessary steps to fully establish SIRT, including the development of policies and memorandums of understanding, recruiting investigators and assisting the Department in developing Regulations. SIRT provides an increased level of transparency and accountability and helps to ensure people have trust in the system.

Public Safety Radio System

In October 2019, Government announced an initiative to modernize the public safety radio system in the province. Radio systems are an essential tool for police, paramedics and fire departments to perform their jobs effectively to protect the people of the province. Many first responders are using separate radio communications systems that are nearing the end of their service life. A new province-wide radio system will improve the way emergency responders — such as the RNC, RCMP, fire fighters, paramedics and other public service providers — communicate with each other during emergencies. It will also connect responders more easily between jurisdictions and lead to better response times. In October 2019, a Request for Qualifications was issued, seeking qualifications from businesses interested in designing, building, operating, and maintaining a single, province-wide public safety radio system. A Request for Proposals will be issued to qualified proponents in 2020-

21. Government plans to use the infrastructure to improve services for mobility and broadband customers in rural areas, where feasible.

Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Legislation

In December 2019, the **Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Act** (“Act”) received Royal Assent in the House of Assembly. The enabling legislation is designed to provide police agencies authority to release relevant information about a person’s abusive history to a partner who is determined to be at risk. The Act authorizes the development of a protocol and regulations specifying the process for the release of relevant information and the determination of who is considered as ‘at risk’. This legislation, more commonly known as “Clare’s Law” was first introduced in the United Kingdom, and named in honour of Clare Wood, a woman murdered by her partner who was unaware of his violent past. Clare’s father fought for an initiative that would release relevant information about prior criminal history to intimate partners who are at risk. The legislation is intended to be a tool that individuals at risk can use to protect themselves against gender-based violence by making informed decisions about their relationships. The Department is actively working with the RNC, the RCMP, community groups and other stakeholders to develop the protocol and regulations.

Electronic Monitoring Pilot Project

In January 2020, the Department launched the Electronic Monitoring Pilot Project. During the pilot, electronic monitoring is being used as a post-conviction tool to enhance monitoring of offenders serving community and custody based sentences. Electronic monitoring is available to inmates who are eligible for Temporary Absence release from a correctional institution; offenders serving Conditional Sentence Orders, including those with intimate-partner violence convictions in the greater St. John’s area and throughout Labrador; and offenders on probation orders. There are up to 50 devices available for the pilot. Priority is given to offenders convicted of domestic related crimes to provide enhanced supervision. The ankle bracelet technology has advanced such that using GPS exclusion zones can be programmed for conditions like no contact and curfew. Electronic monitoring enhances the supervision of offenders, making it easier to prove breaches of sentencing conditions, and allowing offenders to continue to work and support themselves and their families.

Partnerships

College of Law program for Indigenous students

In 2019-20, the Department continued its partnership with the University of Saskatchewan and Indigenous organizations to reserve two seats in the College of Law program for Indigenous students from Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department has allocated two articling positions for the students upon graduation. This program is intended to encourage Indigenous students from this province to pursue a career in law, a profession where

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Indigenous peoples have typically been underrepresented. This trilateral partnership will improve access to legal education, create employment opportunities for Indigenous students, improve Indigenous representation in the legal system and ensure better access and representation to justice.

Public Legal Information Association of NL (PLIAN)

Through collaborative efforts of Adult Corrections and PLIAN, a new initiative to provide legal information and services to the inmate population was launched in 2019-20.

Throughout the year and across all adult correctional institutions, inmates received legal information and attended various presentations that were focused on information respecting self-litigation and court processes. The partnership also saw a legal clinic provided to the inmate population at Her Majesty's Penitentiary. This partnership supports ongoing efforts to increase access to justice. Feedback from participants was very positive and future opportunities for further collaboration are being explored.

Memorial University Social Work Students

In 2019-20, four students in Memorial University's Social Work Program had the opportunity to complete a field placement within Adult Probation, Adult Custody and Youth Secure Custody. This partnership provides an opportunity for students to develop skills related to working with individuals, families, communities and groups in the justice system and to integrate the theories and practices learned in and out of the classroom. The Department is exploring opportunities to continue this partnership in the future.

