

## **Key Messages**

- Welcome to Vancouver, British Columbia, home of the 2011 Grey Cup Game.
- Congratulations to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Eastern CFL champions, and to our own BC Lions, the Western CFL champs, who will play in tomorrow's big game.
- The Lions are coming off a great season that included one of the most inspiring turnarounds in CFL history after losing their first five games. They haven't looked back since then, finishing first in the West and beating the Edmonton Eskimos in the Western Final.
- They have the opportunity to be the first team to win the Grey Cup at home since the 1994 BC Lions.  
"Roar you Lions Roar!"

THANK KEITH (MORAY) FOR INTRODUCTION.

I'm honoured to speak here today at the Gala for the 99<sup>th</sup> Grey Cup game – Grey Cup 2011 – hosted here in Vancouver.

We welcome Prime Minister Stephen Harper (TBC), who's come to join us in celebrating this great Canadian institution.

And greetings as well, to CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon {**CO**-hawn}.

The Grey Cup game is a great Canadian celebration, one of the truly all-Canadian sporting events that unite fans and families from coast to coast to coast.

BC is delighted to be entrusted with hosting this year's national celebration. And I know football fans are having a great time in our city.

People are congregating from across the country, renewing old acquaintances, rekindling friendly rivalries, and receiving a warm welcome from British Columbians.

I congratulate both the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, Eastern CFL champions, and our own BC Lions, the Western champs, who will play in tomorrow's big game.

Our Lions are coming off a great season that included one of the most inspiring turnarounds in CFL history after losing their first five games.

They haven't looked back since then, at one point reeling off 8 consecutive wins, to finish first in the West, and following up last Sunday with a convincing Western Final victory over the Edmonton Eskimos.

Now they can become the first team to win the Grey Cup at home since the 1994 BC Lions.

I'm sure both the Leos and the Bombers will play with the sportsmanship, dedication and heart that the Canadian Football League has become renowned for...

And that tomorrow's game will be an inspiration to B.C. athletes, and another reminder that dedication and commitment to your goals can bring success in whatever sport you play.

We're all looking forward to a terrific game tomorrow, and may the best team win.

"Roar you Lions Roar!"

**-END-**

Nov 30 - Ledcor Announcement – 4 minutes

## **Ledcor Announcement Wednesday, November 30, 2011**

### **Event: what is it?**

- Ledcor is announcing the launch of Ledcor Resources and Transportation – a \$70M strategic investment.
- This new business is the result of Ledcor's purchase of Renew Resources in Merritt, BC's largest wood fibre salvage and processing operation.
- This purchase is coupled with a significant investment by Ledcor to add new tug and barging capacity to its existing marine group.
- Ledcor is merging its marine transportation resources with Renew's road transportation resources.
- Ledcor Resources and Transportation is the province's first one-stop provider of wood fibre sourcing and harvesting, processing and delivery to green energy producers.

### **Audience: who are they?**

Approx 60 attendees, including:

- Chief Michael Le Bourdais, Whispering Pines First Nation, Clinton
- Renew Resources Inc representatives (tbc)
- Fred Fominoff, General Manager, Howe Sound Pulp & Paper
- Employees and company reps

### **Audience: what do they want to hear?**

BC's government will do its part to help create an environment where businesses like Ledcor can continue to flourish.

### **Key Messages**

- Today's announcement will significantly benefit BC's green energy producers and our environment.
- Ledcor's \$70 million acquisition of Renew Resources in Merritt – may create up to 50 new jobs over the next few months.
- For the first time, BC's co-generation clean energy producers have one-stop shopping – a single provider that can source, harvest, process and transport the wood fibre that fuels their futures.

Thank MC, Mr. LEE COONFER (VP, Communications and Public Affairs, Ledcor Group)

ACKNOWLEDGE:

PAUL MCELLIGOTT, President and Chief Operating Officer, Ledcor Resources and Transportation

CHIEF MICHAEL LeBOURDAIS, Whispering Pines First Nation,

FRED FOMINOFF, GM of Howe Sound Pulp and Paper

Representatives of other stakeholders (tbc)

Good morning.

Thank you for inviting me to be here with you today.

We live in a province blessed with enormous untapped clean energy potential.

Consumers and industry are aware of it, and increasingly, they are demanding it.

