Annual Report 2018

Supreme Court of British Columbia

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REPORT OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

INTRODUCTION



We welcome this annual opportunity to discuss the work of the Court. Through its day-to-day work, the Court fulfills its constitutional role in our democracy as a neutral and impartial arbiter of disputes, ensuring that the law is upheld, applied to all without influence, and respected. Each day, the judges, masters and registrars preside over trials, hearings, and preliminary conferences, make decisions on questions of evidence and law, and write reasons for judgment. The Court also works with other actors in the justice system to strengthen respect for and understanding of the importance of the Rule of Law.

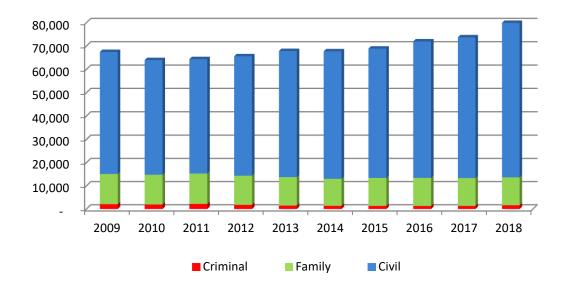
In the following sections, we describe the volume of proceedings before the Court in 2018, as well as changes to governance and the judicial complement. In general terms, proceedings before the Court can be broken down into three subject matter areas: civil, family, and criminal proceedings.

THE WORK OF THE COURT

New Filings

The total number of new filings for 2018 was 79,890, an increase of approximately 10% from 2017.

The new filings for civil, family, and criminal proceedings in comparison to other years are shown below. For 2018, there were a few changes from 2017: the volume of civil proceedings increased (+10%), while criminal proceedings and family proceedings remained almost the same. The total number of new filings for 2018 was 79,890, an increase of approximately 8% overall from 2017. (See Figure 1 of the Appendix, which is also reproduced below).



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
■ Civil	52,301	49,163	49,058	51,193	54,075	54,661	55,446	58,501	60,334	66,182
Family	13,026	12,832	13,110	12,564	12,263	11,680	12,086	12,123	12,039	12,057
■ Criminal	2,123	1,978	2,212	1,834	1,523	1,396	1,362	1,336	1,350	1,651

New filings in 2018 can be further broken down into a number of major subcategories, as seen in Figure 2 in the Appendix.

Increasing Complexity of Trials

As in previous years, in 2018 the Court continued to see an increase in complex proceedings, despite the fact that filings did not significantly grow in number. A primary reason for this is the ever evolving application of legal principles and statutory and case authorities to varying factual matrices in our increasingly complex world. A second and significant reason is the growing number of self-represented litigants, particularly in family matters. Litigants who appear in person because they are unable to afford lawyers usually are not well versed in court procedures. This can have the effect of lengthening hearings. Judges must also be vigilant to ensure that self-represented litigants as much as possible enjoy the same legal rights as those who are represented by counsel. To further complicate matters, with the ever more diverse population of British Columbia and the popularity of the province as an international destination, more litigants require interpreters in court. Finally, electronic communications have vastly expanded the number of documents typically put into evidence at trial. All these factors mean that matters before the Court take

significantly more time and require substantially more judicial resources to reach resolution.

Bumping will likely continue to be an issue as long as the Court remains below

its full judicial

complement.

Bumping Scheduled Trials and Long Chambers Applications

As noted in previous annual reports, bumping of scheduled trials and scheduled long chambers applications in Vancouver and across the rest of the province remains an issue for the Court that causes expense and inconvenience for litigants. A matter is considered "bumped" if inadequate judicial resources (such as available judges and courtrooms) prevent it from commencing, and it cannot subsequently be rescheduled within one week of the originally scheduled hearing date. The Court has employed a number of strategies to reduce bumping, including reducing the overall number of hearings scheduled, a practice that tends to result in longer wait times before matters are heard. Issues of bumping and scheduling are also affected by external factors outside the Court's control.

Bumping rates dropped slightly in 2018. In terms of long chambers applications, on average 6% fewer were bumped province-wide than in the previous year, while 7% fewer trials were bumped. As is discussed below, it is anticipated that bumping will continue to some degree as long as the Court remains below its full judicial complement.

The Court recognizes the disruption caused when hearings do not proceed as scheduled and will continue to closely monitor the bumping rates in Vancouver and across the province. For more detailed information, please see Figures 5-10 in the Appendix.

Available Trial Dates

Where there are urgent circumstances, the Court works to provide hearing dates as soon as possible regardless of the subject matter.

As mentioned above and reported in previous annual reports, in order to address what are considered to be unacceptably high bumping rates, in some registries, fewer hearing dates have been offered for bookings. The impact of scheduling fewer matters has been experienced most acutely in respect of civil proceedings. Because of the urgent nature of most family proceedings, family trials and long chambers applications are given scheduling priority over civil proceedings. In 2018, dates for a five-day family trial were generally available within six to eight months, while for a non-MVA civil trials, the wait for available dates was generally 18 months for Vancouver and New Westminster, and in the range of 10 to 12 months for other registries. For criminal proceedings, because of the liberty interests at stake and the fact that an accused is sometimes in custody awaiting trial, dates are generally made available as needed. In addition, criminal trials once booked are rarely bumped.

Where there are urgent circumstances, the Court works to provide hearing dates as soon as possible regardless of the subject matter.

Conferences

In addition to trials and chambers applications, a significant amount of judicial hearing resources are allocated to various types of conferences: judicial case conferences, case planning conferences, settlement conferences, judicial management conferences, pre-trial conferences, trial scheduling conferences, and trial management conferences. In 2018, the number of conferences remained roughly the same as the previous year, with 7,331 conferences scheduled in family and civil proceedings, and 4,952 hours of the time of judges and masters allocated to these hearings. For more detailed information, please see the Appendix, Figures 3-4.

Distribution of Trial Work

The subject matter of trials is divided into three general areas: civil, family, and criminal. In 2018, approximately 36% of trials were civil, 40% criminal, and 24% family. The total number of trials in 2018 was 870.

The Lower Mainland region (Vancouver, New Westminster and Chilliwack) is the highest volume region in the province in respect of trial work. In 2018, there were 516 trials in this region, representing 61% of the total number of trials in the province.

On Vancouver Island (Campbell River, Courtenay, Duncan, Nanaimo, Port Alberni, Powell River, and Victoria) there were 150 trials, representing 17% of the total number of trials in the province.

In the Northern Interior region (Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Smithers, Terrace, and Williams Lake) there were 67 trials, representing 8% of the total number of trials in the province.

In the Southern Interior (Cranbrook, Golden, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nelson, Penticton, Revelstoke, Rossland, Salmon Arm, and Vernon) there were 137 trials, representing 16% of the total number of trials in the province.

For more detailed information, please see Figures 11-13 of the Appendix.

Changes to Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Scheduling itself underwent significant changes in 2018. Over the year, many experienced long-term Scheduling staff members retired, were promoted or moved within Scheduling, or found employment elsewhere. It will necessarily take

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some time for the talented new staff members that the Court has attracted to become trained and transition into working to their full capacity.

Published Reasons for Judgment

The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal have been publishing reasons for judgment on the Courts' website since 1990. In fact, BC was one of the first Canadian jurisdictions to undertake making reasons for judgment available to anyone with an internet connection. On most weekdays, the Supreme Court publishes reasons for judgment or reasons for decision issued by judges, masters, and registrars. The Court does not publish all of the reasons for judgment issued by judges, masters or registrars on its website, sometimes because the reasons are given orally, and sometimes because the public interest in protecting the privacy rights of vulnerable parties or witnesses outweighs the interest in publication. In 2018, the Court published a total of 2,056 reasons for judgment on its website: 1,200 civil reasons, 370 family reasons, and 486 criminal reasons. For a more detailed explanation of what the Court publishes, please see the Appendix, Figures 14-16, and the report of the Court's Library Committee, at page 37.

E-Filing

The Court continues to encourage all litigants and counsel to e-file documents as much as possible.

Litigants have been able to file most documents in civil and family proceedings in any registry across the province electronically since 2008, when the Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch completed the implementation of Court Services Online. Although the first few years saw dramatic increases in the number of e-filed documents, that number appears to have plateaued over the last few years. A slightly larger number of documents were e-filed in the last 12 months compared to the previous period: 259,148, an increase of 2%. Approximately 43% of the total number of documents filed are e-filed. The Court continues to encourage all litigants and counsel to e-file documents as much as possible. For more detailed information, please see Figure 17 of the Appendix.

E-Orders

A second component of Court Services Online is the service enabling litigants to electronically submit orders for approval and entry. Judges, masters, and registrars of the Court are assigned to process e-orders on a weekly basis during their sitting weeks in concert with the other work that has been assigned to them. In 2018, 10,902 e-Orders were processed by judges, masters and registrars, a slight decrease from 2017. As with e-filing, the Court encourages all litigants and counsel to e-file orders where possible. For more detailed information, please see Figure 18 of the Appendix.

COURT GOVERNANCE

We are supported in our role as administrators of the Court by a number of internal court committees. In addition to the Court's three substantive law committees (the Criminal Law Committee, the Family Law Committee, and the Civil Law Committee), the Court is supported by subject-specific committees including the Executive Committee, the Education Committee, the Law Clerks Committee, and the Public Affairs Committee. The mandates of these committees vary; however, they all share a common purpose, to consider matters of general importance to the Court within the subject matter of the particular committee, and to provide advice and guidance to us and to the Court generally. The membership of these committees is drawn from the judges, masters, registrars, legal counsel, and judicial staff. Our ability to effectively and efficiently manage the Court is strengthened and enhanced by the work of these committees. Reports from committees start on page 26 of this report.

JUDICIAL VACANCIES

In 2018, the Court welcomed eleven new justices and one new master. As of December 31, 2018, there were five judicial vacancies. The position of Associate Chief Justice was filled by Madam Justice Heather J. Holmes, after a vacancy of nearly six months, on June 21, 2018.

As of December 31, 2018, there were five judicial vacancies.

Vacancies are created when a full time judge retires, elects to become a supernumerary judge, or is appointed to the Court of Appeal. Judicial vacancies continue to impact Court's capacity to provide hearing dates for litigants in a timely manner. When the Court is below its full complement, scheduled trials and long chambers applications must sometimes be bumped and rescheduled. Bumping matters increases the cost of litigation when work undertaken to prepare for a trial or a long chambers application has to be redone, and witnesses and experts who have traveled and taken time off of work must reappear at a later date. Supreme Court Scheduling staff regret being put in the position of telling litigants that their trials cannot proceed as scheduled, because the Court does not have enough judges to hear all of the matters scheduled for a particular day. Judicial vacancies that remain unfilled over a long period also increase the workload burden on the Court's existing complement of judges, increasing the risk of burnout. The Court hopes that additional judicial appointments will soon result in a full complement and allow the Court to function in the most effective manner possible.

SUPREME COURT PRACTICE DIRECTIONS

The Court issued one practice direction and a number of administrative notices in 2018:

FPD-14 Adoption Applications (February 5, 2018)

This family practice direction sets out the processes with respect to uncontested applications for the adoption of a child, applications to dispense with notice or consent under ss. 11 and 17 of the Adoption Act, and adult adoptions.

AN-15, Emergency After-Hours Applications in Vancouver – Civil & Family (May 3, 2018)

This administrative notice was issued to update the registry contact telephone numbers for emergency after-hours applications at the Vancouver Law Courts.

AN-16, Vexatious Litigants – Request for Leave to File Process or Documents (August 15, 2018, updated February 28, 2019)

This administrative notice outlines the process that persons who have been declared vexatious litigants must follow to request leave of the Court to initiate new proceedings or file materials within existing proceedings.

