



December 8, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter. I do appreciate your taking the time to express your concerns regarding fossil fuel extraction and development in BC. I understand you're interested in alternative energy sources and, on your behalf, I've sent a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines, so that he, too, has an opportunity to review your feedback. I can assure you that the Minister and his staff will include your comments in related discussions moving forward.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Christy Clark'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Bill Bennett



December 8, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter. I do appreciate your taking the time to express your concerns regarding mining proposals in BC.

I want to assure you that we are doing our best to ensure that B.C.'s environment and unique regions will remain a source of pride for British Columbians while balancing the need to generate economic opportunities for the province. These efforts include extensive consultations with communities, industry, First Nations, and environmental organizations along with a formal environmental assessment process to ensure that any development of resources in our province is undertaken in a responsible manner. If you would like to get more details relating to the environmental assessment process and opportunities for public involvement, you can contact the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) at:

Environmental Assessment Office
2nd Floor 836 Yates St
PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9V1

On your behalf, I've sent a copy of your letter to the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines, for his review and consideration as well. I can assure you that the Minister and his staff will be including your comments in related discussions moving forward.

Again, thank you for writing - it was good to receive your feedback on this matter.

Sincerely,



Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Bill Bennett

Office of the
Premier

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

website:
www.gov.bc.ca



December 8, 2014

Bruce Belliveau
Chair
Canadian Navel Memorial Trust
Suite 7, 1657 Bedford Row
Halifax, NS B3J 1T1

Dear Mr. Belliveau:

Thank you for your letter and the presentation relating to the *Battle of the Atlantic*. I commend you for the important work you are doing to raise awareness and educate people about the incredible achievements of that time in our history.

The *Battle of the Atlantic Place* project sounds like a great idea. As our discussions for our country's 150th Anniversary celebration begin, I hope you can appreciate that a number of requests for support are coming our way. We will be looking at all of those requests over the next year, as we prepare for this milestone sesquicentennial.

I appreciate your sharing your proposal with me; I will be sharing it with my Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat for inclusion in those related discussions.

It was good to hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Christy Clark'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christy Clark
Premier



December 10, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter regarding poverty. I welcome the opportunity to let you know what government is doing in this regard.

We believe you don't need legislated targets to achieve good outcomes. In addition to lifting people out of poverty through job creation and improved access to training for well-paying jobs, our government is working hard to grow our provincial economy in order to generate more revenue to direct towards health, education and social service supports.

Government also provides direct assistance to those who are struggling: 19,000 families receive subsidized housing and a further 9,800 families receive rental assistance; we exempt over one million low-income British Columbians from paying income tax; and, more than 800,000 residents do not pay Medical Service Plan premiums. We've increased the minimum wage to \$10.25 per hour, making it among the highest in Canada. Budget 2014 provides funding for the B.C. School Fruit Vegetable Nutrition Program, which now includes milk, and which provides fresh foods to elementary schools free of charge. We've also budgeted to start an Early Childhood Tax Benefit in 2015, which will make child care more affordable.

I've enclosed an Information Bulletin from earlier this year which outlines a pilot project against poverty that I think you will find of interest. If you'd like to see the entire report on the project, use this online link at http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/pdf/community_poverty_reduction.pdf.

Poverty, which is a complex challenge, needs to be approached from many directions, and we're doing that. We know there's more to be done, and I appreciate your interest. I encourage you to check in with the government's website often for all the latest news on our efforts to address poverty and homelessness. The main page can be reached at www.gov.bc.ca; for news releases only, use www.news.gov.bc.ca.

Again, thank you for writing, and I wish you all the best in your studies.

Sincerely,



Christy Clark
Premier

Encl.

INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
2014CFD0014-000647
May 13, 2014

Ministry of Children and Family Development

First poverty pilot progress report is now posted

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When the pilot projects launched in May 2012, UBCM recommended the participating communities – Cranbrook, Kamloops, New Westminster, Port Hardy, Prince George, Stewart and Surrey – to reflect a mix of B.C.'s metro, urban, rural and remote communities. Family consultants from the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) were assigned to work collaboratively with community partners to build local teams, with the goals of identifying the key barriers families face, connecting families directly to the services they need, and creating community plans that innovatively work towards addressing these barriers.

