

## **Swearing In Remarks**

Your honour, distinguished guests and, most importantly, my fellow British Columbians.

It is wonderful to be here with you today as we gather on the traditional territory of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.

I am honoured to be joined here by the leaders of many British Columbia First Nations. I know you share my commitment to continuing to strengthen our relationship and shared economic opportunities.

To begin with, I would like to say a few words to the people of Japan. Communities across BC have sister-city relationships with communities in Japan; these include Abbotsford, Burnaby, Campbell River, Castlegar and Quesnel.

These relationships strengthen the bonds between our peoples -- bonds that have never been more important than they are today. I ask all British Columbians to donate to the Red Cross to assist our Japanese friends in this time of extraordinary need.

Cabinet will be considering assistance on behalf of the people of our province to support Japan as they continue to deal with this catastrophe.

Today, I am truly humbled to be taking office as your premier and proud to be leading a talented and committed cabinet and caucus.

This is a smaller cabinet, one that will be focused on a few key priorities. The reduced size of this cabinet reflects a renewed commitment to being respectful to British Columbians by being frugal with the hard-earned tax dollars they provide to government.

Today, we are doing more than simply swearing in a new cabinet. Today, we gather to chart a new course for British Columbia.

Premier Campbell was successful in forging a coalition of interests and perspectives together that produced great progress for our people.

Our coalition will continue to thrive so British Columbia can meet the economic, social and fiscal pressures that face our great province.

Our new government recognizes this is a time for change – change in what we do to make life better for British Columbians, and also change in how we govern.

British Columbians are blessed by natural splendor and a wealth of economic resources. We have made great progress – now it is time for our government to reach out to those families for whom the great promise of British Columbia remains elusive.

That work starts now. Our government will put BC families at the centre of our decision-making.

This will reflect the priorities of our citizens, because family is the centre of our lives – the children we nurture; the parents we care for; the relatives we count on; the partners we share our hopes and dreams with.

Like the boundless diversity of our province, families are defined in many ways and they come in many forms – but they are all bound together by love and an unshakeable commitment to supporting each other and to making our communities stronger.

Our government recognizes that the economy is not an abstract thing – it is about people, and it exists to create jobs and to sustain our families.

Today we must renew our focus on job creation in our province. Low to middle income-earning families, particularly in rural communities, are struggling to keep up.



Good jobs are the foundation of strong families and this government will be tireless in looking for ways to strengthen every aspect of our economy in every corner of our province – we will focus on building an economy that works for all citizens.

Today we are creating a new ministry called Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. We are bringing together many functions within government to focus on creating the conditions that help businesses create jobs – green jobs, resource sector jobs, service sector jobs, jobs in the trades.

We will put particular emphasis on making sure prosperity and opportunity extend to rural British Columbia.

Creating a strong and growing economy is also the single most important thing we can do to provide the funding we need to improve health, education and other vital public services.

Creating jobs is one important thing we can do to strengthen families ... but it is not the only thing.

Our government will ask a question about every decision we make – “how does it affect families?”



In the coming days and weeks you will see real and tangible steps that benefit families. I hope you will let us know what you think of them, and more importantly, I hope you will engage and partner with us to help tackle the challenges we face as a province.

Today, this is the first cabinet swearing in that is being streamed live on the Internet. This is a step – admittedly a small one – to bring government operations into the sunlight and to use technology to bring us together.

There will be many more steps coming – steps that will engage citizens in decision-making. We will listen, and, in exchange, I ask British Columbians to get involved, to make yourselves heard, to bring the best ideas to the table.

Our government will be open with the people of British Columbia.

We will talk about our problems and set our priorities openly. We will work with citizens to find solutions. And we will explain why we make the decisions we do.

You may not always agree with us, but, to the greatest degree possible, you won't be surprised about the course we take and you will know why we chose it.

We will work within a commitment to keeping BC on a stable and prudent financial course.

We will focus on core priorities – protecting health care by making sure high quality services are available to patients when and where they need them.

Patients depend on us to ensure they have access to health care providers and services in all corners of the province.

Our government will support our providers and focus on the areas of highest need, including support for those with mental health and addictions challenges.

Our government will also invest in helping the least fortunate, through tax incentives for the working poor and other steps I will outline in the coming weeks.

We will focus on non-profit groups and give them the support they need to strengthen our society because they create a sense of community that makes each of our lives richer.

And putting families first has to mean focusing on education with passion, energy and commitment. Our government will do this with an approach that says innovation shouldn't start in university or college ... it has to start in kindergarten.

My commitment to education started at home. My dad was a teacher, and to this day, I meet people who benefitted from his passion and his focus on each student.

He believed, as I do, that every student has talent – no matter the income, no matter the circumstance, no matter where they are from.

In many ways education is the fuel of our progress as a society – and that means teachers are the engines.

I want to work with our teachers to build a bright and hopeful future for families, one student, one child, at a time.

In government, as in our schools, we need every member of the team fully engaged, giving their best, contributing the most.

Over the last two weeks I have met with every single government MLA and I am convinced each one can and will make an important contribution to our government's agenda and, more importantly, in making their constituency's concerns heard in Victoria.



We also have a talented and diverse public service. I intend to harness the power and creative energy of the 30,000 people who work for the Government of British Columbia ... along with the people who work in our hospitals, schools, colleges and universities.

You have so much to give BC, so much to give our families, and our cabinet will be encouraging you to commit and offer your energy and ideas.

I also extend this invitation to the diverse populations that make up BC. Our province's diversity is not simply an asset, or something nice to have – it is who we are.

I am determined that, when British Columbians look at their government, they will see themselves reflected back – their values, their stories, their unique way of looking at the world.

Our government belongs to all British Columbians. I want each of you, whether you are new Canadians, aboriginal, rural or urban, young or old, to understand you have a major contribution to make to BC.

May our work together help build a better British Columbia.

This is going to be an exciting time for our province, a time of renewal for BC families, a time when we work together as partners to build the British Columbia we all know is possible.

Let's get started.

## Event Plan / Background

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**Event:** Daimler AG – Burnaby Fuel Cell Plant Announcement

**When:** Thursday, March 17, 2011

**Where:** Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel  
Third Floor, Emerald Ballroom  
1038 Canada Place  
Vancouver

### **Length of**

**remarks:** 3-5 minutes.

**Audience – who are they:** Daimler and Mercedes-Benz executives, B.C. business leaders especially those in green and renewable technology industries, and some representatives from the federal government.

### **Dignitaries:**

Pat Bell, Minister of Tourism, Jobs and Innovation  
Andrew Saxton, MP for North Vancouver and Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury

### ***From Daimler:***

Professor Herbert Kohler, Vice President Group Research and Advanced Engineering  
Mr. Guenter Walz, Vice President Production and Operations  
Mr. Markus Breitschwerdt, CEO Mercedes Benz Canada.

### ***From Automotive Fuel Cells Cooperation (AFCC):***

Dr. Andreas Truckenbrodt, CEO

**Audience - What is it?:** Mercedes-Benz (MB) Canada/Daimler AG will announce they have selected Burnaby, B.C. over Stuttgart, Germany and other international cities as the location of a new, 2000-sq. meter fuel cell production facility.

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Completion of the production facilities is scheduled for early 2012. Following a graduated test and commissioning phase, small-series production of next-generation fuel cell stacks will commence as of 2013.



## Background:

### Fuel Cell Production Facility (Primary announcement):

- Mercedes-Benz (MB) Canada/Daimler AG will announce they have selected Burnaby, B.C. over Stuttgart, Germany and other international cities as the location of a new fuel cell production facility.
- The Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation was instrumental in making the case for B.C. and worked with MB/Daimler for over a year.
- Daimler eventually chose B.C. because of its established fuel cell sector including the UBC, NRC Institute for Fuel Cell Innovation along with private sector companies.
- 

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- Daimler's will take over an existing Ballard Power facility in Burnaby and remodel it to suit their specific needs.

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- The facility will be the first in the world to address materials and production engineering hurdles in achieving commercial scale production of fuel cell stacks for powering automobiles.

### F-CELL Drive World Tour Portion:

- As part of the announcement, Mercedes-Benz will welcome their emission-free F-CELL Drive World Tour to Vancouver that day.
- The 125 day, 30,000 kilometre world tour consists of three MB B-Class fuel cell vehicles that are travelling to 14 countries on four continents. Vancouver will be the only Canadian stop on the tour.
- The tour's aim is to demonstrate the technical maturity and suitability for everyday use of electric vehicles with fuel cells and highlight the need for a comprehensive hydrogen infrastructure.
- After the announcement, participants will be able to get behind the wheel of an F-CELL car and drive a pre-arranged circuit that includes Stanley Park.

**PANAGEA: (NOTE:** Due to severe weather over the past few weeks, the PANAGEA will not make it to Vancouver in time for the event. It might by satellite hook-up)

- The PANAGEA integrates sustainable technology into her design including solar panels, a wind generator of the stern, and the galley has been designed to ensure the recycling of waste.

- MB is flying in journalists including those from the National Post, The Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star, La Presse, and Quebecor Media Inc. (QMI) for the event. In addition, 12 European journalists are embedded into the F-CELL Drive Tour.
- MB/Daimler is seeking financial support from Industry Canada through the Automobile Investment Fund (AIF). The company will include this investment as an 'industrial regional benefit' in their proposal to provide tactical and transport vehicles for the Canadian Forces.

Speaking Notes

for

Hon. Christy Clark  
Premier

Mercedes-Benz Canada/Daimler Fuel Cell Plant  
Announcement

Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel  
Third Floor, Emerald Ballroom  
1038 Canada Place  
Vancouver

Thursday, March 17, 2011  
Time 10:00



- Thank you very much, JoAnne Caza...

### **Acknowledge:**

- Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation...
- Andrew Saxton, Member of Parliament for North Vancouver and Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury...
- Professor Kohler...(*pronounced Co-Iler*)
- Mr. Walz... (*Waltz like the dance*)
- Mr. Breitschwerdt... (*Brite-ch-wert*)
- Dr. Truckenbrodt...

### **Speaking Notes:**

Good morning everyone.

It's a great pleasure to be with you here today and to commend Daimler and Mercedes-Benz Canada for their announcement...

... For this investment in our provincial economy...

...And for creating jobs that will support and sustain BC families.

This is a day to celebrate the pioneering minds that dared to dream of cleaner, greener ways to create energy...

And make fuel cell technology part of everyday use in the cars, trucks and buses around us.

It is that same pioneering spirit that revolutionized travel 125 years ago when Carl Benz filed his patent for a vehicle with a gasoline-powered engine...

...an anniversary I understand that Daimler is celebrating this year.

Daimler's decision to choose British Columbia as the home of their new fuel cell production facility...

Speaks loudly about BC's innovative, leading-edge green and renewable energy sector.

It demonstrates that British Columbians are innovative and have the skills to partner with a global automotive pioneer in its quest to make fuel cell technology affordable and an energy source available to all of us.

Daimler's choice is also a great distinction for our province as I understand B.C. was selected over a number of countries and jurisdictions.

British Columbia is home to the world's third-largest clean-technology cluster.

And we are proud of its fuel cell sector and the demonstrated commitment by the industry to develop that technology further...

World leaders including...

... The National Research Council's Institute for Fuel Cell Innovation...

... The Canadian Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association...

... The Automotive Fuel Cells Cooperation, of which Mercedes-Benz has been a majority partner since 2008.

... And dozens of private companies and research organizations.

Together they – AND YOU – have made B.C. the Canadian capital for fuel cell technology innovation.

By 2016, global sales for the hydrogen and fuel cell sector are estimated to reach \$8.5 billion.

As part of our government's agenda, we are going to be aggressive in staking out BC's place in that global market.

And we'll keep building on our position as a leader in developing and manufacturing clean energy, especially fuel cells.

Daimler's decision today has made this job easier...

