

Caucus Christmas Party

December 9, 2013

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Audience: MLAs, staff and guests

- A lot has changed since last year's Christmas party.
- In May, British Columbians asked us to continue our work to grow the economy. To create more opportunities, both today, and for our kids.
 - We promised to balance the budget – promise kept.
 - To control spending – promise kept.
 - Review our liquor policy – promise kept.
 - To start the process to replace the George Massey Tunnel – promise kept.
 - To review speed limits on rural highways – promise kept.
- Realizing the promise of LNG and the unprecedented opportunity to transform our future.
- Everyone here knows how aggressively we are working to seize the transformative opportunity of LNG – and we will not let it slip through our grasp.
- I just came back from a trade mission to China, Korea, and Japan. One company, CNOOC, told me they need to increase their annual imports by 45 million metric

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tonnes. That's more than half our annual export capacity.

- And this won't just change B.C., but the world – it could reduce China's Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 250 megatons per year, according to some – that's like shutting all of B.C. down for four years.
- We know how to extract natural gas safely - we've been doing it for 50 years. Now we have a 150-year supply.
- That's a long time. 150 years ago, Vancouver Island was a separate colony. The Rockefellers formed Standard Oil, made kerosene, dumped gas as waste.
- I know how hard each of you works – every day – to make a difference for British Columbians.
- I'm proud to have each and every one of you here to make sure we realize our vision for B.C.
- This holiday season, I hope you can all spend time with the people you love.

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- Because the New Year is going to be busy. We have an ambitious session ahead of us in February.
- We earned the trust of British Columbians, and together, we are going to deliver.
- So rest up!
- Merry Christmas

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Cousul General Liu Fei

CCBC Senior Advisor, former Senator Jack Austin (MC)

Thank you for inviting me here.

I just returned from my fourth International Trade Mission.

And let me tell you – it was our most successful. That had a lot to do with our delegates...

Aand I know some of you are here today so could you please stand to be acknowledged?

We had leaders from business and labour unions, First Nations and BC's communities, we had academic leaders...please give our great delegates a round of applause.

They're presence was an unmistakeable sign to everyone we met that we are united in our goal to make Liquefied Natural Gas exports a reality.

And in Asia, there is tremendous interest in our LNG.

All the countries of Asia, especially China, understand the opportunity. And I'll talk more about that later.

On the flight back, I remembered something Peter C. Newman wrote.

He said for too long, the people who ran Canada saw it as an Atlantic nation, with a beautiful but empty Western backyard.

Well, things have changed.

Increasingly, Canada is becoming a Pacific nation. Our economic future lies to the west.

Not east, to Europe, or even south to the United States...

But across the Pacific to the growing economies of the Pacific Rim.

And as every one of you know, increasingly, that's China.

IMPORTANCE OF CHINA TO B.C.

That's why we maintain four Trade and Investment Representative Offices in China.

Because China matters to BC.

And they get that. I heard it over and over again with people I met. The strength of our relationship.

Three points really resonated with the audiences I spoke to in Beijing, Chengdu and Chongqing:

First...

B.C. has Teresa Wat as our Minister of International Trade. She brings real business experience to the table, and knowledge of China you don't get in books. After all, Not only does she speak both Cantonese and Mandarin – she's the only trade minister of Chinese descent outside of China.

Second, there was also a deep appreciation of the fact we appointed Ben Stewart to be B.C.'s special trade representative in Beijing.

They know Ben has a direct line to me and our entire provincial government.

And third, everyone I met was aware and deeply moved by the fact that BC is the first and only government in the world to issue bonds in the RMB market.

What that says in China is “we respect the people of China, your economy, and your currency...and we support the internationalization of the RMB.”

Others no doubt will follow our lead. But in the eyes of China, there will always be only one who did it first.

And that's how we're growing the relationship.

China is already B.C.'s second largest trading partner.

Over the last ten years, the value of BC's exports to China has risen by over 500 per cent, to over \$5 billion.

And China is BC's fastest growing export market, expanding an average of 24 per cent per year for the last ten years.

It's only natural. BC has the natural resources they need.

And as China grows stronger – so does B.C.

HIGHLIGHTS OF TRADE MISSION

Our Jobs and Trade Mission, which travelled across China, as well as Korea and Japan, has laid the groundwork for increased trade and cooperation.

It was a hectic schedule – but it was worth it. Because I spoke to the largest audiences I've ever spoken to in all three countries. I had the chance to meet key decision-makers in government, and the heads of key companies. Let me give you some examples:

In Beijing, we met with the heads of Sinopec, CNOOC and PetroChina -- two of those companies are already developing LNG projects in BC, Sinopec is eager to invest.

I met Mayor Huang Qifan of Chongqing – his title is Mayor, but he's in charge of a city region with the same population as Canada.

There is tremendous trade potential there. They are eager to get off coal, so we can do business right away, especially on byproducts of natural gas.

We signed an agreement with the Chongqing Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Commission (COFTEC) to promote trade and investment links.

In beautiful Sichuan Province, where we met with the Governor, Minister Wat signed an agreement with the Sichuan Department of Commerce to enhance economic

relations and explore areas of potential co-operation – including and especially LNG.

We met with Bank of China, which is consolidating its International Business Centre – and with that, most of their Canadian operations – in Vancouver.

They're doing that because they recognize the value of doing business in Vancouver. And in British Columbia.

We had similar meetings with the Ministers of Trade for both Japan and Korea, and high profile businesses like Japex, Mitsui, Mitsubishi, KOGAS and Samsung.

Samsung officially opened their R and D facility in Burnaby while I was in Korea.

KOGAS and UBC signed an agreement for research on clean tech and LNG ...which is an indication, LNG investments make a difference in regions beyond the North and sectors beyond just natural gas.

And there were dozens of other agreements

Bluestar International, which is based in Burnaby, announced an \$80 million deal that will see B.C. lumber used for infrastructure projects in China.

Other forestry announcements involved CANFOR and RCI.

As their economy continues to grow by leaps and bounds, B.C. will literally help build China.

B.C.'s forestry products, our minerals, our agriculture and tech have laid the foundation for our trading relationship.

And our relationship will continue to grow, based on our experience in safely developing shale gas.

The first weekend of our trade mission, I toured the Jiangsu Rudong LNG facility – which will be handling B.C.'s LNG exports.

We also announced that Woodfibre LNG, which is establishing a natural gas liquefaction and export project near Squamish, has officially established its headquarters in Vancouver.

LNG

That's momentum. And this is happening quickly because China has made the decision to find cleaner sources of energy.

Because they're trying to do something no one ever has: to grow their economy while reducing emissions.

It's never been done before. But from what I saw, if anyone can, they can. To do that, they need our LNG.

Our government estimates a 4 per cent reduction in coal would result in reductions of 93 megatons a year.

And that's a conservative estimate. In the private sector, predictions are much higher. There are forecasts that say they could reduce 250 megatons in just one year by replacing coal with LNG.

That would be like shutting down every factory, school hospital, and car in B.C. – for four years.

It's the single largest step we can take in BC to lower global emissions. In fact LNG would drive the single largest emissions reduction anywhere in the world.

That's why China has an incredible appetite for our LNG.

I mentioned I met with the head of CNOOC, the company that is investing with Nexen at Grassy Point, north of Prince Rupert.

He told me in the next 15 years, they need to increase annual imports by 45 million metric tonnes per year – just them.

One company.

Our total export capacity is 82 million tonnes per year.

One company needs more than half our total export capacity.

And that's just one company. Never mind PetroChina, or all the other global firms investing in B.C.

For B.C., LNG is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, to help China fight climate change, and to transform our province.

Because while China will be a primary market, they're not alone. By 2030, LNG demand is projected to increase 2.5 times.

We can fill that need. Our total natural gas can support development and LNG export operations for more than 150 years.

That's a long time.

150 years ago, the world was a very different place. The US was gripped by Civil War. Japan was ruled by the Shoguns.

China was still ruled by the Qing Dynasty. 150 years ago, they ordered dozens of wooden beams from Jericho to help build the Gate of Heavenly Peace in the Forbidden City.

150 years ago, the Rockefellers started Standard Oil. They were refining kerosene for lamps. One of the byproducts was gasoline, which they threw in the river as waste.

Currently there are more than 10 proposed LNG projects in B.C.

If five of these move forward, the cumulative gross domestic product benefit to British Columbia could total \$1 trillion in new economic activity.

For British Columbia, LNG will transform our province – creating 100,000 jobs, and enough new revenue to create a Prosperity Fund, and eliminate our provincial debt.

And momentum is on our side. AND we need to continue to work efficiently and without needless delay. Because in China – the need for clean energy is now.

We get concerned when our air quality index rises about 50 or 60. Theirs is routinely around 500. That's a huge problem, that we can help solve.

And in doing so, we can finally confront our problem... something that all developed economies in the west have suffered from.

Our economies have been growing at 2 or 3 percent or lower for almost all of the last 40 years.

Well, the '60s are over. We can't expect to spend as if we have 8 per cent growth.

The choice is between managing decline or growing the economy.

I choose growth.

On May 14th, the people of B.C. chose growth.

And in China, they heard that loud and clear when it comes to LNG.

We have an opportunity. Our generation.

To build a new industry. To grow our economy.

To put BC on a path to debt-free.

Let's secure this opportunity.

For us, and future generations.

In China. And in BC.

Thank you.

-END-

Canada-China Business Council Luncheon
December 10, 2013
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Liquor Announcement
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013
Speech length: 3-5 minutes

Event: what is it?

- Announcement of support for Liquor Policy Review recommendations to help reduce red tape and enhance product promotion and sales

Audience: who are they?

- Liquor industry stakeholders
- Others TBD

KEY MESSAGES:

1. We promised to modernize B.C.'s liquor laws to give consumers more choice and B.C. business more opportunities to grow, while still ensuring health and safety.
2. B.C.'s wineries, breweries and distilleries create jobs, increase tourism and enhance the economy, and it's important to reduce red tape and enhance promotion to make it easier for them to operate.
3. You're the experts, and your input has been and will continue to be at the centre of the changes we plan to make.

ACKNOWLEDGE:
MC Norm Letnick

It's a pleasure be here at Volcanic Hills Estate Winery, winner of the 2011 Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in B.C. Wines for their 2010 Rosé.

...one more reason why the Okanagan is renowned on the world's wine stage.

Besides being a source of pride, B.C.'s liquor industry is economically crucial. Our wineries, breweries and distilleries create jobs and generate some \$2 billion in economic activity every year.

But we all know our liquor regulations are antiquated and out of date. And it's been that way for a long time.

That's why I committed to making some common sense changes to make our liquor policy current, and reflect the lives we actually lead.

There's three principles I wanted to follow.

1. More convenience for customers.
2. Maintaining our commitment to protecting health and safety.
3. And creating more opportunities for business to grow.

That's why I asked John Yap to conduct a public consultation – and he did just that. We engaged some 80,000 people in online engagement...never mind the John's tour and town halls.

Cabinet is considering John's recommendations. But today we're moving on some key recommendations to help tourism, grow the industry, and give you more choice.

Promises made, promises kept.

1. Manufacturers will be able to sample and sell their made-in-B.C. liquor at venues such as farmers' markets, festivals, and off-site tasting rooms.

That's a win for consumers, a win for farmers' markets, and a win for local producers.

2. To further promote the advantages of buying local, we will work with the Liquor Distribution Branch to enhance marketing, promotion, education and product placement of made-in-B.C. products.
3. Working with industry and tourism associations, we will develop new tools including smart phone apps, maps and brochures on our province's abundance of wineries, breweries and distilleries.
4. To improve the experience for guests, manufacturers will be allowed to expand their on-site tasting venues.

That means people visiting a winery will be able to enjoy a bottle of wine in a vineyard picnic area, instead of only within the licensed winery.

5. Manufacturers will also be able to offer local beer, wine and spirits that were not produced on site – providing more selection for consumers and more income-generating opportunities for manufacturers.
6. To support our local distillers and craft brewers, we will also look at setting up a new quality assurance program,

similar to the VQA wine program.

7. To cut red tape and make it easier to do business, we will develop a better application process for facilities like ski hills and golf courses so they can temporarily extend their liquor licenses to other parts of their property, like patios or the ski hill village.

These are just the first steps. We've consulted. We've listened. And we'll continue to announce changes.

Changes that bring B.C.'s liquor policy into the 21st century, giving you more choice, and giving B.C. business more opportunities to grow.

Thank you.

-END-

Japanese Emperor's Birthday Reception
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013
Speech length: 3-5 minutes

Event: what is it?

- Celebration of the Japanese Emperor's (His Imperial Majesty Akihito) birthday on Dec. 23.

Audience: who are they?

- Japanese Consul General Seiji Okada
- Japanese and Canadian diplomats

KEY MESSAGES:

1. B.C. is home to approximately 46,000 Japanese-Canadians and the partnership between B.C. and Japan continues to grow stronger based on a mutual commitment to promoting friendly and cooperative relations.
2. BC has strong historic ties to Japan. The inauguration of formal ties between Japan and Canada began with the establishment of the Japanese Consulate in Vancouver on June 22, 1889 – 40 years before the opening of the Japanese embassy in Ottawa.
3. B.C. highly values its relationship with Japan as shown by our selection of Japan for our last two trade missions to Asia.

