

WRONGFUL PROSECUTION COST ANALYSIS

Rex v. Caddell

File No. 187353 | BC Provincial Court – Victoria
Forensic Analysis of Public Expenditure by Jurisdiction

Prepared: December 11, 2025

Prosecution Period: November 2022 – December 2025 (37 months)

Trial Period: December 8-12, 2025 (5 days scheduled)

Charges: 9 counts (Building Bylaw ×7, Zoning Bylaw ×2)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This forensic analysis quantifies the total public expenditure incurred in the prosecution of Christopher David Caddell for alleged municipal bylaw violations. Costs are allocated between the **District of Saanich (Municipal)** and the **Province of British Columbia (Provincial)** to demonstrate the burden on each jurisdiction.

Total Costs by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Low Estimate	High Estimate
District of Saanich (Municipal)	\$94,610	\$143,160
Province of British Columbia	\$24,996	\$37,969
Direct Costs Subtotal	\$119,606	\$181,129
Indirect Overhead (35%)	\$41,862	\$63,395
Contingency Reserve (15%)	\$17,941	\$27,169
GRAND TOTAL	\$179,409	\$271,693

Cost Allocation: Municipal 79% (\$141,700-\$214,500) | Provincial 21% (\$37,700-\$57,200)

Cost per Count: \$19,900 – \$30,200 per charge (9 counts)

1. DISTRICT OF SAANICH COSTS (MUNICIPAL)

The following costs are borne directly by Saanich taxpayers through the municipal budget.

1.1 Bylaw Enforcement Officers

Officer	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
Robert Carrie (BEO)	\$45	80-120	\$3,600	\$5,400
Greg Nelson (BEO)	\$45	200-300	\$9,000	\$13,500
Dean Ridley (Supervisor)	\$55	100-150	\$5,500	\$8,250
Subtotal			\$18,100	\$27,150

1.2 Building Inspection Services

Official	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
Roy Thomassen (Manager)	\$65	60-100	\$3,900	\$6,500
Dennis Mirabelli (SBO)	\$55	20-40	\$1,100	\$2,200
Doug Roberts (Sr. Manager)	\$75	30-50	\$2,250	\$3,750
Subtotal			\$7,250	\$12,450

1.3 External Legal Counsel (Prosecution)

Legal Service	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
Warrant Preparation & ITO	\$400	10-20	\$5,000	\$8,000
File Preparation	\$400	20-30	\$8,000	\$12,000
Trial Preparation (5-day trial)	\$400	70-110	\$28,000	\$44,000
Trial Attendance (5 days)	\$400	40-50	\$16,000	\$20,000
Disclosure & Ongoing Advice	\$400	15-25	\$6,000	\$10,000
Subtotal			\$63,000	\$94,000

1.4 Saanich Police & Security

Police Service	Low Est.	High Est.
Warrant Execution (Jul 12/23)	\$450	\$600
Feb 2/23 Attempted Entry	\$200	\$300
Coordination, File Review & Documentation	\$780	\$1,300
Locksmith Services (Prices Lock & Safe)	\$400	\$600
Vehicle, Equipment & Photography	\$400	\$660
Subtotal	\$2,230	\$3,460

1.5 Administrative Costs

Administrative Item	Low Est.	High Est.
FOI Request Processing (8+ requests)	\$3,000	\$5,000
Disclosure Preparation	\$700	\$1,100
Section 57 Title Filing (LTSA)	\$150	\$200
Photography/Evidence Collection	\$180	\$300
Subtotal	\$4,030	\$6,600

Municipal Costs Summary

Municipal Category	Low Est.	High Est.
Bylaw Enforcement Officers	\$18,100	\$27,150
Building Inspection Services	\$7,250	\$12,450
External Legal Counsel	\$63,000	\$94,000
Police & Security	\$2,230	\$3,460
Administrative Costs	\$4,030	\$6,100

TOTAL MUNICIPAL COSTS	\$94,610	\$143,160
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2. PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA COSTS

The following costs are borne by all BC taxpayers through the provincial justice system budget (Ministry of Attorney General, Court Services Branch).

2.1 Judicial Costs

BC Provincial Court judges earn \$343,000/year (~\$165/hr). Judicial Justices earn \$172,000/year (~\$83/hr).

Judicial Service	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
Trial (5 days × 6 hrs)	\$165	30	\$4,950	\$4,950
Preparation & Review	\$165	4-8	\$660	\$1,320
Deliberation & Judgment	\$165	8-16	\$1,320	\$2,640
Pre-trial Appearances	\$165	4-6	\$660	\$990
Judicial Justice (Warrant)	\$83	2-3	\$166	\$249
Subtotal			\$7,756	\$10,149

2.2 Sheriff Services (BC Sheriff Service)

Deputy sheriffs (\$68,000-\$77,000/yr, ~\$35/hr) provide courtroom security. Minimum 2 required per courtroom.