...By letting the world know that British Columbia welcomes international investors who wish to move the fuel cell technology sector forward.

### **Conclusion:**

So on behalf of all British Columbians, I want to say welcome to Daimler and Mercedes-Benz Canada and thank-you for choosing British Columbia as the home for your fuel cell production facility.

Your investment in our province will create jobs, contribute to a cleaner environment...

And build on BC's growing reputation as a clean technology leader for North America and for the world.

Thank you very much.



**Event:** Official Opening of UNBC's Bioenergy plant

**When:** Friday March 18, 2011 – noon

**Length:** 5 minutes

**Key Participants:**

- UNBC President George Iwama
- UNBC Chancellor John MacDonald
- Member of Parliament for Cariboo-Prince George, Dick Harris
- Prince George (acting) Mayor Murry Krause

**Other Attendees:**

- MLA Pat Bell
- MLA Shirley Bond
- MLA John Rustad
- Nexterra CEO Jonathan Rhone
- Sinclair Group president Greg Stewart
- IDL Projects partners Dennis Schwab and Sheldon Boyes

**What is it?:** UNBC celebrates the official opening of its new Bioenergy Plant today. The plant uses innovative technology to convert bark, branches, sawdust and leftover wood products from nearby mills to heat campus buildings and is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent of taking 1,000 cars off the road every year.

The heating plant will also contribute to research and development, training, education and the development of bioenergy projects and demonstration opportunities for northern communities. UNBC received \$15.7 million from the federal and provincial governments for its biomass gasification system, and \$5 million from both governments for upgrades to campus heating equipment.

Thank George Iwama, president of UNBC, for introduction

Acknowledge:

It's great to see so many familiar faces today:

MLA for Prince George-Valemount and Solicitor-General  
Shirley Bond

MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie and the Minister of  
Jobs, Tourism and Innovation Pat Bell

Nechako Lakes MLA John Rustad.

And Cariboo-Prince George MP Dick Harris, one of our  
great federal government partners.

I'm so pleased to be back in Prince George.

This is my first trip outside the Lower Mainland since being  
sworn in as Premier just four days ago.

And it's great that my first trip brings me to one of British  
Columbia's key regions for driving our provincial economy.

This is also the second 'green' event I've attended in just  
five days as Premier.

The first was in Vancouver...

And the second is here in Prince George.

That is an incredible testament to how the green economy can create jobs and strengthen the economy in every corner of our province.

This is a government that is committed to leveraging BC's innovation, its expertise and its incredibly skilled people to create jobs...

And you have those ingredients in abundance right here in Prince George and UNBC.

This is BC's Northern capital - a centre for industries like forestry, mining exploration, tourism.

And now – because of projects like this – it's also fast-becoming one of the most vital hubs for clean, green bioenergy innovation and expertise.

This plant represents a leap forward for sustainable energy production.

Reducing Greenhouse Gases equivalent to 1000 cars...

Reducing fossil fuel use by 85 per cent.

Last year, UNBC was ranked the most sustainable university in North America, tying for first place with Harvard.



Take a moment and consider what an incredible achievement that is.

UNBC - A university in northern British Columbia created just 17 short years ago.

And it's now ranked right alongside an institution founded 375 years ago.

That doesn't happen by accident.

It happens because of the vision, commitment and dedication to finding new ways forward, new ways of generating energy and leading in the Green economy.

That's the spirit of the North and I want to congratulate all of you.

As a government we are committed to promoting the BC advantage, whether it's in natural gas, hydroelectric, geothermal, tidal, wind or bioenergy.

Because when we innovate...

And when we collaborate...

We create jobs.

And good jobs are the absolute foundation of our families, our communities and our province.



Thank you to the federal government and MP Dick Harris for partnering with the Province to support this project...

And in embracing the potential of green technology for BC.

Congratulations to UNBC and Nexterra for bringing this project to fruition...

And for helping to build northern BC's reputation as a leader in green technology.

-END-

## **Surrey Memorial Hospital Groundbreaking Monday, March 21, 2011**

**Local First Nation: Coast Salish peoples**

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

- Groundbreaking for Surrey Memorial Hospital expansion, including:
- a new state-of-the-art critical care tower, a new emergency department, perinatal centre, in-patient beds, intensive care unit and academic space
- This project marks the final stage of Government's commitment to the 2005 Surrey Health Services Capacity Initiative (SHSCI), which was dedicated to improving ER congestion and adding inpatient capacity.
- This is the largest-ever single investment in a health care project in B.C. history.
- With its completion, the province will have exceeded its commitment to the SHSCI.

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

- **Mike de Jong - Minister of Health**
- **Kevin Falcon - MLA Surrey-Cloverdale**
- **Dave S. Hayer - MLA Surrey-Tynehead**
- **Stephanie Cadieux – MLA Surrey-Panorama**
- **Gordon Hogg, MLA, Surrey-White Rock**
- **Dr. Nigel Murray - President & CEO, Fraser Health**
- **Ron Knight - Foundation chair, Surrey Memorial Hospital**

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

- **KEY THEME: We're breaking ground on a state of the art health care expansion project.**
- **KEY MESSAGE: B.C. is proud to invest in patient health care for Surrey, and the project will create construction and health care jobs.**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Mike de Jong - Minister of Health**

**Kevin Falcon - MLA Surrey-Cloverdale, Minister of Finance**

**Dave S. Hayer - MLA Surrey-Tynehead**

**Stephanie Cadieux - MLA Surrey-Panorama,  
Minister of Labour, Citizens' Services & Open  
Government**

**Gordon Hogg, MLA, Surrey-White Rock**

**Dr. Nigel Murray - President & CEO, Fraser Health**

**Dr. Urbain Ip - Medical Coordinator Surrey  
Memorial Hospital**

**SURREY IS ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING  
CITIES IN CANADA...**

**And the Fraser Valley is one of our fastest-  
growing regions.**

**When the first Surrey Memorial Hospital was  
opened in 1959, Surrey's population was about  
50,000.**



**Today, close to 10 times as many people call Surrey home and that number grows every single year.**

**It's absolutely vital that our health care facilities also grow to meet the needs of individuals, families and communities.**

**Putting families first means ensuring the health and well being of families is a priority for government.**

**Today, we are demonstrating that accessible, quality healthcare for families in the Fraser Valley is absolutely a priority...**

**As we launch the single largest health care project in British Columbia's history right here in Surrey.**

**This hospital expansion is a massive undertaking.**

**A new critical care tower...**

**An emergency room triple the current size...**

**A new neonatal ICU, laboratory, more surgical units and teaching space for future doctors.**

**During construction, it's going to create more than 3,200 construction-related jobs.**



**When complete, about 600 new full-time employees will be working in the new and renovated buildings.**

**And that's also good news for families.**

**Most importantly, it will ensure that patients and their families are cared for in the best manner possible for years to come.**

**THE EMERGENCY ROOM AT SURREY MEMORIAL NOW TREATS ABOUT 87,000 PEOPLE A YEAR.**

**By 2020, that number is expected to grow to over 100,000 – and this new ER will be ready to meet the demand.**

**When the tower opens in 2014, it will increase the total number of beds by 30 per cent....**

**Making Surrey Memorial the second-highest capacity hospital in all of BC.**

**Second only to Vancouver General.**

**In fact, between the project we're launching today and the new \$237-million Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgery Centre opening soon...**

**Surrey is receiving a level of health care investment that is unprecedented in BC's history...**

**And will ensure future demand is met.**

**I WANT TO THANK THE SURREY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FOR THE \$15 MILLION THEY'VE RAISED TOWARD THIS PROJECT.**

**I know you realize the importance of the expansion...**

**And I want you to know that your hard work and the care you show for your community is valued and appreciated.**

**You've raised \$55 million for healthcare since you began fundraising for Surrey Memorial in 1992, and I applaud you.**

**Today we're marking the beginning...**

**Another step on the path to building a strong, sustainable health care future for the Fraser Valley.**

**Working together, I know we will meet the health care needs of families here for years to come.**

**- END -**

Speaking Noted – BC Women's and Children's Hospital  
April 4, 2011

Thank you for the introduction Mike.

I also want acknowledge Margaret MacDiarmid, the MLA for Vancouver-Fairview and the Parliamentary Secretary to Seniors.

And I want to recognize a couple of people who were essential for making this day happen...

Don Lindsay, the Chair of the BC Children's Hospital Foundation.... and Wynne Powell, the Board Chair of the Provincial Health Services Authority.

Last year alone, 7,000 new British Columbians were born HERE at BC Women's hospital.

It is one of the busiest maternity wards in the country, and it's only going to get busier.

That's why I'm so pleased to be here today to help officially launch construction...

Of the new BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital redevelopment project.

The Province's investment in Phase One is \$90.5 million...

That's just the first instalment on an estimated \$700-million investment in patient care for the entire redevelopment project.



## Groundbreaking BC Women's and BC Children's Hospital

A project that will mean a new, state-of-the-art hospital for children and women in BC...

Creating jobs and improving health care for BC families.

So you can bet there will be shovels in the ground here for many years to come.

As a mother, I can understand how incredibly heartbreaking and stressful it is for a family dealing with the illness to a child.

BC Children's Hospital alone saw almost 200,000 patients last year.

Children suffering from the most serious illnesses and injuries...

Kids whose goal is to live a happy, healthy life and to fulfill their own dreams...

And that's why we're here today - so future generations of kids and their families can live their dreams...

So they can continue to receive the incredible quality of care from doctors, nurses and support staff at BC Children's and BC Women's.

The fact is, hospitals don't spring up fully built overnight, or without the support of the community...

And I want to thank the BC Children's Hospital Foundation for their commitment to raise \$200 million toward the new acute-care centre that will be built in Phase Two of the redevelopment.



## Groundbreaking BC Women's and BC Children's Hospital

Their hard work will make a difference to so many families across BC...

It is a huge commitment they've taken on and they are truly leaders.

Together, we are working to provide first class health care facilities and a new approach to healthy families.

And I welcome you all as partners in the future of health care at BC Women's and Children's hospitals.

- END -

## Speaking Notes – Sled Dog Report - April 5, 2011

Thank you for the introduction Don.

Like all British Columbians, I was appalled when I learned of this tragic and senseless incident.

The humane treatment of animals – whether family pets or working animals, is something British Columbians care deeply about...

And they want to know their government is acting on that concern.

As Minister McRae just mentioned, we will be taking action on every one of the Dog Sled Task Force's recommendations.

And I'm pleased to tell you that part of that action will include implementing the TOUGHEST penalties in Canada...

For those convicted of serious animal cruelty offences. Penalties will increase to up to a maximum \$75,000 fine and up to two years in jail...

Compare that to the current maximum of \$10,000 and six months in jail.

As part of acting on recommendations, I am also announcing today a \$100,000 grant to the BC SPCA to enhance their capacity for animal cruelty investigations...

To help ensure that cases of animal abuse get the appropriate investigation and attention.

These steps, along with the other steps our government will be taking on the report recommendations will enhance the protection of animals across BC.

I want to thank everyone who made submissions to the government and to the task force.

And the members of the Task Force themselves, especially Terry Lake, for their dedication and hard work on this sensitive case.

Thanks to your work, we have a roadmap for the steps needed to help prevent this kind of incident from occurring again.

I also want to thank Don McRae for his work so far, and as we move forward on the task force report.

Together, we are acting to make British Columbia a leader in protecting animal welfare.

-END -

## **Vancouver Vaisakhi Parade**

### **April 16**

I'm so pleased to be here. This is my first official event with the Sikh community since being sworn in as Premier...

...and what a great way to mark that occasion...

...a day to celebrate happiness and abundance.

Vaisakhi is not just important to the Sikh faith - it has become a significant day for all British Columbia communities.

It's a time to for families to come together from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

Vaisakhi honours values that are important to all British Columbians...