- It's an honour to be invited to help celebrate His Majesty the Emperor's birthday on December 23rd.
- There's a lot to celebrate today, first and foremost the historical, cultural and business ties between B.C. and Japan.
- B.C. has a large and vibrant Japanese community with almost 46,000 Japanese-Canadians.
- B.C.'s formal ties to Japan span over 120 years...Our province has sister-city relationships with Japan that date back 50 years...
- Yokohama and Vancouver have been sister cities since 1965. Another 30 BC municipalities have sister city or friendship agreements with Japanese cities.
- Those ties are growing in strength. I just came back from my second trade mission to Japan since becoming Premier.

- In fact, it was the third trade mission led by a Clark – my grandfather traveled to Tokyo on behalf of B.C.'s fishing industry.
- On both missions the goal was to further strengthen BC's government, business, and people ties with Japan.
- BC's Trade and Investment Representatives office in Tokyo has been operating since 2007 and helps British Columbia businesses participate in shared business opportunities across the country.
- BC's economy – and Canada's prosperity – depends on our international connections. I will continue to work hard to ensure that continues well into our future together.
- And those connections will gain in importance. BC's LNG will help Japan secure a safe and clean source of energy to power a strong economy into the future.
- While in Japan, a priest taught me the perfect expression for this opportunity: ICHI-GO, ICHI-EH. It means one chance, one encounter. One time to get it right.

- We will get it right. And make a difference for both B.C. and Japan.
- Thanks to Consul General Seiji Okada for inviting me here today and here's to many more decades of close ties between our countries.
- Congratulations on this festive occasion of your Emperor's birthday reception.
- Arigato ...and Kanpei!

-END-

Liquor Announcement II
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013
Speech length: 5-7 minutes

Event: what is it?

- Announcement at the Cactus Club Coal Harbour establishment of support for Liquor Policy Review recommendations to expand the Serving It Right (SIR) program and to allow minors accompanied by a parent or guardian in certain liquor-primary establishments.

Audience: who are they?

- President of the BC/Yukon Legion Angus Stanfield (TBC)
- President/founder, Cactus Club Richard Jaffray
- Representative of Go2 (Serving it Right administrators) TBC
- Liquor industry stakeholders
- Others TBD

KEY MESSAGES:

- We're making common-sense changes to:

provide new opportunities for B.C. businesses and the hospitality industry – by simplifying and increasing flexibility around licensing and allowing happy hours.

create new dining options for B.C. families – allowing kids into pubs and legions that choose to be family-friendly.

protect health and public safety – by enhancing and expanding B.C.'s Serving it Right program.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

John Yap

It's a pleasure to be here today at the beautiful Cactus Club in Coal Harbour.

I especially want to thank Cactus Club founder and president Richard Jaffray for hosting us today.

Last week I announced our support for moving ahead on several recommendations made by the Liquor Policy Review to give consumers more choice...

support the wine industry, tourism, and farmers' markets... and ensure health and safety.

We recognized the challenges businesses were facing, and that's why both during and after the election I committed to explore common-sense changes that would bring our liquor policies up to date.

We set out three principles – more convenience for citizens; maintaining our commitment to protecting health and safety; and making sure B.C. businesses have every opportunity to grow and thrive.

So I asked John Yap, parliamentary secretary for liquor reform, to undertake a public consultation. Now that the consultation phase is over, cabinet will be considering John's recommendations.

And there were many.

Today I want to announce that we are moving on some of the key recommendations.

- 1. First**, families should have the choice to dine together in their neighbourhood pub.

So pubs can choose to be family-friendly, and open their doors to parents and their kids for Sunday brunch for instance, or lunch and dinner up until certain times of the day...

We'll also allow legions to choose to be family friendly, so that a grandparent or parent can share their history with their kids and grandkids.

This will happen in a way that respects both the family's choice to include kids and the establishment's responsibility to ensure an appropriate environment for everyone.

We will recommend that the LCLB clarify and modernize regulations for food-primary operations including lounge and kitchen requirements.

2. Food-primary licensees should continue to focus on food, with a full menu whenever liquor service is available – but customers shouldn't have to order food if they don't want to.

And food-primary businesses that want to fully transition away from food service after a certain hour and operate as a nightclub will be able to apply for a licence to do that.

Minors would not be allowed after that time.

3. We want to make food- or liquor-primary licences available to other types of businesses like spas, cooking schools and galleries so they can offer beer, wine and spirits as an additional service.
4. Individual establishments that are part of a chain, like the Cactus Club, will be allowed to transfer small amounts of liquor between locations.
5. We will also move ahead on giving consumers some more freedom. If you order a drink in the lounge, you should be able to carry your own drink, if you move to a table in the restaurant section.
6. Next, we need to give B.C. business more flexibility to grow. So we will move ahead on allowing licensees to offer time-limited drink specials, like happy hours. It's important to note the price cannot go below a minimum amount. That's consistent with what health advocates recommend.
7. Finally, we remain committed to protecting health and safety.

So we're going to expand and enhance Serving It Right, our responsible beverage service program.

Sales and service staff in restaurants, wine stores, rural agency stores and BC Liquor Stores who are not already required to have Serving it Right certification will be required to obtain it.

Managers, licensees and sales and serving staff will also be required to re-certify.

We'll develop a focused, abridged and less expensive version of Serving it Right for Special Occasion Licensees.

Serving it Right content will be updated to include information about Canada's low-risk drinking guidelines, the social and health costs of alcohol, and why alcohol is regulated.

The fee structure of Serving it Right will be reviewed to make sure the cost to retailers and establishments is fair.

These are all things based on feedback from people and businesses throughout BC as we conducted what turned out to be the biggest consultation we've ever done.

People told us they want change, and we're listening.

And I believe these changes will help people here in Vancouver and in communities everywhere in our province develop and grow their businesses, helping us meet our goal of creating jobs and economic activity.

Thank you very much.

-END-

Good evening.

Both this year and last year, my first event after Christmas break is the Truck Loggers convention.

Kicking the year off with you guys was the first of many great things that happened last year. So I guess I'm a little superstitious.

I can't think of anyone I'd rather come back to work and see.

Because the men and women you represent have been hard at work for us from day one.

That's crucial, because B.C.'s prosperity will always be driven by the resource industry.

Good paying jobs that support families.

And the revenue that allows us to keep making the investments into services we all depend on.

We often talk about a strong economy and a secure tomorrow.

Everyone wants a secure tomorrow. But not everyone understands that to get it, you need a strong economy.

That's why we've been working hard to support you. I promised I'd do everything I could to open up new markets for BC lumber.

Since becoming Premier, I've led four international trade missions. And while it was an uphill climb, we're seeing results.

Record exports to Japan and China. New deals for companies like Bluestar International.

We're proud of these accomplishments. But we a lot more work to do...

Work on skills training...

Work on continuing to improve our safety standards....

And more work on developing new markets for B.C.'s oldest resource.

There will be bumps along the way. But with your help, we'll continue to grow our economy – and secure a tomorrow for our kids, and their kids.

Thank you.

Truck Loggers Association Convention January 20, 2014

Event: what is it?

- 71st. Annual Truck logger Association Convention and Trade Show Luncheon. The TLA represents 525 independent forest contractors located throughout BC's coastal region. Its mission is to promote a sustainable forest industry and to foster communication and education within communities and governments.

Audience: who are they?

- Up to 500 representatives from logging contractors and forest licensees including major forestry companies; TLA board members, industrial board members, trade show exhibitors, service and supply companies.

Audience: what do they want to hear?

- **KEY THEME: The Business of Logging – a New Era**

Key Messages

1. The story of forestry is the story of B.C..
2. The industry has adapted well to recent challenges and it is well positioned to prosper.
3. We promised to create an environment where forestry would thrive – and we're keeping that promise.

THANK: Brian Mulvihill, Director of Forest Products,
Finning (tbc)

ACKNOWLEDGE: (all guests tbc)

Bill Markvoort, President, TLA

Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural
Resource Operations, MLA Kelowna-Mission

Terry Lake, Minister of Health, MLA Vancouver-Fairview

Donna Barnett - Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations for Rural
Development, MLA for Cariboo-Chilcotin

Mary Polak, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure,
MLA Langley

Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
and Deputy House Leader

Peter Fassbender, Minister of Education, MLA Surrey-
Fleetwood

Eric Foster, Government Whip, MLA Vernon-Monashee

Douglas Horne, Deputy Speaker, MLA Coquitlam-Burke
Mountain

Michelle Stillwell, MLA Parksville-Qualicum

FORESTRY STORY

Thank you very much for inviting me to be here with you again. It feels very much like coming home.

I grew up in a middle class family. My dad was a teacher – the first in his family to get a degree. And he was able to go to university, because my grandfather and great-grandfather both worked in the resource industry.

Urban communities and rural, that's what unites us in BC. Values...

Like the central value in our family: when there's work to be done, you roll up your sleeves.

Yours must be permanently rolled up because you have a long and proud tradition resting on your shoulders.

In November, I was in China for our Jobs and Trade Mission. At this particular event, I was speaking about LNG.

BC has enough natural gas to last 150 years. And to illustrate how long that is, I mentioned the Forbidden City.

150 years ago, before B.C. was a province, before Confederation...

...the Emperor ordered dozens of wooden beams from Jericho to help build the Gate of Heavenly Peace.

B.C. lumber was known and valued around the world before there was a British Columbia. In every sense of the word, the story of this province is your story.

That story actually starts thousands of years ago, when the First Nations invented new ways to use wood for absolutely everything, including art that remains iconic today.

Over the past century, as we went from colony to province, the forest industry built British Columbia. It was there before mining, before oil and gas; before railways, highways and airports.

Yours was the first industry to understand this province's enormous potential.

It was the first to say that if we work hard and work smart ... we can create an industry and a history that all British Columbians can be proud of.

It hasn't always been easy. One year ago – and so much happened in the past year, it feels like much longer – we spoke about the challenges we faced together in the past 20 years.

It's a long list. Not for the faint of heart.

Pine beetle infestation,

fires,

climate change,

increasing global competition,

changing markets,

and the collapse of the U.S. housing market amid the worst global financial meltdown since 1929.

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY

We responded with a plan to grow our economy – the BC Jobs Plan. And forestry is a central part of it.

Around the world, the economy remains sluggish. And that's all the more reason to stick to our plan, punch above our weight.

Like you do.

You've shown time and time again, you're up to the challenge.

The industry hasn't just adapted and survived. It's ready to thrive.

Today, across B.C. there are more than 56,000 people directly employed in the forest sector.

Over 40 per cent of the province's regional economies are based on forestry activities in more than 7,000 businesses.

According to Price Waterhouse, the industry contributes 11 per cent of the GDP here on the coast and the island, and 38,000 people rely on a healthy coast forest industry for their jobs.

And those are good jobs, well-paying jobs. The kind that create stable communities and pay for government services like hospitals, schools, and roads.

That's what creates a secure tomorrow...

A strong economy.

That means getting to yes on economic development.

Not wavering. Not looking for excuses to get to no.

STRONG ECONOMY

Since becoming Premier my focus has been on growing the economy. We're working hard, every day, to create the conditions you need to compete.

That starts with living within our means. Controlling spending.

When we tabled our balanced budget, the naysayers doubted it. They accused us of fudging our numbers.

I think it's clear to everyone now: we balanced the budget.

A Promise made, promise kept.

And while I can't tell you the details of what Mike de Jong will table next month, I can tell you this: Budget 2014 will be balanced.

The second consecutive balanced budget.

Controlling spending means we can keep taxes low. We said we'd stare down the pressure to raise taxes. And British Columbians earning below \$122,000 still pay the lowest income taxes in Canada.

Promise made, promise kept.

We also have to stay competitive. To create an atmosphere where business has every opportunity to thrive.

We remain the only province in the country with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business' highest grade for cutting red tape.

And finally, most importantly...with the US economy struggling, we promised to open up new markets for our lumber.

We had a lot of work to do.

In China, we had to overcome a real cultural resistance to the use of wood for construction.

We had to be very persistent just to get a building code for wood introduced. Then we had an uphill battle helping them understand what wood could be used for.

But we kept working at it. We stayed persistent. And In November, Forests Minister Steve Thomson led a delegation to Japan and China.

In December, I followed up by leading my fourth international trade mission, this time to China, Korea and Japan.

We will continue to lead these kinds of trade missions because in Asia, they attach great importance to solid business relationships developed over time. There are no short cuts.

And we will continue them because our combined efforts have netted significant returns:

- Over the 12 months starting in September 2012, our softwood lumber exports to Japan increased by 25 per cent.

- Between 2003 and 2011 softwood lumber exports to China grew 1,500 per cent to a total of nearly \$1.1 billion.
- Numbers to be proud of. But in 2013, we did even better – setting a record for exports to China.

In 2014, we're working to keep that momentum.

On my trade mission, we announced four separate deals with companies in Asia, including Bluestar International Business signing a contract worth \$80 million to supply lumber for housing in Sichuan.

SKILLS TRAINING

As our economy grows, we have to ensure British Columbians are first in line for the jobs that will come.

That means investing in our workforce. In skills training.

Over the next 10 years, there will be 25,000 new forestry jobs. We're getting British Columbians ready by investing to improve trades training facilities and get more students interested in trades careers.

For example,

- the Forest Industry Readiness Skills Training program is working to train 60 new log or chip truck drivers and heavy equipment operators.
- The First Nations Forestry Training Project will provide 38 First Nations individuals with training and work experience to succeed.
- The BC New Faller Training Program is a 7-month intensive training program designed to provide the training, skills and knowledge needed to get started.

