



# Indigenous Justice Framework

The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS), which includes all provincial Crown Counsel and administrative staff, is working within its mandate to meet the standards set by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's justice-related *Calls to Action*, all in alignment with the *Draft Principles that Guide the Province of BC's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples*.

The status quo is failing Indigenous persons. Colonialism, displacement, and forced assimilation have contributed to their overrepresentation in all parts of the criminal justice system in Canada. Bias, racism, and systemic discrimination continue to aggravate this unacceptable situation. These facts must inform every consideration, decision, or action we take in relation to Indigenous persons.

The BCPS will strive to change the status quo by moving towards reconciliation, building trust, and promoting better relationships with Indigenous communities.

## Education & Training

The BCPS recognizes the need to provide educational opportunities to all its members that emphasize existing legal requirements (including the *Gladue* principles), cultural safety, and related issues.

## Policy & Practice

The BCPS recognizes the unique position of Indigenous persons within Canadian society and the need for culturally-appropriate and legally-informed policies, practices, and procedures at all stages of the criminal justice process.

## Partnerships & Engagement

The BCPS is committed to engagement and partnership with Indigenous individuals and communities to improve the criminal justice system.