...Tradition, faith and community.

This celebration brings people together to celebrate the rich cultural mosaic we have in B.C.

That's what B.C. is known for...

...our acceptance, inclusion and compassion.

It's great to see so many families out together today.

As I look around, I see three or four generations together.



It's these family ties and relationships that are going to be the positive foundation our children need to thrive.

Thank you to the Punjabi Market Association for bringing us together today.

The Sikh community contributes so much to our great province – socially, economically and artistically. You enrich British Columbia and make us a stronger community.

On behalf of all British Columbians, I offer our sincere best wishes this Vaisakhi.

Vaisakhi Dee-yahn Lakh Lakh Va-da-yee-aahn

Happy Vaisakhi!

I wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

-END-

For radio stages:

Vaisakhi Dee-yahn Lakh Lakh Va-da-yee-aahn

(literal translation is: Millions of greeting on Vaisakhi)

## **Temple Visit**

### **April 16**

Wah-hay-guru Jee Kah Khalsa. Wah-hay-guru Jee Kee Fat-tay

I'm so pleased to be here with you today.

...a day to celebrate happiness and abundance.

Vaisakhi is not just important to the Sikh faith, but has become a significant day for all BC communities.

It's a time for families to come together from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

Vaisakhi honours values that are important to all British Columbians...

...Tradition, faith and community.

This celebration brings people together to celebrate the rich cultural mosaic we have in B.C.

That's what B.C. is known for...

...our acceptance, inclusion and compassion.

It's great to see so many families out together today.

As I look around this beautiful temple, I see three or four generations together. It's these family ties and relationships that are going to be the positive foundation our children need to thrive.

I want to thank the Khalsa Diwan Society for the work they do in bringing the community together.

The Sikh community contribute so much to our great province, socially, economically and artistically. You enrich British Columbia and make us a stronger community.

On behalf of all British Columbians, I offer our sincere best wishes this Vaisakhi.

Vaisakhi Dee-yahn Lakh Lakh Va-da-yee-aahn

Happy Vaisakhi!

I wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

Wah-hay-guru Jee Kah Khalsa. Wah-hay-guru Jee Kee Fat-tay

-END-

## Gyeonggi Governor Visit April 18, 2011

Thank you everyone for coming today.

Governor Kim – on behalf of all British Columbians I am very proud to welcome you and your delegation on your first visit to our province.

Together, we are building on the strong cultural ties and positive relationship between the people of Gyeonggi and the people of British Columbia.

The fact that more than 50,000 British Columbians are of Korean descent...

And over 12,000 Korean students study here...

Demonstrates the strong bonds of family and culture that connect our two jurisdictions.

To celebrate that connection, I am pleased to announce we are declaring today 'Gyeonggi Day' in British Columbia...

In honour of a partnership that spans the Pacific Ocean.

It's a partnership that grows year after year.

In fact, British Columbia's exports to Korea have doubled in just the last 10 years...

And Korea is now own one of our most important trading partners.



That success is helping diversify both our economies in areas like green energy, biotechnology, digital media and tourism.

On both sides of the ocean we are creating jobs and opportunities together to strengthen communities and families.

Today we will also witness the signing of a twinning agreement between Victoria High School and TaeJang High School in Gyeonggi.

An agreement that will give our students the global knowledge and experiences they need to thrive in our interconnected world.

Our children are tomorrow's leaders and I am confident they will continue in our footsteps and build upon the foundations that we have created.

Thank you, Governor Kim, for coming to British Columbia...

And thank you to all the people of Gyeonggi and Korea for being such strong partners and friends of British Columbia.

Now I am honoured to present this proclamation to you, Governor KIM, marking today as Gyeonggi Day in BC.

*(Premier Clark hands official copy of proclamation to Governor KIM)*

-END-

SFU Green Energy Announcement  
Thursday, April 21, 2011

For more than two decades, Canadians have joined 1 billion people worldwide to celebrate Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A day that reminds us just how interconnected every living thing is on this planet.

And it is fitting that we celebrate Earth Day here in one of Canada's greenest universities - SFU!

Today I'm pleased to announce a new, green project that will benefit both SFU and the UniverCity neighbourhood.

The Province is investing \$4.7M towards building a cutting-edge biomass energy project here at SFU...

Which will take wood waste and waste energy from around campus...

And use it to provide 100 per cent of heating and hot water needs of all new UniverCity developments and most of the SFU campus.

That in turn will reduce campus emissions by over 80 per cent – that's 11,000 tons of greenhouse gases that will be saved each year.

86 green jobs will also be created during both the design and construction of this project.

Universities have long been places where innovative ideas are created, tested and then applied.

And SFU is demonstrating the kind of green innovation and expertise that BC is becoming known around the world for.

British Columbians are proud of the leadership role B.C. has taken in environmental sustainability.

We now have more protected land than any other province in Canada.

BC is home to the third-largest clean technology cluster anywhere in the world.

We've introduced innovations like the revenue-neutral carbon tax...

And led in developing cleaner energy technology – like the new biomass plant that will be built here at SFU.

We're going to continue building on that leadership and leverage the green jobs and opportunities that it brings.

Because a commitment to environmental sustainability must be a priority...

Because it's also a commitment to the future of our children and our children's children.

Children like these students from University Highlands Elementary, who by the time they are old enough to attend SFU will benefit from this green investment.

I want to congratulate the partners in this project - Simon Fraser University, SFU Community Trust and Corix Utilities...

For partnering together and with the Province to build a more sustainable future for BC families.

Thank you.

—END—



## **Surrey Vaisakhi Parade**

### **April 23, 2011**

Thank you for inviting me here today to join you to mark a celebration of happiness and abundance.

Vaisakhi is not just important to the Sikh faith - it has become a significant day for all British Columbia communities.

It's a time to for families to come together from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

Vaisakhi honours values that are important to all British Columbians...

...Tradition, faith and community.

This celebration brings people together to celebrate the rich cultural mosaic we have in B.C.

That's what B.C. is known for...

...our acceptance, inclusion and compassion.

It's great to see so many families out together today.

As I look around, I see three or four generations together.

It's these family ties and relationships that are going to be the positive foundation our children need to thrive.

The Sikh community contributes so much to our great province – socially, economically and artistically. You enrich British Columbia and make us a stronger community.

On behalf of all British Columbians, I offer our sincere best wishes this Vaisakhi.

Vaisakhi Dee-yahn Lakh Lakh Va-da-yee-aahn

Happy Vaisakhi!

I wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

-END-

For radio stages:

Vaisakhi Dee-yahn Lakh Lakh Va-da-yee-aahn

(literal translation is: Millions of greeting on Vaisakhi)

**BC Parks 100 Launch and Parking Fee elimination**  
**Tuesday, May 3**

We've all gone through the preparation for a family trip to a nearby provincial park - packing up the car, strapping everyone in safely and hitting the road.

Then once you get there, you have to dig around in your purse, pocket and car seats to find change to pay for parking.

So as we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our BC Parks, we want to make it a little easier for families to experience BC Parks.

So I'm pleased to announce that effective today, parking in BC Parks is now completely FREE.

As I committed to doing during the leadership, the parking meters are coming out of provincial parks.

Our provincial parks are meant to be enjoyed, to be seen and experienced firsthand...

And this will make it easier for families and visitors to BC to do exactly that.

Because when people around the world think of British Columbia, they picture this...

They think of towering mountains, pristine lakes, living rainforests, ocean-side trails...

A natural legacy that we are blessed to have.

And it's the BC's Parks system that makes that natural splendour accessible to families across the province.

Parks also support a \$13 billion annual tourism industry that creates jobs in BC communities...

And making parks more accessible will help to support those jobs.

Parks 100 will be a showcase of everything our parks have to offer.

I hope every British Columbian participates...

In celebrating our amazing provincial parks, and the super, natural place we live.

Now, I'd like to call on Environment Minister Terry Lake to tell you about another exciting announcement to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of B.C. parks.

- END -



Thank you for inviting me here today, I look forward to our discussion and want to hear from you on two important questions.

How do we ensure we continue to build a strong economy in BC?

And

How do we continue to create jobs to support families in British Columbia?

We already have one of the most competitive tax regimes in all of Canada...

Over the last 10 years, our small business income tax rate has been cut by 44%...

And by this time next year, small business income tax rate will be eliminated entirely.

Last year the Harmonized Sales Tax was implemented...

...reducing the cost and complexity of tax compliance for small business.

The HST eliminates an entire complicated and tedious set of paper work...

Now, instead of worrying about tax form after tax form...

...and which level of government need what information,

...which rebate comes from what government?

Now you can focus on the things that really matter to your business...

Like connecting with your employees, expanding your operation or maybe even spending a little bit more time with your family.

Over the last year we've heard a lot about the Harmonized Sales Tax, both positive and negative...

...but one thing is clear.

The HST will generate billions in economic growth and create an estimated 24,000 jobs.

And it's you and your businesses who will share and generate that growth.

We can talk about job numbers, projected revenue and stats...

But what does economic growth really mean to you, your business and your community?

It means more money to expand your business,

...to hire more staff, to pay your employees good wages so they can support their families and buy new equipment.

Small business owners and operators are a brave, proud and independent group.

And I want to hear your ideas.

You are the true experts getting the first hand experience on the ground.

Help me, help you build an even better framework for small business in BC.

I want to see you thrive and continue to contribute a tremendous amount to your communities and to this province.

-END-

## **Acknowledgements:**

**At one time or another we all have a grandparent.**

**And everyone knows someone with a disability – a family member or friend or colleague.**

**And we want to ensure the best supports possible are available to them.**

**We want them to have a sense of community, a sense of security and a sense of independence.**

**That's why I'm happy to announce that the Province will be providing \$6.7 million to create 30 new affordable housing apartments for seniors and people with disabilities right here in Kitsilano. *(20 units for seniors, 10 for people with disabilities)***

**It's seniors who have built this community from the ground up.**

**Their dedication to Kitsilano is what makes it the beautiful place you live in today.**

**So as they age they should be able to stay in this community...**

**...And stay close to their friends and family.**

**We want to give grandparents the opportunity to be close to their children and grandchildren...**

**...because we know families are stronger when they can be close together.**

**...And we want people who have disabilities to be independent, to be supported and to have affordable housing that meets their needs.**

**I want to thank the Kits Neighbourhood Association and the BC Paraplegic Association for their commitment to manage the building.**

**And also the City of Vancouver for their contribution.**

**What we are coming together today to build here will be more than bricks and lumber...**

**It will be a home, and an important part of this vibrant community.**

**I would now like to call upon two individuals Pat McIntosh and Charlotte Roth who are great members of this community and instrumental in this project to help me unveil the blue print for this project.**

**-END-**



NOTE: Organizers have requested that you do not mention any individual by name or refer to the organizing committee.

Good morning everyone, thank you very much for having me.

It is so nice to see so many familiar faces today.

We have such an amazing pool of leadership talent in British Columbia and it's great to see so many of you attending this morning.

Religion and faith has always been an important part of my life.

In fact, the day after I was elected leader of my party, the first place I went when I woke up that Sunday morning was church.

Church is one of the places I go to feel a sense of community, belonging and support.

It's a place where families can spend quality time together and connect with other families in their community.

I'm happy to be here with all of you this morning to reaffirm my faith in God...

... and have the opportunity to participate in fellowship.

I will now read a scripture from the Old Testament.

ISAIAH 58: 6-8

—Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:

to loose the chains of injustice

and untie the cords of the yoke,

to set the oppressed free

and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry

and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—

when you see the naked, to clothe them,

and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn,

and your healing will quickly appear;

then your righteousness will go before you,

and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

-END-

## **Opening of Maxxine Wright Transitional House Friday, May 6, 2011**

Maxxine Wright was a brave and selfless woman.

