

Attorney General

Annual Report
2017–2018



**Attorney General
Annual Report 2017-2018**

Province of New Brunswick
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Transmittal letters

From the Attorney General to the Lieutenant-Governor

The Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau
Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick

May it please your Honour:

It is my privilege to submit the Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,



Honourable Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C.
Attorney General

From the Deputy Attorney General to the Attorney General

Honourable Andrea Anderson Mason, Q.C.

Madame Attorney General:

I am pleased to be able to present the Annual Report describing operations of the Office of the Attorney General, Province of New Brunswick, for the fiscal year April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,



John B. D. Logan, Q.C.
Deputy Attorney General

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Attorney General's message

The Office of the Attorney General had a busy year. With our mandate to promote and defend the Rule of Law and to ensure the protection of the public interest, we managed approximately 21,500 prosecutions, provided legal advice to and represented departments and select agencies of government and dealt with highly complex adult and child protection matters.

Seventy Two bills and 63 regulations were drafted, each with the level of professionalism and integrity that New Brunswickers have come to expect from this office.

Unique to New Brunswick is our ability and commitment to accomplish our work in both languages, concurrently. As the chief legal officer of the Crown, I am proud to provide all services equally and equitably in both Official Languages.

It is an honour to be part of this institution and I look forward to serving New Brunswickers in this capacity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Anderson-Mason', written in a cursive style.

Honourable Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C.
Attorney General (as of November 9th, 2018)

Deputy Attorney General's message

The 2017-2018 annual report outlines the measures and initiatives undertaken by the Office of the Attorney General from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018.

The Office of the Attorney General continued to uphold its many responsibilities, including the prosecution of all offences under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and the *Statutes of New Brunswick* and dealing with adult and child protection matters. The office also represented the Crown in matters of civil and constitutional litigation and provide legal advice and services to all government department and select agencies.

This past year, the office continued to provide impartial services and advice, in both Official Languages, to government on proposed legislation. Staff provided advice and drafting services for the government and published all acts and regulations in accordance with the *Queen's Printer Act*.

Staff of the Office of the Attorney General continued to reach and exceed performance measures and the office managed its expenses within budget, ensuring accountability and value to New Brunswickers. As the Deputy Attorney General, I am proud to release this annual report, which outlines how we achieved our mandate to promote and defend the Rule of Law and to ensure protection of the public interest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John B. D. Logan', followed by a horizontal line.

John B. D. Logan, Q.C.
Deputy Attorney General (as of November 10th, 2018)

Strategic priorities

Strategy management

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

The development of the strategy, using the Formal Management system, starts with a strategic vision to move New Brunswick forward. This vision is anchored in five priority areas:

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

Highlights

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the Office of the Attorney General focused on the following strategic priorities:

- Between April 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018, 72 bills drafted by the office received Royal Assent, and 63 regulations drafted by the office were filed with the Registrar of Regulations.
- The Public Prosecution Branch managed 20,465 prosecutions under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* against adults and 1,193 prosecutions under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- The Public Prosecution Branch has expanded its E-Disclosure project to include pilots at two additional sites with plans to expand the program to other locations in the coming year. The Early Resolution project shows promising results in reducing court backlogs and increasing overall efficiencies at the prosecutor and court levels. The E-Disclosure project increases efficiencies in the disclosure of files and further reduces storage costs.
- On Dec. 31, 2017, acts were repealed under the *Statute Repeal Act*, administered by the Branch under the authority of the Attorney General. This resulted in four more outdated, unproclaimed acts or portions of acts being removed from the statute books.
- Child support issues and Judicial Enforcement proceedings litigated by the Family Crown prosecutors account for approximately 30 per cent of the total workload of Family Crown Services. This litigation assists those receiving income assistance in obtaining child support orders and contributes to the successful recovery of income assistance costs by GNB (through the Family Support Orders Services) each year.

Performance measures

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

Fiscal responsibility	Measures
Grow revenues.	Ratio of actual to budgeted revenue.
Reduce expenditures.	Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures.
Smart Province	Measures
Enhance employee involvement, commitment and productivity.	Percentage performance reviews complete.