Through their work in each community, the MCFD family consultants confirmed that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to poverty. Different communities expressed different priorities based on the needs of their local families. For example, in Stewart, participating families identified transportation and food security as barriers; whereas in Kamloops, health, housing and education were recognized as among the most important issues to address. A key priority in all communities was to ensure that the families knew about the existing programs and services offered by community agencies and all levels of government, and that they were also supported in accessing them.

Families who participated directly in the pilot projects described the work as “priceless.” Their quality of life improved, barriers were lifted and stress levels declined. Many families either were not aware of the services and supports available, or did not know how to access them prior to their participation in the pilot projects. The one-to-one support they received made a difference in their lives. One parent said their family consultant “has taken a difficult situation and has proceeded to make it an easy one.”

The Province will continue to target initiatives that offer safe and affordable housing, ensure food security and support the overall health for British Columbians, and will continue to work with municipal, federal and community services partners to build on the foundation of the work to date. The Province's actions to support this progress report's findings include:

- Asking that Fraser-Nicola MLA Jackie Tegart act as a poverty liaison. She will visit each pilot community and work with all levels of government and community organizations to help move their community plans forward.
- Working with major industry and small business to increase employment opportunities and advance economic development, skills training and job growth.

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect



December 10, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter regarding homelessness. I welcome the opportunity to let you know what government is doing in this regard.

We believe you don't need legislated targets to achieve good outcomes. In addition to lifting people out of poverty through job creation and improved access to training for well-paying jobs, our government is working hard to grow our provincial economy in order to generate more revenue to direct towards health, education and social service supports.

Government also provides direct assistance to those who are struggling: 19,000 families receive subsidized housing and a further 9,800 families receive rental assistance. Of course, the winter months create additional pressures, so again, the B.C. government will provide up to \$1.6 million to ensure more than 1,100 temporary emergency shelter spaces are available, serving more than 90 communities.

I've enclosed some material for your review which touch on our province's Housing Matters BC program and a recent agreement with the Federal Government to invest in the prevention of homelessness. I think you will find this information of interest.

Homelessness is a complex challenge and we're approaching this human tragedy from a number of directions. I encourage you to check in with the government's website often for all the latest news on our efforts to address poverty and homelessness. The main page can be reached at www.gov.bc.ca; to go to the news releases directly, use www.news.gov.bc.ca.

Again, thank you for writing, and I wish you all the best in your studies.

Sincerely,

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Christy Clark
Premier

Encs. 4

OPINION-EDITORIAL

Building for the future: Housing Matters

By Rich Coleman

Deputy Premier, Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing

January 2, 2015

VICTORIA – As housing matters to all of us, the time has come to look to forward, to direct our investments to meet the coming housing needs of British Columbians.

That's why last year the B.C. government updated our housing strategy, Housing Matters BC, to better serve our future needs. We refocused our strategy to enhance affordability, increase confidence for renters, homeowners and landlords and promote safe, healthy communities.

We face different challenges today than we did when we first launched the strategy seven years ago. Demand for affordable housing is increasing and availability of rental units is decreasing.

As part of our strategy, we will establish improved licensing requirements for home inspectors this year that will create a common professional standard for home inspectors. Improved standards will help to make sure homebuyers have confidence that their home inspectors are qualified to help them make one of the largest investments of their lives.

We are also creating more flexible options for rental assistance so more as people can choose where they want to live and there are no waitlists. For instance, we've increased the average monthly rental supplements for those in need. On average, families receiving rental assistance now receive an extra \$40 per month and seniors now receive an extra \$34 per month.

Rental assistance is so effective we created the new Homeless Prevention Program to provide people at-risk of homelessness with rent supplements to help them stay in the private market. Together with the federal government we are investing \$62.5 million over the next five years to support up to 4,000 people.

By providing assistance to people at-risk – women fleeing violence, youth leaving care, seniors leaving the hospital – we can help prevent them from ending up on the street. The first year of the Homeless Prevention Program has resulted in these services being based in nearly 30 communities throughout the province.

We know we can't do this alone, so we have committed to developing partnerships that create more choices and increase affordable housing options for all British Columbians.

NEWS RELEASE COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
2014MNGD0071-001542
October 17, 2014

Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for
Housing
Employment and Social Development Canada

Canada and B.C. invest in homeless prevention

SURREY – British Columbians at risk of becoming homeless have more support to find homes in the private market.

The new Homeless Prevention Program will make rent supplements and support services available to four at-risk groups.

The Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) assists youth transitioning out of foster care, women who have experienced violence or are at risk of violence, individuals leaving the hospital and correctional systems, and Aboriginal people. Monthly supplements provided to participants to put towards housing costs are funded through the Canada-B.C. Investment in Affordable Housing. The Province will also contribute additional funding to support services that connect clients to community supports, helping them to maintain successful tenancies. This will help prevent vulnerable British Columbians from becoming homeless.

Quick facts:

- The governments of Canada and B.C. will provide an estimated investment of \$62.5 million over five years to the Homeless Prevention Program for rent supplements under the Canada-B.C. Agreement for Investment in Affordable Housing: <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/corp/nero/nere/2011/2011-07-04-0930.cfm>
- The HPP is available in six communities around British Columbia and will grow to over 30 communities around the province.
- Over the next five years, it is estimated that the program will provide housing and support for up to 4,000 people.

Quotes:

The Honourable Candice Bergen, Minister of State (Social Development) —

“Our Government has taken action to invest in housing and initiatives to combat homelessness because we recognize that having safe, permanent housing is an important first step towards a new transition in life. With their lives on track, individuals are then able to gain and upgrade skills which lead to jobs.”

Rich Coleman, Deputy Premier of B.C. and Minister Responsible for Housing —

“Rent supplements offer a more flexible option for many people because they can choose where to live based on what suits their needs. The Homeless Prevention Program builds on our success with other rental assistance programs aimed at addressing homelessness by taking a

BACKGROUND

For Immediate Release
2014MNGD0071-001542
October 17, 2014

Ministry of Natural Gas Development and Responsible for
Housing
Employment and Social Development Canada

HPP Communities and Operators – Phase I

Community: Courtenay
Non-Profit Operator: Dawn to Dawn Action on Homelessness Society
Client Group: All

Community: Kamloops
Non-Profit Operator: Kamloops AIDS Society
Client Group: All

Community: Richmond
Non-Profit Operator: Chimo Community Services Society
Client Group: All

Community: Surrey
Non-Profit Operator: Options Community Services Society
Client Group: All

Community: Surrey
Non-Profit Operator: Atira Women's Resource Society
Client Group: Women

Community: Vancouver
Non-Profit Operator: Atira Women's Resource Society
Client Group: Women

Community: Vancouver
Non-Profit Operator: The Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Association
Client Group: Women

Community: Victoria
Non-Profit Operator: Pacifica Housing Advisory Association
Client Group: All

Comments from program participants

"Having the support and guidelines of not using, that's what's helping me."

"Feeling safe and secure at home helps me stay in recovery."

"It's nice to feel positive about my living situation, to feel respectable."

"I'm just really grateful for the landlord accepting me and supporting me."

Addiction Recovery Program

A partnership between BC Housing and Vancouver Coastal Health

How can I get more information, or make a referral?

Access Central – Detox Referral Line

Toll-free number: **1-866-658-1221**

Hours of operation: Mon – Sun, 9am – 9pm

December 2011

Addiction Recovery Program



INFORMATION BULLETIN

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2014CFD0014-000647
May 13, 2014

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Families who participated directly in the pilot projects described the work as “priceless.” Their quality of life improved, barriers were lifted and stress levels declined. Many families either were not aware of the services and supports available, or did not know how to access them prior to their participation in the pilot projects. The one-to-one support they received made a difference in their lives. One parent said their family consultant “has taken a difficult situation and has proceeded to make it an easy one.”

The Province will continue to target initiatives that offer safe and affordable housing, ensure food security and support the overall health for British Columbians, and will continue to work with municipal, federal and community services partners to build on the foundation of the work to date. The Province's actions to support this progress report's findings include:

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- Working with major industry and small business to increase employment opportunities and advance economic development, skills training and job growth.



December 11, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts about the sale of raw, unpasteurized milk products in our province.

It is clear from your letter that you have put a lot of thought into this, and we have taken note of your concerns. On your behalf, I have sent a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Terry Lake, Minister of Health. I can assure you that the Minister and his staff will be including your feedback in any related discussions.

Again, thank you for writing. It's important for government to know what's on the minds of British Columbians and I appreciate your taking the time to share your concerns.

I wish you all the best this holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christy Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christy" being more prominent than the last name "Clark".

Christy Clark
Premier

cc: Honourable Terry Lake



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Christy Clark
Premier

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Christy Clark
Premier

cc: Honourable Terry Lake



December 11, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter. I appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts regarding health care services and funding.

