



Court Case Management

September 2015



I am pleased to provide an update to the initiatives that are continuing as part of the Court Case Management project (CCM). CCM is a collaborative project that owes its success, in large part, to the participation and expertise of our many stakeholders. All of us, from court and prosecutions staff to defence counsel and law enforcement, the judiciary and our NGOs, share a desire to improve the criminal justice system.

The Provincial Court in Alberta has undertaken a number of bold innovations over the past six years designed to build a more effective and efficient criminal justice system in this province. We have led the way on initiatives that have been an example for many other provinces. During the coming year the project will continue in its effort to engage participants in the long term planning of our initiatives and assess the impact of the technological and business changes in the criminal justice system. The scope of these efforts has been redefined in some areas to reflect a more measured response to the needs of our stakeholders. The following summarizes the initiatives that are underway.

Criminal eFile –

On March 9, Criminal eFile, an electronic file management system was initiated in the Edmonton Crown's office providing the ability to store and manage documents associated with the prosecution file. An exciting feature of Criminal eFile is electronic disclosure. Defence counsel can now request and receive disclosure electronically. To date, over 300 defence counsel have registered for electronic disclosure, with over 10,000 initial and supplemental disclosure packages being downloaded on over 8,500 files. Implementation of Criminal eFile for the Public Prosecutions Service of Canada in Edmonton is a high priority for the CCM project team with a target date of early 2016. Work will commence in the Crown's office in Calgary to prepare files for the eventual implementation of Criminal eFile in that location as well.

Crown Dates to Defence –

Crown Dates to Defence is an initiative designed to incorporate the Crown prosecutors' schedule with courtroom availability and officer availability to return appropriate dates to book cases either through the Remote Courtroom Scheduling system (RCS) or through the Court Appearance Scheduling System (CASS). This initiative was implemented in Calgary on May 1. Implementation in Edmonton remains a high priority for the coming year.

Provincial Expansion –

CCM processes have been successfully implemented in 14 locations throughout the province. Continued expansion of CCM will be contingent on an evaluation of the criteria and prioritization for implementing in future locations.

Several of the CCM proposals including **Provincial Court Scheduling**, **Youth Matters to the CMO** and **Centralized CMO** will be reassessed to determine the scope of future development. Youth Matters to the CMO will fall into Provincial Expansion with no significant work to be commenced within the next six months.

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 essential.

We continue to rely on our CCM partners and their collective experience to develop technologies and business innovations that provide more accessible, affordable and timely solutions in the ever changing landscape of the criminal justice system. We are grateful for the support we have received for our current initiatives and remain committed to building those relationships as we move forward.

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