

ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24

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, 2023 to March 31, 24. In July 2024, the responsibilities of the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General were assigned to two Ministers. As the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General, we share joint responsibilities for preparation of the Annual Report.

2023-24 marked the first year of the new 2023-26 strategic planning period, which provided the Department an opportunity to focus on its mandate and the identified Strategic Issues to achieve success. The Department's strategic issues are contained in the 2023-26 Strategic Plan, and they are 'Responsive Public Safety Services' and 'Enhanced Investments in the Justice System'. Examples of the Department's efforts include support for emergency services and the provision of fire equipment, continued work to improve infrastructure at the province's correctional facilities, implementation of province-wide public safety radio, and investments in recruitment and retention in key areas. The accomplishments highlighted in this annual report are reflective of the Department's commitment to supporting a justice system that is responsive to the public safety needs of the people and communities of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Our signatures below demonstrate our shared accountability for the results contained in this annual report.

Sincerely,

Hon. Bernard Davis
Minister of Justice and Public Safety

Sincerely,

Hon. John Hogan, K.C.
Attorney General

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Departmental Overview

Organizational Structure

The Department of Justice and Public Safety (the Department) ensures the impartial administration of justice and the protection of public safety through the dual offices of the Attorney General and the Minister of Justice and Public Safety. The Department delivers programs and services through the following Branches:

1. Courts and Corporate Services Branch

- Court Services
- Policy and Strategic Planning and Information Management Division
- Finance and General Operations Division
- Support Enforcement Division
- Fines Administration Division

2. Public Safety and Correctional Services Branch

- Policing Services
- Corrections and Community Services
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
- Office of the High Sheriff

3. Emergency Services Branch

- Emergency Services Division
- Fire Services Division
- Public Safety Infrastructure Division
- 911 Division

4. Legal Services Branch

- Civil Division

- Office of the Legislative Counsel
- Office of the Public Trustee

5. Public Prosecutions Branch

- Public Prosecutions

The following entities under the Department are responsible for planning and reporting as Category 3 Entities, pursuant to the **Transparency and Accountability Act**:

- Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities;
- Child Death Review Committee;
- Commissioner of Lobbyists;
- Consumer Advocate;
- Criminal Code Mental Disorder Review Board;
- Human Rights Commission;
- Human Rights Commission Panel of Adjudicators;
- Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission (Legal Aid NL);
- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner;
- Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission;
- Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission Panel of Adjudicators; and,
- Serious Incident Response Team of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Activity plans and annual reports for the entities can be viewed on the Department's publications webpage at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/jps/publications/>.

In addition, the following are entities of the Department, but do not have any reporting responsibilities under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**:

- Complaints Review Committee;
- Fitness to Practice Committee;
- Law Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador;

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- Law Society Disciplinary Panel;
- Legal Appointments Board;
- Judicial Complaints Panel; and,
- Judicial Council of the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Staff and Budget

As of March 31, 2024, the Department employed 1,480 individuals, including the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC). In addition, pursuant to the Provincial Policing Services Agreement and Community Tripartite Agreements, the Department funds approximately 456 officers and 115 civilian members and support staff in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to provide frontline policing services in approximately 44 locations throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department employs a wide range of professionals including lawyers, police officers, social workers, psychologists, counsellors, correctional officers, youth care counselors, sheriff's officers, information management specialists, administrators, financial managers, educators and administrative support staff.

Branch	Staff Complement	2023-24 Budget (\$)
Courts and Corporate Services	224	\$39,303,900
Public Safety and Correctional Services*	966	\$194,936,100
Emergency Services	31	\$17,526,500
Legal Services**	195	\$32,366,300
Public Prosecutions	64	\$8,526,000
Total	1,480	\$292,658,800

* The staffing count for Public Safety and Correctional Services does not include the RCMP but does include its budget.

**The staffing count for Legal Services does not include the Legal Aid Commission but does include its budget.

Vision

A justice and public safety environment that is accessible and understood, and which plays a key role in creating a fair, equitable and safe society where all people can pursue their lawful rights and freedoms.

