

# Justice and Public Safety

Annual Report  
**2016–2017**

Justice and Public Safety  
Annual Report 2016-2017

Province of New Brunswick  
PO 6000  
Fredericton NB E3B 5H1 CANADA

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## **Transmittal letters**

### **From the Minister to the Lieutenant-Governor**

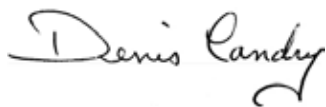
The Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau

Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick

May it please your Honour:

It is my privilege to submit the Annual Report of the Department of Justice Public Safety, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Denis Landry  
Minister and Solicitor General

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### **From the Deputy Minister to the Minister**

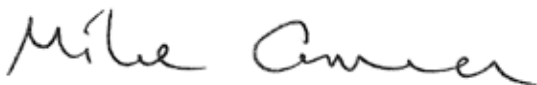
Honourable Denis Landry

Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Solicitor General

Sir:

I am pleased to be able to present the Annual Report describing operations of the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Comeau, Q.C.  
Deputy Minister



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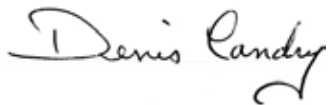
# Minister's message

The 2016-2017 fiscal year was a period of significant change for the former departments of Justice and Public Safety, which were officially merged in June 2016. This merger has strengthened the mandate of the once separate departments, allowing for greater collaboration and resource allocation.

It is a privilege to be part of the Department Justice and Public Safety team. The work being done by this department to protect the lives of New Brunswickers should make us all proud. The dedication and perseverance of our employees during the aftermath of the January ice storm in our province is but one example of this department's commitment to ensuring New Brunswickers have a safe province to live, work and raise a family.

The department achieved progress on a number of key objectives this year. We made gains toward a safe and responsible approach to the forthcoming legalization of cannabis. We helped establish the *Intimate Partner Violence Intervention Act* to provide victims with additional remedies to increase their safety while they seek more permanent solutions. We also brought forward Ellen's Law, an amendment to the *Motor Vehicle Act* to better protect cyclists.

I commend the staff for their professionalism and cooperation during the past year, our first as a newly merged department. We will continue to work toward strengthening our justice system and building a safer, more resilient province.



Honourable Denis Landry  
Minister of Justice and Public Safety

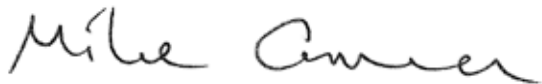
# Deputy Minister's message

I am pleased to present the first annual report of the new Department of Justice and Public Safety for the year ending March 31, 2017.

Ensuring the safety and security of New Brunswickers and improving access to justice have been the cornerstone priorities of these formerly separate departments. While the priorities have not changed, our approach to delivering services and programs is already benefiting from the merger of Justice and Public Safety. I wish to thank the staff across the province for their cooperation and their professionalism during this period.

The January ice storm in northern and eastern parts of the province is an important example of the commitment and compassion of our staff in times of crisis. Hundreds of Department of Justice and Public Safety employees took significant time away from their families and day-to-day duties to assist with the restoration efforts in the Miramichi, Kent and Acadian Peninsula regions. In many cases, employees were dealing with the aftermath of the ice storm at home, but they set aside their personal situations to assist others. This experience exemplifies the sense of duty among our employees. I extend my gratitude to our staff during this challenging period.

We will continue to work with our partners and stakeholders to build a stronger, safer New Brunswick and provide fair, impartial access to justice for our citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Comeau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Comeau, Q.C.  
Deputy Minister of Justice and Public Safety



# Strategy management

## Strategic priorities

The **Government of New Brunswick (GNB)** uses a formal management system built on leading business practices to develop, communicate and review strategy. This process provides the public service with a proven methodology to execute strategy, increase accountability and continuously drive improvement.

The development of the strategy, using the formal management system, starts with a strategic vision of *Moving New Brunswick Forward*. This vision is anchored in five priority areas:

- **Jobs** – Creating the best environment for jobs to be generated by New Brunswickers, by businesses, by their ideas, by their entrepreneurial spirit, and by their hard work. Growth efforts will be guided by the *New Brunswick Economic Growth Plan*, which focuses on strengthening the workforce; expanding innovation capacity; increasing the agility of government; fostering public and private investment in strategic infrastructure; and growing capital investment from the private sector.
- **Education** – Improving education as guided by two 10-year plans, *Everyone at Their Best* for the Anglophone sector and *Donnons à nos enfants une longueur d'avance* for the francophone sector, that identify objectives for the early learning and education system and establish clear expectations for standards and performance. The areas of focus for the first year are: ensuring children and other learners develop the competencies they need to be successful in school and life; improving both literacy and numeracy skills for all learners; and working to make post-secondary education more accessible and affordable.
- **Families** – Creating a healthier and stronger New Brunswick by focusing on seven key areas: improving access to primary and acute care; promoting wellness; supporting those with mental health challenges; fostering healthy aging and support for seniors; advancing women's equality; reducing poverty; and providing support for persons living with a disability.
- **Federal and Aboriginal Relations** – Building stronger relationships with First Nations; strengthening action on climate change; and working with the federal government to maximize federal funding, including optimizing infrastructure funding and growing the workforce through immigration.
- **Smart Province** – Providing taxpayers with better value for their money by transforming the culture of government by eliminating duplication; adopting new innovations in technology to improve services and savings; and ensuring GNB has a ready workforce that has the skills, training, support, leadership and working environments it needs to thrive.

# Highlights

During the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the Department of Justice and Public Safety focused on the following strategic priorities:

- The department created a new *Intimate Partner Violence Intervention Act* to provide more timely access to civil remedies for those experiencing intimate partner violence.
- The department developed a new licensing accreditation process for members of the Canadian military to obtain an equivalent New Brunswick commercial vehicle driver's licence without additional training or testing.
- The Disaster Financial Assistance program was announced for damage caused by the January 2017 ice storm.
- The department established the Contraband Enforcement Unit to combat the growing illegal contraband tobacco market in New Brunswick.
- The department introduced amendments to the *Coroner's Act*, which will ensure coroners' investigations are not mandatory in cases of medically assisted dying
- The department launched the Alarmed and Ready campaign reminding New Brunswickers of the importance of fire prevention and having smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

# Performance measures

Based on the strategy map, a framework that translates the organization’s strategy into a set of objectives and performance measures is developed. This allows the department to measure progress in meeting objectives. The performance measures do not reflect all of the day-to-day operations of the department, but rather the strategic areas where it needs to focus improvement efforts.

Families	Measures
Foster resiliency.	Percentage of municipalities with a current emergency plan.
Smart Province	Measures
Enhance employee engagement.	Total number of paid sick leave days reduced in the department.
Reduce expenditures.	Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures.
Grow revenues.	Ratio of actual to budgeted revenue.

## Families

### Objective of the measure

Foster resiliency.

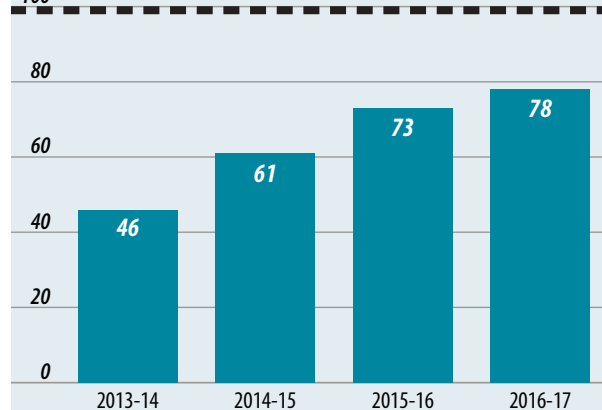
### Measure

Percentage of municipalities with a current emergency plan.

### Description of measure

Completion of municipal emergency plans is a key indicator of overall emergency preparedness within the province.

Percentage of municipalities with a current emergency plan  
100



### Overall performance

Local operations during this calendar year have effected progress, but percentages continue to improve.

--- Target: 100%  
Actual: 78%

### Why do we measure this?

The *Emergency Measures Act* requires every municipality to prepare emergency plans and mutual aid agreements as well as to submit them to the New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization (NB EMO) for review. To formulate emergency response strategies properly, NB EMO must have an accurate indication of the extent of municipal planning, including local capabilities and available resources. Such indicators will inform on the adequacy, currency and completeness of local plans.

Municipal plans are in a variety of states of completion. Several still need to be updated and amended. In the case of newly incorporated rural communities, complete preparation was required. NB EMO received municipal plans during the years, and by the end of the fiscal year, 78 per cent were up-to-date and reflected existing capabilities, with the remainder being in development.

### What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

During the reporting year, NB EMO regional emergency management coordinators continued to work closely with municipalities to complete or update emergency plans and arrangements. A standardized plan format, in accordance with the CSA Standard z1600-14, was prepared specifically for municipal use and was distributed to all municipalities. This template for planning was well-received, and a number of communities adjusted their emergency plans accordingly. The desired end-state will see all municipalities adopting this standard approach to preparing plans.

