



# Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

SERVICE PLAN SUMMARY

2006/07 - 2008/09



Ministry of  
Public Safety  
and Solicitor General

# Message from the Minister

The *Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2006/07 - 2008/09 Service Plan* supports the government mandate and its Five Great Goals as they relate to the health and public safety of British Columbians.

Every branch of the ministry is committed to protecting public safety. Ministry staff work each day to secure and enhance the safety of B.C.'s communities and residents.

Part of that commitment includes protecting the most vulnerable in our communities and that's why we're combating Internet child pornography and the sexual exploitation of children with specialized police teams, such as the Integrated Internet Child Exploitation Team and the Integrated Sexual Predator Observation Team. Future efforts will further protect children through enhanced criminal record checks for people who work with our youth.

The ministry's portfolio includes a wide range of public safety programs, such as: law enforcement and corrections; crime prevention and victim services; emergency preparedness, response and recovery; coroners service; driver safety; fire prevention; consumer protection; and liquor and gaming regulation.

Our ministry also includes the Crystal Meth Secretariat which leads and coordinates cross-government initiatives aimed at attacking the use and production of one of the most dangerous drugs on the street today - crystal meth. We've recently hosted a number of community forums and provided funding to help communities deal with this problem at the local level.

In December 2005, we hosted a Provincial Congress on Public Safety to strengthen partnerships with other levels of government and the public, and to find new and novel approaches to making our homes, streets, and neighborhoods as safe as possible.

And we have introduced civil forfeiture legislation, which will target organized crime and allow us to seize the profits of unlawful activity. We want to send a clear message that criminals in this province will not benefit from illegal activities.

I look forward to continuing to work with ministry staff to enhance the safety of all British Columbians.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Les'.

Honourable John Les  
Minister of Public Safety and  
Solicitor General

February 2006

# Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General works to maintain and enhance public safety across the province. The portfolio of the ministry includes: corrections; coroners service; law enforcement; crime prevention; victim services; hazard mitigation, emergency management and response; road safety; fire prevention, life safety and property protection; liquor and gaming regulation; consumer protection; and film classification. The Solicitor General is also responsible for three crown corporations and agencies: the Liquor Distribution Branch; the B.C. Lottery Corporation; and the Insurance Corporation of B.C.

## *Ministry Goals*

Three high-level goals flow from the ministry's public safety mandate and guide the programs and services of the ministry.

- 1. Citizens and communities are protected from crime.**
- 2. Public safety is enhanced.**
- 3. Regulatory programs safeguard public interests.**

## *Support for the Five Great Goals*

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General continues to work to ensure the safety of all British Columbians, thereby contributing to a strong foundation for the realization of the Five Great Goals.

The ministry also directly supports the Great Goals through: addiction prevention and treatment efforts in our correctional facilities and our communities; protective programs and specialized victim services programs for various groups, including at-risk children; and initiatives to strengthen hazard mitigation and emergency management throughout British Columbia.

## *Cross Ministry Initiatives*

The ministry is partnering with other ministries on a number of initiatives, including:

- » targeting the use and production of crystal methamphetamine (meth);
- » enhancing support to persons with mental health and substance abuse problems;
- » supporting children physically, intellectually, socially and emotionally;
- » furthering literacy and healthy living among all British Columbians;
- » supporting government's new relationship commitment with First Nations;
- » ensuring appropriate disaster, emergency and public safety plans are in place for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games;
- » strengthening policy and information exchange related to all aspects of British Columbia's wine industry; and,
- » advancing the integration of information systems.



## Ministry Vision and Mission

### *Vision*

Our communities and homes are safe places.

### *Mission*

The mission of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is to ensure the security and economic vitality of communities through effective policing, corrections, liquor and gaming control and other protective and regulatory programs.

