

GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Annual Report

Public Safety and Emergency Services 2022-2023

Public Safety and Emergency Services, Government of Alberta | Public Safety and Emergency Services 2022–2023 Annual Report

©2023 Government of Alberta | Published: June 2023

ISBN: 978-1-4601-5742-8

ISSN 2817-4534

Note to Readers: Copies of the annual report are available on the Alberta Open Government Portal website www.alberta.ca

Table of Contents

Preface.....	4
Minister's Accountability Statement.....	5
Message from the Minister	6
Management's Responsibility for Reporting.....	8
Results Analysis	10
Ministry Overview.....	11
Discussion and Analysis of Results.....	17
Performance Measure and Indicator Methodology	47
Financial Information	49
Reporting Entity and Method Consolidation.....	50
Ministry Financial Highlights	51
Supplemental Financial Information	56
Financial Statements of Other Reporting Entities	57
Other Financial Information	76
Annual Report Extracts and Other Statutory Reports.....	85

Preface

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*. The Public Accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each ministry.

On October 24, 2022, the government announced new ministry structures. As such, the responsibilities of the former Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General were transferred to the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Ministry of Justice. The 2022-23 Annual Report reflects the 2022-25 ministry business plans, the Government of Alberta Strategic Plan, as well as the ministry's activities and accomplishments during the 2022-23 fiscal year, which ended on March 31, 2023.

The Annual Report of the Government of Alberta contains Budget 2022 Key Results, the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Performance Results, which compares actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's strategic plan.

This annual report of the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services contains the Minister's Accountability Statement, the ministry's Financial Information and Results Analysis, a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the ministry business plan. This ministry annual report also includes:

- the financial statements of entities making up the ministry including the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund, for which the minister is responsible; and
- other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*, as separate reports, to the extent that the ministry has anything to report.

All Ministry Annual Reports should be considered along with the Government of Alberta Annual Report to provide a complete overview of government's commitment to openness, accountability and fiscal transparency.

Minister's Accountability Statement

The ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2023, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as of **June 13, 2023** with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware have been considered in the preparation of this report.

[Original signed by Honourable Mike Ellis]

Honourable Mike Ellis

Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Message from the Minister



The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services (PSES) was formed partway through the current fiscal year when the former Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General (JSG) was divided into two new entities. This report covers the accomplishments of the entire fiscal year, including those months when PSES was part of JSG. I was honoured to be put in charge of this new ministry, especially during a time when the future of Alberta law enforcement has been the topic of so much passionate debate, and so many opportunities have arisen to help shape its future—a future where law enforcement is seen not as an arm of the state, but rather a reflection and extension of the community they serve.

In December 2022, with that goal in mind, we undertook the first major update to the Police Act in 34 years. The *Police Amendment Act* made several significant improvements to law enforcement in Alberta, including the creation of the Police Review Commission, a new independent agency which will investigate complaints from members of the public and conduct disciplinary hearings; and the expansion of the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team’s mandate to investigate cases of death or serious injury involving not just municipal police and RCMP but also Alberta sheriffs and community peace officers.

Alberta is proud of its diverse population, and so combating the rise in hate-motivated crime, harassment and violence is an area where PSES has been particularly active this year. Our government more than doubled funding for the Alberta Security Infrastructure Program to \$5 million per year, so that vulnerable Albertans can take measures to protect themselves and their gathering places from individuals who wish them harm. In May 2022, we also appointed the province’s first-ever hate crimes community liaisons, whose mandate is to provide the government with recommendations for preventing hate crimes as well as supporting victims.

Another pressing problem that PSES had to address has been the rising level of crime, violence and general social disorder in Alberta’s larger cities—in particular in and around public transit. With the creation of the Edmonton and Calgary Public Safety and Community Response Task Forces, our government is working to address the root causes of crime and social disorder through a coordinated response between the province, city and local partners. This included the three-month pilot project that saw Alberta sheriffs patrol neighbourhoods in downtown Edmonton and Calgary alongside members of those cities’ police services. Besides immediately creating a more visible police presence in these areas, this pilot led to the laying of 539 charges and the execution of 7,132 warrants.

Related to this, we maintained our four-year commitment to increase funding to the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) by \$50 million so that they may continue their investigations of serious crimes such as child exploitation, gang violence, drug trafficking and gun crimes. ALERT will also see the creation of a Gang Suppression Unit and a Firearms Investigative Unit, specially trained squads who will focus on investigating organized criminal enterprises and preventing such crimes before they can occur.

With all this said, we also recognize that many communities may wish to explore different potential policing models. This process can be expensive, so Budget 2023 provides for a \$6 million investment over two years in municipal police transition grants. These grants would provide Indigenous communities and municipalities with up to \$30,000 each to conduct independent

studies to determine the challenges and potential costs of transitioning away from a regional policing model to a local, self-administered police force. Armed with this knowledge, communities will be able to determine which model best suits their distinct needs.

Looking beyond law enforcement, PSES continued to securely house individuals within our eight provincial adult correctional centres and two provincial youth correctional centres, and provide them with access to rehabilitative opportunities. Upon leaving these facilities, individuals are supervised by more than 40 probation offices across the province. The ministry strives to support, guide and inspire its correctional services clients to make positive, sustainable and lawful choices in order to reduce their interactions with the criminal justice system and ensure strong communities across Alberta.

In one of the most significant developments this fiscal year, our ministry assumed responsibility for the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). The AEMA coordinates large-scale emergency and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery programs and initiatives. The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) includes a 24/7 watch station, which continuously monitors and reports on events across Alberta, and a ready-to-use space for coordination during emergencies and disasters.

In addition, AEMA continued to support the local authority emergency management system for municipalities, First Nation communities and Métis Settlements; including comprehensive emergency management training, support for emergency plan development, emergency social services planning, and key real-time response services during emergencies and disasters.

Protecting the public, especially in a province as large and diverse as Alberta, is a great challenge and an enormous responsibility. But I am grateful to the brave men and women on the frontlines of provincial law enforcement, as well as the PSES ministry staff working ably behind the scenes, for treating this task with the seriousness it deserves. The accomplishments laid out in this report represent the collective effort of the entire ministry.

[Original signed by Honourable Mike Ellis]
Honourable Mike Ellis
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Management's Responsibility for Reporting

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services includes the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund.

The executives of the individual entities within the ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the respective entities. Collectively, the executives ensure the ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and strategic plan, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying ministry financial information and performance results for the ministry rests with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services. Under the direction of the Minister, I oversee the preparation of the ministry's annual report, which includes the financial information, performance results on all objectives and initiatives identified in the former Justice and Solicitor General ministry business plan, and performance results for all ministry-supported commitments that were included in the 2022-25 Government of Alberta Strategic Plan. The financial information and performance results, out of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The financial information is prepared using the government's stated accounting policies, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The performance measures are prepared in accordance with the following criteria:

- Reliable – Information used in applying performance measure methodologies agrees with the underlying source data for the current and prior years' results.
- Understandable – the performance measure methodologies and results are presented clearly.
- Comparable – the methodologies for performance measure preparation are applied consistently for the current and prior years' results.
- Complete – outcomes, performance measures and related targets match those included in the ministry's *Budget 2022*.

As Deputy Minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I am responsible for the ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give consideration to costs, benefits, and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money;
- provide information to manage and report on performance;
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under ministry administration;
- provide Executive Council, the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance,

and the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services the information needed to fulfill their responsibilities; and

- facilitate preparation of ministry business plans and annual reports required under the *Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act*.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executives of the individual entities within the ministry.

[Original signed by Rae-Ann Lajeunesse]

Rae-Ann Lajeunesse

Deputy Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

June 13, 2023

Results Analysis

Table of Contents

Ministry Overview.....	11
Organizational Structure	12
Operational Overview	12
Key Highlights	15
Discussion and Analysis of Results	17
Actions that support the priorities of the Government of Alberta Strategic Plan.....	17
Red Tape Reduction.....	18
COVID-19/Recovery Plan.....	19
Outcome One: Albertans are safe and protected	20
Outcome Two: Alberta’s justice system is fair and effective	33
Outcome Three: Albertans are supported in their interactions with the justice system.....	33
Performance Measure and Indicator Methodology	47

Ministry Overview

Public Safety and Emergency Services is keeping Alberta communities safe and secure, and ensuring our province is prepared for and resilient to the impacts of disasters. The ministry works alongside partners in law enforcement, justice, health and social services, to support a fair and accessible criminal justice system that reflects the unique needs of Albertans.

Public Safety and Emergency Services provides provincial policing services through an agreement with the federal government that establishes the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as the provincial police service and supports municipal policing through policing grants. The ministry supports specialized policing, such as Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams that work to combat organized and serious crime, and investigate drug trafficking, child exploitation and gang violence. Public Safety and Emergency Services is also responsible for the development of policing standards and oversight of police and public security services, and is working to establish an independent agency to resolve policing complaints to ensure the police are accountable to the communities they serve.

With eight provincial adult correctional centres, two provincial youth correctional centres, and over 40 probation offices across the province, the ministry is responsible for the custody and supervision of adults and young persons under correctional authority, as well as the facilitation of rehabilitation opportunities. The ministry also contracts with local Indigenous communities to provide community supervision of clients on reserve. The ministry strives to support, guide and inspire its correctional services clients to make positive, sustainable and lawful choices to reduce their interactions with the criminal justice system and ensure strong communities across Alberta.

Public Safety and Emergency Services ensures the delivery of programs and services to support victims of crime, including those affected by domestic violence and human trafficking. The ministry also provides grant funding for crime prevention and restorative justice programs.

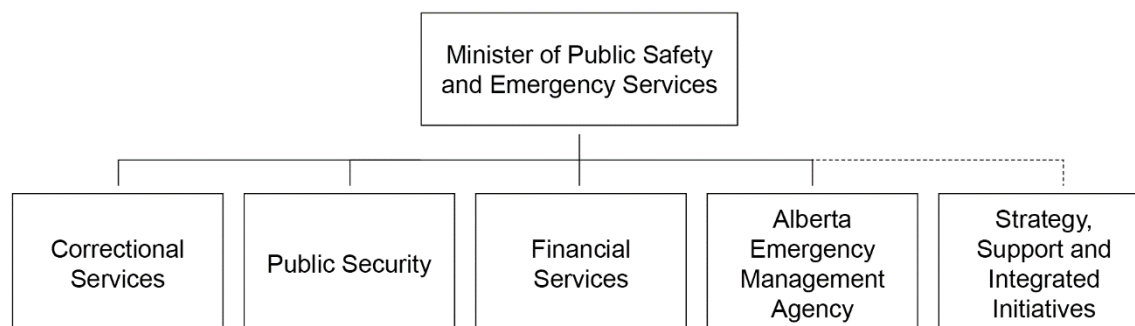
To help municipalities and communities manage emergencies and disasters effectively, the ministry provides a range of supports through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency coordinates large-scale emergency and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, responses, and recovery programs and initiatives. The ministry also leads the coordination, collaboration, and cooperation of all organizations involved in the prevention of, response to, and recovery from emergencies in the province. Public Safety and Emergency Services provides emergency management support and advice to Alberta's First Nations through an agreement with the Government of Canada.

Public Safety and Emergency Services continues to support the unique needs of Albertans involved in the justice system. In partnership with Alberta Justice, the ministry continues to develop alternatives to traditional processes, including diversion and restorative justice programs that provide a therapeutic and culturally appropriate approach to justice. Work continues with the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction and other partners to support a recovery-oriented system of care that provides access to a full continuum of services, including services that support mental health and addictions recovery. This includes the establishment of therapeutic living units and supports in Alberta correctional facilities.

In 2022-23, the ministry worked to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Outcome 1:** Albertans are safe and protected
- **Outcome 2:** Alberta's justice system is fair and effective
- **Outcome 3:** Albertans are supported in their interactions with the justice system
- **Outcome 4:** Alberta is emergency-ready and resilient to the impacts of disasters

Organizational Structure



Operational Overview

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Alberta Emergency Management Agency

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency works with its emergency management partners to provide a province-wide emergency management system that protects Albertans, their property, and the environment against hazards. The agency's activities include helping coordinate provincial emergency, disaster response and recovery activities, and providing direct assistance to local authorities when required. The agency provides strategic policy direction and leadership through the coordination of emergency management programs that include aspects of mitigation, prevention, preparation, response, and recovery.

The agency supports the continuous improvement of Alberta's emergency management system and assists with the development of sustainable emergency management capabilities; delivery of provincial emergency social services and Alberta's 911 program and supports the Alberta First Responders' Radio and Communications System throughout Alberta. The agency also collaborates with provincial, territorial, federal, and international stakeholders to promote a comprehensive approach to emergency management to enhance the safety of all Albertans.

Correctional Services Division

Correctional Services is responsible for the effective and efficient custody and supervision of adults and young persons under correctional authority, including the facilitation of rehabilitation opportunities. Custody is for adults who are remanded or serving a sentence of less than two years and for young persons who are remanded or sentenced. Community supervision includes programs such as pre-trial supervision, probation, and alternative measures/sanctions for both adults and young persons.

The Training Academy provides induction training to Correctional Services, and to Alberta's peace officers, sheriffs, and community peace officers as authorized by the Director of Law Enforcement under the *Peace Officer Act*. The Training Academy is accountable to establish standards and provide oversight to peace officer training programs, develop and deliver training, and manage training facilities.

Public Security Division

Public Security is responsible for law enforcement, security and safety. This mandate covers a broad portfolio of functions, such as: overseeing integrated and specialized policing initiatives; pursuing forfeiture of proceeds of crime; regulating the civil enforcement industry, security services and investigators and the peace officer program; delivering supplementary law enforcement, including court security, prisoner transport, traffic and commercial vehicle safety enforcement; protecting officials and infrastructure; operating fish and wildlife enforcement; managing policing contracts; providing oversight of police and police oversight bodies, private investigators and security guards; and providing security services for government buildings, employees, the judiciary, and members of government.

Financial Services Division

Financial Services provides a full range of financial support functions for the ministry including compliance, budgeting, auditing, facilities and fleet services, procurement, and planning. These services are provided to establish and maintain strategic priorities and optimize operating efficiency, while ensuring division, ministry and Government of Alberta goals are aligned. The Financial Service Division is shared between the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Ministry of Justice.

Strategy, Support and Integrated Initiatives Division

Strategy, Support, and Integrated Initiatives supports policy and planning, engagement, service innovation and digitization, research, evaluation, data analytics, and strategic reporting. The division is also responsible for records and information management support; crime prevention; restorative justice; Indigenous policy and services; and victim services. The division provides governance and oversight of the department's agencies, boards and commissions. The Strategy, Support and Integrated Initiatives Division is shared between the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Ministry of Justice.

Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Alberta Parole Board

The Alberta Parole Board determines parole eligibility for people serving a sentence of less than two years in provincial correctional facilities. The board has exclusive authority, in accordance with legislated criteria, to determine whether to grant parole and is responsible for imposing conditions on individuals released on parole. Each board member has specific knowledge of crime trends and resources in their region. Board members come from all regions across Alberta and are appointed through Order in Council.

Criminal Injuries Review Board

The Criminal Injuries Review Board considered requests for reviews of decisions regarding applications for financial benefits for victims of crime under the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act*. Board members are appointed through Order in Council. Amendments to the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act* officially dissolved the Criminal Injuries Review Board in September 2022.

Law Enforcement Review Board

The Law Enforcement Review Board, established under the *Police Act*, hears appeals from members of the public and police officers who have complaints regarding the actions of police officers, or who are unsatisfied with the disposition of their complaint by the responsible chief of police. The board also hears appeals relating to peace officer employer authorizations or peace officer appointments cancelled under the *Peace Officer Act*. The board members are appointed through Order in Council.

Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee

The Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee is responsible for providing the Minister with advice regarding public security matters, from an Indigenous perspective. The committee's core areas of focus are law enforcement, victim services, restorative justice, and crime prevention. The committee brings together diverse Indigenous perspectives from different treaty areas, Métis peoples, urban and rural communities, and organizations. Committee members are appointed through Ministerial Order.

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Programs Committee

The Victims of Crime and Public Safety Programs Committee evaluates grant applications from eligible programs and makes recommendations to the Minister, based upon submitted grant applications respecting programs that benefit victims of crime and public safety initiatives. Committee members are appointed through Ministerial Order.