## Smart Province

### Objective of the measure

Enhance employee engagement.

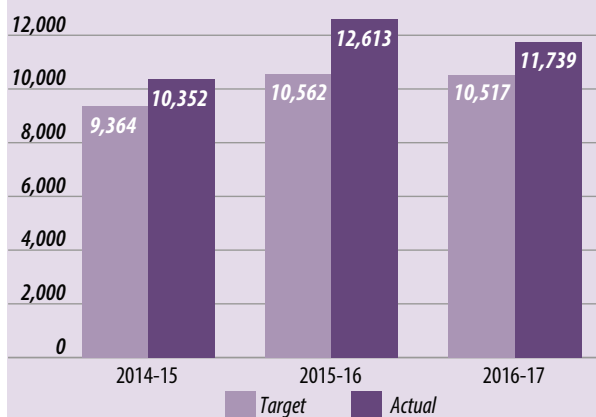
### Measure

Total number of paid sick leave days reduced in the department.

### Description of measure

Targets are set to reduce sick leave by 20 per cent from the 2011-2012 base year of the three-year project.

*Paid sick leave days reduced in the department*  
14,000



### Overall performance

A decrease of 10.7 per cent in sick days between 2011-2012 and 2016-2017.

### Why do we measure this?

Sick leave is a form of insurance that provides employees with a level of protection against the loss of salary when they are unable to report to work due to illness or injury. The department wants to ensure that sick leave is available when needed.

The department values the contribution its employees make, so when an employee is unable to be at work for any reason, his or her contribution is missed. The department recognizes that some absences are unavoidable; thus the goal in managing attendance is not to eliminate absenteeism or encouraging employees to come to work when they are sick. Rather, the goal is to reduce preventable absences, support employees experiencing difficulty with regular attendance and strive to have a healthy and productive workforce.

### What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

All managers/leaders in the department were required to attend a manager's orientation training session on the Blue Cross Employee Family Assistance Program and were provided Attendance Support Program training.

The department rolled out training sessions for managers/leaders in the CAR (Competence, Autonomy and Relatedness) mental fitness model combined with the practical "Tools for Engagement" workshops offered by the Government of Canada's National Managers' Community.

## Smart Province

### Objective of the measure

Reduce expenditures.

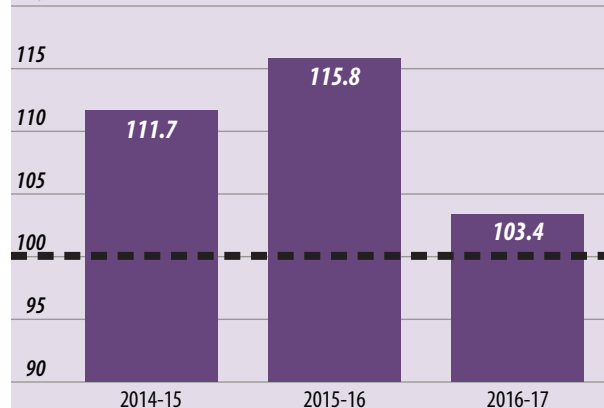
### Measure

Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures.

### Description of measure

The ratio measures whether the department is over-budget or under-budget. The ratio will exceed 100 per cent when spending is over-budget and be less than 100 per cent when spending is under-budget.

*Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures*  
120



### Overall performance

Actual expenditures were over budget by \$7.6 million, mainly due to expenses related to six Disaster Financial Assistance Program events from 2010-2017.

--- Target: 100.0%  
Actual: 103.4%

### Why do we measure this?

This indicator measures whether the department is adhering to the expense budget that it tabled at the beginning of the fiscal year. It shows whether the department is able to implement and manage the various budget decisions incorporated into its expense budget plan, although there will be some variables that are not within government's control (accounting changes, floods, etc.).

### What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

- The department met or exceeded reduction targets in areas such as attrition and process improvements.
- It achieved additional savings in Corporate Services as a result of the merger of the departments of Justice and Public Safety.

## Smart Province

### Objective of the measure

Grow non-fine revenue.

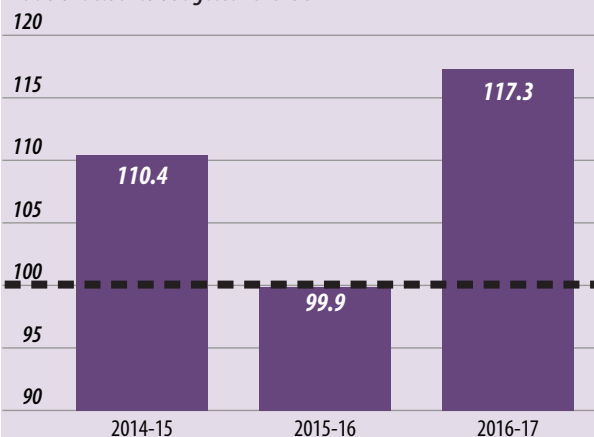
### Measure

Ratio of actual to budgeted revenue.

### Description of measure

Targets are set based on meeting revenues outlined in budget 2016-2017 and recent performance.

#### Ratio of actual to budgeted revenue



### Overall performance

Actual revenues exceeded the budget by \$32.8 million, mainly as a result of federal recoveries from Disaster Financial Assistance programs and increased *Motor Vehicle Act* fees.

--- Target: 100.0%  
Actual: 117.3%

### Why do we measure this?

These ratios provide information about the performance level; i.e., the extent of deviation of the actual performance from the budgeted performance and whether the actual performance is favourable or unfavourable.

### What projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

The following projects helped the department exceed the target:

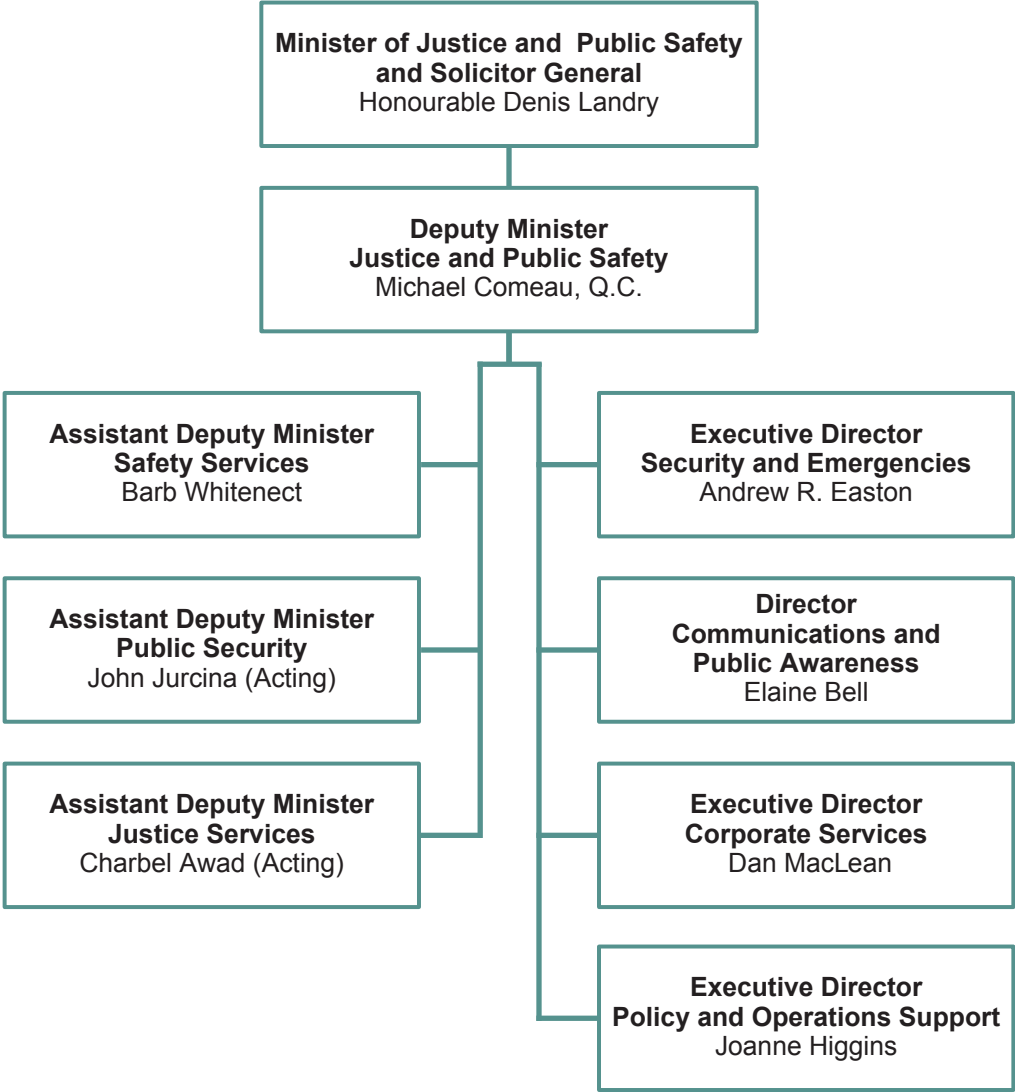
- The continued impact of the September 2015 *Motor Vehicle Act* fee increase resulted in an additional \$5.5 million in revenue.
- Federal recoveries from Disaster Financial Assistance program events were \$29.3 million more than expected mainly due to \$28 million that was initially recorded in 2015-2016 being moved to 2016-2017 due to an Office of the Auditor General recommendation.
- Revenues from the Contraband Unit were \$2.5 million less than budget due to the tax portion of the Contraband Unit's revenue being accounted for in the Department of Finance.