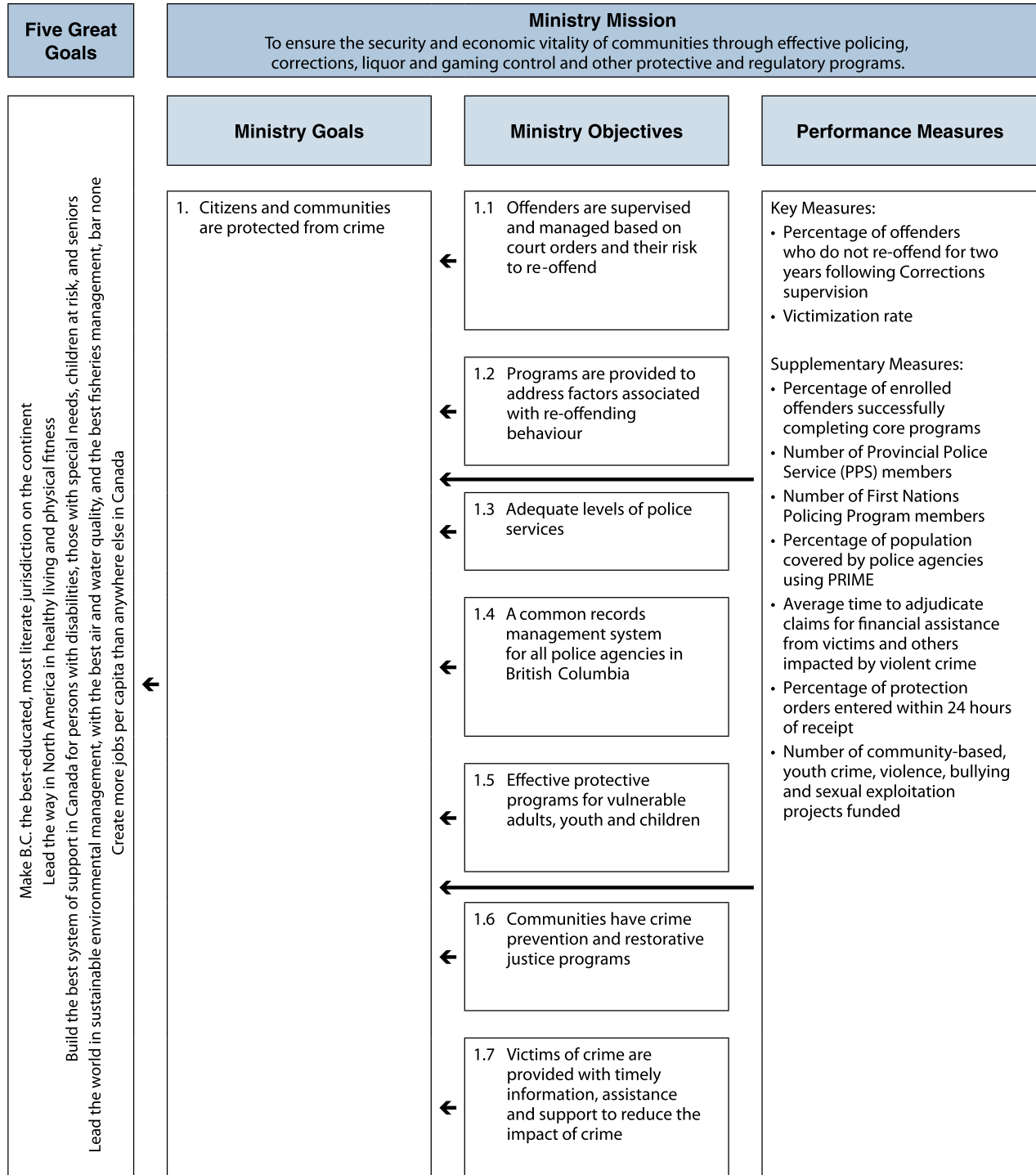
# Core Business Areas

Nine core business areas work together to fulfill the ministry's public safety mandate. Detailed overviews of these business areas are included in the *Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2006/07 – 2008/09 Service Plan* available at [www.gov.bc.ca/bcbudget/2006/sp/pssg](http://www.gov.bc.ca/bcbudget/2006/sp/pssg)