As a victim of domestic violence, she took her 3-year-old and left her abuser, taking refuge at Atira's White Rock transition house.

The support she received inspired Maxxine to give back to the people who helped her...

And she eventually became an Atira staff member.

And even after she had moved onto another job, she took time out of her busy days to volunteer at Atira to ensure other women and children in a time of need could have a safe place to live, just like she did.

Tragically, in 2002, Maxxine's new life was robbed by an aggressive form of breast cancer...

So today we honour her life and accomplishments with the grand opening of the completed Maxxine Wright centre.

Phase two, which we are opening today, provides 24 transitional apartments for single mothers and their children.

This builds on Phase One, which opened last year, and provides 12 short-term stay beds, 59 child care spaces, a care clinic, and a community kitchen.



The Maxxine Wright Centre is a place that will literally change lives.

Earlier I met two women staying here whose lives have been changed for the better.

One was 9-months pregnant and homeless and had nowhere else to turn. Now she has a healthy baby girl and a safe place to raise her.

Another mother with a troubled past, came to Maxxine Wright 6 months pregnant. She's now receiving treatment and has completely turned her life around for herself and for her family.

These are the kind of incredible, brave women that Maxxine Wright worked so hard for years to help – and that the Centre that carries her name will continue to help for years to come.

This Centre and the stories of those living here shows what is possible when we all work together - governments and non-profit agencies and dedicated staff and volunteers.

Thanks to everyone here at Maxxine Wright for making a difference, and congratulations on your grand opening.

–END–

*(Ribbon cutting occurs after Atira chair Miriam Sobrino remarks)*



Thank you for inviting me to join you this evening.

I'm honoured to be here with you to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut (*yōm hā-'asmā'ūt*).

For 63 years, the people of Israel, no matter where they reside, have honoured their shared history with pride...

...and have reaffirmed the values that have made the nation and its people a force for progress and enlightenment.

I want to thank your Federation for your commitment to this province,

You have helped build a strong, vibrant and enduring Jewish community in British Columbia.

Strong families, strong communities and the ability to appreciate the heritages of all British Columbians is part of what makes our province the prosperous place we live in today.

I would also like to thank the organizers and volunteers for your time and enthusiasm...

The success of this event is attributed to your hard work.

Please accept my best wishes for a joyful celebration and continued good fortune in the year ahead.

-END-

We are so lucky to live here in British Columbia.

Take a look around.

Think about taking a walk along Kits beach, or crossing the Lions Gate Bridge, or going for a hike at Mount Seymour.

The very places that we call home are the same sites that people travel halfway around the world to experience.

And in doing so, they support an industry that creates jobs and supports families across our province.

Your sector contributes more than \$12.7 billion dollars in revenue in British Columbia.

And tourism employs nearly 129,000 people in this province.

But the industry doesn't thrive all on its own.

It takes hard working, innovative and adventurous people like you to keep it growing.

I understand that the original name of your organization was N.E.T.M.A...

...Nobody Ever Tells Me Anything.

I want to make sure that you never feel that way with this government.

I want to have an open dialogue with you and learn from you.

You are the true experts in your field. And I know you have ideas on how government can support you, so you can continue to create jobs for BC.

During my campaign for leadership of the BC Liberal party, I committed to an industry led initiative...

...an initiative to create a BC Tourism Strategy with predictable funding from government.

I want to make sure that we are making decisions in a way that helps you and your industry grow.

Take last week, when I announced that parking in BC Parks is now free.

That's made BC Parks more affordable and accessible to families and visitors to BC alike.

And free parking in BC Parks is just one of many steps we'll take in the right direction.

Tourism touches all of us.

So how can we work together to create a new tourism marketing partnership?

How can we attract more visitors to BC?

And how can we promote more 'stay-cations' within our borders?

The way to promote BC is by doing it together.

Tourism is a growth industry for British Columbia...

...and we need to take advantage of the tremendous expertise that resides here.

The Olympics gave us some great momentum – now we need work together to build on that momentum.

Together we can continue to strengthen our tourism industry for the benefit of all British Columbians.

-END-



## Smoking Cessation – May 9

### Acknowledgements:

Mike de Jong, Minister of Health

Others TBD

Every smoker I've ever talked to has said they wish they'd never started smoking.

And most of them say they want to quit.

*(Personal Story)*

Smoking in our province costs our health care system more than \$2.5 billion a year.

6,000 people in our province die each year from tobacco use.

The friends and family members of those 6,000 people are left devastated.

We've done a lot to discourage children from smoking, and to regulate smoking, but we can do more.

Following up on my commitment in the leadership campaign to help smokers kick the habit...

I'm pleased to announce this morning that the government of British Columbia is on your side.

Beginning September 30, nicotine replacement therapies like the patch and gum will be available free of charge to B.C. residents, no matter where in the province they live.

We want to help families become tobacco-free, so if you want to quit smoking...

We'll give you up to 12-weeks supply of nicotine replacement products.

And the price of prescription smoking cessation drugs will be covered under Pharmacare as soon as you get a doctor's prescription.

People who quit smoking live an average of four years longer, and that's a gift to friends and family.

Quitting smoking is tough, and I know it, but it can be done, and I'm proof of that!

We're going to make it a little easier with this program, so that smokers can quit for life.

Now I want to introduce Tamara Brown, a nurse who works on the Downtown Eastside and specializes in chronic diseases.

Last month she wrote me a letter and Tamara explained the work she does and how much of it relates to people of smoked for years. So far Tamara and her colleagues took action...

They set up their own smoking cessation program for their patients and it has been a great success, so I invited Tamara here today to share her story.

- END -

MITCAS – May 10

## ACKNOWLEDGE

Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation

Naomi Yamamoto, Minister of Advanced Education

Moira Stilwell, Parliamentary Secretary for Industry,  
Research and Innovation

Brad Bennett, chair, MITACS  
Arvind Gupta, MITACS CEO

Stephen Toope, president, UBC

Research and innovation are the cornerstones of all  
great post-secondary institutions.

Students learn, test and expand on the ideas of the  
past – then create newer, better and breakthrough  
ideas that can benefit their communities, their nations  
and even the whole world.

Aaron Phillips, a graduate student in kinesiology and  
experimental medicine at UBC, has always wanted to  
make things better for people in his community.

He's been a Big Brother for many years and is a site  
co-ordinator for the Vancouver Aquarium's part in the  
Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup.



Good morning everyone, thanks for inviting me to be here today.

As some of you may know, tomorrow is kind of a big day.

Voters in Vancouver Point Grey will be heading to the polls for the by-election.

And they're going to make an important decision.

I believe that they'll choose to move B.C. forward. I believe that they'll choose the change that we're bringing to B.C...

Change that puts open government, jobs, and families first.

Because we don't want B.C. to go back...

...Back to a decade of high unemployment, high taxation and have-not status.

I know each of you recognizes that strong families and strong communities rely on a strong economy.

It's only with a strong economy that we can pay for the services and supports that families rely on.

It's the jobs and prosperity that each of you works day in and day out to create that makes it possible to build hospitals, schools, roads and bridges.



Some candidates and some parties don't get that – they don't understand that if you discourage investment, discourage business...

That you can't provide the services that families need.

A strong economy means we can do things like build affordable housing for seniors.

Just last week we announced a new 30 unit seniors' complex in Kitsilano.

A place for seniors to call home in the community that they helped build.

Those are the kind of investments a strong economy makes possible.

Because B.C.'s economy is strong, and British Columbians are optimistic about the jobs and growth we're seeing.

BC is leading the nation in consumer confidence.

B.C. is one of the top job-creating provinces right now.

And B.C.'s small and medium businesses are among the most confident in the nation.

We are seeing rising exports, including record numbers to Asia.

Small businesses are growing across the province.

And we are continuing to invest in research and innovation to help fuel future economic growth and create more jobs for British Columbians and their families.

But we can do more, and we will do more.

One of the first things I did after being sworn in as Premier was create an entire Ministry focused entirely on creating jobs.

We're going to seize the opportunities in tourism and launch a new tourism strategy for BC.

We will focus on expanding international trade and business development.

We've seen the impact emerging Asian markets have had for forestry...

A 2,200% in lumber sales to China alone.

We can leverage the same kind of growth potential for other industries like natural gas.

We're going to promote our province's green tech sector.

Just last month Daimler and Mercedes-Benz Canada announced they're going to establish their fuel cell production facility right here in B.C. – that's a huge vote of confidence in a growing sector that is the future of green jobs in BC.

It's a lot of work, but we have a team that is up to the task.

And make no mistake - building the economy takes work. It can also take tough decisions.

And all British Columbians have a tough decision coming up – the HST referendum.

The debate is over. The experts have weighed in time and time again – and the verdict is in: the HST means growth.

Billions in increased investment. Tens of thousands of new jobs. Reduced administration costs to businesses.

I know many of you have been out there talking about the benefits the HST means to all British Columbians.

I want to thank you for that and encourage you to keep speaking up – because the decision coming up this June and July is so important to continuing that economic growth.

This is an exciting time of change.



We have a smaller cabinet that is focused on our priorities: families, open government and jobs.

And we're reaching out to British Columbians more than ever.

So I want to hear from you.

You are the true experts; you're the ones who drive our economy engines day in and day out.

I want your input and ideas: How does government make it easier for each of you to create jobs, create growth and create a stronger B.C. for families in every community?

-END-



## MITACS Announcement

---

Aaron is developing a device that will improve physical activity levels of people with spinal cord injuries, leading to better health and longer lives.

His device allows them to push their own wheelchairs as much as they are able – increasing their fitness...

Then, when they need assistance, the chair automatically supplements with electric power to maintain speed.

For his hard work and dedication to his research, Aaron was awarded the prestigious MITACS Accelerate Internship.

Aaron wants to apply his research outside of the university setting...

He's already working with ICORD at the Blusson Spinal Cord Centre to continue improving the health and well-being of persons living with spinal cord injury.

Students like Aaron are the reason that today we are investing a further \$3.5m in MITACs.

This funding will support internships that will lead to tailor-made jobs for our highly skilled B.C. graduates.

## MITACS Announcement

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It will also help keep B.C.'s top minds in Canada and, for the first time, the program will bring top international students from China to B.C...

This is critical to our province's economic future...

And a part of B.C.'s push to make Canada a truly Asia-Pacific nation.

This program's success has been due to strong partnerships between the province, the federal government and industry leaders across Canada...

Partnerships that I hope will continue well into the future.

Together, we're promoting greater entrepreneurship...

We're attracting the best and brightest students from Canada and the Asia-Pacific...

And we're supporting innovative ideas that can translate into jobs and growth to support BC families.

—END—

**The science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke said...**

**“Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.”**

**To me, what you are doing here is magic.**

**JUST OVER 10 YEARS AGO, THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT ACHIEVED WHAT MANY THOUGHT IMPOSSIBLE.**

**They mapped a complete human genome ... a genetic blueprint of a human being.**

**It opened the floodgates of scientific discovery.**

**Researchers in B.C. and elsewhere are now studying the genomes of all living things...**

**Humans, animals, viruses, plants cancer cells and bacteria.**

**Your work is driving a revolution of discovery and innovation...**

**In health care, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, bioenergy and the environment.**

**THAT IS WHY TODAY I AM ANNOUNCING \$25 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING TO ENSURE THAT**

## **GENOME BC CAN CONTINUE WORK THAT IS HELPING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF BRITISH COLUMBIANS.**

**This is in addition to the \$152 million that the province has contributed to Genome BC since 2001.**

**Investments in research, innovation and technology development are investments in our future.**

**With Genome BC funding, scientists here at UBC are improving our understanding of the natural genetic variation of B.C.'s trees and how trees adapt to climate change.**

**That knowledge means so much to our province, and will help us maintain healthy, productive forests in a warmer future.**

**I'm proud that B.C. researchers are part of international efforts to decipher so many secrets of our world.**

**The projects that are underway are proven generators of well-paid, highly skilled jobs – more than 3,200 of them between 2001 and 2009.**



**Genome BC is making a difference in the lives of millions of people in British Columbia and across the world.**

**I thank you for your wonderful work and I look forward to the results of the magic that is undertaken here daily.**

**- END -**

## B.C. HAS GAINED INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AS A LEADER IN THE GREEN ECONOMY...

And a leader in taking action on climate change.