AN-17, Registry Vetting of Orders in Civil and Family Proceedings (November 28, 2018)

This administrative notice directs that a party or counsel seeking to have a presider sign a civil or family order on the bench first have the order vetted by the registry.

JUSTICE SUMMIT

The Chief Justice attended the Tenth Justice Summit in June 2018, and both the Chief Justice and Associate Chief Justice attended the Eleventh Justice Summit in November 2018. The Justice Summits are convened and hosted by the Attorney General of British Columbia, the Minister of Public Safety, and the Solicitor General of British Columbia. The theme of both Summits was Indigenous justice, with a particular focus on Indigenous people in the criminal justice system, the use of Gladue reports, and the greater project of building a new relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples as participants in the justice system. Those who attended discussed how to expand community-based programs to promote healing based on models that have already been implemented, and how to create and monitor the accountabilities of justice sector participants to Indigenous people and their communities.

EXTRA-JUDICIAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to the normal workload of hearing cases and applications, deciding issues, writing and issuing reasons for judgment, attending to judicial functions out of the courtroom such as issuing desk order divorces and electronic orders, and presiding at the numerous case conferences that occur outside of regular court hours, members of the Court participate in a wide variety of other activities in their communities. Members of the Court speak regularly to students from elementary to university level in law and social justice classes participating in courthouse tours arranged by such organizations as the Justice Education Society and the Canadian Bar Association. Members of the Court also attend at provincial universities and high schools to meet and talk with students. These visits are often done in association with Law Week activities organized by the Canadian Bar Association, but they occur at other times of the year as well. Members of the Court welcome opportunities to engage in public education and to contribute to a greater understanding of the justice system and its role in Canadian society. In 2018, the judges, masters and registrars of the Court continued to be involved in a wide range of local, provincial, federal and international organizations including:

Access Pro Bono Society of BC

Access to Justice BC

Advocates' Club

American College of Trial Lawyers

Arbitrators Association of BC

L'Association des juristes d'expression

française de la Colombie-Britannique

BC Council of Administrative Tribunals

BC Civil Liberties Association

BC Model Insolvency Order Committee

BC Institute of Technology

BC Law Schools Moot Program

Canadian Association of Insolvency and

Restructuring Professionals

Canadian Bar Association

Canadian Institute for the Administration of

Justice

Canadian Institute for Advanced Legal Studies

Canadian Judicial Council - National

Committee on Jury Instructions

Canadian Judicial Council - Family Law

Subcommittee

Continuing Legal Education Society of BC

Canadian Superior Courts Judges Association

Federation of Law Societies of Canada

National Criminal Law Program

Gale Cup Moot Program

Inns of Court Program

International Society for the Reform of

Criminal Law

Justice Education Society

Justice Institute of BC

Law Foundation of BC

Law Society of BC

Laskin Moot Program

Legal Services Society

National Judicial Institute

People's Law School

Sopinka Cup Moot Program

Thompson Rivers University Faculty of Law

Trial Lawyers Association of BC

Wilson Moot Program

Vancouver Foundation

Vancouver Institute

Victoria Foundation

University of BC Peter A. Allard School of Law

University of Victoria Faculty of Law

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Associate Chief Justice Holmes was appointed to the Court on June 21, 2018, ending a period of nearly six months without an Associate Chief Justice. The Chief Justice is pleased to have in Associate Chief Justice Holmes not only a skilled, capable, and hardworking administrator, but also a seasoned judge with a deep and comprehensive knowledge of criminal law. Her experience and intelligence will undoubtedly serve the court well.

The Chief Justice and Associate Chief Justice would like to acknowledge and thank the people who work in courthouses across the province: court clerks, registry staff, sheriffs, and other Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch employees. The administration of justice in British Columbia is made possible by these public servants who work tirelessly on behalf of the judiciary and the citizens of British Columbia.

We would also like to thank the Court's judicial administrative and support staff, including the judicial administration and library staff, judicial administrative assistants, scheduling staff, legal counsel, judicial law clerks, and IT staff. The functioning of the Court relies heavily on the professionalism, dedication, and diligence of our support staff. We are grateful for their many contributions to and continued support of the Court.

Finally, we would like express our thanks to our judicial colleagues: the judges, masters, and registrars of the Court. They routinely and willingly provide support and advice in respect of the administration of the Court.

Christopher E. Hinkson Chief Justice

Heather J. Holmes

Associate Chief Justice

JURISDICTION OF THE COURT



Nelson Courthouse

SUPERIOR COURT

The Supreme Court of British Columbia is the province's superior trial court. It is a court of general and inherent jurisdiction. This means that the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to hear and decide any matter that comes before it, unless a statute or rule limits that authority or grants exclusive jurisdiction to some other court or tribunal. The Supreme Court's inherent jurisdiction allows it to control its own processes and procedures in order to ensure fairness and to prevent abuses of process. The Supreme Court hears civil (including family) and criminal cases, as well as appeals from Provincial Court. The Supreme Court also reviews the decisions of certain administrative tribunals, including the Labour Relations Board, Workers Compensation Appeal Tribunal, the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal, and residential tenancies arbitration decisions.

SUPREME COURT REGISTRIES AND LOCATIONS

The Supreme Court is a circuit court in which all the judges and masters travel throughout the province to preside over cases. The Supreme Court sits in seven judicial districts and has resident judges in Chilliwack, Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, Nelson, New Westminster, Prince George, Vancouver, and Victoria. The Supreme Court also sits in other locations where there is no resident judge or master as required, including Campbell River, Cranbrook, Courtenay, Dawson Creek, Duncan, Fort St. John, Golden, Penticton, Port Alberni, Powell River, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Revelstoke, Rossland, Salmon Arm, Smithers, Terrace, Vernon, and Williams Lake.

CHIEF JUSTICE AND ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

The Chief Justice is responsible for the management and direction of matters related to judicial functions which includes matters related to the preparation, management, and adjudication of proceedings in the Court. From time to time, these responsibilities are delegated to the Associate Chief Justice.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

As of December 31, 2018, the Supreme Court had 104 justices: the Chief Justice, the Associate Chief Justice, 85 full-time justices and 17 supernumerary justices. As of December 31, 2018, there were five vacancies¹ on the Supreme Court.

SUPREME COURT MASTERS

The Supreme Court has 15 masters who are resident in Kamloops, Kelowna, Nanaimo, New Westminster, Vancouver, and Victoria. Masters sit in all of the registries throughout the province on a regular basis. Masters also conduct hearings using telephone and video conferencing.

Masters are judicial officers appointed by the provincial government by Order in Council after it has received recommendations from an ad hoc committee consisting of the Chief Justice, the Deputy Attorney General, the President of the Law Society of British Columbia, and the President of the B.C. Branch of the Canadian Bar Association.

Masters preside in civil chambers and registrar hearings. They hear applications in chambers on a wide variety of matters, including interim orders in family proceedings, interlocutory applications in civil proceedings such as production of documents, and foreclosure proceedings. Supreme Court masters also have the jurisdiction of registrars and preside as registrars throughout the province as required.

REGISTRARS

The Supreme Court has one registrar who is resident in Vancouver but regularly sits in other registries. Like the masters, the registrar also conducts hearings using telephone and video conferencing.

Registrars are appointed pursuant to s. 13 of the *Supreme Court Act* and are under the general direction of the Chief Justice. They hear a wide variety of matters, including reviews of lawyers' accounts, bankruptcy discharge applications and bankruptcy taxations, assessments of bills of costs, subpoenas to debtors, passing of accounts, and references of various types. They also settle orders.

¹ Section 2(2) of the *Supreme Court Act, R.S.B.C.* 1996, c. 443 provides that the Supreme Court consists of 90 full time justices in addition to the Chief Justice and the Associate Chief Justice. A judicial vacancy is created when a full time judge retires or elects to become a supernumerary judge. The retirement of a supernumerary judge does not create a judicial vacancy.

Supreme Court registrars are also responsible for overseeing the province's deputy district registrars, who work in court registries across the province. The registrar serves as a liaison between the Court and Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch in regard to registrar's issues.

CHANGES IN THE COURT'S COMPLEMENT



In 2018, the Court welcomed the appointment of eleven new judges and a new Associate Chief Justice and acknowledged the retirement of five others. Additionally, two judges of the Supreme Court were elevated to the Court of Appeal. These changes are listed chronologically within each category.

APPOINTMENTS

The Honourable Mr. Justice Jasvinder S. (Bill) Basran

Mr. Justice Jasvinder S. (Bill) Basran was appointed to the Supreme Court at Vancouver on January 19, 2018, to fill a vacancy created when Madam Justice B. Fisher was appointed to the Court of Appeal of British Columbia on September 14, 2017.

Justice Basran holds degrees in commerce (1989) and law (1994) from the University of Saskatchewan. After articling with Campney & Murphy in Vancouver, he was admitted to the British Columbia bar in 1995. He then joined the Department of Justice Canada in Vancouver, where he practised primarily in the area of tax litigation and appeared before the Tax Court of Canada, the Federal Court, and the Federal Court of Appeal.

In 2004, Justice Basran became General Counsel and Director of the B.C. Tax Law Section of the Department of Justice. In 2007, Justice Basran was appointed Regional Director General of the B.C. Regional Office of the Department of Justice. He was responsible for more than 400 employees who provided litigation and advisory services. From 2007 to 2016, he was a member of the Department of Justice Executive Committee, and he was a member of the National Litigation Sector's Board of Directors from 2016 until his appointment.

Justice Basran helped launch the Department's National Mentoring Program and was the Department's Champion for Visible Minorities for almost a decade. He was also instrumental in creating and developing the first Pro Bono Program at the Department of Justice, which currently consists of nine legal clinics in eight cities across Canada. In 2012, he received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work on this initiative. He has been a Director of the Access Pro Bono Society of British Columbia since 2014.

The Honourable Madam Justice Diane Cheryl MacDonald

Madam Justice Diane Cheryl MacDonald was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on February 7, 2018. She replaced Mr. Justice P.D. Leask, who retired effective September 18, 2017.

Madam Justice MacDonald received her B.A. from Simon Fraser University and her LL.B. from Dalhousie University and began practising law in 1995. After articling with Alexander Holburn Beaudin and Lang, she completed a Ph.D. in law and public policy at Northeastern University. She then practised with Victory Square Law Office and subsequently with the B.C. Teachers' Federation, where she was General Counsel from 2008 until her appointment to the bench.

Madam Justice MacDonald's primary focus has been in the areas of labour law, constitutional law, and human rights. She has acted as legal counsel before arbitrators, various administrative tribunals, and professional disciplinary bodies, and at all levels of court. In 2014, Justice MacDonald acted as co-counsel on a s.

15 *Charter* case, arguing for substantive equality for women claiming pregnancy and parental benefits, in which the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in her client's favour. Shortly before her appointment, Justice MacDonald acted as co-counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada on a successful s. 2(d) *Charter* case regarding the duty to consult in good faith.

Madam Justice MacDonald is committed to legal education and lifelong learning. She has published articles and regularly speaks at conferences across Canada for organizations including the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), the Continuing Legal Education Society of B.C., Lancaster House, and the Canadian Association of Labour Lawyers. She is also a mentor through the CBA's Women Lawyers Forum.

The Honourable Madam Justice Barbara J. Norell

Madam Justice Barbara J. Norell was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in New Westminster on February 22, 2018. She replaced Mr. Justice J.D. Truscott, who resigned effective July 4, 2017.

Madam Justice Norell was born in Saskatchewan. She spent most of her youth on Vancouver Island, but has also lived in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, and Whitehorse, Yukon. She received an LL.B. in 1985 from the University of Victoria and was admitted to the Bar of British Columbia in 1986. From 1985 until her appointment to the bench, she articled and then practised at the Vancouver law firm of Harper Grey LLP. In 2003,

she earned an LL.M. in e-commerce from Osgoode Hall Law School. She was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2016.

