



## NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Public Guardian and Trustee

### **PGT releases Child and Youth Guardianship Services 2015-2016 Report**

**Vancouver** – The Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) today released its Child and Youth Guardianship Services 2015-2016 report.

The PGT protects the legal and financial interests of the children and youth it serves and plays an important role under provincial law to support children and youth in continuing care by serving as their property guardian.

The report focuses on property guardian services delivered by the PGT between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016 to children and youth who are in the continuing care of the province. The report also highlights significant achievements, including recovering more than \$24.1 million on behalf of these children and youth from a variety of legal matters ranging from estate litigation to civil claims for damages for sexual assault.

“The PGT is committed to developing its capacity to provide effective property guardianship services and to promoting improved outcomes for our property guardian clients,” said Catherine Romanko, Public Guardian and Trustee. “Overall, the PGT’s work as property guardian is resulting in increasing number of youth leaving care with some measure of financial resources of their own to support their aspirations as young adults. Protected legal interests and financial assets provide a foundation upon which positive futures can be built.”

The report also provides data about the range of services provided to PGT guardianship clients which includes responding to critical incident reports received concerning these children and youth.

#### **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.

The PGT served approximately 26,700 clients and in 2015-2016 and administered almost \$897 million of client trust assets. For more information see the PGT website at [www.trustee.bc.ca](http://www.trustee.bc.ca). The Child and Youth Guardianship Services 2015-2016 Report is available by clicking [here](#).

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