Key Highlights

In 2022-23, Public Safety and Emergency Services delivered on commitments in the former Justice and Solicitor General 2022-25 Business Plan, the former Municipal Affairs 2022-25 Business Plan, and key priorities in the Government of Alberta 2022-25 Strategic Plan including:

Review of policing services	<p>Introduced amendments to the <i>Police Act</i> to improve police accountability and enhance public confidence by reforming policing governance and oversight and strengthening ties to the community.</p> <p>Introduced a one-time grant of up to \$30,000 for Indigenous and municipal communities to develop a business case for their own police service.</p>
Urban crime	Addressed crime in the downtown areas by launching temporary Alberta sheriff deployments in partnership with the Edmonton and Calgary Police Services.
Crime prevention grants	Supported the direct delivery of services or supports for crime prevention or community safety and well-being, as well as programs or initiatives keeping youth out of gangs or helping youth get out of gangs, by establishing crime prevention grant funding in 2022-23.
Halting the illegal importation and flow of firearms	Increased capacity to investigate illegal firearms activity by developing a Firearms Investigative Unit with Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams. Teams assigned to Calgary and Edmonton.
Combatting rural crime	<p>Fully implemented the Rural Alberta Provincial Integrated Defence Response to enable members of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services and Sheriff Highway Patrol to assist the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to help fight rural crime.</p> <p>Alberta sheriffs removed nearly 1,500 impaired drivers from Alberta's highways in 2022, the first full year since being given expanded authorities.</p>
Modernizing the victim services delivery model	Implemented an enhanced, permanent Victims Assistance Program to give victims quick access to emergency financial assistance, such as emergency support for domestic violence victims and relocation assistance for human trafficking victims.
Support the work of the provincial Human Trafficking Task Force	Acted on the recommendations of the Alberta Human Trafficking Task Force to develop the community-government model for an Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons in partnership with community stakeholders, developed a public webpage and a human trafficking module for victim-serving organizations and government staff.

	Completed a review of the <i>Protecting Survivors of Human Trafficking Act</i> .
Protect vulnerable Albertans, at risk of hate-motivated crime.	<p>Addressed hate-and bias-motivated crimes to help protect vulnerable Albertans by appointing two hate crimes community liaisons who work directly with cultural communities most targeted. The liaisons will recommend to government how to develop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive strategy to prevent these crimes and best support victims.</p> <p>Provided grant funding to approximately 100 organizations through the Alberta Security Infrastructure Program, which funds security assessments, related training, equipment, immediate response, and security infrastructure improvements to facilities serving communities at risk of hate or bias-motivated crime.</p>
Support alignment with mental health and addiction crisis response	<p>Funded the provincial rollout of HealthIM, a software system that supports first responders during emergency mental health crisis calls, in partnership with the police services, Mental Health and Addiction and Alberta Health Services.</p> <p>Launched a provincial law enforcement mental health 'Consultation Line' in December 2022. This dedicated line provides law enforcement with access to 24/7 consultation services with a mental health clinician, which promotes better health outcomes and patient experience for persons facing mental health challenges.</p>
Improved emergency management measures	Introduced a revised Alberta Emergency Plan, updated the Alberta 911 standards and upgraded the Alberta First Responders Radio Communication System to ensure Albertans are emergency-ready and resilient to the impacts of natural disaster.

Discussion and Analysis of Results

Actions that support the priorities of the Government of Alberta Strategic Plan

Key Priority One: Enhancing government services now and for the future

Objective 1.3: Supporting Albertans most in need

Government will always have supports in place for our most vulnerable citizens and those who require other targeted protections and supports. Alberta will enhance legislation and provide increased funding for specialized agencies that address domestic violence and human trafficking, as well as supporting low-income seniors, Albertans with disabilities and others in need.

For detailed reporting on supporting initiatives, please refer to:

- Page 20 - Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams
- Page 27 - Combatting Human Trafficking

Objective 1.4: Enhancing the justice system to make it fairer, faster and more effective

Albertans deserve an accessible and sustainable justice system that protects them and their loved ones. This government will protect Albertans by making the justice system fairer, faster, and more effective. Government is committed to providing Albertans with improved digital services to access justice, address COVID-related system backlogs and promote justice system sustainability.

For detailed reporting on supporting initiatives, please refer to:

- Page 20 - Rural Alberta Provincial Integrated Defence Response
- Page 24 - Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee
- Page 29 - Indigenous and Municipal Police Transition Study Grant
- Page 33 - New Victims Assistance Program

Red Tape Reduction

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services remains committed to regulatory approaches and program delivery that reduces unnecessary government oversight and emphasizes outcomes, to improve access to government services, attract investment, support innovation and competitiveness, and grow Alberta businesses.

Government has set an ambitious target of a one-third reduction of regulatory requirements across the organization in 2023. Public Safety and Emergency Services supported this priority commitment by eliminating 2,582 regulatory requirements by the end of March 2023 representing a 17 per cent overall reduction. These efforts continue to make the department's services more accessible to Albertans, while maintaining the ministry's overall commitment to public safety and security.

Public Safety and Emergency Services is reviewing all program area forms, services and policies on an ongoing basis to continue to identify administrative reductions that will make the ministry more effective and efficient. The ministry has seen success in reducing administrative burdens, such as a review of forms used in custodial centres to eliminate redundant and outdated information.

The ministry is also supporting a government mandate item to measure, benchmark, and reduce wait times for permits. This includes reviewing the timelines for issuing relevant permits, such as security services and investigations licences and body armour permits, to support the exploration of options to improve the process for applicants. While these efforts are ongoing, the review is expected to be completed later in 2023.

Public Safety and Emergency Services anticipates that by the end of 2023 all departmental forms and policies will be reviewed, and relevant reductions will be made to streamline ministry programs, making them more accessible to Albertans.

COVID-19/Recovery Plan

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to ensure Albertans are protected against future unforeseen health emergencies, Public Safety and Emergency Services maintains a robust stockpile of personal protective equipment. This stockpile provides ease of access, protection and planning for future emergencies and is a result of the Personal Protective Equipment Task Force. The task force distributed personal protective equipment, such as hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, face shields, gowns, and disinfectants to help enable the operation of government, non-government organizations, and the non-healthcare sectors. See outcome four for more information on the personal protective equipment stockpile in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Outcome One: Albertans are safe and protected

Public Safety and Emergency Services works with justice system partners to ensure Albertans feel safe and secure in their communities. Through collaboration and investment in additional resources, the ministry is improving police response times and deterring crime across the province. Together with justice partners, specialized enforcement units and community grants are helping to support and protect individuals at risk of human trafficking and hate-motivated crimes. The ministry continues to explore effective approaches to policing, including the modernization of legislation and the examination of a new policing model to ensure the safety of all Albertans.

Key Objectives

1.1 Continue to work with policing partners and municipal leaders to address drivers of crime, including focused work on rural crime, organized crime, drug trafficking and proceeds of crime.

Rural Alberta Province Integrated Defence Response

To deter crime and increase the visible presence of law enforcement in rural areas, the ministry has implemented the Rural Alberta Province Integrated Defence (RAPID) Response. Additional training has been provided to Alberta Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services, enabling them to act as a first response to urgent police calls or act as back up in rural areas. Officers can also help apprehend suspects and hold scenes for evidence preservation until police can take over. Similarly, Sheriff Highway Patrol were trained to respond to a wider range of calls, such as complaints about erratic drivers, collisions and impaired driving. This collaboration supports making our highways and communities safer by freeing up Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) officers to focus on higher-priority criminal matters and allows authorities to respond more quickly when Albertans need them.

Occurrences to provide RAPID Response vary over time and in 2022-23, Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services responded to eight RAPID Response occurrences. There were approximately 30 occurrences where fish and wildlife officers assisted RCMP outside of RAPID Response calls. Sheriff Highway Patrol assisted RCMP regularly with major collisions and emergency calls on the highway. Their diligence removed 1,434 impaired drivers from roadways in rural Alberta in 2022.

Operational costs for RAPID Response in 2022-23 were approximately \$10 million, which included expenditures for frontline officer and telecommunication operator salaries, equipment, technology and infrastructure required to support the program.

Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams

Since 2006, Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) has been building safer communities in Alberta by arresting more than 10,000 individuals, issuing 34,000 charges, and seizing close to \$1 billion in illegal drugs. ALERT is dedicated to investigating online child exploitation, organized crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking, auto crimes, and rural property crime, as well as managing Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta, which is connected to all provinces across Canada. In 2022-23, ALERT supported the safety and security of Albertans by:

- recovering stolen property and automobiles;
- reducing the flow of illegal drugs through the seizure of cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl, opioids and other illicit drugs;

- targeting organized crime groups to reduce victimization related to drugs and weapons offences;
- arresting perpetrators of human trafficking and providing referrals, resources, and/or trauma care to victims; and
- targeting online predators to protect children from exploitation, sexual abuse, self-harm, and/or child luring.

In 2022-23, ALERT seized over \$10 million of harmful drugs from communities across Alberta and close to \$1.5 million in proceeds of crime. The teams continued to expand their ability to support successful prosecution of firearm-related charges to illegal firearm-related crime by providing additional training for Section II test firing procedures, which is required for successful prosecution of firearm-related charges. In addition, ALERT developed the provincial firearms lab in partnership with the Edmonton Police Service. The Integrated Ballistic Identification System lab, analyzes crime guns and crime casings, linking shooting events to guns seized by law enforcement officers. The lab supplies quality, timely intelligence for firearms investigations, to ensure offenders are held accountable. This takes violent offenders off the streets and helps create a safer Alberta.

Quick Fact

In 2022-23, ALERT:

- Laid 815 charges
- Arrested 133 people for drug related activities
- Seized 70 firearms
- Recovered 232 stolen vehicles

In 2022-23, \$44.1 million plus an additional \$5 million advanced payment from 2021-22 was spent to support ALERT in their activities to support safer communities.

Gun and Gang Violence Action Fund

Alberta received \$10.25 million in 2022-23 through the federal Gun and Gang Violence Action Fund to enhance efforts to prevent, disrupt, and increase awareness of gun and gang violence.

To prevent gang violence, the ministry provided support to two partner agencies to deliver gang wraparound services and community grant program to prevent gang membership. Education and awareness strategies were employed, including a counter-narrative campaign, gang prevention network, and a public resource website to provide Albertans with knowledge and resources to address gang concerns in their communities. A new guns and gangs intelligence unit and an Opioid Enforcement Team was established within ALERT to address gun violence.

In 2022-23, the ministry continued to support the Gang Exit and Community Outreach Services program. This province-wide program assists provincially incarcerated inmates and other individuals involved in the justice system with exiting gang lifestyles upon their transition to the community by connecting them with wrap-around community resources. Since its start, 279 people have accessed the Gang Exit and Community Outreach Services program. In 2020, the ministry entered into three-year contracts totaling \$5.15 million with community agencies to provide this support to offenders trying to exit gang life. Approximately \$2.4 million was spent to support these programs in 2022-23.

The ministry continued to provide support to Indigenous residents leaving substance abuse treatment centres or corrections facilities by providing \$170,000 to the Kainai Transition Centre Society, which provides post-treatment and/or post-custodial release care to Indigenous populations in southern Alberta to assist individuals to reintegrate back into their respective communities by way of education, employments skills and addictions counselling.

In 2022-23, the province used 89 per cent (\$9.1 million) of the federal funding to support gun and gang violence prevention initiatives in the province. The surplus will allow for scheduled program evaluation in the next fiscal year to better understand the impact of the gun and gang violence prevention efforts of the province. The remaining 11 per cent (\$1.2 million) will be carried over into 2023 as the result of a recent agreement with Public Safety Canada. A significant portion of this carry-over funding will be directed to ALERT, with other funds being allocated to the Ministry of Justice and other non-government agencies responsible for gang prevention activities, and a full evaluation of the program.

Alberta Community Safety Data Analytics Lab

Public Safety and Emergency Services is working alongside the Ministry of Justice towards establishing the Alberta Community Safety Data Analytics Lab. The lab will produce data that will be vital in informing policy decisions and allocating resources, which will inform Albertans on how to protect themselves and their communities. The lab will function as an Alberta hub for the ongoing collection, integration, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of community safety data. The lab will generate insights into drivers of crime by combining data from various stakeholders, including police, justice, health, and other relevant health partners. It will manage linked data, support performance reporting, apply analytics to policy and program development, and engage in predictive analytics. In 2022-23, the ministry worked in collaboration with community partners and other Government of Alberta ministries to complete a plan and implementation roadmap for the lab.

Establishing the lab advances the development and expansion of publicly available justice system information and data, as well as evidence-based decision-making tools. These include:

- Justice system modernization;
- Public's Right to Know legislation;
- The conclusion of the *Police Act* Review consultations that better data is needed to address knowledge gaps;
- Government of Alberta's Enterprise Data Analytics Strategic Plan and Digital Strategy; and
- Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Study's emphasis on enhanced analytics and business intelligence capacity at the provincial level.

In 2022-23, the project was funded by the federal Gun and Gang Violence Action Fund. Funding included \$435,000 (\$150,000 in operational costs and \$285,000 for technology proof of concept and business case).

Drug Interdiction Strategy

ALERT continues to work with law enforcement colleagues in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and within the National Methamphetamine Strategy as well as the Canadian Integrated Response to Organized Crime structures, to support Alberta's efforts to combat organized crime and promote safe and healthy communities.

Quick Fact

At provincial correctional centres 2022-23 there were:

- 31,600 body scans completed; and
- 1,724 instances where contraband was detected.

Within all Alberta's adult correctional centres, body scanners, similar to those in airports, are used to combat the introduction of drugs, weapons, and other contraband (e.g., cell phones, lighters, etc.) into correctional facilities in an effort to protect staff and inmates. The body scanner is used in conjunction with other detection methods previously in place at each centre and uses ultra-low radiation (x-ray system) to detect contraband.

Alberta's Safer Communities and Neighborhoods

Alberta's Safer Communities and Neighborhoods (SCAN) units are improving community safety by targeting and, if necessary, shutting down residential and commercial buildings regularly used for criminal activities. This includes activities such as producing, selling, or using illegal drugs; prostitution, solvent abuse or the unlawful sale and consumption of alcohol; and gang activity, organized crime, and the exploitation of children. This year, SCAN units responded to complaints in 118 communities throughout Alberta and received over 664 files, many of which had multiple complainants associated with them. SCAN units obtained six Community Safety Orders, and resolved over 95 complaints by way of warning letters and subsequent evictions. A large percentage of the complaints are resolved by informal resolution with investigators working directly with the homeowners. The SCAN units have a direct impact on the elimination of drug houses and properties posing significant risks to public safety in Alberta communities.

Over the past three years, the SCAN units have averaged over 900 files each year. Alberta has committed to increasing the number of investigator positions from 20 to 40 in 2023-24 to mitigate the demand. Currently, due to limited resource capacity, approximately 30 per cent of the complaints are not being investigated. Once training is complete, an increase in investigators is expected to have a positive impact on community safety, as well as support the RCMP in combatting rural crime.

The SCAN program investigates a substantial number of complaints given the vast geography covered and limited resources. In 2022-23, the annual expenditures for the SCAN program were \$3.3 million.

Civil Forfeiture Referrals

The Civil Forfeiture Office targets organized crime to create safer communities. Organized crime is profit-driven and commonly involves trafficking in drugs, weapons, and people, and may also involve money laundering and other financial crimes. By removing criminal profits and taking away vehicles and other criminal tools of the trade, civil forfeiture successfully undermines organized crime's ability to operate.

The Civil Forfeiture Office was established in 2009, and administers the *Civil Forfeiture Act*, which sets out a civil court process that allows the government to pursue forfeiture of proceeds of crime and property used to carry out crime. The Civil Forfeiture Office also uses an administrative (out-of-court) process to pursue forfeiture in certain cases. Forfeitures can be used to support crime prevention and victim of crime programs, compensate victims of crime, support police training and operations, and other specified purposes. This past year, ALERT established a full-time civil forfeiture liaison position to optimize the team's participation in the Civil Forfeiture program. The position is funded from the proceeds of forfeited property.

In 2022-23, the Civil Forfeiture Office received 127 referrals from law enforcement agencies, an eight per cent increase over the previous year. Over 80 per cent of these referrals arose from drug investigations, and 12 per cent arose from investigations into property crime. Seventeen of the referrals were from rural RCMP detachments, almost double the previous year's number (nine). The net value of forfeited property in 2022-23 was \$6.2 million.

Property forfeited through the Civil Forfeiture program supports community crime prevention. In 2022-23, \$500,000 in forfeitures was awarded as part of a \$850,000 grant to Crime Stoppers, and \$3.5 million in forfeitures was awarded to community-focused crime prevention initiatives through the Alberta Crime Prevention Grants (out of a total of \$5.45 million awarded). The grants will be paid out over the next two years.

Alberta's Civil Forfeiture program operates on a cost-recovery basis. In 2022-23, Public Safety and Emergency Services paid approximately \$912,000 in program operating costs, while the Ministry of Justice paid approximately \$218,000 in litigation costs, for a total of \$1.13 million in expenditures. All costs will be recovered from forfeitures to the General Revenue Fund in 2023-24.

Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee

The Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee was created to provide advice and recommendations regarding public safety matters from an Indigenous perspective to ensure government policies and program align with the needs of Indigenous communities across the province. The committee has diverse Indigenous perspectives, with its members representing different treaty areas, Métis peoples, urban and rural communities and organizations. The committee's core areas of focus include issues related to harvesting rights, law enforcement, victim services, restorative justice, and crime prevention. The committee was formed after listening to and working with Indigenous people to find the best way forward, and supports the Government of Alberta's commitment to reconciliation.

Correctional Service Interventions

In the interest of public safety, Correctional services oversees court orders and sentences, assesses inmates' needs and risks, assists and encourages inmates to use programs and services to develop their skillsets, ensures correctional facility operations, and keeps inmates accountable through custody, supervision and work services. With a total of ten provincial adult and youth correctional centres, and over 40 probation offices across the province, the ministry is responsible for the custody and supervision of adults and young persons

Quick Fact

In 2022-23, there were:

- 17,136 total admissions into provincial adult custody;
- 16,858 total releases from provincial adult custody; and
- An average of 15,214 clients under community supervision each month.

under correctional authority, as well as the facilitation of rehabilitation opportunities through contracted services with community providers. The ministry strives to guide and support clients, both in custody and within the community, through responsive measures and evidence-based practices to reduce clients' interactions with the criminal justice system and inspire them to make positive, sustainable and lawful choices. In turn, this promotes strong communities across Alberta.

Over the course of 2022-23, Correctional Services and Public Security worked with Correctional Service of Canada to establish a new exchange of services agreement. Alberta provincial correctional and remand centres house federal inmates under defined circumstances. Alberta police services and sheriffs also provide transportation for federal inmates, again under defined circumstances. The new agreement shifts Alberta's focus from housing federal inmates to transporting them to federal institutions so that they are detained by the appropriate jurisdiction.

1.2 Collaborate with partners to protect vulnerable Albertans, including those at risk of human trafficking or hate-motivated crime.

Integrated Offender Management

Recidivism is a key concern for Albertans. Integrated Offender Management is a partnership between the Government of Alberta, the Edmonton Police Service, the Calgary Police Service, and RCMP to build a safety strategy to address recidivism in offenders who are creating the most harm in their communities.

Using case development groups, individuals have the opportunity to address their needs through supportive and coordinated pathways, while still navigating the appropriate justice responses. This approach aligns with the recovery-oriented system of care mandate. In 2022-23, four new case development groups were established and an additional RCMP detachment was added to an existing group to expand the scope of integrated offender management in the province. There are currently 13 established case development groups in the province, with locations in Edmonton, Calgary and 11 rural areas. Public Safety and Emergency Services is one of more than 90 stakeholders regularly contributing to these groups, demonstrating a strong commitment to collaboration by partners.

The ministry is working to implement a flagging process that will support the government's approach in working with law enforcement agencies in their management of repeat offenders through the use of vetted and up-to-date information during bail and sentencing hearings. This provides a holistic picture of the offender's history within the justice system and allows a collaborative approach to manage the offender appropriately throughout the court process. A comprehensive understanding of the offender ensures informed decisions can be made that consider all relevant factors before offenders are sentenced or released. These decisions can help support those involved in the justice system, and ensure that justice is served fairly and in a way that protects Albertans. Full implementation of the flagging process is expected by summer 2023.

Hate Crimes Coordination Unit

Since 2018, the number of police-reported hate crimes in Canada has increased by 62 per cent. From 2020 to 2021, rates increased by 27 per cent, rising from 2,646 incidents to 3,360, including increases in crimes targeting religion (67 per cent), sexual orientation (64 per cent), and race or ethnicity (six per cent). In Alberta, the number of hate crimes increased by 19 per cent between 2018 to 2020, including increases of 12.9 per cent in Edmonton and 20.5 per cent in Calgary.

Alberta is committed to protecting those targeted by hate-and bias-motivated crimes. A Hate Crime Coordination Unit was established in early 2022 as part of the government commitment to enhance

support for the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of hate-motivated crime. This unit works with law enforcement to improve and harmonize hate crime mitigation efforts across the province and facilitate training opportunities, intelligence gathering, and investigative supports.

Government-funded research by the Organization for Prevention of Violence which surveyed 1,310 Albertans and conducted interviews with 78 community members with regards to hate-related behaviours being experienced by Albertans. Funding provided to the Alberta Hate Crime Committee facilitated focus group and interview conversations with 24 community partners, including Action! Chinese Canadians Together Foundations, Akram Jomaa Islamic Centre, Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta, Blood Tribe Association, Bnai Brith Canada, Brooks & County Immigration Services, Calgary Jewish Federation, Centre For Sexual & Gender Diversity, Grande Prairie Centre for Newcomers, Islamic Family and Social Services Association, Mannawanis Native Friendship Centre, Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo, Muslim Council of Calgary, Siksika Health Service, Sangat Youth/World Sikh Organization, and the Jewish Federation of Edmonton. The Hate Crime Coordination Unit also conducted Indigenous community engagements with Stoney Nakoda, Maskwacis (Ermineskin Cree, Samson Cree, Louis Bull Tribe, and Montana), Tsuu T'ina, Enoch, Sunchild, O'Chiese, and Blood Tribe/Káínai First Nations.

The Hate Crimes Coordination Unit supports discussions related to data collection and entry of hate-and bias-motivated crimes and incidents into different policing databases. Collaboration and engagement with law enforcement and community partners will provide better consistency across different jurisdictions and improve the quality of hate-and bias-motivated crime data. Looking forward, data can be used to develop proactive approaches and preventative strategies.

The unit leads and facilitates training opportunities to assist law enforcement including peace, probation and parole officers in further understanding legislation and elements of hate-motivated offences. The unit also provides hate-and bias-motivated training to diverse communities across the province to promote safety and resiliency. To date, the unit has provided hate crime awareness training to St. Paul detachment members, Victim Services Units and public service staff, at the Blood Tribe Elder Symposium, Graminia School Counsel, Central Alberta District Family and Child Social Services, Saamis Immigration Services Association in Medicine Hat, and hosted a two-day workshop for the Alberta Hate Crime Intelligence Group that included law enforcement participation from across Canada.

Administration of the Alberta Security Infrastructure Program grant is supported by the unit, including disbursing grant information to diverse communities across Alberta, as well as reviewing applications. The program grant funds security assessments, training, equipment, immediate response, and security infrastructure improvements to facilities serving communities or groups at risk of hate or bias-motivated crime. To date, \$1.01 million has been distributed to over 100 organizations.

Hate Crimes Community Liaisons

In alignment with recommendations received from the Alberta Anti-Racism Advisory Council calling for government to establish multiple platforms to address hate-and bias-motivated crimes, the Government of Alberta appointed two hate crimes community liaisons in 2022-23. The liaisons are working directly with the Hate Crime Coordination Unit, communities and community organizations most targeted by hate crimes and incidents to prepare a report and recommendations to the Government of Alberta at the end of their terms in 2024. The report is expected to:

- provide a foundation for the Government of Alberta to create a strategy to

appropriately and consistently respond to these incidents by clarifying the definition of hate-and-bias motivated incidents;

- identify best practices for prevention, intervention, suppression of hate-and bias-motivated crime and incidents, and for supporting the needs of individual victims and the victims' community, who also feel the impact;
- recommend best practices for repairing harm caused by hate-and bias-motivated crime and incidents within and outside of the criminal justice system knowing most occurrences are deemed non-criminal in nature; and
- recommend how coordination between law enforcement and the community should occur with an emphasis on how to empower communities to report and respond to incidents.

To date, community liaisons have engaged across the province in places like Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Edmonton, Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, Lloydminster, and Bonnyville to seek input and advice respecting the prevention, intervention, and suppression of hate crimes and incidents to better understand how hate crimes can more effectively be addressed in Alberta and reflect the needs of the most targeted communities.

Combating Human Trafficking

The number of human trafficking incidents in Canada increased year over year between 2011 and 2018. Between 2019 and 2021, the number of incidents remained relatively unchanged, with the national rate sitting at 1.4 incidents per 100,000 population in 2021. In Alberta, there have been 234 incidents of human trafficking between 2011 and 2021, with the current provincial rate sitting below the national rate at 1.1 incidents per 100,000 population¹ in 2021.

The Government of Alberta is taking action to combat human trafficking in the province. In 2022-23, the ministry continued to implement Alberta's Nine-Point Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and the recommendations of the Alberta Human Trafficking Task Force, which was established to help protect vulnerable Albertans at risk of human trafficking and improve supports to victims and survivors. This ongoing work will help to coordinate efforts and enhance services to those affected by human trafficking in Alberta.

In July 2022, the ministry launched a public webpage aimed at raising awareness among Albertans about human trafficking and, providing information and resources for victims and survivors, including educating the public on signs of human trafficking and steps that can be taken if they suspect someone is being victimized. In addition, human trafficking awareness training modules were developed for government employees to raise awareness of how to recognize and respond to instances of human trafficking. These activities did not result in expenditures in 2022-23.

In fall 2022, the ministry completed an initial review of the *Protecting Survivors of Human Trafficking Act*, legislation that aims to provide greater protections for survivors of human

¹ Conroy, S. 2022. "Trafficking in Persons in Canada 2021". Juristat Bulletin – Quick Fact. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-005-X.

trafficking. The review included an assessment of the effectiveness of the Act and the potential addition of an ongoing strategy to combat trafficking in persons, as recommended by the Alberta Human Trafficking Task Force. The review will help inform potential amendments to the Act to further protect vulnerable Albertans at risk of being trafficked and strengthen a survivor's ability to escape from damaging abuse. In addition, the federal government was lobbied to strengthen penalties against human trafficking as a means of deterring would-be traffickers, and in holding those who do engage in trafficking accountable for their actions.

Over the past year, sustained funding commitments were made to the human trafficking units within ALERT for two civilian safety network coordinators whose primary role is to build trust with victims by removing barriers towards exiting the sex industry, advising on safety planning, and facilitating access to community support services. These units specifically address sexual exploitation and forced sex labour, helping to protect vulnerable Albertans and ensure traffickers are brought to justice.

In October 2022, Alberta announced \$22.8 million in new funds to step up the fight against human trafficking, including establishing an Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons. Funding will be distributed over three years, \$6.6 million in 2023-24, \$8.18 million in 2024-25, and \$8 million in 2025-26. The office will enhance coordination and collaboration across Alberta to ensure victims, survivors and front-line service providers have access to enhanced services under a coordinated Alberta community response model. While the office was expected to launch at the end of 2022-23, more engagement was required to design the structure of the office to ensure it would meet the needs of survivors, victims and service delivery organizations. As a result, a co-design process was conducted with stakeholders in early 2023 to collaboratively design the office model. A grant call to select a community partnership to lead the office was launched in March 2023. The community partnership is expected to be selected in the 2023-24 fiscal year to establish the office and begin leading the implementation of many of the remaining task force recommendations, including establishing a community grant program.

Preventing Internet and Child Exploitation

ALERT's Internet and Child Exploitation Unit continues to investigate offences involving child pornography, any computer-related child sexual abuse, child luring over the Internet, voyeurism involving victims under the age of 18, and child sex trade/tourism.

Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics reports a national average annual rate of 27 incidents per 100,000 children and youth between 2018 and 2020, with Alberta rates accounting for 9.2 per cent of these incidents. In 2020, the overall national rate of online child sexual exploitation and abuse was 131 incidents per 100,000 children and youth compared with 50 incidents per 100,000 children and youth in 2014². The increase is thought to be correlated to the COVID-19 pandemic reducing opportunities for in-person crime, as well as improved police training to deter these crimes and an increased willingness on the part of victims to report them.

In response, ALERT arrested 56 suspects and laid 229 criminal charges, most of which involved child luring, sexual assault, extortion, and distributing /making child pornography (also known as

2 Ibrahim, D. 2022. "Online child sexual exploitation and abuse in Canada: A statistical profile of police-reported incidents and court charges, 2014 to 2020". Juristat. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 85-002-X.

child sexual abuse material). During the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of reported instances of online child exploitation increased significantly, which can be attributed to an increase in opportunities for offenders, as a larger number of children were engaged in virtual learning. In 2022-23, the Internet and Child Exploitation Unit caseload increased by five per cent, which is the lowest annual increase since 2019.

In addition to enforcement initiatives, the unit continues to promote education and awareness for parents, youth, and care providers via online platforms, traditional media, and presentations.

In 2022-23, expenditures for the Internet and Child Exploitation Unit were approximately \$8 million (\$5.6 million provided by the province and \$2.4 million provided by the Government of Canada).

1.3 Review the delivery of policing services in the province, including further examination of a provincial police service, to ensure Albertans feel safe and confident in their communities.

Indigenous and Municipal Police Transition Study Grant

The *Police Act* gives municipalities the option of having their own police service, forming a regional policing arrangement or contracting for the provincial police's services.

In June 2022, the government announced the transition study grant to support Indigenous and municipal communities, by providing a one-time grant up to \$30,000 to communities interested in examining the establishment of their own municipal police service or regional policing model. The funds will support communities in developing a business case examining local policing needs, capital requirements, and transition considerations.

The Indigenous and Municipal Police Transition Study Grant was officially launched on September 11, 2022. Twelve applications were received and nine were assessed by the review committee. Following review of the nine applications, the committee recommended approval of funding of \$30,000 for each of the five Indigenous communities (Samson Cree Nation, Cold Lake First Nation, Paul Band, O'Chiese First Nation, and Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement) and the four municipalities (Town of Olds, City of Airdrie, Town of Redcliff, and Town of Smoky Lake). A total of \$270,000 in grant funding was provided in 2022-23.

The Alberta government has committed \$9.7 million to support the City of Grande Prairie in establishing a municipal police service that will accommodate the unique needs of their community. Funding will be distributed over two years, beginning in 2023-24.

Police Amendment Act

In 2022-23, amendments to the *Police Act* were passed by the legislative assembly following four years of extensive engagement with stakeholders, including Albertans, law enforcement, health and social services sectors, municipalities, Indigenous communities and communities representing cultural and ethnic diversity. Renewal of Alberta's policing legislation will improve police accountability and enhance public confidence by reforming police governance and oversight and strengthening ties to the community.

The amendments were introduced during the fall 2022 session of the legislative assembly and received Royal Assent on December 15, 2022. This marks the first major renewal of the *Police Act* in 34 years. At the centre of these amendments is the ability for government to establish an independent agency to manage and investigate complaints against police. Independent handling of

policing complaints is broadly supported by stakeholders and policing agencies, and will help end a perception of bias that can arise when police are investigating complaints against the police.

Other key changes within the *Police Amendment Act, 2022*, include:

- the addition of a preamble and eight guiding principles for policing in Alberta; and the creation of civilian governance bodies for communities policed by the RCMP;
- new requirements for police to develop community safety plans and diversity and inclusion plans;
- the creation of policing priorities by the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services, and requiring municipal police commissions to create their own policing priorities in consideration of the provincial priorities; and
- the enhancement of provincial oversight of policing – for instance, by enhancing the ability of the Minister to intervene to ensure adequate policing is provided. Next steps to implement these changes, including the development of supporting regulations and the standing up of a new independent agency to receive and investigate policing complaints and civilian governance bodies, are anticipated for early to mid-2024.

Performance Measure 1.a:

Violent and Property Crime Rates per 100,000 Population

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Alberta Violent Crime Rate	1,312	1,338	1,460	1,451	1,498
Rural	1,980	1,942	2,270	2,436	2,460
Urban	1,168	1,209	1,292	1,247	1,301
Alberta Property Crime Rate	5,534	5,470	5,885	5,057	4,567
Rural	7,121	6,847	7,474	6,850	6,399
Urban	5,183	5,167	5,544	4,676	4,185

*Data has been revised by the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics since the 2022-25 business plan's publication.

Crime rate measures the volume of crime, including all *Criminal Code* violations (except traffic) relative to population size and is shown as urban and rural results.

Violent Crime Rate

In 2021, Alberta's violent crime rate was 1,498, an increase of 3.2 per cent from the previous year. The violent crime rate was 2,460 in rural Alberta, an increase of one per cent, and 1,301 in urban Alberta, an increase of 4.3 per cent. Alberta's overall violent crime rate has increased by 14.2 per cent compared to 2017, increasing 24.2 per cent in rural Alberta and 11.4 per cent in urban Alberta. The increase in Alberta's violent crime rate from 2020 to 2021 was driven by an increase in sexual assault, level 1, 2 and 3 (21 per cent), and major assault (level 2 and 3) (four per cent).