Eye Glasses to Haiti

The Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre Eye Glass Program began in 2015 with the support of the Lions Club, RCMP, and Armour Transportation. The program consists of inmates sorting and processing donated eyeglasses and refurbishing them for those in need. In 2019, the program partnered with Team Broken Earth to send eyeglasses to Haiti, an area in desperate need of eye care. The program has had tremendous benefit to those involved. It has processed almost 250,000 pairs of donated glasses and provides eyeglasses free of charge to inmates at provincial correctional institutions.

Report on Performance

Issue 1: Specialized Justice and Public Safety Responses

The Department of Justice and Public Safety is committed to exploring specialized responses to historical and emerging justice-related issues. Victims of crime require access to services that reflect their individual needs and circumstances. Similarly, many offenders face various challenges and the use of therapeutic court models offers innovative opportunities to deal with them more effectively and in ways that produce better outcomes for all. A Justice Summit hosted by the Department of Justice and Public Safety in March 2017 confirmed that officials and stakeholders agree that specialized and alternative responses are needed to prevent recidivism and to reduce the burden on the traditional criminal justice system.

Over the three years, the Department focused efforts on responses to victims of crime and innovative mechanisms to deal with offenders that build upon traditional criminal justice processes. This work also reflects commitments related to justice and public safety.

Goal 1: By March 31, 2020, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have implemented specialized initiatives to address justice and public safety issues.	
Indicators:	Results:
Work begun toward specialized justice initiatives	<p>During the start of the planning period in 2017-18, the Department began work towards specialized justice initiative. This included:</p> <p>Justice Summits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017 and 2018, five Justice Summits were held across the province in St. John’s, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Corner Brook, Gander, and Marystown. The purpose of the summits, titled “Out of Silos: Implementing Solutions Together”, was to provide a forum for open dialogue about how the criminal justice system is operating in the Province. A provincial action plan was developed following the summits. The action plan can be found at the following link: https://www.gov.nl.ca/jps/files/publications-pdf-justice-summit-action-plan.pdf. <p>Drug Treatment Court Feasibility Assessed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A feasibility study, co-led by the Department of Justice and Public Safety and the Department of Health and Community Services, was completed in May 2017, and addressed a range of issues related to a provincial drug treatment court.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the recommendations outlined in the feasibility study, a Drug Treatment Court pilot project in St. John’s was announced on May 17, 2017. <p>Sexual Assault Response Pilot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In January 2018, JPS announced its partnership with the Public Legal Information Associations of NL (PLIAN) and the NL Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Centre (NLSACPC) for the delivery of a Sexual Assault Response Pilot. The program provides free legal advice to survivors of sexual violence. Pre-implementation work began in January 2018 with direct service delivery in 2018. <p>Support to individuals and families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU) was established within the Victim Services Division of the Department to provide supports for families of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls. By March 31, 2018, the FILU had assisted six family members.
<p>Work toward the implementation of specialized justice initiatives continued</p>	<p>In the middle of the planning period during 2018-19, the Department continued work towards introducing specialized justice initiatives. This included:</p> <p>Implemented a Drug Treatment Court Pilot in St. John’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Drug Treatment Court was established on November 30, 2018. Work began with the first clients in January 2019. During the first three months (from January 1, 2019 to March 31, 2019) the Drug Treatment Court received 14 applications and was actively working with six participants. <p>Implementation of a Sexual Assault Response Pilot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with PLIAN and the NLSACPC, the Sexual Violence Legal Services pilot launched on June 19, 2018 with federal funding support. By March 31, 2019, the program had served 69 clients. As part of the pilot, 20 lawyers across the province were recruited and trained in trauma informed principles to better provide support and assistance to survivors of sexual assault.