Throughout her career, Justice Norell practised as a civil litigator, first in insurance defence, including in cases involving the professional negligence of lawyers. In latter years, she focused on health law and privacy law in both the litigation and administrative law areas.

Justice Norell has been a frequent speaker at continuing education seminars for the legal, medical, and insurance professions. She is committed to increasing diversity and inclusion within the legal profession and has been an active mentor to other women through the Women Lawyers Forum of the B.C. branch of the Canadian Bar Association. As Harper Grey's chief diversity officer, she was a member of the Justicia project of the Law Society of British Columbia and of the Law Firm Diversity and Inclusion Network. In 2017, she received a Lexpert Zenith award celebrating women in law.

The Honourable Madam Justice Wendy A. Baker

Madam Justice Wendy A. Baker was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on February 22, 2018. She replaced Mr. Justice J.W. Williams, who elected to become a supernumerary judge effective October 10, 2017.

Madam Justice Baker is a graduate of the University of Victoria, from which she received her LL.B. in 1992. She was called to the bar in 1993 and joined the firm of Roberts, Muir & Griffin. In 2001, the firm (known then as Roberts & Baker) merged with the national firm of Miller Thomson LLP, where Madam Justice Baker remained as a partner in the litigation group for the remainder of her career as a lawyer. In 2009, she was appointed Queen's Counsel.

Justice Baker practised commercial litigation, and her experience spans many industries and areas of practice, including corporate and commercial disputes, agricultural law, and Aboriginal law. Acting as commission counsel, she assisted Mr. Justice Cohen on the Commission of Inquiry on the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River from 2009-2012. She was a member of the B.C. Civil Resolution Tribunal since its inception, and heard appeals as Acting Registrar of the Motor Vehicle Sales Authority and as a member of the B.C. Financial Services Tribunal.

Throughout her career, Justice Baker has been a frequent speaker and contributor to legal education programs. She has contributed to many publications of the B.C. Continuing Legal Education Society, including BC Business Disputes, Introducing

Evidence at Trial, and the Advocacy Toolkit. She has also been committed to the mentoring and development of young lawyers, and to the advancement of women in the legal profession.

The Honourable Justice Sharon Matthews

Madam Justice Sharon Matthews was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on February 22, 2018. She replaced Madam Justice L.B. Gerow, who elected to become a supernumerary judge effective October 10, 2017.

Throughout her career, Madam Justice Matthews has acted in a broad range of legal matters, including aviation cases, product liability cases, class actions, and public law and constitutional cases. Following her articles at Russell & DuMoulin and Camp Church & Associates, she was called to the Bar of British Columbia in 1993. In 2001, she was a founder of the firm now known as Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman LLP, where she practised until her appointment.

Justice Matthews thrived on the challenge of using complex legal concepts and processes to make a difference in the lives of her clients, who were often injured or disadvantaged. She has appeared as counsel before the superior and appellate courts in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and at the Supreme Court of Canada.

Alongside her practice, Justice Matthews had been actively engaged in service to the legal community, where she enjoyed working with great colleagues toward the shared goal of improving the justice system for the public it serves. She has frequently spoken at professional development events and has been involved in several access-to-justice initiatives, as well as pro bono work. In 2011-2012, she served as president of the Canadian Bar Association, B.C. Branch. She was elected a Law Society bencher in 2014. Justice Matthews is the recipient of three CBA BC President's Medals and was the 2006 UBC Law Alumni Association Outstanding Young Alumna. In 2012, she was appointed Queen's Counsel.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas J. Crabtree

The Honourable Thomas J. Crabtree, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Chilliwack on May 4, 2018. He replaced the late Mr. Justice B.M. Joyce, who had elected to become a supernumerary judge effective April 4, 2016.

Mr. Justice Crabtree was born in London, England and grew up in the Upper Fraser Valley of British Columbia. He is a graduate of the University of Victoria Law School and was called to the British Columbia Bar in 1984. Justice Crabtree practiced in the Fraser Valley for the better part of 15 years, assisting clients in a broad range of legal matters. In 1999, Justice Crabtree was appointed to the Provincial Court of British Columbia, where he served the court and the people of British Columbia for just over 19 years. In 2010, Justice Crabtree was appointed Chief Judge and served in this capacity until his appointment to the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

During Justice Crabtree's term as Chief Judge, a number of initiatives were undertaken in an effort to enhance the effectiveness and accessibility of the court. A lasting highlight during this period was the opportunity to engage with communities throughout the province and support the development of five Indigenous courts (in North Vancouver, Duncan, Kamloops, Merritt and Prince George), as well as a new child protection initiative in New Westminster. The latter initiative was an enhanced court-based mediation process guided by Elders for Indigenous families and children. Throughout his career, Justice Crabtree has been committed to judicial education. He has been a regular presenter and contributor to judicial education programs and served as a governor of the National Judicial Institute.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Geoffrey B. Gomery

Mr. Justice Geoffrey B. Gomery was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on June 15, 2018. He replaces Mr. Justice B.M. Greyell, who retired effective November 24, 2017.

Mr. Justice Gomery was born in Montreal and raised in Montreal and Halifax. Upon receiving his LL.B. from the University of Toronto in 1983, he moved to Vancouver, where he articled and later practised law with Davis & Company. He was called to the bar of British Columbia in 1984. He joined Nathanson, Schachter & Thompson LLP in 1990 and became a partner in 1992. In 2005, he took a leave of absence from his firm to pursue post-graduate studies at Oxford University, graduating with a Bachelor of Civil Law. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2010 and became a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in 2018.

Mr. Justice Gomery's practice focused on commercial and administrative litigation, including class actions, pension litigation, commercial arbitration, professional discipline, shareholder disputes and securities matters. He has appeared before all levels of court in British Columbia and before the courts of four other provinces, as well as the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada.

Since 2012, he has served as an Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia's Peter A. Allard School of Law, teaching a course he created on the law of restitution. He has also served as an instructor in the trial advocacy course. In addition, he has taught more than 30 continuing legal education courses, as well as chaired continuing legal education programs on restitution.

The Honourable Associate Chief Justice Heather J. Holmes

The Honourable Madam Justice Heather J. Holmes, a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, was appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia effective June 21, 2018.

The Honourable Madam Justice Holmes was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 2001. Highly regarded for her expertise in criminal law, Justice Holmes has been actively involved in the Court's administration and strategic planning over the course of her 17-year judicial career. She brings to her new role as Associate Chief Justice a strong sense of public service and a natural ability to bring people together.

Before her appointment to the bench, Associate Chief Justice Holmes practiced criminal law in Vancouver and Ottawa. A graduate of the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto, she began her legal career as a clerk in the British Columbia Court of Appeal. She joined the Ministry of the Attorney General of British Columbia as a Crown prosecutor in 1982, handling general prosecutions before focusing on commercial crime. From 1991 to 1995, Associate Chief Justice Holmes was counsel with the Criminal Law Policy Section within the federal Department of Justice in Ottawa, where she played a critical role developing amendments to the Criminal Code, including in the areas of sexual assault, criminal procedure, and jury selection.

Associate Chief Justice Holmes has assumed a leadership role on numerous initiatives aimed at improving the Supreme Court's operations, efficiency, and response to new challenges. From 2015 to 2018, she chaired the Court's Executive Committee, helping to guide the Court's administration and its relationship with the public. A former member of the Court's Education Committee, Justice Holmes has taught extensively on topics related to criminal law and procedure, and served as a faculty member for seminars offered by the National Judicial Institute.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Christopher J. Giaschi

Mr. Justice Christopher J. Giaschi was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on September 4, 2018. He replaced Justice S.A. Griffin, who was appointed to the Court of Appeal effective February 6, 2018.

Mr. Justice Giaschi was born in Bracebridge, Ontario. He earned a B.A. (Honours) from the University of Toronto in 1982 and a joint LL.B. and M.B.A. from Osgoode Hall Law School at York University in 1986.

Mr. Justice Giaschi was called to the Ontario Bar in 1988 and commenced practising law at Campbell, Godfrey & Lewtas, which later merged with Faskens. In 1991, he moved to Vancouver with his spouse, Professor Deborah Giaschi. In Vancouver, he practised as an associate and later a partner with McEwen Schmitt & Co. In 1997, he founded Giaschi & Margolis, a boutique law firm specializing in transportation and maritime law.

Mr. Justice Giaschi was recognized nationally and internationally as a leading practitioner of maritime law. He is a titular (honourary) member of the Comité Maritime International, a former president of the Canadian Maritime Law Association, and a former chairperson of the National Maritime Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association. From 2004 to 2009, he taught maritime law as an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia. He has also served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Marine Insurance Association of British Columbia, as chairperson of the Education Committee of the Marine Insurance Association of British Columbia, and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Branch of the Maritime Law Subsection of the Canadian Bar Association.

Mr. Justice Giaschi is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars and has an extensive list of publications. He is the annual contributor for Canada to Lloyd's Maritime Law Yearbook. He is also the founder of and principal contributor to AdmiraltyLaw.com, a pre-eminent Internet resource for maritime and transportation law.

The Honourable Madam Justice Karen Horsman

Madam Justice Karen Horsman, counsel at the Legal Services Branch of the Ministry of Justice of British Columbia, was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on September 4, 2018. She replaces Justice P.J. Pearlman, who resigned effective May 7, 2018.

Madam Justice Karen Horsman was born and raised in Vancouver. She received her LL.B. from the University of British Columbia in 1992. After clerking at the British Columbia Supreme Court, she completed her articles with the British Columbia Ministry of the Attorney General. Justice Horsman has spent most of her legal career as a barrister with the Ministry of the Attorney General, initially in the general civil litigation group and most recently in the constitutional and administrative law group. She was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2014.

Madam Justice Horsman's legal practice has covered a wide range of subject matters, from personal injury actions in provincial small claims court to major constitutional litigation that has progressed to the Supreme Court of Canada. She has frequently appeared as counsel at all levels of courts in British Columbia and at the Supreme Court of Canada.

Since 2007, Madam Justice Horsman has been a co-editor and contributing author to the textbook *Government Liability: Law and Practice*. For the past several years, she has also taught as an adjunct professor at the Allard School of Law. Throughout her career, Madam Justice Horsman has been a frequent volunteer contributor to legal education programs on a diverse array of topics including appellate advocacy, constitutional litigation, class actions, administrative law, and mentoring in the legal profession.

The Honourable Madam Justice Veronica Jackson

Madam Justice Veronica Jackson was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in Vancouver on October 9, 2018. She replaces Madam Justice Heather J. Holmes, who was appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia on June 21, 2018.

Madam Justice Veronica Jackson was born in New Brunswick, raised in Manitoba, and later moved to British Columbia. She received her LL.B. from the University of Alberta in 1992 and her LL.M. from Osgoode Hall Law School in 2010. She was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1993 and the British Columbia Bar in 2007 and began her legal career as a criminal prosecutor with Manitoba Justice. She later joined the Winnipeg law firm of Scurfield Tapper Cuddy, where her practice included commercial litigation, professional regulation, criminal defence work, and child protection cases. From 2007 until her appointment, Justice Jackson practised as part of the Legal Services Branch of the British Columbia Ministry of Attorney General, first with the Constitutional and Administrative Law Group and most recently undertaking tax and constitutional litigation with the Revenue and Taxation Group. She has also been an adjunct

professor at the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law, where she has taught legal ethics and professionalism since 2014.

Throughout her career, Madam Justice Jackson has been committed to equality and diversity. She is a former member of the National Legal Committee of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF), a former Chair of the Canadian Bar Association's Women Lawyers Forum and its Constitutional and Human Rights Law Section, and has been recognized both for her contribution towards the promotion of equality in the legal profession and her pro bono work on behalf of the Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba. She has been a frequent contributor to a variety of legal and community education programs.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Steven Wilson

Mr. Justice Steven Wilson, formerly a master of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, was appointed as a judge to the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Kelowna on October 19, 2018. He replaces Mr. Justice P.J. Rogers, who resigned effective September 1, 2017.