It is generating new wealth and new jobs, and lowering greenhouse gas emissions – both at home and beyond B.C.'s borders.

And by taking trees that were killed by the mountain pine beetle and turning them into biofuel, we are turning one of our biggest challenges into a huge opportunity.

Clean energy is helping our environment and our economy.

It's about a new way of doing things – where keeping our air clean and making BC a healthier place for families is a business opportunity, not a burden. That should be a win-win in anyone's books.

That's why one of B.C.'s highest priorities is developing our clean and renewable energy resources.

We want to help industry make B.C. a leading clean energy powerhouse.

Today's announcement of a \$70 million investment by Ledcor is an important step towards achieving that goal.

By acquiring Renew Resources of Merritt, Ledcor has created a new Resources and Transportation business that can offer complete marine and surface transportation services.

This is very good news for BC's co-generation clean energy producers.

It means that for the first time, they will have a one-stop shop – a single provider that can source, harvest, process and deliver their wood fibre.

And for British Columbians, it means jobs.

Ledcor will defend 200 existing jobs and may create up to 50 new jobs over the next few months.

Jobs for marine workers, jobs for fibre harvesters, jobs for skilled truck drivers and jobs for dispatchers.

These are well-paid jobs – jobs that will help British Columbians strengthen their families and their communities.

In the BC Jobs Plan, we made a commitment to foster an environment where businesses like Ledcor can continue to flourish.

Part of that commitment means continuing to invest in smart road and marine transportation infrastructure, and our ports.



We are also creating a BC Jobs and Investment Board that will help remove barriers to new investment, and a Major Investment Board to provide personalized assistance to large investors.

Today's announcement sends a clear signal to the world that BC is still a safe harbour to invest in during turbulent economic times.

It is great news for the clean energy industry and for B.C.'s reputation as an environmental leader, as well as for the families that want to protect our spectacular province for the generations to come.

I want to offer my congratulations to Ledcor for their commitment and vision.

I wish you every success in this new venture.

Thank you.

**- END -**

## Key Messages:

1. The continued good relations between British Columbia and Japan are an essential part of our strong future together.
2. I look forward to the day when I can visit Japan and strengthen those ties even further.

It is a pleasure to be here this evening to celebrate Japan's National Day in honour of the Emperor's birthday on December 23rd.

By celebrating this special day, we unite with our friends to recognize their history, heritage, and traditions.

Today is a day we also celebrate B.C.'s formal ties to Japan that span over 120 years...

Ties that continue today as we assist Japan in their rebuilding of the Tōhoku region after the devastating effects of the one of the most powerful earthquakes and tsunamis on record.

I also want to thank the Japanese government for their hospitality during Minister Steve Thomson's visit to Tokyo in last month...

I hope the additional funding the Minister announced during his visit will continue to help the people and communities affected as they recover.

I look forward to visiting Japan in the near future to strengthen the ties that bind our two nations.

Tonight we celebrate those relationships that help us do business across the Pacific.

We are sitting at the Pacific edge of our nation, facing the future of the world in Japan and the rest of Asia.

Even though we are from different countries, we are not foreign to each other...

People of Japanese ancestry are woven into the fabric of our province, and they have brought your culture with them and made it part of our identity.

Our economy – and Canada's prosperity – depends on our international connections.

I will be working hard to ensure that continues well into our future together.

Congratulations on your national day of celebration.

-END-

[TOAST: Here's to the long standing and close relationship between Japan and British Columbia!]

**Chief Civilian Director, Independent Investigations Office  
Tuesday, December 6, 2011  
Speech length: 3 minutes**

**Event: what is it?**

- Announcement of Chief Civilian Director of IIO
- Delivering on B.C.'s goal to have IIO operational in first half of 2012

**Audience: who are they?**

- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General & Attorney General Shirley Bond
- Chief Civilian Director Richard Rosenthal
- David Loukidelis – Deputy Attorney General
- Jay Chalke – Assistant Deputy Minister (MAG)
- Clayton Pecknold – Assistant Deputy Minister (PSSG)
- Others tbd

**Key Messages**

- **We are delivering on our promise to establish the IIO.**
- **With a new director in place, we can move toward opening the office in 2012, as promised.**
- **This civilian-led office will ensure fairness in investigations of police officers and will help keep British Columbian families safe.**

## Announcement of Chief Civilian Director IIO

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Everyday our communities are kept safe by the men and women of our police services and they deserve our support.