It's important to get that right because forestry activity is going to increase.

Our Jobs and Skills Training Minister, Shirley Bond is working on a 10 year Skills Strategy...

She's working with Businesses and private sector labour leaders...

And with her cabinet colleagues in Education and Advanced Education to re-engineer how we prepare our students for the jobs of the future.

But it doesn't end with just a supply of skilled workers.

We're mapping out the work-force needs, across forestry and also across other sectors, like LNG, mining, and tech. We want to make sure you're not competing for the same workers at the same time. We don't want you to spin your wheels.

Our plan means you can rely on a BC skilled workforce...so that you can grow. So that you can compete and win in the world.

BABINE MILL

As we grow together, we have a core value that can never change. Worker safety.

When people get up to go to work in the morning, their families expect them to come home...safe and sound.

We do everything we can, all of us,
To make every workplace safe for the people who work there...

Who put food on the table for their families...

Who strengthen our communities...

Who strengthen our economy.

But despite our efforts, tragedy can strike, as it did at the Babine Mill in Burns Lake...

With a force that was terrifying and heart-wrenching.

When that happened, our job was to do four things.

Job One...

Get there, clear the roads to get first responders in,

To get the injured the care they need immediately.

We did that.

Job Two...

Connect the survivors to work or social assistance so that they could continue to support their families.

We did that.

Job Three...

Work to re-open a mill, and ensure fibre supply, so that those workers, their families can stay in their community and re-build their lives.

We did that.

Job four...

Deliver the highest standard of investigation to find out what went wrong. To make sure justice is done...

For the victims, the injured, the survivors and their families.

As you know, the criminal justice branch reached a decision not to press charges in this.

People may not agree.

I absolutely understand that.
But as Premier, as hard as it can be sometimes,
I have to respect a central principle.

The independence of investigators and crown prosecutors
to reach decisions based on the law.

Still, we have this responsibility. If there are lessons to be
learned from this case, we must learn them.

That's why I've asked our top civil servant, Deputy Minister
John Dyble, to review this case...
To establish the fact pattern...
To report back to me with recommendations.

In order to make sure that justice is done, and is seen to
be done, we have to start with the facts.

The facts will lead us to any actions we should take.

The people of Burns Lake deserve nothing less. As do all our workers, your workers, in communities across our province.

CONCLUSION

As we create new opportunities today and for our children, lumber will continue to tell the story of our province.

Built on hard work and resilient people, this industry laid the foundation for the prosperity we enjoy today.

We will continue working with the TLA and other associations ... with communities, companies and workers ... with Ottawa.

And we'll continue to open new markets across the Pacific.

So that your sustainable industry builds the foundation for prosperity tomorrow. For our kids, and theirs.

After all, it's a simple choice. Grow the economy. Or manage decline.

I think British Columbians were pretty clear about their choice in May.

And as I look across this room I know, we have what it takes. To create jobs. Build a strong economy. Compete and win on the world stage. Together.

Thank You.

Premier's BC Natural Resources Forum
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2014, in Prince George
Lunch and Keynote noon-1:20

Event: What is it?

Now in its 11th year, the BC Natural Resource Forum has grown to become the hub for all companies involved in the resource sector to get together for in-depth discussions, sharing of success stories, opportunities, innovations in technology, and expanding opportunities in the service and supply sector.

Audience: Who are they?

Some other speakers:

- Mike Morris, MLA, Prince George – Mackenzie (Host)
- Steve Berna, Chief Operating Officer, First Nations Finance Authority
- Karina Briño, President and CEO, Mining Association of British Columbia
- Greg D'Avignon, President and CEO, Business Council of British Columbia
- James Gorman, President and CEO, Council of Forest Industries
- Heather Kennedy, Vice President Government Relations, Suncor Energy Inc.
- Greg Kist, President, Pacific NorthWest LNG
- Don Krusel, President and CEO, Prince Rupert Port Authority
- Annita McPhee, President, Tahltan Central Council
- Susannah Pierce, General Manager of Social Performance and External Affairs for LNG Canada, Shell Canada
- Laurie Sterritt, President and CEO, BC Aboriginal Mine Training Association
- Members of the business community

Key messages:

1. The natural resource sectors use determination and creativity to meet challenges head on – and succeed
2. We have the goods, the means, and the market for LNG

ACKNOWLEDGE:

MC Mike Morris

Byng Giraud, Vice President Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre
LNG (thanks the Premier)

MLAs attending:

Suzanne Anton

Bill Bennett

Peter Fassbender

Coralee Oakes

Terry Lake

Steve Thomson

Shirley Bond

Teresa Wat

Naomi Yamamoto

Mary Polak

John Rustad

Thank you for being here today.

This forum is an opportunity to discuss the future – and in B.C., it's never been brighter.

That future is bright because of the men and women in this room – and the thousands you represent.

Because the people who make up B.C.'s natural resource sectors are as tough as nails.

Your jobs are hard enough. But when the world throws you a curve, you roll with the punches and keep fighting.

Five years ago, we suffered the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. A lot of the western world still hasn't recovered.

You?

You used determination and creativity to meet challenges head on – and you're succeeding.

I know this because the people who invest are constantly telling me to make sure we have enough trained people to fill those jobs.

I know that's what keeps Shirley Bond up at night.

It is our job to stand by you – because that's how you grow the economy.

You don't do it by saying no before you've finished reading the proposal.

You don't do it by spending yourself into a hole, and asking your kids to dig you out of it.

That's why my government's first priority is to control spending and balance the budget.

In 2013, some people doubted our budget was balanced. Time has proven them wrong.

We balanced the budget. And we're about to table our second consecutive balanced budget next month.

Promise made, promise kept.

Fiscal discipline is where you have to start.

The next step is finding ways to get to yes on economic development.

That's the way to better hospitals and roads, to lower taxes, and a better future for our kids.

So let's talk about our plan for getting to yes – the BC Jobs Plan.

Let's talk about how we're going to grow the economy and secure more opportunities tomorrow.

FORESTRY

Last week, I spoke to the Truck Loggers Association. And it's a good way to start the year, because they're really B.C.'s founding industry.

And it's still vital. More than 56,000 people are directly employed in the forest sector.

So here's some of what we're doing to help you strengthen your businesses.

Minister Thomson is examining the role and effectiveness of BC Timber Sales and will bring forward common sense improvements to make sure all coastal forest operators have access to the timber they need.

We also promised to diversify our customer base, to open up new markets. So I've led four B.C. trade missions across the Pacific.

And they're paying dividends.

In 2013, we set exporting records to China and Japan.

As of the end of October, softwood lumber exports to the U.S. are at \$2.13 billion, compared to \$2 billion for all of 2012...

and to Japan they are at \$703 million, compared to \$674 million for all of 2012.

In mining, the production value of mining in 2012 was \$8.3 billion – in 2001 it was \$2.8 billion.

That's a promise made, promise kept.

MINING

If forestry is the founding industry, than mining is the comeback industry. They had a very rough decade in the '90s. I'm not quite sure why.

In 2001, there were 15 operating mines...and today we have 19.

In 2012, more than 30,000 people were employed in mining, mineral exploration, and related sectors.

Since the Jobs Plan was released, two new mines, New Afton and Mt. Milligan, are in operation, and five more are under construction or permitted.

Mt. Milligan alone has created 350 permanent jobs – the first new metals mine in B.C. in a decade.

And we're working on doing more.

We committed in the BC Jobs Plan, eight new mines open and nine expanded by 2015.

This will result in:

- o an increase in annual mine-operation revenue by \$1.6 billion;
- o Approximately 2,000 construction jobs;
- o 2,000 new direct jobs and 3,000 indirect jobs;
- o 12,500 existing jobs sustained

We are already more than halfway to achieving our Jobs Plan goals in the mining sector.

Promises made, promise kept.

LNG

The newest and biggest opportunity on our horizon is liquefied natural gas.

For B.C., five LNG plants and supporting pipelines could create more than 39,000 construction jobs and 75,000 operational jobs.

And the cumulative gross domestic product benefit could total \$1 trillion by 2046.

But let's think bigger. Beyond our borders.

The global demand for energy is expected to double over the next 20 years.

We have the resources, the infrastructure and the drive to turn that need into a debt-free future for our children.

So let's talk about how to get to THAT future.

We have almost 3,000 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

We have the shortest shipping route to Asia.

We have a competitive regulatory environment

And soon we hope to announce details about a competitive tax structure.

We have the goods and the means.

And we have the market.

China has decided to nearly double the use of natural gas in its energy supply.

While on the Jobs and Trade Mission, I toured an LNG facility in China ready to receive BC natural gas...
spoke at a natural gas forum in Seoul...
and signed two memorandums of understanding with Japanese governmental organizations to increase investments for natural gas development in B.C.

PETRONAS has announced its intention to invest \$16 billion into B.C. to develop its project, Pacific Northwest LNG – the single largest investment in British Columbia's history.

Recently, we announced Chevron/Apache has awarded the consortium of JGC/Fluor with a contract to lead all engineering, procurement and construction services for the proposed Kitimat LNG plant.

And last week, we reached an agreement with Woodside for the exclusive right to build an LNG export terminal in the south portion of Grassy Point.

The momentum is building. But any discussion of a better future must include environmental stewardship.

We have to leave this province as pristine as we found it. We owe that to our children – just as we owe it to them to create more opportunities.

There is no contradiction there.

British Columbia is a leader in climate action and developing clean energy.

And by exporting surplus natural gas, we can help bring down global emissions.

Look at China. China generates almost one quarter of the world's Greenhouse Gases, mostly from coal-fired power plants.

Even conservative estimates say China could reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions by about 90 megatons per year by replacing a fraction of coal-generated power with natural gas. Every year.

90 megatons per year. Know how much that is? That would be like shutting down every factory, school, and hospital in B.C. for a year and a half.

It's the largest single step we can take in B.C. to lower global emissions.

SKILLS TRAINING

To build that future, to make that kind of difference in the world – we have to be ready.

It's one thing to create jobs, and another to fill them. We have to ensure British Columbians have the skills be first in line.

So we made a \$1.9-billion investment in 2012-13 to support educational programs in British Columbia's post-secondary system.

We are committed to making sure British Columbians are first in line for these new jobs.

Forestry alone will have 25,000 new jobs over the next 10 years.

So here are a few of the programs we are instituting now...

The First Nations Forestry Training Project will provide upgrade training for 38 First Nations individuals.

The Forest Industry Job Ready Training Program will train 60 people to be log or chip truck drivers and heavy equipment operators.

The BC New Faller Program is designed to provide participants with the training, skills, and knowledge required to achieve certification and entry level employment as certified and qualified Fallers.

And it's projected that the mining sector will have 16,700 direct job openings in the next 10 years, not to mention the indirect jobs.

To name a few things were doing here....

We've invested more than \$1 million to support the Mineral Exploration and Mining Industry Labour Shortage Task Force.

And nearly \$2.2 million for mining-related Employment Skills Access programs.

Also a \$498,400 Labour Market Sector Solutions (LMSS) program investment through the BC Aboriginal Mine Training Association in the Kootenays.

Our Jobs and Skills Training Minister, Shirley Bond is working on a 10 year Skills Strategy...

She's working with Businesses and private sector labour leaders...

And with her cabinet colleagues in Education and Advanced Education to re-engineer how we prepare our students for the jobs of the future.

But it doesn't end with just a supply of skilled workers. We're mapping out the work-force needs, across forestry and also across other sectors, like LNG, mining, and tech.

We want to make sure you're not competing for the same workers at the same time. We don't want you to spin your wheels.

Our plan means you can rely on a BC skilled workforce...so that you can grow. So that you can compete and win in the world.

TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

And here's another piece of the puzzle: getting goods to market. We've set a target to invest \$25 billion into transportation infrastructure by 2020.

And when you transport goods, we also need to transport energy.

We need to consider how we move that energy.

The Northwest Transmission Line will support clean energy projects and will provide clean energy to future industrial developments in the area.

We need to consider how to create that energy.

Site C would provide approximately enough electricity for 450,000 homes per year, for more than 100 years.

WORKER SAFETY

As we grow together, we have a core value that can never change.

When people get up to go to work in the morning, their families expect them to come home safe and sound.

We do everything we can to make every workplace safe.

But despite our efforts, tragedy can strike, as it did at Lakeland and the Babine Mill in Burns Lake.

The criminal justice branch reached a decision not to press charges in the Babine Mill case.

I have to respect the independence of prosecutors and investigators. But if there are lessons to be learned, we need to learn them.

So I asked the head of the civil service, Deputy Minister John Dyble, to review this case and report back to me.

To ensure we are doing everything we can so that justice is done – and seen to be done.

Our citizens deserve nothing less. Your workers, in communities across our province, deserve nothing less.

CONCLUSION

It's about doing the right things in the right way. To grow our economy. Together.

In May, we asked British Columbians whether they wanted to find ways to grow the economy, or manage decline.

Grow the size of government?

Or grow the size of the economy – with jobs for citizens across our province.

British Columbians were loud and clear.

British Columbians want a strong economy. And a secure tomorrow.

That's our focus. That's our plan. And we stick to it with unwavering determination.

Together, we are building a stronger foundation for our province. Not just for today. But to make sure future generations can stand up, compete, and win on the world stage.

