

## NEWS RELEASE

### Public Guardian and Trustee releases 2017-2018 Annual Report

**VANCOUVER, OCTOBER 26, 2018** – The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) is pleased to report that it has met or exceeded targets on all performance measures for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, as outlined in the Annual Report.

This report details independently audited performance results and financial statements, as well as addresses a number of societal trends and other factors that affect the work of the PGT.

“This has been a year of growth for the PGT as we continue to build the capacity of our organization to deliver reliable and effective services to our clients,” said Catherine Romanko, Public Guardian and Trustee. “We continued our efforts to modernize technologies and we also bolstered our training programs to equip staff with the skills that they need to handle increasingly complex cases.”

The PGT has advocated for law reform that would allow clients aging out of care the choice to continue receiving support in managing funds held in trust. This year, the provincial government supported the PGT’s proposal and passed legislative amendments to the *Infants Act* and the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* that will give youth the option to provide the PGT with consent to continue acting as property guardian and to hold and manage the youth’s funds until the age of 27.

“Our staff have heard former youth in care express regret at not having a plan in place when they received their funds at 19 years old,” said Romanko. “This service gives youth the option to continue receiving support from the PGT and have more time to prepare before they receive their funds.”

Read the 2017-2018 Annual Report 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.

During 2017-2018, the PGT served approximately 26,000 clients and administered over one billion dollars of trust assets.

For more information about the PGT, visit [www.trustee.bc.ca](http://www.trustee.bc.ca).

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