Justice Steven Wilson was born in Belper, England and moved to North Vancouver in 1980 as a teenager. He attended the University of British Columbia, where he earned a B.Comm. and an LL.B. in 1991. After articling in Vancouver, he was called to the British Columbia Bar in 1992. He relocated to Kelowna in the Okanagan to join Pushor Mitchell LLP in 1994.

While in practice, Justice Wilson maintained a general commercial and civil litigation practice involving realization work, including foreclosures, insolvencies, and workouts. He handled real estate litigation and insurance work, defending claims against municipalities including large multiparty construction litigation files, shareholder disputes, and other general civil litigation matters. He was accepted as an expert in British Columbia practice and procedure by the Superior Court of California, San Mateo County.

In November 2015, Justice Wilson was appointed a master of the British Columbia Supreme Court, based in Kelowna. In that role, he heard many interim applications in family matters, foreclosures, and other civil cases.

Master Stuart Cameron

Master Stuart Cameron was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Vancouver effective November 26, 2018.

Master Cameron joined the Supreme Court of B.C. as district registrar in 2011 and has served as registrar since 2014. Prior to joining the court, Cameron had a 20-year legal career with the Law Society of B.C. and in private practice concentrated on civil litigation and administrative law, including roles pertaining to the investigation, management and oversight of professional conduct and discipline. Additionally, he has served on the Attorney General's Rules Committee and Court Rules Committee.

ELEVATIONS

The Honourable Madam Justice Susan A. Griffin

The Honourable Madam Justice Griffin was appointed to the Court of Appeal for British Columbia and the Court of Appeal of Yukon on February 7, 2018, to fill the vacancy created when Mr. Justice R.B.T. Goepel elected to become a supernumerary judge, effective September 30, 2016. Madam Justice Griffin was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2008, where she served for 10 years.

Madam Justice Griffin has had a distinguished career as a superior court judge. She is known for her work ethic, her thorough attention to the evidence, her ability to resolve complex legal issues, and for having a compassionate approach to vulnerable witnesses.

Justice Griffin grew up in rural Ontario but moved to Vancouver following graduation from the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, in 1984. Having obtained her law degree at a young age, she later took a sabbatical to obtain an LL.M. from the London School of Economics and Political Science. There she focused on international law, including human rights, and won two top prizes. Justice Griffin has an ongoing interest in understanding the experiences of historically marginalized persons, and has written and spoken about the importance of recognizing and rejecting implicit assumptions, biases, and stereotypes.

Prior to being appointed to the bench, Justice Griffin practised in the area of civil litigation for 23 years and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2005. Throughout her career, she has been engaged in legal education and writing. She is co-author of a leading text entitled *The Conduct of Civil Litigation in British Columbia*. Recognized for her dedication to mentoring younger lawyers, Justice Griffin has also taught numerous legal advocacy programs and developed an award-winning video series on advocacy skills for junior litigators (CLEBC Advocacy Toolkit). She also served on committees supporting the administration of the courts.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Bruce Butler

The Honourable Mr. Justice Butler was appointed to the Court of Appeal for British Columbia and the Court of Appeal of Yukon on August 31, 2018, to fill the vacancy created when Justice E.A. Bennett elected elected to become a supernumerary judge, effective February 1, 2017. Mr. Justice Butler was appointed to the Supreme Court in 2007.

Mr. Justice Butler was born in Calgary and raised in North Vancouver, where he still resides. He received his LL.B. from the University of British Columbia in 1979 and was called to the British Columbia Bar in 1980. He practised at Harper Grey LLP until his appointment to the bench. His varied civil litigation practice focused on the fields of professional liability, commercial insurance, insurance coverage, commercial litigation and aviation. Mr. Justice Butler was an executive director of the Vancouver Bar Association and a frequent lecturer at CLEBC and bar education events. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2005.

In his 11 years on the court, Mr. Justice Butler heard a wide range of cases in all areas of the law and developed a strong interest in family law. He was appointed the Hague Contact Judge for British Columbia in 2009 and was a member of the Canadian Network of Contact Judges (now the Special Committee on International Child Protection) from 2009 to 2017. He has been a member of the Supreme Court's Family Law Committee since 2010 and has chaired that committee since 2015. He took an active role in the establishment of the Family Law Project for the court and acted as the team leader in Vancouver in 2015 and 2016. From 2012 to the present, he has been a member of the Editorial Board of the British Columbia Family Practice Manual, published by the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia (CLEBC).

RETIREMENTS

The Honourable Mr. Justice Paul J. Pearlman

The Honourable Mr. Justice Pearlman retired from the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Vancouver on May 7, 2018. Mr. Justice Pearlman was appointed to the Supreme Court on January 31, 2008.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Frank W. Cole

The Honourable Mr. Justice Cole retired from the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Vancouver on July 8, 2018. Mr. Justice Cole was appointed to the Supreme Court on March 19, 1996.

The Honourable Madam Justice Linda A. Loo

The Honourable Madam Justice Loo retired from the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Vancouver on September 29, 2018. Madam Justice Loo was appointed to the Supreme Court on September 24, 1996.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Keith Bracken

The Honourable Mr. Justice Bracken retired from the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Victoria on October 28, 2018. Mr. Justice Bracken was appointed to the Supreme Court on March 30, 2007.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Ian C. Meiklem

The Honourable Mr. Justice Meiklem retired from the Supreme Court of British Columbia at Kamloops on December 27, 2018. Mr. Justice Meiklem was appointed to the Supreme Court on October 11, 1991.

CIVIL LAW COMMITTEE



Vernon Law Courts

Members

Mr. Justice Walker (Chair)
Madam Justice Beames

Mr. Justice Davies

Mr. Justice McEwan

Mr. Justice Sewell

Mr. Justice Skolrood

Mr. Justice Smith

Mr. Justice Thompson

Mr. Justice Voith

Madam Justice Warren

Master Bouck

Master Caldwell

Jill Leacock, Legal Counsel

The role of the Civil Law Committee is to consider developments in civil practice and procedure and to provide input relating to these matters to the Chief Justice and other members of the Court. The Committee also provides input to the Court Rules Committee from time to time on matters of civil practice and procedure.

During 2018, the Committee carried out work in a number of specific areas. It reviewed amendments to the *Civil Resolution Tribunal Act* and the *Insurance (Vehicle) Act)*. It considered the Uniform Civil Law Committee's proposal for harmonized civil procedure rules for production of electronic documents. The Committee provided recommendations to the Court's Education Committee for judicial education in relation to completion of the Trial Management Report. The Committee also provided the Chief Justice with its views on proposed amendments to the Supreme Court Civil Rules. In addition, at the behest of Chief Justice Hinkson on behalf of the Canadian Judicial Committee on Access to Justice, members of the committee provided input and suggestions for improved efficiency in the conduct of civil cases.

Throughout 2018, the Committee continued to provide the Court with updates discussing recent significant appellate decisions in the area of civil practice and procedure.

CRIMINAL LAW COMMITTEE



Members

Madam Justice Ker (Chair) Madam Justice Duncan (Vice Chair) Associate Chief Justice Holmes Madam Justice Church Mr. Justice Cullen (until September 2018) Madam Justice Devlin Madan DeWitt-Van Oosten Mr. Justice Dlev Mr. Justice Ehrcke Mr. Justice Gaul Madam Justice Maisonville Mr. Justice Tammen (as of October 2018) Madam Justice Watchuk Madam Justice Wedge Claire Wilson, Legal Counsel

The Criminal Law Committee continued to provide the Court with assistance with respect to various matters that arose during 2018. One valued member resigned from the Committee (Mr. Justice Cullen). The Committee is grateful for both the leadership and numerous contributions made by Mr. Justice Cullen during his long tenure on the Committee as a member, as Chair of the Committee, and as the Associate Chief Justice. One new member, Mr. Justice Tammen, joined the Committee in October.

Mr. Justice Ehrcke continued to provide to the Court updates and summaries of important criminal law decisions from the Supreme Court of Canada and the British Columbia Court of Appeal. Other members of the Committee provide updates and summaries of criminal law decisions of significance from other provincial appellate courts from time to time. Madam Justice Watchuk continued to provide summaries of new criminal legislation as it came into force.

The Committee created sub-committees to address three distinct issues: (i) a working group is addressing harmonizing the current Provincial Court of British Columbia "picklists" for common terms for bail, probation, conditional sentence orders, and ancillary orders working in tandem with the Provincial Court; (ii) a working group reviewing updates to papers on topics covering criminal law issues held on the Court's intranet site; and (iii) a working group is reviewing modernizing the language employed at the outset of empanelling a jury in criminal trials.

Members of the Committee have also consulted with the Public Affairs Committee and the Honourable Bruce Cohen (the Superior Courts Communications Officer) on a number of issues related to accredited media access to exhibits, development of a publication ban template order, and other matters.

Members of the Committee assisted the Director of Supreme Court Scheduling and the Manager of Supreme Court Scheduling (Vancouver Criminal) in developing a "Fix Date Report" that provides a brief history of appearances on files in fix dates so that the judge presiding at fix dates has a clear picture of how long a matter has been on the fix date list. This report is of considerable assistance in showing the length of delay accruing on a file at the fix date stage and provides the presiding judge with a further tool to direct inquiries at counsel and the parties as to why the matter needs to be adjourned further if a date cannot be set at the appearance.

Members of the Committee continue to be active in educational and training activities including organizing and presenting criminal law topics for NJI conferences, Law at Lunch presentations, and through ongoing updates to the Court on current issues in criminal law. Members of the Committee are also involved in speaking to lawyers, high school students, law students, visiting judges and various other groups through the Justice Education Society, the Inns of Court program, the Continuing Legal Education Society, the Canadian Bar Association Criminal Law Section, the Trial Lawyers Association, the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, and other similar organizations.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Members



New Westminster Law Courts

Madam Justice MacNaughton (Chair)

Mr. Justice Abrioux

Madam Justice Burke

Mr. Justice Crabtree

Madam Justice Devlin

Madam Justice Duncan

Mr. Justice Harvey

Mr. Justice Kent

Madam Justice Maisonville

Madam Justice Power

Mr. Justice Pearlman

Mr. Justice Rilev

Mr. Justice Verhoeven

Madam Justice Young

Master McDiarmid

Brenda Belak and Claire Wilson, Legal Counsel

The mandate of the Education Committee is to organize and present continuing education programs to in order to assist the judges, masters and registrars of the Court to stay on top of current developments in substantive law, enhance judicial skills, and learn about social context and philosophical and ethical issues which relate to the Court's work.

The Committee delivers its main programs at judicial education conferences held in May and November of each year. These conferences are developed and presented in partnership with the National Judicial Institute. The Committee is grateful for the continuing support from the staff at the National Judicial Institute, including the program advisors who support the development of our programs and the program assistants who provide administrative and logistical support for the conferences.

2018 Conferences

The May 2018 Conference included sessions about skills in judicial case conferences; sexual assault trials; privacy in the digital age; class actions; injunctions; a criminal law update; and the law and Indigenous peoples. The November 2018 Conference

included sessions about dangerous offenders, long-term offenders, and risk assessment in criminal sentencing; cyber security; intercultural competence and judicial ethics; support for adult children; and child alienation.

New Judges Training

Starting in 2017, the Committee developed a program for newly appointed judges and masters designed to support them as they transition to our court. The new judges training program is in addition to the opportunity provided to newly appointed judges to shadow one or more judicial colleagues for five days prior to beginning to sit. The unprecedented number of new appointments to our court in 2017 (and into 2018) was the motivation behind the creation of the program, which focused on the particular issues and challenges of being a judge or master on our court.