# Overview of departmental operations

The Department of Justice and Public Safety was formed to provide a comprehensive and integrated approach to justice and public safety.

The department had 1,365 regular, part-time, term and temporary employees, down from 1,439 in the previous fiscal year.

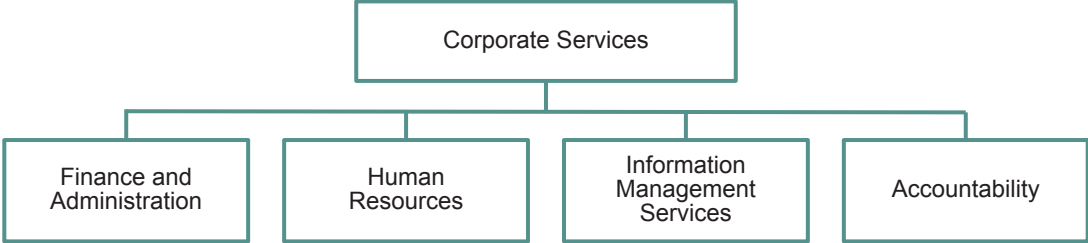
## High-level organizational chart





# Division overview and highlights

## Corporate Services Division



The **Corporate Services Division** is responsible for providing quality support, advice, consultation, monitoring and coordinating services to all managers and employees in the areas of departmental services, financial services, human resources, information management, fleet and facilities management and accountability.

The **Finance and Administration Branch** is responsible for providing the department with a comprehensive financial framework. All managers, financial analysis, accounting services and expenditure and revenue projections are used to enable delivery of quality programs at a reasonable cost; and to ensure compliance with the requirements of various acts, regulations and established financial and procurement guidelines. Services also include providing liaison with central agencies on financial matters; coordinating the budget process; and providing administrative support services, including telecommunications, purchasing, coordination of translation services, postal services, forms, fleet and inventory management, and acquisition, maintenance and renovation of office accommodations.

The **Human Resources Branch** is responsible for providing leadership and support to the department in the areas of human resources planning, recruitment, classification, labour relations, employee relations, training, Performance Management, Change Management, organizational development, human resources policies and program implementation.

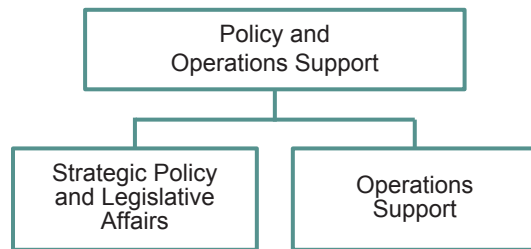
The **Information Management Services Branch** is responsible for providing departmental Information Management, information security and Risk Management and Records Management services. It supports business planning of Information Management solutions for the department. It ensures the alignment of departmental business objectives and technology initiatives by providing strategic oversight, direction and advisory services.

The **Accountability Branch** is responsible to support the refinement and implementation of the department's Integrated Business Planning Cycle that incorporates strategic direction, work planning, continuous improvement, performance measurement and an accountability framework.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Developed a multi-year financial plan for the newly formed department.*
- ◆ *Reduced outstanding or unpaid Accounts Receivable accounts.*
- ◆ *Conducted manager training sessions on EFAP for People Leaders.*
- ◆ *Established service excellence teams to promote excellence throughout the department.*
- ◆ *Achieved about \$1.4 million in savings and cost avoidance from Continuous Improvement activities.*
- ◆ *Trained 245 employees in conducting Waste Walks – to date, 645 (48 per cent) employees had been trained.*

## Policy and Operations Support Division



The **Policy and Operations Support Division** is responsible for providing leadership and support in the identification, analysis, and development of program and policy initiatives. The division also provides information and advice in support of legislation development and federal/provincial/territorial relations.

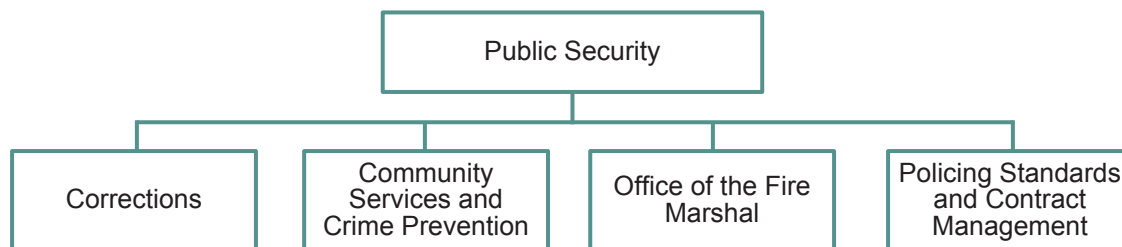
The **Strategic Policy and Legislative Affairs Branch** is responsible to support executive leadership through management of the policy and legislative framework. The branch provides leadership, expertise, advice and support in the development of policy, regulatory and legislative proposals.

The **Operations Support Branch** is responsible for providing support and expertise to programs and operations, including research, data analysis, trend forecasting and risk analysis for ongoing management and proposal development purposes. The branch assists with cross-branch expertise in particular policy and operational areas.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Enhanced legislative provisions regarding grandparents' right of access to grandchildren (fostering healthy relationships).*
- ◆ *Partnered with Women's Equality Branch to create a legislative and operational framework to provide civil remedies for victims of intimate partner violence.*
- ◆ *Developed new regulations to support the revised Legal Aid Act.*

## Public Security Division



The **Public Security Division** is responsible for ensuring a safe society by leading crime prevention efforts in the province, providing services to offenders; caring for and supervising those remanded or sentenced by the courts through institutional and community-based services; providing services to victims of crime; conducting fire plan reviews and fire inspections and investigations; carrying out provincial fire reporting and investigations; administering provincial policing standards and policing contracts; and developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that foster strong and consistent approaches in the delivery of services throughout New Brunswick.

The **Corrections Branch** is responsible for providing secure custody at the department's New Brunswick Youth Centre in Miramichi. Secure custody is used as the last resort for youth in conflict with the law where community and open custody sanctions have been deemed not inappropriate by the courts. The branch is responsible for providing correctional institutions for adult offenders sentenced to incarceration of two years less a day and for holding accused persons deemed to be dangerous and/or a security risk while awaiting trial or awaiting immigration hearings.

The **Community Services and Crime Prevention Branch** is responsible for the prevention and reduction of crime and victimization and ensuring community safety by

providing effective community programs for justice-involved persons and by developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that foster evidence-based prevention approaches throughout New Brunswick. The branch is responsible for delivering, through regional offices, provincial adult and youth diversion programs and rehabilitative Case Management and intervention services to adults and young persons sentenced to some form of community correctional supervision. It provides open custody placements for youth whose level of supervision has been deemed by the courts to require a less restrictive custodial environment as would be provided in a secure custody facility. It administers programs and support services to help victims of crime who come to the attention of the criminal justice system. It coordinates the planning, implementation and evaluation of improvements to New Brunswick crime prevention policy and practice through the *New Brunswick Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy*.

The **Office of the Fire Marshal** is responsible for administering the *Fire Prevention Act*; delivering fire prevention and protection programs; and working with fire departments, municipalities and partner organizations to promote fire safety. The office monitors fire trends, changes to the *National Building Code* and *National Fire Code*, National Fire Protection Association codes and rising fire safety concerns to develop and promote provincial policies, standards and procedures for the fire service as a whole. The office effectively uses multiple agencies to conduct fire safety inspections, performs fire cause and origin investigations, and implements fire prevention programs under the authority of the Fire Marshal. It is the lead agency for the response to all hazardous material emergencies for GNB.

