

ACKNOWLEDGE:

MC Phil Johnson, AM1150

Dr. Blair Baldwin, General Manager, Okanagan Wine
Festivals Society

B.C.'s wines are competing with the very best in the world.

Competing and winning.

The wine industry helped build this valley, this region, into
the thriving place we know today.

And now...more than ever...this industry's commitment to
excellence has put us on the global map.

Small wonder that B.C. wineries generated more than
\$204 million in sales last year.

Wine exports keep growing too, rising to almost \$8 million
per year.

The wine industry has a \$2 billion impact on BC's
economy, creating more than 10,000 jobs and attracting
800,000 visitors.

So we are doing our part to support your success.

That includes dragging BC's liquor laws into the 21st century.

Wineries are now free to offer visitors a bottle of wine outdoors, instead of being confined inside.

Farmers' markets can now sell your products.

And next year, at long last, British Columbians be able to purchase a bottle of wine at the grocery store.

And we're leading the charge to free those grapes...

Breaking down barriers that prevent shipping wine across provincial borders.

In August, we teamed up with the Government of Saskatchewan to allow wineries and craft spirit producers to sell directly to each other's consumers.

Saskatchewan is joining Manitoba in allowing consumers to order B.C. wine and have it delivered to their doorstep.

I'm going to keep working with Ontario and Quebec to open their borders to BC wine.

And we've appointed Herb LeRoy as our Honourary BC Wine Envoy to help continue this progress.

As the barriers fall... the future keeps getting brighter.

Thank you for the chance to celebrate with you, and congratulations to all of the wineries represented here today.

PRESENTATION

And now I have the great pleasure of awarding the inaugural Premier's Wine Award.

I have also had the pleasure of sampling some of See Ya Later Ranch's products --

But of the best wines ever produced here in the Okanagan Valley and in British Columbia...

The Rover Shiraz Voignier 2012 truly stands out.

Congratulations to See Ya Later Ranch.

-END-

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Musa Ismail, President of BCMA (welcomes PCC)

Daud Ismail, Chairperson Burnaby Mosque (thanks PCC)

Us Salaam Alekum.

Two days from now, Muslims across the world celebrate Eid Al-Adha.

It's a truly global event, uniting you with your brothers and sisters not only across the country, but the world.

Canada's dedication to diversity is one of our country's great gifts to the world...

And the Muslim community have made so many contributions to the spirit and diversity of British Columbia:

The established Muslim community here in the Lower Mainland now has counterparts in Kamloops, in Fort St. John, and all over BC.

Your dedication to charity, both here at home, and abroad...

The emphasis on helping the most needy and most vulnerable...

On making sure every child can grow up to realize their full potential.

These are Muslim values. And they are BC values, too.

And we recognize that we can only improve the lives of the people around us...by building a strong economic foundation.

A strong, vibrant and growing economy leads to good jobs that support our children, our parents, and the people we love.

We have to do that in every single community throughout BC, because one of the most important elements of a strong family...is a job you can depend on.

So you can make sure you're able to look after the people you need to care for.

Our prosperity and the natural beauty of our province, make B.C. a magnet for people from around the world.

But so is the absence of conflict.

We do not have to worry about our children being safe from rockets, or bombs.

And while we respect the right of every people to self-defence...

We urge all sides involved in conflict, no matter where they live, to find ways to come together and seek a path to peace.

What starts with an olive branch might lead to stability, peace, and prosperity.

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

And my best wishes to you and your families as you observe Eid ul-Adha this weekend.

Eid Mubarak!

- END -

ACKNOWLEDGE:

IAIN BLACK, President & CEO, VBOT (introduces PCC)

JANET AUSTIN, Chair, VBOT

MLAs Attending:

Hon. Suzanne Anton

Hon. Rich Coleman

Richard Lee, Burnaby North

Doug Horne, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain

Jane Thornthwaite, North Vancouver-Seymour

Linda Reimer, Port Moody-Coquitlam

Shane Simpson, Vancouver Hastings

Thank you.

We're in one of those moments in time where we can look ahead.

Because I want to share with you our plans for the fall.

We're moving forward on setting world-leading standards on the cleanest LNG.

It's the culmination of months of work by hundreds of people.

But I also want to talk about the last few weeks.

What a difference a month makes. When September began, the people of Likely were dealing with the aftermath of the tailings pond spill.

Parents and kids were dealing with schools not opening on time.

And the business community was wondering what the Supreme Court's Tsilhqot'in decision means for economic development in this province.

In government, it's often the case that you implement plans and stick to them.

But at the same time...

You also have to manage events and issues that affect people's lives.

You have to do so in a way that gets to right decision.

SNYDER AND SPINTLUM

I want to tell you a little story about this province, and how we became B.C.

In 1858, gold was discovered in the Fraser River.

Thousands of American prospectors came across the border – which was disputed at the time.

They came into contact, and conflict, with First Nations.

It was called the Canyon War.