And it is equally important the police earn and maintain the trust of the public.

Last year, I made a commitment that there would be police oversight and independent investigation of alleged instances of police misconduct in B.C.

When we introduced legislation in May, I knew we were well on our way to establishing the Independent Investigations Office...

To look into police incidents resulting in death or serious harm to civilians.

We reinforced this government's commitment to this new office in the Throne Speech.

Today, we move one step closer to having this important office operational.

I'm pleased to announce, after an extensive search, the Province's first chief civilian director for independent investigations is Richard Rosenthal.



## Announcement of Chief Civilian Director IIO

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Richard brings experience and background in independent oversight to establish this important office...

And his first tasks will be to hire staff, including investigators, and determine the structure of the office.

We are acting on recommendations delivered by the Braidwood and Davies reports...

And we are eager to get this office operational.

Police do an important job in our province, and we are pleased that this new office will support them...

By ensuring fairness and independence in the investigations it undertakes.

I would now like to introduce Richard to comment on his new role as Chief Civilian Director.

Welcome Richard.

- END -

# **The Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation**

## **Grand Opening**

**Monday, December 12, 2011**

**Speech Length: 5 minutes**

### **Event: what is it?**

- Grand opening of the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation.
- The new Centre was constructed through more than \$22.65 million from the provincial and federal governments under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program and a generous donation of \$5 million from community and industry donors, including \$2.5 million from the Jim Pattison Foundation.
- The Centre is one of the world's greenest buildings.

### **Audience: who are they?**

- Honourable Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education and MLA for North Vancouver-Lonsdale
- Bill Barisoff, MLA for Penticton
- Ben Stewart, MLA for Westside-Kelowna
- John Slater, MLA for Boundary Similkameen
- Eric Foster, MLA for Vernon-Monashee
- Norm Letnick, MLA for Kelowna-Lake Country
- Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources and MLA for Kelowna-Mission



- Jim Pattison
- Dan Albas, MP Okanagan-Coquihalla
- Lance Kayfish, Chair, Okanagan College Board of Governors
- Jim Hamilton, Okanagan College President (emcee)
- Student Speaker, Okanagan College Students' Union
- First Nations Elder, Penticton Indian Band

### Key Messages:

1. The Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence will make Okanagan College a leader in training knowledge-workers for the emerging clean technology industry.
2. Students at the Centre will be focussed on sustainable building technologies and processes, as well as research and development of alternative and renewable sources of energy, which will benefit all British Columbians.
3. The building itself will be used as a teaching tool to help train the next generation of trades people in green construction practices.

Thank you for inviting me here today.

For Okanagan College, for Penticton, and for British Columbia, the opening of this Centre is another step forward on our path as a world leader in the green economy.

This fall, we announced our BC Jobs Plan. It recognizes that BC's future is inextricably linked to what is happening across the Pacific.

Having recently returned from our Jobs and Trade Mission, I know one of the big issues China and India are interested in is ensuring that their huge economic growth is supported by environmentally sustainable practices.

During my time in Asia, I was able to see why China is leading the world in green energy investments, and why India is one of the world's largest producers of renewable energy. They know that the results could be disastrous if they aren't moving forward in a sustainable way.

So they are interested in our intellectual capital and want to find ways to share our knowledge with each other.

Here in the Okanagan, you have the potential to lead BC in offering our Pacific neighbours clean energy and green building solutions.

That means jobs at home: jobs in the Okanagan and jobs all over B.C.

Part of leading Canada means matching skills to jobs – the jobs of today and the jobs of the future.

And a lot of those jobs are green jobs, in businesses both small and large.

Green jobs are smart, high-tech jobs, in sectors that are helping create a better quality of life for people in BC and the world over.

BC's green economy shows us how sustainability can penetrate every part of the economy – how it can represent an opportunity for business instead of a burden.

Clean tech isn't just being used to save the environment – it's being used to save money too, by helping companies cut costs and increase sales.

And that means families enjoying cleaner air and water, while BC businesses enjoy a position of leadership in the world when it comes to sustainability.

The creation of the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation is helping us meet the green economy's long-term education and training needs.