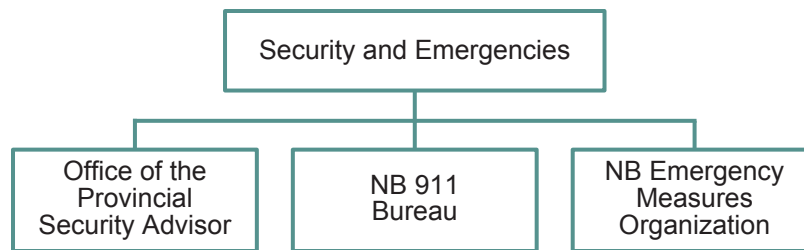
The **Policing Standards and Contract Management Branch** contributes to making New Brunswick the best place in which to raise a family by preventing and reducing crime and victimization through the coordination of effective and efficient policing services and evidence-based programs. The branch is responsible for the following key areas: developing and promoting provincial policies, standards, agreements and collaborative partnerships that ensure the delivery of consistent and standardized police services throughout New Brunswick; and overseeing contract management services and supporting the provision of RCMP services

under the Provincial Police Service Agreement as well as managing agreements with municipalities and local service districts for the provision of RCMP services.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Developed and launched in conjunction with the Love Shouldn't Hurt campaign, a series of videos to educate the public on how to recognize intimate partner violence.*
- ◆ *Entered into a five-year, \$3.4 million funding agreement between New Brunswick Victims Services and the federal government to enhance access services for victims of crime.*
- ◆ *The Roundtable on Crime and Public Safety approved a three-year action plan in accordance with the New Brunswick Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy.*
- ◆ *Participated in the expansion of the Integrated Service Delivery model for providing mental health, addiction, intervention and social services to children and youth to 112 schools, from Saint John to Sussex and in the Miramichi and Chaleur-Restigouche regions.*
- ◆ *Developed and implemented an Open Custody program in Miramichi, providing a community-oriented program for those justice involved youth who do not require a secure custody sentence.*
- ◆ *Launched the Alarmed and Ready campaign reminding New Brunswickers, and specifically post-secondary students, of the importance of fire prevention and having smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.*
- ◆ *Distributed the Fire Safety Gazette to students from kindergarten to Grade 5.*
- ◆ *Coordinated hazardous materials training sessions with the involvement of 25 fire departments.*
- ◆ *Established a correctional services professional standards and conduct review board.*

## Security and Emergencies Division



The **Security and Emergencies Division** is responsible for coordination among different levels of government and the private sector to improve prevention, preparedness and response capabilities in New Brunswick for deliberate, accidental or natural events, including 911 services, Emergency Management and recovery programs, security and critical infrastructure.

The **Office of the Provincial Security Advisor** is responsible for providing security advice and services regarding high-value and high-risk services, networks, facilities, assets and persons critical to New Brunswick's safety, security and economy, in the public and private sectors. The focus is to align efforts among levels of government and the private sector to improve prevention, preparedness and response capabilities in New Brunswick for natural, accidental and deliberate events.

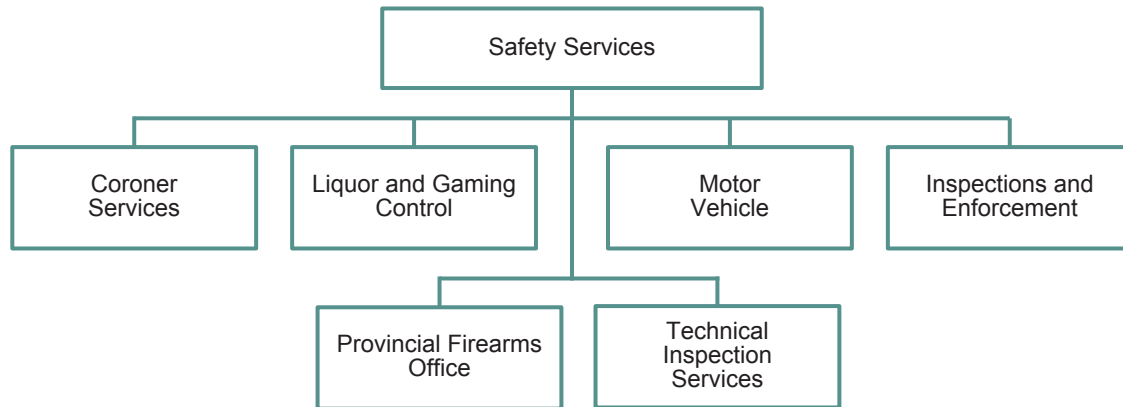
The **NB 911 Bureau** is responsible for working cooperatively with telecommunications partners and emergency response stakeholders to manage effectively and efficiently the province-wide 911 emergency response services. The bureau develops, implements and ensures compliance with standards, policies and operating procedures to ensure quality service and response to all emergencies when 911 calls are received at one of the six 911 public safety answering points throughout New Brunswick.

The **New Brunswick Emergency Measures Organization (NB EMO)** promotes the development of emergency programs at all levels of government, encompassing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The organization leads the coordination of provincial emergency operations, assists communities, municipalities and regional service commissions with resources and encourages a cooperative and harmonized approach to operations to facilitate resource and information sharing.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Initiated the Disaster Financial Assistance program for damages caused by the January 2017 ice storm.*
- ◆ *Made available training sessions for first responders, municipal staff, industry employees and elected officials with a specific focus on emergency operations centre, emergency public information and incident command structure training.*
- ◆ *Regularly tested the Alert Ready system, the national emergency alert system designed to communicate public information to ensure that New Brunswickers are informed and ready to face emergencies.*
- ◆ *Launched Disaster Financial Assistance projects examined the claims adjustment and payment process to reduce audit delays and associated costs.*
- ◆ *Created a multi-year work plan with the Critical Infrastructure Sector Council.*
- ◆ *Established an initial list of provincial critical infrastructure.*

## Safety Services Division



The **Safety Services Division** is responsible for delivering licensing, registration, inspection and enforcement services that make highways, communities and off-road trails safe and ensures safety, security and integrity in retail and service industries, including liquor and hospitality, gaming, private investigation and security, videos and videogames and salvage. The division provides expertise in electrical, plumbing, elevator and boiler and pressure vessel. Through the Office of the Chief Coroner, the division investigates all sudden and unexpected deaths in pursuit of preventing non-natural deaths.

**Coroner Services** is an independent and publicly accountable investigation of death agency. The service is responsible for reviewing all suspicious or questionable deaths in New Brunswick; and for conducting inquests as may be required by statute and/or in the public interest and does not have a vested interest in the outcome of death investigations. The service also administers the Child Death Review Committee and Domestic Violence Death Review Committee.

The **Liquor and Gaming Control Branch** is the regulatory authority responsible for the licensing, registration and permitting of applicants under the *Liquor Control Act*, *Gaming Control Act*, *Private Investigators and Security Services Act*, *Film and Video Act* and the *Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*. This involves coordination with internal and external inspectors, investigators, departments, corporate bodies, agencies and systems. The branch is responsible to maintain and uphold the integrity of gaming in New Brunswick through the registration of suppliers and licensing of all employees of the casino gaming industry. Services include providing information and education to

the public on the program areas, receiving complaints, gathering relevant facts and referring to an inspector or agency for further investigation when necessary.

The **Motor Vehicle Branch** is responsible for providing oversight of required safety standards for vehicle registration; providing policy and legislative clarification as it relates to the registration of vehicles; providing for the issuance of motor vehicle dealer licences; administering the compulsory motor vehicle inspection program through inspection stations; and administering the *International Registration Plan* involving the inter-jurisdictional registration of commercial vehicles. This program promotes highway safety through testing aspiring drivers, issuing driver licences and ID cards and monitoring driver behaviour and sanctioning unsafe drivers and carriers. The branch administers educational and ignition interlock programs for individuals convicted of impaired driving, funded by those drivers.

The **Inspections and Enforcement Branch** is a non-direct policing, law enforcement unit responsible for providing education, inspection and enforcement functions under provincial and federal acts. Peace officers with special constable appointment within the branch provide services to the trucking industry, forestry sector, hunters, fishermen, off-road enthusiasts, the motoring public, various licensees and New Brunswickers. Services intended to enhance public safety and protect government revenues are offered in the areas of environment and natural resources, liquor control, commercial vehicle enforcement; *National Safety Code* audits; off-road vehicle enforcement; motor vehicle inspections; gaming control; tobacco sales to minors; smoke-free places investigations; Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN); as well as inspections, enforcement and licensing matters



relevant to film, video and video game, restricted beverages, artificial tanning, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, salvage dealers and the security services industry.

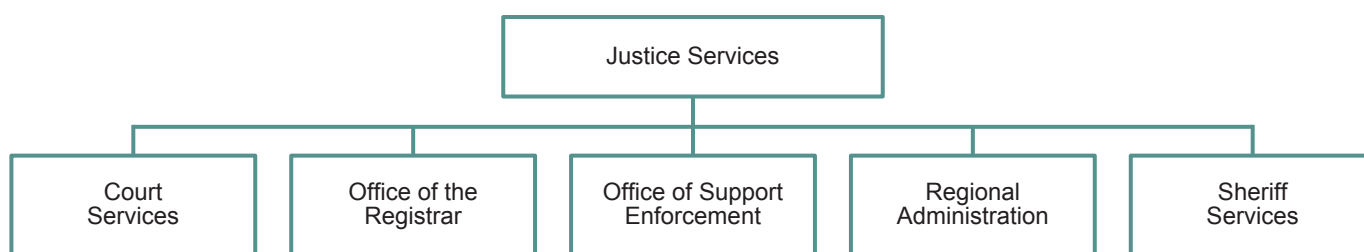
The **Provincial Firearms Office** is responsible for supporting safe communities by managing the ownership, purchase, movement and use of firearms within the province through the administration of federal firearms legislation.