There were two leaders who understood war was not the best solution – Chief David Spintlum and Captain Henry Snyder.

They were both surrounded by people who wanted war.

And they both knew war would lead to ruin.

Spintlum knew his people might defeat this militia, but thousands upon thousands more were coming.

Snyder didn't want to march to certain death.

So they found a way to work together.

By having courage to shape history, they changed the future of our province, and our country – forever.

Because if the Canyon War had gotten out of control, the US Army was prepared to protect those American prospectors – and the gold.

They might never have left.

In a way, the path Spintlum and Snyder chose is the history of every economic development project across BC that enriches lives from the mountains to the coast.

The wealth of this city was built on goods that flow down Fraser – as it always has been.

Each time we consider a new proposal, we have to follow their example, and ask...

How do we work together for mutual benefit? How do we work together, in partnership?

CHALLENGES

That's the opportunity I see in the Tsilhqot'in decision.

After the decision, Chief Roger William invited me up. I met with all six chiefs.

And despite having just won a 40-year struggle, they were gracious winners.

We were able to sign an MOU, because they understand we have to work together.

So three weeks ago, I invited 400 First Nations leaders from across B.C. to meet with my cabinet and my deputies.

This was a first in our province's history.

From that meeting, it was obvious:
The new path cannot be imposed. It must be developed together.

We are all working together to create certainty.

Certainty for First Nations...
Certainty for business and investment...
Certainty for all British Columbians.

Because as one chief said at the gathering: a poor British Columbian isn't good for anyone.

The need to build a new path together was also behind the labour disruption in public education.

I said from the start: we have to get negotiated settlement at the table.

I said from the start: it has to be a long-term agreement.

That's because we have a 30-year history of a dysfunctional relationship.

We were able to get to historic 6-year negotiated settlement at the table...

Even though both sides were standing up for their values, and fighting for what they believe in.

We were able to overcome all the bad blood and mistrust. We were able to build a measure of goodwill.

I want to thank the leadership of the BCTF, and national labour leaders for taking an interest in BC, and helping.

The best part of all this...is now we have an opportunity to do what parents, teachers, and government all want, and kids deserve.

To build a public education system second to none.

One that's alive to current challenges, and prepares kids for success in the world they'll graduate into.

We have time to do it. Five more years to build more trust and work together for people it really matters to: kids.

That's the kind of work that lies ahead for our mining industry – building trust.

Trust between the industry and the people of BC.

We have to do this, because BC depends on mining.

We all wish we could turn back time, and make sure the spill didn't happen.

But it doesn't work that way.

When I went up there, I walked with the community. They depend on that mine, just as they depend on it to protect the environment they share.

Government's job is to find out what happened, and make sure it doesn't happen again.

That's why I called an independent investigation and inquiry. And by January, we'll hear from experts on the cause and ways to prevent it.

Business has responsibilities, too.

Not just to live up to highest standards...

But to tell the story of mining, and make improvements where necessary.

Because you answer to your shareholders, as well you should.

But in a world where you need social license to operate, they include the 4.5 million British Columbians who depend on the industry to build wealth...

To do it safely, and do it right.

LOOKING FORWARD

As I look forward to the upcoming fall session to build BC's LNG industry...

We have the same expectation.

It must be clean and safe. And British Columbians must benefit.

I gave you some insight into labour negotiations. We've been taking that approach at different tables...in different countries...

With multinational corporations investing billions in BC.

The principles are the same.

Stand up. Fight for our values. Never lose sight of the best interests of British Columbians.

Companies will do the same, as they should.

This fall, you will see a tax framework that returns benefits to British Columbians...

That is also competitive and fair for business.

Competitive and fair.

Companies will look at the framework, at our natural and competitive advantages and want to do business here in BC.

SKILLS TRAINING

It's one thing to bring home the opportunity – it's another to be ready for it.

Shirley Bond, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, is doing yeoman's work making sure British Columbians have the skills to fill those jobs.

The BC Jobs Plan is our long term strategy to make sure that happens.

It's early days yet, but we're already seeing progress. And on Tuesday, we introduced a three-year progress update.

This year, the focus is on four areas:

- Small Business;
- Manufacturing; and
- Aboriginal Peoples and First Nations; and
- International Trade.

For small business and manufacturing, Gordon Wilson is doing great things with the LNG-Buy BC Program...

Connecting small, medium and large businesses in every corner of the province with the multinationals investing here.

For Aboriginal Peoples and First Nations, there is so much potential for growth in business – and this is an opportunity to create jobs.

The area that might see the most growth, and the most opportunity is international Trade and Small Business.

When small businesses grow, they export more, which is why we pursue policies to help small business grow to export.

TRADE MISSION STRATEGY

Expanding ties with the growing economies of Asia is the key to our future prosperity.

That's why I've led five trade missions across the Pacific. And one week from today, I'm heading on my sixth, this time to India.

