

Annual Report

2025-26

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General

Letters of Transmittal



The Honourable
Tim McLeod, K.C.
Minister of Justice and
Attorney General

Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim McLeod'.

Honourable Tim McLeod, K.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General



Max Bilson, K.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice
and Deputy Attorney General

The Honourable Tim McLeod, K.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Dear Minister:

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Max Bilson'.

Max Bilson, K.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General

Organization Overview

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice and Attorney General is responsible for ensuring a fair justice system that upholds the law and protects the rights of all individuals in the province. It promotes safe and secure communities and provides legal and justice policy advice to the government. The ministry oversees various services, including public prosecutions, legal aid, and community justice initiatives.

Mandate

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General provides access to quality justice services that respect the rule of law and protect the rights of all individuals in Saskatchewan; promotes safe and secure communities; and provides legal and justice policy advice to government.

Mission

We contribute to strong communities and families in Saskatchewan by protecting their rights and safety and ensuring fair, timely access to quality justice services.

Vision

All people in Saskatchewan live in safe and just communities.

Legislative Authority

The governing legislation is *The Justice and Attorney General Act* and *The Executive Government Administration Act*.

Service Delivery

The ministry delivers services across the following core areas:

- Providing legal services to the ministries, agencies, boards, and commissions of the Government of Saskatchewan.
- Delivering key justice programs, managing strategic relations (including intergovernmental and Indigenous), offering legal policy advice, supporting independent boards and commissions, and overseeing the Office of Tribunal Counsel and provincial tribunals.
- Prosecuting those charged under the *Criminal Code*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, and certain other federal and provincial statutes.
- Coordinating community safety programs and services including victim services.
- Through the Office of the King's Printer, publishing and consolidating legislation, regulations, statutes, bylaws, rules of court and official forms.
- Delivering all court administration services in Saskatchewan, and providing oversight to the Public Complaints Commission, the Saskatchewan Coroners Service, and the Saskatchewan Review Board.

View the ministry's 2025-26 Business Plan at www.saskatchewan.ca/justice

Progress on Goal 1: Efficient and accessible justice system

The ministry is committed to establishing and maintaining an efficient justice system that ensures equal access to justice for all residents. We will work to make courts more effective and efficient, promote timely resolution of cases, and enhance the quality of services to victims, businesses, families and communities.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Explore new and effective ways to enhance accountability.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- An additional \$188,000 investment in the Saskatchewan Serious Incident Response Team (SIRT) to expand the team's investigative and operational capacity. This will enhance police oversight, ensure police accountability and increase public confidence in the justice system.
 - In 2025-26, SIRT met all mandated legislative timelines for issuing public reports, contributing to transparency and supporting public confidence in Saskatchewan law enforcement.
- An increase of \$822,000 to Public Prosecutions to build capacity for the collection, analysis, and use of body-worn cameras' video evidence. This initiative, which responds to the rapid adoption of body-worn cameras by the RCMP and Saskatoon Police Service, will help cases proceed effectively and hold offenders accountable for their actions.
 - Increased resource demands for review of body-worn cameras' video is significant. The ministry hired three prosecutors and six legal assistants to support the collection, analysis and use of body worn cameras' video evidence.
 - A total of 6,955 Public Prosecution files with body-worn cameras' video evidence were opened in 2025-26.
- Explore new collection methods for restitution, with a pilot project to receive payments by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).
 - EFT was implemented through a pilot project, which achieved an 87% adoption rate. Following this success, the new payment method was made available to all restitution civil enforcement files. This change supports timely restitution payments and contributes to a more efficient and accessible justice system.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Address the impacts of increased demands for justice programs and services.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Continue the Court Modernization project with funding of \$3.38 million allocated to maintaining court facilities, including:
 - Key initiatives to enhance court facilities across Saskatchewan include improving accessibility in jury rooms, and renovating detention cells to ensure they are safe and secure;
 - As part of a multi-year project, work continued in 2025-26 to improve jury room accessibility and renovate detention cells.
 - Security will be improved by installing standardized security and distress button systems in all courthouses across the province; and
 - Standardized security implementation and testing work are progressing through a phased approach. Many courtrooms and court houses have systems installed.
 - Information technology funding will support system upgrades, security patches, and improved technological performance in the courts.
 - IT security solutions were implemented to ensure data is secure and that systems are efficient and reliable.
 - Video conferencing systems in correctional centre living units were installed or expanded, which enables video court appearances and counsel interviews without needing to move inmates within the facility.
- Allocate \$239,000 to support Prosecutions' Case Readiness Unit, which assesses cases for completeness to ensure they are ready for trial or are otherwise resolved as quickly as possible. It is important to ensure that individuals who have been charged with a criminal offence are tried without unreasonable delay, and that cases are concluded within the timeframes set by the Supreme Court in *R. v. Jordan*.
 - A total of 951 requests for additional materials were processed, of which 281 were made before the first court appearance. Approximately 18% of Regina docket files were reviewed by the Case Readiness Unit in 2025-26.
- Continue to operate therapeutic courts to address criminal behaviour involving domestic violence, addictions, and mental health issues.
 - The Provincial Court, in partnership with the ministry, expanded the drug treatment court program, which currently operates in Regina and Moose Jaw, to the Battlefords.

