



CCM 2014-2015

May 1, 2014



I am pleased to provide an update to the many stakeholders who are a part of the Court Case Management (CCM) Project. All of us, from court and prosecutions staff to defence counsel and law enforcement, the judiciary and our NGOs, and most importantly, members of the public, share a desire to improve the criminal justice system.

Some of you may be very familiar with the changes that have occurred in Provincial Court Criminal over the last several years. These include Crown File Ownership, Case Management Offices, Assignment Courts, the Court Appearance Scheduling System, Remote Courtroom Scheduling and others. Each of these endeavours has focussed our collective efforts and moved us closer to achieving a more effective criminal justice system. However much remains to be done in terms of new initiatives and both the expansion and fine-tuning of existing initiatives.

I am delighted to announce that the Court Case Management (CCM) project has been funded and will be continuing throughout 2014-2015 with the implementation of a number of business and technological initiatives designed to advance our strategy of continuous improvement.

The initiatives that are slated for the next year are:

- **Criminal eFile** – Criminal eFile is an initiative to move the prosecutions services and the courts towards an electronic, paperless system in the Edmonton Crown’s office. A pilot project was completed to test the effectiveness of OpenText to provide business solutions and work will be continuing to drive those processes forward. Solutions for the electronic transfer of charging documents and the ability to digitally sign Informations are being considered.
- **Crown Dates to Defence** - A process will be defined to allow defence counsel to have access to available Crown dates to enable easier booking through RCS and at the CMO.
- **Federal Matters at the CMO** - The Public Prosecution Service of Canada anticipates implementing the PRISM system which would enable federal matters to appear at the CMO and allow booking on RCS.
- **Regional Expansion** –
 - Court Case Management processes will be fully implemented in Lethbridge, Siksika and Strathmore. This will include the implementation of PRISM, the Case Management Office and Remote Courtroom Scheduling.
 - Requirements will be developed to enable the establishment of a centralized CMO concept throughout the province.

- The base points that currently have CCM processes will complete implementation of CCM to their circuit points.
- The Court Appearance Scheduling System will be rolled out province-wide.
- There will be increased efforts to encourage greater use of Designation of Counsel forms in the province.
- **Implementing Remaining Business Process Review Recommendations** - Work will continue to implement the recommendations that were approved from the business process review.
- **Provincial Court Scheduling** – Initial scoping exercise, exploring best practice options to provide an electronic scheduling system for the judiciary including courtroom availability
- **Automated Statistics** – completion of work on CCM statistics compilation that is currently underway

The CCM monthly newsletter provides information and updates on the project and its initiatives. You can read the newsletters on line and obtain additional information about CCM and the Remote Courtroom Scheduling System (RCS) at www.albertacourts.ab.ca . Your feedback and input has been and will continue to be valued as we move forward. Watch for announcements about upcoming Town Halls and information sessions for your areas.

Today, the Court Case Management Project is more critical than ever if we are to continue to implement both the business and technology innovations required to build a more effective and efficient criminal justice system in this province. The partnerships we have created, the expertise we have gained in managing projects and in managing change - these must continue to be the engines that drive improvement in the criminal justice system. Thank you all for your support for the initiatives which we have implemented to date. I know that as we move forward we can continue to count on that support as we continue to build a criminal justice system that is more accessible, affordable and timely.

Terrence Matchett
Chief Judge, Provincial Court of Alberta
Chair of the CCM Provincial Implementation Committee

If you have any questions or inquiries, please contact Tim Owens, CCM Project Lead at: tim.owens@gov.ab.ca or via telephone 780-937-7044