



Province of
British Columbia

Ministry of
Attorney General

Office of
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Court Services Branch
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45220-01

February 12, 1997

To: **Members of the Bar**
(to be distributed via the court registries)

Re. Audio Recording in the Supreme Court

An announcement was made today by the Attorney General that audio recording will be introduced in all the Supreme Courts. The B.C. Branch of the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society of British Columbia have been advised of this initiative.

When this initiative is fully implemented this spring, the official record of the court will be the audio tape. The Bar will, however, be allowed to engage an official reporter to record the hearing, at their expense.

The production of transcripts will be a private arrangement between the requester and the transcript producer.

Implementation of audio recording will start May 5, 1997 in all Supreme Courts except New Westminster and the Vancouver Law Courts. Implementation in these two locations will be July 7, 1997.

Information on the process for engaging an official reporter and requesting transcript will be distributed to you well in advance of the implementation dates. The Branch will also be working with selected members of the Bar, the Judiciary and the transcription community to ensure that all implementation issues will be fully addressed.

Yours sincerely,

J. P. Malcolm McAvity
Assistant Deputy Attorney General
Court Services Branch