



Date: February 28, 2018

Opening Ceremony - Prince George Indigenous Court

The opening ceremony for the **Prince George Indigenous Court** will take place at the Prince George Civic Centre, 808 Canada Games Way, on Friday, March 23, 2018 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. **Members of the public are invited to attend.** Lunch will be provided after the ceremony.

An Indigenous Court is a sentencing court. Based on a restorative and holistic approach, it provides an Indigenous perspective to sentencing Indigenous persons who have acknowledged responsibility for a criminal offence. After completing an orientation program, local Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers participate by offering advice on a healing plan. The judge may incorporate the healing plan in the sentence given to the Indigenous person who has pled guilty.

This Indigenous Court is B.C.'s sixth. Others operate in New Westminster, North Vancouver, Duncan, Kamloops, and the Nicola Valley (Merritt). The Prince George Indigenous Court will begin sitting monthly in April.

Thomas J. Crabtree, Chief Judge
Provincial Court of British Columbia

For more information, please contact the Legal Officer, Office of the Chief Judge, at info@provinciacourt.bc.ca.