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	<p>Continued supports to individuals and families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2018, the Provincial Government provided its final written submissions to Commission of Inquiry Respecting Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls. The submission highlighted various departmental policies, practices, programs and initiatives aimed at countering the systemic causes of violence and increasing safeguards for Indigenous women and girls and 2SLGBTQ people in the province. • The FILU, continued its efforts to respond to the needs of families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. In 2018-19, FILU assisted 23 families of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and provided and helped organize various training sessions. <p>Explored the feasibility of the Electronic Monitoring Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018-19, the Department worked towards identifying service providers, testing devices and developing necessary policies related to launching a provincial electronic monitoring program.
<p>Implementation of specialized justice initiatives continued and further work identified</p>	<p>Towards the end of the planning period of 2019-20, the Department continued work towards implementing specialized justice initiatives, with a focus on programs with restorative justice elements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued to explore the feasibility of expanding the Family Violence Intervention Court and Drug Treatment Court to other regions of the province; • Assessed the feasibility of implementing a Fines Options Program; • Worked towards increasing Innu interpretation resources for the courts by working with Innu communities to identify opportunities to enhance capacity in this area; • Implemented Electronic Monitoring and Bail Supervision Programs for offenders; and • Continued the implementation of the Adult Diversion program in the justice system. <p>These initiatives have been outlined in detail below.</p>

Objective 1.3:

By March 31, 2020, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have continued implementation of initiatives and identified further work to address justice issues utilizing specialized responses.

Indicators:	Results:
<p>Continued to explore the feasibility of expanding the Family Violence Intervention Court and Drug Treatment Court to other regions of the province.</p>	<p>The Family Violence Intervention Court process works to prevent and reduce incidents of family violence by addressing the root of violence through a therapeutic court model. The Court focuses on improving victim safety and offender responsibility, and works closely with a number of community partners to administer programming. Family Violence Intervention Court is offered in Stephenville and St. John’s. During 2019-20, the Department began exploring expanding the Family Violence Intervention Court through assessment of regional data and consultations with key stakeholders and community partners integral in the expansion. The Department has allocated \$392,000 towards expanding this program to other areas of the province.</p> <p>Drug Treatment Court opened in 2018 for offenders who commit non-violent, drug-motivated offences. The Court provides an alternative to traditional criminal justice responses by addressing the underlying problems that contribute to crime through court-monitored treatment, random and frequent drug testing, incentives and sanctions, clinical case management and social services support. The Department has been working closely with the Drug Treatment Court Team to identify opportunities for expansion across the Province, including needed resources, stakeholder engagement and partnership opportunities, and location feasibility. Continued federal funding will support the future expansion of the Court.</p>
<p>Assessed the feasibility of implementing a Fines Options Program.</p>	<p>In 2019-20, the Department worked to implement a fines option pilot program, which would enable those in marginalized groups with outstanding fines to settle their debt by performing community service work. This program would provide social benefits to the community and participants and renew their driver’s license, removing barriers associated with accessing employment and education. Since announcing plans for the program, many</p>

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	<p>individuals inquiring about the program have successfully entered into payment plans and are paying down their fines. In 2019-20, the Department developed the parameters of the program, collaborated with community organizations to identify potential placement opportunities for future participants and commenced work on the regulatory framework.</p>
<p>Worked towards increasing Innu interpretation resources for the courts by working with Innu communities to identify opportunities to enhance capacity in this area.</p>	<p>The Department continues to provide funding for an Innu-aimun Court Interpreter Program based out of Provincial Court in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The court interpreter provides necessary services to Innu-aimun speaking persons accessing Provincial Court, ensuring all persons have access to the legal process in their own language. Interpretation services are also available for individuals accessing Supreme Court; the Court uses a roster of interpreters to provide services when required.</p> <p>The Department continues to recognize the need to improve access to justice for Indigenous people by providing an opportunity for individuals to access the Courts in their own language. The Department is continuing its work to identify opportunities to enhance interpretation resources for the Courts.</p>
<p>Implemented Electronic Monitoring and Bail Supervision Programs for offenders.</p>	<p>In January 2020, the Department launched the Electronic Monitoring Pilot Project. During the pilot, electronic monitoring is being used as a post-conviction tool to enhance monitoring of offenders serving community and custody based sentences. Electronic monitoring is available to inmates who are eligible for Temporary Absence (TA) release from a correctional institution; offenders serving Conditional Sentence Orders, including those with intimate-partner violence convictions in the greater St. John's area and throughout Labrador; and offenders serving probation sentences. During the pilot, the Department will assess the feasibility of expanding to offenders serving intermittent sentences and remand. There are up to 50 devices available for the pilot. Priority is given to offenders convicted of domestic related crimes for enhanced supervision.</p> <p>Bail supervision provides an alternative to pre-trial detention and reduces custodial costs by supervising accused in the community while providing referrals, monitoring, and support. The number of persons held on remand is increasing – more than half of those in</p>