Mandate

The Department is responsible for the provision of legal services to the Provincial Government through the Office of the Attorney General and is responsible for the protection and safety of people in the province in respect of their persons and property. These responsibilities are met through: provision of legal advice to Provincial Government departments, police protection, prosecution of accused persons, administration of the courts, including family justice services, operation of the province's correctional facilities, provision of services to victims of crime, protection of human rights and legal aid services. The Department also provides legislative drafting services through the Office of the Legislative Counsel, and is also responsible for the Support Enforcement Program, Fines Administration, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the Serious Incident Response Team. The Department also has responsibility for the Divisions of Fire Services, Emergency Services, Public Safety Infrastructure, and 911. This mandate reflects the dual responsibilities of the Minister of Justice and Public Safety and the Attorney General of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Lines of Business

- **Court Services** is responsible for providing infrastructure and administrative support to the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador. Family Justice Services, which falls under the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, is responsible for promoting dispute resolution outside the court process. The program assists parties in resolving

parenting and support issues and offers parent information sessions, mediation, and counselling.

- **Support Enforcement** performs a number of services related to the collection and distribution of court-ordered funds for support, maintenance or alimony. This includes registering and transmitting Support Orders, issuing Notices of Garnishment, tracing delinquent payers, and receiving and transmitting Interjurisdictional Support Orders applications.
- **Fines Administration** is responsible for the processing, billing and collection of fines penalties and surcharges imposed on individuals by Provincial Court, summary offence tickets, or other legislation. Ticket processing, billing and collection services are also provided to third parties such as municipalities, hospitals, and post-secondary institutions.
- **Policing Services** are delivered through the province's two policing agencies: the RNC and the RCMP, and the Department's Policing and Public Safety Division. Through a broad range of policing services, both police agencies are responsible for enforcing the law to protect public safety.
- **Corrections and Community Services** is responsible for the safe and secure custody of youth and adult offenders, for providing adult community corrections in the form of probation services, and for providing services to victims of crime.
- **Office of the Chief Medical Examiner** is an independent entity that is responsible for reporting, investigating, and recording deaths pursuant to the **Fatalities Investigation Act**. The Office Chief Medical Examiner is also responsible for appointing physicians to act as medical examiners and appointing medical investigators.
- **Office of the High Sheriff** is responsible for providing services to the Supreme and Provincial Courts. The Office of the High Sheriff administers the jury system, provides court security, judgement enforcement and trust account services, and executes orders and decisions of the Court.
- **Emergency Services** develops and maintains the emergency management system in Newfoundland and Labrador to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. Services and programs include the Provincial

Emergency Management Plan, Emergency Management Training Program, administering the Government of Canada Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements Program, the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre, 24/7 on-call system, and Regional Emergency Management Planning officers.

- **Fire Services** provides oversight to local governments, fire departments and other stakeholders on matters related to fire protection services, including firefighter training and certification, fire department assessments, and education. The division is also responsible for the Office of the Fire Commissioner in fulfilling the duties outlined in the **Fire Protection Services Act**.
- **Public Safety Infrastructure Division** is responsible for the implementation and operation of the province-wide radio system, a single communications system for police, firefighters, paramedics and other public service providers, as well as departmental infrastructure requirements.
- **9-1-1 Division** is responsible for administering 9-1-1 as the primary emergency telephone number for use throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as the development and implementation of any enhancements to the 9-1-1 emergency telephone number service.
- **Civil Division** is responsible for providing legal advice to Provincial Government departments and agencies. These services include providing legal opinions, drafting commercial and financial documents, and representing the Provincial Government and its agencies in negotiations and civil actions before administrative tribunals, all levels of court and judicial inquiries.
- **Office of the Legislative Counsel** provides legislative drafting services to the Provincial Government. Additionally, in conjunction with the King's Printer and the House of Assembly, the office ensures the publication and dissemination of provincial legislation.
- **Public Prosecutions** is responsible for prosecuting all offences pursuant to the **Criminal Code of Canada** and provincial statutes. Prosecutors appear in every level of court in the province and in the Supreme Court of Canada. Public Prosecutions also provides legal opinions and advice on criminal and criminal-

related matters to policing agencies and other Provincial Government departments that enforce provincial statutes.