Fiscal responsibility

Objective of the measure

Grow revenues.

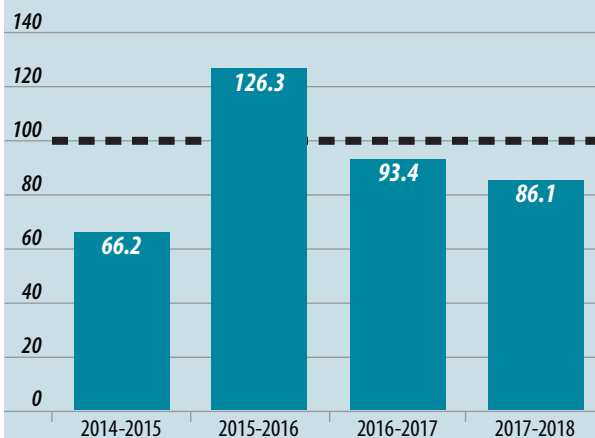
Measure

Ratio of actual to budgeted revenue.

Description of measure

Percentage of total revenue over- total budget.

Ratio of actual to budgeted revenues



Overall performance

Below target.

--- Target: 100.0%
Actual: 86.1%

Why do we measure this?

This indicator measures the ability of GNB to manage its overall revenues, with the goal of improving its finances.

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

The Public Intervener program has flow-through expenses that are billed to industry, and this recovery is classified as revenue for the office. The recoveries were lower than budgeted (\$105,000 actual versus \$234,000 budgeted). Revenue generated from the Queen's Printer was higher than budgeted (\$173,000 actual versus \$140,000 budgeted), as were Court Cost Recoveries (\$53,000 actual versus \$10,000 budgeted).

Fiscal responsibility

Objective of the measure

Reduce expenditures.

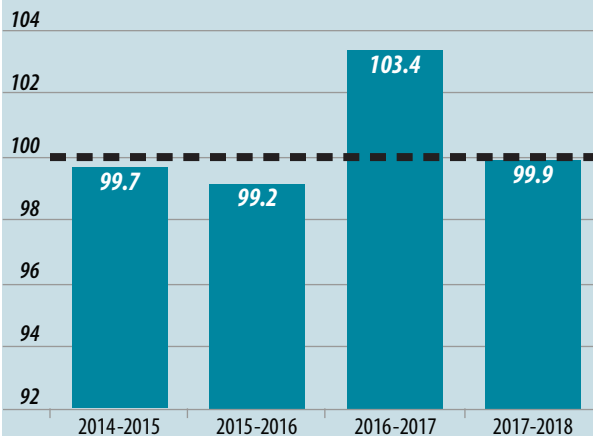
Measure

Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures.

Description of measure

Percentage of total expenditures over-total budget.

Ratio of actual to budgeted expenditures



Overall performance

Expenditures were \$19.1 million, or 103.4 per cent of budget.

----- Target: 100.0%
Actual: 99.9%

Why do we measure this?

This indicator measures the ability of GNB to manage its overall expenses as compared to budget. The government must ensure expenses are managed in accordance with the budget and be prepared to take corrective action if expenses are projected to be over budget during the year.

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

The Office of the Attorney General was able to balance its operating budget in 2017-2018. The overall budget is more than 90 per cent salaries, with the other major expenditure stemming from hiring outside legal counsel. There was an efficient balance between these two types of expenditures, contributing towards to a successful financial outcome for the year. More specifically, major variances offset each other: a surplus in Legislative Services due to vacancies covered off a deficit in Family Crown Services, driven by operational requirements for Child Protection.

Smart Province

Objective of the measure

Enhance employee involvement, commitment and productivity.