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	<p>custody at her Majesty’s Penitentiary are being held on remand. The purpose of the Bail Supervision Program is to increase the number of individuals eligible for bail and to support accused in securing housing and a surety. The program follows a 2017 feasibility study that recommended moving forward with a Bail Supervision Program. Two additional Adult Probation positions have been created to help oversee the Bail Supervision Program and policies are being drafted in preparation to begin accepting clients in the coming months. The program was scheduled to launch on March 17, 2020, however was delayed due to the global pandemic. Bail supervision will be operationalized as stakeholders have capacity once COVID-19 restrictions ease. The safety of clients and staff is the priority.</p>
<p>Continued the implementation of the Adult Diversion program in the justice system.</p>	<p>The implementation of the Adult Diversion program continued in 2019-2020. The program uses the principles of restorative justice to provide an alternative to the traditional court process. The goal of the program is to provide an effective and timely response to the offender’s behaviour, encourage offenders to acknowledge and repair harm caused to the victim, and provide an opportunity for the victim to participate in the process. Alternative measures could include counselling, a letter of apology, community service or even a charitable donation. The program is piloted in Provincial Courts in Stephenville and Corner Brook. Since its launch in 2019, the program has admitted 167 clients for diversion from the traditional court process.</p>

Issue 2: Enhanced Oversight and Administration of Justice

The Department of Justice and Public Safety is committed to enhancing oversight of the justice system, as well as the continuous improvement of the administration of justice. The administration of justice includes matters related to enforcement services, courts, corrections, and various other aspects of the justice system.

Over three years, the Department followed through on commitments to hold public inquiries and reviews into matters important to citizens and to take action to address recommendations. The Department worked to enhance its response to serious incidents. The Department considered the recommendations of the All Party Committee on Mental Health and Addictions as they pertain to the delivery of justice services for clients and for staff. Additionally, the Department continued to review and assess ways to create efficiencies in the administration of justice.

While, these are particular areas that the Department focused on, the Department also considered other matters of importance related to enhancements to the administration of justice. Additionally, the Department continued to review and assess ways to create efficiencies in the administration of the justice system.