Performance Measure Results:

Video Court Appearances

- From 2019 to 2024, overall court appearances increased by 10.49%, with 33.33% of appearances in the 2024 calendar year being held via video technology.
- Increase the number of appearances being held via video technology
 - Video court appearances significantly reduce resource requirements compared to in-person court. The use of video court appearances increased in 2025-26, supporting more timely access to court services and improving efficiency and accessibility of the justice system.

Year	Total Appearance Heard in Court	Total Appearance by Video	% of Appearance by Video
2019	940,868	215,023	22.90%
2020	1,010,837	308,678	30.50%
2021	1,155,982	344,043	29.80%
2022	1,090,408	341,356	31.21%
2023	1,140,342	377,434	33.09%
2024	1,222,182	407,371	33.33%
2025	1,214,443	418,218	34.44%

Public Complaints Commission will monitor the number of files investigated

- The Public Complaints Commission will track the number of files opened and closed during the year.
 - A total of 381 complaints were received during the year. Of these, 322 files, or 85%, were concluded. The remainder are open and are at various stages of the investigation or review process. This tracking strengthens accountability and public confidence in the justice system.

Supports Provincial Courts to maintain next available trial dates within guidelines established by the Supreme Court

- Next Available Trial Date is also known as Time to Trial in the Provincial Court system.
- In Canada, the "Jordan" framework establishes presumptive time limits (ceilings) within which a criminal trial must conclude, to uphold an accused person's constitutional right to a trial within a reasonable time.
- These limits, originating from the Supreme Court of Canada's 2016 *R. v. Jordan* ruling, depend on the level of court:
 - Provincial Court: 18 months from the date the charges are laid.
 - Superior Court: 30 months from the date the charges are laid.
 - The Provincial Court reports the Next Available Trial Date Report quarterly and publicly posts it on the Sask Law Courts website, linked here:
<https://sasklawcourts.ca/provincial-court/reports-publications/>
 - The average time to trial did not exceed 18 months at any court location during the year.

- Based on data published on the Sask Law Courts website, the average time to trial for the calendar year 2025 was 122 days (2024 was 118.6 days). The change reflects fluctuations in case complexity, however, it remains well under “Jordan” timelines.

The ministry’s Court and Community Justice Division effectively respond to court demands

- Monitor the number of new criminal cases versus concluded criminal cases annually to ensure cases are moving through the court system efficiently.
 - The ministry and Provincial Court track new cases versus concluded cases to monitor workload at individual court locations. Changes in case volume at court offices can indicate that resource allocations require adjustments at those court locations.
 - The Provincial Court tracks the number of new criminal cases on an annual basis, along with the number of criminal cases that are concluded annually. Ongoing information can be found at: <https://sasklawcourts.ca/criminal-offence-data/>
 - The amount of time it takes to conclude a case is dependent on the complexity of each individual case. The number of new versus concluded cases is not an indication of the performance of that court location.
 - The table below shows that in 2022-2023, the court system was navigating a growing backlog. In 2024-2025, the court system operated more effectively and reduced the backlog.