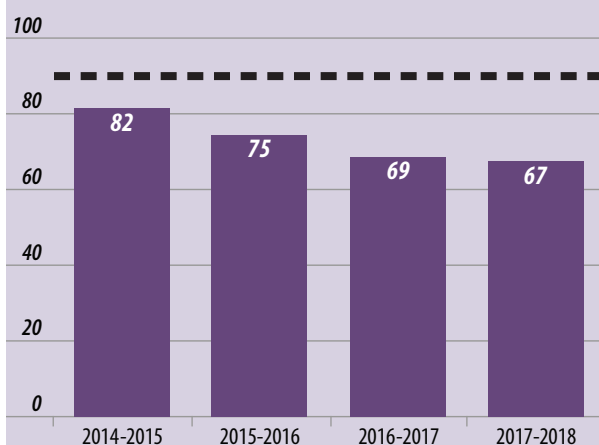
Measure

Percentage of employee performance reviews completed.

Description of measure

The completion of performance reviews will provide an opportunity for managers and employees to discuss review and assess the accomplishment of work objectives, demonstrated competencies and overall individual employee contribution against GNB's business results.

Percentage of employee performance reviews completed



Overall performance

The office reported an 67 per cent completion rate for all performance reviews. The completion rate dropped slightly due to workload and competing work priorities.

--- Target: 90%
Actual: 67%

Why do we measure this?

Employees are entitled to receive their year-end performance reviews in a timely manner.

The completion of performance reviews will provide an opportunity for managers and employees to discuss and review the accomplishment of work objectives, demonstrated competencies and overall individual employee contribution toward the overall strategy of the Office of the Attorney General. By completing reviews, employees and their supervisors can discuss strategic and organizational goals in an effort to increase organizational and individual performance.

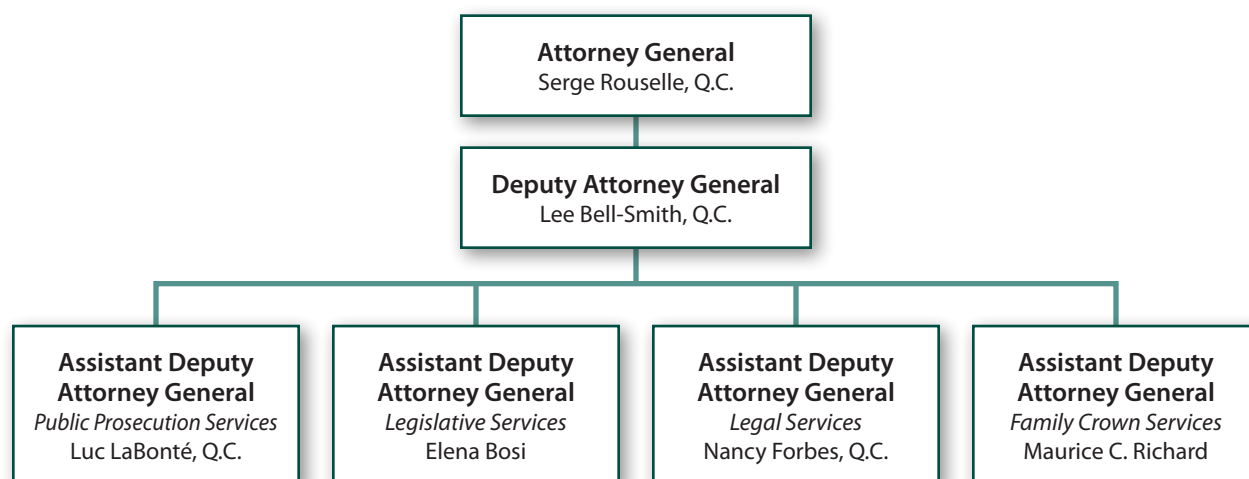
What initiatives or projects were undertaken in the reporting year to achieve the outcome?

Progress was regularly discussed with senior management and reminders were sent to managers. Lists of outstanding performance reviews and completion rates were provided throughout the year.

Overview of departmental operations

The mission of the Office of the Attorney General is to ensure the application of the rule of law, impartial administration of justice and the protection of the public interest.

High-level organizational chart



Division overview and highlights

Public Prosecution Services Branch

The mission of **Public Prosecution Services Branch** is to seek justice according to law and to do so firmly but fairly, and with an ingrained sense of dignity, in search of the truth.