Goal 2: By March 31, 2020, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have implemented initiatives that enhance oversight of the justice system and improve the administration of justice.	
Indicators:	Results:
Work toward implementation of initiatives that address oversight and administration of justice begun	<p>During the start of the planning period in 2017-18, the Department began work towards the implementation of initiatives that addressed the oversight and administration of justice. This included:</p> <p>Inquiry Respecting the Death of Donald Dunphy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission of Inquiry Respecting the Death of Donald Dunphy was completed in June 2017. The Commission was established to examine the facts and circumstances of the death of Mr. Dunphy and to make recommendations to avoid future tragedies. • The report from the Commission of Inquiry is available at: http://www.ciddd.ca/documents/final_report_june_20_2017-toc.pdf <p>Review of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2017, an operational review of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner was conducted by Dr. Matthew Bowes, Chief Medical Examiner of Nova Scotia. The purpose of the review was to determine operational deficiencies that might impact the administration of justice in the province, and make recommendations to correct them.• The review included 65 recommendations. Work began immediately on implementing the high priority recommendations.• The report is available at: https://www.releases.gov.nl.ca/releases/2017/just/report_office_chief_medical_examiner.pdf <p>Review of court administration commenced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During 2017-18, the Department of Justice and Public Safety commenced planning for the review of court administration, in consultation with the heads of court administration at Supreme Court and Provincial Court. Further progress related to this review was made in 2019, with the expansion of the Unified Family Court in the Province. <p>Ability of justice systems to respond to mental health and addictions issues enhanced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Drug Treatment Court was implemented in Fall 2018.• In 2017-18, Mobile Crisis Response Teams were established on the Northeast Avalon and in Labrador West. These teams consist of a health care crisis intervener and a plain-clothed RNC officer working together as a team to respond to people in the community experiencing mental health crises.• In April 2017, the Segregation Review Committee completed its review of the use of disciplinary segregation in provincial adult correctional facilities. The committee's report 'A Review of the Use of Disciplinary Segregation' is available at: https://www.gov.nl.ca/jps/files/publications-pdf-seg-report-april6-2017.pdf. In October 2017, it was announced that the Government had accepted the 18 recommendations from the report in principle and work was underway for the implementation of new and revised policies.
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	<p>Introduction of legislation to establish a Serious Incident Responses Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On November 16, 2017, the Department introduced legislation in the House of Assembly to establish a Serious Incident Responses Team in the Province. • The legislation represented the first step in establishing the Serious Incident Response Team that would provide an increased level of transparency and independent oversight of the police to help ensure public trust in the justice system.
<p>Work towards the implementation of initiatives that address oversight and administration of justice continued</p>	<p>In 2018-19, the Department continued the implementation of initiatives that address oversight and administration of justice.</p> <p>Established a Serious Incident Response Team for the province</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 31, 2019, the intent to establish a Serious Incident Response Team in the province was announced. The recruitment process for the Director's position commenced in Winter 2019. A director and investigators were hired in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. <p>Worked towards implementing the recommendations of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of the 65 recommendations identified in the Review of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, over half (43) of the recommendations were completed and/or were in progress by the end of 2018-19. <p>Explored the feasibility of expanding Mobile Crisis Response Teams to other regions of the province</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2018-19, Mobile Crisis Response Teams responded to approximately 1,800 calls for service in the province. In 2019, another Mobile Crisis Response team was made operational in Corner Brook. • In consultation with the regional health authorities, the RCMP continued planning to establish Mobile Crisis Response teams in Gander and Grand Falls-Windsor.
<p>Work towards the implementation of initiatives that address oversight and</p>	<p>In the final year of the 2019-20 planning period, the Department further advanced work towards initiatives that address oversight and administration of justice.</p>

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<p>administration of justice further advanced</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointed a Director to the Serious Incident Response Team and supported appointments for investigators; • Began planning for the construction of a new correctional facility to replace HMP and the expansion of the Labrador Correctional Centre; • Announced an Inquiry into Ground Search and Rescue; and • Continued work towards implementing the recommendations of the Office of the CME review. <p>These initiatives are outlined in detail below.</p>
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Objective 2.3: By March 31, 2020, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have further advanced work towards the implementation of initiatives that address oversight and administration of justice.

Indicators:	Results:
<p>Appointed a director and investigators to the Serious Incident Response Team.</p>	<p>Michael King was appointed as the first Director of the new Newfoundland and Labrador SIRT effective September 30, 2019. The establishment of a provincial SIRT was a recommendation from the Inquiry into the Death of Don Dunphy. SIRT is an independent civilian-led agency that investigates all matters that involve death, serious injury, sexual offences and domestic violence, as well as other matters of significant public interest that involve the actions of a police officer. Since his appointment, Mr. King has been working with the Department of Justice and Public Safety to support the necessary steps to fully establish SIRT, including the development of policies and memorandums of understanding, recruiting investigators and assisting the Department in developing Regulations. SIRT provides an increased level of transparency and accountability and helps to ensure people have trust in the system.</p>
<p>Began planning work for the construction of a new correctional facility to replace Her Majesty's Penitentiary and the expansion of the Labrador Correctional Center.</p>	<p>Her Majesty's Penitentiary's (HMP) centre block dates back to 1859. The facility is expensive to maintain, is not designed to support contemporary corrections approaches and has outlived its useful life. In April 2019, Government announced that a new correctional facility will be built to replace HMP. Budget 2019 allocated \$600,000 to planning the new facility. In February 2019, contracts were awarded for technical, financial, procurement, and</p>