- **Office of the Public Trustee** is responsible for protecting the financial assets and well-being of clients under the **Public Trustee Act, 2009**. The Office of the Public Trustee is a Crown corporation created by legislation and operates fully independent of Government.
- **Policy and Strategic Planning and Information Management** is responsible for providing leadership in the identification, development and implementation of broad policy initiatives, departmental, horizontal, planning, and accountability processes in government, and for supporting informed policy development through internal and external stakeholder engagement. The Division holds Department-wide responsibility for all matter relating to records and information management.
- **Finance and General Operations Division** is responsible for planning, organizing, directing and controlling overall financial and administrative operations of the Department, including coordinating the annual budget submission, monitoring expenditures during the financial year for accurate financial information, and ensuring proper financial controls are in place.

Primary Clients

The Department primarily serves the general public and Provincial Government departments and agencies. The Department provides a range of services to individuals or groups of individuals through the courts, public prosecutions, family justice services, support enforcement, victims' services, correctional services, fines administration, policing, 9-1-1, the public safety radio system, and emergency services. The Provincial Government itself is also a significant client of the Department. Civil law services are provided to Provincial Government departments and agencies in the form of legal advice, as well as representation in litigation. Legislative drafting services are provided by the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

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

Highlights and Partnerships

Highlights

The Policing Transformation Working Group

In November 2023, the Honourable John Hogan, KC, Minister of Justice and Public Safety and Attorney General, announced the creation of the Policing Transformation Working Group. The mandate of the Policing Transformation Working Group is to evaluate the current provincial policing model, conduct public engagement, and provide ongoing advice to ensure Newfoundlanders and Labradorians receive the most effective and efficient policing services possible. Delivering policing services that maintain public safety and meets societal expectations is becoming increasingly complex. This is due to emerging provincial policing trends including evolving profile of crime, oversight and accountability, technological advancements, delivery of services to rural and remote communities, as well as recruitment, training and retention. The Policing Transformation Working Group is considering best practices in other jurisdictions and the community safety needs of all people and groups who reside here, including urban, rural, Labrador, racialized and indigenous communities. Efforts to modernize the policing system works to ensure it protects the people of the province, and also supports health and well-being of the province's communities.

Fire Prevention Week 2023

The week of October 8 to 14, 2023 was Fire Prevention Week. The 2023 theme for Fire Prevention Week was “Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention” and was designed to educate the public about safe cooking. This is an important message as cooking is the leading cause of home fires and injuries in Canada. For improved safety it is essential that home cooks stay attentive to cooking, keep kitchens clean as grease build-ups can easily ignite, wear short or close-fitting sleeves, never put water on a grease fire, avoid cooking under the influence, establish a “kid-free zone” one metre away from the stove, and ensure pot handles are turned away from the stove’s edge. Fire prevention is everyone’s responsibility, not only during Fire

Prevention Week, but all year round. The Department encourages continued education on the importance of fire safety in homes, schools, workplaces.

Expanded RNC Jurisdiction in Western Newfoundland

On August 10, 2023, the Minister of Justice and Public Safety, the Honourable John Hogan, KC announced the expansion of the RNC in Western Newfoundland. The expanded jurisdiction includes the communities in the Bay of Islands, the Town of Massey Drive, and communities in the Humber Valley as far east as Pasadena. In total, nearly 33,000 residents in the region will be served by the RNC's 24-hour policing model. Specialized services will continue to be provided from the RCMP's Corner Brook detachment. The RCMP and the RNC, play a crucial role in ensuring the safety and security of residents and the public trust and community co-operation are crucial in effective law enforcement. Consistent with these principles, the Department continues to work with the RNC, RCMP, and communities to ensure policing is working in the most effective and efficient way possible to ensure all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians feel safe and secure.