The **Technical Inspection Services Branch** is responsible for regulating the safe design, fabrication, installation, and operation of electrical, plumbing, propane, natural and medical gas systems, boilers, pressure vessels, elevating devices and amusement rides. Activities include developing safety legislation; setting standards; conducting design reviews, equipment registrations and quality system audits; issuing installation and operating permits; conducting inspections; ordering compliance; qualifying and licensing specific trades people and contractors; carrying out accident investigations; providing education; and accrediting private sector services. The branch provides these services to ensure that potentially hazardous electrical, mechanical and pressurized systems do not pose an undue risk to the public; and to ensure that these potentially hazardous systems are installed by qualified and licensed tradespeople.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Introduced legislation that will ensure coroners' investigations are not mandatory in cases of medically assisted dying.*
- ◆ *Implemented new licensing and processing making it easier for active and retired members of the Canadian military living in New Brunswick and holding a Department of National Defence (DND) 404 driver's licence to obtain an equivalent New Brunswick commercial vehicle driver's licence.*
- ◆ *Completed a joint procurement process with the other Atlantic provinces for the provision of ignition interlock devices in the ongoing effort to reduce impaired driving on the region's highways.*
- ◆ *Conducted research and analysis into avoidable deaths by suicide.*
- ◆ *Implemented changes to licences issued under the Private Investigators and Security Services Act.*
- ◆ *Entered in an agreement with the other Atlantic provinces for joint procurement of driver licences as a cost-saving measure.*
- ◆ *Established the Contraband Enforcement Unit, which seized more than 2.1 million illegal cigarettes valued at an estimated \$1.3 million in its first year of operation.*

## Justice Services Division



The **Justice Services Division** is responsible for providing access and support to an impartial and efficient justice system for all New Brunswick residents.

The **Court Services Branch** supports the New Brunswick court system (Court of Queen's Bench, Small Claims Court, Probate Court, Bankruptcy and Insolvency Division, Provincial Court and Youth Justice Court) by providing court attendance, order production, Case File Management, registry services and other administrative services in support of the judiciary and the public. The

branch is responsible for the delivery of specialized court programs, including the Healing to Wellness Court, Domestic Violence Court, Family Case Management, Family Law Information Centre, Mental Health Court and the Court Case Management Triage Officer. The branch serves as the liaison to other agencies and departments for court-related issues and initiatives.

The **Office of the Registrar** supports the Court of Appeal and its judiciary by providing guidance to the public and lawyers regarding the Rules of Court, order/judgment pro-

duction, Case File management and other administrative services, including conducting hearings as authorized by legislation and the Rules of Court. This branch serves as the registry for New Brunswick for all bankruptcies and divorces, processes interjurisdictional applications for the establishment or variation of family support orders and processes all New Brunswick adoptions.

The **Office of Support Enforcement** is responsible for enforcing family support provisions (Child Support Payments and Spousal Support) in court orders and agreements in accordance with the *Support Enforcement Act* and *Divorce Act* by using progressive enforcement actions to ensure compliance. Enforcement may include garnishing wages, reporting the defaulting payer to credit reporting agencies, passport revocation or denial, and in some cases, suspension of the payer's driver's licence.

The **Regional Administration Branch** is responsible for providing regional administrative support to all programs and services administered by the Justice Services Division, including Invoice Management, central payment processing, Transcription Management, translation request processing, interpretation services booking, court technology support and judiciary special expenses support.

The **Sheriff Services Branch** is responsible for providing court security for all courthouses (in accordance with the *Court Security Act*), detainees' security (transportation, escort and detention supervision), Jury Management, document service and court orders execution (Seizure and Sale, Evictions and Warrants of Arrest). Sheriffs also perform peace officer duties as prescribed by more than 80 federal and provincial acts.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ *The branch announced plans for a five-year renewal exercise beginning with a new service delivery model.*

# Financial information

**Table 1: Ordinary Expenditure status report by primary**  
Fiscal year ending March 31, 2017 (\$000)

	Main Estimates	Appropriation Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Personal services	94,146	1,845	95,991	94,073	(1,918)
Other services	107,642	525	108,167	109,546	1,379
Materials and supplies	4,181	-	4,181	5,027	846
Property and equipment	265	-	265	1,356	1,091
Contributions, grants and subsidies	10,124	193	10,317	10,081	(236)
Debt and other charges	9,691	-	9,691	15,990	6,299
Chargeback recoveries	(1,908)	-	(1,908)	(1,770)	138
<b>Total</b>	<b>224,141</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>226,704</b>	<b>234,303</b>	<b>7,599</b>

The department exceeded budget by \$7.6 million, mainly due to Disaster Financial Assistance for the floods in the spring of 2010 and 2014, Post-Tropical Storm Arthur in July 2014, heavy rain events in December 2014 and September 2015 and the ice storm in 2017.

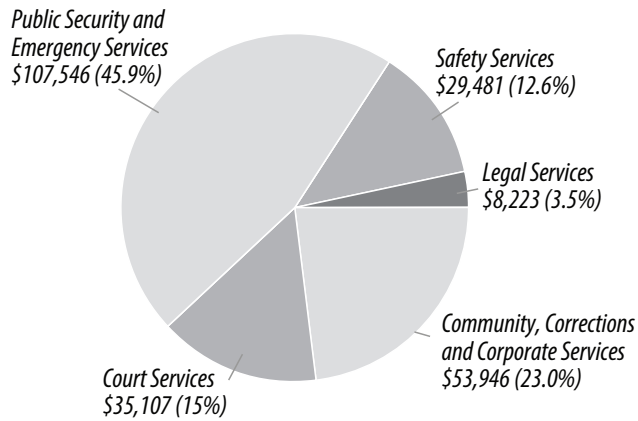
Note: The 2016-2017 expenditure and revenue have been restated to reflect government reorganization.



**Table 2: Ordinary Expenditure status report by program**  
 Fiscal year ending March 31, 2017 (\$000)

	Main Estimates	Appropriation Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Community, Corrections and Corporate Services	52,627	632	53,259	53,946	687
Court Services	33,758	1,120	34,878	35,107	229
Public Security and Emergency Services	99,851	532	100,383	107,546	7,163
Safety Services	30,075	85	30,160	29,481	(679)
Legal Services	7,830	194	8,024	8,223	199
<b>Total</b>	<b>224,141</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>226,704</b>	<b>234,303</b>	<b>7,599</b>

The department exceeded budget by \$7.6 million, mainly as a result of Disaster Financial Assistance for the floods in the spring of 2010 and 2014, Post-Tropical Storm Arthur in July 2014, heavy rain events in December 2014 and September 2015 and the ice storm in 2017.



Note: The 2016-2017 expenditure and revenue have been restated to reflect government reorganization.

**Table 3: Ordinary Revenue status report by source**

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2017 (\$000)

	Budget	Actual	Variance (Under) Over
Other taxes	2,900	3,424	524
Return on investment	56	53	(3)
Licences and permits	135,738	141,123	5,385
Sale of goods and services	25,349	26,305	956
Fines and penalties	10,365	6,926	(3,439)
Miscellaneous	683	674	(9)
Conditional Grants – Canada	14,887	44,274	29,387
<b>Total</b>	<b>189,978</b>	<b>222,779</b>	<b>32,801</b>

The department exceeded budget by \$32.8 million mainly as a result of federal recoveries from Disaster Financial Assistance programs and the continued impact of fee increases for motor vehicle fees and driver licensing.

Note: The 2016-2017 expenditure and revenue have been restated to reflect government reorganization.

# Summary of staffing activity

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Civil Service Act*, the Secretary to Treasury Board delegates staffing to each Deputy Head for his or her respective departments. Please find below a summary of the staffing activity for 2016-2017 for the Department of Justice and Public Safety.

The departments advertised 76 competitions, including 46 open (public) competitions and 30 closed (internal) competitions.