This trade mission will focus on a number of key sectors including LNG, education, clean technology, and film and digital animation.

And we're heading to India, because like China, they're undergoing an amazing transformation.

Their middle class is growing at rates we can only begin to imagine here in North America.

And as it grows, so does the demand for our goods.

Despite strong cultural ties, we don't have the relationship with India we do with China.

We have to build it.

Because when small business grows to mid-size...

When mid-size grows to large...

That's the best way to create jobs.

And the best way to do that is to grow markets.

It's like our relationship with China about ten years ago.

We were just starting to lay the foundations to capitalize on cultural and ancestral ties and expand trade and investment.

Today, after 10 years of a sustained effort and strategy, including trade missions, things are very different – to the point that Guangdong chose to open their Canadian trade office in Vancouver, not Toronto.

Right now, our exports to India are worth \$468 million.

And after a decade of building our relationship, BC's exports China are worth \$5.7 billion.

It's a proven track record. And we're going to walk down the same path with India.

TRADE BARRIERS BETWEEN PROVINCES

Contrary to what some would have you believe – shipping wine to Ontario is not international trade.

The trade barriers between provinces in this country are outdated at best. At worst, they stymie growth and opportunities for Canadian business.

That's why I've been working with my fellow Premiers to bring those barriers down, piece by piece.

Like Snyder and Spintlum, it starts with leading by example. We allowed BC wine lovers to receive direct shipments of Canadian wine from other provinces.

Because we don't view competition as a threat – and neither does anyone who knows BC wine.

New Brunswick and Saskatchewan have followed suit. And I'm looking forward to working with Jim Prentice to do the same in Alberta.

It's not just about shipping wine, either – it's about opportunity.

If we want to attract Canada's best and brightest, why do we make it hard to work here?

That's why we signed an MOU with New Brunswick, allowing apprentices to work seamlessly in either province.

I'm looking forward to exploring more opportunities to do the same with the other eight provinces.

Because an economy grows as the population grows – the two things are intimately interdependent.

Attracting the best and brightest is literally how this country was built.

It's not just Canadians from other provinces. All this debate centred around Temporary Foreign Workers is tragically misdirected.

Let me be clear...

For the opportunities created by LNG, through the Jobs Plan and trade missions...

We want British Columbians to fill them.

That's why we have the BC Jobs Plan.

But after every British Columbian has taken the job they want – we will need Canadians to fill the rest.

And we will need people from beyond our borders, as well.

We need to remember...

The people who come here to work are often the ones who stay.

That's how we all got here.

And look at the advantage it gives us. The connections and relationships people bring with them might be crucial tomorrow...

Just as the relationships brought by generations of immigrants from China and India are crucial today.

CONCLUSION

People will play politics with this issue, but I have no sympathy for that. It's a rejection of everything that has made Canada and British Columbia a success.

What has made us the envy of the world.

In many ways it all started with that moment when Spintlum and Snyder made peace, not war.

And even if history forgot their names, it started with the example they set of partnership, not conflict.

Their example has lived on in all the projects and agreements since then.

And in turn, all the growth and prosperity those have created.

It starts with our values. You stick to them, and find a way to reach to people on all sides...

And work together for a common purpose.

There is a lot of hard work to be done.

But that's okay.

None of you got here because you shied away from hard work.

Let's have the courage, to stand up, stand together, and get the job done.

Thank you.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

MC Hon. Steve Thomson

Mayor Doug Findlater

Chief Robert Louie (TBC)

Thank you. The future of West Kelowna just keeps getting brighter.

And today, we're announcing two more reasons why.

Westside Road is a popular route for tourists and locals alike. In a province full of them, it's one of the most beautiful drives in BC.

But for too long, Westside Road has had another reputation: it's dangerous.

We've done a lot of work to change that for good. But there is more to be done.

Today, I am announcing that the Province is committing \$45 million over the next five years to make the necessary improvements to Westside Road.

It will begin with two projects:

First, the section from Waterfront Farm to Blue Grouse will be widened,
with paved shoulders,
a roadside barrier,
and rockfall protection measures.

The contractor, Emil Anderson Construction, got underway this week. As you can see, they didn't have far to go.

It's scheduled to be completed next fall.

Second, almost 9 kilometres will be resurfaced, from the Highway 97 junction to Skookum Mine Road.

Okanagan Aggregates Ltd., of Armstrong are about to begin work, and they're scheduled to be done by the end of this month.

Westside Road was never intended for the amount of traffic it sees every day.

That's why the Province has invested more than \$10 million since 2008 to improve and widen this road.

That includes:
realigning and widening the road,
installing guardrails,
constructing pullouts for slow-moving vehicles,
resurfacing at three separate sites,
and upgrades to warning signs and roadside reflectors.

Now, as I said, I am here today to announce two more investments.

For some time, West Kelowna has needed a new municipal works yard.

Today, I'm pleased to offer the District of West Kelowna a 5 hectare parcel of Crown land at the junction of Bartley and Stevens Road.

