

# Court Case Management Program

A Provincial Court of Alberta program supported by the Justice Information Management System initiative

An update for the Judiciary, Crown, defence counsel, the unrepresented accused, court staff, Alberta Justice staff and Albertans – visit [www.albertacourts.ab.ca/ccm](http://www.albertacourts.ab.ca/ccm).



## Program overview

The aim of the Court Case Management (CCM) Program is to more effectively manage cases in Edmonton and Calgary adult Provincial Court, and in turn, increase public confidence in the justice system and improve access to justice.

The CCM Program will benefit the Provincial Court, court staff, the Crown, defence counsel, the unrepresented accused, and of course, the public. The program will ensure a level playing field by treating the Crown and defence counsel (or accused) equally with respect to how matters are scheduled and disposed in Provincial Court. The Crown File Ownership Project is a sub-project under the larger CCM Program.

## Court Scheduling

- The goal of the Court Scheduling component is to make earlier court dates available to counsel and unrepresented accused, thereby maximizing the use of available court time.
- Business requirements for a new Court Scheduling approach are being determined.
- The approach will provide the Provincial Court and Court Services – in a matter of seconds – the capacity to coordinate the availability of Crown prosecutors, defence counsel, unrepresented accused and witnesses, including peace officers.
- It will also allow for remote booking of court rooms for Crown and defence counsel. This will save time when scheduling any adult criminal court-related matters, including bail, guilty pleas, trial, and sentencing.
- Detailed data collection for the Business Process Redesign effort in Court Services is underway.
- Court staff will soon participate in comprehensive business improvement analysis sessions in their offices to determine how quality and service can be improved.

*“This project is about streamlining our practices, making proper use of court time and more effectively managing criminal cases in the Edmonton and Calgary adult Provincial Court, thereby improving access to Alberta’s justice system. It is not about guilt, innocence, or the principles of law.”*

*~ Deputy Chief Judge  
A.H. Lefever*

*“This project presents a unique opportunity to bring about tangible change in the justice system.”*

*~ Mike Dinkel, Criminal  
Defence Bar  
Representative*

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## Crown File Ownership

- This initiative will bring Crown prosecutors and the defence counsel or accused together at the earliest possible time to facilitate timely dispositions and shortened court proceedings.
- Crown File Ownership will give defence counsel access to an assigned Crown prosecutor to resolve disclosure issues and discuss possible resolution early in the process.
- Through the effective tracking of file assignments and workloads, Crown File Ownership will also ensure work is distributed equitably and appropriately, and files are managed efficiently.
- Business requirements for the Crown File Ownership component are being determined.
- Detailed data collection for the Business Process Redesign effort in Edmonton and Calgary has begun and analysis sessions will be scheduled soon.

*“The physical courtroom is not important. What is important are the people who have invested their time and energy in the file. The file should be attached to the people – not the place.”*

*~ Greg Lepp, QC,  
Assistant Deputy  
Minister Criminal  
Division, Alberta Justice*

## JIMS and other technology

- Alberta’s justice system needs an integrated information management system that allows for flow of information within its boundaries and access to information gathered by the stakeholders.
- The Justice Information Management System (JIMS) initiative is a business transformation project that – through technology – focuses on standardizing, streamlining and harmonizing the way we do business.
- When completed, JIMS will improve the efficiency of Alberta Courts and the administration of justice.
- Strategies will also be developed to allow defence counsel access to client information, such as trial dates and criminal records, through the Justice Online Information System (JOIN).

*“Collaborative efforts will ensure the success of this significant, Provincial Court-led initiative.”*

*~Barb Hookenson,  
Assistant Deputy  
Minister Court Services,  
Alberta Justice*

**For more information, or to provide feedback to the Court Case Management Program, please visit [www.albertacourts.ab.ca/ccm](http://www.albertacourts.ab.ca/ccm)**