Thank You.

AME BC Mineral Exploration Roundup Conference 2014

Monday, January 27

Event: what is it?

- Mineral Exploration Roundup 2014 is a four-day conference to promote mineral exploration and development in B.C. It is organized by the Association of Mineral Exploration of British Columbia (AME BC) Roundup is consistently one of the top three most attended conferences in Vancouver and in 2013 the four-day conference contributed over \$8.5 million to the local economy.
- This is AME BC's 30th anniversary. The theme of this year's event is "Resources for Life"

Audience: who are they?

- 7,800 prospectors, geologists, scientists, explorers, investment advisors, developers, suppliers and senior executives from junior and major mining companies from 44 countries, First Nations, government officials, officials from MABC and AMEBC.

Audience: what do they want to hear?

- **KEY THEME: "Resources for Life"**
- Industry wants reassurance that B.C.'s government is committed to a consistent, fair and science-based approach to environmental assessments.

Speech Outline/Key Messages

1. Subject to legislature approval, government is extending the BC mining flow-through share tax credit to December 31, 2014.
2. B.C.'s government will continue to be a strong partner and advocate for mining exploration.
3. I have asked the Minister of Environment to review the Environmental Assessment Office. We understand that we can always do better.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Gavin C. Dirom, President & CEO, AME BC

MLAs attending:

Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines
and MLA for Kootenay East

Honourable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal
Relations and Reconciliation and MLA for Nechako Lakes

Ralph Sultan, MLA for West Vancouver-Capilano

Honourable Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and
Infrastructure and MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson

Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment and
MLA for Langley

Richard Lee, MLA for Burnaby North

INTRODUCTION

Thank you.

It's something of a tradition for Premiers to start the New Year by meeting the men and women whose hard work creates the prosperity we all enjoy.

And in B.C., the foundation of our prosperity is the resource industry.

I started with the Truck Loggers. Last week it was the Natural Resources Forum.

Today, I'm digging a little deeper – with the hardest-working men and women in B.C.

We need you to keep up the hard work, because mining has more than a rich and colourful history.

It has a bright future.

It's bright because of you and the thousands you represent. Because I know that the people who work in this industry are as tough as nails.

More than 150 years of sweat, perseverance and smart thinking has built mining and exploration into one of this province's defining industries.

Many British Columbians would be astonished to know that every one of us uses almost 50,000 pounds of mined products each year.

Brushing your teeth, driving a car, turning on the TV, taking selfies with your iPhone – that starts with the mining industry.

Which helps to explain why, in 2012, exploration spending in B.C. hit a record \$680 million - a 47 per cent increase over the previous year.

And last year? Exploration spending remained strong. We expect it to reach \$476 million. That's the second-highest ever.

Compare that to the '90s when exploration was about \$26 million per year.

We've come a long way.

Since becoming Premier my focus has been on growing the economy. That starts with living within our means - controlling spending.

I can't tell you the details of what Mike de Jong will table next month, but I can tell you this: Budget 2014 will be balanced.

The second consecutive balanced budget.

Promise made, promise kept.

Controlling spending means we can keep taxes low.

We said we'd stare down the pressure to raise taxes. And British Columbians earning below \$122,000 still pay the lowest income taxes in Canada.

Another promise made, promise kept.

But, to grow the economy we also have to work hard to create an environment that gives our businesses every opportunity to compete and thrive.

COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Let me give you an example.

In the Jobs Plan we set a target of reducing average turnaround time for mining exploration permits.

That's done. The average turnaround time has been cut in half.

Also, in British Columbia, we conduct rigorous and transparent environmental assessments.

These examine major developments for potential impacts in a variety of areas – the environment, human health and socio-economic factors.

These assessments are crucial. It's about the social licence for successful projects, as well as a timely, coordinated review process.

But we can always do better.

Which is why I have asked the Minister of Environment to review the Environmental Assessment Office.

She will ensure that our environmental assessments are meeting all our objectives – balancing economic development with environmental protection.

Mining companies value our stable regulatory regime – the review will focus on making the process as effective and efficient as possible.

We are looking forward to hearing from you and others as we consult on specific aspects of the review.

Third, we remain the only province in the country with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business's highest grade for cutting red tape.

Fourth, we're continuing to build world-class infrastructure – power generation and transmission, roads, bridges and ports to get goods to and from their markets.

Fifth ... with the US economy struggling, we promised to open up new markets for our products.

In December, I led my fourth international trade mission, this time to China, Korea and Japan.

We will continue these missions because the culture in Asia attaches great importance to solid business relationships developed over time. There are no short cuts.

And we will continue them because our combined efforts are netting significant returns. In a challenging market, global investors are increasingly seeing B.C. as a promising safe haven for exploration investment.

And finally, today, I'm pleased to announce that subject to the approval of the Legislature, government is extending the BC mining flow-through share tax credit through 2014.

This will provide yet another incentive for raising revenues for mining exploration in B.C. Our projection is that it will be \$10 million tax credit this year.

BC JOBS PLAN

And we're working on doing more. In the BC Jobs Plan we committed to eight new mines will open and nine will be expanded by 2015.

We're on our way to achieving that goal. There are two new mines in operation, with another five more under construction, or permitted.

That includes Mount Milligan – the first new metals mine in B.C. in a decade.

...the \$500 million Red Chris mine in the northeast is expected to begin production this year.

...the Roman mine near Tumbler Ridge is working toward production this year.

...and the province has also approved seven major expansions of existing mines.

All of this activity is good news for you – and good news for B.C.

It contributed over \$8.3 billion to our economy in 2012.

SKILLS TRAINING

It's one thing to expect growth. It's another to be prepared for it.

In the next 10 years, we project the mining sector will have 16,700 job openings. And those are just the direct jobs.

We have to make sure British Columbians are first in line for these new jobs.

So we made a \$1.9-billion investment to support educational programs in British Columbia's post-secondary system.

We've invested more than \$1 million to support the Mineral Exploration and Mining Industry Labour Shortage Task Force.

And nearly \$2.2 million for mining-related Employment Skills Access programs.

Also a Labour Market Sector Solutions program investment of almost \$500,000 through the BC Aboriginal Mine Training Association in the Kootenays.

I'm especially proud that many of the new jobs will be filled by First Nations workers. Mining employs more First Nations workers than any other industry in British Columbia.

That's a good start. But we need to do more. As thousands of new jobs come on the horizon, we have to make sure that First Nations are full participants and beneficiaries of the new economic growth.

Too many First Nations communities have been left out of economic growth for far, far too long. That's a tragedy.

But we can be that generation that not only puts British Columbia on a path to new economic growth. We can also be the generation that makes sure that First Nations are an integral part of that growth so that they can become the self-sustaining communities that their leaders envision...

Healthy, safe, wealthy communities where every child gets a great education...

communities where every child has an equal shot at getting a great job when they're ready.

First Nations are hungry to be a part of economic growth, but they also want to benefit from it.

I agree. Let's bring them inside the tent.

To bring them in – to bring everyone in – our Jobs and Skills Training Minister, Shirley Bond is working on a 10 year Skills Strategy...

She's working with businesses, private sector labour leaders, and with her cabinet colleagues in Education and Advanced Education to re-engineer how we prepare students for the jobs of the future.

Those plans include a heavy emphasis on making sure British Columbians they have the training they need to work safely.

I'm proud that mining continues to be one of B.C.'s safest heavy industries, with a lower injury rate than most of the other resource and industrial sectors.

CONCLUSION

There is no doubt that mining will continue to play a central role in our growing economy.

Built on hard work and even tougher people, this industry laid much of the foundation for the prosperity we enjoy today.

We will continue working with the AME and other associations ... with communities, companies and workers ... with Ottawa.

And we'll continue to open new markets across the Pacific.

And despite some challenging times, a bright future lies ahead.

Mining is our past, our present and our future. We can continue to build a sustainable industry – an industry that creates jobs and investment and a future for our kids and grandkids.

On May 14 British Columbians faced a question: do you want to grow the economy, or do you want to make a different choice and manage decline?

Do you want to build the economy? Do you want to create jobs for citizens in every region of our province?

And on May 14 British Columbians were absolutely clear. They said they want a strong economy. They want us to say yes to economic growth.

We heard them loud and clear. And we're working every day to deliver on that promise.

That will be our legacy.

Together we can do it.

Thank You

After the speech:

I am honoured to officially proclaim this as Mineral Exploration Week.

Good afternoon,

To all our guests, thank you for coming.

It's a pleasure to be in Los Angeles with you. And if I may, a special thanks to Consul General Fransen.

You are at the end of your term here in LA. It's too bad there are no ticker tape parades for great public service. You deserve one. For all the work you've done for Canada, and especially for British Columbia.

So thank you.

California and British Columbia share so many things.

Our magnificent Pacific coastline -- but our partnership goes beyond geography.

There's history too. Our first settlers in BC depended on the Post Office in San Francisco for mail. Californians came north for gold, and some played a role in the creation of BC itself.

But our partnership is more than just the past. Our best days are ahead of us.

The heart-beat of the North American economy is moving west. We share a bright future in the things that Californians and British Columbians do so well together—cleantech, digital media, and life sciences to name just a few.

Look at our trade relationship. Just looking at goods, and not services... In 2012, BC exported \$ 1.7 Billion here. California exported \$ 3.1 Billion to BC. And using BC as California's port of entry, much of that makes its way into the rest of Canada.

Look at our partnership in climate leadership. Together, each in our own way, we had the courage to put a price on carbon. In BC, the naysayers said the sky would fall on our economy because of our carbon tax.

And then our economy grew faster than most in Canada, even as emissions went down.

Now, through the Pacific Coast Collaborative, California and British Columbia are not alone in putting a price on carbon. Oregon and Washington State will stand with us too. That means we have even more clout to make a real difference...not just at home, but drive change globally.

These joint achievements set the table for the wealth creation, the jobs, and innovation for the future that you in this room make happen.

Let me give you some examples starting in Cleantech.

In BC, we've got the knowledge base, and we've got world leading research and development. That means clean energy solutions to power everything from big industry to the local school around the corner.

Westport Innovations converts diesel trucks to cleaner-burning natural gas. That results in a reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by up to 25% compared to current diesel engines.

Endurance Wind Power's turbines sale to Rio Vista High School in Northern California means clean, renewable energy to power life and learning in that community.

Together, these advancements are helping California meet its climate change targets.

Digital Media is another sector where California and BC benefit from our strong relationship. There's constant collaboration between businesses and organizations in our two jurisdictions.

Like Dreamworks Animation and the Vancouver Film School. Their partnership program helps Dreamworks identify up-and-coming artists...

Just one example of how BC post-secondary institutions create top digital media talent...

People who can help California companies compete and succeed.

BC also has some of the top Life Sciences researchers in North America. Again, talent clustered around elite institutions, like the University of British Columbia Life Sciences Institute.

Just recently, we saw Versant Ventures of San Francisco recognize the potential of BC. They're making a \$10 million investment to develop innovative therapeutics for retinal eye disease. They've opened an office, invested in a drug development start-up and they've joined forces with Bayer Healthcare.

So how do we keep this going, and keep growing the success?

I believe government has to do everything we can to create a strong economy and a secure tomorrow.

A growing economy starts with controlling government spending. BC was one of only two provinces in Canada last year to balance its budget. We're doing it again this year. We've been earning top credit ratings from international bond rating agencies – and we intend to keep doing just that.

We're keeping taxes among the lowest in the country. And we're leading the country in cutting red tape. We've been attracting investment into our province, and we intend to keep growing it.

Through our Jobs Plan, we've invested in infrastructure to get our goods to market. We've opened new markets in China, India, Korea and Japan for the things we do well in BC, like the Tech Sector.

And we're on the cusp of a new liquefied natural gas industry in BC. One that will create

- 100,000 jobs
- immense benefits for our tech sector
- the biggest opportunity for BC to help reduce global GHG emissions by helping countries like China replace coal-fired power generation with natural gas

I believe California and British Columbia want the same things. Grow our economy. Do it responsibly. And help other parts of the world do the same thing.

Not just by setting examples. But with our technology and our knowledge.

I hope this is work we can do together. For us, and for future generations.

Thank you.

Thank you Speaker Perez for your kind words, and the opportunity to speak.

I am visiting Sacramento today – and speaking with the Governor, Senators and Assembly members...

Because we have something in common.

California and British Columbia are both leaders.

Leaders on climate change, clean energy, and energy efficiency.

In Canada, British Columbia is leading the way on climate change.

In the United States, California is showing the way forward. That started in this Assembly with the passage of Bill 32 in 2006.

Climate change is a global problem driven by global emissions. To address it, we need to cooperate.

Because working alone, we can only do so much.

British Columbia is home to just under 4.5 million people – less than half of Los Angeles County.

With the BC Carbon Tax, we apply the most comprehensive and highest price on carbon emissions in North America, and perhaps the world.

And virtually all of our electrical generation comes from zero carbon, non-nuclear sources.

And while B.C. may be small, we're punching above our weight. To make a real difference, we're working with our neighbours, and working with the biggest emitters.

In October, British Columbia joined California. Washington and Oregon to sign the Pacific Coast Action Plan on Climate and Energy.

Together, B.C. and the west coast states represent 50 million people. We would be one of the world's largest economies.

By working together to put a price on carbon pollution...

Implement common low carbon fuel standards and energy efficiency standards....

And promote development of alternative low carbon transportation fuels...