This follows a comprehensive consultation process with the Westbank First Nation, who have offered their support for the grant.

As West Kelowna continues to grow, so will its needs. We're going to keep working together to make sure our services grow at the same pace.

Thank you.

-END-

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Chief Ellis Ross (thanks Premier)

Hon. Norm Letnick

Hon. Coralee Oakes

Hon. Bill Bennett

Hon. Shirley Bond

Richard Lee

Scott Hamilton

Jane Thornthwaite

Greg Kylo

Mike Morris

Linda Reimer

Thank you for being here.

I'd like to talk to you today about some of the things we're working on – opening overseas markets, on transportation infrastructure.

But first, I want to talk about 1966.

Like this year, Vancouver hosted the Grey Cup. The Lions weren't in it...also like this year.

Probably.

Lester Pearson was Prime Minister in an era of economic boom.

A boom which made it easier to pay for the many social entitlements invented in that era, like universal health care.

And in 1966, a group of business leaders came together to stand up for B.C. business...

To get Ottawa's attention...

To let them know that, yes, we have a business community west of the Rockies.

They chose to call themselves the Commercial and Industrial Research Foundation. I think we're all glad you changed the name in '84.

You're the proud leaders of that same organization today.

A few things to note for me:

First, it was a challenge that brought those business leaders together: labour disruption at the port.

They dealt with that challenge by working together.

Second, they managed challenges through the decades...fighting for a strong economy.

Through the decline in the '90s, it was this organization that stood up, organized the big business summit... And pointed the way forward to the 21st century, and economic growth.

Third, the work may have started with advocacy, but you've evolved to become much more.

A think tank, a policy workshop, a lab for good ideas to build a strong economy that works not only with us in

government, but reaches east across the Rockies to other organizations and businesses

That's nation building.

There's no secret formula there. Work hard, reach out to people to create a common cause, and create opportunities.

It's not revolutionary.

As Premier, the job is to create prosperity. To create an environment where you have the best chance to thrive.

I've worked to ensure that our response to each unexpected change has been met with that same formula.

That's why I convened an all-day meeting of over 400 First Nations Chiefs and Leaders with our cabinet – for the first time in BC.

That's why I've signed an agreement with the Tsilhqot'in Chiefs, to work together to grow our economy,

responsibly, for mutual benefit...

Because they have been standing on the outside looking in for far too long.

That's also why I went to the town of Likely. That's why my government initiated an independent investigation into the tailings pond breach to make sure it never happens again:

So that British Columbians have confidence in an industry that's building our future.

That's why we made the tough decisions to balance our budget, keep personal and business taxes low, and protect our triple-A credit rating.

I hear you when you say: we'd like business taxes to be lower still. They have dropped elsewhere.

We are still in a very fragile global economy. So first, we're getting the fundamentals right.

We told British Columbians we wouldn't spend more than we took in, and we kept that promise.

And when our surpluses grow – as they are projected to – we can re-examine.

That's why I have flown across the Pacific, to meetings with investors and trading partners in India, Malaysia, China, Korea, and Japan – to strengthen relationships with investors across the Pacific to help open new markets.

It's about capitalizing on opportunities to create more opportunities.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

I want to give you an example from BC's founding industry – forestry.

As you know, they went through some very tough times – a decade of a hostile government, then a major recession in their primary market.

They persevered, and redoubled their efforts to open up new markets overseas – especially in China.

In the last ten years, exports there are up twenty-fold.

But that's not where the story ends. None of you are in the business of "that's good enough."

Neither am I.

It's about reaching new heights.

It's about finding opportunities to reach them.

So when Steve Thomson was recently in Beijing, the conversation naturally turned to "the next China."

Here's the thing: we've already found the next China.

The next China is China.

The bulk of our exports there are low or medium-grade timber, and to the very biggest cities.

And again, that's not a bad thing. It's worth \$1.4 billion every year.

But "the next China" is within China.

It's higher grades of timber.

It's Tier 2 cities, many of which are much larger than Vancouver.

Because we've worked hard – because we've capitalized on opportunities – there is so much more potential for growth.

TRADE MISSION STRATEGY

That's why I've led six international trade missions since becoming Premier.

Not because we haven't made inroads in the world's fastest-growing economies. We have, and I'm proud of the progress we've made.

But, like the success we've had with timber exports to China – it's not a reason to rest on our laurels.

It's something to build on – a way to create more opportunity for B.C. business.

That's why we just came back from India. To continue to build relationships...

To build on our hard work...

And create opportunities for businesses, institutions, and jobseekers here in B.C.

Businesses like SignalChem, which opened an R&D facility in Bangalore.

Institutions like BCIT, which formalized two partnerships to collaborate on research.

And Surrey's Innovation Boulevard will be getting busier, with uber Diagnostics opening an office there.

INFRASTRUCTURE

We can't expect to seize those opportunities – to dramatically increase our exports overseas – without the infrastructure to actually get goods to the market.