The branch attempts to achieve its objective with a contingent of 64 Crown prosecutors, administrative and regional directors located in six regions as well as specialized prosecutions, all of which are overseen by an Assistant Deputy Attorney General, an Executive Director and a Manager of Operations.

The branch performs a quasi-judicial function whereby it independently and objectively determines whether there is sufficient evidence to pursue a prosecution in any given investigation carried out by a policing agency. Where a prosecution is commenced, the branch tries to obtain a just outcome while protecting the rights of charged persons and obtaining the participation of victims and other vulnerable persons without exposing them to undue hardship or abuse.

The branch performs these functions while taking into account the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, language rights, Aboriginal and treaty rights and the current statutes and case law. In the performance of its duties, the branch at all times balances its obligation to function at a high level in determining and seeking the public interest with its obligation to make every effort to remain within its budgetary restraints.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The office has expanded its E-Disclosure project to include pilots at two additional sites with plans to expand the program to other locations in the coming year.
- ◆ The office conducted two mega criminal trials which required extraordinary staffing and other resources.
- ◆ The office managed 20,465 prosecutions under the Criminal Code of Canada and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act against adults and 1,193 prosecutions under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Legislative Services Branch

The mandate of the **Legislative Services Branch** is to provide to all departments and agencies a central legislative drafting service, in both English and French. The branch provides advice to the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, the Executive Council Office and Cabinet on all legislative matters before the Officials Committee, the Policy Committee and the Legislative Instruments and Regulations Board. It carries out law reform projects for the Office of the Attorney General.

The Registrar of Regulations is located within the branch and discharges the responsibilities of that office as provided by the *Regulations Act*. The Legislative Publishing Unit discharges the responsibilities of the Queen's Printer as provided by the *Queen's Printer Act*, including the publication and distribution of all public acts and regulations.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The branch dealt with a heavy workload in terms of the breadth and complexity of the legislative portfolio. A total of 72 bills drafted in the Legislative Services Branch received Royal Assent between April 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018, many of which dealt with significant GNB priorities;
- ◆ Between April 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018, 63 regulations drafted in the branch were filed with the Registrar of Regulations.
- ◆ On Dec. 31, 2017, acts were repealed under the Statute Repeal Act, administered by the branch under the authority of the Attorney General. This resulted in four more outdated, unproclaimed acts or portions of acts being removed from the statute books.

Legal Services Branch

The **Legal Services Branch** is responsible for the provision of legal advice to and representation of departments and select agencies in all matters not pertaining to public prosecution and legislative drafting. The legal advice and representation services provided by professional staff of the branch is intended to assist the Attorney General of New Brunswick in the fulfilment of his constitutionally mandated role as Chief Law Officer of the Crown and legal advisor to government.

The branch consists of five practice groups: a Litigation Group, an Administrative and Employment Law Group, a Corporate, Commercial and Property Law Group, a Legal Advice Services Group, and a Constitutional Law Group.

The practice group mode of service delivery is designed to encourage the sharing of knowledge among group members. The particular mode of service delivery implemented in the Legal Services Branch retains sufficient flexibility to accommodate the delivery of services in a cross-disciplinary environment. It thereby allows the Attorney General to take full advantage of in-house resources to expedite resolution of matters submitted to him or her.

The increasing complexity of legal matters dealt with by solicitors of the branch on behalf of the Executive Branch of government requires a certain degree of specialization on their part. The practice group mode of service delivery combined with a collegial approach to the practice of law has been determined as the most effective model for the delivery of legal services.

Family Crown Services Branch

The **Family Crown Services Branch** was separated from the Public Prosecution Services Branch on Nov. 1, 2015, and it became the fourth legal branch of the Office of the Attorney General.

The mission of the Family Crown Services Branch remains to seek justice according to law and to do so firmly but fairly, and with an ingrained sense of dignity, in search of the truth.

The branch attempts to achieve its objective with a contingent of 15 Family Crown prosecutors, one manager of operations and six permanent administrative assistants, all of whom are overseen by an Assistant Deputy Attorney General who reports directly to the Deputy Attorney General.