We can make a much greater difference than we ever could on our own.

But as Governor Brown said, the Pacific Coast Action Plan is a small beginning. But hopefully, a beginning that builds to further action on a global scale.

Later today, Governor Brown and I will discuss how we can work together to build on that beginning.

In B.C., we're taking the next step in the battle against climate change.

We have a unique opportunity and contribution to make to fight climate change and improve global air quality – while growing our economy.

By developing our surplus natural gas, liquefying it, and exporting it to Asia...

We will help China move away from coal.

Right now, China generates over a quarter of the world's Greenhouse Gas emissions. This has an enormous impact on air quality, and not just in China.

Switching even a fraction of their electrical generation from coal to LNG, would mean a much bigger difference than we could make, even collectively.

We could eliminate all GHG emissions from Vancouver to San Diego...

...and it would have virtually no impact on climate change.

It's a global problem. And to solve it, we need to work with the world's biggest economies and emitters.

We need to use all the resources and technologies available. And we need to continue to work together.

In this fight, B.C. is California's closest North American and international ally.

Thank you again for California's leadership and the leadership of the California Assembly, and the opportunity to speak with you.

Mr President, distinguished Members of the Senate, ladies and gentlemen Thank you for the honour of being invited to address you speak here today, in such a challenging time.

Senators, I am pleased to be here as your friend. To stand with you, given the longstanding partnership of our two jurisdictions.

I have to say, through this drought what comes through loud and clear is your incredible resolve and resilience here in the Senate, and everywhere in California. Senators, please allow me to salute your leadership through this time.

Now, I'm told that I'm the first Canadian Premier to give a speech from the dais in your chamber.

That tells me two things.

One. Other Canadian Premiers may want to do the same thing....

So I'd better not wreck it for them.

(Pause)

And two. Your invitation speaks volumes about our long-standing friendship. The partnership between California and British Columbia.

We share so many things.

Our magnificent geography, our Pacific coastline

And there's history too. In the 1850's Californians came north for gold, tens of thousands of them.

And what looked to you like scruffy dreamers full of the hope they'd strike it rich, look to the British like men with dangerous ideas about democracy and a vision to make our province a part of America. And so it was because of those big dreamers from the south that B.C. was hurriedly given status as a province thereby ensuring a British presence on the west coast.

The second Premier of British Columbia was also a Californian. Almost exactly 160 years ago (on February 16th, 1854) the man who would become the 2nd Premier of British Columbia appeared before the California State Senate to legally change his name from William Alexander Smith to Amor De Cosmos.

But our partnership is more than just the past. Our best days are ahead of us.

The heart-beat of the North American economy is moving west. Californians and British Columbians do so many things well together-- life sciences, digital media, energy innovation to name just a few.

Look at our trade relationship. Just looking at goods, and not services... In 2012, BC exported \$ 1.7 Billion to you. California exported \$ 3.1 Billion to BC. And BC is California's port of entry into the rest of Canada.

Look at our climate leadership. Together, each in our own way, we had the courage to put a price on carbon. In BC, the naysayers that with a \$30 a tonne tax on carbon said the sky would fall on our economy.

It didn't, our economy grew faster than most in Canada, and emissions went down.

Now, through the Pacific Coast Collaborative, California and British Columbia are not alone in putting a price on carbon. Oregon and Washington State want to stand with us too. That means we have even more clout to make a real difference.

And all of that speaks to the greatest thing we share.

Our values:

To make sure our kids have every opportunity to be better off than us...

In a place as beautiful and pristine as we found it.

This land is a gift and we have a duty to care for it.

And we know, to live those values, we have to live within our means.

It's just not right to pay for things we want today by saddling our kids with debt.

That's why I admire the California story. You have had the courage to move from deficits to surpluses.

So I'm here to tell you: I don't have a deck of cards...

But I find a kindred voice in Governor Brown and what he had to say here about controlling spending now to look after any lean times ahead.

We believe in the same thing in BC. We're one of only two provinces in Canada that balanced our budget last year. And we will again this year.

We start there. Create the right climate for investment. So that we can grow the economy.

We have a Jobs Plan to leverage our strengths. At the centre of that plan is liquefied natural gas.

Liquefying is how we can export our clean natural gas to Asia.

And when we do that, it'll create jobs at home.

Getting a higher price for it will mean we can eliminate our debt.

And on the world stage, we'll be able to take the biggest step we've ever taken in BC to reduce global emissions.

You know this works.

Natural gas has helped the United States reduce coal emissions and be a climate leader.

China now wants to do the same.

They're serious about buying BC's natural gas to reduce coal-fired power generation...

Now it's only by a fraction. But the impact of reducing coal in China by a fraction is huge for the world.

China's emissions reductions annually would be so big it would dwarf BC's entire output.

To put that in context, if BC wanted to achieve an equivalent reduction in GHG emissions we would have to close every factory, every public building and pull every car from the road for one and a half years.

And the impact of reducing coal by that fraction in China, would be huge for all of us on the West Coast.

Your National Academy of Sciences. Pollution from China adds a day of smog in LA. It could be responsible for 20 % of all sulfite pollution in BC.

We share one planet. We breathe the same air. And we have a shared future.

We can grow our economy. Do it responsibly. While helping other parts of the world do the same.

It's simple to say. But it's hard to do. But the best Coast of North America was built by people who were unafraid to push the boundaries. Dreamers who freed themselves from the old ways of doing things.

To paraphrase Oliver Wendell Holmes Senior, the best kind of simplicity is the type you find on the other side of complicated. After a lot of hard work.

Senators, I truly hope that's the kind of work we can do together. Californians and British Columbians. In every field To chart a new path. And always as the closest of friends.

Thank you. For the honour of addressing you today.

Business Roundtable with Canadian Ambassador to Japan
Friday Feb. 7, 2014
Opening Remarks: 3-5 minutes

Event: what is it?

- Roundtable with Canada's Ambassador to Japan, Mackenzie Clugston.

Audience: who are they?

- Mackenzie Clugston, Canadian Ambassador to Japan
- Others TBD

KEY MESSAGES:

1. B.C. highly values its relationship with Japan as shown by our selection of Japan for our last two trade missions to Asia.
2. B.C. is home to approximately 46,000 Japanese-Canadians and the partnership between B.C. and Japan continues to grow stronger based on a mutual commitment to promoting friendly and co-operative relations.
3. B.C. has strong historic ties to Japan. The inauguration of formal ties between Japan and Canada began with the establishment of the Japanese Consulate in Vancouver on June 22, 1889 – 40 years before the opening of the Japanese embassy in Ottawa.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Mackenzie Clugston, Canada's Ambassador to Japan
Hon. Teresa Wat
Ben Stewart

It's an honour to be invited here today to open this roundtable.

Ambassador Clugston came with me for part of my trade mission in November.

We talked about the ongoing partnerships between B.C. and Japan. Not just between governments, but business as well.

And we talked about ways we could support that. Which brings us to today.

I wanted to bring together some key industry leaders with the Ambassador to have a frank conversation about how we can help B.C. industries grow their share of the Japanese market.

I'm also looking to the Ambassador to provide any insights he has with respect to Japan's view of doing business with Canadians, and investing in BC.

The ties between us run deep.

These ties are a strong foundation we can build on.
That's why I've been on two trade missions to Japan
since becoming Premier.

That's why we maintain a Trade and Investment
Representative in Tokyo.

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

Thanks to Ambassador Clugston for starting this
conversation. Here's to many more.

-END-

Thank you Madam Speaker.

It's my sad duty to inform the house that the Minister of Advanced Education suffered a personal loss last night.

His father, Swarn Singh Virk, passed away at the age of 86.

Mr. Virk arrived in Canada in 1969. Like so many immigrants, he made great contributions to his adopted home – not least of which are his two sons, who have both done their family proud.

Canada and British Columbia are better places because of people like Swarn Singh Virk, and he will be missed.

I'm sure all members will join me in extending our sympathies to the Minister of Advanced Education, and his family – especially his mother.

Hon. C. Clark: For the past few months, as members know, the Minister of International Trade and Minister Responsible for Multiculturalism has been meeting with members of the Chinese community from all across this great province. She has heard many, many very powerful stories from those who were impacted by historical wrongs inflicted on Chinese Canadians.

This has been an exercise in reaching out and in confronting a painful time in our collective history. It's been an opportunity to educate ourselves and all British Columbians about a time that we cannot and should not forget. But it is also a chance for forgiveness, with Chinese Canadians displaying the remarkable resilience and spirit that has made the Chinese community such a vibrant part of our province today.

I'd like to commend the minister and her staff and all members of this Legislature who have participated in the process. It wasn't an easy one. There are two members, at least, of this Legislature that have a direct personal connection to this. However, all members showed a spirit of openness and understanding, and it is only by working together that we can move forward.

The hearings attracted large numbers of people, and the work of compiling those compelling stories continues. The minister, along with the opposition, will now work together on a formal motion that will be introduced in this Legislature as an apology for historical wrongs.

But, Madame Speaker, there is one consistent thread throughout all the hearings, and that was the need for education. So that's why today I can tell this House that I've asked the Minister of Education to work with the Minister for International Trade and Multiculturalism and with members of the opposition to ensure that our school curriculum reflects our true history.

British Columbia has a long history with many things of which we can be justifiably proud. But our history also has to be accurate. We don't serve anyone if we choose to ignore the parts of the past we would rather not remember. The changes to the curriculum will ensure that every child in British Columbia grows up knowing our history, including those mistakes that impacted so many people. If society does not learn from its mistakes, then we are doomed to repeat them.

Curriculum changes take time, and we want to make sure we get it right. Teachers will guide the process as they always do in changes to curriculum and design. But it will also include voices from the communities that were affected. This is a great province, one that is made strong by all those who have come here over the years to contribute. We have a unique opportunity as a generation to create an even more successful society, one that embraces its diversity, one that welcomes people from across the globe to British Columbia. Diversity is our strength, and working together united, we can make it even stronger.

Good Morning.

Two years ago, tragedy struck Burns Lake. Two workers did not come home to their families that night. Many were injured. A community was shaken.

We, in government, had a job to do 4 things. And get them right.

First, do everything we could to get first responders in, get the injured the care they needed. We did that.

Second, connect the survivors to work or social assistance so that they could continue to support their families. We did that.

Third, work to re-open the mill, and ensure fibre supply so that families could stay in their community and re-build their lives. We did that.

Fourth, deliver the highest standard of investigation to find out what went wrong. To conduct the investigation in such a way that kept all options on the table.

That did not happen. That's not acceptable. Those workers, those families, British Columbians deserve better.

That's why I asked John Dyble, the head of our public service to review the fact-pattern and come back to me with recommendations.

I'm making that public today.

As well...I'm just coming from a meeting with George Morfitt, Chair of WorkSafe BC and the Minister Responsible for Labour, Shirley Bond.

I called Mr. Morfitt to my office today because I am deeply disappointed in the way WorkSafe conducted their investigation.

The fact pattern is clear.

WorkSafe should have known what was required by the Criminal Justice Branch in order to proceed with a case.

WorkSafe had been advised previously by the Branch about evidence gathering procedures for prosecution purposes.

As disappointed as I am, I am equally determined. To correct what's wrong...to protect workers and their families, actions must be taken now.

I accept all of John Dyble's recommendations and I have made my expectations clear.

WorkSafe BC must not only adopt all of the recommendations...

but immediately develop an action plan to implement them.

Additionally, I am concerned that in this case, WorkSafe did not ensure that it properly understood the rules of evidence as required by the Criminal Justice Branch. WorkSafe must examine and explain why that happened.

Babine

February 13, 2014

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Today, members of my cabinet are reaching out to the families in Burns Lake, to community leaders and First Nations.

Their resilience and perseverance is an example to us all.

And an example we must honour.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Jamie Sawchuk, LNG and BC Public Sector Leader,
Partner, Deloitte (sponsor, introduces PCC)

Jim Belsheim, Chair, BC Chamber of Commerce

John Winter, President & CEO, BC Chamber of
Commerce

Richard Rees, CEO, Chartered Professional Accountants
of BC (Sponsor)

Chris Fowler, President & CEO, Canadian Western Bank
(Sponsor)

Good morning.

It's a pleasure to be here.

I'm here with good news – and, if you'll indulge me, the
story of how we got there.

I want to start by showing you the scope of what we were
dealing with.

SLIDE 1 – FISCAL HOLE

That's four different economic indicators.

Employment.

Retail sales.

Housing starts.

Exports.

They all tell the same story. About five years ago, we ran into a storm. And the storms that do the most damage all have one thing in common...

We didn't see it coming.

Nobody did.

In B.C., we've had the good fortune and good foresight to avoid many of the world's worst problems.

But in 2009, our economy took a massive hit. And the drop you see here created a \$ 2 billion hole in our provincial revenues.

That's the equivalent of the provincial contribution to Cardiac Services BC, the BC Cancer Agency, and B.C.'s mental health and substance use programs.

And as you know – it wasn't just us.

Different jurisdictions dealt with that in different ways. In some ways, the global recession was a political Rorschach Test.

Some jurisdictions tried to compensate by raising taxes.

Most delayed the problem, dealing with the fiscal hole by pushing it ahead to deal with down the road.

I'm proud to say that here in B.C., we took a different approach.

How different? Consider this map.

SLIDE 2 – MAP OF CANADA

Ten provinces, three territories, and the federal government in Ottawa.