- 1. Corrections** protects communities through the safe custody and reintegration of adult offenders serving provincial terms of custody, serving community sentences, or on conditional release, as well as accused persons remanded into custody or released on bail supervision.
- 2. B.C. Coroners Service** investigates all sudden and unexpected, unexplained or unattended deaths, makes recommendations to improve public safety through preventative measures, and helps people deal with the trauma of death. The agency is also responsible for conducting reviews of all child deaths occurring in the province.
- 3. Policing and Community Safety** superintends law enforcement in the province; provides victims of crime with services and benefits; assists communities with crime prevention; regulates the private security industry; and provides protective programs, such as the Criminal Records Review Program and the Protection Order Registry.
- 4. Provincial Emergency Program** enhances public safety and reduces property and economic loss from actual or imminent emergencies or disasters by: mitigating the effects of emergencies and disasters through education and awareness; promoting preparedness through planning, training and exercising; coordinating and assisting in response activities; and developing and implementing recovery measures.
- 5. Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles** helps to ensure the safe and responsible operation of motor vehicles by: setting licensing policy; monitoring and regulating dangerous and unfit drivers; conducting appeals of administrative driving prohibitions and vehicle impoundments; conducting hearings and reviews of Insurance Corporation of British Columbia decisions respecting driver licence sanctions, driver training school and training licences; and supporting government road safety initiatives.
- 6. Office of the Fire Commissioner** promotes fire prevention, life safety and property protection by: providing fire code interpretations; developing public education programs and fire safety materials; providing evaluation and best practice information to support local fire departments; assisting in the coordination of firefighter training; undertaking major fire investigations; and supporting provincial response to major wildfire emergencies.
- 7. Gaming Policy and Enforcement** develops and manages gaming policy and legislation, standards, regulation, licensing, auditing, registration, and distribution of gaming proceeds. The branch oversees all horse racing in the province, is responsible for enforcement in all gaming sectors, and manages the province's responsible gambling strategy, including the Problem Gambling Program.
- 8. Liquor Control and Licensing** regulates the manufacture and resale of liquor in licensed establishments in the province in order to improve the safety of communities by reducing harm caused by alcohol misuse.
- 9. Executive and Support Services** includes the Solicitor General's Office, the Deputy Solicitor General's Office, the Corporate Policy and Planning Office, the B.C. Board of Parole, the Civil Forfeiture Program, Consumer Services, and the Film Classification Office.

# Ministry Performance Plan Summary

This section details each of the ministry's goals, objectives and performance measures and illustrates how they contribute to government's Five Great Goals.



**Five Great Goals**

Make B.C. the best-educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent  
 Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness  
 Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, special needs, children at risk, and seniors  
 Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none  
 Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada

**Ministry Mission**

To ensure the security and economic vitality of communities through effective policing, corrections, liquor and gaming control and other protective and regulatory programs.

**Ministry Goals**

**Ministry Objectives**

**Performance Measures**

2. Public Safety is enhanced

2.1 Coroners' reports and Judgments of Inquiry based on current, consistent and timely information



2.2 Minimized loss of life and economic impact from disasters and emergencies



2.3 Increased road safety through a long-term strategic road safety plan and enhanced road safety enforcement



2.4 Promotion of fire prevention, life safety and property protection programs



2.5 Reduced incidence of illegal gambling



2.6 Improved industry cooperation to reduce problems associated with liquor misuse



Key Measures:

- Percentage of Coroners' files completed within four months
- Percentage of communities that have achieved an essential level of emergency preparedness
- Rate of serious injury and fatality accidents per 10,000 drivers
- Stakeholder satisfaction with the Office of the Fire Commissioner
- Percentage of inspected / investigated liquor licensees in compliance

Supplementary Measure:

- Incidence of illegal gambling

3. Regulatory programs safeguard public interests

3.1 A comprehensive regulatory framework for gaming



3.2 Responsible gambling practices are encouraged through the Responsible Gambling Strategy



3.3 Local governments actively participate in providing input regarding new liquor-primary applications



Key Measures:

- Public confidence in the regulation and management of gaming
- Percentage of audited gaming funds recipients in compliance

Supplementary Measures:

- Time to acquire a Liquor Primary Licence
- Achievement of milestones in implementing the Responsible Gambling Strategy



## Contact Information

For more information on the British Columbia Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General visit our web site at: [www.gov.bc.ca/pssg](http://www.gov.bc.ca/pssg)

The complete *Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General 2006/07 - 2008/09 Service Plan*, including other related planning resources, is available at: [www.gov.bc.ca/bcbudget/2006/sp/pssg](http://www.gov.bc.ca/bcbudget/2006/sp/pssg)