It is a remarkable example of industry collaboration.

The Centre incorporates innovative incubation space, in co-operation with Accelerate Okanagan.

The goal of both the Centre and Accelerate Okanagan is to nurture a growing high-tech, green-focused industry for the South Okanagan-Similkameen.

That's why the Province was proud to announce that we would match the Western Economic Development's \$1 million for Accelerate Okanagan over the next three years...

This funding will create jobs in this region by supporting tech businesses looking to start up, accelerate and grow.

We know technology is a huge part of our future. It's one of the 8 key sectors we identified as having the most potential to bring new dollars into our economy.

Our province can become a powerhouse of solar, geo-thermal, and other clean energy sources...as well as in green building design and construction.

B.C. companies are already developing leading-edge technologies to turn our abundant natural resources into renewable energy for domestic use and export.

The Jim Pattison Centre will be an important place for applied research. In fact, the whole building is a "living lab" that will help teach knowledge-workers to fill jobs from the emerging green economy.

But none of this would have been possible without the centre's partners.

I'd like to thank the federal government for their \$13.5-million dollar investment, along with the Province's funding of \$9.1 million dollars through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program.



And a special thanks goes to Jim Pattison, who is just as committed as we are to promoting innovation in the green economy. Thank you for your generous \$2.5-million contribution.

It's hard not to get excited when we talk about clean energy technologies and green building design.

This building represents a tangible way that we can see, feel and touch BC's future.

Here in the Okanagan, we're going to harness this excitement about innovation, so that we can tell the world, Canada Starts Here.

And will you now please join me in welcoming Jim Pattison. This building will named the Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in recognition of his many contributions to British Columbia's development and growth over the past five decades and as a consequence of his generous pledge to this project.

Thank you.

-END-

## Key Messages:

1. The care and protection of First Nation children and families are a sacred and shared responsibility.
2. We will work in unity while acknowledging the unique strengths, practices and customs of each of the South Island indigenous communities.
3. We share the vision and commitment to restore, revitalize and strengthen the services in an effort to address gaps and socio-economic barriers impacting the well-being of children and families.

**THANK YOU TO THE ESQUIMALT AND SONGHEES  
FIRST NATIONS FOR WELCOMING US TO THEIR  
TRADITIONAL TERRITORY THIS MORNING.**

- Gathered chiefs, elders
- Members of the South Island Wellness Society.
- Minister of Children and Family development Mary McNeil
- Victoria Native Friendship Centre executive director Bruce Parisian

**I'M HONoured TO BE HERE TODAY WITH NINE  
SOUTH ISLAND FIRST NATIONS TO CELEBRATE THIS  
GREAT OCCASION.**

This historic accord between the Province and First Nation governments will protect and enhance the wellness of children and family on southern Vancouver Island.

This is a celebration of partnerships.

As a mother, I know how important it is for ALL children to be part of strong families.

To do that, we have to address the social, economic and historic factors that make aboriginal children and families vulnerable.



We must take an integrated and holistic approach to child and family services based upon the strengths, customs and traditional practices of BC's Aboriginal communities. I was told once by a First Nation elder that what's important for all of us is to build a circle of love and support around every child.

That is what we are committing to do here today.

## MAKING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES MEANS BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES.

For the nine First Nations represented here today, this means providing services that reflect each community's unique traditions and culture.

Together, we share the vision and commitment to restore, revitalize and strengthen the services in an effort to address gaps and socio-economic barriers that impact the well-being of Aboriginal children and families.

This accord is not just a document. It is a commitment by all of us to help create healthier children, healthier parents, and healthier communities.

I want to thank the South Island Wellness Society for coordinating a child-centred community engagement process that begins with children and youth...

But will expand outward to form that circle of love that includes elders, caregivers and families.

My government will continue to dedicate ourselves to building government-to-government relationships with aboriginal communities.

It's not about government saying, "I know what you need. Here's a program that I've got that's going to fill it"... because we almost never succeed that way.

What government needs to do say "what do you need and how can we work together to do that?" That is what we are doing here.

We all represent different people, different communities, but at the end of the day we need to work together so that our children, youth, and families in each of our communities are looked after – now and in the future.

That is the definition of families first.