That's 14 jurisdictions.

And of the 14, just two have a balanced budget –
Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

In B.C. we dealt with this fiscal gap right away. And we did that by ratcheting down spending.

By saying no.

And we had to say “no” a lot. Even to things we really want to do.

But we had to have to discipline to say no, to look past short-term political gain.

We had to say – no. We'll do when we can afford it. And not before.

Because with declining revenues, the only way to balance a budget is by cutting spending.

That's not complicated math.

So my coming here today – to talk about our second consecutive balanced budget – really started three years ago.

Because for this government – balancing the budget is a central principle.

We square our accounts.

We will not go ask the taxpayer for more money. We will not borrow or steal from something else.

We will not put off today's hard work for tomorrow.

And we did not. Yesterday, Mike de Jong introduced our second consecutive balanced budget.

And the three-year fiscal plan projects surpluses totaling \$841 million.

Promise made, promise kept.

It's one thing to say, and quite another to do. I don't want to oversimplify...but the primary way we've done it has been labour agreements.

Because public sector wages are – by far – our greatest cost.

SLIDE 3 – BC PUBLIC SECTOR COMPENSATION

I want to thank labour leaders. Because they've lived through zeros. It's not easy to tell hardworking men and women there's no money to give them a raise.

But if we had, we'd be in the weeds.

During contract talks in 2010, the majority of unions accepted two-year agreements with net-zero wage increases.

SLIDE 4 – WAGES

Had we ignored the economic reality and agreed to modest annual raises of even two per cent, we would have to find \$790 million more to support those wage increases.

That's the equivalent of \$450 per household. Or increasing the PST to 8 per cent.

Now let's talk about what \$790 million would pay for.

4 replacement schools.

7 new schools.

And Surrey Memorial Hospital's new ER.

What would you rather spend \$790 million on?

So would we. And we did.

Under the cooperative gains mandate, we're offering public sector workers a chance to share in the benefits.

We asked them to identify waste in their own systems, not ask you for more money.

And as the economy grows, we gave them a stake in growing the economy. If we exceed our annual forecasts, they get more money. In effect, they are shareholders in British Columbia.

The results speak for themselves. Under the Economic Stability Mandate, there are approximately 71,000 public sector employees covered by ratified agreements.

SLIDE 5 – CREDIT RATINGS IN CANADA

There's a lot of hard work to come. But we're going to keep at it, because having a balanced budget is worth it.

Because of our balanced budget...because we're projected for surpluses for the next three years – we have a triple –A credit rating. Which, unfortunately, is rare.

If we veer off course, if we don't balance our budget, and lost our triple-A credit rating, there would be real consequences.

SLIDE 6 – DEBT TO GDP RATIO

Our debt to GDP ratio compares well to everyone else in this country...and we're driving it down.

Right now our debt servicing costs are about \$2.5 billion per year.

If we had Ontario's credit rating and relative debt level, we would be spending \$4.7 billion on interest payments alone.

You saw the impact a \$2 billion hole had. That's why the only responsible choice was to make the tough decisions and balance the budget.

Because we've done the hard work, because we're working to keep the economy strong, we're able to make investments in the future.

Over the next three years, we're investing \$11 billion in capital projects.

\$1.5 billion to expand or replace schools...

\$2.3 billion for post-secondary institutions...

\$2.6 billion on health sector infrastructure...

And \$3.4 billion for transportation improvements.

We're also providing an additional \$415 million to provide more care for those who need it and make life more affordable for British Columbians.

Think about young families just starting out, and how expensive that is today. That might have been you, not so long ago...

Or maybe your own kids. Or, given some of the grey and white heads in this room, your grandkids.

As of this morning, we've increased the threshold for the first-time home buyer's exemption from the Property Transfer Tax to \$475,000.

And next April, we'll introduce the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit. This will provide \$146 million per year for 180,000 families across B.C.

They'll get \$55 per month for every kid under the age of 6. And believe me, for a young family – every penny counts.

We'll also help them save for their education. We're working with the federal government to invest more than \$1,200 per child, so that the interest can pay for post-secondary education.

Young families also need safe neighbourhoods for their kids to play in. So we're providing \$15 million for increased RCMP policing costs to keep our streets and neighbourhoods safe.

And we're making investments to ensure that, as we grow the economy...

British Columbians will be prepared for the jobs that will come.

By 2020, there will be over 1 million job openings in B.C.

SLIDE 7 – 1,000,000 JOB OPENINGS IN BC

That's the equivalent population of:
Atlin,

Fort St. John,
Prince Rupert,
Quesnel,
Revelstoke,
Cranbrook,
Duncan,
Surrey,
Richmond,
And Kelowna.

Combined.

The only way to ensure British Columbians are first in line for those jobs is to ensure they have the skills to fill them.

One of the places that will do that is the new NorKam Trades Centre for Excellence in Kamloops.

When it's finished later this year, it will train British Columbians for careers in mining, construction, and other growth industries.

Or they could go to Victoria and Camosun College, where new trades training facilities will produce an additional 370 graduates every year in marine, metal, and mechanical trades.

Or they could follow my footsteps and head to Kelowna. In four years, the Okanagan College trades training complex will more than double in size.

Or, they could look here to Vancouver, and the new campus at Emily Carr University.

These graduates, trained in skills that will be in demand, ready to compete and win on the world stage – the sky's the limit.

And they'll have the chance to build their lives wherever they want. And we're working every day to make sure there will be plenty of opportunity here in British Columbia.

And we're ensuring that by bringing home the greatest single opportunity of our generation – LNG.

It has the potential to create 100,000 new jobs, and generate enough revenue...

Not just to fill the fiscal hole, but to eliminate our provincial debt.

We've already reached preliminary agreements with more than 10 proponents investing billions already.

Now I know, not all of them will get to final investment decisions. But understand this: even one large plant could be biggest private sector investment in history.

And this legislative session, we're starting to lay the legislative framework.

The first step is the tax framework.

We're proposing a two-tier tax, levied on income from liquefaction in facilities in B.C.

That makes sure British Columbians get value from the resource they own.

But also ensures competitiveness in the first years of development. That's why there's a tier one tax of one and a half per cent, so companies can pay off their capital investment first.

Once they have, the tier two rate is up to seven per cent. But they'll get credit for tier one tax already paid.

Here's the big picture: where does that place us for competitiveness?

SLIDE 8 - LNG TAX PRINCIPLES

This graph shows the high and low-end of taxes paid, all in, LNG tax and everything else...

All included in black and blue.

You can see, B.C. is the most competitive, including our main rivals in Australia.

And while this is an important step, a necessary step – it's just one step.

BACK TO COVER SLIDE

In the coming months, we'll introduce other components of B.C.'s LNG framework.

An environmental framework, with safeguards to ensure we have the cleanest LNG industry on the planet

A labour component, to ensure British Columbians are first in line for the jobs that will come.

A social infrastructure component, to smooth out the rough edges of sudden growth in smaller communities.

And a component to ensure B.C.'s First Nations are participating as full partners.

For too long, too many First Nations communities have been left behind in economic development.

LNG is an opportunity to help bridge that gap. To help their leaders achieve their vision of prosperous, safe, thriving communities.

And all this additional economic activity is going to create more opportunity – across the resource sector, but also in industries like tech, agriculture and aquaculture.

And as we produce more, we're working to expand our markets overseas, and grow our exports.

We've worked hard on trade missions with many of you. And look at the results – increased exports, record exports in some sectors. That's what is driving our growth, and will continue to drive our growth.

And our economy will grow...leading the country according to the Conference Board of Canada in 2015.

And when you grow...jobs get created...wealth gets created...for citizens right across this province.

I'm your partner in that strong economy. That strong economy secures tomorrow.

As a result of the balanced budget, we're in the black. we're heading to surpluses. We're ready for economic growth. We're ready for the change.

But I'll commit to this...I will not change on one thing.

We got here with discipline, with unwavering determination to live within our means to honour taxpayers. That is not going to change.

Because while we've stared down the biggest economic storm of our times, there's more to do.

We have a legacy to leave the next generation.

It's not the '60s anymore. We in the western world can't take 8 per cent annual economic growth for granted.

It hasn't been that way for 40 years.

Our opportunity as a generation is to choose.

We can manage decline, and find ways to survive within negligible economic growth.

We can spend ourselves into debt, leaving our kids with their own, much bigger, fiscal hole.

Or, we can find new ways to grow the economy. To create more opportunities.

On May 14, British Columbians spoke clearly.

They chose optimism.

It's up to us to answer.

Let's be that generation that rises to the challenge.

All of us.

Together.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

Kathy Conway, CEO, Interior Savings (introduces PCC)

Caroline Grover, Chamber CEO

Clark Burnett, Partner, Pushor Mitchell LLP (thanks PCC)

Other Head Table:

- Dave Bond, Chamber President and Partner at KPMG
- Hon. Ron Cannan, P.C. M.P. for Kelowna – Lake Country
- Hon. Steve Thomson, MLA for Kelowna - Mission
- Norn Letnick, MLA for Kelowna – Lake Country
- Curtis Darmohray, Chamber Exec. VP and Partner at Pushor Mitchell LLP
- Kevin Crookes, Partner at Grant Thornton LLP
- Ben Pidskalny, General Manager at SW Audio Visual
- Ted Schisler, Senior VP, Operations, Interior Savings

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The Interior Heart and Surgical Centre which opens next year.

A new outpatient hospital at Kelowna General, plus acute bed capacity, plus emergency room, plus medical training school

And 7 new schools in BC, including Mar Jok in West Kelowna.

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That's the equivalent population of:
Atlin,
Fort St. John,

Prince Rupert,
Quesnel,
Revelstoke,
Cranbrook,
Duncan,
Surrey,
Richmond,
And Kelowna.

Combined.

The only way to ensure British Columbians are first in line for those jobs is to ensure they have the skills to fill them.

That's why we're investing \$2.3 Billion to build new facilities and buy new machinery to offer the best training we can in every region of our province...

Including right here...

.

In Kelowna... to more than double the size of the Okanagan College trades training complex.

These graduates, trained in skills that will be in demand, ready to compete and win on the world stage – the sky's the limit.

And they'll have the chance to build their lives wherever they want...including right here, at home, close to family, in the Central Okanagan.

Here's why. You've heard me talking about the greatest single opportunity of our generation – LNG.

100,000 new jobs, and enough revenue to tackle our debt.

I want that money, and those jobs to land right here.

That's why I created LNG-Buy BC...so that those dozen major multi-nationals trying to build their export facilities in BC...

hire businesses big, medium and small FROM BC.

Contractors, engineering firms, technology companies, digital media, office supplies, caterers, lawyers, accountants...everything they need.

I appointed Gord Wilson to connect our businesses to LNG. He was just here in Kelowna, at the Chamber.

As he figured, he found great interest in the subject.

Interest in our world LNG conference in May...

In LNG-Buy BC workshops that will be coming here but he heard something else that surprised him.

He was approached by Central Okanagan businesses who are already engaged with LNG companies.

And others who are bidding for work right now.

And a keen interest to attract LNG offices to Kelowna.

This is why I always say we have to get to final investment decisions. No one knows how many of the 12 companies will get there but understand this: even one large plant could be biggest private sector investment in our province's history.

In the budget we've started to lay the framework. The first step is the tax framework.

We're proposing a two-tier tax, levied on income from liquefaction in facilities in B.C.

That makes sure British Columbians get value from the resource they own.

But also ensures competitiveness in the first years of development. That's why there's a tier one tax of one and a half per cent, so companies can pay off their capital investment first.

Once they have, the tier two rate is up to seven per cent. But they'll get credit for tier one tax already paid.

Here's the big picture: where does that place us for competitiveness?

SLIDE 8 - LNG TAX PRINCIPLES

This graph shows the high and low-end of taxes paid, all in, LNG tax and everything else...

You can see, B.C. is the most competitive, including our main rivals in Australia.

And while this is an important step, a necessary step – it's just one step.

BACK TO COVER SLIDE

In the coming months, we'll introduce other components of B.C.'s LNG framework.

An environmental framework, with safeguards to ensure we have the cleanest LNG industry on the planet

A labour component, to ensure we have a skilled workforce to build the projects and run them...that British Columbians are first in line for the jobs that will come.

A social infrastructure component, to smooth out the rough edges of sudden growth in smaller communities.

And a component to ensure B.C.'s First Nations are participating as full partners.

For too long, too many First Nations communities have been left behind in economic development.

LNG is an opportunity to help bridge that gap. To help their leaders achieve their vision of prosperous, safe, thriving communities.

LNG is the core of our BC Jobs Plan...but we've got a lot more going for us – across the resource sector, in industries like tech, agriculture and tourism. And as we produce more, we're working to expand our markets overseas, and grow our exports.

We've worked hard on trade missions and look at the results – increased exports, record exports in some sectors. Export is the number one reason that is driving economic growth today.

And our economy will grow...leading the country according to the Conference Board of Canada in 2015.

And when you grow...jobs get created...wealth gets created...for citizens right across this province.

I'm your partner in that strong economy. That strong economy secures tomorrow.

As a result of the balanced budget, we're in the black.

we're heading to surpluses. We're ready for economic growth. We're ready for the change.

But I'll commit to this...I will not change on one thing.

We got here with discipline, with unwavering determination to live within our means to honour taxpayers. That is not going to change.

Because while we've stared down the biggest economic storm of our times, there's more to do.