Partnerships

Joint Funding to Support Downtown Safety Coalition

The Downtown Safety Coalition is a working group formed to tackle the complex issue of safety in downtown St. John's. The Provincial Government and the City of St. John's provided \$180,000 to the Downtown Safety Coalition to increase safety and improve visitors' experience in the downtown St. John's core. The safety and well-being of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians is extremely important, and the Department continues to support efforts and work with partners improve safety. The Department provided \$100,000 alongside \$80,000 from the City of St. John's in funding to be used on a public education campaign to increase reporting of crime. This builds on the work already done to provide residents, staff, and patrons of the area with a safe environment, and address and deter violence and criminal activity. The Coalition includes representatives of the RNC, Downtown St. John's, the George Street

Association, the City of St. John's, Destination St. John's, Hospitality NL, Music NL, and the Provincial Government to share experiences, feedback, and address public safety. This funding supported initiatives such as public education and the "See It, Say It" Campaign, which is a multi-channel communications campaign highlighting the importance of reporting a suspected crime or safety concern downtown. Also included were enhanced cleaning and lighting initiatives, enhanced photo identification, and surveillance cameras. The Department is committed to continuing to work with the community and our partners as we all work towards a safer St. John's for all residents and visitors.

New Partnership to Help Recruit Correctional Officers

The Department provided financial support of up to \$130,000 for 13 confirmed seats for residents of Newfoundland and Labrador to obtain a Correctional Officer Certificate at the Atlantic Police Academy in Prince Edward Island. The Correctional Officer Certificate Program provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to work in provincial correctional facilities. Students of the program learn how to monitor, supervise and interact with incarcerated offenders, developing the skills required to ensure the safety and well-being of inmates and colleagues. The Correctional Officer Certificate Program at the Atlantic Police Academy commenced in January 2024 and represents the Department's ongoing commitment to enhancing correctional services in the province.

Report on Performance

Issue One – Responsive Public Safety Services

The Department is mandated to protect public safety through providing and supporting fire services, emergency services, search and rescue efforts, and policing. These are all essential to ensure that people feel safe in their communities. The Department recognizes that it is important to continually deliver these services in a manner that is not only responsive to the needs of the residents of the province but also considers appropriate and responsive delivery of those services. The investments and support provided by the Department for programs and services is intended to instill confidence in communities, families and businesses throughout Newfoundland and Labrador that public safety and law enforcement services offered by the Department will be available when needed most. The positive outcomes of responsive public safety services for 2023-24 is reported below and results are consistent with the strategic directions of the Provincial Government.

Goal

By March 31, 2026, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have delivered public safety programs and services that are responsive to the public safety needs of the province.

Objective 1.1

By March 31, 2024, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have identified services that are responsive to the public's safety needs and initiated delivery of select programs.

Indicators	Results
Provided financial support of \$1 million annually to assist recruitment efforts of	The Department provided a \$1 million investment in Budget 2023 to support an additional 10 frontline officers for the RNC. In 2023-24, 17 RNC Cadets completed their training

up to 10 officers for the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary.	and graduated from the Atlantic Police Academy. Cadets experienced training that combined academic and tactical training, and real-life situations and simulations. The next class of candidates have begun their training and will graduate in August 2024.
Supported the work of the Newfoundland and Labrador Search and Rescue Association through a \$1 million investment.	The Department invested \$1 million in Budget 2023 for the Newfoundland and Labrador Search and Rescue Association (NLSARA). The funding provided to NLSARA from the Department supported the operations and administration for NLSARA, as well as training and equipment for 30 ground search and rescue teams across the province. Training included high angle rescue, ice/water rescue, first aid/CPR and mental health initiatives. In September 2023, NLSARA hosted SARscene, a national search and rescue conference and expo that brought together hundreds of search and rescue professionals to learn about new technologies, equipment, and share ideas and experiences. Investments and training are essential to maintain a high standard for the skills of search and rescue teams so they are available to help the people of the province when needed, which is consistent with responsive public safety services.