Year	New cases	Concluded Cases
2022	50,523	49,591
2023	54,873	53,405
2024	56,181	56,870
2025	55,234	55,983

Progress on Goal 2: Safe communities

The ministry is committed to supporting safe communities and neighborhoods. We will explore more effective ways to hold people accountable, help people find pathways out of the justice system, and invest in needed infrastructure and capacity.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Holding people accountable while supporting safer communities.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Support safer communities and neighborhoods by:
 - Expanding municipal bylaw court hub models to two additional communities allowing municipalities to streamline and improve municipal bylaw enforcement; and
 - The Provincial Court, in partnership with the ministry, have established two additional municipal bylaw court hubs in Rosthern and Fort Qu'Appelle. This brings the total number of bylaw courts to six locations. These hubs improve access to Saskatchewan's courts for communities, improve operational efficiency and support safer communities.
 - Expanding Traffic Safety Courts with civilian prosecutors. Currently, police in some rural and remote communities act as the prosecutors for Provincial tickets, including traffic offences. This initiative will enable police to spend less time prosecuting those tickets and more time in the community addressing serious crime and will streamline how provincial tickets are heard in rural areas in Saskatchewan.
 - The Provincial Court, in partnership with the ministry, are making progress towards expanding Traffic Safety Courts to contribute to public safety. This is expected to be completed in the next reporting period.
- Pass newly introduced legislation to give officers tools to ticket people who carry street weapons such as machetes and bear spray and the ability to seize those items.
 - Amend *The Trespass to Property Regulations* to discourage or remove trespassers from business properties and public spaces, such as malls and public transit hubs.
 - On April 24, 2025, *The Trespass to Property Amendment Regulations 2025* was passed to empower officers to enforce trespass laws in businesses and public spaces, such as libraries and parks.
 - *The Safe Public Spaces (Street Weapons) Act* came into force on August 1, 2025 to support community safety by regulating street weapons and enabling the removal of dangerous drugs, such as fentanyl and methamphetamine, from Saskatchewan communities.
 - Legislatively enhance the powers of Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Officers by giving them enforcement tools to address vacant, abandoned and derelict properties.

- On November 1, 2025, the amendments to *The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) Act* came into force to identify and address nuisance properties, graffiti, trafficking of stolen property, etc.
- Continue to support restorative justice programs that hold youth and adults accountable for their actions while repairing harm to victims and communities through continued training and support throughout the province.
 - The ministry delivered two victim-offender mediation practitioner training sessions, which equipped practitioners with the skills to facilitate mediations, resolve conflicts and restore relationships.

Performance Measure Results:

Number of municipalities using the Provincial Court to enforce their bylaws

- In 2025-26 the ministry will begin gathering baseline information about the number of municipalities using the court system for bylaws.
- Increases in the number of municipalities using the Provincial Court to enforce their bylaws will be measured over time.
 - The ministry exceeded its target of 67 municipalities having access to the court system for bylaw enforcement by working with the Provincial Court to add two court hubs in Rosthern and Fort Qu'Appelle. This improves access to justice, supports more timely case resolution, strengthens accountability and supports safer communities.

Offenders are held accountable for the reparation of harms to victims and communities

- In 2023-24, there were 2,495 adult and youth offenders who participated in Alternative Measures and Extrajudicial Sanctions. Of the parties that reached an agreement during mediation, 89% of those agreements were successfully completed by the offender.
- Maintain 2023-24 baseline of percentage of agreements successfully completed.
 - In 2025-26, the ministry recorded a 91% successful mediation completion rate, exceeding its 89% baseline. This supports safer communities by promoting offender accountability.