Pursuant to sections 15 and 16 of the *Civil Service Act*, the department made the following appointments using processes other than the competitive process to establish merit:

Appointment type	Appointment description	Section of the Civil Service Act	Number
Specialized Professional, Scientific or Technical	An appointment may be made without competition when a position requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a high degree of expertise and training</li> <li>– a high degree of technical skill</li> <li>– recognized experts in their field</li> </ul>	15(1)	0
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	Provides Aboriginals, persons with disabilities and members of a visible minority group with equal access to employment, training and advancement opportunities.	16(1)(a)	0
Department Talent Management Program	Permanent employees identified in corporate and departmental talent pools, who meet the four-point criteria for assessing talent, namely performance, readiness, willingness and criticalness.	16(1)(b)	10
Lateral transfer	The GNB transfer process facilitates the transfer of employees from within Part 1, 2 (school boards) and 3 (hospital corporations) of the Public Service.	16(1) or 16(1)(c)	21
Regular appointment of casual or temporary	An individual hired on a casual or temporary basis under section 17 may be appointed without competition to a regular properly classified position within the Civil Service.	16(1)(d)(i)	1
Regular appointment of students/apprentices	Summer students, university or community college co-op students or apprentices may be appointed without competition to an entry level position within the Civil Service.	16(1)(d)(ii)	0

Pursuant to section 33 of the *Civil Service Act*, no complaints alleging favouritism were made to the Deputy Head of Department of Justice and Public Safety, and no complaints were submitted to the Ombud.

# Summary of legislation and legislative activity

Bill #	Name of legislation	Date of Royal Assent	Summary of changes
22	<i>An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act</i> <a href="http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-22.pdf">http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-22.pdf</a>	June 28, 2016	The amendment established clear timelines for key elements of the Judicial Remuneration Commission process.
23	<i>An Act to Amend the Off-Road Vehicle Act</i> <a href="http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-23.pdf">http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-23.pdf</a>	June 28, 2016	The amendment extended the snowmobile season by two weeks to April 30 in the area of the Mount Carleton Grooming Hub.
47	<i>An Act to Amend the Coroners Act</i> <a href="http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-47.pdf">http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2016/Chap-47.pdf</a>	Dec. 16, 2016	The amendment clarified that medically assisted deaths, in which there are no irregularities, are not subject to mandatory reporting to the coroner and will not be investigated by the coroner except in certain circumstances.
5	<i>Intimate Partner Violence Intervention Act</i> <a href="http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2017/Chap-5.pdf">http://www.gnb.ca/0062/acts/BBA-2017/Chap-5.pdf</a>	March 31, 2017	The new Act is intended to provide more timely access to civil remedies for those experiencing intimate partner violence.

Name of regulation	Effective date	Summary of changes
New Brunswick Regulation 84-165, the General Regulation – <i>Electrical Installation and Inspection Act</i>	April 1, 2016	The amendment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>modified the issuance of wiring permits for certain type III installations by removing the need for an approval of electrical plan process and providing for a process in which a plan approval will be given to plans stamped by a professional electrical engineer;</li> <li>modified provisions relating to prebuilt approved electrical systems and temporary services for construction purposes; and</li> <li>established a new \$100 electrical plan approval fee.</li> </ol>
New Brunswick Regulation 84-165, the General Regulation – <i>Electrical Installation and Inspection Act</i>	June 30, 2016	The amendment adopt CSA Standard C22.1-15, <i>Canadian Electrical Code, Part I</i> (23rd edition), Safety Standard for Electrical Installations, including all errata, with the exception of Rule 6-302(1)(c) and with modifications.
New Brunswick Regulation 84-103, the General Regulation – <i>Private Investigators and Security Services Act</i>	Oct. 1, 2016	The Act and regulation were amended to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eliminate the Private Investigators and Security Services Commission and transfer its powers to the Minister and give him or her the authority to delegate those powers;</li> <li>change the licensing period to a two-year period; create a temporary licence for security services agents and a six-month licence for private investigators coming from another province;</li> <li>change the fee structure to reflect the new licensing period and add fees for the new licence types; and</li> <li>remove forms found in regulation and to replace prescribed forms with forms provided by the Minister.</li> </ol>

The acts and regulations for which the department is responsible are at:  
<http://laws.gnb.ca/en/deplinks?subjectnumber=49>

# Summary of Official Languages activities

## Introduction

The department had developed and submitted an action plan to Intergovernmental Affairs that includes strategic means for each of the four sectors of activity (focus) in GNB's Plan on Official Languages Official Bilingualism: A Fundamental Value.

## Focus 1

Ensure access to service of equal quality in English and French throughout the province:

Objectives for 2016-2017:

- Extend a bilingual Offer of Service at first point of contact;
- Ensure a balance of linguistic capabilities to provide service in both Official Languages;
- Ensure bilingual signage is properly displayed at first point of contact;
- Ensure staff understand the requirement for bilingual voice mail messages;
- Ensure correspondence is provided in the client's Official Language of choice;
- Generic correspondence is sent in both Official Languages.

Activities to meet objectives:

- As part of the employee orientation package, new hires were required to complete the iLearn module on Language of Service;
- Reviewed and updated linguistic profiles as required;
- The Language of Service policy was reviewed with employees during their annual work planning meeting;
- Additional signage was ordered and posted in public areas as required;
- Correspondence was provided in the client's Official Language of choice;
- Employees were reminded periodically as required of their Official Languages obligations.

## Focus 2

An environment and climate that encourages, for all employees, the use of the Official Language of their choice in their workplace:

Objectives for 2016-2017:

- Ensure performance reviews were conducted in the employee's Official Language of choice;
- Set up computers for new hires in the Official Language of choice.

Activities to meet objectives:

- As part of the employee orientation package, new hires were required to complete the iLearn module on Language of Work;
- The Language of Work policy was reviewed with employees during their annual work planning meeting;
- Periodically reviewed linguistic profiles to ensure compliance;
- Managers conducted performance reviews in their employees' Official Language of choice;
- During orientation, new employees were asked for their preferred Official Language for computer set-up;
- Training was offered in both Official Languages;
- Departmental communication was provided in both Official Languages;
- Reminders were sent to managers of the methods available for facilitating meetings while respecting linguistic duality.

### **Focus 3**

Strategic means taken to ensure the department took into account the realities of the province's Official Linguistic communities:

A Stakeholder Engagement on Strategic Planning for the department was held in both Official Languages in early 2017. Participants contributed in their Official Language of choice.

### **Focus 4**

Ensure Civil Service employees have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the *Official Languages Act*, relevant policies, regulations and GNB's Official Languages obligations:

Objectives for 2016-2017:

- Raise new hires' awareness of the Language of Work and Language of Service policies and remind current employees of their obligations through their yearly work planning meetings.

Activities to meet objectives:

- The department required all new hires to complete the iLearn modules on Language of Work and Language of Service;
- All employees were informed of their obligations as part of their orientation program and/or through their work planning meetings.

### **Conclusion:**

The department developed its Official Languages action plan in accordance with GNB's plan on Official Languages. The department received three Official Languages complaints in 2016-2017. It increased efforts to raise individual and departmental awareness about its Official Languages obligations.

# Summary of recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General

Name and year of audit area with link to online document	Recommendations	
	Total	Adopted
Charitable gaming oversight, 2016 Volume 1 – Recommend the Department of Public Safety develop a standardized process and implement associated procedures for evaluating initial and ongoing eligibility of agricultural fair associations for licensing under the Charitable Gaming program. <a href="http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2016V1/agrepe.pdf">http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2016V1/agrepe.pdf</a> (page 83)	1	1
Enforcement of unauthorized VLT's, 2015 Volume 3 – Recommend the Department of Public Safety more proactively monitor and increase compliance initiatives to reduce or eliminate unauthorized VLTs. This could include setting measurable targets and evaluating achievement towards stated objectives to reduce or eliminate the existence of unauthorized VLTs. <a href="http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf">http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf</a> (page 109)	1	1
2008 Flood Claim, 2015 Volume 3 – Recommend the Department of Public Safety work towards completing all outstanding requests as soon as possible in order to ensure timely receipt of funding from the Federal government. <a href="http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf">http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2015V3/Agrepe.pdf</a> (page 140)	1	1
Collection of Accounts Receivable, 2013 Volume 2 – Recommend departments share debtor contact information, where legislation permits, for the purpose of collecting accounts receivable. <a href="http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2013V2/agrepe.pdf">http://www.agnb-vgnb.ca/content/dam/agnb-vgnb/pdf/Reports-Rapports/2013V2/agrepe.pdf</a> (page 203)	1	Not permitted in Motor Vehicle Legislation.

# Report on the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*

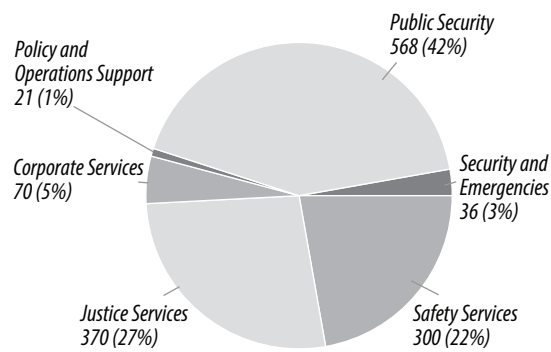
As provided under section 18(1) of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*, the chief executive shall prepare a report of any disclosures of wrongdoing that have been made to a supervisor or designated officer of the portion of the public service for which the chief executive officer is responsible. The Department of Justice and Public Safety did not receive any disclosure(s) of wrongdoing in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.