-END-

**Gaming Grants**  
**Wednesday, January 11, 2012**  
**5 minutes**

**Event: what is it?**

- Announcement of release of Community Gaming Grant report and government's response.
- This is another great example of open government at work – responding directly to what people tell us through forums like town hall meetings and community consultation. They result in improvements like the police Independent Investigation Office and the Auditor General for Local Government.

**Audience: who are they?**

- Representatives of all non-profit community groups that rely on gaming grants, particularly adult arts and sports organizations, environmental groups and animal welfare agencies who have not received grants during the past three years.
- Others tbc

**Key Messages**

- These non-profits do tremendous work in their communities.
- We are releasing Skip Triplett's report.
- We're responding to the report by increasing gaming grants to \$135 million annually, beginning in 2011/12.
- This \$15-million boost reinstates eligibility for environmental, animal welfare and adult sports and arts groups.

Non-profit groups do tremendous work in their communities.

They connect with people in a unique and personal way that government is just not able to do.

They are agile and react to the needs of community with quickness and provide essential services to many British Columbians.

It is a year to the day that I promised to review the funding formula for gaming grants and today I am proud to say we will be boosting the funding for gaming grants to \$135 million dollars starting this fiscal year, an increase of \$15 million dollars.

And it starts next week.

We're going to have a special intake of applications immediately to make sure these groups are eligible to receive grants this fiscal year.

That \$15-million boost in funding will reinstate funding for groups focused on the environment, animal welfare, and adult arts and sports.

Last year, I appointed Skip Triplett to conduct an independent review and talk to people in their own communities about gaming grants.

More than 1,700 people took part in the process, and I want to thank them for their participation.

It helped us shape our decisions and has brought us here today.

Today, we're making Skip's report public...

And announcing some of the ways we will make sure the system brings more certainty and sustainability to these groups.

This is an example of what open government is all about... listening to people.

It's about a different kind of government, one that listens, and then turns what it hears into action.

Open government matters because it gives people confidence that government is working WITH them, not doing things TO them.



British Columbians came out and Skip saw more than 300 presentations in 19 community forums. He also received more than 500 written submissions.

These people told us how we can improve the governance and funding formula for gaming grants...

People like Carman Smith of the North Thompson Recreation Society in Barriere...

Who told us fit and active adults are good role models for children and it's important for their organization to be able to offer fitness classes for adults and seniors.

And you know what? We agree with Carman.

And I want to thank people like Vi Timmerman of the Terrace Art Association...

Who said that while they are proud of what the Terrace Art Gallery brings to this northern community, they need funding for adult art programs for their public gallery too.

We heard you Vi, and that's why we're reinstating eligibility for funding for adult-focused arts groups.

We think it's important for groups who organize arts and sport for adults and seniors to be eligible for gaming grant funding, so that's being reinstated.

I want to thank Skip for his work on the consultations around the province and for his report.

As a result of this work, we're also going to increase funding for organizations that have had funding reductions over the past three years...

Groups that are responsible for so many things we enjoy in our communities...

Fairs, festivals, youth arts and culture, community service, the B.C. Seniors Games and community education groups.

We also heard through the review that groups wanted us to make the grant system work better.

So we are exploring ways to introduce multi-year funding in the near future for groups that have achieved independence through their sound fiscal practices.

We recognize the role they play in our province, and we're grateful to them.

If we streamline the process for applying, we can let these great organizations get back to doing what they do best...

Delivering important services to B.C. families and building strong communities.

- END -



A Vision for the North - Canada Starts Here  
9<sup>th</sup> annual BC Natural Resource Forum  
Prince George Civic Centre  
Length: 25 minutes

**Event: what is it?**

- The BC Natural Resource Forum is hosted by Minister Pat Bell, MLA for Prince George- Mackenzie and this the ninth forum.
- The two-day event covers topics such as the bio economy, international trade, growth in the Asia Pacific markets, and post secondary education.
- The theme for the conference is 2020 North: A Clear Vision for the Next Decade.
- Presenters include Stockwell Day, the Provincial Bio Economy Committee (MLAs Yap, Foster, Rustad and Simpson), Jock Finlayson of the BC Business Council, and Kevin Evans, CEO of the Industry Training Authority.
- The Premier will speak during lunch on the second day, in between morning discussions on trades training and mining and afternoon discussions on LNG and natural gas technology.