Progress on Goal 3: Strong Families

Strong families are essential to building safe communities. The ministry will support families by providing prevention and early intervention supports during times of crisis. Additionally, the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General will continue to strengthen services for families going through conflict to ensure the safety and well-being of all involved.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Strengthen prevention, intervention, and resolution services for families in conflict.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Support the Family Law Mandatory Early Dispute Resolution Program to provide families with dispute resolution services outside the court system.
 - As of March 31, 2026, there were 117 service providers supplying family dispute resolution services to the public, including family mediators, family arbitrators, parenting coordinators, collaborative law lawyers and the Child Support Service.
- Encourage the use of the Child Support Service (formerly the Child Support Recalculation Service) to help parents support their children without going through family court to get the amount of child support calculated or updated.
 - The ministry provided outreach and resources to three family service organizations and presented to Early Years Family Resource Centres, which supports parents and caregivers of children from birth to six years. These organizations then help connect families with child support services.
 - Progress was made towards increasing awareness of the options available to establish and update child support outside the court process, including:
 - participating in legal fairs at Saskatoon and Regina public libraries, providing information directly to the public;
 - distributing posters and brochures through a mail-out to 50 community and financial organizations; and
 - delivering a presentation to family law lawyers at a Saskatoon law firm.
 - A social media campaign was launched on Facebook and Instagram, and generated strong engagement, with 18,464 advertisement clicks, of which 4,624 clicks visited the Child Support Service webpage. The campaign improved awareness and access to consistent, income-based financial support for children.
- Increase awareness of intake assessments to families going through family court.
 - In 2025-26, a total of 116 intake assessments were completed, a slight increase compared to 111 in 2024-25. These intakes support safety and positive outcomes for families going through family court.

- Increase public awareness and understanding of the issue of interpersonal violence and abuse in Saskatchewan.
 - A new phase of the Face the Issue Public Awareness campaign was launched and focused on the role of bystanders in recognizing and responding to interpersonal abuse and violence. The campaign videos were seen more than seven million times across digital media and television, which led more than 19,000 new users to the 211 Saskatchewan website to learn about interpersonal violence and abuse as well as available supports.
 - A Human Trafficking Public Awareness Campaign ran February through March. The campaign video was seen over a million times on social media and was shared over 500 times on Facebook.
- Provide early intensive outreach to families at risk of violence through Family Intervention Rapid Support Teams.
 - In 2025-26, the ministry funded community-based organizations to deliver proactive and sustained interventions to stabilize families at risk of violence and strengthen community safety. These organizations served 375 clients across six communities.
- Assist women and children leaving domestic violence through transition houses and second-stage housing.
 - The ministry funded 14 transition houses and seven second-stage houses who provided services to 1,712 women and children who experienced violence and were seeking to regain their long-term safety and independence. These services included counselling, job training and educational programs to help families regain stability in a secure environment.
- Improve the response to the needs of child victims of violence through a Victim Services Responder program in a new Child Advocacy Centre in southern Saskatchewan.
 - In 2025-26, the ministry partnered with Justice Canada to support the opening of the Moose Jaw Little Oak Child and Youth Justice Centre. This new centre aims to expand the Victim Services Responder program, which uses a multi-disciplinary team to deliver trauma-informed support to child and youth victims of abuse and helps families access critical assistance during crises.
 - 149 child victims of violence were served in Moose Jaw in 2025-26.

Performance Measure Results:

Improved awareness and understanding of the issue of interpersonal violence and abuse in the province

- The reach of public awareness campaigns related to interpersonal violence.
 - In 2025-26, the ministry launched new components of the Face the Issue Public Awareness Campaign and the Human Trafficking Public Awareness Campaign. As of the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year, the campaigns' videos were seen more than eight million times and prompted approximately 29,000 new visitors to 211 Saskatchewan to learn more about available programs and services.

Participation in family dispute resolution

- There were 449 certificates of participation received in 2023-24 and 712 certificates of participation received in 2024-25.
- It was anticipated that 2025-26 would see an increase in the number of certificates of participation in family dispute resolution issued by service providers.
 - In 2025-26, there were 668 certificates of participation received, which is a decrease from the previous year. This decrease is likely caused by a variety of factors, including fewer couples separating or divorcing, family dispute resolution processes still underway (since certificates are only issued once participation is complete) or more families resolving their disputes without the need for family dispute resolution services.

Number of contested family law applications filed in the Court of King's Bench

- Prior to the establishment of the Family Law Mandatory Early Dispute Resolution Program in Saskatchewan, there were 2,244 contested family law applications filed in the Court of King's Bench for the period July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020.
- There were 1,600 contested family law applications filed in the Court of King's Bench for the period July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, a 29% reduction over the same time period in 2019-20.
- It is anticipated that 2025-26 will see a continued reduction in the percentage of contested family law applications filed in the Court of King's Bench.
 - A total of 838 contested family law applications were filed in the Court of King's Bench for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. This latest total is 762 lower than the 1,600 applications in the previous report, representing a reduction of more than 50%. This reduction reflects that more family law matters are being resolved outside the court, which suggests stronger, more stable long-term outcomes for families.