# Appendix A – Human resources data

Number of permanent and temporary employees *		
Employee type	2015-2016	2016-2017
Permanent	1,280	1,235
Temporary	159	130
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>1,365</b>

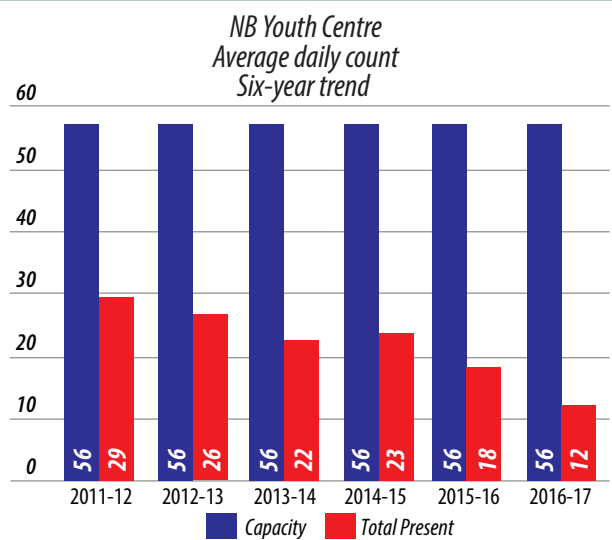
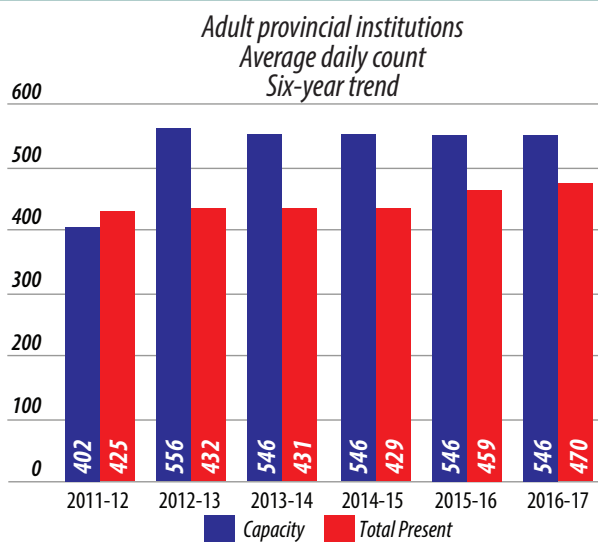
\* Does not include casuals



# Appendix B – Statistical information

Public Security	2015-2016	2016-2017
<b>Community Services</b>		
<b>Adult Community Services</b>		
Pre-Sentence Reports requested	2,143	2,245
Number of admissions:		
Alternative Measures	791	706
Fine Option Program	105	98
Community Service Work Program	206	157
Placed on probation	1,573	1,598
Conditional Sentence	511	520
Adult Program interventions	185	201
Average monthly caseload count:	2,274	2,280
<b>Youth Community Services</b>		
Pre-sentence Reports requested	348	274
Number of admissions:		
Extrajudicial Sanctions Program	401	370
Community Service Work Program	77	62
Placed on probation	190	128
Intensive Support program	16	26
Deferred Custody and Supervision Order	44	29
Portage Substance Abuse Treatment Program	33	40
Open custody	21	11
Youth Program interventions	34	20
Average monthly count:		
Average monthly caseload count	295	252
Average monthly Open Custody count	9	5
<b>Victim Services</b>		
Victims referred to Victim Services	4,796	6,526
Victim Impact statements	545	950
Short-term counselling	332	352
Trauma counselling	450	505
Compensation for victims of crime	777	863
<b>Institutional Services</b>		
<b>Adult provincial correctional institutions</b>		
Adult Custody admissions	3,611	3,685
Sentence to custody	1,980	1,958
Remands pending a court appearance	1,215	1,269
Temporary Absence program	130	161
Island View Community Residential Centre	90	72

Public Security	2015-2016	2016-2017
<b>Youth Secure Custody Services</b>		
Youth secure custody admissions	259	168
Remand	202	141
Custody and supervision orders	36	17
<b>Average daily count</b>		
Saint John Regional Correctional Centre	129.1	132.1
Southeast Regional Correctional Centre	161.0	169.1
Dalhousie Regional Correctional Centre	71.9	64.1
Madawaska Regional Correctional Centre	60.6	61.7
New Brunswick Women's Correctional Centre	36.0	43.4
New Brunswick Youth Centre	17.8	11.6
	476.4	482.0



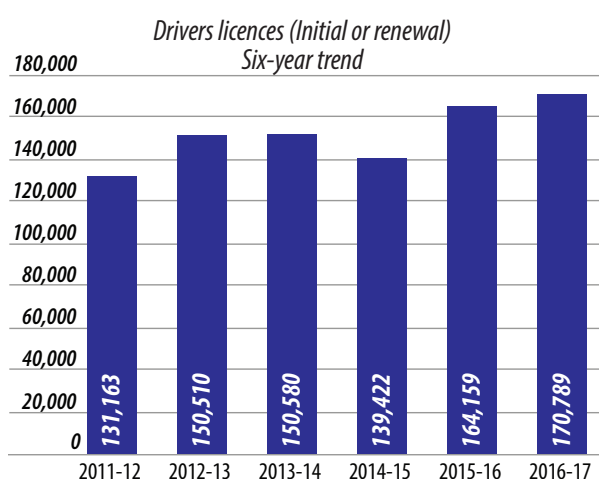
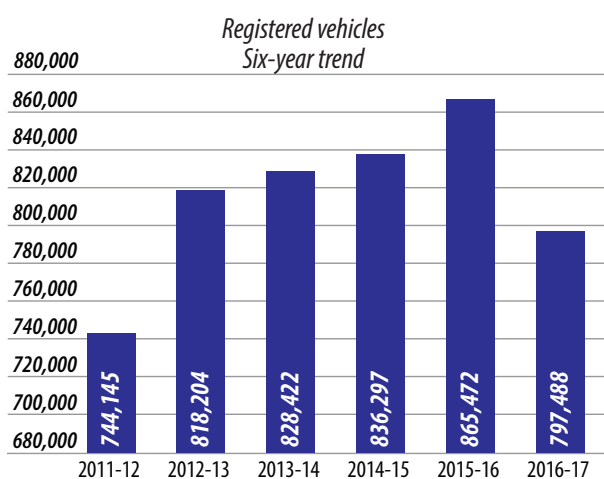
<b>Office of the Fire Marshal</b>		
Fires reported	3,552	3,543
Non fire related responses	26,795	29,490
Fires investigated by regional fire marshals	171	121
<b>Buildings Inspected:</b>		
By regional fire inspectors	3,440	3,479
By local assistants	3,538	3,048
Total of inspections	6,978	6,527
Building plan reviewed	536	430
Sprinkler system installations reviewed	95	37
Participants in provincially funded firefighter training courses	310	501
Provincial firefighter examinations	3,132	1,943
Volunteer firefighters	5,000	5,000
Emergency inspections during spring flood by regional fire inspectors	110	688
Incident reports recorded for analysis	30,347	33,033

<b>Security and Emergencies</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
<b>Emergency Measures Organization</b>		
Emergency plans registered with NB EMO (of 104 municipalities)	99	99
Planning assistance provided to communities	81	76
Exercises conducted involving communities, institutions, industry and private agencies.	31	27
Participants in Emergency Management training courses	177	175
Provincial Emergency Operation Centre activated (significant events)	5	5
Property owners reported damage	101	2,642
Property owners applied for disaster financial assistance	101	5,160
<b>NB 9-1-1 Bureau</b>		
Volume for 911 calls	177,115	180,136
Number of requests for 911 call investigations	-	75
Number of new civic addresses assigned in unincorporated areas of the province	-	990

<b>Safety Services</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
<b>Coroner Services</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Sudden and unexpected death investigations initiated	1,491	1,617
<b>Firearms</b>		
Shooting ranges inspected	24	13
Shooting ranges met the provincial standard	20	9
Ranges required re-inspection	4	4
Firearm safety training	4,946	5,587
Firearm transfers reviewed	1,931	1,960
<b>Inspection and Enforcement Services</b>		
<b>Motor Vehicle Safety Enforcement Section</b>		
<b>Commercial Vehicle Enforcement</b>		
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways – charges	750	772
Speed enforcement on commercial vehicles on provincial highways – warnings	139	259
Commercial vehicles checked or weighed	598,368	488,845
Inspections conducted	23,123	28,464
Charges laid	5,905	5,626
Warnings given	4,517	4,037
Roadcheck – trucks inspected	263	233
Operation Air Brake – vehicles inspected	62	28
<b>National Safety Code</b>		
Carrier contacts	180	523
<b>Off-road Vehicle Enforcement</b>		
Off-road vehicles checked	13,485	13,425
Number of citations	1,398	800
Calls for service	5,079	4,120