I want to take this opportunity to assure you that government and the Ministry of Health are committed to continuing our efforts to strengthen the health care system. We are working hard to ensure a strong and sustainable system is in place that will ensure all British Columbians in need of care have access to the best possible resources and supports. A lot has been done over the years and the results have been encouraging. As we increase health investments by \$2.5 billion over the next three years, we look forward to experiencing ongoing improvements.

Again, we want to thank you for taking the time to write. We do appreciate hearing from you and wish you all the best this holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Christy Clark
Premier



December 11, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your card. We appreciate your taking the time to let us know your thoughts about our education system and the recent labour disruption.

I want to take this opportunity to assure you that our government and the Ministry of Education absolutely recognize that British Columbia is fortunate to have such well-educated and enthusiastic teachers across the province. Teachers work hard to inspire students and give them the best education, and we believe that hard work deserved a fair and negotiated settlement that allows for long-term stability.

I also want assure you that our government remains committed to improving the public education system for the benefit of students, teachers and all British Columbians. We recognize how important having a strong public education system is to not only students, but for the future of our province. We are working towards a more innovative education system that meets the needs of students today and enables them thrive in a dynamic and rapidly evolving world. The Ministry of Education is dedicated to ensuring that students have opportunities to explore their passions, build on their individual strengths and reach their goals.

...../2

If you have not already done so, you may want to take a look at the following website, <http://www.bcedplan.ca/>. This comprehensive site outlines the BC Education Plan, while also providing a forum for public engagement. Ideas and suggestions can also be shared through the mail. I have provided the mailing address below for your convenience:

BC's Education Plan
c/o Ministry of Education
PO Box 9161 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9H1

Again, thank you for taking the time to write. I do appreciate hearing from you and I hope you find this response helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written in a cursive style.

Christy Clark
Premier



December 15, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter and attached documents. Let me start by expressing my sincere condolences to you for the S. 22 I know the experience you went through was both traumatic and difficult.

I have asked staff to review the materials you provided. I understand the responses you have received from the Patient Care Quality Office and other feedback has not been to your satisfaction.

I hope you can appreciate that as Premier I cannot personally get involved in matters such as this. I note that in your letter to Minister Lake, you have now sought legal advice on how best to proceed. I hope that brings you the answers you need.

Again, my thoughts are with you; I know none of what you have experienced S. 22 can be easy to endure.

Sincerely,



Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Suzanne Anton
Honourable Terry Lake



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

December 15, 2014

Richard Elliot
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
600-1240 Bay Street
Toronto, ON

Dear Mr. Elliot:

Thank you for your letter. I do appreciate your taking the time to express your concerns regarding Federal Bill C-36, The Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act. I've taken note of your comments; it's clear this is a very important issue to you and the organization and people who are supporting your efforts.

On your behalf, I have sent a copy of your letter to the Honourable Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. She, too, will appreciate your feedback and include your suggestion in any related discussions.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write – it was good to hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written over a horizontal line.

Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Suzanne Anton



December 16, 2014

His Worship Merlin Nichols
Mayor of the District of Chetwynd
Box 357
Chetwynd, BC V0C 1J0

Dear Mayor Nichols:

Thank you for your letter and the attached copy of your correspondence to Ernst & Young in response to their report on municipal expenditures.

I appreciate receiving your perspective on the report and I've shared it with the Honourable Coralee Oakes, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, for her information as well.

Thank you again for sharing your views with me. I wish you all the best during the Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

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Christy Clark
Premier

pc: Honourable Coralee Oakes



December 17, 2014

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

December 17, 2014

Joe Gunn, Executive Director
Citizens for Public Justice
501 – 309 Cooper Street
Ottawa, ON K2P 0G5

Dear Mr. Gunn:

Thank you for your letter regarding a minimum residency requirement for eligibility of social assistance and your concern around the potential impact of such a policy upon vulnerable groups, particularly refugee claimants. I appreciate receiving the views of your organization.

I wanted to let you know that I have shared your correspondence with our Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation, the Honourable Don McRae. We can assure you that your comments will be included in any related discussions.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts on this matter for government's consideration. I wish you all the best during this Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Christy Clark
Premier

pc: Honourable Don McRae



December 19, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter regarding B.C.'s carbon reduction plan. It is clear from your comments that this is a very important issue for you, and I'm glad you took the time to write to me.

I want to assure you that government takes the preservation and protection of our environment very seriously, and reducing our carbon footprint is a priority.