Measure the number of individuals who receive Child Support Services

- Child Support Services will track the number of applications received for Child Support Calculation and Recalculation services.
 - In 2025-26 a total of 768 child support applications were made, including 427 calculation applications and 341 recalculation applications. These services ensure families can access financial support to help them navigate stressful family transitions.

Progress on Goal 4: Stand up for Saskatchewan

The ministry is committed to standing up for a strong Saskatchewan to protect the interests of Saskatchewan people, communities, and businesses and ensure that our province's priorities are addressed.

Strategy: *The approach we took to achieve our goal*

Advance Saskatchewan's interests through legislation and advocacy.

Key Actions: *What we did to get there*

- Promote Saskatchewan's interests in the courts and provide legal support and advice at national, including Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT), and international forums.
 - Saskatchewan continues to demonstrate leadership and a strong voice at Federal-Provincial-Territorial forums, ensuring that Saskatchewan priorities are recognized and communicated as all orders of government work towards improving justice outcomes.
 - Saskatchewan was part of the Canadian Delegation that appeared before the Human Rights Committee on the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights, providing reports on the work our government is doing to uphold those rights for our citizens.
 - In 2025-26, Saskatchewan was the co-chair of the FPT Human Rights and Legal Aid tables, ensuring strong provincial and territorial representation at these tables.
- Continue to draft legislation within provincial jurisdiction to stand up for Saskatchewan, including recent Acts such as *The Saskatchewan Affordability Act* and *The SaskEnergy (Carbon Tax Fairness for Families) Amendment Act, 2024*.
 - *The Saskatchewan Firearms Amendment Act* was introduced on November 25, 2025, and came into force on March 12, 2026. These amendments will protect Saskatchewan residents who own firearms that have been recently prohibited under federal law from facing criminal charges as they pursue compensation for their property that has been impacted.
 - *The Inter-Jurisdictional Support Orders Amendment Act* was introduced on November 4, 2025, and came into force on March 12, 2026. These amendments improve the enforcement of child support orders across national and international jurisdictions, ensuring Saskatchewan children are safe, secure and supported.
- Draft legislation such as *The Safe Public Spaces (Street Weapons) Act* and supporting regulations to ensure that we are protecting Saskatchewan citizens beyond existing federal criminal law.
 - *The Safe Public Spaces (Street Weapons) Act* came into force on August 1, 2025. This strengthens enforcement responses to street weapons and trespassing and contributes to safer communities.

- Continue to stand up for Saskatchewan by conducting litigation, providing advice on action to defend provincial interests and by intervening in cases in other jurisdictions as appropriate.
 - In 2025-26, the ministry protected provincial interests by ensuring Saskatchewan's position was represented in significant cases. This supports fair and consistent application of the law, contributing to public confidence in the justice system. This included intervening in:
 - Nine cases before the Supreme Court of Canada, an increase of three from the six reported last year.
 - Three cases before the Federal Court of Appeal.
 - Three cases before the Alberta Court of Appeal.

Performance Measure Results:

The Ministry of Justice and Attorney General will continue to stand up for Saskatchewan

- The province will continue to be represented at national and international forums and defend Saskatchewan's interests through litigation we undertake as well as intervening in cases in other jurisdictions.
- In 2023-24, Saskatchewan intervened in six cases before the Supreme Court of Canada, three cases before the Federal Court of Appeal, and one case before the Federal Court.
- The Government of Saskatchewan will continue to intervene in cases, as appropriate, to defend our interests.
 - In 2025-26, Saskatchewan intervened in nine cases before the Supreme Court of Canada. Saskatchewan also intervened in three cases before the Federal Court of Appeal, two cases before the Federal Court and three cases before the Alberta Court of Appeal.

2025-26 Improvement and Innovation Highlights

1

Improving Community Safety

The Government of Saskatchewan is partnering with municipalities, Indigenous communities, local authorities, and other stakeholders to tackle public disorder and crime. Public disorder includes loitering, panhandling, littering, and noise violations which frustrate businesses, property owners, and residents, and decrease perceptions of safety. Criminal matters such as illegal drug possession and vandalism can lead to theft and violence. These issues contribute to concerns about safety and can influence people's decisions about where they live, work, and shop.