Property Crime Rate

In 2021, Alberta's overall property crime rate was 4,567, a decrease of 9.7 per cent from the previous year. The property crime rate in rural Alberta was 6,399, a decrease of 6.6 per cent, and 4,185 in urban Alberta, a decrease of 10.5 per cent. Alberta's overall property crime rate is down 17.5 per cent compared to 2017, down 19.3 per cent in urban Alberta, and down 10 per cent in rural Alberta. Property crimes may have decreased given that more Albertans stayed home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The decrease in Alberta's property crime rate from 2020 to 2021 was driven by a decrease in breaking and entering (17 per cent) and motor vehicle theft (9 per cent).

Performance Measure 1.b: Violent and Non-violent Crime Severity Index

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Violent Crime Severity Index					
Alberta	99	100	108	110	112
Canada	81	84	90	88	93
Non-Violent Crime Security Index					
Alberta	117	118	124	108	97
Canada	71	73	76	69	67

The Crime Severity Index measures the volume and severity of police-reported crime in Canada. It has a base index value of 100 for 2006. The Violent Crime Severity Index measures the overall volume and severity of violent crime. Non-violent crime involves all police reported property violations, other *Criminal Code* violations, *Criminal Code* traffic violations, and other federal statute violations.

As previously mentioned, the ministry has taken action on a number of fronts as part of its commitment to reduce crime, including implementing RAPID Response, increasing funding to ALERT, hiring additional investigators to support Alberta's Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods units, and supporting initiatives to combat hate crimes and human trafficking. These initiatives are ensuring that Albertans are better protected from criminals by the justice system regardless of where crimes take place.

Overall Crime Severity Index

In 2021, the national Crime Severity Index remained stable, changing from 73.9 in 2020 to 73.7 in 2021. This stability is due to increases in violent crime and continued decreases in non-violent crime. The index was five per cent lower in 2021 than a decade earlier in 2011. Between 2020 and 2021, six of 13 provinces or territories saw a decrease in the Crime Severity Index ranging from one per cent to seven per cent, with Alberta reporting a decrease of 6.8 per cent. In Alberta cities, Crime Severity Index decreased in Lethbridge by seven per cent, nine per cent in Calgary, and eight per cent in Edmonton. Alberta decreases were driven by a decrease in breaking and entering, as well as theft of \$5,000 or under (non-motor vehicle), partially offset by increase in sexual assault (level 1).

Violent Crime Severity Index

The national Violent Crime Severity Index was 92.5 in 2021, a five per cent increase from 2020, and 6.8 per cent higher than in 2011. In Alberta, a 2.5 per cent increase in Violent Crime Severity Index

was driven by increases in sexual assault (level 1), as well as sexual violations against children, partially offset by decrease in homicide and robbery.

Non-violent Crime Severity Index

In 2021, the national Non-violent Crime Severity Index was 66.7, three per cent lower than in 2020. In 2021, Alberta's Non-violent Crime Severity Index decreased by 10 per cent compared to 2020, driven by a decrease in breaking and entering and theft of \$5,000 or under.

Performance Indicator 1.c:

Number of provincially funded police officer positions

Prior Years' Results				2022-23 Actual
2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	
1,963	1,947	2,143	2,215	2,255

This indicator reflects the number of police officer and law enforcement civilian positions that are funded by the Government of Alberta. This does not include the municipal RCMP resources paid by municipal governments under the Municipal Police Services Agreement they have with the federal government, nor does it include the policing support grant provided to municipal governments each year to offset their policing costs. The results indicate the approved budgeted police officer positions funded by the ministry through the Public Security Division's budget. From time to time, there will be vacancies that are not shown here.

Over the past five years, the Government of Alberta has steadily increased the number of provincially funded police officer positions from 1,900 in 2018-19 to 2,255 in 2022-23, an increase of 14.9 per cent. As part of its commitment to address rural crime, the ministry is hiring additional RCMP members to strengthen the province's ability to respond to rural crime. Funding for additional police officer positions is provided through the new police funding model, whereby revenues collected from municipalities are directed back to policing and public safety needs in rural Alberta.

The 2,255 provincially funded police officer positions in 2022-23 can be broken down as follows:

- Provincial Police Service regular (RCMP) and civilian members (1,799);
- ALERT police officers and civilian members (308);
- Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre (ITRAC) positions (3);
- Hate crimes officers (3);
- Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) positions (9);
- Integrated Community Safety positions (4); and
- First Nations Policing Program positions (129).

Outcome Two: Alberta's justice system is fair and effective

Key Objectives

2.1 Streamline processes and reduce red tape to ensure a sustainable justice system that utilizes court, policing and prosecution resources efficiently and effectively.

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this key objective.

2.2 Continue to implement key democratic reforms to strengthen government accountability, including drafting and proclaiming regulations under the *Recall Act* and the *Citizen Initiative Act*

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this key objective.

2.3 Implement approved Fair Deal Panel recommendations to ensure Alberta has a strong voice in Confederation.

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this key objective.

Performance Indicator 2.a:

Number of trial Crown prosecutors

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance indicator.

Performance Measure 2.b:

Alberta Court of Justice lead time for serious and violent matters

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance measure.

Performance Indicator 2.c:

Number of *Jordan* applications granted

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance indicator.

Outcome Three: Albertans are supported in their interactions with the justice system

Key Objectives

As part of a recovery-oriented system of care, the ministry is improving support for individuals who may be experiencing drug addiction, mental health concerns or other social issues that cause them to interact with police. Actions are being taken to increase access to supports and services for victims of sexual violence to help with emergency expenses and aid in their recovery.

3.1 Introduce a new model of victim service delivery to ensure victims have the help they need, when they need it.

New Victims Assistance Program

On September 1, 2022, the ministry implemented a new, permanent Victims Assistance Program to improve support for victims of violent crime. The program provides aid and assistance to

individuals who are experiencing various types of emergencies or crises, such as domestic violence, human trafficking, or medical emergencies.

Previously, immediate crisis counseling for victims of violent crime was limited to \$1,000. Longer-term counselling options were added to a total combined maximum amount of \$12,000. New emergency assistance supports include:

- safety and security related out-of-pocket expenses;
- immediate need, and basic necessity expenses;
- emergency temporary accommodation;
- relocation expenses for human trafficking victims;
- emergency travel funding for those seeking to escape domestic violence;
- reimbursement for medical aid repair, replacement, or newly required aids; and
- an immediate cash disbursement to cover unexpected costs incurred by the victim.

The support is meant to help individuals cover costs associated with securing their safety and well-being, such as expenses related to changing locks, installing security cameras, or obtaining a restraining order. Financial support for immediate needs and basic necessities can help individuals cover basic expenses such as food, clothing, and shelter when they are facing financial difficulties due to an emergency situation. Emergency temporary accommodation or relocation expenses can support victims with costs associated with moving to a new location to escape their situations. Emergency travel funding can help individuals cover the costs associated with travel to a safe location, such as transportation or hotel accommodations.

Victims of crime can also still apply for court attendance expense reimbursement for victim impact statements and sentencing, a funeral expense reimbursement, and grief counselling for families of homicide victims. Additionally, victims can apply for serious injury supports including a lump sum amount and the potential for ongoing monthly payments to help victims with severe injuries that require them to be dependent on others for basic functions and daily activities.

The new program increased the limit on application from 45 days to two years, giving victim more time to access services. Applications to the Victims Assistance Program are accepted at a higher rate than under the legacy Victims Financial Benefits Program. Applicants receive their adjudication much sooner, and government is assured that the money provided to victims from the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund is actually being used to mitigate the immediate after-effects of the crime and provide support to victims through the justice system process.

In 2022-23, Victims Assistance Program funding was increased from \$5 million to \$12 million; however, due to delays in the implementation schedule and slower-than-predicted initial usage rates, the program only spent a total of \$4.2 million on direct services to victims. Usage is expected to increase in 2023-24.

Restitution Recovery Program

Restitution is how an offender repays a victim for property damage, lost money or addiction expenses due to a crime they committed. The Restitution Recovery Program is a model where, victims of crime have access to supports to navigate and request restitution during the legal process. Restitution orders are a way for offenders to repay their victims for damaged property,

lost money, or additional expenses due to crime. The victim may opt-in to the Restitution Recovery Program so that if a restitution order has not been paid, collection efforts may be initiated to recover the debt at no cost to the victim. Since its implementation in 2020, the number of Restitution Recovery Program orders granted has increased, from 22 orders in 2020 to 101 orders in 2022.

Program enhancements that support operational efficiencies are currently underway, including:

- increasing resource capacity to better support collections and recoveries;
- continuing refresher training to internal program partners and external victim stakeholder groups to better support victims of crime; and
- enhancing court databases (Justice Online Information Network) to better inform the data analytics and evaluation of the program.

The program works in collaboration with external victim stakeholder groups and is funded through those partnerships.

Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre

The Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre continues to enhance the safety of domestic violence victims by managing risk using an integrated and objective threat assessment approach.

Full Threat Assessments

The Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre is responsible for detailed assessments of chronic and severe intimate partner violence cases, to assist with law enforcement, prosecution, correctional management, and treatment. These assessments provide various criminal justice and victim services stakeholders with information necessary to better protect victims from high-frequency and high-severity domestic violence offenders, and are intended to break the cycle of ongoing abuse suffered by some vulnerable Albertans.

Clare's Law Disclosure Statements

The domestic violence risk assessment component of Clare's Law allows, in certain circumstances, people who feel they are at risk of domestic violence to obtain information on a former or current intimate partner's previous history of domestic violence or other relevant acts, to allow them to make decisions about their own safety and protect themselves from being victimized, or revictimized, in their intimate relationships.

In 2022-23, Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre continued to face resource pressures, with referrals for full threat assessments outpacing capacity, particularly since the institution of Clare's Law.

As of April 2023, the centre had six certified assessors, sharing responsibility for assessments, training of six understudies (trainees), and other tasks. While certification of all current trainees is expected to double current capacity in the long term, the centre has instituted performance targets for full threat assessments in response to anticipated lengthy response times. Targets are designed

Quick Fact

In 2022-23, the Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre successfully completed:

- 76 full threat assessments; and
- 327 Clare's Law Disclosure Statements.

to triage and prioritize requests, to ensure more impactful and timely service based on current capacity.

Expenditures for the Alberta Integrated Threat and Risk Assessment Centre totalled \$1.83 million in 2022-23, with nearly 85 per cent directed towards human resources (salaries and benefits).

3.2 Continue to implement digital transformation to improve Albertans' access to services, promote system sustainability and reduce red tape.

Implement New Technology for Community Corrections Populations

In 2022-23, Correctional Services Division continued to move forward with the Innovative Offender Management and Supervision (IOMS) Project. Through IOMS, mobile monitoring technology provides supervision to offenders in the community and creates modernized approaches in managing the adult pre-trial and low-risk sentenced offender populations. Mobile monitoring technology allows eligible clients to report to probation officers through a mobile phone application rather than in person or by telephone, thereby allowing probation officers to focus on higher risk and more complex cases.

The mobile monitoring unit continued its phased implementation, progressively increasing its caseload and creating greater capacity for probation officers across Alberta to focus supervision on moderate and high-risk cases. The mobile monitoring unit currently provides daily supervision to approximately 2,000 pre-trial and low-risk clients. Implemented in December 2020, a Pre-Trial Risk Assessment complements the pre-existing suite of risk assessments for sentenced offenders supervised in the community. The Pre-Trial Risk Assessment assists probation officers in making evidence-based decisions to determine reporting, and helps to streamline supervision of the adult pre-trial population through effective resource allocation.

In alignment with the government's commitment to expand the use of electronic monitoring technology, and supported by IOMS, the department moved forward with establishing an electronic monitoring pilot program in June 2022. The electronic monitoring technology utilizes the same mobile phone application as the mobile monitoring unit with the addition of GPS monitoring, and is used for clients released from custody on temporary absence permits.

In 2022-23, licensing fees related to the mobile monitoring unit and electronic monitoring technology were \$561,000.

Looking forward, the ministry will continue to explore ways to use mobile monitoring technology to enhance supervision of clients in the community and identify additional efficiencies in traditional supervision.

3.3 Work with the courts and other stakeholders to develop options for individuals and families interacting with the justice system who could benefit from targeted services, interventions and supports, where appropriate.

Recovery-oriented System of Care Initiatives

The Government of Alberta is developing a recovery-oriented system of care across the province in collaboration with partner ministries, Alberta Health Services, and community partners. The recovery-oriented system of care includes coordinated networks of community-based services and supports that are person-centred, and build on the strengths and resilience of individuals, families, and communities to achieve wellness and quality of life for those who are experiencing negative

impacts related to mental health and substance use problems. This approach focuses on preventing and addressing mental health and addiction issues, while also keeping communities safe. In 2022-23, Public Safety and Emergency Services supported the following recovery-oriented system of care initiatives:

Provincial Law Enforcement Mental Health Consultation Line

Quick Fact

- Only 10 per cent of the *Mental Health Act* occurrences that law enforcement attend result in the person in need being apprehended and conveyed to emergency departments.
- Only 30 per cent of persons assessed under the *Mental Health Act* are admitted to the hospital for treatment.

In an effort to better support individuals interacting with the justice system who may be experiencing mental health concerns, the ministry supported the implementation of a Provincial Law Enforcement Mental Health Consultation Line in December 2022. The line provides law enforcement access to 24/7 onsite consultation services with a mental health clinician and allows front-line law enforcement calls to be classified as the highest priority to eliminate lengthy wait time in a queue. On-site, immediate consultation with a mental health clinician allows officers to determine suitable management strategies and reduce the number of unwarranted conveyances to designated facilities. Consultation with clinicians also provides a more meaningful and supportive *Mental Health Act* service recommendation, while improving the overall mental

health knowledge of law enforcement, all resulting in optimized health outcomes and a better patient experience for persons facing mental health crises.

There was no allocated budget or costs associated with this initiative in 2022-23.

HealthIM

The ministry continues to support the roll out of HealthIM, a digital public safety system that helps police make decisions in the field for mental health crisis calls, and provides a secure mental health reporting system to standardize communication between police and front-line health services providers in designated healthcare facilities. This tool presents options for police to apprehend and transport the individual to the appropriate facility or refer to community programs, depending on their needs. The system will help improve outcomes for individuals suffering from mental health challenges and increase safety for both the responder and the person in crisis. Implementation is now underway with Edmonton Police Service, Medicine Hat Police Service, Lethbridge Police Service, and Camrose Police Service. Implementation is also underway for RCMP K-Division. West and Central districts were fully launched (October 2022 and January 2023), and the remaining districts (East and South) launched in mid-April 2023.

System Integration Leadership Group

In October 2022, the ministry established a System Integration Leadership Group. The group brings together representatives from multiple ministries and community-based agencies to promote integrated practices and resolve systemic barriers for individuals accessing multiple resources and systems. The group is focused on solutions that ensure the appropriate, effective and efficient use of services to reduce gaps and duplication when working with Albertans who require services from multiple ministries. The reduction of barriers meets the government's red-tape reduction mandate and helps address factors that are likely to cause criminal behaviour to reduce the impact on public safety.

Public Safety and Community Response Task Forces

In December 2022, government initiated Public Safety and Community Response Task Forces out of Edmonton and Calgary. The task forces are focused on implementing initiatives that support the province's recovery-oriented system of addiction and mental health care. The Minister leads the work of the Edmonton committee and supports the Calgary committee.

As a result of the task forces' work, Alberta Sheriffs partnered with police services in Edmonton and Calgary as part of two short term projects to help deter crime and respond to social disorder. The sheriff deployments commenced in Edmonton on February 14, 2023 and in Calgary on February 28, 2023, and have increased the law enforcement presence in the downtown areas. Patrols have focused on previously identified problem areas, such as LRT stations, businesses and areas of high public disorder.

As of April 22, 2023, Calgary Police Service officers, in partnership with Alberta Sheriffs responded to more than 1,600 calls as part of the project. Approximately 1,200 of those calls were initiated by officers while patrolling known hot spot areas. Officers also laid 109 charges and executed 1,524 outstanding arrest warrants.

In Edmonton, Alberta Sheriffs and Edmonton Police Service officers responded to 923 incidents between the start of the project and April 23, 2023. Officers also laid 274 charges against 66 people and executed 2,986 outstanding arrest warrants.

During the pilot, teams transported people directly to local shelters or social agencies for assistance. In March, 2023, teams transported 74 people into these locations in Edmonton and 23 people in Calgary. Another 31 cases involving drug use were identified, where officers assisted in connecting people with social service organizations, which offer further supports.

The deployments have also resulted in removing some weapons being carried by individuals in these areas of the inner city, including bear spray, knives and concealed firearms.

Since current resources were utilized by way of redeployment, no expenditures were incurred as a result of the pilot.

