



NEWS RELEASE

The Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia releases 2018-2019 Annual Report

VANCOUVER, NOVEMBER 6, 2019 – The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) of British Columbia today released its 2018-2019 annual report. The report provides a comprehensive audited performance report and financial statements, highlights major PGT accomplishments and addresses a number of societal trends and other factors that affect the work of the PGT.

In the reported fiscal period, April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, the PGT met or exceeded all 18 performance targets representing each major PGT program area. The PGT continued to make progress in modernizing the organization by moving forward to digital document management which will enhance efficiency and client service delivery.

“We will continue to progress on adapting our technology and service delivery to more effectively respond to the dynamic needs of our diverse clientele.” said Catherine Romanko, Public Guardian and Trustee.

Over the course of the year, the PGT contributed to various law reform and program development initiatives that positively impact the wellbeing of vulnerable British Columbians. Notable among these was the PGT’s involvement in the development of a new program to support youth transitioning out of provincial care beyond age 19. This new program allows the PGT to continue to act as trustee for existing property guardian clients, if the youth consents, up until 27 years of age. This extended period of PGT trusteeship provides the youth with time to acquire necessary skills and confidence to manage their own assets, during which time the PGT offers them financial literacy training among other services.

The 2018-2019 annual report is available on the PGT website [here](#).

About the Public Guardian and Trustee

The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) is a corporation sole established under the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* with a unique statutory role to protect the interests of British Columbians who lack legal capacity to protect their own interests. The mandate of the PGT is to:

- Protect the legal and financial interests of children under the age of 19 years;
- Protect the legal, financial, personal and health care interests of adults who require assistance in decision making; and
- Administer the estates of deceased and missing persons.

In 2018-2019, the PGT served 26,119 clients and administered \$1,079 million of client trust assets.

For more information about the PGT, visit www.trustee.bc.ca.

Media contact

Judith Obatusa

Communications Specialist

D: 604.660.4474

C: 604.218.1432