

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## PGT offers new services to youth transitioning from care

**VANCOUVER, DECEMBER 3, 2018** – Legislative amendments to the *Infants Act* and the *Public Guardian and Trustee Act* coming into force today will allow youth who are transitioning from care the option to continue receiving trustee services from the Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) until the age of 27.

"The PGT has long advocated for these changes, having recognized the difficult transition some youth face when leaving care," said Catherine Romanko, Public Guardian and Trustee. "This new service will give young adults more time to work with our Guardianship and Trust Officers to plan and prepare for their future before managing their finances on their own."

Youth transitioning from care often lack the guidance and support they need from family and other trusted adults in how to manage their money and may face a higher risk of financial abuse. With the young adults consent, this new service allows the PGT to work with the young adult to create a plan that helps secure their financial future. The client may end this agreement at any time.

For more information about this service, please visit the <u>PGT Post Majority Services</u> webpage.

## 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 <a href="https://www.trustee.bc.ca">www.trustee.bc.ca</a>.

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