The second day of the program was delivered at the May 2018 conference. It was presented entirely by senior judges of our court. The NJI videotaped the sessions and, with the assistance of our IT group, the videos and the accompanying materials were posted to our Intranet website and made available to all judges of the court.

In November 2018, we delivered the third session of new judges training, this time done entirely in house. We focused on writing and delivering decisions and managing reserve lists, managing busy chambers, the challenges of decision-making in family proceedings, tips and resources for being on the road. In each session, we included an "ask us anything" session.

Law at Lunch

The Committee also facilitates regular lunchtime seminars presented by and to members of the Court. In 2018, the sessions covered a range of topics including references to the Registrar, information about the legalization of cannabis, publication bans, processing *Jordan* applications, the "Rule" in *Browne v. Dunn*, enforcement considerations in interim injunction applications, and procedure and processes in criminal matters. The Committee is grateful that the members of our Court continue to demonstrate a high degree of engagement in these programs and work diligently to prepare timely, topical and practical programs for their colleagues.

FAMILY LAW COMMITTEE



Prince George Law Courts

Members

Mr. Justice Butler (*Chair until appointment to the BCCA, August 2018*) Madam Justice Choi (*Chair from September 2018*) Madam Justice Fleming (*Vice-Chair from September 2018*)

Mr. Justice Armstrong

Mr. Justice Cole

Mr. Justice Groves

Madam Justice Loo

Madam Justice MacNaughton

Madam Justice Shergill

Mr. Justice Tindale

Master Dick

Master Harper

Nikki Hair and Zoe Si, Legal Counsel

The role of the Family Law Committee is to consider developments in family law practice and procedure and to provide input relating to these matters to the Chief Justice and other members of the Court.

In 2018, the Family Law Committee experienced a number of changes in membership. Mr. Justice Butler was appointed to the Court of Appeal and was succeeded by Madam Justice Choi as Committee Chair and by Madam Justice Fleming as Vice-Chair. Long time members of the committee Mr. Justice Groves, Mr. Justice Cole, and Madam Justice Loo retired from the Committee, and Madam Justice Shergill and Master Harper joined the committee. Legal counsel Nikki Hair assisted the Committee until her departure on leave in May 2018 and was succeeded by Zoe Si.

The Committee was very active in 2018, undertaking the following work:

- Providing comment to the Court Rules Committee and the Chief Justice regarding proposed changes to the Supreme Court Family Rules;
- Informing the Court about the Child and Youth Legal Centre;
- Encouraging enhanced use by the Court of the Family Law Picklist of orders frequently made in family proceedings;
- Making recommendations for amendment of the family law pleadings;
- Considering a Ministry proposal for judges to have discretion to permit family proceedings in French;
- Providing input to an external committee, the Access Policy Working Committee, with respect to a proposed initiative for information sharing between criminal and family courts in family violence cases;

- Reviewing the DivorceMATE handbook prepared by Ms. Si to assist presiders in interpreting DivorceMATE calculations; and
- Developing mock JCC educational videos for internal use.

Legal counsel for the committee continued the ongoing work of creating family law resources for the benefit of presiders.

LAW CLERKS COMMITTEE



Revelstoke Courthous

Members

Mr. Justice Kelleher (Chair)

Mr. Justice Blok
Mr. Justice Grauer
Madam Justice Iyer
Mr. Justice MacKenzie
Madam Justice Russell
Brenda Belak, Legal Counsel

The Committee is responsible for the management of the Judicial Law Clerk Program, which provides a unique learning opportunity for new law school graduates of diverse backgrounds who have achieved a high academic standard. The Committee is directly involved in the recruitment and hiring of judicial law clerks each year. The Committee is assisted in its work by the court's legal counsel, to whom the day-to-day management and administration of the law clerks is delegated.

The recruitment process begins approximately two years before the start of the judicial law clerk term when the Committee sends materials to all Canadian law schools. The application and interview process takes place approximately 18 months before the start of the term. In the early spring, members of the Committee interview between 28 and 32 applicants. Each year, 18 law clerks are hired for 13 positions in Vancouver, three in New Westminster, and two in Victoria.

In 2018, the following 18 law clerks began their clerkships with the Court:

Vancouver: Edmond Chen, Maryanna Dinh, Andrew Eyer, Alexa Ferguson,

Natasha John, Elise Kohno, Jessie Skinnider, Carly Peddle, Benjamin Reedijk, Emma Ronsley, Scarlett Smith, Nathan

Surkan, and Emma Waterman

New Westminster: Danielle Ching, Ian Davis, and Catharine McMillan

Victoria: Renata Colwell and Leila Hurst

The Committee wishes to extend its gratitude and appreciation to the Court's law clerks for the assistance that they provide to the judges and masters of the Court. The enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication they bring to their work and to the work of the Court are invaluable.

The Committee would also like to express its gratitude to the judges of the Court who serve as principals to the law clerks. They provide great mentorship to our law clerks and allow the Judicial Law Clerk Program to continue to provide a rich educational experience.

The Committee also expresses its thanks to Brenda Belak, legal counsel for the Supreme Court for her work in the recruitment, hiring, training, and supervision of the law clerks, and to Andrea Baedak for providing administrative support to the program.

JOINT COURTS TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE



Kamloops Law Courts

Members

Mr. Justice Masuhara (*Chair*) Madam Justice Bennett

Mr. Justice Willcock Madam Justice Adair

Mr. Justice Myers

Mr. Justice Punnett

Registrar Outerbridge

Heidi McBride, Executive Director and Senior Counsel

Ryan Wirth, Manager, Information Technology

Cindy Friesen, Director, Supreme Court Scheduling

In 2018, the Joint Courts Technology Committee continued to review technology developments and their impact on the work of the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. Committee members also participated in various technology initiatives such as the Courts Technology Board's Artificial Intelligence Challenge which has various developers engaged in exploring the following:

- Smart Online Guide: to provide timely access to justice, reduce court delays and increase affordability by providing smart virtual aids for accessing services in different languages, or completing many complex court forms in a userfriendly interactive way that eliminates errors
- Intelligent Reviewer: to reduce processing times and court delays, and increase efficiencies with the enhanced ability to quickly search and organize large amounts of information
- Online Justice Chatbot: to increase affordability and timely access to justice by using chatbot technology to assist citizens who find it difficult and financially burdensome to obtain required information, forms or guidance to services such as probate, and/or wills and estates planning with 24/7 self-service options
- Auto Transcriber: to allow faster and cheaper transcription, reducing costs for government and increasing affordability via an automated solution that converts speech to text
- Smart Court Way-finder and Inquirer Platform: to reduce court delays, increase efficiencies, and improve navigability and timeliness of court proceedings by providing interactive way-, information- and document-finding technologies for court staff and court users

Video conferencing through a pilot project with the court Masters was initiated. The result confirmed the committee's view that a digital content platform was needed by the courts in order to capture the full value of technology to enhance access to justice. The implementation of digital platform for court proceedings is under active review including the piloting of commercial platforms in court proceedings.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE



Rossland Courthouse

Members

Mr. Justice Skolrood (*Chair*)

Mr. Justice Goepel Madam Justice Ker

Heidi McBride, Executive Director & Senior Counsel

Diane Lemieux, Librarian

Electronic Resources

The role and use of electronic resources continues to expand. With advances in the platforms that run CLE, WestlawNext Canada and Lexis Advanced Quicklaw, amongst others, searching techniques have never been more user friendly.

Library staff work with newly appointed judges to assist in developing their familiarity and comfort with these resources. This includes getting new judges their first online user passwords to search various legal programs, assisting them in their first forays into the library looking for an answer to a query, or tackling a new subject area unfamiliar to them.

As the way we search for legal materials continues to change, the library footprint will change as well. Materials that were formally available in print may be discontinued and solely available online, such as the Consolidated Regulations of British Columbia, now found only in PDF format in BC Laws. This year, the Committee approved the discontinuance of a large number of print looseleaf services, due to both their prohibitive cost and the fact that the materials are available online. This process will continue in 2019. Library staff continue to monitor both the use and cost of the various resources to achieve an effective balance between print and electronic materials.

The Committee would like to acknowledge and thank the Library staff for the exemplary service they provide. All members of the judiciary are encouraged to consult the staff with respect to research needs, including training on the electronic resources.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Members

Mr. Justice Smith (Chair)
The Honourable Bruce Cohen
Mr. Justice Gaul
Chief Justice Hinkson
Madam Justice Russell
Mr. Justice Steeves
Mr. Justice Tindale
Mr. Justice Walker
Madam Justice Wedge
Master McDiarmid
Heidi McBride, Executive Director and Senior Legal Counsel
Brenda Belak and Claire Wilson, Legal Counsel

Mandate of the Committee

In keeping with the open courts principle, the Public Affairs Committee's mandate is to promote activities that enhance public understanding of court processes and to address issues concerning public education about the Court, the media, and access to court files, including exhibits.

Work of the Committee

The Public Affairs Committee hosts an annual lunch with local media to hear emerging issues from their perspectives. This year's lunch took place on May 3, 2018, World Press Freedom Day, and was well attended by Lower Mainland media representatives.

Access to exhibits has been a constant issue of concern for media, as bringing a formal application for access can be an onerous process. In conjunction with the Criminal Law Committee, in 2018, the Public Affairs Committee developed new forms for accredited media, allowing them to request access to a certain exhibit or to establish a protocol for access to all exhibits through an expedited process without a formal application. The new process still allows for the judge hearing a matter to exercise discretion to hear submissions on media access. The Court will continue to work with the registries on implementation and to monitor the use of these forms over the coming year.

Another issue that the Public Affairs Committee addressed in 2018 was access procedures for media outside the jurisdiction who are not accredited. Granting of accreditation is undertaken by a committee of media representatives who work at

arms' length from the Court; accreditation credentials are issued by the Court on the direction of the accreditation committee. As more cases of international interest are heard at the Court, the Public Affairs Committee and the Honourable Bruce Cohen continue to work with the accreditation committee to develop appropriate policies and processes.

The Public Affairs Committee is grateful to the Honourable Bruce Cohen for the work he performs as the Superior Courts Communications Officer and the liaison role he fulfills in interacting with members of the media and answering questions directed to the Court. The Committee also wishes to express gratitude to legal counsel in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal and to the Registrar of the Court of Appeal, without whose assistance and counsel the committee would not be able to move forward on its work in tackling public and media relations initiatives. The Committee also expresses its thanks to Andrea Baedak, who maintains the accreditation lists and distributes information to accredited media.

JUDICIAL ACCESS POLICY WORKING COMMITTEE



Nanaimo Courthouse

Members

Karen Leung, Legal Officer, Provincial Court

Caroline Berkey, Legal Officer, Provincial Court

Sally Rudolf, Legal Counsel, Court of Appeal (Chair to July 2018)

Brenda Belak, Legal Counsel, Supreme Court (Chair from August 2018)

Heidi McBride, Executive Director & Senior Counsel, Judicial Administration, Superior Courts Judiciary

Grant Marchand, Manager, Judicial Resource Analysis & Management Information Systems, Provincial Court

Dan Chiddell, Director Strategic Information & Business Applications, Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch

Rob Richardson, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy, Legislation and Planning, Ministry of Attorney General - Court Services Branch

Jess Gunnarson, Director, Policy, Legislation and Planning, Ministry of Attorney General - Court Services Branch (from May 2018)

Kathryn Thomson, Legal Policy Advisor

Mandate of the Committee

The Chief Justices and Chief Judge of British Columbia's courts have responsibility for the supervision and control of court records and judicial administration records. The Judicial Access Policy Working Committee is a joint committee consisting of representatives from all three courts and Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch employees. The Committee develops draft policies and interacts with the various court committees, seeking guidance and approval for draft policies relating to access to court records, particularly those in electronic format. The Chief Justices and Chief Judge give approval before a policy is adopted. In addition to policy work, the Committee also reviews access applications for those seeking bulk access to court record information.

