

Attachment #1

Key Drivers for Changing the Police Act

The Province has identified the following key drivers to support change in the Police Act:

- economic challenges and recovery efforts associated with COVID-19;
- social media — the public is demanding more transparency and quicker response to events questioning police actions;
- growing policing budget pressures;
- inequities in the funding, structure and the delivery of police services;
- rapidly evolving technology, which may be underutilized in policing but is also very costly;
- deteriorating RCMP assets and capital infrastructure;
- the city of Surrey's transition to a municipal police service;
- growing demands and expectations on police to respond to complex social issues, such as mental health, addictions and harm reduction where other professional services may be better suited; and
- the commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.¹

¹ <https://www.leg.bc.ca/documents-data/committees-transcripts/20200921am-PoliceActReform-Virtual-n4>