<p>Proclaimed the Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Act and implemented the Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol.</p>	<p>The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador proclaimed the Interpersonal Violence Disclosure Protocol Act on November 3, 2023. Commonly known as Clare's Law, the Act is aimed at increasing the safety of individuals in intimate relationships who are at risk of violence from their partners. Now that the Act is proclaimed, people at risk of intimate partner violence can apply to the RNC or the RCMP for an assessment of their risk. To make an application for disclosure, an individual needs to be a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador, have reasonable concern for their safety or well-being while in a current or former intimate partner relationship, and be willing to meet with the police. Newfoundland and Labrador is the third jurisdiction in Canada to pass Clare's Law. In developing the protocol, the Department consulted with other jurisdictions, engaged provincial police forces, and worked with stakeholders to define the complexities surrounding privacy, safety, and service delivery. Anyone who feels they are at risk of violence and would like to make an application is encouraged to visit https://www.gov.nl.ca/clareslaw/ for more information.</p>
<p>Increased funding for the provision of fire protection vehicles and firefighting equipment to \$3.8 million.</p>	<p>Budget 2023 increased funding to \$3.8 million to the Fire Protection Vehicle and Firefighting Equipment Program, which represents a 47 percent increase in the investment made in Budget 2022 of \$1.8 million. Under the program 54 firefighting vehicle applications were received with 14 vehicle applications approved (4 new pumper/1 used pumper, 1 new rescue truck, 7 new pick-up trucks with cap support units, 1 used pick-up truck with cap support unit). In addition, 92 firefighting equipment applications were</p>

	received with 19 equipment applications approved (bunker suits, SCBA, fire hose/thermal imaging camera/portable pump) for communities across Newfoundland and Labrador.
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Objective 1.2:

By March 31, 2025, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have continued to deliver programs and services that promote public safety.

Indicators:

- Doubled funding allocation to \$2 million to assist recruitment of up to 10 new frontline RNC officers to serve the Northeast Avalon.
- Invested up to \$700,000 to support crime prevention initiatives to reduce gun and gang related crime.
- Created 22 full-time positions for Her Majesty's Penitentiary and the Labrador Correctional Centre.
- Created 12 new positions in adult probation to assist the administration of rehabilitative programming.

Issue Two – Enhanced Investments in the Justice System

The Department recognized that investments in developing and improving infrastructure are essential components to support the delivery of programs and services in the justice system. This includes physical infrastructure such as correctional and court facilities and new technologies that can be utilized within the justice system to enhance performance and safety. Throughout 2023-24, the Department continued to invest in enhancements to the justice system in areas such as corrections, emergency communications, and accessibility of technological and other digital tools. These initiatives are intended to support the justice system so that it is responsive to the clients and stakeholders of the Department and ultimately the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. The Department's support in these areas is consistent with the Provincial Government's strategic direction of enhanced services by investing in the justice system.

Goal

By March 31, 2026, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have enhanced investments in the justice system to develop infrastructure and improve the capacity to deliver services.

Objective 2.1

By March 31, 2024, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have invested in infrastructure and technology.

Indicators	Results
Invested up to \$13 million to continue work on a new correctional facility in St. John's and renovate the Labrador Correctional Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.	Budget 2023 invested \$13 million to continue work on a new correctional facility in St. John's and renovate the Labrador Correctional Centre in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. In 2023-24, the Provincial Government re-issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the replacement of Her Majesty's Penitentiary. Since 2020, challenging market conditions, such

Happy Valley-Goose Bay.	<p>as supply chain issues and inflation linked to COVID-19 have impacted construction of infrastructure projects. The RFQ represents the first stage in a two-stage procurement process for the 296-bed capacity correctional facility. A Request for Proposals will be issued upon the completion of the RFQ process and signifies the ongoing work to replace the facility. In the interim, the Provincial Government will be implementing temporary enhancements until Her Majesty's Penitentiary is replaced. The Labrador Correctional Facility expansion is scheduled to be completed in fall 2024. These renovations will add an additional 18 cells and will also allow for female inmates to be housed at the facility, keeping them closer to family and community. In addition to these investments, in 2023, the Department commenced discussions with the Government of Canada, on assisting with costs for constructing a new Adult Correctional Facility in St. John's.</p>
Provided the Province-Wide Radio System to first responders on the Avalon Peninsula through an investment of \$21 million.	<p>The Provincial Government invested \$21 million in Budget 2023 to provide the Province-Wide Radio System on the Avalon Peninsula. This is a part of an over \$181 million investment over 12 years to support implementation of the radio system. This system will improve the way emergency responders and the Provincial Government communicate with each other during emergencies. The RNC and RCMP were using the new system as of April 13, 2023, and paramedics and ambulance dispatchers on the Avalon Peninsula began using the system in July of 2023. Infrastructure improvements and developments are complete and the Province-Wide Radio System is anticipated to go live across the entire province in 2024. The interoperable communications system for all emergency responders in the province is part of the Atlantic</p>