So when I took office on March 14<sup>th</sup>, I had to address two key questions:

Do we follow the path that has been laid out through 2012 on the groundbreaking carbon tax?

Do we continue to engage with other provinces and states in developing policies to reduce carbon emissions?

In both cases, I want you all to know the answer is a resounding "yes".

It's in BC's interest to continue to lead that change....

So we can leverage our province's expertise, creativity and ingenuity in clean technology to create jobs.

British Columbians are proud that this province is a world centre for hydrogen and fuel cell technology – home to 35 companies employing 1,200 people.

And proud that BC is home to world firsts like the world's largest hydrogen fuel bus fleets.

We're also working with the Pacific Coast states and Canadian provinces to develop a Green Highway – to support clean, energy-efficient vehicles.

Stations on the Green Highway will accommodate plug-in charging for electrical vehicles and provide clean fuels like hydrogen.

We currently have a network of seven hydrogen fuelling stations in the province...

And we want to expand that network.

But as we plan for a cleaner transportation future we recognize that a vital piece is missing.

We currently do not have our own hydrogen production facility. The hydrogen has to come from outside B.C.

We need to bridge that gap.

SO I'M PLEASED TO TELL YOU THAT THE PROVINCE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ANOTHER WORLD FIRST FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA...

\$870,000 to help construct the world's first small-scale facility to purify and liquefy by-product hydrogen here in BC.

The new facility is being developed in B.C. by North Vancouver's Hydrogen, Technology and Energy Corporation (HTEC) and Sacre-Davey...

With the support of other partners including the federal government, Air Liquide and BC Transit.

It will take by-product hydrogen from to produce low-carbon liquefied hydrogen to power hydrogen fuel cell buses and vehicles throughout the Pacific Northwest.

About 1,200 kilograms per day of made-in-BC "green" hydrogen - enough to fuel a fleet of over 1,500 passenger fuel cell vehicles or 50 transit buses.

It should be producing in about 18 months.

With innovative steps like this and the leadership of green leaders like you...

We are not just helping to create the infrastructure for tomorrow's clean vehicle highways...

We are growing an industry – one that will continue to attract major automakers to B.C.

Daimler AG and Ford Motor Company currently employ 200 people in Burnaby to develop fuel cell electric vehicle technology.



Two months ago, Mercedes-Benz Canada announced plans to build a new facility in Burnaby to manufacture fuel cell stacks.

It will be ready in early 2012 and the first fuel cell stacks are expected to roll off the line in 2013 ...

... just in time to power Mercedes pre-commercial fuel cell vehicles slated for introduction in 2013/14.

It is estimated that by 2016, global sales for the hydrogen and fuel cell sector will reach \$8.5 billion, creating an estimated 14,000 jobs in Canada.

That's 14,000 jobs for Canadian families...

And I'm confident many of those will be located here in BC.

**WE ARE ONLY BEGINNING TO TAP THE  
POTENTIAL OF THESE TECHNOLOGIES.**

Four hundred kilometres north of here, the community of Bella Coola is off the electrical grid.

The Hydrogen-Assisted Renewable Power (HARP) project has helped to make this possible by using clean, green hydrogen and fuel cell technology to generate electrical power.

Walmart is operating B.C. fuel cell-powered forklifts at their Calgary distribution centre.

And wireless telecom base stations in India will soon draw their backup power from 10,000 fuel cells manufactured by Ballard.

Technology that is being pioneered by all of you and, in many cases, right here in BC.

There are green fields of opportunity on the horizon for our province and our world.

A cleaner future that creates new, green job opportunities for families.

That future needs leaders – it needs innovators and creators like all of you to make it a reality.

We're excited to have you all here today in Vancouver to help build that future, together.

Thank you.

-END-

**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

- Retired BC Appeal Court Justice Thomas Braidwood
- RCMP Supt. Tonia Enger, President, BC Association of Chiefs of Police
- Brad Parker, President, BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police
- Vancouver Police Chief Const. Jim Chu
- British Columbia Police Association President Tom Stamatakis
- Peter Hourihan, Commanding Officer, RCMP "E" Division

The public's trust in its police is a key pillar of our society.

And for the courageous men and women who serve on our police forces it's an enormous responsibility.

They know they must earn that trust every day and on every shift.

Life and death decisions must be made in a split second...

...and these decisions are analyzed at length in the glare of public scrutiny.



That's why Justice Braidwood's report on the Robert Dziekanski case strongly recommended that British Columbia establish an independent investigating office ...

... AND IT'S WHY TODAY I AM PLEASED THAT SOLICITOR GENERAL SHIRLEY BOND TABLED NEW LEGISLATION TO CREATE A CIVILIAN-LED INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIONS OFFICE...

TO CONDUCT TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE INVESTIGATIONS OF INCIDENTS THAT INVOLVE B.C. POLICE OFFICERS AND RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.

The independent investigations office will help preserve public confidence.

It will be led by a civilian who has never been a police officer.

It will report to the Attorney General and its powers will be entrenched in the police act.

We have taken time to get this legislation right, and believe our office will be the most effective of its kind in Canada.

It will have the full power to investigate all B.C. police agencies, including independent departments and the RCMP.



British Columbians are well served by one of the largest complements of sworn officers in this province's history.

And I want to acknowledge the courageous work they do every day to keep our communities and families safe.

As Justice Braidwood has observed the most important weapon in the arsenal of the police is public support.

By the end of this year I expect the Independent Investigations Office will be helping to protect that support and a well-deserved reputation for excellence that has been built by thousands of B.C. police officers over many generations.

-END-

**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Barry Penner, Attorney General and MLA for Chilliwack-Hope

Sophie Pierre, Chief Commissioner of BC Treaty Commission

And I want to recognize the hard work and the leadership of Chief Robert Hope...

You've served your people for more than three decades – demonstrating your clear vision and your open heart during this process.

Today, in the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, we celebrate another historic day for all British Columbians...

This is an important day for many reasons.

Every time we take a step forward in the treaty process, it's not just important for First Nations... it is important for all British Columbians.

This afternoon, the B.C. government will introduce settlement legislation to ratify the treaty with the Yale First Nation.

This legislation will help the Yale First Nation become self-governing and equal participants in the local economy – improving the lives of Yale children and families.

The treaty also provides the Yale First Nation with the power to shape social policy related to culture, families and children, social services and health.

In addition to improving the quality of life for Aboriginal people...

Treaties stimulate investment, create jobs and expand economic opportunities throughout the province.

Treaties bring certainty and economic benefits not only to First Nation members, but also to the surrounding region.

Treaties will drive billions of dollars into the B.C. economy...

Making the biggest impact where the money is needed most – in the hands of First Nations and their neighbours in small-town British Columbia.

Today brings the government of B.C. and the Yale First Nation one step closer to securing a bright and prosperous future for this community's youth.



On behalf of the government and people of British Columbia let me say “thank you”...

To Chief Hope, to your negotiating team and to the Yale First Nation...

For the commitments you've made to help make this province an even better place for all of us to live now and for future generations.

**Speaking of future generations, I would now like to introduce three very important youth of the Yale First Nation.**

**Talon Coghill is a fisherman, hunter and soccer player with a great sense of humour.**

**Dyllan James is also an athlete who plays hockey and is on the honour role. Dyllan also ran in the Vancouver Sun run this year and finished the race in just 54 minutes.**

**Megan Hope is also an honours student and soccer player. Megan enjoys fishing and hunting with her grandfather. She also loved gathering stinging nettles with her late great grandmother.**



This agreement today is for the future of the young people of our province...

And the Yale First Nation youth here today are proof of how just how important this day is to their future.

You are the reason we are doing this, please come and share your stories.

-END-

**Louis Brier Jewish Aged Foundation Dinner**  
**Wednesday, May 18, 2011**

**Event: what is it?**

- Louis Brier Foundation dinner fundraiser for the Louis Brier Home and Hospital
- This is the only Jewish home for the aged west of Winnipeg
- Louis Brier bequeathed the land to build the home and hospital and it was opened in 1968.
- Prior to this a home and hospital had been in existence at two different sites in Vancouver.

**Audience: who are they?**

- Members of the Jewish community and supporters of the Louis Brier Home and Hospital.

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

- **KEY THEME:** The Louis Brier Home and Hospital is important to the community.
- **KEY MESSAGE:** The Louis Brier Home ensures that seniors are able to continue to live in their faith, in a respectful and sensitive environment.

Thank you for inviting me to share this very special evening with you.

Since 1968, the Louis Brier Home and Hospital has been caring for people in a compassionate and respectful way.

And the Foundation has been raising the money to ensure that this special care remains available.

It's important that Louis Brier's gift of land to build the home and hospital is always remembered. His caring legacy is an example to all of us.

Just as raising children takes the efforts of many, caring for our seniors is also a community effort.

Our seniors are the people who fought for this country...

Who bought the society we have now with their hard work and determination.

They rose to countless challenges and stood firm in the face of adversity...

And while they were doing it, they raised the next generation.

Now they are able to continue to live in a faith-based, assisted-living home, where people are sensitive to all their needs...

The only Jewish home for the aged west of Winnipeg.

This fundraiser reflects the respect and admiration you have for Louis Brier's legacy and for seniors in this community.

It reflects the importance you place on family, and elders.

It reflects what our city and our province value the most...

The continuity of family life, of values and a caring community.

I want to thank you for all you have done and continue to do, and thank you for inviting me here tonight to share this occasion with you.

- END -



## **Hellenic Gold Plate Dinner Wednesday, May 18, 2011**

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

- The Hellenic Community of Vancouver 35th Annual Gold Plate Dinner
- The Hellenic Community of Vancouver is British Columbia's largest Greek Community. Established in 1927, it serves as a spiritual, educational and gathering place for all of its members and the citizens of Vancouver. They offer a wide range of programs for all ages.

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

- Peter Kletas – President
- Reverend Demetrios Patsafas - Protopresbyter
- About 500 people, business leaders in the community.

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

- **KEY THEME:** Thank you for your contribution.
- **KEY MESSAGE:** The Hellenic Community has contributed generously to the city of Vancouver.

Kalispera (Kulli-spāră) (good evening)

Thank you for inviting me to celebrate your 35<sup>th</sup> Gold Plate Dinner tonight.

I know this annual dinner raises funds for so many important things.

The Hellenic Community of Vancouver has been a pillar in this community for more than 80 years.

You have created a sense of home and family not only for Greek people moving to Vancouver, but for the entire community.

The programs and services that you offer continue to benefit everyone, and your generosity of spirit is renowned.

I want to personally thank you for your charitable support over the years to groups like the Variety Club Telethon, the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, and Covenant House, among others...

...All organizations that help BC families.

Your support means so much to these organizations, and you are truly leaders for continuing to champion these causes.

But, that's the sign of a strong community, isn't it? We help each other, when we see another person in need.

The Greek community is an important part of the fabric of our province.

You have contributed so much – your tradition, your hard work, and your support to the growth of Vancouver.

You have helped build the foundation of this city, with its proud multi-ethnic diversity, and have carved out a proud place, generation by generation, in Vancouver.

Next month is Greek Heritage Month and I know you'll invite Vancouver to your great family celebrations and share the "kefi". (ke-fee) (*spirit*)

Thank you for being such a vital part of Vancouver, for your continued contribution, and for the honour of being with you tonight.