We have a legacy to leave the next generation.

It's not the '60s anymore. We in the western world can't take 8 per cent annual economic growth for granted.

It hasn't been that way for 40 years.

Our opportunity as a generation is to choose.

We can manage decline, and find ways to survive within negligible economic growth.

We can spend ourselves into debt, leaving our kids with their own, much bigger, fiscal hole.

Or, we can find new ways to grow the economy. To create more opportunities.

On May 14, British Columbians spoke clearly.

They chose optimism.

It's up to us to answer.

Let's be that generation that rises to the challenge.

All of us.

Together.

**Vancouver Police Foundation's Night Patrol Gala
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
Speech length – 3 minutes**

Event: what is it?

- Annual Vancouver Police Foundation's Night Patrol Gala

Audience: who are they?

- Jim Chu, Chief Constable, VPD (TBC)
- Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson (TBC)
- VPD members, guests

Audience: what do they want to hear?

- **KEY MESSAGE:** Every day, the men and women of the Vancouver Police Department go above and beyond the call of duty to make their community better. Their discipline and dedication

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Chris Gailus (Introduces PCC)

Peter Brown

Chief Constable Jim Chu

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson

Hon. Suzanne Anton

Hon. Peter Fassbender

Thank you for having me here.

Like everyone else, I watched a lot of Olympic hockey over the past few weeks...

And I was reminded of the old saying “you never notice the best referees.”

I think police officers are a lot like that.

Like referees, a lot of people take you for granted. They notice you when you have to blow the whistle – say, for a speeding ticket.

And they definitely notice you when they need your help.

But there's so much you do, each and every day, that they don't see.

Going above and beyond the call of duty, working with charities, kids at risk, and staying engaged with the community.

It's not a job. It's a calling. It's a calling to make your community better. To be an example with your discipline and dedication.

You're an example to other police services, too. The VPD is consistently one of Canada's most award-winning services.

The VPD raises and breeds escort dogs for service across the country. And for 100 years, the VPD has been the home of Canada's longest-operating ceremonial pipe band.

And the VPD continues to be a leader in outreach programs. A few months ago, the provincial government was approached about a new program to work with Vancouver's youth.

Later tonight, you're going to hear more details about this program, and I don't want to steal anyone's thunder...

...but we are delighted to support it.

Thank you for everything you do. Vancouver is a better place because of it.

- END -

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Travis Price (introduces PCC)

Hon. Peter Fassbender

Rylan Boothman (will read anti-bullying poem)

Kids from Reynolds Secondary and Arbutus Globalm
Middle school in Victoria

- Thank you Travis.
- I first heard about Travis and David Shepherd back in 2006, when I was hosting a radio show.
- I had on a guest who shared her story about being a bully in school. And the lasting damage that had had done – both to others and herself.
- She challenged me to do something. To help end bullying in our schools.
- But what could I do? What difference could one person make?

- Then I heard about what Travis had done in Nova Scotia.
- He saw a fellow student being picked on. And why?
Because he was wearing a pink shirt.
- So he decided to stop being a bystander. He and his friends bought all the pink shirts they could find.
- And this sent a message. It sent a message to the kid who was being picked on – you are not alone.
- And it sent a powerful message to the bullies.
- We had to bring this message to B.C. And for seven years now, Pink Shirt Day has been raising awareness about bullying from coast to coast.

- So thank you, Travis. Thank you for showing people they can stand up and stand together.
- And for showing us that all it takes is one. One gesture, one action, one decision to stand up – can make a huge difference.
- That's what everyone here is doing today – standing together, making a difference.
- And that's powerful difference. But it can't just be today.
- Pink Shirt Day is about encouraging people to stand up to bullies every day.
- Because you can make a real difference. You can make things better. As Travis has shown the world, it only takes one person to get things started.
- Travis, to show our gratitude, I want to present you with this official proclamation, making today Bullying Awareness Day.

-END-

First Remarks

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Student MC Joshua Nicholas (introduces PCC)
Travis Price

Good morning. Thank you for being here today.

And thank you for getting it started. If we can learn anything from people like Travis...

It's that bullying continues because we let it. The only way to stop it is by standing up.

Together.

But I don't have to tell you – it's one thing to say that, and quite another to do.

And because bullying is so pervasive – you find it in the hallways, in the schoolyard, and online – we need to keep talking about it.

Because that's the best way to get inspired and share ideas.

That's the idea about the tree behind me.

If you get inspired today – if you have an idea to help stop bullying – please write it down.

Write it down on the idea leaf you've been provided. And when you do, raise your hand. An usher will come and collect it, and post it on the tree.

Don't be shy. Because we need your help. You guys are on the front lines of the fight to end bullying. You see stuff that we don't.

Add your voice. When we're done here today, I want to see a tree bursting with ideas.

-END-

NOTE: Joshua Nicholas takes podium, thanks Premier.

Second Remarks

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Hon. Peter Fassbender (introduces PCC)

Student Panel Members

I'm looking forward to hearing the ideas that will come from today.

From the panel members...and from the idea tree.

But for now – I want to tell everyone here today about something you can do now.

If you're being bullied...

if you know someone being bullied...

Even if you are a bully and want to stop...

you can do something about it.

Even if you're not ready to do it publicly.

I encourage you to check out reportbullyingbc.ca.

It's easy to use.

And it has already helped a lot of people – it even stopped a suicide attempt.

Because when you're more than just a bystander...you can change lives.

Wednesday was Pink Shirt Day – which is all about being more than a bystander.

It was created by two students in Nova Scotia, who decided to do something about bullying.

Please give a Panorama Ridge welcome Travis Price.

**NOTE: Travis comes to podium, speaks for 2-3 minutes.
Remain near the podium.**

Thanks Travis.

Now, we'd like to hear from you.

How many of you have a smartphone? And how many of you are on Twitter?

If you're not, that's okay.

Find a friend with Twitter. Form groups of 3 to 5, and tweet your ideas. Use the hashtag #ERASEforum.

We'll post them on the big screen here.

Travis and I will tweet too.

And to get the conversation started, I've asked Jane Thornthwaite, our Parliamentary Secretary for Student Support and Parent Engagement to lead us off.

-END-

NOTE: Premier and Travis work with student panel on tweets

Third Remarks

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Student MC Joshua Nicholas (re-introduces PCC)
Marc Kielburger *scheduled to arrive at 10:45*

Thanks Joshua.

And thanks to everyone here – for deciding to do something about bullying.

It's not a rite of passage. It's never okay.

To end bullying, we have a lot of work to do. And we've taken some big steps today.

When we launched the ERASE Bullying Strategy two years ago, we knew we need to hear from students.

So I want to introduce you to some students who are going to turn your inspiration into action.

My Student Advisory Committee is made up of 19 students from across B.C.

I've asked them for their ideas on what more we can do to erase bullying.

And they're going to start with something that didn't exist when I was in high school – social media.

Their first task is to develop social media guidelines for students, parents, and educators - inside and outside the classroom.

They're going to use the ideas from the tree to help them with this and other goals. They're going to put your good ideas to work.

I'm looking forward to working with them.

Two of them are here. Would you guys stand up and wave?

For everyone who couldn't be here today – they've each prepared a video introduction – let's meet them now.

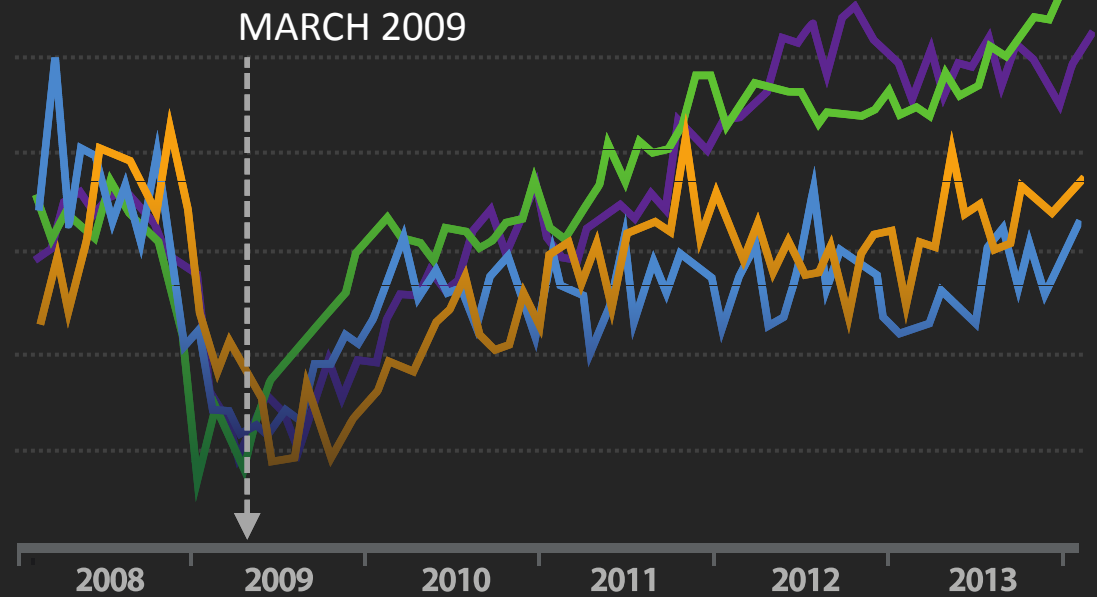
-END-

BALANCED BUDGET 2014



FISCAL HOLE

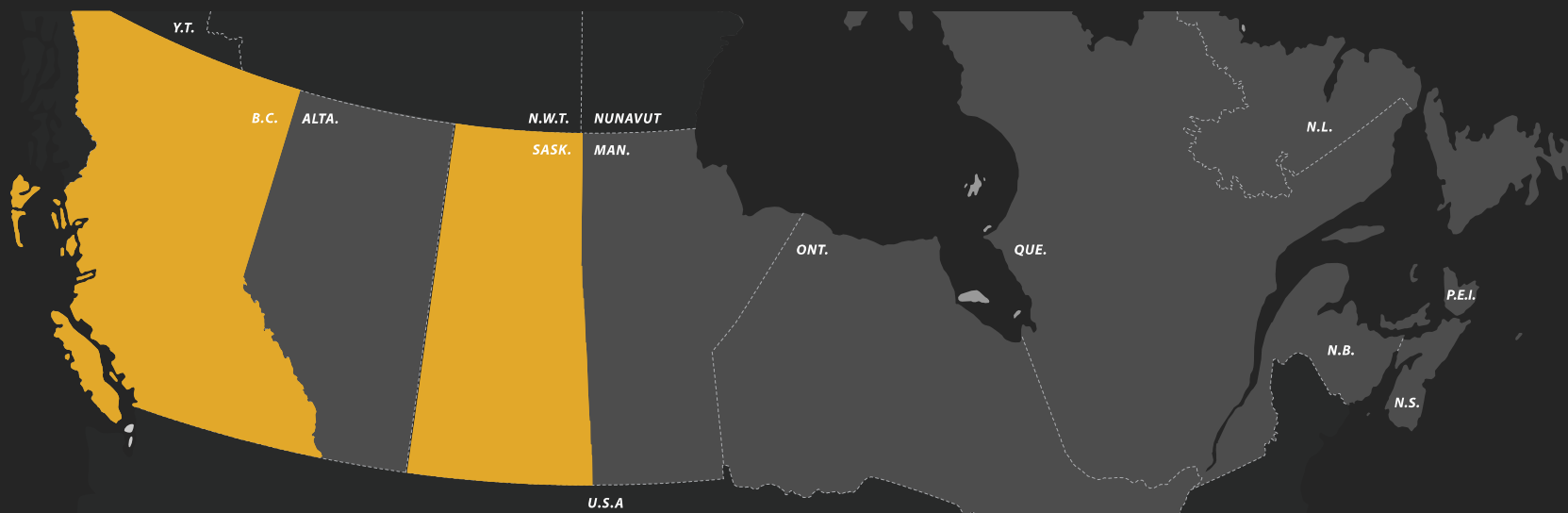
- *BC Employment*
- *BC Retail Sales*
- *BC Housing Starts*
- *BC Exports*