<b>Safety Services</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
Trail kilometres	51,121	40,375
Charges laid	609	394
Warnings given	789	406
Checkpoints	3,061	2,544
<b>Inspection and Investigation Section</b>		
<b>Motor Vehicle, casino and licensee Inspections</b>		
Inspections and investigations completed		
Liquor	4,439	4,655
Lotteries	1,805	2,143
Tobacco sales to minors	1,858	2,049
Film and video	137	141
Salvage dealers	40	43
Gaming equipment	46	39
Audits on gaming equipment	2,965	3,144
Private Investigators	1,531	1,388
Smoke-free places	1,159	1,217
Motor vehicle inspections	108	111
Tobacco Tax	445	499
Casino operational inspections	302	507
Casino operational audits	54	71
<b>Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods</b>		
Investigated public complaints	198	212
Properties vacated due to illegal activity	54	42
Complaints with community resolution	119	135
Investigations based on illegal drug activity	187	157
<b>Inspection and Investigation Section</b>		
<b>General Investigation Unit</b>		
Files received by GIS Unit	30	58
Files concluded (without court action)	17	39
Files under investigation or before the courts	14	43
Files concluded in court	15	19
<b>Contraband Enforcement Unit</b>		
Total number of open files	-	147
Number of seizures	-	25
Number of prosecutions	-	25
Crime Stoppers tips	-	65
<b>Conservation</b>		
<b>Apprehensions for illegal activity</b>		
Fish and Wildlife	903	1,185
Watercourse and fish habitat	40	46
Illegal timber harvest	258	294
Other (off-road vehicle, forest fire, etc.)	2,508	2,907

<b>Safety Services</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
<b>Gaming Control</b>		
Liquor licences	2,225	2,389
Liquor permits	1,529	1,490
Charitable gaming licences	1,270	1,289
Charitable gaming permits	1,013	1,280
Film and video licences	537	509
Private Investigator and Security Guard licences	1,646	1,762
Salvage Dealer licences	110	106
Manufacturer licences	52	69
Registration of employees and suppliers in the gaming industry	530	590
Registration of video lottery site holders	220	220
<b>Technical Inspection Services</b>		
Inspections completed	30,076	22,425
Plans reviewed and/or registered	1,815	1,520
Installation permits issued	16,257	16,356
Licences issued or renewed	14,647	14,126
Operating permits	17,836	17,712
Exams administered	2,176	2,128
<b>Motor Vehicle Services</b>		
Drivers licences (initial or renewal)	164,159	170,789
Helmets to hardhats driver licence exchanges	-	70
Identity cards (non-driving)	8,171	7,037
Vehicle registration	865,472	797,488
Motorcycle veteran plate	-	75
Vehicle Registration reminder opt-out	-	20,142
Interlock clients	-	261
Dealers and inspection stations	2,383	2,205
Passenger vehicle driving schools	26	26
Commercial vehicle driving schools	5	6
Passenger vehicle driver instructor permit	103	104
Commercial vehicle driver instructor permit	19	9
Motorcycle driving schools	5	6
Motorcycle driver instructor permit	74	43
International Registration Plan (IRP) audits completed	28	14



Justice Services	2015-2016	2016-2017
<b>Court Services</b>		
<b>Court activity</b>		
<b>Court of Appeal</b>		
Civil matters	81	79
Criminal cases	38	38
<b>Court of Queen's Bench, Trial Division</b>		
Causes filed <sup>1</sup>	2,960	2,738
Matters filed <sup>2</sup>	625	628
Family Division filing activity	5,085	4,958
Trial records for petitions	2,816	2,599
Motions	1,872	1,914
Applications	3,568	3,628
Separation agreements	202	202
Voluntary Agreement (Department of Social Development clients)	118	79
Affidavits of Default	73	164
<b>Small Claims Court</b>		
Claims filed	1,798	1,671
Up to \$3,000	675	638
\$3,000 to \$30,000	1,123	394
Small claims hearings held	140	284
<b>Provincial Court – Adults only</b>		
Charges disposed of (excluding municipal by-laws)	36,758	40,263
<b>Youth Justice Court</b>		
Charges disposed of	2,317	1,849
<b>Child-Centered Family Justice Initiatives</b>		
<b>Court-Ordered Evaluations Support Program</b>		
Applications received	32	34
Approved for help with cost of evaluation	27	26

<sup>1</sup> A cause is defined as an action, suit or other originating process between a plaintiff and a defendant.

<sup>2</sup> Matters generally include criminal matters, primarily indictable and summary conviction appeals and Notices of Application in civil matters (trials or hearings and ex-parte applications)

<b>Justice Services</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
<b>Office of the Registrar</b>		
Adoption files processed	95	115
Bankruptcies filed	941	842
Commencement of divorce proceedings	1,481	1,393
Filing of decrees absolute and divorce judgments	1,315	1,218
Interjurisdictional Support Orders (ISO) files received	375	439
<b>Office of Support Enforcement</b>		
Total caseload	12,605	12,288
Average caseload per enforcement officer	484	492
Payment transactions processed	183,415	183,880
Payments toward support accounts	168,288	161,803



## Crime statistics <sup>(1)</sup>

	2015	2016	% change
Crime rate	4,929	4,696	-4.7%
Percentage of crimes solved (clearance rate)	35%	39%	11.7%
Crime Severity Index <sup>(2)</sup>	62.8	61.7	-1.8%
Adult crime rate	1,237	1,351	9.2%
Youth crime rate	4,271	4,071	-4.7%
Violent crime rate	1,182	1,177	-0.5%
Percentage of violent crimes solved (clearance rate)	60%	63%	5.3%
Property crime rate	2,970	2,696	-9.2%
Percentage of property crimes solved (clearance rate)	19%	21%	10.5%
Motor vehicle theft rate	123.7	124.3	0.5%
Break and enter rate	444	430	-3.1%
Homicide rate	1.46	1.45	-0.3%
Sexual assault rate	55.4	48.6	-12.2%
Percentage of sexual assault crimes solved (clearance rate)	55%	67%	23.6%
Luring a child via a computer rate	2.4	3.4	43.9%
Robbery rate	20.3	29.9	47.2%
Impaired driving rate	238	221	-6.8%

Note: Rates are calculated on the basis of 100,000 population

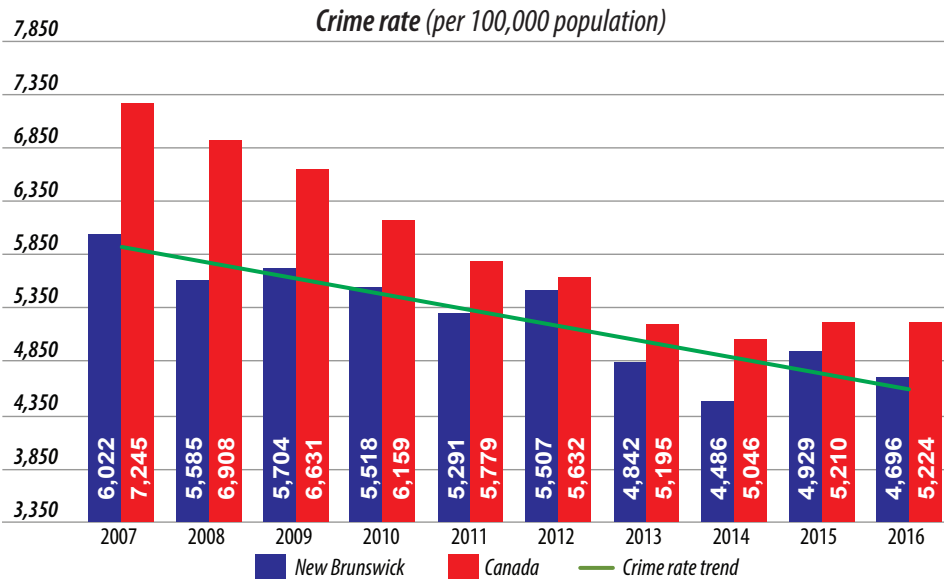
(1) Source: Table 252-0051 – Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations, annual. Statistics Canada

(2) Source: Table 252-0052 – Crime severity index and weighted clearance rates, annual. Statistics Canada

## Crime rate

New Brunswick ranking: fourth-lowest in Canada

**Why it matters:** Crime rates affect the sense of security that people have about their communities. These rates can also influence business investment and residential development.



In 2016, the New Brunswick crime rate was 4,696 per 100,000 population. The trend during the past 10 years continued downward. New Brunswick was fourth among the provinces for lowest rates of crime.

To be understood fully, crime rates need to be looked at during a period of years. Several factors can influence the crime rate, including whether crime is reported to police, police enforcement practices, changes to legislation and actual (real) reductions in crime. This is why the *New Brunswick Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy* includes additional indicators as a way to more accurately measure reductions in crime during the long term, including crime severity, self-reported victimization, public perception of crime and underlying crime factors.