The branch performs a quasi-judicial function whereby it independently and objectively determines whether there is sufficient evidence to initiate court proceedings in adult and child protection matters which engage section 7 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

The branch provides additional services to the Department of Social Development in subrogated support and private custody, access and support matters involving a government interest; to the director of Support Enforcement in judicial support enforcement matters; as agent of the Attorney General in the civil aspects of international child abduction under the *International Child Abduction Act*; and in interjurisdictional matters under the *Divorce Act* and under the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act*.

The branch seeks to obtain a just outcome while protecting the most vulnerable members of society and balancing the rights of opposing parties.

The branch performs these functions while taking into account the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, language rights, Aboriginal and treaty rights and the current statutes and case law.

In the performance of its duties, the branch at all times balances its obligation to function at a high level in determining and seeking the public interest with its obligation to make every effort to remain within its budgetary restraints.

Family Crown Counsel provides a number of services under the *Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*. It has dealt with a number of incoming requests from foreign states for the return of children wrongfully removed from them or wrongfully retained in Canada. It has also processed outgoing requests for the return of New Brunswick children wrongfully removed from New Brunswick or wrongfully retained in a foreign state. Additionally, Family Crown Counsel has responded to inquiries from New Brunswick residents

and/or their lawyers seeking to prevent international child abduction by referring them to websites that identify preventative measures to consider in custody/ access litigation or agreements or when dealing with children traveling outside Canada.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ *Child and adult protection applications account for more than 70 per cent of the total workload of Family Crown Services. During the period covered by this report there has been a significant increase in the number of cases as well as the complexity of such cases.*
- ◆ *Child support issues and Judicial Enforcement proceedings litigated by the Family Crown prosecutors account for approximately 30 per cent of the total workload of Family Crown Services. This litigation assists those receiving income assistance in obtaining child support orders and contributes to the successful recovery of income assistance costs by GNB (through the Family Support Orders Services) each year.*

Communications Branch

The **Communications Branch** provides public awareness and promotion of departmental programs, services and policies. The branch is responsible for public communication and education/awareness programs as well as providing strategic communications planning and advice to the Minister, senior managers and staff. The branch prepares news releases, advertisements, speeches, speaking notes and briefing notes for the office. Along with providing ministerial support, the branch co-ordinates departmental news conferences and events as well as coordinating activities related to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick.

Administrative Services Branch

The **Administrative Services Division** supports the Office of the Attorney General in meeting its mission, goals and objectives through the provision of quality support, advice, consultation, monitoring and coordinating services to all managers and employees in the areas of departmental services, financial services, human resources, information systems and facilities management. It also oversees the expropriation advisory function. The

employees responsible for the execution of the Lean Six Sigma aspect of GNB's Performance Excellence process, the departmental Process Improvement facilitators, are part of this division.

Human Resources Branch

The **Human Resources Branch** provides leadership and support to the Office of the Attorney General on human resource planning, recruitment, classification, labour relations, employee relations, training, Performance Management, Change Management, organizational development, human resource policies and program implementation.

Expropriations Advisory Officer

The **Expropriations Advisory Officer**, pursuant to the *Expropriation Act*, reviews expropriation proposals and holds public hearings on disputes over proposed property expropriations. The function of the Expropriations Advisory Officer, as an independent advisor on the merits of expropriation proposals, has evolved as an effective, cost-efficient alternative to the previous advisory board. The Expropriations Advisory Officer has fulfilled this role on a contractual basis since 1989.

Activities	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Notices of intention to expropriate	16	8	17	14	15
Properties involved in proposed expropriations	55	48	30	156	658
Owners of property involved in proposed expropriations	49	62	51	119	375
Uncontested expropriations by Order-in-Council, non-objection, or objection	59	7	12	1	3
Expropriations with hearings scheduled or limitation on objection period not yet expired	17	15	6	0	0
Hearings	0	1	1	1	0

* The recording period is from January 1st to December 31st

Financial information

Table 1: Ordinary Account Expenditures by program

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 (\$000)

	Main Estimates	Appropriation Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance over (under)
Administration	447	0	447	339	(107)
Family Crown	1,910	48	1,958	2,173	215
Prosecutions	8,509	1,075	9,584	9,628	43
Legislative Services	2,755	6	2,761	2,535	(226)
Legal Services	4,672	8	4,680	4,750	70
Total Program	18,293	1,137	19,430	19,425	(5)

The overall program variance was minimal in 2017-2018; pressures in the Family Crown, Prosecutions and Legal Services branches were offset by savings in Administration and Legislative Services branches.