	Network supporting all four provinces, this network enables immediate interprovincial support during emergencies and natural disasters and represents an enhanced investment in the justice system and the Department's commitment to providing enhanced technologies that benefit public safety.
Implemented the Task Force on Digital Transformation to initiate the development of a digital transformation strategy for the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.	In December 2023, a Digital Transformation Consultant was brought on board to play a crucial role in developing the Digital Transformation Strategy and Roadmap for the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. By the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year, a comprehensive needs assessment was near completion, and the Task Force, comprising the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Justices of both Courts and representatives from the Office of the Chief Information Officer and the Department of Justice and Public Safety, was established and held its first meeting. The Strategy and Roadmap, currently in the initial stages of development, will leverage technology, resources, and processes to enhance access to justice by streamlining courtroom and registry procedures with a user-centric approach.

Objective 2.2:

By March 31, 2025, the Department of Justice and Public Safety will have continued to invest in the justice system in order to improve the capacity to deliver services.

Indicators:

- Invested \$7 million to enhance existing infrastructure and the ability to deliver operational services and programming at Her Majesty's Penitentiary.
- Invested \$8 million to support the replacement of Her Majesty's Penitentiary.
- Enhanced court facilities through a \$5 million investment to support the re-development of the Martin Gallant Building in Stephenville Crossing.

- Enhanced emergency response capabilities by increasing the number of first responders using the Province-Wide Radio system.

Opportunities and Challenges

The Department is continuing to support initiatives and programs to enhance the justice system in Newfoundland and Labrador. This includes continued investments in policing, search and rescue, and emergency services. The Department will continue to work towards ensuring an effective and efficient justice system that is responsive to needs of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. The Department continues to invest in a new correctional facility to replace Her Majesty's Penitentiary and renovate the Labrador Correctional Centre. This investment in a new correctional facility will reflect modern approaches to corrections, including improved use of technology and increased programming and services available to incarcerated individuals. Additionally, the Department continues to support the ongoing work to expand the Labrador Correctional Centre with enhanced services and additional functional space. Since 2020, challenging market conditions, such as supply chain issues and inflation linked to COVID-19 have impacted infrastructure projects leading to delays and increased costs. While this has resulted in challenges in constructing a new correctional facility, the Department remains committed to the project as the best option for staff and inmates. The Department also continues to invest in providing access to the Province-Wide Radio for first responders and firefighting equipment for communities throughout our province.

Delivering policing services that maintain public safety and meet societal expectations is becoming increasingly complex. Some examples include the evolving profile of crime, necessity of oversight and accountability, technological advancements, delivery of services to rural and remote communities, and challenges related to recruitment, training and retention. On a national scale, reports published in the last five years, such as the Nova Scotia Mass Casualty Commission report and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls report, have both called for the Provincial Government to rethink the delivery of policing services. In 2023, the Minister of Justice and Public Safety announced the creation of the Policing Transformation Working Group that will help shape the future of policing services in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Policing Transformation Working Group is a multi-year initiative led by senior officials and is

mandated to evaluate the current provincial policing model, conduct public engagement, and provide ongoing advice to ensure Newfoundlanders and Labradorians receive the most effective and efficient policing services possible. It will consider best practices in other jurisdictions and the community safety needs of all people and groups who reside here, including urban, rural, Labrador, racialized and Indigenous communities.

The Department continues to identify pathways to deliver policing services in Indigenous communities in a manner that is respectful and responsive to community needs. The First Nations Indigenous Policing Program Framework Agreement is an important part of the effort between the Department and Indigenous communities to offer culturally appropriate policing services. Policing services in four communities in Labrador are provided through Community Tripartite Agreements in Makkovik, Rigolet, Hopedale, and Nain. Following renewal of the Framework Agreement, the Department will seek to renew the current Community Tripartite Agreements which exist between the Indigenous community, the province and the Government of Canada.