Sheriff Service	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
Trial Days (5 days × 6 hrs × 2)	\$35	60	\$2,100	\$2,100
Pre-trial Appearances (× 2)	\$35	8-12	\$280	\$420
Warrant Hearing	\$35	4-6	\$140	\$210
Subtotal			\$2,520	\$2,730

2.3 Court Clerk & Registry Services

Clerk Service	Rate/Hr	Hours	Low Est.	High Est.
In-Court Clerk (5 trial days)	\$30	35-40	\$1,050	\$1,200
Pre/Post Court Administration	\$30	10-15	\$300	\$450
Registry File Management (37 mo)	\$30	20-30	\$600	\$900
Subtotal			\$1,950	\$2,550

2.4 Facilities, Technology & Administration

Court Infrastructure	Low Est.	High Est.
Courtroom Facilities (5 trial + appearances)	\$2,000	\$2,800
Court Recording Systems	\$600	\$1,000
Transcript Services	\$1,500	\$3,000
Digital Evidence Systems	\$300	\$400
Case Scheduling & Administration	\$2,700	\$4,200
Summons & Witness Coordination	\$800	\$1,200
ITO Processing & Warrant Admin	\$500	\$800
Court Security Supplemental	\$400	\$600
Technical Safety BC Coordination	\$970	\$1,540
Subtotal	\$9,770	\$15,540

2.5 Witness Time (Provincial Employees)

Provincial Witness	Low Est.	High Est.
TSBC Inspector (if called)	\$0	\$500
Subtotal	\$0	\$500

Provincial Costs Summary

Provincial Category	Low Est.	High Est.
Judicial Costs	\$7,756	\$10,149
Sheriff Services	\$2,520	\$2,730
Court Clerks & Registry	\$1,950	\$2,550
Facilities, Tech & Administration	\$9,770	\$15,540
Provincial Witness Time	\$0	\$500
Municipal Witness Time (Court)	\$3,000	\$6,500
TOTAL PROVINCIAL COSTS	\$24,996	\$37,969

3. DECEMBER 12, 2025 – FINAL TRIAL DAY (ESTIMATED)

The following estimates project costs for December 12, 2025, the final scheduled day of trial, which will include the Charter ruling and potentially closing arguments or sentencing.

Cost Item	Rate	Est. Hours	Est. Cost	Borne By
Judge L. Mrozinski	\$165/hr	6	\$990	Province
Deputy Sheriffs (× 2)	\$35/hr	12	\$420	Province
Court Clerk	\$30/hr	7	\$210	Province
Courtroom Facilities	\$250/day	1 day	\$250	Province
Prosecution Counsel	\$400/hr	8	\$3,200	Municipal
Greg Nelson (witness standby)	\$45/hr	6	\$270	Municipal
Court Recording	lump sum	—	\$100	Province

December 12 Provincial Cost: ~\$1,970

December 12 Municipal Cost: ~\$3,470

December 12 Total Cost: ~\$5,440

4. KEY FINDINGS & COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Metric	Value
Total Prosecution Cost	\$179,409 – \$271,693
Municipal Portion (Saanich)	\$141,700 – \$214,500 (79%)
Provincial Portion (BC)	\$37,700 – \$57,200 (21%)
Cost Per Count (9 charges)	\$19,934 – \$30,188
Maximum Potential Fines	\$70,300
Cost-to-Recovery Ratio	2.6:1 to 3.9:1 (net loss)
Prosecution Duration	37 months

Critical Observations

- **Guaranteed Financial Loss:** Even maximum fines (\$70,300) cannot recover prosecution costs. The prosecution is a net loss regardless of outcome.
- **Provincial Burden on All BC Taxpayers:** \$37,700-\$57,200 in provincial costs are borne by all British Columbians, not just Saanich residents.
- **Legal Risk:** Prosecution relies on officers lacking Building Act s.10 qualifications (Nelson, Carrie, Ridley) and methodology rejected in *Kinney v. Saanich* (2025 BCSC 1132).
- **No Safety Hazard:** Property posed no demonstrated risk to public safety. Violations are permit paperwork deficiencies, not Building Code substantive failures.
- **Resource Misallocation:** Prosecution consumed ~10-15% of Saanich's annual bylaw budget while satisfaction ratings declined from 50% to 29%.

*Prepared for litigation support and policy analysis
All amounts in Canadian dollars (CAD)*