Our existing network has served us well, not just British Columbians but also Canada.

But there's no question, there have been challenges in moving products.

So it didn't come as any surprise to see the BCBC report. We're still reviewing the recommendations, but it reinforces a lot of our priorities – and the priorities of other provinces, as well.

That's why I was just in Regina, meeting with Jim Prentice and Brad Wall. To discuss a long-term, strategic approach to infrastructure – with a specific focus on Asia-Pacific trade.

Because, between the three of us, we represent just 9 million people.

That's about the population of Delhi.

And yet, these same three provinces represent 60% of Canada's exports to Asia.

We're committed to working together to expand capacity.

That's why, along with Alberta and Saskatchewan, we're committed to investing \$25 billion in transportation infrastructure.

That's on top of \$22 billion already invested.

Because they need us. Canada needs us. As the world's economic centre of gravity shifts to Asia – we're Canada's only option for trade there.

That's why we asked for up to \$1.5 billion from the federal government to support and enhance Pacific Gateway infrastructure.

That's why we identified key projects that will increase international trade in all provinces, address bottlenecks, improve safety, and reduce impacts on local communities across the West.

Greater port access and capacity, including necessary road and rail improvements in the north and south of British Columbia. Projects would include the removal of level crossings that impede traffic and improvements to highway 1 and 16.

And improving road and bridge infrastructure in both Alberta and Saskatchewan to support east-west trade.

Improving and expanding our capacity to get goods to markets is absolutely crucial to take advantage of the opportunities for business and investment with Asia.

LNG

And they are crucial when it comes to bringing home the opportunity of LNG.

This month, we introduced legislation to attract LNG investment. It gives certainty to business, with a competitive tax structure.

It makes sure BC is a great place to invest.

It ensures British Columbians get a fair share of the benefits from a resource that belongs to them.

This is a challenging time for natural gas prices...and criticism can range from 'you're charging too much' to 'you're not getting enough' -- but I believe we've managed to find the right balance.

If just one medium-sized plant starts to export LNG, it will generate \$800 million per year for BC taxpayers.

That's as much as the entire forestry industry last year – from just one medium-sized LNG plant.

And of course, there's well over a dozen LNG plants proposed for BC.

The whole point of our tax framework is to work together with BC's other advantages -- like weather, geography, reliability of supply--to create the best conditions for as many positive Final Investment Decisions as the market can deliver.

And as soon as the market begins to deliver, we will do what we promised to do: build a Prosperity Fund to pay down our debt.

CONCLUSION

Doing this won't be easy. It will take patience and a vision.

When I think of the founding what became BCBC...

It was a business community that wasn't big by eastern standards, perched on the western edge of Canada.

In a sense, they were on the outside looking in.

Today, things have changed – and not just your name.

Canada's economic heartbeat has moved west.

There are still so many challenges, and so much to do.

But we're not going to build that future if we make the same mistake the BCBC founders were looking to correct.

There can't be winners and losers.

We want to get to win-win. Where both sides walk away from the deal thinking "we're both winners."

Let's build a strong economy together – based on insiders and insiders.

That's the ultimate lesson.

And with the stakes as high as they are – we need to work together.

In India alone, there's going to be a million people joining the workforce every month for the next 15 years.

That's adding another B.C. every four and a half months. Another Canada every three years.

We need to embrace this. It's not just an opportunity for LNG – it's an opportunity for agriculture.

For high tech.

For our colleges and universities.

For film and digital media.

For tourism.

For aquaculture.

It's an opportunity to grow the economy of this province across the board – to create prosperity that lasts for generations.

With nobody on the outside looking in.

Business Council of BC
October 7, 2014
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Thank you.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Dr. Bill McMichael, Former High Commissioner to India, Ambassador to China and Japan, Distinguished Fellow of the Asia Pacific Foundation

It's an honour to be invited here.

The ties between BC and Japan go back a long way. We began formal relations with the opening of the Japanese Consulate in Vancouver in 1889 – 125 years ago.

Decades ago, fishermen from Japan worked side by side with my grandfather, and taught him Japanese.

60 years ago, he visited Tokyo on a trade mission for BC's fishing industry.

At the time, we were trying to rebuild a relationship that had been torn apart by war.

60 years is a short time for a country with a history as long as Japan. But consider what we've accomplished:

Today, the first Japanese-Canadian MLA serves in my Cabinet. We're continuing to expand on the relationship between our two countries.

Since becoming Premier, I have led two trade missions to Japan and just last week, Minister of International Trade Teresa Wat just came back from her second mission there.

It's a proven strategy. Japan is now our third largest market for exports.

And today, Japanese corporations are investing in an even bigger opportunity: natural gas.