Eff-hār-ee-stō. (*thank you*)

- END -

Thank you Denis Stevens for the introduction.

And thanks to everyone here today for inviting me to the Green Economy Roundtable.

OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS GAINED A HARD-EARNED INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION AS A LEADER ON THE GREEN ECONOMY.

We have taken bold steps to legislate reductions in our carbon emissions – by 33% by 2020 and then by 80% by 2050.

And we are on our way to achieving those targets.

When I took office as Premier of British Columbia on March 14 there were important decisions on my plate:

Do we follow that path that has been laid out through 2012 on the provincial carbon tax?

Do we continue to engage with other jurisdictions in developing policies to reduce carbon emissions?

In both cases, the answer is yes.

It's in everyone's interest for B.C. to continue to lead change in order to leverage our rich supply of renewable resources and clean energy.

And it's even more important for us to leverage our expertise and creativity in adapting to a greener economy.

You here in Washington State know first-hand the major impact climate change is having on the Pacific Northwest...



...whether it's the impact on our water supply from melting glaciers...

...extreme weather events like flood and fire, or in B.C., the devastation of our forests by the mountain pine beetle.

Governments, communities and businesses around the world are having to confront the realities of climate change – some places more than others – but there is no question a movement is taking place that will change the way our economies work.

Like you, we in B.C. are on the leading edge of the new, green economy.

New green jobs are being created and cleaner technology is being used, whether it's a new district energy system at Burnaby's Simon Fraser University or new bio-energy production in Prince George.

In particular we are a world centre for hydrogen and fuel cell technology – home to 35 companies employing 1,200 people.

Since 2002, more than \$1 billion has been invested by industry in Canada's hydrogen and fuel cell sector, with an estimated 75% of that investment being made in B.C.

We are working with Washington, Oregon and California as well as Canadian provinces to develop a Green Highway in support of clean, energy-efficient vehicles.

Earlier this week I announced our province would invest \$450,000 to support continued operation of our network of 7 hydrogen fuelling stations in B.C.

And I was also proud to announce that the province would invest \$870,000 to help build the world's first small-scale facility to purify and liquefy by-product hydrogen, a project being developed by HTEC and Sacre-Davey.

For all of us, the bottom line is carbon reduction, as we work together to create a greener, better future in British Columbia and throughout the Pacific Northwest.

We will continue to work together with you through the Western Climate Initiative to design a cap and trade system that works for our environment and our economies.

One thing is for certain: We will work to achieve our targets to reduce carbon emissions and continue to be a leader in North America on the green economy.

And we will achieve our goals by working together with you, our neighbours.

I want to thank you for all you have done and continue to do and I look forward to a long and prosperous relationship with you in the green economy.

-END-

Como Lake Housing Project - Groundbreaking Announcement  
Friday, May 20, 2011

Acknowledge:

RICH COLEMAN, Minister Responsible for Housing  
and Minister of Energy and Mines

JANET AUSTIN, CEO of YWCA

RICHARD STEWART, Mayor of Coquitlam

MAUREEN CLEARY, Community Support Worker  
with Community Ventures Society in Coquitlam

SHAYLN CLEARY, Maureen Cleary's 5-yr old  
daughter

Today is a day to celebrate.

A day to celebrate our commitment to put the needs  
of families first...

And part of that is providing safe, supportive housing  
for those who need it the most.

That's why today, I'm so pleased to announce  
\$7.3 million to help build affordable housing for low-  
income single mothers and their children here in the  
tri-cities.

In a few minutes we will turn the sod to officially  
launch construction of Como Lake Gardens.

When it's complete, Como Lake Gardens will provide  
a safe and affordable place for single mothers and  
their children to call home.

It will be a place to come for supportive services that can help families stabilize, find a new path and build a better life.

I am very proud of projects like this, because they are about much more than bricks and mortar.

And no one understands the value of these supports better than the support workers on the ground and the families who they support.

It's families like Maureen and Shaylyn Cleary, who have found their own safe haven in similar supportive housing in Langley.

Maureen has dedicated the last 15 years of her life working as a community support worker in Coquitlam where she works with mentally challenged adults.

When she isn't working Maureen loves spending time with her family, going fishing with her dad in White Rock, spending time on the beach and most of all spending time with her five year old daughter, Shaylyn.

Having access to safe, affordable housing has allowed Maureen to focus on thing things that matter most in her life, especially her daughter Shaylyn.



And that's exactly what we hope to continue to accomplish for many more families with this development.

By next spring this site will be occupied by a four storey wood-frame building to include 30 apartments, common amenity space, indoor play areas and meeting spaces for outreach and support.

The province will also provide annual operating funding of more than \$136,000 once the building is complete.

Thank you to the City of Coquitlam and the YMCA for your partnership in this project.

And congratulations to all of you for making this amazing project a reality.

**(PRESENT POTTED APPLE TREE TO JANET AUSTIN, CEO of the YMCA)**

**In closing, I have a gift for Janet. I would like to present you with this young apple tree. The tree will bear fruit for the project as it matures.**

**And next spring when we officially open Como Lake Gardens, we can plant the tree in the ground.**

**—END—**

**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

Ms. Samira Alibhai, President – Ismaili Council for B.C.

Mr. Farid Damji – Member – Aga Khan Council for Canada

Mr. John Nuraney – former MLA, Burnaby Willingdon

The Aga Khan called Canada's dedication to diversity our nation's gift to the world...

And I view B.C.'s multicultural mosaic not only as an asset, but rather as who we are.

I believe that we are made stronger by the Ismaili community who have contributed to the spirit and diversity of British Columbia.

On behalf of the province, I thank you.

I know your dedication to charitable endeavours, both home and away...

The emphasis on social development and improving quality of life for the most needy and vulnerable...

These are things that B.C. shares your commitment to.

We share your vision.

I want to assure you that we're listening to you.

We're travelling across the province to hear from British Columbians.

We want to manage B.C.'s money well, balance the budget, and reflect your priorities.

We want to know what you think would make our province better.

**WE BELIEVE THAT STRONG FAMILIES ARE THE HEART OF OUR PROVINCE.**

Good jobs will support your children, your parents and the people you love.

Job creation is one of this government's top priorities...

Because when jobs are created, it creates a province where families everywhere can really thrive.

As well, our province is a powerhouse of natural resources, and we need to make the most of them, to provide new, green jobs for B.C.

We're taking a new approach to healthy families too...

Ensuring that maintaining good health and prevention of illness, is at the top of everyone's agenda.

We owe it to our families to be our fittest and healthiest, and enjoy long lives together.

We have an enviable lifestyle here in B.C.

The natural beauty of our province, and our standard of living make B.C. a magnet for people from around the world.

We welcome many new immigrants here every year, to work alongside us and to become British Columbians.

I believe this is what makes our province great – the accumulated knowledge, cultures and wisdom from around the world.

I am proud to be here, proud to work alongside you, and I appreciate your contribution to making B.C. a great place to work and raise a family.

- END -



## ACKNOWLEDGE

Minister De Jong and his staff for all his hard work leading up to today's announcement

**CHRONIC DISEASE IS THE SINGLE LARGEST BURDEN ON THE HEALTH OF BRITISH COLUMBIANS AND OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.**

Without decisive efforts to address this, we will see an increase in rates of heart disease, stroke, adult onset diabetes, cancer, arthritis and chronic respiratory diseases...

All of which can be prevented or delayed.

**THAT'S WHY WE ARE ALLOCATING \$68.7 MILLION TO THE HEALTHY FAMILIES BC PROGRAM.**

I know firsthand how important it is to have programs that help British Columbians take control of their health by focusing on strategies to help them adopt a healthier lifestyle.

(personal story)

**HEALTHY FAMILIES BC WILL BE THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM ANYWHERE IN CANADA.**

It will cover Healthy Eating... Healthy Lifestyles... Healthy Communities... and Healthy Start.

The goal is to support British Columbians in managing their own health and reducing chronic disease, while encouraging them to lead healthier lives.

I'm also pleased to announce that we are allocating \$24 million to the first program under Healthy Families BC: Prescription for Health.

Under Prescription for Health, British Columbians who smoke, are obese, are inactive or have unhealthy eating habits can talk to their family physician about improving their health.

Patients who fall into one or more of those risk categories will be able to have a personal health risk assessment and a health plan tailored to their needs.

B.C. will be the first jurisdiction in Canada to offer this level of personalized preventative health care – and we'll be introducing more programs that break new ground in preventative care.

As a further incentive, 50,000 participating patients will be eligible for a subsidy of up to \$50 toward a gym membership, physical activity-based recreation programs or personal nutritional programs.

## FAMILIES ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF THIS PROVINCE.

And giving at-risk British Columbians access to these supports will help them to improve the health of their entire family.

This program is about making the healthier choice the easier choice for B.C. families.

TODAY WE HAVE WITH US ONE FAMILY WHO HAS ALREADY MADE THAT HEALTHIER CHOICE AND IS FEELING THE BENEFITS.

SIMON & TARA DALEY of Victoria felt they had a very good reason to quit smoking together in May 2007 – she was pregnant with their daughter.

Together, they used the Province's QuitNow Services to give up cigarettes and help them stay tobacco-free.

Not only are they feeling healthier and saving money, but Simon and Tara are looking forward to being with their three kids as they grow up.

And now it's my pleasure to introduce Tara and Simon, who will share some of their story with you.

–END–



**(Premier will be introduced by STEVE HNATIUK, Conference Chair and co-founder of Yaletown Venture Partners)**

Thank you for that kind introduction Steve.

And to our visitors from the rest of Canada, the U.S. and around the world, welcome to British Columbia.

B.C. is a place to think big.

And that's exactly what B.C.'s innovators do – with your expertise and help.

You provide the funding they need to take their next steps.

And by becoming partners, you give them the guidance they need to succeed.

**I CANNOT OVERSTATE THE IMPORTANCE TO BRITISH COLUMBIA OF VENTURE CAPITAL AND PRIVATE EQUITY.**

By investing time and money in our innovators, you are creating new jobs, markets and wealth during these challenging times.

Canada has weathered the recent global recession particularly well, outpacing many other parts of the world.



Among the Canadian provinces, B.C. has rebounded with particular strength - our GDP grew 4 per cent in 2010.

In just the past three years our exports to China have doubled.

Every day, 11 and a half million dollars worth of goods now leave our ports bound for China.

This isn't a one-way trade either. China's direct investments in B.C. and Canada have almost tripled since 2008.

At the same time, B.C. is developing strong trading links with India and we continue to enjoy a strong relationship with the U.S. - our best friend and most important trading partner.

In B.C., I think we have achieved the right blend of competitive taxes, streamlined regulations and a supportive, financially responsible government.

Our personal income taxes are among the lowest in Canada.

We have cut small business income taxes by almost one half.

And we have increased funding and tax credits for venture capital programs..

The results of these measures are very real.

Companies like Ostara, Delta-Q and Indicee are succeeding today because investors like you recognize that B.C. is a province of opportunity.

The government will continue to do our part by maintaining a stable and attractive investment climate.

We will lead trade missions that will let foreign investors know about our B.C. advantage.

And we will encourage the rest of Canada to follow our lead in supporting our innovation economy.

I'll conclude my remarks with one simple message:

B.C. is "Open for Investment."

Thank you. And have a great conference.

-END-

**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

ADJUDICATORS' PANEL and JUDGES' PANEL, for difficult job of going through so many nominations.

Confirmed Ministers as of Monday at 7:15pm  
Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government  
Minister Stephanie Cadieux (Minister responsible for awards)  
Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General Shirley Bond  
Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Blair Lekstrom

DEPUTY MINISTERS and ADMs committed to making B.C.'s public service the best in Canada.

Finally, I want to acknowledge all of the OUTSTANDING NOMINEES for this year's Premier's Awards.

It's exciting for me to be at this awards ceremony for the first time as Premier.