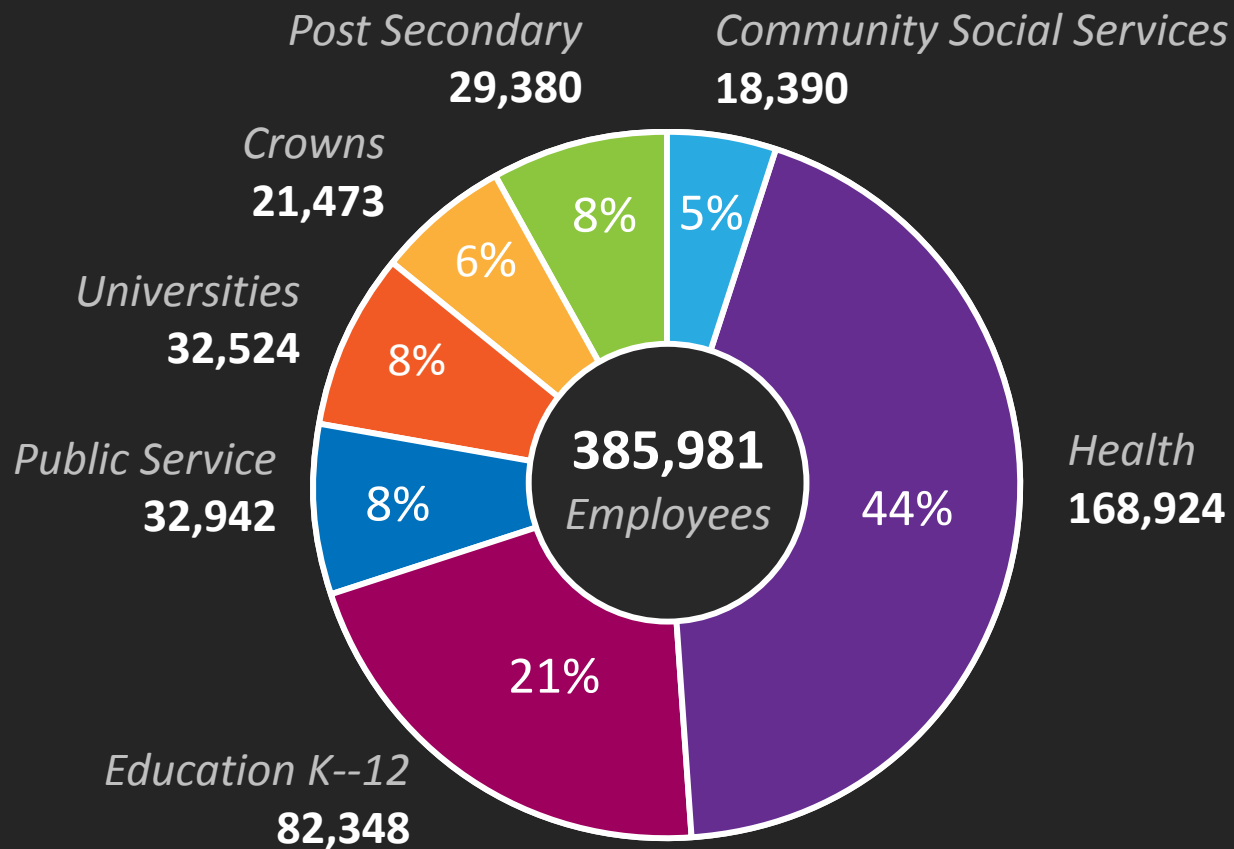
BALANCED BUDGETS IN 2013/14

■ *Deficit Budget*

■ *Balanced Budget*



B.C. PUBLIC SECTOR COMPENSATION BASE



WAGES

*Under NetZero and Cooperative Gains
no new money was spent*

What if there was a 2% increase?

EXAMPLE

2% ANNUAL RAISE IN 2010 =

\$4.3 BILLION ADDITIONAL DEBT BY 2016

PER YEAR, THAT EQUALS

- \$450 PER B.C. HOUSEHOLD, OR
- INCREASING THE PST TO 8%, OR
- \$790 MILLION IN CAPITAL PROJECTS

*What would you rather spend
\$790 million on?*

2016

\$4.3 BILLION

2013

\$790 MILLION / YR

7 NEW SCHOOLS

\$161 million

**SURREY MEMORIAL
EMERGENCY**

\$492 million

**4 REPLACEMENT
SCHOOLS**

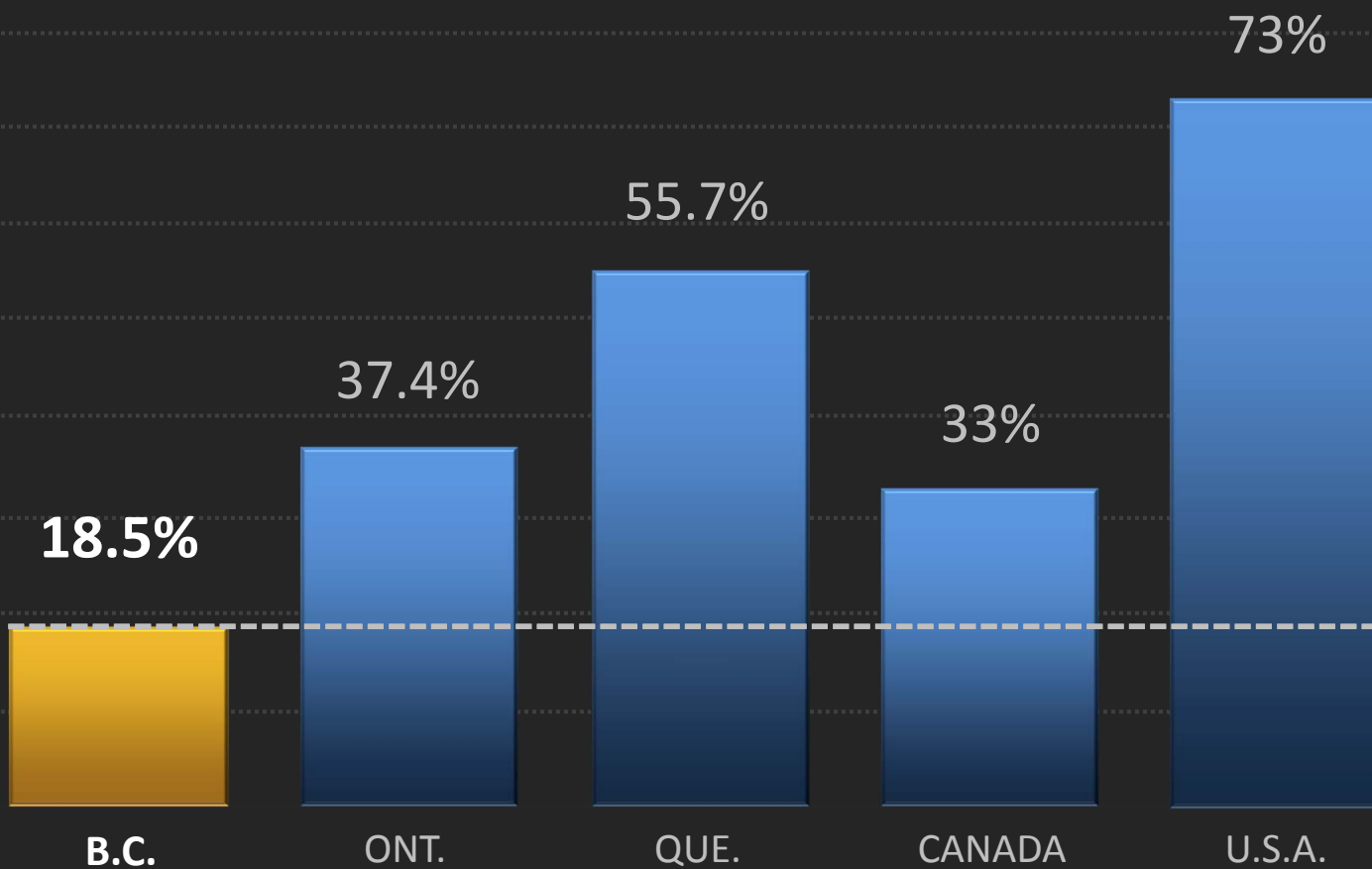
\$52 million

2010

CREDIT RATING COMPARISONS

	AAA	AA+	AA	AA-	A+	A
British Columbia	AAA					
Alberta	AAA					
Saskatchewan	AAA					
Manitoba			AA			
Ontario				AA-		
Quebec					A+	
New Brunswick					A+	
Nova Scotia					A+	
Prince Edward Island						A
Newfoundland and Labrador					A+	
Canada	AAA					

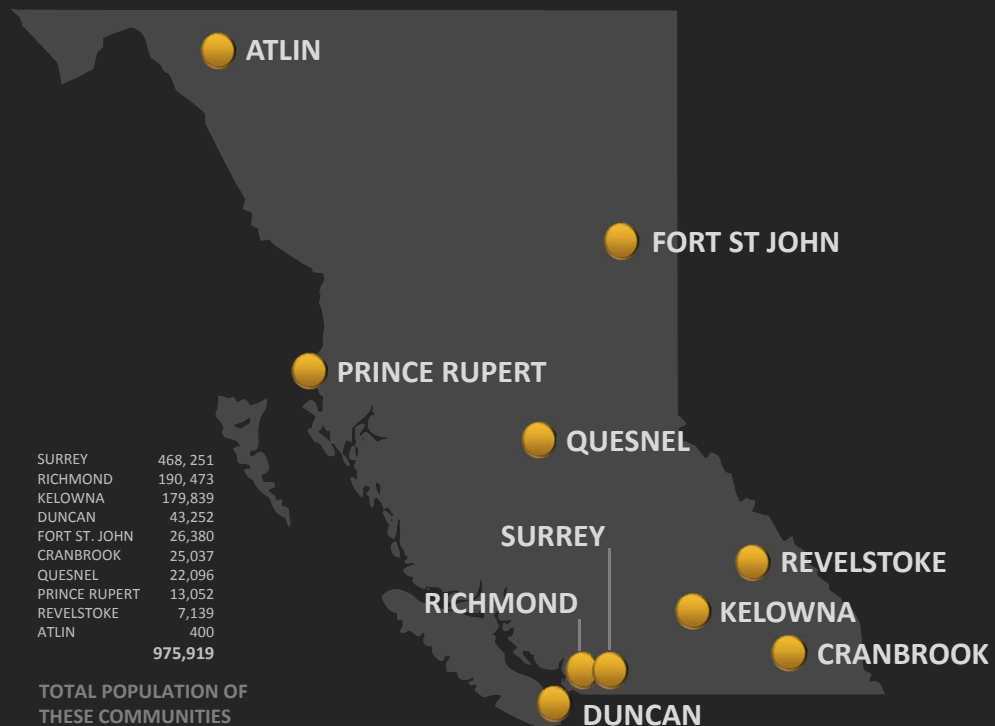
DEBT TO GDP



SOURCE: US Government

NEW JOBS

1,000,000 new job openings by 2020



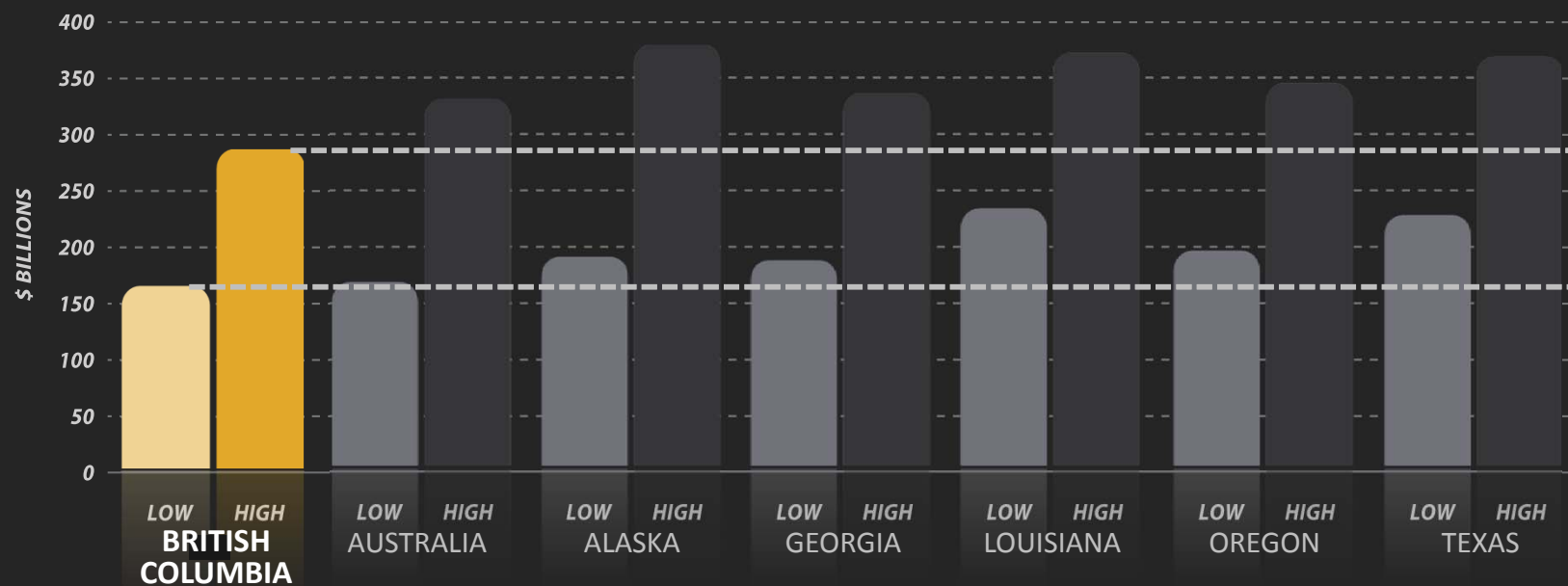
Across the province, in many sectors



LNG TAX COMPETITIVENESS

COMPETITIVE TAX REGIME FOR LNG DEVELOPMENT

Aggregate Taxes and Royalties* (Real \$2012; 82 MTPA Production; 20 Years of Operations)



*TAXES AND ROYALTIES FROM THE FISCAL FRAMEWORK IN EACH JURISDICTION ACROSS FEDERAL, PROVINCIAL/STATE AND LOCAL/MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.
SOURCE: ERNST & YOUNG 2014 REPORT. POTENTIAL TAX REVENUES FROM APPLYING SELECTED U.S. FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL TAXES TO LNG DEVELOPMENT IN B.C.

BALANCED BUDGET 2014