Work of the Committee

In 2018, the work of the Committee included the following:

Access Applications

As in every year, the Committee received, considered and made recommendations in respect of a number of applications for access to court record information from a variety of government, non-profit, and private agencies and departments in order to fulfill their statutory mandates or to improve the efficiency of their operations. The Committee also considered and made recommendations in respect of access applications from universities and other academic organizations for research purposes.

Data Governance

In July 2016, the Committee appointed from among its members a Data Governance Working Group to identify and address data governance issues, review existing protocols, and consider whether additional or updated court data management documentation is required. In 2018, the Data Governance Working Group met quarterly to continue this work.

JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT



ancouver Law Courts

CHIEF JUSTICE

THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER E. HINKSON

- Appointed to the Supreme Court March 2, 2007
- Appointed to the Court of Appeal March 18, 2010
- Appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court November 7, 2013

ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

THE HONOURABLE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE HEATHER J. HOLMES

- Appointed to the Supreme Court March 21, 2001
- Appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Supreme Court June 21, 2018

JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE IAN C. MEIKLEM ▼ (Kamloops)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 11, 1991

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MARY A. HUMPHRIES ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 27, 1994

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE JANICE R. DILLON ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 25, 1995

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BARRY M. DAVIES ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 10, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE FRANK W. COLE ▼(Vancouver)

Appointed to Supreme Court March 19, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM G. E. GRIST ► (Chilliwack)

- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court January 1, 1990
- Appointed to the Supreme Court June 20, 1996

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE T. MARK McEwan (Vancouver/Nelson)

Appointed to the Supreme Court August 7, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE ALISON J. BEAMES ► (Kelowna)

Appointed to the Supreme Court August 7, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE LINDA A. LOO ▼ (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court September 24, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE GRANT D. BURNYEAT ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 19, 1996

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE CAROL J. Ross ► (Vancouver)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court March 21, 2001

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE HARRY A. SLADE (Vancouver)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court March 27, 2001

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE CATHERINE A. WEDGE ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 4, 2001

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ROBERT CRAWFORD ► (New Westminster)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court September 27, 2001

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE BRENDA BROWN (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 18, 2002

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE LAURA B. GEROW ► (Vancouver)

• Appointed to Supreme Court October 10, 2002

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE JAMES W. WILLIAMS ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 10, 2002

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DAVID M. MASUHARA (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 11, 2002

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE STEPHEN F. KELLEHER ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court July 24, 2003

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE LANCE W. BERNARD (New Westminster)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court July 24, 2003

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE WILLIAM EHRCKE ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 28, 2003

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ROBERT JOHNSTON ► (Victoria)

Appointed to the Supreme Court November 26, 2004

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ARNE H. SILVERMAN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court November 26, 2004

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE J. MIRIAM GROPPER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 14, 2005

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE LORYL D. RUSSELL ► (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 14, 2005

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE NATHAN H. SMITH (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 19, 2005

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE JOEL R. GROVES (Vancouver)

- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court May 4, 2000
- Appointed to the Supreme Court May 19, 2005

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE ELLIOTT M. MYERS (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court November 22, 2005

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE G. BRUCE BUTLER ▲ (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court March 30, 2007

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE PAUL J. PEARLMAN ▼ (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 31, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE GEOFFREY R.J. GAUL (Victoria)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 31, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE SUSAN A. GRIFFIN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court February 20, 2008

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE J. CHRISTOPHER GRAUER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 11, 2008

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE PAUL W. WALKER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 18, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE D. JANE DARDI (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 18, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE KATE KER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 18, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE NEILL BROWN ► (Chilliwack)

Appointed to the Supreme Court July 30, 2008

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE ELAINE J. ADAIR (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court November 28, 2008

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE ROBERT J. SEWELL (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 22, 2009

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE JOHN S. HARVEY (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 22, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE PETER G. VOITH (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 22, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE FRITS VERHOEVEN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 22, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE TERENCE A. SCHULTES (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 15, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE ROBERT D. PUNNETT (Victoria)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 19, 2009

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE GREGORY T. W. BOWDEN (Vancouver)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court May 14, 2004
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 2, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE BRIAN D. MACKENZIE (Victoria)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court October 30, 1990
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 23, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE ANTHONY SAUNDERS (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court November 27, 2009

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE S. DEV DLEY (Kamloops)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court June 23, 2008
- Appointed to the Supreme Court March 19, 2010

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MIRIAM A. MAISONVILLE (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court March 19, 2010

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE SHELLEY C. FITZPATRICK (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 18, 2010

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE JENNIFER A. POWER (Victoria)

Appointed to the Supreme Court August 6, 2010

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE TREVOR C. ARMSTRONG (New Westminster)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court October 1, 2010

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE JEANNE E. WATCHUK (Vancouver)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court October 3, 1994
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 28, 2010

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE MURRAY B. BLOK (New Westminster)

- Appointed District Registrar March 25, 2002
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 28, 2010

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE D. ALLAN BETTON (Kelowna)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court March 19, 2007
- Appointed to the Supreme Court June 24, 2011

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE KENNETH AFFLECK (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 24, 2011

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE PATRICE ABRIOUX (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court September 29, 2011

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE RONALD S. TINDALE (Prince George)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court February 15, 2010
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 20, 2011

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE ROBERT W. JENKINS (New Westminster)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court December 31, 2011

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE GORDON C. WEATHERILL (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 31, 2012

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ROBIN A. M. BAIRD (Nanaimo)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court August 22, 2011
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 5, 2012

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE GORDON S. FUNT (Vancouver)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court October 5, 2012

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE JOHN J. STEEVES (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 5, 2012

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE KENNETH W. BALL (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Provincial Court January 6, 2003

• Appointed to the Supreme Court November 2, 2012

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE DOUGLAS W. THOMPSON (Nanaimo)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 13, 2012

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE SHERI ANN DONEGAN (Kamloops)

- Appointed to the Provincial Court October 4, 2010
- Appointed to the Supreme Court June 6, 2013

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE RONALD A. SKOLROOD (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 6, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE LISA WARREN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 6, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MARGOT L. FLEMING (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 6, 2013

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE GARY P. WEATHERILL (Kelowna)

• Appointed to the Supreme Court October 2, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE GEORGE K. MACINTOSH (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 17, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE NIGEL P. KENT (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 17, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE JENNIFER M. I. DUNCAN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 17, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE NEENA SHARMA (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 17, 2013

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE EMILY M. BURKE (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 13, 2014

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MARTHA M. DEVLIN (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 11, 2014

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE GRACE CHOI (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 29, 2015

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE BARBARA M. YOUNG (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court December 6, 2006

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 19, 2015

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MARGUERITE H. CHURCH (Prince George)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 16, 2016

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE MARIA MORELLATO (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 16, 2016

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE HEATHER MACNAUGHTON (Vancouver)

- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court June 1, 2011
- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 19, 2016

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE CATHERINE MURRAY (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 19, 2016

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE M. JOYCE DEWITT-VAN OOSTEN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 19, 2016

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ANDREW P. A. MAYER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court April 12, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE W. PAUL RILEY (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 11, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE WARD K. BRANCH (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 8, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE CARLA FORTH (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 14, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE MICHAEL J. TAMMEN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 14, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE WARREN B. MILMAN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 14, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE NITYA IYER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 14, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE LEONARD MARCHAND (Kamloops)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 21, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE PALBINDER KAUR SHERGILL (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 23, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE MICHAEL J. BRUNDRETT (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 21, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE JANET WINTERINGHAM (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court August 15, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE E. DAVID CROSSIN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court September 29, 2017

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE FRANCESCA MARZARI (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court December 19, 2017

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE JASVINDER S. (BILL) BASRAN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court January 19, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE DIANE CHERYL MACDONALD (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court February 7, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE BARBARA NORELL (New Westminster)

Appointed to the Supreme Court February 22, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE WENDY A. BAKER (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court February 22, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE SHARON MATTHEWS (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court February 22, 2018

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE THOMAS CRABTREE (Chilliwack)

Appointed to the Supreme Court May 4, 2018

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE GEOFFREY B. GOMERY (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court June 15, 2018

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER J. GIASCHI (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court September 4, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE KAREN HORSMAN (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court September 4, 2018

THE HONOURABLE MADAM JUSTICE VERONICA JACKSON (Vancouver)

Appointed to the Supreme Court October 9, 2018

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE STEPHEN WILSON (Kelowna)

- Appointed to the Supreme Court October 19, 2018
- Appointed to the Court of Appeal
- Supernumerary
- Retired

MASTERS OF THE SUPREME COURT



Chilliwack I aw Courts

Master Dennis Tokarek ► (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court September 9, 1991

Master Douglas Baker ► (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court July 16, 1998

Master Shelagh Scarth (Vancouver)

- Appointed District Registrar August 17, 1998
- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court November 6, 2000

MASTER PETER KEIGHLEY (New Westminster)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court March 8, 2004

MASTER IAN W. CALDWELL (New Westminster)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court April 18, 2005

MASTER GRANT TAYLOR (New Westminster)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court July 29, 2005

MASTER CAROLYN P. BOUCK (Victoria)

- Appointed District Registrar April 2, 2002
- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court December 11, 2009

MASTER ROBERT McDIARMID (Kamloops)

• Appointed Master of the Supreme Court June 1, 2011

MASTER LESLIE MUIR (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court May 7, 2012

Master Sandra Harper (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court August 5, 2014

Master Steven Wilson [▲] (Kelowna)

• Appointed Master of the Supreme Court November 23, 2015

MASTER SANDRA DICK (Nanaimo)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court January 1, 2016

MASTER TERRY Vos (Vancouver)

Appointed Master of the Supreme Court March 20, 2017

MASTER STUART R. CAMERON (Vancouver)

- Appointed District Registrar January 31, 2011
- Appointed Registrar of the Supreme Court July 2, 2014
- Appointed Master of the Supreme Court November 6, 2018

- ► Senior Master
- ▲ Appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia

REGISTRARS OF THE SUPREME COURT



Prince Rupert Courthouse

STUART R. CAMERON, REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT (Vancouver)

- Appointed District Registrar January 31, 2011
- Appointed Registrar of the Supreme Court July 2, 2014

SCOTT NIELSEN, DISTRICT REGISTRAR (Vancouver)

- Appointed District Registrar July 14, 2014
- ▲ Appointed Master of the Supreme Court

JUDICIAL STAFF



Salmon Arm Law Courts

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

Executive Assistant to Chief Justice Hinkson
Executive Assistant to Associate Chief Justice Holmes
Legal Counsel

Carrie Wilke
Bonnie Healy
Brenda Belak, Monique Dull,
Nikki Hair, Christine Judd, Jill
Leacock, Heidi McBride,
Shirley Smiley, Claire Wilson
(temporary), Zoe Si
(temporary)

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director & Senior Counsel
Director, Human Resources and Support Services
Director, Supreme Court Scheduling
Manager of Finance and Business Information Analysis
Manager of Information Technology
Assistant to the Executive Director
Assistant to Director, Supreme Court Scheduling
Assistant to Legal Counsel
Judicial Assistant
Finance Clerk
Website Support and Business Information Analyst
Judicial Administrative Practice Advisor
Manager, Provincial Registrar's Program

Heidi McBride
Michelle McConnachie
Cindy Friesen
Sanjeev Lal
Ryan Wirth
Tammy McCullough
Chantelle Sanderson
Andrea Baedak
Michelle Sam
Cheryl Steele
Cynthia Dale
Samantha Servis