Violence against Indigenous women and girls continues to be a serious and ongoing issue in our society and the safety of Indigenous women and girls is a priority at the provincial and national levels. Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to the prevention of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and persons who identify as Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, and Asexual (2SLGBTQQIA+). Further to this, the Department recognizes the importance of recommendations of the Hear Our Voices report as the path forward to reconciliation and is a participant in the Reconciliation Council. The Department maintains its commitment to working with Indigenous governments and organizations to develop new relationships with Indigenous people and increase collaboration to address recommendations that are responsive to the needs and values of Indigenous groups and communities.

Financial Information

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 2024 (unaudited)”. The full report can be viewed at: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/exec/tbs/publications/public-accounts/>.

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: 709.729.4866

		Estimates		
		Actual \$	Amended \$	Original \$
1.1.01.	Minister's Office	226,279	251,600	251,600
1.2.01.	Executive Support	1,430,886	1,1482,200	1,431,700
1.2.02	Administrative and Policy Support	4,817,735	5,082,200	4,532,200
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(1,161,000)	(1,161,000)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(1,543,823)	(210,100)	(210,100)
1.2.03	Legal Information Management	848,250	864,500	890,000
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	-	-	-
1.2.04	Administrative Support (Capital)	7,704,245	8,036,400	7,461,400
1.3.01	Fines Administration	720,449	822,700	842,700
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(64,300)	(64,300)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(547,994)	(920,600)	(920,600)

2.1.01.	Civil Law	11,769,298	13,472,400	14,303,000
2.1.02.	Sheriff's Office	6,551,893	6,626,600	7,106,600
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(58,300)	(58,300)
2.1.03.	Support Enforcement	969,405	1,083,500	1,167,800
2.2.01.	Criminal Law	8,493,885	8,596,400	8,853,500
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	(57,500)	(57,500)
2.3.01.	Legal Aid	19,817,900	19,817,900	19,817,900
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(3,347,271)	(2,936,900)	(2,936,900)
2.3.02.	Commissions of Inquiry	-	100	100
2.3.03.	Other Inquiries	3,564,231	6,310,800	10,774,000
2.3.04.	Office of the Chief Medical Examiner	2,493,752	2,715,000	1,914,600
2.3.05.	Human Rights	1,009,836	1,022,800	874,500
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	-	-	-
2.3.06.	Office of the Public Trustee	980,701	1,000,000	1,000,000
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(277,109)	(294,700)	(194,300)
2.4.01.	Legislative Counsel	564,376	564,600	591,100
3.1.01.	Supreme Court	7,040,822	7,446,900	9,266,900
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(508)	-	-
3.2.01.	Provincial Court	12,230,336	12,453,100	12,303,100
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(324,478)	(749,100)	(743,100)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(2,364)	-	-
4.1.01.	Royal Newfoundland Constabulary	67,407,712	67,930,500	62,639,500

	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(88,799)	(450,000)	(450,000)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(581,954)	(580,600)	(580,600)
4.1.02.	Royal Canadian Mounted Police	101,990,836	101,691,100	92,743,400
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(714,300)	(154,000)	(154,000)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(100,000)	(141,300)	(141,300)
4.1.03.	RNC Public Complaints Commission	730,577	827,100	302,00
4.1.04	Serious Incident Response Team	369,538	444,300	483,600
4.2.01.	Adult Corrections	43,728,007	44,353,900	38,074,700
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(4,308,643)	(7,619,500)	(7,619,500)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(1,381,012)	(757,000)	(757,000)
4.2.02.	Youth Secure Custody	5,298,302	5,427,800	4,762,400
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(2,733,677)	(2,544,400)	(2,544,400)
	Less Related Revenue (Provincial)	(16,051)	-	-
5.1.01.	Fire Services	1,315,135	1,454,800	1,454,800
5.1.02.	Emergency Services	21,891,268	22,144,400	21,596,200
5.1.03.	Disaster Assistance	27,931,694	29,079,600	23,957,800
	Less Related Revenue (Federal)	(23,315,524)	(36,406,900)	(36,406,900)
5.1.04.	Fire Protection Vehicles and Equipment	3,638,828	3,760,000	3,760,000
5.1.05.	NL 911	2,963,538	3,164,600	3,164,600
Total: Department		322,639,217	314,180,600	292,658,800

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