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	<p>fairness advisors. In 2019-20, the Department worked to develop a request for qualifications (RFQ) to establish an industry short list of businesses interested in designing, building, financing and maintaining the facility. A modern penitentiary will support improvements to policies and programs focused on rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates. The new design is expected to more than double the capacity of HMP, allowing for more programming, recreation, and enhanced mental health services. A new penitentiary will also make better use of technology to increase safety and will be built utilizing best practices in facility design.</p> <p>Working with the Department of Transportation and Works, in 2019-20 funds were allocated in the budget for the expansion of the Labrador Correctional Centre. This will allow for an increase in capacity for inmate services and the potential to allow for women to be housed at the facility. In 2019-20 a consulting contract for the design work was awarded to Stantec and a tender for construction of the extension was developed. Planned improvements include additional cells to address capacity issues, increased programming space and an expanded medical unit.</p>
<p>Established an Inquiry respecting Search and Rescue Services in the province.</p>	<p>Search and rescue services are of national and provincial importance. While considerable strides have been made in the province with respect to search and rescue, there is always room for improvement. In December 2018, Government announced that an Inquiry respecting Ground Search and Rescue in the province would be established. In 2019-20, the Department worked to address a number of logistical considerations, including identifying a person to appoint to carry out the inquiry, a location, required resources, and a budget. The Department also worked on drafting terms of reference, which will be finalized in consultation with the person appointed to conduct the inquiry.</p>
<p>Continued work towards implementing the recommendations of the OCME review.</p>	<p>Work has been ongoing to implement the recommendations of Dr. Bowes review. Of the recommendations made from the report in 2017, 49 of the 65 recommendations were completed or in progress as of March 31, 2020. In 2019-20 the Department continued recruitment efforts for an additional forensic pathologist, two new medical examiner investigators and an information management analyst. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner</p>

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	<p>negotiated two federal funding agreements in 2019-20 for the purchase of a new digital record-management system and salaries for essential positions. In addition, an agreement for after-hours support was signed with the Nova Scotia Chief Medical Examiner Service. Other recommendations such as the expansion of physical space are being explored with appropriate partners to address the needs of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in a fiscally responsible manner.</p>
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Opportunities and Challenges

Supporting rehabilitative approaches through alternative and therapeutic measures is a priority for the Department of Justice and Public Safety. In the next three-year strategic planning cycle, the Department will continue to oversee and deliver services through the Family Violence Intervention Court, Drug Treatment Court, Electronic Monitoring Program and the Adult Diversion Program, including assessing the feasibility of the expansion of these programs. The Department will continue work towards restorative justice initiatives and implementing alternatives to the current court process, including Bail Supervision program. Together, these programs will reduce the number of persons held in custody and allow individuals to avail of community resources and supports, including those on remand.

The Department continues to explore new opportunities within corrections to address various challenges. Her Majesty's Penitentiary is an antiquated facility that is ill equipped to meet the complex needs of inmates. The Department has been making improvements within correctional services, including planning for the building of a new and modern correctional facility to replace Her Majesty's Penitentiary; exploring the expansion of the Labrador Correctional Facility; and implementing recommendations of several reports such as the disciplinary segregation and administrative segregation review committees, the Death in Custody Review, and the Towards Recovery: A Vision for a Renewed Mental Health and Addictions System for Newfoundland.

The collection of fines continues to be a challenge for the Department of Justice and Public Safety. In 2019, the Department announced it would establish a Fines Options Program, which would allow individuals to perform community service work to settle fines that they are unable to pay. Outstanding fines owed to the province can result in a driver's licence suspension, creating a barrier for vulnerable populations to gain meaningful employment. A Fines Options Program would provide an opportunity for people to settle their debt while providing social benefits to the community and participants. The Department will continue its work towards implementing this program in 2020. The **Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015**, requires a comprehensive review every five years, and was required to be referred to a committee by June 1, 2020. However, due to closures/reductions in services due to COVID-19, the timeframe for referral to committee was extended by six months, to December 1, 2020, under the authority of the **Temporary Variations of Statutory Deadlines Act**. On July 27, 2020, Chief Justice David B. Orsborn was appointed to conduct the statutory review of ATTIPA, 2015. The final report is due on or before March 31, 2021.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 global pandemic changed the world causing departments to shift from normal operations to a focus on critical services in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus. The Department implemented a number of measures to maintain critical operations and provide continued access to services, including remote programming and virtual visitation in correctional facilities and supporting the Courts in establishing virtual

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trials and hearings. While technology has played an integral role in maintaining services, there have been some challenges with access particularly in rural areas. The Department will continue to work towards ensuring the safety of staff and those accessing the justice system at all times.