Sheri Rojas

JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Ramez Ali, Darlene Behnke, Leslie Blazecka, Tammy Cooley, Mimi Damian, Jessica Gill, Joy Eliasson, Ray Frank, Diana Hatley, Bonnie Healey, Nicole Hudon, Felipa Ibarrola, Joanne Ivans, Raji Johal, Kristiina Kolkka, Wanda Lam, Danica Laurent-Tan, Beverlee Lea, Amanda Li, Chris Mintu, Laura Munday, Linda Peter, Terri Rockwell,

Vickie Siu, Carrie Wilke, Stephanie Wyer Rose

ChilliwackYvonne SamekKamloopsBeckie Allen, Jane RaggattKelownaLana Pardue, Shannon ZornNanaimoMelissa Lund, Arlyn Wylie

Nelson Kathie Tarasoff

New Westminster Barbara Gourlay, Raji Johal, Melissa Mendoza Alcocer, Jesse Rathor,

Andrea Walker

Prince George Kelly Parmar

Victoria Karen Gurney, Cherry Luscombe, Bonnie Marcaccini, Victoria

Osborne-Hughes

SUPREME COURT SCHEDULING

Vancouver

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling, Civil Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling, Family Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling, Criminal

Team Leaders

Supreme Court Schedulers

Data Entry Clerks

Sue Smolen, William Gallagher

Gurinder Thind Rhona Ogston

William Gallagher, Laura Hill, Rebecca

Stock

Patricia Acthim, Kate Curry, Wesley

Johnson, Darlene Marasigan, Jeanette McNabb, Elsie Peralta, Tanya Venables Kristina Antonic, Shahla Ehtesham, Wesley Johnson, Michelle Lee, Leah Walden, Betty Wong, Shino Sugawara

Kamloops, Cranbrook, Golden, Nelson, Revelstoke, Rossland, Salmon Arm

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Schedulers

Brenda Strain

Beckie Allen, Doreen Czerkawski

Kelowna, Penticton, Vernon

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling Supreme Court Scheduler

Data Entry Clerk

Barb Turik Janine Benson

Arlene Marshinew, Patricia Ward

Nanaimo, Campbell River, Courtenay, Port Alberni and Powell River

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Schedulers

Michelle Schley, Cheryl Turner, Katherine Marriott, Michelle Schley

New Westminster, Chilliwack

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Schedulers

Tanya Dixon

Allison Donnelly, Leanne Griffith, Renuka

Pumbhak

Data Entry Clerks Kristina Antonic, Owen Li

Prince George, Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Quesnel, Williams Lake

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Schedulers

Pamela Wallin

Tara Bleich, Kelly Parmar

Prince Rupert, Terrace

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Crystal Foerster

Smithers

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Sharon MacGregor

Victoria, Duncan

Manager, Supreme Court Scheduling

Supreme Court Schedulers

Dianne Lezetc, Claudia Turner Samantha Ferguson, Wesley Johnson,

Sandra Skene,

JUDGES LIBRARY

Librarian

Library Technician

Diane Lemieux Connie Kang

JUDGMENT OFFICE

Reserve Judgment Clerks

Andrea Baedak, Chantelle Sanderson, James Curtis (temporary)

SUPREME COURT DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT CLERKS

Supervisor & Appellate Court Records Officer

Document Management Clerks

Christine Gergich, Maxwell Otte (temporary)

James Curtis, David Delafenetre, Charles Manuel, Andrea Mueller, Darren Scherck

IT SERVICES

Service Delivery Manager

Infrastructure Project Analyst

Help Desk & Operations Analyst

Help Desk Technician

Mark Hujanen

David Chow, Andre Drewitt, Joerg

Boettcher

William Huang

Alex Rodas, Billy Huang, Victor Ly

Security and Network Consultant

Business Analyst and Project Manager

Business Analyst

Developer

Don Sudom

Lorne Lovett

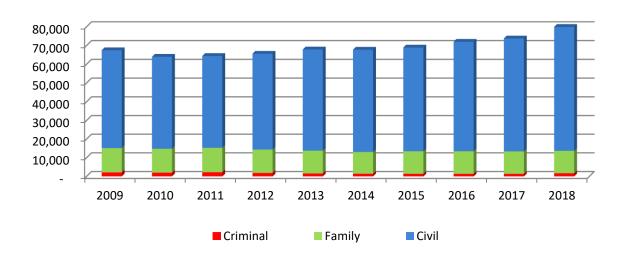
Joanne Chong

Jojo Ho

^{*}IT Services are provided by Microserve Business Computer Services

APPENDIX - COURT INFORMATION

Figure 1: New Criminal, Family and Civil Filings



		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
■ Civil	į	52,301	49,163	49,058	51,193	54,075	54,661	55,446	58,501	60,334	66,182
■ Fami	y :	13,026	12,832	13,110	12,564	12,263	11,680	12,086	12,123	12,039	12,057
■ Crim	nal	2,123	1,978	2,212	1,834	1,523	1,396	1,362	1,336	1,350	1,651

Data Source: Courthouse Activity Cube, CRIM tables - March 5, 2019
Historical numbers are updated to current information. Data may change due to data settling and corrections.

The **Civil** category includes all general civil cases (e.g., motor vehicle, bodily injury, debt collection, breach of contract, foreclosures, bankruptcies, probate, judicial review and appeals).

The **Family** category includes all *Divorce Act* and *Family Law Act* proceedings. For this table, it also includes *Adoption Act* proceedings.

The **Criminal** category includes criminal matters such as *Criminal Code*, *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* proceedings, bail reviews and *Extradition Act* proceedings.

There have been a number of adjustments to previously reported statistics because of changes in methodology. From 2013, there has been correction of data entered to account for approximately 300 *habeus corpus* cases, in which a review of detention was requested but there were no related appearances. Adjustments have been made to alter these entries, which were previously counted as new cases. In 2016, in order to make the information consistent with that of the Provincial Court, a new methodology was used to count new criminal filings in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Previously, cases with multiple accused were counted

as a single case; from 2016, the cases are counted separately for each accused and co-accused. This has increased the number of new cases. However, this increase has been offset by changes to the treatment of cases transferred from Provincial Court to Supreme Court. Efforts have been made to eliminate duplication by counting files transferred from Provincial Court to Supreme Court only once in their life cycle, resulting in an overall decrease from historical numbers.

Historical figures for civil filings have also been adjusted to eliminate duplicate counting of files transferred between registries.

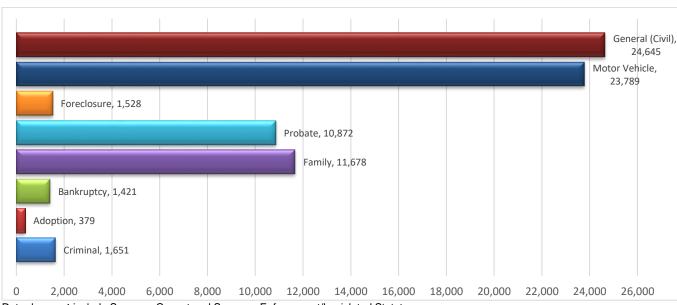


Figure 2: New Filings by Category in 2018²

Data does <u>not</u> include Supreme Caveat and Supreme Enforcement/Legislated Statutes

The **General (Civil)** category includes all general civil cases such as bodily injury, debt collection, breach of contract, foreclosures, bankruptcies, judicial review and appeals. The **General (Civil)** does not include a number of specific civil proceedings which are shown separately (i.e., motor vehicle, probate, foreclosure and bankruptcy).

The **Family** category includes all *Divorce Act* and *Family Law Act* proceedings, but does not include *Adoption Act* proceedings which are shown separately.

The **Criminal** category includes all criminal matters including bail review applications, *Extradition Act* proceedings, wiretap authorizations and summary conviction appeals.

_

² Data Source: Ministry of Justice - Court Services Branch - Courthouse Activity Cube, CRIM tables - March 1, 2017

Figure 3: Number of Conferences by Type

This graph provides the number of case planning conferences (held in civil proceedings), judicial case conferences (held in family proceedings) and trial management conferences (held in both civil and family proceedings) from 2011 to 2018.

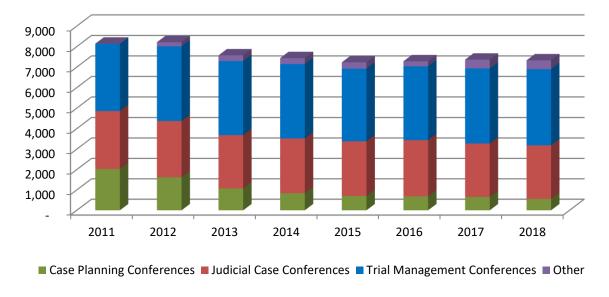


Figure 4: Hearing Hours by Conference Type

This graph the number of hearing hours of judicial (judges and masters) time required by the type of conference from 2011 to 2018.

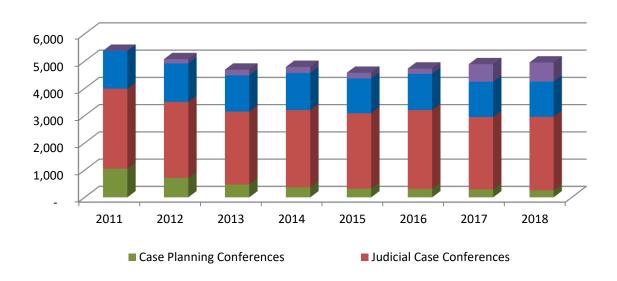
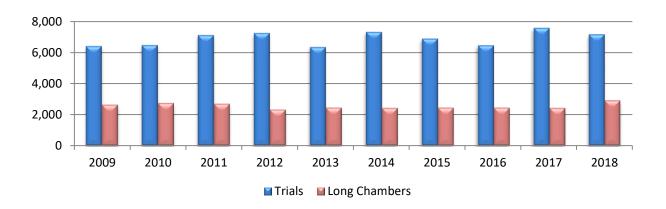


Figure 5: Civil Trials and Long Chambers Applications Scheduled in Vancouver



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Trials	6,411	6,470	7,110	7,248	6,347	7,319	6,880	6,464	7,573	7,164
Long Chambers	2,616	2,721	2,675	2,299	2,431	2,409	2,431	2,428	2,406	2,894

Figure 6: Long Chambers Applications Scheduled and Heard in Vancouver

This graph shows the number of civil and family long chambers applications scheduled and heard in Vancouver from 2008 to 2018.

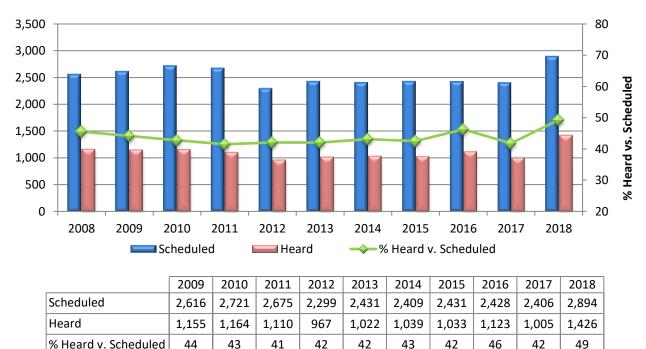
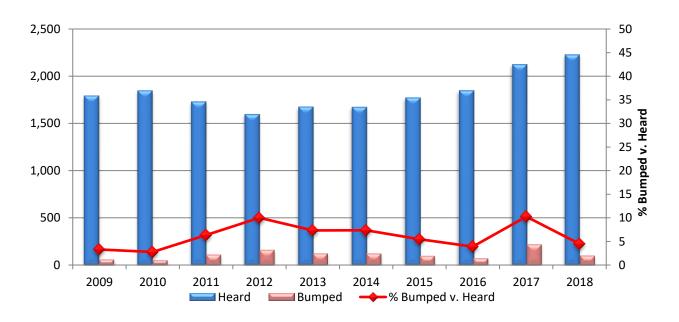


Figure 7: Long Chambers Applications Heard and Bumped in British Columbia



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Heard	1,794	1,847	1,731	1,597	1,677	1,673	1,773	1,850	2,126	2,229
Bumped	59	51	110	160	123	123	97	72	218	100
% Bumped v. Heard	3.3	2.8	6.4	10.0	7.3	7.4	5.5	3.9	10.3	4.5

Figure 8: Long Chambers Applications Heard and Bumped in Vancouver

This chart shows the number of civil and family long chambers applications heard and bumped in Vancouver from 2008 to 2018. A long chambers application is considered bumped if it is not commenced or rescheduled within one week of the originally scheduled hearing date.