And to be sharing the night with some of the brightest and most innovative people in government.

You all care about British Columbia and the people who live here... and when you see a better way of doing things, you take action.

Imagination is a great asset to have. Nothing gets done without it.

But you and I know that there is a long road from idea to inception.



There's a popular saying that nothing kills ideas like a yawn or a sneer.

That's why we have to strive for a workplace that is open to ideas...that is supportive.

Every person in the public service should feel secure and supported in offering new solutions.

Your innovations help every family in this province.

The people we are all here to serve.

And the projects that have been nominated tonight are all about making a difference in the lives of British Columbians.

New methods and new approaches ensure that B.C. is always on the leading edge.

Through our videos, you'll be able to meet the people who are the backbone of the public service tonight....

People like Sasha Hobbs, who developed and led our Aboriginal Youth Internship Program that is helping Aboriginal youth develop leadership skills and find career opportunities.

People like Ramona Soares of the Workers' Advisers Office who, by creating an inclusive environment, led her team to a big improvement in client satisfaction, employee engagement and innovation.



When heavy rain, rock falls and floods cut off access to the town of Bella Coola last year, the Ministry of Transportation team planned, co-ordinated and carried out \$20.7 million worth of emergency work in only 17 days, working around the clock to ensure the road was opened.

Kevin Eskelin has helped ensure that Burns Lake and Smithers are now international destinations for world-class mountain biking, and has created jobs for people in the North, one of our government's goals.

Over three years, he helped partners raise over half a million dollars for 50 kilometres of professionally designed and built trails through 4,600 hectares of wilderness.

These are just a few examples of what keeps the B.C. public service at the forefront in Canada.

I believe that in our B.C. public service, we have the best and most talented workforce in the country.

To make the most of good ideas and great people, we have to create a climate where ideas can flourish...

A place that offers its employees a broad range of career opportunities, that supports and rewards and recognizes them...

We're going to need your passion and expertise as we strive to put families at the heart of everything government does.

We need your imagination and innovation to create new jobs across the province.

We need your energy to change how government works, opening it up to citizens in ways that will really shift how we work with the public.

I know how much you can do with the right support and the right opportunities.

You've proven it through the work we're honouring tonight with the Premier's Awards.

As we look to the future of B.C., let's take time tonight to celebrate all that you have accomplished.

Thank you for letting me share in this celebration with you.

And thank you for the hard work you do every day for British Columbians.

- END -

## Key Messages

- The shipbuilding industry is part of the history of B.C.
- These contracts will provide generations of predictable, high value-added jobs and economic activity for British Columbians.

## THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY IN B.C. HAS RAISED A LOT OF FAMILIES.

It has put food on the table, a roof overhead, clothed children and sent them to school.

Now there is a 30-year \$35 billion national procurement strategy for shipbuilding on the table.

\$35 billion that will mean a great deal to Canada's economy and holds tremendous potential for British Columbia.

Seaspan Marine Corporation is one of four federally qualified shipyards that is competing for these contracts.

Seaspan is strong, experienced, viable, reliable and capable of handling either contract. And Seaspan is rooted in B.C.

And that's why I strongly support Seaspan's efforts to secure a contract.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to bring these high-quality jobs to British Columbia...

A once-in-a-generation opportunity to provide stability and predictability for a generation of skilled workers who will grow up, work in this industry...

And raise their children to believe that they can have a future in the ship-building industry as well.

This is a project that will span two generations, and mean so much to B.C.

It's rare to have the chance to seize an opportunity like this.

This is an important deal for British Columbia, and it requires a commitment from all of us.

It requires a big commitment from the workers. It requires a big commitment from the company.

It requires a strong commitment from the government of this province.

And I'm here today to tell you that your government is behind you all the way.

We owe it to all British Columbians and to future British Columbians to put forth the best possible bid and bring those jobs back home.

- END -



## **KEY ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT:**

- Premier will announce at this event \$1.35M in funding for this year's portion of the \$10M six-year railway and highway fencing project first announced in Spring 2009.
- One year ago, government agreed to implement the final recommendations of the Ranching Task Force. At this year's AGM, government will release its progress report on this commitment (a 4-point action plan).
- Government has processed approximately \$11 million in Production Insurance payments to nearly 200 farmers under the Agri-Stability Program. These funds are to assist those affected by last year's weather events.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual BC Beef Day Celebration was held June 1 on the legislature lawn to help raise the profile of ranching and beef.

## **THANK BCCA President Judy Guichon for introduction**

### **ACKNOWLEDGE**

- **ROLAND BAUMANN, BCCA Past-President,**
- **RON BUCHANAN, BCCA Vice-President**
- **JOHN RUSTAD, MLA, Nechako Lakes (TBC)**
- **DONNA BARNETT, MLA, Cariboo-Chilcotin (TBC)**

Hello everyone ... thank you for inviting me to be here with you today and welcome to the Association's 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference.

I wanted to be here to tip my hat to some of the hardest-working and most resilient families in British Columbia.

You contribute more than \$250 million and thousands of rural jobs to our province's economy.

We are very lucky to have you as our partners and at this year's AGM, as promised, you will receive government's progress report and action plan on the recommendations of the Ranching Task Force.

As one of those actions, I am announcing our government will provide \$1.35 million to the association this year, for construction of fencing to protect cattle from straying onto our highways and railways.

This is part of our \$10-million six-year commitment to the BC Cattlemen's Association to invest in fencing that will improve highway safety and reduce herd losses.

It is one step among many that we are taking to address the much larger question that I know is on your minds ...

... How do we ensure that ranching remains a viable way of life for your family's next generation?

Ranching has long been a vital part of the B.C. economy and we need to ensure it flourishes for years to come.

The cattle industry supports families and entire communities with the related supporting businesses.

**AND WE WANT TO DO OUR PART TO ENSURE  
THE INDUSTRY THRIVES.**

We know there is no bigger supporter of the HST than the BC Cattlemen's Association. It saves each ranching business time, paperwork and more than \$2,000 annually.

And we've listened to your concerns, and have responded by committing to lowering the HST rate to 10% by July 1, 2014.

These are changes you can all benefit from.

On average your families will pay less on your routine expenses under a 10% HST than by going back to the GST and PST.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR YOUR IDEAS,  
FOR INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS AND  
OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK WITH YOU.

In response to your input, we provided 200 thousand dollars this year for predator-control.

And Agriculture Minister Don McRae will have some more news for you tomorrow on this topic...

Another thing you told us would help is a more positive regulatory climate.



That's why we are creating new slaughterhouse licences so that rural and remote producers can provide beef to their local consumers.

And it's why we have created new protocols to balance livestock, wildlife and human water needs during droughts.

We face many challenges ... but you have always met them head-on.

In just the past few years you have stared down BSE, competition with the US, increased costs, climate change and depressed markets.

You and your families are still on the land.

We WILL meet these new challenges and we will continue to do it by working together and helping the next generation of B.C.'s ranchers prosper on that land.

On behalf of all British Columbians ... I thank-you and your families for all that you do.

-END-

## **Thank You:**

Robin (Silvester, Port Metro Vancouver) for that introduction.

Please join me in acknowledging the Coast Salish people in whose traditional territory we are gathered today.

## **Acknowledge:**

- Hon. David Jacobson, US Ambassador to Canada
- Mr. Phillip Chicola, Consul General (Vancouver)
- Minister Counselor Richard Steffens of the US Embassy
- Ms. Sigrid Emrich, Deputy Consul General
- Glenn Todd, and Greg Timm of Pacific Customs Brokers
- Matt Morrison, Pacific Northwest Economic Region
- John Winter, President and CEO of the BC Chamber of Commerce.

And thank Pacific Custom Brokers, the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service and the U.S. Consulate General for organizing this event.

For those of you in the room who are from Canada, I think you'd all agree with me that as Canadians we have a sensitivity to **"the border."**

We experience the border in a way that is different from most Americans.

In a way, it's part of our national psyche.

The majority of Canadian cities are within 100 miles of the border.

Not so for our U.S. counterparts.

I would argue in some ways it means more to us than it does to Americans.

Every Canadian has their own "border" story.

Most us can remember being kids, in the back of the car coming back towards the Canadian border...

And Dad leaning over the back seat as he drives toward the booth, saying “Kids keep quiet.”

Our hearts race a little bit as we go across the border.

And yet, most of us live right next to it.

America is so important to who we are.

Our human and economic relationships define the success and fiscal prosperity of B.C. and Canadian families.

There are no two nations more interdependent than ours.

In the history of modern nations I do not believe there are any two nations who are as culturally, spiritually, emotionally or economically interconnected as our two.

Never can the border sever those connections.



And yet we cannot disregard it is there.

**Key Theme 1: Building Bridges that get us through and over the border both strengthens and is fundamentally necessary for our nation.**

That's why my government is committed to doing all we can within the Canadian family to keep our border functioning.

Arguably, British Columbia has a bit more at stake than other provinces.

We have massive international ports that bring goods from afar through Canada and into the U.S.

The vast majority of containers you see stacked in Vancouver and Prince Rupert are either coming from or going to the U.S.

These two ports are vital economic enablers for our province.

If there is a problem with the border, there is a problem with our ports.

If there is a problem with our ports, then there is a problem with the entire provincial economy.

That's why it is so important we continue to work together to ensure we keep our borders as open as possible.

We are intertwined in so many ways.

I saw a great example of that just last month.

In May, I had the opportunity to visit PACCAR in Washington State.

PACCAR makes those heavy duty rigs you see moving goods in countries all over the world.

Well PACCAR is partnering with Westport Innovations out of Vancouver.

Westport started with a partnership out of the University of British Columbia in the early 1990s.

And the company has grown to almost 200 employees. They are on the leading edge of developing natural gas engines.

Together, Westport and Paccar are working to transition fleets of trucks to natural gas.

And these natural gas vehicles (NGVs) produce about 30 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions than gas or diesel.

That's the kind of value added potential cross border relationships hold...

...Relationships that lead to technological innovation, a healthier environment and to good family sustaining jobs.

**Key Theme 2: Speaking of working together, most people may not know this but the governments of British Columbia and Washington State hold joint cabinet meetings each year.**

I look forward to co-chairing my first meeting with Governor Chris Gregoire who I've already had the great pleasure of meeting.



Our governments take an active role in the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER), which is the leading cross-border public-private partnership of its kind in North America.

And we are members of the Pacific Coast Collaborative, which brings together government leaders from California to Alaska.

If you know your West Coast history, you know this kind of collaboration has not always been the case.

Let me give you an example:

In 1859, there was a lot of confusion over who controlled the San Juan Islands in the Salish Sea.

This ambiguity led to the death of a pig and then 13 years of border strife.

One pig and we had a dispute that lasted nearly twice as long as the last softwood lumber negotiations.

Known as the Pig War, the dispute started when hungry pig owned by an Irishman employed by the Hudson's Bay Company got into the garden of an American farmer.



The story goes that the American farmer shot the pig for eating his potatoes.

When confronted over the death of the swine, the American looked at the Irish man and said: "It was eating my potatoes"

To this the Irishman replied: "It is up to you to keep your potatoes out of my pig."

As I mentioned, this seemingly innocuous incident took 13 years and arbitration by Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany to resolve.

That's why an ongoing commitment to building strong relationships is important.

It ensures even if challenges arise, we already have a relationship.

We are neighbours and we are friends who are able to work together and deal with the challenges to our mutual benefit.

**Key Theme 3: The border isn't just a line in the ground. A good working border means a lot to families right across the province.**

It means a strong provincial economy. It means jobs for families right across the province.

It also means being able to go on vacation, or go see your extended family.

It isn't just a line that divides two people, it is also something that unites us.

I'd like to finish with a story I heard from a member of my staff.

It's a story about the border bringing people together.

A story of what it means to be a good neighbour.