The ministry is taking significant steps to improve community safety, including hiring additional civilian prosecutors, developing municipal bylaw court hub models and expanding traffic safety court. Additionally, new legislation will be introduced, and existing legislation will be amended to empower various types of law enforcement officers to address problem behaviours and problem properties.

- In March 2026, the ministry added two municipal bylaw court hub locations in Fort Qu'Appelle and Rosthern. The ministry made progress towards expanding the Traffic Safety Court and is working to staff additional civilian prosecutors in the 2026 -27 fiscal year.
- On November 1, 2025, *The Cyberstalking and Coercive Control Amendment Act* was introduced and came into force on June 1, 2026, to ensure Saskatchewan residents remain safe and secure online. This amendment expands the definition of interpersonal violence in *The Victims of Interpersonal Violence Act* to include cyberstalking and online harassment, as well as coercive and controlling behaviour.
- On December 3, 2025, *The Response to Illicit Drugs Act* was introduced and came into force on June 1, 2026. This will strengthen accountability for drug traffickers, enhance community safety, and provide government and individuals with tools to recover costs associated with the harms caused by illicit drug activity.
- In 2025-26, the ministry worked with six communities to bring stakeholders together to identify safety concerns and steps to address root causes of social disorder and improve community safety. The communities involved included North Battleford, Tisdale, Rosthern, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Nipawin.
- In 2025-26, the ministry awarded a Call for Proposals to redesign and modernize the Fine Option, Community Service Order and Youth Victim Restitution programs to consolidate fragmented, agent-based services into a single, streamlined model to address inefficiencies, inconsistent service, and limited access, while strengthening program integrity, equitable access to justice, and outcomes for victims and communities, and positioning the programs to meet increased demand driven by rising social disorder and Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) priorities.

2	Public Prosecutions Case Readiness Unit The Public Prosecutions Case Readiness Unit reviews case files as soon as they are received from the police. Cases are assessed to ensure they are complete and that all relevant evidence has been given to Prosecutions and the accused. This allows prosecutors to determine whether the matter should be tried or if it might be resolved in another way. This approach should reduce the need for adjournments, which enables Prosecutions to focus on cases that are ready to be tried, to ensure victims and accused have cases heard as quickly as possible. The Case Readiness Unit started reviewing files in September 2024. • The Prosecutions Case Readiness Unit assesses cases for completeness as early as possible in the process to ensure they are ready to proceed to trial or are appropriately resolved. • A total of 951 requests for additional materials were processed, of which 281 were made before the first court appearance. Approximately 18% of Regina docket files were reviewed by the Case Readiness Unit.
3	Judicial Scheduling, Tracking and Amalgamated Reporting (J-STAR System) The Judicial Scheduling, Tracking, and Amalgamated Reporting System (J-STAR) is used in the Court of King's Bench for scheduling, tracking of court information, and financial management in the court system. The planning portion of the expansion of J-STAR began in 2024-25, and in 2025-26, the development and implementation will occur. This expansion to the system will enable documents to be submitted electronically through an online public portal. This supports access to justice by eliminating the need to fax or deliver documents in person, as required by the Court of King's Bench. • In the last quarter of 2025-26, the project transitioned from the development phase to the implementation phase. The ministry is currently working through the implementation requirements and developing the new system requirements, including testing and implementing the changes. • The aim of J-STAR is to align with modern standards and reduce administrative burdens and the physical requirement to attend the courthouse to file court documents. These changes will provide the public with a more accessible option.
4	Child Support Service (Formerly Child Support Recalculation Service) Budget 2025-26 provides access to affordable and accessible family services for citizens facing separation or divorce. The Child Support Service calculates initial child support amounts and helps parents update the amount of child support quickly and at no cost, without the expense and time needed to go to court. This ensures children receive financial support from both parents and reduces the cost and stress of returning to court. • A regulatory amendment came into force on March 4, 2026, which expands access to the Child Support Service and helps ensure that child support amounts reflect the payor's most current income. • A policy change was implemented in August 2025, allowing parents of dependants 18 years and older to apply for a child support calculation. The parent of an adult dependant with health issues can now receive a child support calculation without going to court.