Figure 9: Trials Heard and Bumped in British Columbia

This chart shows the number of civil, family and criminal trials heard and bumped in British Columbia from 2008 to 2018. A trial is categorized as bumped if it is not commenced or rescheduled within one week of the originally scheduled hearing date.

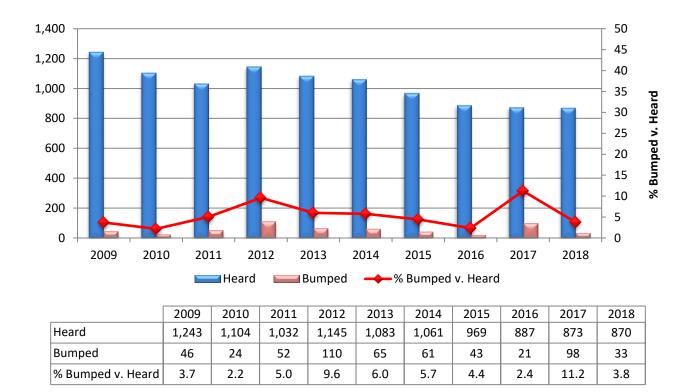


Figure 10: Trials Heard and Bumped in Vancouver

This chart shows the number of civil, family and criminal trials heard and bumped in Vancouver from 2008 to 2018. A trial is categorized as bumped if it is not commenced or rescheduled within one week of the originally scheduled hearing date.

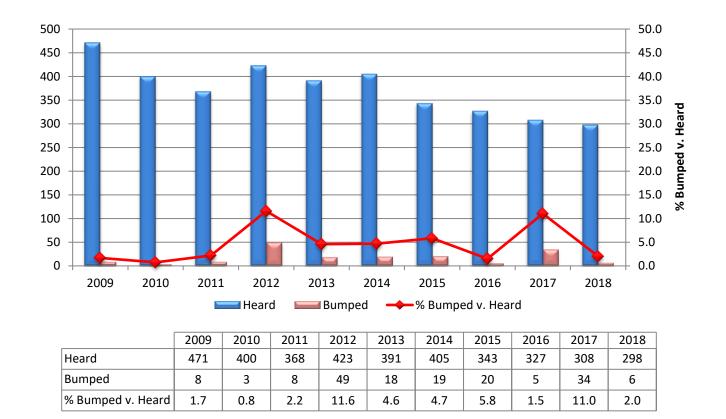


Figure 11: Trials Heard and Bumped by Type and Location in 2018

For each Supreme Court registry in four regions, this table shows the number of civil, family, and criminal trials that were heard as scheduled and the number of scheduled trials which were bumped in 2018. A trial is categorized as bumped if it does not commence within one week of the originally scheduled trial date.

		HEARD	2018		BUMPED 2018				
	Civil	Criminal	Family	Total	Civil	Criminal	Family	Total	
LOWER MAINLAND									
Chilliwack	6	22	14	42	1	0	2	3	
New Westminster	53	75	48	176	4	0	0	4	
Vancouver	171	63	64	298	3	0	3	6	
Region Totals	230	160	126	516	8	0	5	13	
Region %	74%	45%	61%	59%	36%	0%	45%	39%	
VANCOUVER ISLAN	ID								
Campbell River	0	8	2	10	0	0	0	0	
Courtenay	1	8	0	9	0	0	0	0	
Duncan	2	5	1	8	0	0	0	0	
Nanaimo	6	12	12	30	3	0	0	3	
Port Alberni	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	
Powell River	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	
Victoria	21	46	19	86	0	0	0	0	
Region Totals	31	84	35	150	3	0	0	3	
Region %	10%	24%	17%	17%	14%	0%	0%	9%	
NORTHERN INTERIO)R								
Dawson Creek	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	
Fort St. John	0	3	2	5	0	0	1	1	
Prince George	4	19	12	35	2	0	1	3	
Prince Rupert	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	
Quesnel	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	
Smithers	2	4	1	7	0	0	0	0	
Terrace	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	
Williams Lake	0	6	2	8	0	0	1	1	
Region Totals	6	41	20	67	2	0	3	5	
Region %	2%	12%	10%	8%	9%	0%	27%	15%	

		HEARD	2018		BUMPED 2018						
	Civil	Criminal	Family	Total	Civil	Criminal	Family	Total			
SOUTHERN INTERIO	SOUTHERN INTERIOR										
Kamloops	13	24	6	43	6	0	0	6			
Kelowna	20	15	11	46	0	0	1	1			
Vernon	4	6	3	13	1	0	0	1			
Nelson	2	2	3	7	1	0	0	1			
Cranbrook	2	5	2	9	1	0	1	2			
Penticton	1	13	2	16	0	0	1	1			
Salmon Arm	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0			
Rossland	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0			
Golden	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0			
Revelstoke	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Region Totals	43	67	27	137	9	0	3	12			
Region %	14%	19%	13%	16%	41%	0%	27%	36%			
TOTAL	310	352	208	870	22	0	11	33			
TOTAL %	36%	40%	24%		67%	0%	33%				

Figure 12: Trials Heard By Registry in 2018

This chart provides an illustration of the number of trials in 2018 by registry.

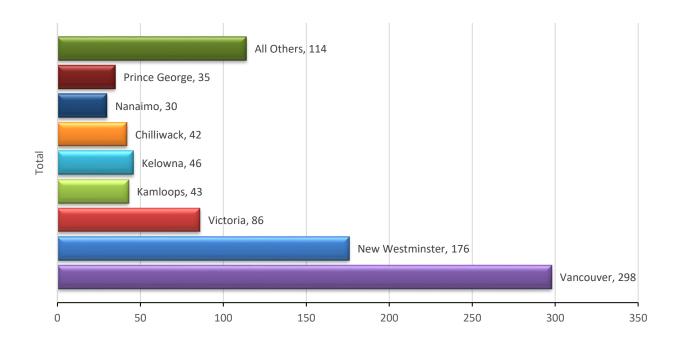


Figure 13: Trials Heard By Region in 2018

This bar chart provides an illustration of the distribution of trials in 2018 by region.

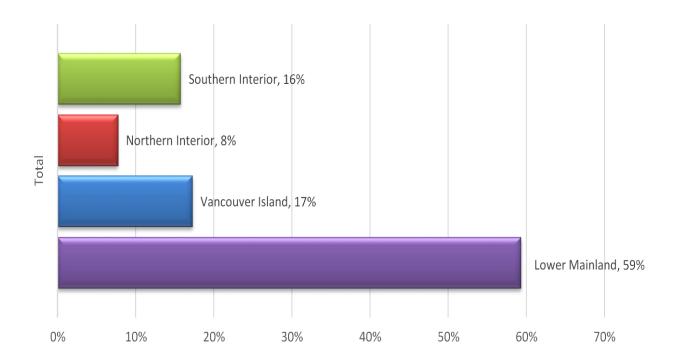


Figure 14: Published Reasons for Judgment by Subject, Type, and Year

This table provides the number of published reasons for judgment by subject (civil, criminal and family) and type (written or transcribed oral) from 2011-2018. The reasons for judgment that **are included** in the table that follows are:

- 1. published written reasons for judgment and
- 2. transcribed oral reasons for judgment that the issuing judge, master or registrar has directed be published.

The reasons for judgment that **are not included** and are therefore not counted are:

- 1. oral reasons for judgment that were not transcribed;
- 2. oral reasons that were transcribed, but not published;
- 3. reasons for judgment that are subject to a publication ban; and
- 4. reasons for judgment that are sealed.

The number of reasons for judgment that are published varies from year to year for a variety of reasons including the number of reasons for judgment given orally, the number of requests for transcribed oral reasons for judgment, the presence or absence of publication bans and sealing orders, and the number of hearings which conclude and require reasons for judgment.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
CIVIL								
Oral	274	267	260	285	316	306	340	305
Written	1,120	1,120	1,133	1,181	1,050	1,009	868	895
Total	1,394	1,387	1,393	1,466	1,366	1,315	1,208	1,200
CRIMINA	٩L							
Oral	198	188	312	348	354	280	344	377
Written	116	144	123	120	114	63	113	109
Total	314	332	435	468	468	343	457	486
FAMILY								
Oral	41	29	54	66	96	94	86	95
Written	211	231	285	299	300	267	272	275
Total	252	260	339	365	396	361	358	370
TOTAL	1,960	1,979	2,167	2,299	2,230	2,019	2,023	2,056

Figure 15: Published Reasons for Judgment by Year

This graph illustrates the total number of published reasons for judgment (both written and oral) by subject from 2011-2018.

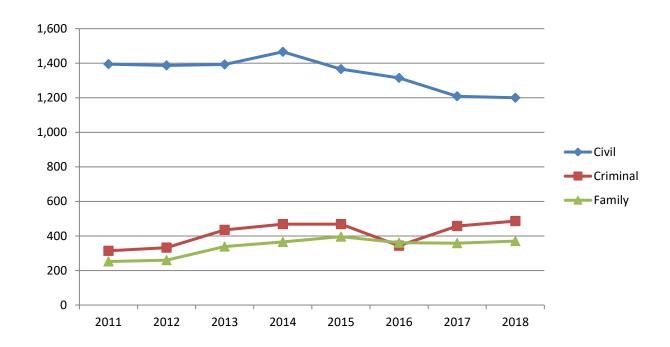


Figure 16: Published Reasons for Judgment By Subject, Type, and Year

This graph illustrates the distribution of published written reasons for judgment and published transcribed oral reasons for judgment by subject matter from 2011-2018.

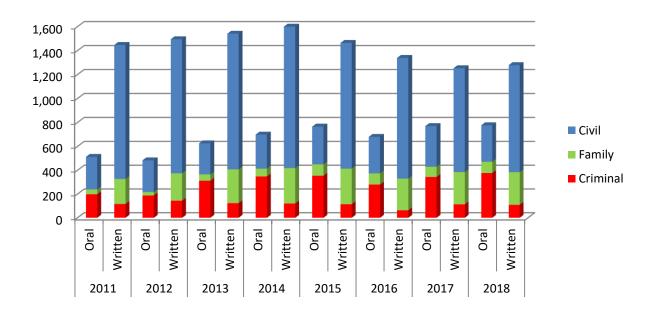


Figure 17: E-Filed Documents in the Supreme Court

This table shows the total number of document filed, the number of e-filed documents and the percentage of filed documents that are e-filed.

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Documents Filed	614,273	601,307	595,294	588,708	599,767	595,496	593,068	595,228	595,811
Documents E-Filed	90,862	160,458	197,152	208,118	217,130	218,788	232,974	246,026	259,148
% E-Filed	15%	26%	32%	35%	36%	36%	39%	41%	43%

Figure 18: E-Orders Processed in the Supreme Court

This table shows the number of e-filed orders processed by the Court from 2008-2018.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
E-Orders Processed	2,183	5,093	8,051	8,530	9,238	8,920	9,427	9,622	10,987	10,902