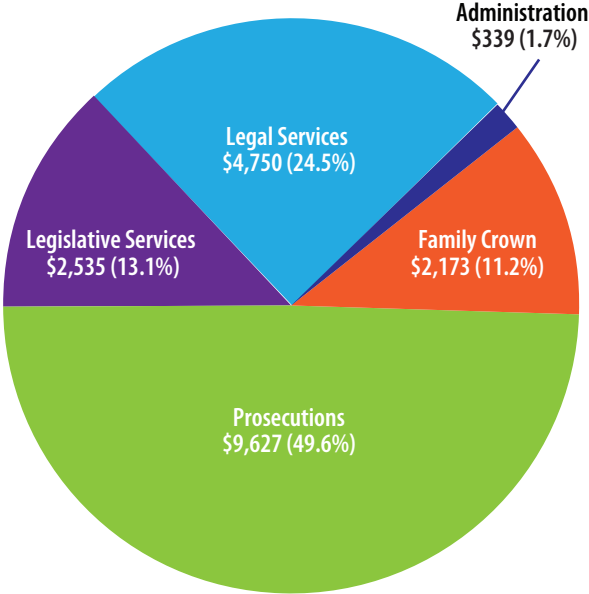


Table 2: Ordinary Revenue

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 (\$000)

	Budget	Actual	Variance over (under)
<i>Sale of Goods and Services</i>			
Queen's Printer	140	173	33
<i>Fines and Penalties</i>			
Court Cost – Recoveries	10	53	43
<i>Miscellaneous</i>			
Public Intervener – Recoveries	234	105	(129)
Total Revenue	384	331	(53)

Despite higher than budgeted revenues from the Queens Printer and Court Cost Recoveries, the variance from the Public Intervener recoveries caused an overall deficit.

Table 3: Special Purpose Account (Revenue and Expenditures)

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 (\$000)

	Budget	Actual	Variance (under) over
<i>Proceeds of Crime Trust Fund</i>			
Revenue	200	169	(31)
Expenditures	200	11	(190)
Net proceeds of crime	0	158	(159)

Summary of staffing activity

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Civil Service Act*, the Deputy Minister of the Department of Human Resources delegates staffing to each Deputy Head for his or her respective department(s). Please find below a summary of the staffing activity for 2017-2018 for the Office of the Attorney General.

Number of permanent and temporary employees *		
Employee type	2016-2017	2017-2018
Permanent	177	158
Temporary	4	27
TOTAL	181	185

* Does not include casuals

The department advertised 19 competitions, including 18 open (public) competitions and one closed (internal) competition.

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

Appointment type	Appointment description	Section of the <i>Civil Service Act</i>	Number
Specialized Professional, Scientific or Technical	An appointment may be made without competition when a position requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – a high degree of expertise and training – a high degree of technical skill – recognized experts in their field 	15(1)	2
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	Provides Aboriginals, persons with disabilities and members of a visible minority group with equal access to employment, training and advancement opportunities.	16(1)(a)	0
Department Talent Management Program	Permanent employees identified in corporate and departmental talent pools, who meet the four-point criteria for assessing talent, namely performance, readiness, willingness and criticalness.	16(1)(b)	1
Lateral transfer	The GNB transfer process facilitates the transfer of employees from within Part 1, 2 (school boards) and 3 (hospital corporations) of the Public Service.	16(1) or 16(1)(c)	4
Regular appointment of casual/temporary	An individual hired on a casual or temporary basis under section 17 may be appointed without competition to a regular properly classified position within the Civil Service.	16(1)(d)(i)	0
Regular appointment of students/ apprentices	Summer students, university or community college co-op students or apprentices may be appointed without competition to an entry level position within the Civil Service.	16(1)(d)(ii)	0

Pursuant to section 33 of the *Civil Service Act*, no complaints alleging favouritism were made to the Deputy Head of Office of the Attorney General, and no complaints were submitted to the Ombud.

