



**Court of Appeal**



**Supreme Court of British Columbia**



**Provincial Court of  
British Columbia**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

The Courts in British Columbia have issued the following statement in response to the Provincial Government's Announcement of a Justice System Review

We always welcome the opportunity to engage in dialogue with Government and other justice system participants on the issues and challenges facing the justice system. A fully functioning justice system is an essential element of a free and democratic society governed by the rule of law. Any suggestions for improvements to that system merit serious consideration.

Such a review, however, must recognize that the various participants in the justice system operate within a constitutional framework. That framework places certain responsibilities on the participants and is founded on an independent judiciary. Any recommendations for reform must respect the constitutional framework in which we operate.

**Chief Justice Lance Finch**  
*Chief Justice of British Columbia*

**Chief Justice Robert Bauman**  
*Chief Justice of the Supreme Court*

**Chief Judge Thomas Crabtree**  
*Chief Judge of the Provincial Court*