- Mitsubishi partnered with Royal Dutch Shell, Petro China and Kogas to build LNG Canada – a proposed LNG plant in Kitimat.
- Japan Petroleum Exploration partnering with Petronas to develop Pacific Northwest LNG near Prince Rupert.
- Inpex and JGC are joint venture partners with Nexen, in the Aurora LNG project in Prince Rupert.
- And Idemitsu is a partner with AltaGas in the Triton LNG project in Kitimat.

These projects get a lot of attention, but B.C. and Japan are partners in many other areas, such as education, information and communication technologies, life sciences and digital media.

We now have 85 digital media studios, employing 5,000 full-time highly paid employees and thousands more on contract.

Just two weeks ago, B.C.'s trade office in Japan, helped mobile gaming company **gumi** open a studio in Burnaby.

It means 20 full-time jobs, and a boost in our reputation as a video games hub.

The formal ties between us deserve to be celebrated. But the informal ties run just as deep.

We've had success in building on cultural and historical ties, and expanding them into trade, investment, and research.

On my last trade mission in Japan, I was struck by the juxtaposition of modern Tokyo and the temples of Kyoto:

Through the ages, through all of that change, there is for me something singular about the people of Japan.

It's captured in this phrase: ICHI-GO, ICHI-EH
It means one chance, one encounter.

We have similar sayings in English...
Make every moment count, make a lasting
impression...take the time to listen to people you meet,
understand them, treat people with respect...

That continues to be the basis of the relationship between
our two peoples.

There is so much more potential – thank you for
everything you do to create opportunities on both sides of
the Pacific.

Thank You.

-END-

The B.C. Public Service Hall of Excellence

As I mentioned earlier, this year marks the 10th anniversary of the Premier's Awards.

In 2007, we introduced the Legacy category...

To recognize employees who have made exceptional and lasting contributions during their public service career of at least 15 years.

The work of Legacy nominees has directly and significantly improved the lives of British Columbians.

Today, I am pleased to announce that we are launching "The BC Public Service Hall of Excellence"...

To recognize outstanding achievement, dedication, and service to the province.

Induction into the Hall of Excellence is the highest form of recognition the B.C. Public Service can extend.

I am pleased to tell you that all nine past recipients of the Legacy category will be inducted into the Hall of Excellence this evening.

John Dyble will call each of them to the stage, and he'll share a few words about their contributions.

If you'd like to find out more, you can read their profiles online.

[Screenshot of web page will be shown]

On behalf of all of the British Columbians you serve every day, thank you and congratulations to each of you.

-END-

THANK JOHN DYBLE for introduction.

ACKNOWLEDGE:
ADJUDICATORS' PANEL
JUDGES' PANEL
OUTSTANDING NOMINEES for this year's awards.

The annual Premier's Awards were created to recognize and reward innovation, collaboration, and excellence in the B.C. public service.

This year marks the 10th anniversary.

Over the past 10 years, we have recognized projects that improved the quality of life for Aboriginal people and our most vulnerable citizens.

We have celebrated great work in fields as diverse as safety and labour mobility;
medical services and the environment;
economic development and client satisfaction.

Public servants play many roles, but they share a common goal: to serve the citizens of BC.

Every day, British Columbians in every community and from every walk of life count on public servants:

- To keep people and goods moving,
- To keep our streets and families safe,
- To deliver countless other services we sometimes take for granted.

It is your professionalism, your impartial eye, and your unshakeable ethics that shape and maintain the public's trust and confidence in government.

To them, you are the Province of BC.

They don't always get to meet you at the counter. In the age of cell phones and the Internet, your workplaces are everywhere.

And yet, you continue to deliver the personal touch, with courtesy and fairness.

To each of the nominees, you are here tonight because you have demonstrated a unique ability to see beyond difficulties...to focus instead on opportunities, and potential for improvement.

Projects like yours really do make a difference. They make B.C. a better place for all of us.

These awards recognize your exceptional work...impressive results...and the fact that you don't cut corners.

And let me tell you, I am very proud to be the premier with the best public service in Canada. To serve your fellow citizens is a noble calling.

So I challenge all of you nominated here tonight to share your success stories.

People need to hear about the good work BC public servants do.

And you deserve to be recognized for your achievements.

The work you do is truly helping to build a better province. Thank you for working so hard on behalf of British Columbians.

-END-

Thank you. It's great to be back in Chandigarh.

I just want to acknowledge the members of our delegation here – can you identify yourselves?

Leaders in their fields. Business leaders, education leaders, First Nations leaders, Community leaders...

And collectively...

You have the vision to see the future...

And the courage to do the work necessary to shape it.

And I am proud. I am proud to call you my partners in this mission.

We all understand the importance of the longstanding relationship between BC and India.

And we appreciate how far we've come in just a century.

Over 100 years, brave sons and daughters left their home here in India and came to British Columbia

They wanted the same thing that brought my own ancestors to British Columbia: the opportunity to make a better life for themselves, and for their children.

In a country with a history as rich as India, 100 years may seem like the blink of an eye.

But in BC – everything has changed.