It's about a woman coming back to B.C. from the states.

Her mom had died in the past year and she had just sold her mom's home in the U.S.

Looking at her mom's house and missing her mother terribly, she decided to dig up the rose bushes her mother cherished and bring them back to plant in B.C.

When she got to the border, Canadian border agents had to tell her that because those rose bushes were covered with dirt and soil, they could not be allowed in the country.

In fact, they should be seized and destroyed.

But upon hearing the woman's story, the agents were moved.

So they contacted their US counterparts, and had the plants sent back to the U.S. side.

Again, the return of the bushes to the U.S. from Canada should have prompted the destruction of the plants.

But US customs agents had heard the story from their Canadian counter parts.

They held the bushes until the woman's real estate agent could pick them up and have them professionally cleaned and packed.

I can tell you today those rose bushes are growing in a British Columbia garden...

... Not only in memory of a beloved mother, but now also a tribute to international co-operation.

They are growing because a group of Canadian and US border agents felt compelled to work together and find a way to make it happen.

So you see, the partnerships and benefits that blossom under the spirit of cooperation know no bounds.

The border unites us in our humanity.

Whether it's working towards jobs for families, enhanced business opportunities, a healthier environment or just human empathy...

That's the kind of spirit of cooperation I hope we can foster through the relationships we build today.

Thank you.

**-End-**



**HST Referendum Mailing**  
**Tuesday, June 14, 2011**

**Event: what is it?**

- Announcement of HST referendum ballots

**Audience: who are they?**

TBC Media conference

**Key Messages**

- Vote NO for lower taxes.
- The federal government has signed an OIC agreeing to lower the rate to 10% by 2014.
- We've followed through on our commitment to families to lower and rebalance the HST.

## Key Messages

- **Vote NO for lower tax rate.**
- **The federal government has signed an OIC agreeing to lower the rate to 10% by 2014.**
- **We've followed through on our commitment to families to lower and rebalance the HST.**

First off, I want to thank Bill and Sandra Zylman, for hosting us on their farm, along with their daughter Angela.

Yesterday, registered voters began receiving HST referendum ballots from Elections BC.

Now, I've heard that some may be confused about the language of the question and what their YES or NO vote will mean.

So, here is the choice:

You can mark NO on your ballot for a 10% HST and lower taxes...

Or you can vote YES for higher taxes and a 12% GST and PST.

Some of you may be thinking, of course I'd like to pay less tax and of course I'd like to mark NO on my ballot and have a 10% HST... but how can I trust that government will follow through on that commitment?

Well the Government of Canada put it into law on Friday...

Agreeing to reduce B.C.'s HST to 10% by July 1, 2014 if British Columbians vote to keep the HST.

And as soon as it can be lowered, on July 1 next year, the rate will be just 11%.

We've followed through on our commitment to B.C. families to rebalance the HST.

To make it a little easier for families to get ahead, we will provide a one-time transition payment of \$175 per child for families with children under 18 years old.

And low- and modest-income seniors will receive a one-time transition payment of \$175.

There are three million ballots in the mail and now every eligible voter in B.C. can be the province's finance minister.

Every voter has the chance to decide what is best for the future of their families and the future of our province.

But don't just take my word for it. Take it from a young family like Paul and Claire.

Paul and Claire have two children aged 5 and 6 months. Just like you and me, their first priority is their family.



And one of the most important things Paul can do for his family is have a stable job.

Paul is the CEO and General Manager of the Night Market in Richmond. As many of you know, the Night Market is a popular weekend destination for thousands of customers and hundreds of merchants.

Paul knows the HST is good for business because it cuts down administration costs and helps grow the economy.

And Paul knows the HST is good for businesses that employ thousands of British Columbians all across the province and help him provide for his family.

It doesn't just stop with Paul and Claire...

Andrew and Lucy Wong are a senior couple who have lived in Richmond for more than 20 years. Andrew is a retired veterinarian and Lucy is a retired bookkeeper and they both spend a tremendous amount of time volunteering for the Richmond Seniors Association. Andrew and Lucy are here today because they are seeing firsthand the positive benefits that the HST has for seniors.

British Columbia needs a strong economy to keep competitive...

One where people are working at good jobs, and have enough money to put food on the table for their families...



An economy where companies invest, because they have faith that the workforce is there, and the community supports them...

Returned to the out-dated system PST and GST system will be costly.

Paying \$1.6 billion to the federal government.... rehiring provincial tax officials... and creating a \$3 billion hole in the provincial budget.

With the HST, families in B.C. will be better off.

Our improvements to the HST means families will have about \$120 more dollars a year in their pockets.

Low income families, families with children and low-income seniors will benefit.

And the economy – which provides the jobs which allow us to put food on the table – will benefit.

The math is simple.

Your choice is between a new, 10% HST or going back to an inefficient, 12% GST-PST.

I encourage all British Columbians to visit [www.hstinbc.ca](http://www.hstinbc.ca) and decide for yourself.

But I will be voting NO to higher taxes.

- END -

Key Messages:

- The shipbuilding industry is part of the history of B.C.
- The Province is continuing to strengthen this job producing industry by training new workers
- This program will provide more proof to the federal government that British Columbia can meet the needs for skilled workers over the life of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy.

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity right here.

An opportunity to train skilled workers who will work and develop B.C.'s shipbuilding industry...

An opportunity to raise our children to believe that they could have a future in the shipbuilding industry too.

I am proud that we are joined here today by three students who realize the opportunity that is before us. Jason Pepper, Mila Puharich and William McMorland have all chosen a career in this field and if we are successful in this bid there will be thousands of stories just like theirs.

Last week, British Columbia's bid for one of two federal shipbuilding contracts worth \$33 billion earned the support of six western premiers...

Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba support us. So do Nunavut, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories.

They all recognize that success in B.C. means success for everyone involved in Western Canada's supply chain.

This is a project that will span two generations.

This is a big deal for British Columbia, and it requires a big commitment from all of us.

That's why we're committing \$550,000 in funding to develop a training program for the marine/shipbuilding sector...

Which will be part of an industry-led marine training centre.

The funding will be used to establish the centre's system of governance...

To develop training for new workers, to upgrade programs for those in other trade who are moving into the marine industry...

There will be also be supervisory courses for experienced workers, so B.C. can keep, retain and draw the best of the best in the industry to our shipyards...

We know we can't do this alone: this marine research and training centre is a collaborative effort.



That's why we're partnering with Seaspan Marine Corporation, BC Ferries, the Vancouver Island Technology Park (VIATeC)...

The BC Marine workers and Boilermakers Union, Camosun College, First Nations, along with the federal government.

I'm here today to tell you that your provincial government is behind the shipbuilding industry all the way.

We will do whatever it takes to bring shipbuilding jobs to B.C., and we will train and retain the people we will need both now and in the future.

Winning this contract means \$35 billion and that holds tremendous potential for British Columbia.

Winning this contract means 6,800 additional job openings in B.C.

Winning this contract means growing an industry with a deep-rooted history in our province.

It has put food on the table, a roof overhead, clothed children and sent them to school.

And it will provide thousands more families with a secure, viable future being built right here in B.C.

-END-



## Key Messages

- The \$3.5 million grant will help many families in B.C.
- It's important that seniors be able to age in place and seniors and people with disabilities retain their independence as long as possible.
- The government is committed to funding development of new technologies that will help seniors and people with disabilities.

## AGING IN PLACE IS A GOAL WE'D ALL LIKE TO ACHIEVE...

To be able to stay in our own homes as long as possible as we get older.

It's important to support our seniors, and people with disabilities who want to stay in a familiar place, to be independent as long as they can.

So, today we're announcing a \$3.5 million grant to the University of Victoria today that will help with that goal.

It will help seniors stay in their own homes, in the communities they helped to build...

Where they know their neighbours, and know where the nearest store is, close to their families.

It will help people like Luke Melchior. Previously, Luke's wife and caregivers had to assist him with calls. Now he can contact people independently with the help of the magic of CanConnect, and doesn't have to rely on others.

With this grant, UVIC and its partners CanAssist, Tyze Personal Networks and the PLAN Institute for Caring Citizenship...

Will create Connect for Care, new online tools that will help people – especially seniors with dementia - connect to their families and health care providers.

UVIC's CanAssist has already given us CanConnect...

A simple enhancement of Skype that allows people who normally can't use computers to talk face-to-face with their families and caregivers over the Internet for free.

Inventions like this make B.C. a leader in developing technologies to help seniors and people with disabilities...

In 20 years, one of us in every four will be over 65, and the number of people with serious disabilities is expected to increase.

So thousands of families in B.C. will benefit from this grant that will allow them to keep in close touch with their elders.

I'm really excited to see the next set of tools for independence these students, faculty, and volunteers will develop...

And I'm so proud that they contribute to the well-being and independence of our seniors and the disabled.

I thank you for your great work, and your continuing dedication to helping others.

The work you are doing is so important to our seniors and people with disabilities.

Our seniors built this province, and if we can help them by giving them the tools to stay in their own home longer...

Then we are just scratching the surface of returning to them some of what they've given us.

- END -

**KEY ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT:**

- The Province has listened to the many voices in support of the E&N Railway and is taking action to help restore passenger train service on the Vancouver Island.
- The Province will provide the island corridor foundation (ICF) with \$7.5 million to help make repairs and return passenger service safely.
- Of this amount, \$500,000 will pay for an engineering inspection of approximately 40 bridges rail bridges, to determine their condition. The remaining \$7 million is conditional.
- In 2008, the Province forgave \$4.5M of taxes owed by the ICF when it acquired the railway corridor.
- The Province also contributed \$500,000 to a study of the future viability of the E & N rail service, which was released in July 2010.
- The governments of Canada and B.C. assisted in the creation of the ICF, by allowing CP Rail to donate the corridor to the ICF as a charitable donation.



**ACKNOWLEDGE:**

- **Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and MLA, Oak Bay and Gordon Head, IDA CHONG**
- **Minister of Agriculture and MLA Comox Valley, DON MCRAE**
- **Executive Director, Island Corridor Foundation, GRAHAM BRUCE**
- **MLA Parksville-Qualicum, RON CANTELON**
- **MLA Saanich North and the Islands, MURRAY COELL**

**Thank you (MC)**

**One hundred and twenty-five years ago, near Shawnigan Lake, Canada's first prime minister drove home the last spike to complete the E&N railway.**

**With the swing of that hammer, Sir John A MacDonald fulfilled his government's promise to link the Colony of Vancouver Island to the rest of Confederation.**

**And ever since then the E&N has been a vital link for freight and for families and communities up and down this island.**

**Sadly, as many of you are aware, the E&N passenger train service was suspended in April.**

The cost of track repairs was simply too much for the Island Corridor Foundation.

The Foundation has said it requires \$15 million to complete essential repairs and it has asked the province to provide \$7.5 million.

Today, in response, I am announcing that the province will meet that request with \$7.5 million in funding to the island corridor foundation.

Of these funds, \$500,000 will allow the foundation to complete an engineering inspection of approximately 40 rail bridges.

The remaining \$7 million is conditional on the foundation obtaining matching funding of \$7.5M from its partners and demonstrating that both the bridges and the entire rail line are safe for passenger service.

It must also develop a plan to maximize passenger service, including ways to attract more ridership, key to the railway's economic success.

This is a responsible approach for the taxpayers of B.C.

It will ensure repairs can be completed and passenger service can safely resume ...

The Island Corridor Foundation will also make improvements to passenger services to create long-term economic success.

The Province has heard from Vancouver Islanders.

It has heard from mayors and it has heard from the Island Corridor Foundation.

Today we are taking the first steps toward renewing the E&N railway ...

We are renewing a promise made to Islanders so long ago.

And I suspect that somewhere up there Sir. John A. is smiling.

Thank you for joining us today.

-END-