Care for Youth in Correctional Facilities

The Alberta Ombudsman launched an investigation in 2021 looking at practices around segregation in youth correctional centres. Recommendations from the Alberta Ombudsman, as well as those made in a report by the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate helped inform the internal review of Correctional Services' policy and practices. In early 2023, a number of changes to policy and practice were implemented to address the recommendations identified by the Alberta Ombudsman and Office of the Child and Youth Advocate to support trauma informed practices. To support young peoples' overall physical and mental well-being, changes to youth segregation practices now include more clearly defined conditions of confinement, new review procedures, and the introduction of a case conference to determine appropriate next steps when a behavioral incident occurs.

Performance Measure 3.a

Number of court and justice services available online through Justice Digital

The ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance measure.

Performance Indicator 3.b:**Number of individuals admitted to Drug Treatment Court**

The ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance indicator.

Performance Indicator 3.c:**Indigenous overrepresentation in correctional centres**

The Ministry of Justice is reporting on this performance indicator.

Outcome Four: Alberta is emergency-ready and resilient to the impacts of disasters

The ministry is committed to helping municipalities and communities better manage emergencies and disasters. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency continues to provide local authorities with direction and guidance on emergency management roles and responsibilities, including comprehensive emergency management training, support for emergency plan development, emergency social services planning, and key real-time response services during emergencies and disasters. The ministry supports the provision of disaster recovery financial assistance programs to ensure Albertans and communities are supported in their recovery from disasters. Enhancements to emergency communication services and public alerting systems is keeping Albertans safe by ensuring they have access to critical information about emerging situations and recommended precautions.

Key Objectives**4.1 Work with and support Albertans and their communities as they manage the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.****COVID-19/Recovery Plan**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to ensure Albertans are protected against future unforeseen health emergencies, Public Safety and Emergency Services maintains a robust stockpile of personal protective equipment. This stockpile provides ease of access, protection and planning for future emergencies and is a result of recommendations from the Personal Protective Equipment Task Force. The task force was established in April 2020 to coordinate and manage the procurement, storage, and distribution of personal protective equipment provided to non-healthcare sector stakeholders. The task force distributed personal protective equipment, such as hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, face shields, gowns, and disinfectants to help enable the operation of government, non-government organizations, and the non-healthcare sectors.

As the pandemic response wound down, it was determined, that the department would maintain a personal protective equipment strategic stockpile, ensuring an inventory of personal protective equipment would be available to protect Albertans against future unforeseen health emergencies. The ministry coordinates and manages the entire life cycle of these assets, such as acquiring, storing, and distributing personal protective equipment to stakeholders.

To support the operation of the personal protective equipment stockpile, Public Safety and Emergency Services received \$1.2 million in 2022-23, and commitments of \$1.45 million for 2023-24 and \$1.95 million for 2024-25.

4.2 Lead the implementation of a provincial hazard identification and risk assessment framework to help inform disaster risk reduction decision-making.

Provincial Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Framework

Quick Fact

- Ninety-three per cent of HIRA Working Group members surveyed indicated they were either highly satisfied or very satisfied with the HIRA draft methodology and consultation process.

The ministry manages the development of the hazard identification and risk assessment process, which restarted in 2019 with a renewed focus on assessing hazard risks. This initiative aligns with the findings in the 2020 Office of the Auditor General report that recommended the province develop, implement, and maintain a provincial Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA).

The framework aims to provide government departments and stakeholders with a consistent and integrated method to making decisions to reduce the likelihood and impact of disasters. The framework will support and promote more

proactive, coordinated, and comprehensive strategies for minimizing or preventing potential risks, which will contribute to long-term reductions in the costs and impacts of disasters.

Progress made towards developing and implementing the HIRA includes:

- engaging with a cross-departmental working group consisting of over 130 members, the Alberta Municipalities Association, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, a First Nation, and a Métis Settlement;
- completing the development of the Disaster Resilience Guidelines for Alberta;
- continuing work on the development of the reference guide and training program;
- validating the statistical method with the University of Calgary;
- conducting three internal pilot assessments and a hazard assessment to support the province's 2023 Emergency Management Exercise; and
- receiving support from the Alberta Municipalities and Rural Municipalities of Alberta associations to deliver pilot assessment with select members in fall 2023.

4.3 Work with municipalities to deliver timely and fiscally responsible disaster recovery programs that help Albertans impacted by disaster.

Disaster Recovery Financial Assistance

The ministry helps Albertans and communities recover after disasters by providing financial assistance, expert recovery advice, as well as coordinating resources among the Government of Alberta ministries and recovery stakeholders. Provincial disaster recovery financial assistance is intended to be the funder of last resort for uninsurable damage or loss caused by a widespread or localized disaster or for costs incurred in conducting emergency operations. The Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services may approve a local authority application when the Minister is satisfied the disaster event is uninsurable and meets the eligibility criteria for assistance.

As a result of weather events in 2022, 12 communities applied for disaster financial assistance, of which four met the Disaster Recovery Regulation eligibility criteria for a localized disaster, and were approved in 2022-23:

- \$13.1 million for the Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement and Mackenzie County under the Northwest Alberta flood localized disaster recovery program for a flood in May 2022;
- \$1.8 million for Clearwater County localized disaster recovery program for a flood in June 2022; and
- \$1.4 million for Wainwright localized disaster recovery program for a flood in July 2022.

Eight applications for disaster financial assistance were not approved:

- six were for disasters that are insurable (wind events, tornados, power outages), and
- two were for flooding, but the hydrology data showed that they did not meet the threshold required for a program.

2022-23 Appeals

In 2022-23, the ministry received 25 private sector appeal requests for the 2020 Northern Alberta Floods program. Four local authorities appealed to the Minister for consideration of their public sector applications, which were denied because they did not meet the eligibility criteria for disaster financial assistance.

British Columbia Recovery Support

In 2022, the ministry supported British Columbia's 2022 wildfire and atmospheric flood events providing advice on the administration of financial assistance programs based on lessons learned in Alberta. Other support included:

- for the provision of program policy and delivery practices based on British Columbia's identified priorities;
- the process for the submission for Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement eligible ministry projects;
- debris management projects and federal eligibility with a key vendor;
- assistance to British Columbia's recovery team to impacted residents and small businesses through recovery centre registry; and
- to municipalities through application collection and review.

Other Ministry Activities in Support of Outcome Four

Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre

Quick Fact

- In 2022-23, the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre was elevated above Level 1 for 57 days, compared to 192 days in 2021-22.

The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre, previously known as the Provincial Operations Centre, is Alberta's central communication and coordination centre for disasters. The Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond immediately to requests from municipalities and Government of Alberta departments. The centre is where all Government of Alberta ministries and key stakeholders come together to coordinate the government's response to emergencies and disasters.

In September 2021, the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre moved to a new facility to better support the delivery of emergency management coordination activities.

Public Emergency Communication

911 Program

Established under the *Emergency 911 Act*, the 911 Program is an initiative to support and enhance the development and delivery of local 911 services. The program's budget is funded through a monthly levy collected by telecommunication providers from every active cellphone in Alberta. In Alberta, there are 20 primary public safety answering points that answer direct 911 calls and six secondary public safety answering points that further evaluate 911 calls and dispatch first responders. In 2022-23, the program granted \$43.36 million to public safety answering points, which represented a \$13.461 million increase over last fiscal year. This is the highest amount the program has granted in the program history and was the result of an increase to the monthly 911 levy on cellphones from 44 cents to 95 cents on September 1, 2021. The funding is intended to strengthen and support the delivery of local 911 services, by providing assistance with:

- acquiring and upgrading complex software and hardware technology;
- funding support for staffing costs and operational costs; and
- supporting other work that is required for public safety answering points to meet the Canadian Radio-Television Telecommunications Commission's (CRTC) mandate to upgrade to an Internet Protocol-based system and Next Generation 911 capabilities.

Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System

The province's 24/7 emergency response radio network, Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System, provides first and secondary responders with a secure and common radio network to communicate with one another during large-scale incidents and regular operations.

Part of Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System's work includes the ongoing maintenance and equipment refresh, which makes sure a reliable and secure radio network for Alberta's first responders' safety and assisting Albertans in distress. In 2022-23, significant network upgrades continued which resulted in the modernization, stability, and technical

expansion of network capability to improve system resiliency and performance. Significant aspects of the network upgrades include:

- Replaced end-of-life equipment at more than 88 sites and two Network Switching Centres across the province;
- Added one channel and one power upgrade to support St. Albert secondary responders and to ensure the additional system users do not adversely impact first responders;
- Added one channel and one power upgrade to Edmonton sites;
- Upgraded the connectivity to 10 mountain top repeaters with a new radio to increase reliability, remote monitoring, and control capability; and
- Developed a new radio tower site in Waterton to address an identified gap in the system.

Regional Field Operations and First Nation Field Operations

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency has multiple offices across the province to better support Albertans. There are 11 regional field officers spread across the province into seven regions (northwest, northeast, north central, east central, south central, and south). For the First Nation field operations, the province is broken down into four regions (northwest, northeast, central, and south) with the four First Nation field officers each supporting a region.

The ministry continues to support communities and their emergency management teams to build their emergency management ability and capabilities by providing training, program support, plan reviews, advice, and assistance. The support prepares communities to lead better response and recovery efforts. Municipal and regional emergency management exercises provide stakeholders with the opportunities to practice and strengthen their emergency management knowledge. By working to improve the quality of exercises, Incident Command System and emergency management continues to improve year after year, with better Incident Command System processes, training, and stronger municipal incident management teams in more municipalities.

Wildland Urban Interface Field Officers

The wildland urban interface (WUI) is the area where human-developed infrastructure meets an undeveloped wildland. Wildfires occurring in these areas are complex because they involve both natural areas and man-made structures that burn differently, and require a coordinated emergency response involving the different organizations responsible for the areas.

The WUI field officers are focused on the mitigation, preparation, and response pillars of emergency management. They are primarily responsible for assessing the skills of Alberta fire departments for employment in the WUI environment, educating fire departments on WUI, supporting the development of new WUI program curriculum, and sourcing WUI resources for employment across the province in conjunction with municipalities, Métis Settlements, First Nations, and the Wildfire Management Branch in Forestry, Parks and Tourism.

Field officers visit municipal fire departments across the province to ensure the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre can source and deploy verified municipal and industry contractor wildland urban interface assets in support of wildland urban interface incidents across Alberta. In 2022-23, field officers visited 50 municipal fire departments and confirmed that approximately 195

pieces of fire apparatus from across the province met the standards required to respond to an interface incident.

Regional Emergency Management Collaboration

The Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation provides local authorities with the direction and guidance on their emergency management roles and responsibilities, including governance, training, emergency planning, emergency exercise requirements, and regional collaboration options. The ministry provides support to municipalities looking to collaborate regionally, which includes addressing inquiries, reviewing bylaws and agreements, and working with municipalities to ensure agreements remain valid. Regional collaboration creates efficiencies for partner municipalities, and leverages resources to help municipalities deal with both capability and capacity challenges.

In 2022-23, three regional emergency management collaboration initiatives were initiated involving 15 local authorities in regional agreements. The three regional collaborations are:

- Athabasca County Council;
- Vulcan County Regional Emergency Management Partnership; and
- Stettler Regional Emergency Management Advisory Committee.

Improvements were made to Grande Prairie's Regional Emergency Partnership when the Village of Hythe was dissolved into the County of Grande Prairie.

Emergency Social Services

The coordination of province-wide social services support to local authorities during emergencies is led by the Emergency Social Services unit within the Alberta Emergency Management Agency. The ministry supports local authorities in understanding what emergency support services may be required in an emergency and provides local authorities with integral training to increase their skills to support their community members when an emergency happens.

Training sessions are delivered year-round, both in-person or remotely, to continue to develop community stakeholder's knowledge in emergency social services. In 2022-23, two new training sessions were developed, bringing the total to five comprehensive training sessions:

- Emergency Social Services Basics;
- Facilities Management;
- Registration and Reception Centre Program/MyAlberta Emergency Registration System;
- Emergency Social Services Coordinator; and
- Donations Management.

MyAlberta Emergency Registration System

The MyAlberta Emergency Registration System is an online tool that allows Albertans to register themselves and their family members with their local authority prior to, or during an emergency. The system allows the government and local authorities to use the information collected to identify the social services support Albertans need.

Since 2020, the MyAlberta Emergency Registration System training has been conducted monthly to ensure many opportunities for communities to participate before the hazard season. The system, along with the Registration and Reception Centre Program, captures registered Albertans' contact information and allows for the province to provide social services in the communities supporting evacuees. In 2022-23, the program has expanded with ongoing engagements with communities. The unit also saw an increase in expressed interest among the First Nations communities in using the system and training.

Quick Fact

- The MyAlberta Emergency Registration System is a secure and straightforward way for Albertans to be proactive in registering themselves prior to an event or disaster occurring in their communities.

Performance Measure 4.a:

Percentage of local authorities visited by an Alberta Emergency Management Agency field officer and had their Community Emergency Management Plan reviewed annually

Prior Years' Results				2022-23 Target	2022-23 Actual
2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22		
93%	85%	83%	93%*	90%	90%

*Previously reported in the 2021-22 Municipal Affairs Annual Report with the result of 85 per cent, which was a combined total of local authorities and First Nation communities. The measure was updated to reflect the ministry's sphere of influence under the *Emergency Management Act*.

This performance measure was introduced in the 2016-17 fiscal year. It reflects the Alberta Emergency Management Agency's efforts to plan and conduct emergency management plan reviews. Community visits are typically within operational control unless an emergency or disaster event occurs.

Reviews completed by field officers cover the following aspects of a community emergency management plan:

- Program management, implementation, and evaluation;
- Program exercise and corrective actions;
- Risk assessment;
- Preparedness, response, and recovery;
- Training, communications, and warning;

-
- Emergency social services;
 - Business continuity; and
 - Management review.

Community visits are a vital service provided by field officers, as direct interactions and relationship-building are integral to how the ministry supports communities with emergency management activities. In 2022-23, field officer visits and Community Emergency Management Plan reviews were completed in 90 per cent of local authorities (301 out of 335). The result is three per cent lower than the previous year's result of 93 per cent. The decrease in the number of completed reviews and visits in the South-Central region due to reduced staffing levels because of recruitment delays.

Although First Nations communities are not under the jurisdiction of the *Emergency Management Act*, Alberta Emergency Management Agency field officers routinely visit communities and provide many face-to-face services, including community emergency management plan reviews. In 2022-23, the completed plan review rate for First Nations communities increased by 31 per cent to 57 per (26 out of 46 First Nations communities) from the previous year with 26 per cent. This result continued to be impacted by restrictions that restricted non-band members from entering the land to limit the spread of COVID-19 and technology barriers that prevented virtual reviews. Prior to the pandemic, from 2017-18 to 2019-20, the completed plan review rate for First Nations communities was above 76 per cent.

Performance Measure and Indicator Methodology

Performance Measure 1.a:

Violent and property crime rates per 100,000 population

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (CCJCSS). Data is available annually. CCJCSS CANSIM Table data was available on August 2, 2022.

Methodology: Crime rate is calculated using Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR2) data, which measures police-reported crime in each Canadian jurisdiction. Crime rate measures the volume of police-reported crime, expressed as the number of crimes per 100,000 people. Historical results are revised annually to reflect updated data provided by police services for incidents that occurred in previous years. Property crime includes theft, break-and-enter, fraud, and possession of stolen goods. It does not include the use of threat of violence against an individual. Violent crime includes homicide, attempted murder, robbery, abduction and various forms of sexual assault. It also does not include traffic incidents that result in death or bodily harm.

Performance Indicator 1.b:

Violent and non-violent Crime Severity Index

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (CCJCSS). Data is available annually. CCJCSS CANSIM Table data was available on August 2, 2022.

Methodology: The Crime Severity Index is a measure of the seriousness of police reported crime. Each criminal offence is weighted based on the sentence imposed upon the offender. More serious offences, such as homicide or serious assault, are weighted more heavily than minor thefts and minor assaults. The crime severity index is calculated using Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) data. It should be noted that Incident-based UCR2 data was not available for all respondents for the period from 1998 to 2015. Instead, these police services continued to report to the Aggregate Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR), which meant that a process of imputation was necessary to translate UCR data into its UCR2 equivalents. Approximately 80 per cent of the offence codes in the aggregate survey mapped 1:1 onto the incident-based violation codes in the UCR2. For the remaining categories of violation (such as the “aggregate other *Criminal Code*” category), it was necessary to estimate their seriousness by looking at the distribution of other *Criminal Code* offences in the reports of existing UCR2 respondents.