Since the arrival of the first immigrants from India – Indo-Canadians have become pillars of our communities in BC. It started in small towns, mostly working in forestry.

Today you all know about Abbotsford, Surrey, and Vancouver... but when those pioneers first arrived, they went to small towns.

Places like Williams Lake, Duncan, 100 Mile House, or Prince George.

In each of those towns, they left a legacy.

Let me briefly tell you about one.

Harbanse Singh Doman, who became known in BC as Herb.

When Herb was just 12 years old, his father died. He was forced to quit school and start work to support his family.

When he was 16, he took a job delivering sawdust by truck.

Herb went from driving a truck to founding a lumber company with his brothers.

And under his watch, it became one of the largest lumber companies in BC, employing hundreds of people.

Today, Indo-Canadians are prominent in business, agriculture, advanced education, technology, and government.

The cultural ties with India are one of our greatest strengths.

It's because of our population -- Vancouver has one of the largest populations of Indian descent outside the subcontinent.

For example, the Vaisakhi celebration in Surrey is the world's largest outside India – and has become one of the signature events in the city.

And last year, we hosted the Times of India Film Awards – one of the largest-ever celebration of Bollywood outside of India.

But it's also because you're accomplishing great things in India. As you grow the size of the middle class, and lift millions out of poverty...

It creates more and more opportunities for trade and investment.

With British Columbia's traditional role as Canada's gateway to Asia and the subcontinent, we're uniquely placed to take advantage.

And with a 150-year supply of the world's cleanest-burning non-renewable energy source, we're uniquely placed to help satisfy India's need for more and cleaner energy.

The LNG opportunity will transform BC, too. 100,000 new jobs, enough revenue to eliminate our provincial debt – and the biggest contribution we can make to fight global climate change.

And just as BC's forests attracted workers from India looking for opportunity...

We hope our LNG industry will attract more.

More people we need to unlock the opportunity of LNG, more people to make a contribution to India, to BC and Canada, and the world...

To make the most of this chance to shape our children's future.

For the better.

As Prime Minister Modi likes to say –

“SUB KA SAATH, SUB KA VEE-KAS”

“Everyone working together, for everyone's progress or development.”

That's our generation's responsibility.

And our success will be our generation's legacy...to all who come after us.

Thank you.

Thank you.

It is heart-warming to be here in Chandigarh again...

Here at the campus of the University of Fraser Valley from
my home of British Columbia...

A province in Canada that is home to so many people
from right here in Chandigarh and the State of Punjab.

People who have brought their values, their passions, their
dreams to BC for over 100 years...

Enriching our towns and cities...

Sons and daughters from this place who have changed
my province forever.

It's my second visit here, and to me, as the leader of a
province with one of the largest South Asian populations in
the world, outside of the sub continent...

Being here gives me a greater understanding of who we
are in BC. Of who we have become.

That shared place in our world and what we can dream and achieve together is exactly what our partnership in education is about.

You know, today, there are 4,600 young Indian men and women studying in BC.

That number has almost tripled in just 3 years.

It's not just students studying abroad – increasingly, BC colleges and universities are forming partnerships with their counterparts in India.

There are almost 60 different partnership agreements between BC schools and Indian institutions.

Let me quickly touch on two examples:

For the first – just look around.

The University of the Fraser Valley's partnership with SD College has created opportunities in business, agriculture, and more.

As for the second, earlier this year, the India Oil Company signed an agreement with one of BC's largest and oldest schools, Simon Fraser University,

SFU is giving Indian Ph.D. candidates the opportunity to spend a year researching at SFU.

In exchange, SFU faculty and students get the chance of a lifetime: to work in Indian Oil's research and development facility – one of the best in the world.

It's win/win. It creates more opportunities to compete and win in a global economy.

It's a good start, but we have more to do.

Each year, more than 100,000 students come to study in BC at all levels, and many choose to stay.

We need more of them to stay.

Because we're facing critical labour shortages in key sectors and regions of British Columbia

We're working on re-engineering our education and skills training systems to meet these needs.

And as we develop our LNG industry for export to Asia and South Asia, this need for people power will grow.

That means more opportunities for Indian students to start their careers in Canada.

That's why, during this Trade Mission, we are looking forward to three more agreements between BC and Indian post-secondary institutions.

They're still working out some of the details, but once signed, there will be even more opportunities for exchange.

That's why we're all here today – to give students more chances to diversify their educations...

And more chances to succeed in a global economy.

It starts with giving students the opportunity to study abroad.

So I am proud to announce today, \$50,000 in scholarships for 20 students...giving Canadians the chance to study in India, and Indians the chance to study in Canada.

So in the future – you'll see a little more of Canada in Chandigarh. And a little more of Chandigarh in Abbotsford at UFV's home campus.

BC Education Collaboration Roundtable
October 11, 2014
UFV Chandigarh Campus
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We will achieve more as we dream and work together...

Blessed with this shared place, and shared destiny in our world...