Financial Statements

Expenditure and revenue figures included in this document are based on public information provided in the “Report on the Program Expenditures and Revenues of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2020” (unaudited). The full report can be viewed at: <http://www.fin.gov.nl.ca/fin/publications/index.html>

You can request a copy of the report by contacting:

Comptroller General's Office

P.O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Phone: 709.729.2341

		Actual	Estimates	
			Amended	Original
1.1.01.	Minister's Office	232,871	277,400	277,400
1.2.01.	Executive Support	1,225,833	1,233,300	1,107,300
1.2.02	Administrative and Policy Support	2,988,309	3,061,000	3,433,500
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(404,200)	(404,200)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(757,881)	(210,100)	(210,100)
1.2.03	Legal Information Management	817,008	849,500	906,000
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(6,500)	(8,200)	(8,200)
1.2.04	Administrative Support (Capital)	329,346	636,900	312,500
1.3.01	Fines Administration	722,979	788,900	845,900
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(124,900)	(124,900)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(515,964)	(920,600)	(920,600)
2.1.01.	Civil Law	15,702,078	15,974,000	13,480,000
2.1.02.	Sheriff's Office	6,658,109	6,870,000	6,812,600
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(109,900)	(109,900)
2.1.03.	Support Enforcement	1,013,005	1,016,900	1,008,300

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2.1.04	Access to Information and Protection of Privacy	526,296	576,100	728,300
2.2.01.	Criminal Law	6,974,850	7,049,100	7,154,600
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(57,416)	(107,500)	(107,500)
2.3.01.	Legal Aid	16,787,500	16,787,500	16,787,500
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(2,273,149)	(2,204,100)	(2,204,100)
2.3.02.	Commissions of Inquiry	6,871,304	7,397,200	9,575,900
2.3.03.	Other Inquiries	-	1,213,800	1,500,000
2.3.04.	Office of the Chief Medical Examiner	1,427,483	1,618,300	1,800,300
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(152,400)	(152,400)
2.3.05.	Human Rights	837,450	841,900	751,900
2.3.06.	Office of the Public Trustee	701,559	706,300	705,100
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(971,461)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
2.4.01.	Legislative Counsel	414,943	450,900	467,900
3.1.01.	Supreme Court	6,135,203	6,201,700	6,264,700
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(405,874)	(373,400)	(373,400)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(928)	-	-
3.2.01.	Provincial Court	10,388,332	10,597,300	10,879,200
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(354,931)	(579,800)	(579,800)
4.1.01.	Royal Newfoundland Constabulary	52,266,743	52,628,500	53,188,500
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(62,363)	(584,500)	(584,500)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(637,837)	(513,700)	(513,700)
4.1.02.	Royal Canadian Mounted Police	76,400,072	77,850,700	77,850,700
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(906,500)	(906,500)

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	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	-	(77,800)	(77,800)
4.1.03.	RNC Public Complaints Commission	241,831	269,900	202,400
4.1.04	Serious Incident Response Team	105,864	285,900	497,300
4.2.01.	Adult Corrections	38,221,098	38,988,700	38,100,600
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(6,380,144)	(6,652,100)	(6,652,100)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(1,618,092)	(757,000)	(757,000)
4.2.02.	Youth Secure Custody	5,020,299	5,245,500	4,778,800
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(4,678,249)	(2,704,800)	(2,704,800)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(8,555)	-	-
Total Expenditures - Department of Justice and Public Safety		253,010,365	259,417,200	259,417,200
Total Related Revenue		(18,729,344)	(18,391,500)	(18,391,500)
Total: Department		234,282,021	241,025,700	241,025,700

