



INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
BC Coroners Service

Dates scheduled for coroner's inquest into death of Edward James Waddell

VICTORIA – A public inquest into the death of Edward James Waddell will begin on June 12, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at the Kelowna Law Courts, 1355 Water St.

The death of Waddell, 40, was reported to the BC Coroners Service on April 1, 2017.

Under Section 18(2) of the Coroners Act, inquests are mandatory for any deaths that occur while a person was detained by or in the custody of a peace officer.

A coroner's inquest is a public inquiry that serves three primary functions:

- to determine the facts related to a death including the identity of the deceased and how, when, where and by what means the individual came to their death, as well as a classification for the death;
- to make recommendations, where appropriate and supported by evidence, to prevent deaths in similar circumstances; and
- to ensure public confidence that the circumstances surrounding the death of an individual will not be overlooked, concealed or ignored.

Margaret Janzen, presiding coroner, and a jury will hear evidence from witnesses under oath to determine the facts surrounding this death. The jury will have the opportunity to make recommendations aimed at preventing deaths under similar circumstances. A jury must not make any finding of legal responsibility or express any conclusion of law.

Livestreaming allows the public and media to virtually attend an inquest. The same rules apply as for in-person attendance at an inquest. Reproduction, broadcasting and publishing, including through social media, of the BC Coroners Service live video stream and its content is prohibited.

To access the livestream, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death/coroners-service/inquest-schedule-jury-findings-verdicts/inquestlivestream>

Learn More:

For information about inquests, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death/coroners-service/inquest-schedule-jury-findings-verdicts>

BC Coroners Service: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/coroners/>

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