5

The ministry's Courts and Community Justice Division retains employees and maintains an engaged workforce that supports the court.

- The ministry has increased its employee engagement in recent years. Employee engagement is an indication of employee satisfaction, which in turn affects employee morale and productivity.
- Employee Engagement surveys are conducted by the Public Service Commission (PSC) every two years. Employee engagement for the Courts and Community Justice Division remained consistent at 63% in the last two survey cycles. This is an improvement over the 55% engagement rate the division saw in 2021. Engaged employees are energized and fulfilled by their work and are attached to their organization and motivated to contribute.
- The number of employees leaving the Courts and Community Justice has decreased in recent years. A stable workforce helps the ministry achieve its objectives in supporting the courts.
- Employee retention rates are monitored and shared with the ministry by the PSC. In 2025-26, the Courts and Community Justice Division had 5.4% rate of employees exiting. This is a decrease over past years.

Financial Summary

Expense Summary

The following table outlines actual and budgeted expenditures by sub-vote and allocation. Explanations are provided where variances are greater than \$500,000. All amounts are presented in \$000s.

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General-Expense Actuals

Sub-vote	2024-25 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Budget (\$000s)	2025-26 Actual (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)	Notes
Ministers' Salaries (Statutory)	\$ 49.00	\$ 57.00	\$ 59.00	\$ 2.00	
Executive Management	\$ 1,438.00	\$ 1,460.00	\$ 1,482.00	\$ 22.00	
Central Services	\$ 20,596.00	\$ 22,744.00	\$ 22,169.00	\$ (575.00)	1
Accommodation Services	\$ 20,376.00	\$ 20,880.00	\$ 20,652.00	\$ (228.00)	
Total Central Management and Services (JU01)	\$ 42,459.00	\$ 45,141.00	\$ 44,362.00	\$ (779.00)	
Court Services	\$ 42,511.00	\$ 42,726.00	\$ 42,731.00	\$ 5.00	
Salaries - Provincial Court Judges (Statutory)	\$ 20,409.00	\$ 20,576.00	\$ 21,493.00	\$ 917.00	2
Salaries - Justices of the Peace (Statutory)	\$ 4,561.00	\$ 4,760.00	\$ 4,908.00	\$ 148.00	
Family Justice Services	\$ 5,060.00	\$ 5,526.00	\$ 5,056.00	\$ (470.00)	
Dispute Resolution Office	\$ 2,337.00	\$ 2,535.00	\$ 2,458.00	\$ (77.00)	
Court Facility Land, Buildings and Improvements	\$ 3,445.00	\$ 3,380.00	\$ 2,515.00	\$ (865.00)	3
Minor Capital Expenses - Courts	\$ 1,689.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,519.00	\$ 769.00	4
Total Courts and Civil Justice (JU03)	\$ 80,012.00	\$ 80,253.00	\$ 80,680.00	\$ 427.00	
Justice Services and Tribunal Division	\$ 1,154.00	\$ 1,326.00	\$ 1,134.00	\$ (192.00)	
Public Prosecutions	\$ 37,452.00	\$ 39,786.00	\$ 39,211.00	\$ (575.00)	5
King's Printer Revolving Fund - Subsidy	\$ 922.00	\$ 786.00	\$ 786.00	\$ -	
Public Registry Assurance Claims (Statutory)	\$ (380.00)	\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ (1.00)	
Legal Services	\$ 12,965.00	\$ 13,211.00	\$ 18,130.00	\$ 4,919.00	6
Policy, Programs and Support	\$ 27,011.00	\$ 30,292.00	\$ 30,555.00	\$ 263.00	
Total Innovation and Legal Services (JU04)	\$ 79,124.00	\$ 85,402.00	\$ 89,816.00	\$ 4,414.00	
Human Rights Commission	\$ 3,625.00	\$ 2,606.00	\$ 3,644.00	\$ 1,038.00	7
Office of Residential Tenancies	\$ 1,931.00	\$ 2,177.00	\$ 2,190.00	\$ 13.00	
Inquiries	\$ 80.00	\$ 76.00	\$ 97.00	\$ 21.00	
Legal Aid Commission	\$ 36,873.00	\$ 41,604.00	\$ 41,604.00	\$ -	
Automobile Injury Appeal Commission	\$ 1,074.00	\$ 1,258.00	\$ 1,127.00	\$ (131.00)	
Highway Traffic Board	\$ 911.00	\$ 1,128.00	\$ 965.00	\$ (163.00)	
Public Complaints Commission	\$ 2,326.00	\$ 2,442.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 58.00	
Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,577.00	\$ 4,751.00	\$ 174.00	
Saskatchewan Coroners Service	\$ 6,530.00	\$ 5,715.00	\$ 6,707.00	\$ 992.00	8
Office of Tribunal Counsel	\$ 511.00	\$ 476.00	\$ 559.00	\$ 83.00	
SGI Appeal Advisory Program	\$ 116.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 334.00	\$ (148.00)	
Total Boards, Commissions and Independent Offices (JU08)	\$ 58,577.00	\$ 62,541.00	\$ 64,478.00	\$ 1,937.00	
Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment			\$ (46.00)	\$ (46.00)	
Total Expenditure	\$ 260,172.00	\$ 273,337.00	\$ 279,291.00	\$ 5,953.00	
Less: Capital Asset Acquisitions	\$ (4,207.00)	\$ (5,844.00)	\$ (3,627.00)	\$ 2,217.00	
Add: Amortization	\$ 3,792.00	\$ 3,752.00	\$ 2,948.00	\$ (804.00)	
Add: Non-Appropriated Expense Adjustment			\$ 46.00	\$ 46.00	
Total Expense	\$ 259,757.00	\$ 271,245.00	\$ 278,658.00	\$ 7,412.00	