Summary of Official Languages activities

Introduction

The Office of the Attorney General has developed and submitted a departmental Action Plan to Intergovernmental Affairs which includes strategic means for each of the four sectors of activity (focus) found in the *Plan on Official Languages Official Bilingualism: A Fundamental Value*.

Focus 1

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

Objectives for 2017-2018:

- Extend a bilingual offer of service at first point of contact;
- Ensure a balance of linguistic capabilities to provide service in both Official Languages;
- Ensure bilingual signage is properly displayed at 1st point of contact;
- Ensure staff understand requirement for bilingual voice mail messages;
- Ensure correspondence is provided in client's language of choice;
- Generic correspondence is sent in both official languages.

Activities to meet objectives:

- As part of the employee orientation package, mandatory completion of the iLearn module on language of service is required;
- Review and update linguistic profiles as required;
- Language of service policy is reviewed yearly with employees during their work planning meeting;
- Additional signage is ordered and posted in public areas as required;
- Correspondence is provided in the client's language of choice;
- Employees are reminded periodically as required of their obligations.

Focus 2

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

Objectives for 2017-2018:

- Ensure performance reviews are conducted in the employee's language of choice;
- Employees are offered upon hire language preference for computer set ups.

Activities to meet objectives:

- New hires are required to identify their preferred language for oral and written communications at point of hire;
- As part of the employee orientation package, mandatory completion of the iLearn module on language of work is required;
- Language of work policy is reviewed yearly with employees during their work planning meeting;
- Periodically review linguistic profiles to ensure compliance;
- Managers conduct performance reviews in their employee's preferred language of choice;
- During orientation, employees are asked for their preferred language for computer set up;
- Training is offered in both Official Languages;
- Departmental communication is provided in both Official Languages;

- Reminders were sent to managers of the methods available for facilitating meetings while respecting linguistic duality;
- The Annual General Meetings for both Crowns and Legal Administrative staff are held in both Official Languages, or simultaneous translation is provided.

Focus 3

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

The impact on either official linguistic community and/or Official Languages requirements is factors that are considered in the design/development of policy.

Focus 4

Ensure Public Service employees have a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Official Languages Act, relevant policies, regulations, and the province's obligations with respect to Official Languages:

Objectives for 2017-2018:

- Raise new employees' awareness of the Language of Work and Language of Service policies and remind current employees of their obligations through their yearly work planning meetings;
- Encourage ongoing development of second language skills.

Activities to meet objectives:

- The department requires all new employees to complete the training modules on Language of Work and Language of Service;
- All employees are informed of their obligations as part of their orientation program and/or through their work planning meetings;
- Specific training sessions regarding the *Official Languages Act*, the Language of Work and Language of Service policies were offered to all 24 front line Public Prosecutors' employees in March 2018. These 30 to 90 minute sessions were offered onsite or via webinars;
- Public Prosecution Branch offered a formal professional development education program encompassing Legal, Management and Language training to staff that had identified wanting a refresher in French or English. These were weekly sessions for approximately 20 employees between October 2017 and June 2018;
- The Official Languages newsletter was circulated to all employees.

Conclusion

The Department's Official Languages Action Plan was developed in accordance with Government's Plan on Official Languages and ongoing efforts continue to be made to raise individual and departmental awareness about obligations regarding Official Languages. As well, three employees received second language training offered by GNB.

Summary of recommendations from the Office of the Auditor General

The Office of the Auditor General has not issued any recommendations to the Office of the Attorney General since 2009-2010.

Report on the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*

As provided under section 18(1) of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act*, the chief executive shall prepare a report of any disclosures of wrongdoing that have been made to a supervisor or designated officer of the portion of the public service for which the chief executive officer is responsible. The Office of the Attorney General did not receive any disclosure(s) of wrongdoing in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.