Performance Indicator 1.c:

Number of provincially funded police officer positions

Source: Justice and Solicitor General Administrative Data, Public Security Division

Methodology: Provincially funded police officer positions includes regular RCMP members and civilian members under the Provincial Police Service Agreement, ALERT, ITRAC, Alberta Serious Incident Response Team and Integrated Community Safety Unit, 48 per cent funding for the First Nations Community Tripartite Agreements with the RCMP, 48 per cent funding for the Self-Administered First Nations Police Services and 100 per cent funding for three crime prevention positions for the First Nations Policing Program. Funding agreements exist between the ministry and police organizations, which identify the number of police officer positions being funded each

fiscal year. Public Security Division then totals the number of funded positions for this performance indicator.

Performance Measure 4.a:

Percentage of local authorities visited by an Alberta Emergency Management Agency field officer and had their Community Emergency Management Plan reviewed annually

Source: Data and information regarding field visits and reviews of community emergency management plans, including those completed both in-person and remotely, is recorded in ArcGIS - a geographic information system application.

Methodology: Field officers will typically conduct community emergency management plan reviews in person with a representative from the local authority - preferably the Director of Emergency Management. The field officer may review the plan within the Community Emergency Management Program database or can request an electronic copy in advance to prepare for the in-person review. Regardless of the method, the field officer will record their observations and recommendations within Community Emergency Management Program for future and ongoing tracking.

The following equation is used to process the data collected in Community Emergency Management Program:

$$\% = \left(\frac{\text{Number of local authorities visited by field officers and had their Community Emergency Management Plan reviewed}}{\text{Total number of local authorities in Alberta}} \right) \times 100$$

This performance measure is calculated by comparing the number of local authorities visited by an Alberta Emergency Management Agency field officer and who have had their community emergency management plan reviewed to the total number of local authorities in Alberta. The resulting ratio is expressed as a percentage. A confidence interval is not applicable since a representative sample is not used for statistical inference. The data analysis for this performance measure only includes the local authorities that have been visited by a field officer and who have had their community emergency management plan reviewed either remotely or in person. Both activities must have occurred for the data to be included.

For local authorities that have adopted a regional approach for developing emergency management plans, field officers review the regional plan and meet with the appropriate municipal representative for the region. Review of an emergency management plan for a region, and subsequent field visits, count as a review and visit for all constituent local authorities. Each constituent community of a regional community emergency management plan is counted separately for this performance measure, rather than just counting one review and field visit.

Financial Information

Table of Contents

Reporting Entity and Method Consolidation.....	50
Ministry Financial Highlights.....	51
Statement of Revenues and Expenses (unaudited).....	51
Revenue and Expense Highlights	52
Breakdown of Revenues (unaudited)	53
Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object (unaudited)	54
Supplemental Financial Information	56
Tangible Capital Assets (unaudited).....	56
Financial Statements of Other Reporting Entities	57
Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund	58
Other Financial Information	74

Reporting Entity and Method Consolidation

The financial information is prepared in accordance with government's stated accounting policies, which are based on Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

The reporting entity is the ministry for which the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services is accountable. The accounts of the Ministry, which includes the department of Public Safety and Emergency Services and the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund, are fully consolidated using the line-by-line method, with the accounting policies described below.

Under this method, accounting policies of the consolidated entities are adjusted to conform to government accounting policies and the results of each line item in their financial statements (revenue, expense, assets, and liabilities) are included in government's results. Revenue and expense, capital, investing and financing transactions and related asset and liability balances between the consolidated entities have been eliminated.

A list of the individual entities making up the ministry are shown on the "Management's Responsibility for Reporting" statement included in this annual report.

Ministry Financial Highlights

Statement of Revenues and Expenses (unaudited)

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023		2022	Change from	
	Budget	Actual	Restated Actual	Budget	2022 Actual
<i>In thousands</i>					
Revenues					
Federal government grants	\$ 31,426	\$ 160,673	\$ 51,115	\$ 129,247	\$ 109,557
Premiums, fees and licences	45,755	49,229	37,753	3,474	11,476
Investment income	1,000	1,045	60	45	985
Other	129,434	158,011	150,245	28,577	7,766
Ministry total	207,615	368,958	239,173	161,343	129,785
Inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	-	(3,381)	(5,232)	(3,381)	1,851
Adjusted ministry total	207,615	365,577	233,941	157,962	131,636
Expenses - directly incurred					
Programs					
Ministry Support Services	7,578	7,420	7,310	(158)	110
Public Security	596,391	623,976	627,096	27,585	(3,120)
Correctional Services	289,770	307,467	297,785	17,697	9,682
Alberta Emergency Management Agency	102,002	122,979	181,439	20,977	(58,459)
Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund	62,887	26,688	64,737	(36,199)	(38,049)
Ministry total	1,058,628	1,088,530	1,178,367	29,902	(89,836)
Inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	(5,300)	(9,376)	(3,479)	(4,076)	(5,897)
Adjusted ministry total	1,053,328	1,079,154	1,174,888	25,826	(95,733)
Annual Deficit-before inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	\$ (851,013)	\$ (719,573)	\$ (939,194)	\$ 131,440	\$ 219,621
Inter-ministry consolidation adjustments	5,300	5,995	(1,753)	695	7,748
Adjusted annual deficit	\$ (845,713)	\$ (713,578)	\$ (940,947)	\$ 132,135	\$ 227,369

Revenue and Expense Highlights

Revenues

Budget to Actual

- Ministry revenues in 2022-23 are \$369 million, which is \$161.3 million or 77.7 per cent higher than budgeted. The increased revenues are mainly the result of:
- \$129.2 million higher than budget in Federal Government Grants, primarily due to an increase of \$119.3 million in Disaster Recovery programs.
- \$28.6 million higher than budget in other revenues due to an increase of \$108.8 million in Refund Expenditure offset by lower revenues in Police Funding Model for \$44.9.

Actual to Actual

Actual revenues in 2022-23 reflect an increase of \$129.8 million or 54.2 per cent:

- \$109.6 million increase in Federal Government Grants mainly due to increased revenues in Disaster Recovery programs for \$97.7 million.
- \$11.5 million increase in Other Premiums, Fees, and Licences.
- \$9.5 million increase in prior year Refund Expenditure, Surcharges for \$2.9 million from reduced enforcement and traffic volumes offset by a decrease in Miscellaneous revenues for \$4.7 million.

Expenses

Budget to Actual

- The total operating expense in 2022-23 was \$1,088.5 million, which is \$29.9 million or 2.8 per cent higher than budget.
- \$21 million over budget in Alberta Emergency Management Agency due to an increased in new Disaster Recovery Program funding including Dene Tha' FN Flood and Mackenzie County Flood.
- \$6.6 million spending in grants over the budget mainly for ALERT, Guns and Gangs, and Policing Support Grant.

Actual to Actual

Actual operating expenses were \$89.8 million or 7.6 per cent lower than 2021-22. The decrease in expenses is mainly the result of:

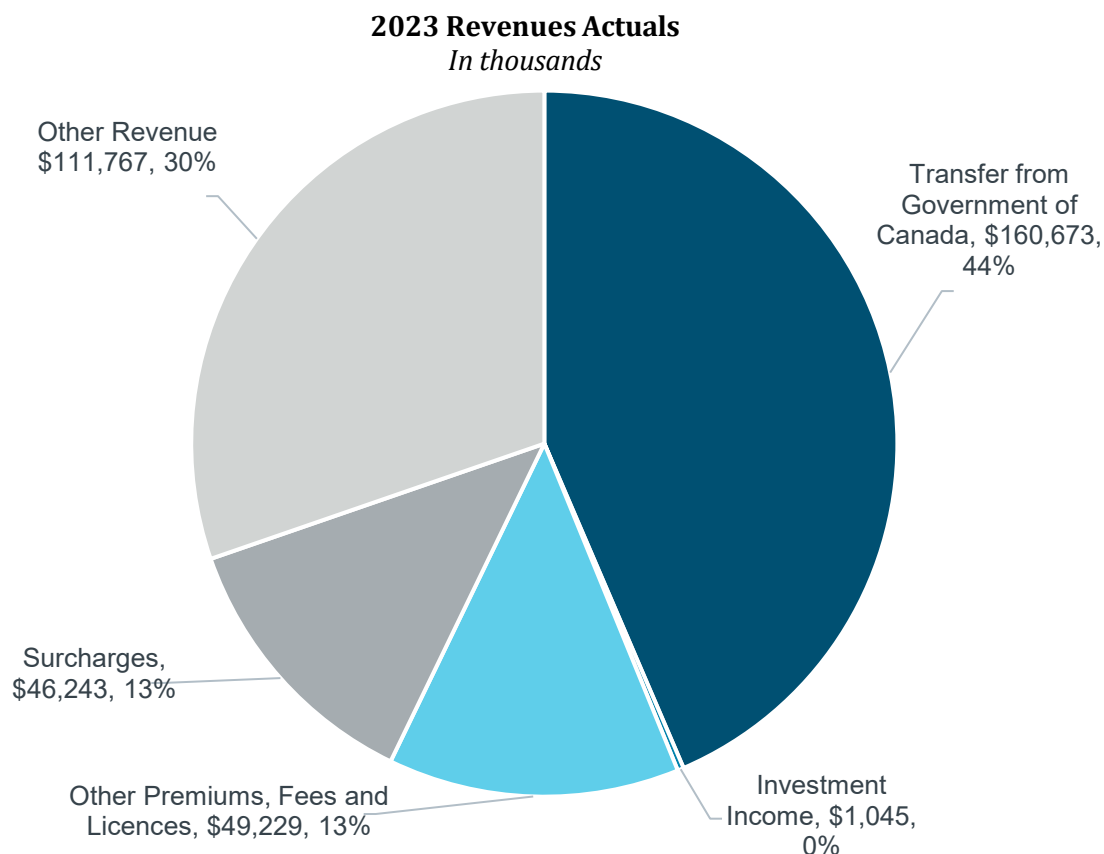
- \$58.5 million decrease in Alberta Emergency Management Agency, primarily due to decreased costs for inventory consumption from PPE demand for \$34 million, decreased in required funding for new Disaster Recovery Programs and MWAP's for

\$14.2 million, and \$10.3 million decrease from COVID Community Tables and Isolation benefits.

- \$38 million decrease in Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund due to the transfer of Public Safety Initiatives Program from the Fund to Department of Justice.

Breakdown of Revenues (unaudited)

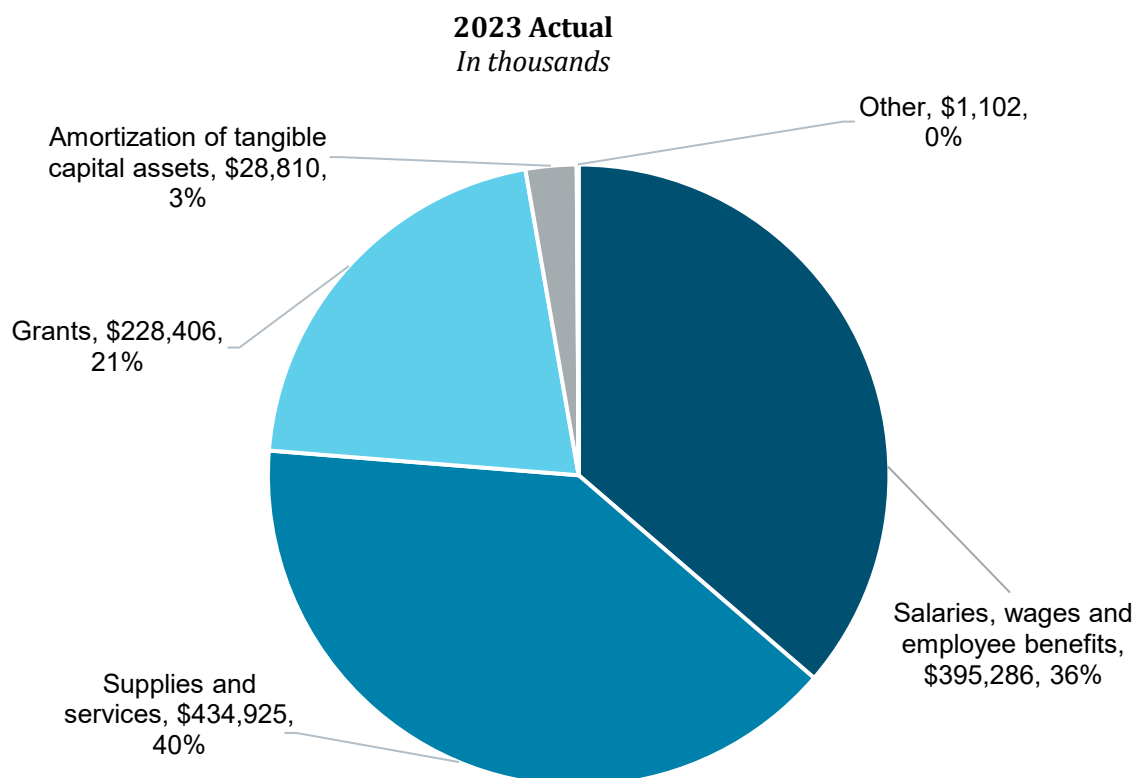
The following information presents detailed revenues of the ministry. The objective of detailed revenues disclosure is to provide information that is useful in understanding and assessing the financial impact of government's revenue raising and for enhancing legislative control.



- **Transfers from Government of Canada** (\$160.7 million). Revenue from federal agreements, primarily in support of Disaster Recovery.
- **Other Premiums, Fees, and Licences** (\$49.2 million). 911 levy and Security Services fees.
- **Surcharges** (\$46.2 million). Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund levies 20 per cent Surcharge on all traffic ticket fine amounts that is deposited in the fund with statutory authority to spend on victims.
- **Investment Income** (\$1 million). Comprised mainly of interest earned on the VOCPSF and department funds invested in the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund (CCIT) and Consolidated Liquidity Solution (CLS).
- **Other Revenue** (\$111.8 million). Mainly from recoveries for Enhanced Policing Services and Edmonton International Airport policing services.

Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object (unaudited)

The following information presents expenses of the ministry that were directly incurred by object. The objective of disclosure of expenses by object is to provide information that is useful in evaluating the economic impact of government acquiring or consuming various types of resources.



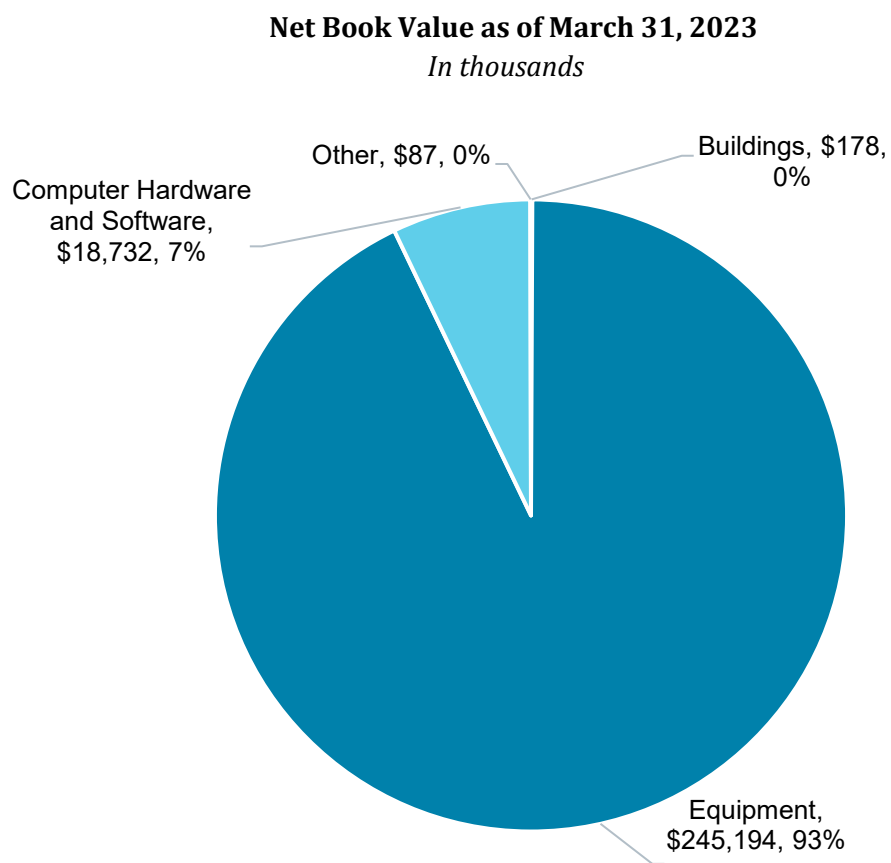
- Supplies and services spending of \$434.9 million or 40 per cent of total spending is the ministry's largest operating expense. Primarily for the Provincial Police Services Agreement and inmate food services contracts in Correctional Services. In addition to contract services, the ministry purchases all materials and supplies for correctional facilities and AEMA across the province.
- Salaries, wages, and employee benefits expenses of \$395.3 million are the ministry's second largest operating expense, or 36 per cent of total ministry's spending. The ministry provides frontline programs and services that ensure Albertans have safe and protected communities and fair access to the public safety and emergency systems. Funding primarily covers positions in correctional facilities, sheriffs and enforcement workers, and AEMA services staff.
- Grants spending of \$228.4 million or 21 per cent of total spending provides operational funding for delivery of services by key stakeholders and partners via support to individuals, organizations and communities through Public Safety and Emergency Services grant programs. This includes the grant to ALERT to combat gangs and serious crime; the grants

for Policing Assistance to Municipalities in support of effective and adequate policing for Alberta communities; and grants to victims' organizations from the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund.