Notes:

Explanation of Major Variances

1. Net savings resulting from lower-than-anticipated ITD expenditures and reduced IT capital project costs within the Strategic System and Innovation Branch were partially offset by higher salary expenses and increased Central Services costs.
2. Statutory salaries for relief judges and disability allowance for judges.
3. Decrease due to projects that did not meet capital thresholds and projects delays.
4. Increase due to capital projects that did not meet the capital thresholds and were expensed.
5. Decrease in salary related to delays in hiring along with operational savings.
6. Increase related to litigation settlement and outside legal counsel costs.
7. Increase to address salary and operating pressures.
8. Increase in salary and operating costs due to the high volume of death investigations and inquests.

In 2025-26 the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General received \$9.290 million in special warrant funding. \$9.065 million of special warrant funding was to address non-statutory operating pressures in Community Safety and Well-Being, Court Services, Saskatchewan Coroners Service, Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission and Legal Services. \$225,000 of special warrant funding was used for statutory operating pressures experienced by Provincial Court Judges.

Revenue Summary

The justice system collects revenues related to the fines, licenses and service fees on behalf of the government and receives funding from the federal government. The federal government payments are related to Legal Aid and other cost-shared programs. The following table outlines information on actual and budgeted revenues by revenue description. Explanations are provided for variances greater than \$500,000. All amounts are presented in \$000s.

Ministry of Justice and Attorney General-Revenue

	2025-26 Budget (\$000s)	2025-26 Actuals (\$000s)	2025-26 Variance (\$000s)	Notes
Fines, Forfeits and Penalties	\$ 25,568	\$ 23,806	\$ (1,762)	1
Other Licenses and Permits	\$ 444	\$ 502	\$ 58	
Sales, Services and Service Fees	\$ 21,922	\$ 26,085	\$ 4,163	2
Federal/Provincial Agreements	\$ 15,822	\$ 15,834	\$ 12	
Proceeds from Other Funds	\$ 24,336	\$ 32,869	\$ 8,533	3
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 1,092	\$ 342	\$ (750)	4
Total Revenue	\$ 89,184	\$ 99,438	\$ 10,254	

Notes:

Explanation of Major Variances

1. Lower than anticipated revenue from court levied fines and penalties such as late payment fees.
2. Higher than anticipated revenue from the Public Trustee, Surrogate Courts, Local Registrars and Sheriffs.
3. Increase in the dividend from FCAA.
4. Lower than anticipated casual revenue from across the ministry.

Additional financial information can be found in the Government of Saskatchewan Public Accounts located at <https://publications.saskatchewan.ca/#/categories/893>