**Audience: who are they?**

- Business and community leaders from around northern British Columbia;
- 300 audience members expected, including media.

**Audience: what do they want to hear?**

- Northern BC has tremendous potential to meet the needs of the fastest growing markets on the planet in China and India. Through the BC Jobs Plan, we are making real progress to grow and connect to those markets so we can protect and create jobs here at home.
- When we talk about the BC Jobs Plan, in many ways we are talking about the north. The success of the province – our health care, our education, our ability to be a caring society - depends on the success of Northern BC.
- Success in Northern BC also allows for investments in job creation throughout BC – from skills training that helps small businesses to infrastructure that gets goods to market.
- We need to make sure that British Columbians benefit from the jobs that are created in BC.

## Acknowledge:

- We are gathered here in the traditional territory of the clayt-clay den-ay (Lheidli T'enneh).
- Acknowledge Pat Bell, Shirley Bond, John Rustad and others (TBC).

I'm happy to be here today at the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Natural Resources Forum.

The work that Pat Bell has done to develop this forum is a great example of bringing people together...and it is because of initiatives like this we have a chance to see the future of the north.

It's a testament to what unity can do – it shows how when we come together and set aside the divisions of the past, we can do great things that benefit all British Columbians.

I believe in this future.

And I'm optimistic it too.

I believe we are on the cusp of a northern renaissance, thanks to the vision and hard work of people in this room and thousands more like you.

My government is working along side you and doing everything we can to see this vision realized.

Just look at what's going on in the north:

- Rio Tinto's \$3 billion investment in the Alcan smelter in Kitimat, one of the largest, single private sector investments in BC History.

**[CEMENT FACT PENDING]**

- We're seeing the expansion of existing mines and the development of new ones in the North, like Mount Milligan, which will create over 350 construction jobs and approximately 400 jobs during its operation.
- We're seeing billions in natural gas development and the pipeline to the Kitimat LNG plant will create 1,500 jobs during construction.
- The bio-energy sector is growing, with wood pellet companies like Pacific BioEnergy leading the way.
- Work is progressing on Site C, ensuring that B.C. can power its future.
- The clean tech sector is taking important steps forward in the Peace River region, home to two

largest wind farms in BC Bear Mountain and Dokie, and a recent addition to the Centre for Clean Technologies at Northern Lights College that will help expand opportunities for their students to create the clean tech innovations of tomorrow.

- And there is also the northwest transmission line, which is going to open up a region of the province and create good jobs for families.

## **Announcement**

Earlier today I announced a mine expansion permit at the Huckleberry Mine, just south of Smithers.

This permit, which starts in 2012, will ensure stable jobs for the 230 employees for another nine years. And this permit will add 70 new jobs – good paying jobs that support families.

And while economies all over the world are losing jobs, this announcement – and many more like it – show that northern BC is on a roll. And I intend to do my part to keep it going.



## **JOBS PLAN**

My first trip as Premier outside the lower mainland was here to Prince George ... and a week later my first town hall was in the north at Fort Saint John.

On September 19th we launched the BC Jobs Plan and we launched it in Prince Rupert.

The plan is called "Canada Starts Here," so I couldn't think of a better place to launch it than northern BC.

There are three pillars to the jobs plan.

The first is about enabling job creation with common-sense government policies that open doors, and make things simple for business by getting out of the way when we can.

For example, we are taking specific steps to eliminate one of the big problems inhibiting job growth in our province – delays in permitting approvals.

It will cost \$24 million, but this is a direct investment in jobs for BC families.

Eliminating this backlog of permits is one way government can get out of the way of job creation – government processes are there to make sure projects move forward in a sustainable fashion, and not get in the way of them.

We are making good progress on this part of the BC Jobs Plan, and, in the coming days, I will be reporting to British Columbians about exactly how these policies are working to create jobs. This work is a cornerstone of the BC Jobs Plan, which includes a commitment to see eight new mines and nine expanded mines by 2015.

The second pillar of our Jobs Plan is focused on improving infrastructure so we can get our goods to market, whether that market is here in B.C. or whether it's overseas.

So we made a \$15 million investment to improve access to the road and rail utility corridor in Prince Rupert. It's why we are investing in expanding the Prince George Airport and why we helped open the Fairview Container Terminal.