I see you've already shared your concerns with the Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines. On your behalf, I've sent a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment, for her review and consideration as well. I can assure you that the Minister and her staff will include your comments in related discussions moving forward.

Again, thank you for writing and bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,



Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Mary Polak



December 19, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you so much for your letter regarding the shipping of oil in B.C. waters. I understand that this is a very important issue for you, and it's so good to see young British Columbians taking an interest in these issues.

I want you to know that government takes the protection of our environment and wildlife very seriously, and we take this into consideration when discussing projects that would increase the shipment of oil.

I have sent your letter to the Minister of Environment as well, so she is able to review your concerns.

Thank you again for writing -- and Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written over a printed name and title.

Christy Clark
Premier

Pc: Honourable Mary Polak



December 19, 2014

S. 22

Dear S. 22

Thank you for your letter. I do appreciate your taking the time to share your concerns regarding the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Expansion project. I understand this is an important issue for you, as it is for many British Columbians, and I've taken note of your comments.

As you may be aware, any heavy oil pipeline project must satisfy our five conditions before BC will consider supporting it.

The five conditions are:

- Successful completion of the environmental review process. In the case of the Northern Gateway Pipeline, that means a recommendation by the National Energy Board Joint Review Panel that the project proceed.
- World-leading marine oil-spill response, prevention and recovery systems for B.C.'s coastline and ocean to manage and mitigate the risks and costs of heavy-oil pipelines and shipments.
- World-leading practices for land oil-spill prevention, response and recovery systems to manage and mitigate the risks and costs of heavy-oil pipelines.
- Legal requirements regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights are addressed, and First Nations are provided with the opportunities, information and resources necessary to participate in and benefit from a heavy-oil project.
- British Columbia receives a fair share of the fiscal and economic benefits of a proposed heavy-oil project that reflects the level, degree and nature of the risk borne by the government, the environment and taxpayers.

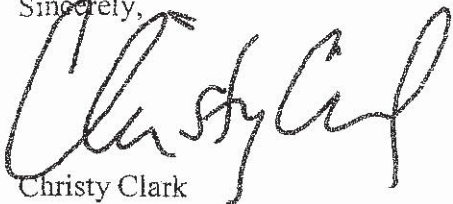
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The province has investor status in the National Energy Board (NEB) review of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Expansion project and we are actively representing the interests of the people of BC.

Ministry officials have been reviewing the information that was submitted by Kinder Morgan in its application and have followed up through the NEB process; they continue to work with the NEB review panel and Kinder Morgan to get the information that is needed. We are committed to ensuring that this project, if it does proceed, meets the highest standards of environmental protection and protects the people of British Columbia from financial and environmental risk.

Again, thank you for writing and bringing your concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christy Clark', written in a cursive style.

Christy Clark
Premier



A Message from Premier Christy Clark

Congratulations s. 22 as you celebrate your s. 22

You have certainly had a long and interesting life, faced and met many challenges, and you should feel very proud of all of your accomplishments.

Thank you for choosing to live in British Columbia and for s. 22 here for more than 50 years. I wish you a wonderful celebration and many more years of happiness.

Sincerely,

Christy Clark
Premier



December 2014

A Message from the Premier

to

S. 22

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to acknowledge your career with the Canadian Armed Forces. You have served your country and community with honour and loyalty, and for that you have earned the very high regard of your fellow service members, family, and friends.

The commitment that you have shown to carrying out your assignments, during your 24 years of service, has proven you to be a true role model to others. We are very fortunate to have dedicated people like you leading by example in our CAF, showing such pride in serving our country.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavours. I commend you for your fine work and contributions to the Canadian Armed Forces. On behalf of the people of British Columbia, I thank you for your dedication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Christy Clark'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christy Clark
Premier



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

December 2014

A Message from the Premier

to

S. 22

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to acknowledge your career with the Canadian Armed Forces. You have served your country and community with honour and loyalty, and for that you have earned the very high regard of your fellow service members, family, and friends.

The commitment that you have shown to carrying out your assignments, during your 17 years of service, has proven you to be a true role model to others. We are very fortunate to have dedicated people like you leading by example in our CAF, showing such pride in serving our country.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavours. I commend you for your fine work and contributions to the Canadian Armed Forces. On behalf of the people of British Columbia, I thank you for your dedication.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Christy Clark'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Christy Clark
Premier