- The remainder of ministry expenses were classified as amortization of tangible capital assets (\$28.8 million) and other expenses (\$1.1 million)
- Inter-ministry elimination (-\$9.4 million) for the services provided by Advance Education for (-\$5.3) million and Alberta Health Services for (-\$4.1) million.

Supplemental Financial Information

Tangible Capital Assets (unaudited)



- The ministry's largest category of tangible capital assets, Equipment, represents 93 per cent (\$245.2) million of the Net Book Value (NBV). This category is primarily comprised of vehicles, in-car video and distributed antenna system for the Public Security Division, equipment's for corrections and Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System.

Financial Statements of Other Reporting Entities

Table of Contents

Index of Audited Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund 58

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund**Financial Statements****Table of Contents**

Independent Auditor's Report	59
Statement of Operations	62
Statement of Financial Position	63
Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets	64
Statement of Cash Flows.....	65
Notes to the Financial Statements	66
Schedule to Financial Statements Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object.....	74
Related Party Transactions	75

Independent Auditor's Report



To the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund (the Fund), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, change in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as at March 31, 2023, and the results of its operations, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Fund in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The financial statements of the Fund are included in the *Annual Report of the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services*. The other information comprises the information included in the *Annual Report of the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services* relating to the Fund, but does not include the financial statements of the Fund and my auditor's report thereon. The *Annual Report of the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services* is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I will perform on this other information, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless an intention exists to liquidate or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

[Original signed by W. Doug Wylie FCPA, FCMA, ICD.D]
W. Doug Wylie FCPA, FCMA, ICD.D
Auditor General
June 13, 2023
Edmonton, Alberta

Statement of Operations

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023		2022
	Budget	Actual	Actual
<i>In thousands</i>			
Revenues			
Government transfers			
Federal and other government grants	\$ 1,234	\$ -	\$ 824
Investment income	1,000	1,045	57
Other			
Provincial fine surcharge	58,950	45,727	41,909
Federal fine surcharge	2,500	517	524
Refunds of Expense	-	1,802	1,703
	<u>63,684</u>	<u>49,091</u>	<u>45,017</u>
Expenses - directly incurred (Note 2(a) and Schedule 1 and 2)			
Programs			
Financial Benefits	5,039	2,633	5,491
Assistance to Victims' Organizations	19,030	22,436	21,350
Public Safety Initiatives	38,000	-	38,113
Criminal Injuries Review Board	-	2	-
Program Support Services	818	1,617	(217)
	<u>62,887</u>	<u>26,688</u>	<u>64,737</u>
Annual surplus/(deficit)	<u>\$ 797</u>	<u>\$ 22,403</u>	<u>\$ (19,720)</u>

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	<i>In thousands</i>	
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 4)	\$ 46,179	\$ 29,209
Accounts receivable (Note 5)	33,592	33,781
	<u>79,771</u>	<u>62,990</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	<u>13,335</u>	<u>19,017</u>
Net financial assets	<u>66,436</u>	<u>43,973</u>
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	-	60
Net assets	<u>\$ 66,436</u>	<u>\$ 44,033</u>
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 44,033	\$ 63,753
Annual surplus/(deficit)	22,403	(19,720)
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 66,436</u>	<u>\$ 44,033</u>

Contingent assets (Note 6)

Contractual Obligations (Note 9)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023		2022
	Budget	Actual	Actual
	<i>In thousands</i>		
Annual surplus/(deficit)	\$ 797	\$ 22,403	\$ (19,720)
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 8)	-	60	91
Increase/(Decrease) in net financial assets	797	22,463	(19,629)
Net financial assets at beginning of year	-	43,973	63,602
Net financial assets at end of year	<u>\$ 797</u>	<u>\$ 66,436</u>	<u>\$ 43,973</u>

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023	2022
	<i>In thousands</i>	
Operating transactions		
Annual surplus/(deficit)	\$ 22,403	\$ (19,720)
Non-cash items included in annual surplus/(deficit)		
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 8)	60	91
	22,463	(19,629)
Decrease in accounts receivable	189	9,150
(Decrease) in accounts payable and other accrued liabilities (Note 7)	(5,682)	(12,496)
Cash provided by (applied to) operating transactions	16,970	(22,975)
 Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	 16,970	 (22,975)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	29,209	52,184
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 46,179	\$ 29,209

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 1 AUTHORITY

The Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund (the fund) operates under the authority of the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act*, Chapter V-3, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000.

The purpose of the fund is to provide grants to victims' programs and to pay benefits to victims, or their dependents, who suffer injury or death as the result of a criminal offence specified in the regulations of the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act*, using provincial and federal surcharge revenues.

The fund is owned by the Crown in Right of Alberta and as such has a tax-exempt status.

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, which use accrual accounting. The Fund has adopted PS3450 Financial Instruments. As the Fund does not have any transactions involving financial instruments that are classified in the fair value category, there is no statement of remeasurement in gains and losses.

(a) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Surcharges on fine revenues are recognized at the point of conviction, which excludes certain outstanding federal statute and provincial statute fines that are satisfied by means other than cash payment.

Government Transfers

Transfers from all levels of governments are referred to as government transfers.

Government transfers and associated externally restricted investment income are recognized as deferred contributions if the eligibility criteria for use of the transfer, or the stipulations together with the fund's actions and communications as to the use of the transfer create a liability. These transfers are recognized as revenue as the stipulations are met and, when applicable, the fund complies with its communicated uses of these transfers.

All other government transfers, without stipulations for the use of the transfer, are recognized as revenue when the transfer is authorized, and the fund meets eligibility criteria (if any).

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES (Cont'd)

(a) Basis of Financial Reporting

Expenses

Directly Incurred

Directly incurred expenses are those costs the fund has primary responsibility and accountability for, as reflected in the government's budget documents.

In addition to program operating expenses such as salaries, supplies, etc., directly incurred expenses also include:

- amortization of tangible capital assets;
- pension costs, which comprise of the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year; and
- valuation adjustments which include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect financial assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay, guarantees and indemnities.

Incurred by Others

Services contributed by other related entities in support of the fund's operations are not recognized but disclosed in Schedule 2.

Grant Expense

Grants are recognized as expenses when authorized, eligibility criteria, if any, are met by the recipients and a reasonable estimate of the amounts can be made.

Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

The fair values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and other accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their carrying values because of the short-term nature of these instruments.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES (Cont'd)

(a) Basis of Financial Reporting (Cont'd)

Financial Assets

Financial assets are assets that could be used to discharge existing liabilities or finance future operations and are not for consumption in the normal course of operations.

Financial assets are the fund's financial claims, such as receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals, as well as the below listed assets

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises of cash on hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Cash equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short-term commitments rather than for investment purposes.

Accounts receivable

Accounts receivables are recognized at the lower of cost or net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recognized when recovery is uncertain.

Liabilities

Liabilities are present obligations of the fund to external organizations and individuals arising from past transactions or events occurring before year end, the settlement of which is expected to result in the future sacrifice of economic benefits. They are recognized when there is an appropriate basis of measurement and management can reasonably estimate the amounts.

Non-Financial Assets

Non-financial assets are acquired, constructed, or developed assets that do not normally provide resources to discharge existing liabilities, but instead:

- (a) are normally employed to deliver government services;
- (b) may be consumed in the normal course of operations; and
- (c) are not for sale in the normal course of operations.

Non-financial assets are limited to tangible capital assets.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES (Cont'd)

(a) Basis of Financial Reporting (Cont'd)

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets of the fund are recognized at cost less accumulated amortization and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimate useful lives of the assets. The threshold for capitalizing new systems development is \$250,000 and the threshold for major systems enhancements is \$100,000. The threshold for all other tangible capital assets is \$5,000.

Amortization is only charged if the tangible capital asset is put into service.

Measurement Uncertainty (in thousands)

Measurement uncertainty exists when there is a variance between the recognized or disclosed amount in the financial statements and another reasonably possible amount, whenever estimates are used.

The areas subject to measurement uncertainty include:

- Accounts receivable recognized as \$33,592 (2022 - \$33,781) excludes certain outstanding federal statute surcharges and provincial statute fine surcharges that are expected to be satisfied by means other than cash payment. The other means include participation in the fine option program or time served in a correctional institution at the option of the person owing the surcharge. Outstanding surcharges expected to be satisfied by other means of \$847 (2022 - \$750) are based on the actual percentage satisfied in this manner from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023 and have been deducted from total outstanding surcharges. Changes in the proportion of surcharges satisfied by other means may have a material effect on future operating results.

The provision for doubtful accounts reported as \$1,652 (2022 - \$513) in these financial statements, is based on the actual percentage of surcharges written off from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

- Financial benefits program (Note 7) liabilities total \$11,407 (2022 - \$13,573) and include:
 - financial benefits reported in the amount of \$2 (2022 - \$86);
 - supplemental financial benefits in the amount of \$8,762 (2022 - \$10,456); and
 - compensation claims in the amount of \$2,643 (2022 - \$3,031).

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 3 FUTURE ACCOUNTING CHANGES

The Public Sector Accounting Board has approved the following accounting standards:

- PS 3400 Revenue (effective April 1, 2023)**
 This standard provides guidance on how to account for and report on revenue, and specifically, it addresses revenue arising from exchange transactions and unilateral transactions.
- PS 3160 Public Private Partnerships (effective April 1, 2023)**
 This standard provides guidance on how to account for public private partnerships between public and private sector entities, where the public sector entity procures infrastructure using a private sector partner.

Management is currently assessing the impact of these standards on the financial statements.

NOTE 4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (in thousands)

Cash and cash equivalents include deposits in the Consolidated Liquidity Solution (CLS). Effective July 4, 2022, the CLS replaces the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund (CCITF) as the Government of Alberta's cash pooling structure. The new CLS structure will enhance the effectiveness and efficiency from Government of Alberta's cash management perspective. A CLS participant is paid interest on monthly basis on their cash balance at an interest rate based on 12 week rolling average of the Province's 3 month cost of borrowing.

NOTE 5 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE (in thousands)

Accounts receivables are unsecured and non-interest bearing.

	2023			2022	
	Gross Amount	Fine Option and Time Served	Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Recoverable Value	Net Recoverable Value
Government of Canada Surcharge	\$ 1,766	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,766	\$ 1,767
Provincial	30,000	541	1,650	27,809	27,520
Federal	1,115	306	2	807	684
Other	3,210	-	-	3,210	3,810
	<u>\$ 36,091</u>	<u>\$ 847</u>	<u>\$ 1,652</u>	<u>\$ 33,592</u>	<u>\$ 33,781</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 6 CONTINGENT ASSETS

(in thousands)

Fine revenues are recognized at the point of conviction, which excludes certain outstanding federal statute and provincial statute fines that are satisfied by means other than cash payment. At March 31, 2023, the estimate of contingent assets for fines revenue is \$7,077 (2022 - \$7,072).

NOTE 7 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND OTHER ACCRUED LIABILITIES

(in thousands)

	2023	2022
Grants to non-profit organizations	\$ 425	\$ 3,634
Financial benefits program (Note 10)	11,407	13,573
Other program expenses	1,503	1,810
	<u>\$ 13,335</u>	<u>\$ 19,017</u>

NOTE 8 TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

(in thousands)

	2023	2022
	Computer Hardware and Software	
Estimated Useful Life	3-10 years	
Historical Cost		
Beginning of year	\$ 868	\$ 868
Additions	-	-
Recategorization	-	-
Disposals, Including Write-downs	-	-
	<u>868</u>	<u>868</u>
Accumulated Amortization		
Beginning of year	808	717
Amortization Expense	60	91
Transfer-In/(Out)	-	-
Effect of Disposals	-	-
	<u>868</u>	<u>808</u>
Net Book Value at March 31, 2023	<u>\$ -</u>	
Net Book Value at March 31, 2022		<u>\$ 60</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 9 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

(in thousands)

Contractual obligations represent a legal obligation of the fund to others that will become liabilities in the future when the terms of those contracts or agreements are met.

As at March 31, 2023, the fund has obligations under contracts and programs totaling \$19,022 (2022 - \$17,713).

Estimated payment requirements for the next two years are as follows:

<u>Obligations under Operating Leases, Contracts and Programs</u>		
2023-24	\$	18,822
2024-25		200
	\$	<u>19,022</u>

NOTE 10 FINANCIAL BENEFITS PROGRAM

(in thousands)

Financial Benefits

As at March 31, 2023, there was one (2022 – eleven) active application for financial benefits.

Financial Benefits liability of \$2 (2022 - \$86) is estimated based on historical decision patterns, average award values, and case progress at year end. Additional information may be required to determine the amount for individual cases under regulations of the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act*.

Supplemental Benefits

As at March 31, 2023, twenty three (2022 – twenty two) eligible recipients received a monthly payment of \$1,000 for supplemental benefits.

Supplemental benefits liability of \$8,762 (2022 - \$10,456) is estimated using a projection of monthly payments and statistical life expectancy figures. In addition, a present-value methodology has also been applied in calculating this estimated liability. This methodology projects benefit cost streams into the future and discounts them to present-value using a discount rate, which reflects the current return on assets used to fund the liability. The injuries of a recipient receiving a supplemental financial benefit must be reviewed every 12 months to determine whether the severity of injuries is still in accordance with regulations under the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act*.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

NOTE 10 FINANCIAL BENEFITS PROGRAM (Cont'd)

(in thousands)

Former Crimes Compensation Board

As at March 31, 2023, twenty (2022 – twenty one) eligible recipients received a monthly payment for compensation claims assumed from the former Crimes Compensation Board.

Compensation claims liability of \$2,643 (2022 - \$3,031) is estimated using a projection of monthly payments and statistical life expectancy figures. The same present-value methodology described above for supplemental benefits has been used to calculate this estimated liability. The payments are subject to periodic review to confirm continued eligibility for entitlements and/or adjustment to the monthly amount.

NOTE 11 BENEFIT PLANS

(in thousands)

At December 31, 2022, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a surplus of \$924,735 (2021 – surplus of \$1,348,160), the Public Service Pension Plan reported a surplus of \$4,258,721 (2021 – surplus of \$4,588,479), and the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers reported a deficiency of \$25,117 (2021 – deficiency of \$20,982).

NOTE 12 COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain 2022 figures have been reclassified, where necessary, to conform to the 2023 presentation.

NOTE 13 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The deputy minister and the senior financial officer approved these financial statements.

Schedule to Financial Statements Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Year ended March 31, 2023

Schedule 1

	2023		2022
	Budget	Actual	Actual
<i>In thousands</i>			
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	\$ 21,731	\$ 4,616	\$ 23,108
Supplies and services	9,410	1,548	5,650
Grants	31,677	21,491	39,790
Amortization of tangible capital assets (Note 8)	69	60	91
(Recovery of)/Provision for financial benefits program	-	(1,027)	(3,902)
Total Expenses	\$ 62,887	\$ 26,688	\$ 64,737

Schedule 2

Program	2023				2022
	Expenses ⁽¹⁾	Accommodation Costs ⁽²⁾	Legal Services ⁽³⁾	Total Expenses	Total Expenses
<i>In thousands</i>					
Financial Benefits	\$ 2,633	\$ 113	\$ -	\$ 2,746	\$ 5,616
Assistance to Victims' Organizations	22,436	128	-	22,564	21,470
Public Safety Initiatives	-	-	-	-	38,113
Criminal Injuries Review Board	2	-	-	2	86
Program Support Services	1,617	10	-	1,627	(206)
	\$ 26,688	\$ 251	\$ -	\$ 26,939	\$ 65,079

(1) Expenses – Directly Incurred as per Statement of Operations.

(2) Accommodation Costs, including grants in lieu of taxes, allocated by square meters.

(3) Legal Services Costs, allocated by estimated costs incurred by each program.