That terminal is spurring the development of a CN Rail distribution yard right here in Prince George.

The third pillar of our jobs plan is focused on opening new markets.

One part of that is a 'Major Investments Office' that will help businesses who want to invest in BC get the answers they need in a quick, clear way.

This office will facilitate answers, make sure timelines don't slip and negotiate solutions to problems. If the answer is "yes," let's get there as quickly as possible and get the jobs created as soon as we can.

The Major Investments Office is there to move these big projects through the system as efficiently as possible, so that all of British Columbia can share the benefits.

## **NATURAL GAS**

One key part of having a vision is recognizing when game-changing opportunities are presenting themselves – and then seizing those opportunities with everything you’ve got.

That is why we will soon announce a comprehensive set of policies to take advantage of what the boom in the natural gas sector can do for British Columbians.

Today we are implementing a plan to build a Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) industry as part of Canada’s most comprehensive natural gas strategy.



We will see one LNG facility in operation by 2015, and three plants established by 2020.

Why LNG?

Well, as Pat Bell always says, you have to fish where the fish are. Global demand for LNG has doubled in 10 years and it's projected to grow another 50% by 2020.

And prices in Asia are four times higher than they are in North America.

LNG will take an abundant B.C. resource from the northeast and move it to the northwest to turn it into a value-added export when we ship it overseas.

We will expand the use of this “value-added” resource, while adding jobs in transportation, infrastructure and clean technology.

It is a true pan-northern strategy – and the results will pay off for BC and for Canada.

## **BC JOBS FOR BC FAMILIES**

Since taking office, I have spent a lot of time up north listening to people, sharing my vision and outlining our plans.

And at each of these events, I have shared with you why I think job creation is so important.

The reason is at the centre of each of our lives – our families.

Think about what the three hundred jobs at Huckleberry Mine really means. They mean families can stay here in the north, or come to the north.

These are good jobs – jobs families can rely on ... the kind of jobs that build strong, stable, thriving communities.

Jobs that will help families buy a new truck when they need one.

Jobs that will allow people to renovate their homes.

And for some families, they will mean the difference between having to worry or not about making sure their children can get a healthy breakfast before they head off to school.

When we invest in the north, we are investing in families.

I want to see a northern BC where families can work here and stay together. But more than that, I want a northern BC where people come here to build their lives and their families.

That is why our government will continue to do its part to strengthen the quality of life in northern BC, because we value the north and the work that people do here.

That means continuing our investments in skills training and education. Things like the new trades centre at the College of New Caledonia or the bio energy innovations at UNBC do more than help individual students ... they strengthen communities, they help northern BC make our whole province stronger and they help us lead Canada.

We're making investments in initiatives like our Regional Workforce Tables so we can match our post-secondary programs to the needs of our regional economies – and we're learning what northern communities and First Nations need by listening to them.

By supporting economic renewal in the north, we are also supporting the other things that northern communities need, like innovations in health care and education.

It's about giving the people that live here in the north the tools that they need to strengthen their communities, improve their quality of life, and invite other people to come build their lives here too.



## **SAFE HARBOUR**

We're just getting started.

We can do these things because people here in the north know how to combine vision with hard work and perseverance.

Success is also about being disciplined – something that is more important than ever in the stormy seas of today's global economy.

That is why I am so determined to protect our reputation for fiscal prudence.

We are competing with countries from all over the globe and one of our big assets is our stability – our commitment to stable budgeting, common sense regulation, low taxes and policies that encourage businesses and invite investment.

We don't attract investment today by spending money we don't have, or by piling up mountains of debt for our children to pay off.

Ten years ago BC turned the page on high tax policies that discouraged investment, that drove away jobs, that squeezed BC families and shuttered businesses on main streets all across the North ... policies that shut down opportunities in communities across northern BC.

Nowhere in BC felt this more than the north. As families left looking for work, rural communities suffered.

In the 1990's, when you talked about economic development in the north, it really meant bailouts for pulp mills, like the unsuccessful attempt to save the Skeena Cellulose paper mill.

But British Columbia has spent the last ten years rebuilding... investing in vital infrastructure, while also getting our fiscal house in order.

Now we are on the cusp of real economic renewal in the north. We are turning the page again to a time of unprecedented opportunity.

Today, the north is leading the charge on BC's economy. For some communities it has been a long haul, but now they can seize this opportunity.

This is northern BC's moment – and we need to seize it together.

## **CANADA STARTS HERE**

The northern renaissance we are building here really will be felt across our province.

The tax revenue generated here will fund innovations in health care, improvements in education and new infrastructure that creates jobs and gets our good to markets.

Canada really does start here.

It starts in Tumbler Ridge, where BC workers feed Asia's demand for steel-making coal.

And it starts in Kitimat, where people from the Haisla First Nation and Kitimat community are planning to be a major part of tomorrow's clean energy workforce.

Canada starts in Prince Rupert, the edge of our gateway to the world's fastest growing markets - China and India.

And Canada starts right here in Prince George, the north's hub for education, and the transportation infrastructure that connects the north to the rest of BC.



This is a generational chance for communities and First Nations in the north.

When it comes to building the future, Canada really does start here.

-END-



CLBC  
Thursday, January 19, 2012  
Vancouver

**Event: what is it?**

Announcement of a set of key go-forward actions including funding increase to support adults with disabilities and release of the CLBC reviews.

**Audience: who are they?**

Individuals living with developmental disabilities and their families, as well as members of the support community for individuals living with developmental disabilities.

**Key Messages**

Our Priorities are:

1. Getting kids with developmental disabilities on the right track;
  2. Moving away from “one size fits all” to individualized care;
  3. Investing \$40 million more.
- We are focused on putting families first and making government more open.
  - We listened to concerns from individuals with developmental disabilities and their families about CLBC.
  - New funding and better coordination of services will ensure that British Columbians with developmental disabilities and their families will have access to the services and supports they need.

When I re-entered politics, I was focused on making life better for BC families.

And people living with developmental disabilities told us that Community Living BC could do more to strengthen and support their families.

Before I go on, I would like to thank these individuals, their families and their advocates, for their continued effort to find innovative solutions to the challenges they face.

Today, I am releasing the comprehensive reviews we have undertaken of CLBC and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. Just as we released the first CLBC report, and the BC Hydro report, we are making these reviews available to the public in their entirety.

And I am announcing our comprehensive plan to improve these services building upon what we learned.

We are adding an additional \$40 million in funding to provide services to the more than 13,000 people with developmental disabilities and their families, in addition to the \$710 million already allotted for CLBC.

This funding will support implementation of thoughtful and targeted recommendations that include:

- moving towards a “one government” policy framework that will help integrate government services;
- increasing our capacity to help individuals transition through different types of care;
- supporting greater utilization of individualized funding;

- and increasing day programming options, with more focus put on employment planning and support.

These are only a few of the recommendations you will be hearing about in more detail from Minister Cadieux in just a few minutes.

My government is committed to supporting individuals living with developmental disabilities and their families.

That's why back in September, I asked my Deputy Minister, John Dyble, to review the concerns we were hearing about CLBC and develop recommendations to ensure those needs were better met.

What deputies learned is that the issues we are grappling with don't just lie with CLBC... So their recommendations address issues that apply to the full scope of services provided across government for people living with developmental disabilities and their families.

Their review is being released today, alongside two others: the Internal Audit report and the Client Support Team's report.

These reviews provide a plan of action that will help CLBC and other government agencies use their resources in the most efficient way possible...

And ensure that British Columbians living with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to lead the meaningful lives that CLBC was created to support.



We are moving away from a “one size fits all” model of service delivery to one of individualized care that asks people what we can do for them.

The plan we are releasing today is not a knee-jerk reaction. It is not about throwing money at a problem and hoping it solves itself.

As we implement our plan of action, I will be looking to Minister Cadieux to continue her excellent work engaging individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, as well as their service providers. She will be monitoring the effects of these changes to ensure this government remains on the right path.

My top priority is listening to families. To do that, we have to be a different kind of government – an open government that is prepared to act on input and respond to criticism.

The easy way is always enticing, but often it ends up being the wrong thing to do.

When you hear people say there is a problem, the right response is to spend the time it takes to really understand it. And that's what we did – we got a good close look at this, because we don't want to just fix it for today. We want to solve it for the long-term.

It's that type of thinking that motivates me as your Premier.

And it's the type of thinking you'll see in the reviews released today.

Thank you.

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