Related Party Transactions

Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund

Schedule 3

Year ended March 31, 2023

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on the modified equity basis in the Government of Alberta's Consolidated Financial Statements. Related parties also include key management personnel in the fund and their close family members.

The fund and its employees paid or collected certain taxes and fees set by regulation for premiums, licenses, and other charges. These amounts were incurred in the normal course of business, reflect charges applicable to all users, and have been excluded from this schedule.

The fund had the following transactions with related parties reported on the Statement of Operations and Statement of Financial Position at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties:

	Entities in the Ministry		Other Entities	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	<i>In thousands</i>		<i>In thousands</i>	
Revenues				
Alberta Finance - Treasury Management	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (965)	\$ -
Expenses - Directly Incurred				
Alberta Health Services	-	-	10	16
Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction	-	-	5	9
Public Service Commission	-	-	-	-
Alberta Risk Management	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15</u>	<u>\$ 25</u>
Payable to	<u>\$ (72)</u>	<u>\$ (647)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Receivable from	<u>\$ 13</u>	<u>\$ 11</u>	<u>\$ 173</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The fund also had transactions with related parties for which no consideration was exchanged. The amounts for these related party transactions are estimated based on the costs incurred by the service provider to provide the service. These amounts are not reported in the financial statements but are disclosed in Schedule 2.

Other Financial Information

Table of Contents

Disaster Recovery Program.....	78
Statement of Credit or Recovery (unaudited).....	80
Lapse/Encumbrance (unaudited)	81
Payments Based on Agreements	84

Other Financial Information

Certain disclosures (unaudited) required by legislation and regulations, and financial information relating to trust funds include the following where applicable:

- Disaster Recovery Program

In addition to the above, other schedules (unaudited) that form part of this section include the following and the presentation:

- Statement of Credit or Recovery [FAA S.24(3)]
- Lapse / Encumbrance [FAA S.28(5) and 28.1(4)]
- Payments Based on Agreement [FAA S. 25(3)]

Disaster Recovery Program

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Year ended March 31, 2023

(in thousands)

The Disaster Recovery Program is administered by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency. Alberta Emergency Management Agency is part of Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services. Alberta Regulation 51/94 of the *Alberta Emergency Management Act* allows the province to provide disaster recovery assistance to residents, small business, agriculture operations, and provincial and municipal governments if the event meets the criteria as outlined in the regulation.

The Ministry recognizes the Disaster Recovery Program expense when the Government of Alberta issues a Ministerial order.

The Ministry recognizes Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue when the Government of Canada issues an order in council declaring the Alberta disaster to be of a concern to the Government of Canada. The estimated Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue is determined by assessing eligible Disaster Recovery Program expenses under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements guidelines. As a result, some Disaster Recovery Program expenses are excluded when calculating the estimated Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue.

The Ministry will continue to pursue revenue from the Government of Canada for expenses that are excluded from the estimated Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements calculation.

The following schedule lists disasters being administered by Alberta Emergency Management Agency at March 31, 2023:

Disaster	GoC OIC	Total Projected DRP Expense (1)	Payments to Date	Accrued Liabilities	Total Projected DFAA Revenue (1) (2)	Advances/ Payments Received (3)	Accounts Receivable
2011 Spring Southern Alberta DRP	160	21,010	21,010	-	8,771	8,771	-
2013 Southern Alberta Flood DRP	162	1,374,789	1,369,533	5,256	966,520	600,000	366,520
2013 Wood Buffalo DRP	172	20,423	20,423	-	10,258	10,258	-
2014 Southwestern Alberta DRP	181	19,354	19,304	50	9,784	-	9,784
2016 Wood Buffalo Wildfire DRP	197	514,519	509,317	5,202	404,427	307,000	97,427
2018 Spring Flood DRP	218	34,282	21,451	12,831	4,149	-	4,149
2019 Northwest Alberta Wildfires DRP	222	78,630	61,968	16,662	18,847	16,164	2,683
2019 Municipal District of Lessor Slave	308	19,030	8,067	10,963	-	-	-
2020 Northern Alberta Floods DRP	232	181,047	128,833	52,214	54,006	27,152	26,854
Other DRPs (4)		73,052	22,142	50,910	-	-	-
March 31, 2023		\$ 2,336,136	\$ 2,182,048	\$154,088	\$1,476,762	\$ 969,345	\$ 507,417
March 31, 2022		\$ 2,368,269	\$ 2,111,174	\$257,095	\$1,356,478	\$ 956,316	\$ 400,162

(1) Disaster Recovery Program expense and Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue are calculated based on management estimates. The projected Disaster Recovery Program expenses and Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue are adjusted to reflect management's best estimate of the remaining obligations of the Disaster Recovery Program and expected Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements revenue.

(2) A province or territory may request Government of Canada disaster financial assistance when eligible expenditures exceed an established initial threshold based on the provincial

or territorial population.

- (3) The Government of Canada may provide advance payments to provincial and territorial governments as funds are expended under the provincial/territorial Disaster Recovery Program.
- (4) "Other Disaster Recovery Programs" includes Disaster Recovery Programs with accrual balances or transactions during the 2022-23 fiscal year that are Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements ineligible.

Statement of Credit or Recovery (unaudited)

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Year ended March 31, 2023

	2023				
	Authorized Spending	Actual Revenue Recognized	Unearned Revenue	Total Revenue Received/ Receivable	(Shortfall)/ Excess ⁽¹⁾
EXPENSE AMOUNTS	<i>In thousands</i>				
Edmonton Regional Airports Authority Policing Services Agreement ⁽³⁾	\$ 4,085	\$ 3,522	\$ -	\$ 3,522	\$ (563)
Credit or Recovery (Shortfall)	\$ 4,085	\$ 3,522	\$ -	\$ 3,522	\$ (563) ⁽²⁾

(1) Shortfall is deducted from current year's corresponding funding authority.

(2) The revenue of each credit or recovery is included in the Statement of Revenues and Expenses.

(3) Edmonton Regional Airport Authority Policing Services Agreement revenues are received on a full cost recovery basis from the Edmonton Regional Airport Authority for policing services provided to the Edmonton International Airport under the Provincial Police Service Agreement.

Lapse/Encumbrance (unaudited)

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Year ended March 31, 2023

(in thousands)

The following has been prepared pursuant to Section 24(4) of the *Financial Administration Act*.

	Voted Estimate	Supplementary Estimate	Adjustments	Adjusted Voted Estimate	Voted Actuals	Over Expended (Unexpended)
EXPENSE VOTE BY PROGRAM						
Ministry Support Services						
1.1 Minister's Office	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 389	\$ (11)
1.2 Deputy Minister's Office	907	400	-	1,307	1,523	216
1.3 Finance Services	6,632	-	-	6,632	5,621	(1,011)
	7,539	800	-	8,339	7,533	(806)
Public Security						
2.1 Alberta Sheriffs	94,810	14,001	-	108,811	105,799	(3,012)
2.2 Alberta Serious Incident Response Team	5,287	-	-	5,287	4,536	(751)
2.3 Provincial Security Intelligence Office	1,920	-	-	1,920	1,938	18
2.4 Law Enforcement Oversight	9,879	-	-	9,879	8,071	(1,808)
2.5 Contract Policing and Policing Oversight	343,845	(2,000)	-	341,845	341,057	(788)
2.6 Indigenous Policing Services	14,424	1,000	-	15,424	15,957	533
2.7 Policing Support Grant	89,208	900	-	90,108	90,220	112
2.8 Organized and Serious Crime	35,430	16,352	-	51,782	54,751	2,969
	594,803	30,253	-	625,056	622,329	(2,727)
Correctional Services						
3.1 Correctional Planning and Innovation	3,587	-	-	3,587	2,612	(975)
3.2 Custody Operations	230,345	12,030	-	242,375	241,714	(661)
3.3 Community Corrections	41,934	3,570	-	45,504	45,048	(456)
3.4 Correctional Programs and Services	7,877	2,300	-	10,177	9,643	(534)
3.5 Training Academy	4,741	600	-	5,341	5,055	(286)
	288,484	18,500	-	306,984	304,072	(2,912)
Alberta Emergency Management Agency						
4.1. Managing Director's Office	606	500	-	1,106	491	(615)
4.2 Strategy and Systems Support	4,442	-	-	4,442	3,195	(1,247)
4.3 Operations	6,485	-	-	6,485	7,122	637
4.4 Recovery Operations	2,285	-	-	2,285	2,896	611
4.5 Disaster Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.6 Emergency Preparedness Grants	150	-	-	150	150	-
4.7 Alberta First Responders Radio Communications	17,269	-	-	17,269	15,944	(1,325)
4.8 Community and Technical Support	-	-	-	-	131	131
	31,237	500	-	31,737	29,929	(1,808)
Total	922,063	50,053	-	972,116	963,863	(8,253)
Credit or Recovery Shortfall			(563)	(563)		563
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (563)	\$ (563)	\$ -	\$ (7,690)
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (7,690)</u>

Lapse/Encumbrance (unaudited-cont'd)

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Year ended March 31, 2023

(in thousands)

	Voted Estimate ⁽¹⁾	Supplementary Estimate	Adjustments ⁽²⁾	Adjusted Voted Estimate	Voted Actuals ⁽³⁾	Over Expended (Unexpended)
CAPITAL INVESTMENT VOTE BY PROGRAM						
Ministry Support Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Public Security	695	-	-	695	815	120
Correctional Services	538	-	-	538	691	153
Alberta Emergency Management Agency	2,300	-	4,094	6,394	2,437	(3,957)
Total	3,533	-	4,094	7,627	3,943	(3,684)
Credit or Recovery Shortfall	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 3,533</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,094</u>	<u>\$ 7,627</u>	<u>\$ 3,943</u>	<u>\$ (3,684)</u>
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (3,684)</u>
FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS VOTE BY PROGRAM						
Alberta Emergency Management Agency	-	-	1,000	1,000	108	(892)
Disaster Recovery Program - Flooding	4,746	-	-	4,746	2,693	(2,053)
Total	4,746	-	1,000	5,746	2,801	(2,945)
Credit or Recovery Shortfall	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 4,746</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,746</u>	<u>\$ 2,801</u>	<u>\$ (2,945)</u>
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (2,945)</u>
CONTINGENCY						
OPERATING EXPENSE						
Alberta Emergency Management Agency	-	-	17,777	17,777	17,155	(622)
Total	-	-	17,777	17,777	17,155	(622)
Credit or Recovery Shortfall	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,777</u>	<u>\$ 17,777</u>	<u>\$ 17,155</u>	<u>\$ (622)</u>
(Lapse)/Encumbrance						<u>\$ (622)</u>

(1) As per "Expense Vote by Program", "Capital Investment Vote by Program", "Financial Transaction Vote by Program", and "Contingency Vote by Program" page 174-175 of 2023-24 Government Estimates on February 28, 2023.

(2) Adjustments include encumbrances, capital carry forward amounts, transfers between votes and credit or recovery increases approved by Treasury Board and credit or recovery shortfalls. An encumbrance is incurred when, on a vote-by-vote basis, the total of actual disbursements in the prior year exceed the total adjusted estimate. All calculated encumbrances from the prior year are reflected as an adjustment to reduce the corresponding voted estimate in the current year.

(3) Actuals exclude non-voted amounts such as amortization and valuation adjustments as no cash disbursement is required (non-cash amounts), or because the Legislative Assembly has already provided the funding authority pursuant to a statute other than an appropriation act. Non-cash amounts (such as amortization, valuation adjustments, and other provisions) are excluded as these amounts do not require any expenditure or payment of public money. Year-end expense accruals & payables which will

immediately require a cash outlay (payment of public money) to settle or otherwise extinguish the liabilities are included in Actuals.

Payments Based on Agreements

Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Year ended March 31, 2023

(in thousands)

The Department has entered into agreements to deliver programs and services that are fully funded by the Government of Yukon Territory (Yukon) and the Government of Canada. Costs based on these agreements are incurred by the Department under authority in Section 25 of the *Financial Administration Act*. Accounts Receivable includes \$47 (2022 - \$71) from Yukon, and \$703 (2022 - \$259) from the Government of Canada relating to payments based on agreements.

The agreement with the Yukon is for the purpose of conducting investigations of Serious Incidents respecting members of the Territorial Police Service.

The agreements with the Government of Canada are to deliver the Alberta First Nations Emergency Management Support Program.

Amounts paid and payable based on agreements with program sponsors are as follows:

	2023	2022
Territorial Police Services - Yukon	\$ 202	\$ 192
First Nations Emergency Management Support Program - GC	1,570	981
	\$ 1,772	\$ 1,173

The Department has also entered into an agreement to disburse the provincial share of net forfeitures from proceeds of crime on behalf of the Department of Justice Canada (Justice Canada). Proceeds received from Justice Canada under this agreement are in accordance with Section 10 of the *Federal Seized Property Management Act* resulting from the investigation efforts by law enforcement agencies in Alberta.

Disbursements to law enforcement agencies and crime and drug prevention organizations based on this agreement are made by the Department under authority in Section 25 of the *Financial Administration Act*. Only the amounts received from Justice Canada and not disbursed are reflected in these financial statements. For the year ended March 31, 2023, amounts payable to law enforcement agencies and crime and drug prevention organizations under this agreement are \$2,471 (2021 - \$841) and are reflected in the Statement of Financial Position.

Annual Report Extracts and Other Statutory Reports

The *Criminal Code* requires the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services to report annually on the following parts of the Act.

Criminal Code s.83.3 (3) – Anti-Terrorism Act

In accordance with subsection 83.3(4) of the *Criminal Code*, a peace officer who suspects, on reasonable grounds, that the detention of a person is necessary to prevent a terrorist activity, may arrest the person without a warrant.

Pursuant to subsection 83.31(3) of the *Criminal Code*, the minister responsible for policing in every province shall publish or otherwise make available to the public an annual report for the previous year on the operation of subsection 83.3 of the *Criminal Code* that includes:

- The number of arrests without warrant that were made under subsection 83.3(4) and the period of the arrested person's detention in custody in each case; and
- The number of cases in which a person was arrested without warrant under subsection 83.3(4) and was released.

Information has been received from all police services in Alberta indicating that no arrests were made under this subsection in the previous year; therefore, the report for 2022 is zero.

Criminal Code s.25.3 – Organized Crime and Law Enforcement – Designations

Section 25.3 of the *Criminal Code* provides a limited justification for otherwise illegal acts and omissions by law enforcement officers, and others acting at their discretion. An essential condition is that it can apply only to officers designated by a competent authority. In the case of municipal police services, the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services is the competent authority.

The competent authority is responsible for publishing an annual report on the designations and authorizations provided under subsections 24.1 to 25.4 of the *Criminal Code*. This report shall include information on the amount and nature of the acts or omissions committed by those officers designated under this legislation.

Alberta began designating officers under this legislation in March 2003. The designations for January 1 to December 31, 2022 include:

- Number of times that acts and omissions were committed: One (1)
- Nature of conduct being investigated: Homicide
- Nature of act or omission: Mischief, *Criminal Code* Section 430(1)(b)

Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act

Section 32 of the *Public Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* requires the chief officer of a department to report annually on all disclosures made to the designated officer of the department, public entity or office of the legislature for which the chief officer is responsible.

This constitutes the annual report of the chief officer of the department covering the period of April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Chief Officer Report as at March 31, 2023

In relation to the reporting requirements under section 32 of the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act*, designations for April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 include:

- Number of disclosures of wrongdoing: zero
- Number of investigations and reports submitted: zero
- Number of wrongdoings identified: zero

Ministry Response to Recommendations from the Alberta Child and Youth Advocate

In response to a recommendation from the Alberta Child and Youth Advocate, the Custody Operations Branch of the Correctional Services Division has committed to public annual reporting of emergency incidents that required the use of Oleoresin Capsicum spray (OC spray) and incidents where administrative placement was required within a provincial young offender centre.

For the period of April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 the Custody Operations Branch reports the following:

I. Total Number of Incidents of OC Spray Deployment in Provincial Young Offender Centres

The use of OC spray is based on a variety of exceptional circumstances that are unique to each situation. It is only used when all lesser use of force options are exhausted, and to reduce the likelihood of injury or harm for young person(s) and staff involved. Data is collapsed to the provincial level, in order to protect the privacy of youths involved in the OC spray incidents. Also, to protect the privacy of the youth involved, the number of OC spray incidents in young offender centres is not reported when fewer than six instances have occurred. For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, this is the case.

II. Total Number of Administrative Placements in Provincial Young Offender Centres

The Custody Operations Branch executive director may authorize administrative placement if a young person has a recent and ongoing series of violent behaviour incidents, and if the current placement of the young person in a living unit is likely to pose a significant threat to other young persons, to themselves, or to staff. There were zero administrative placements for the fiscal year 2022-23.