A world I know that will be so much better because of our partnership...and the many generations of young and brilliant minds that will emerge from campuses like yours.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Minister AMRIK VIRK

Deputy Minister SANDRA CARROLL

Thank you.

We're here to talk about finding ways to work together on education.

And this is crucial for BC, because we have depended on immigration from India.

For over 100 years, as their parents worked to build a new life in BC, their sons and daughters have thrived in their new schools.

Increasingly, it's not just immigration. Today, there are 4,600 young Indian men and women studying in BC.

That number has almost tripled in just 3 years.

We're very proud of our public education system. Our students are achieving world-leading results.

But one area we need to do better...
Something you've long understood in India...

Is that in an increasingly global economy – an international education gives students a better chance to compete and win on the world stage.

That's why I'm pleased that more and more BC colleges and universities are forming partnerships with their counterparts in India.

There are almost 60 different partnership agreements between BC schools and Indian institutions.

And there are more on the way.

Today, I'm pleased to announce two more schools have been approved to offer British Columbia curriculum.

One in Japan, and one in Chandigarh.

Later this month, I'm looking forward to announcing up to three agreements between BC post-secondary institutions and Indian organizations.

We're still working out the details, but each of the proposals will create more opportunities for students, scientists, and businesses to learn from each other.

To take the best of both worlds. To make both our countries better.

For over 100 years, Indian immigrants have enriched BC in every conceivable way.

Without their contributions, we would not have achieved what we have.

More than ever, we need to continue attracting young Indian men and women to build their careers in BC.

Because as we develop our LNG industry for export to Asia and South Asia, we're facing critical labour shortages.

We're working on overhauling our education and skills training systems to meet these needs.

But if every single British Columbian filled the available jobs, we'd still have thousands and thousands of positions to fill.

And that means more opportunities for Indian students to start their careers in Canada.

That's why we're all here today – to give students more chances to diversify their educations...

And more chances to succeed in a global economy.

It starts with giving students the opportunity to study abroad.

I'm looking forward to finding more ways to give more students the opportunity to study abroad.

To compete and win on the world stage.

Thank you.

BC LNG Forum
October 14, 2014
Delhi
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
ACKNOWLEDGE:
TBC

Good afternoon,
Thank you for that introduction...thank you to our sponsor
KPMG...thank you all for being here today.

I have to tell you, I feel very much at home travelling
through India. It's the benefit of the South Asian diaspora
-- a very large and diverse community in British Columbia
that has helped build our province for the last hundred
years.

BC has benefitted greatly from India and Indians...and I'm
sorry that all you're getting today from BC... is me.

(PAUSE)

That does not seem like fair trade.

(PAUSE)

I want to talk to you about changing the world.

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Now you might be thinking, that's a bold way to start a luncheon speech at an LNG conference.

But isn't that what we're really talking about? Changing the world, and powering that change with LNG -- that's our common enterprise. It's the common motivation. And I would argue, this place, this country is the right place, right now to be bold, to think big, to have the courage to shape history.

Here are three reasons why.

One, your new government, led by Prime Minister Modi, is setting a new path to unleash the Indian tiger... to cut red-tape, to build smart cities, and grow the economy.

That's impressive...Because the pace of change I've already noticed in just the last three years since my first trade mission here is absolutely breathtaking.

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And when India grows its economy, it doesn't change just India...it changes the world. The sheer size of India means as your economy expands, so does the global economy.

Two...economic growth requires energy...more energy of all kinds. Let's face it, you're already experiencing astounding growth in India's middle class... you've added something like the entire population of my country to the middle class in just the last decade.

And yet, because poverty remains high, per capita energy usage remains very low.

Here's the good news. It won't stay that way. More families will need more power, industries like steel and cement will require not just more but also uninterrupted, reliable and cost-effective power.

So to my third point...where will this energy come from? What will turn your turbines? What will you burn?

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You know, yesterday was a pretty nice day in New Delhi...as it was in British Columbia's biggest city, Vancouver. The air quality index in New Delhi hit 153. It was 14 in Vancouver. 14. People there might not leave their homes if it ever hit 50.

If pollution is not your biggest concern today...it will be. The decisions you make today will bring its own demands.

Today India relies on coal for 56 per cent of its energy needs. 30 per cent of your energy needs is fulfilled by oil. The world's cleanest fossil fuel, natural gas only provides 8 percent.

The Indian government has transmitted its desire to use more natural gas with the goal of building up a massive network of pipelines to transport gas. And there are already 4 re-gasification plants in operation and 9 more are planned. That's encouraging.

We, in British Columbia, would like to partner with this great country to realize its potential by providing LNG to

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

power its future. We recognize that there will be a mix of energy sources - coal, oil, solar, wind.

But natural gas has the added benefit of lower GHGs and other pollutants. With the right infrastructure, natural gas has the added advantage of safe, dispatch-able, reliable, and uninterrupted power.

Your History, Our Motivations

In BC we have 150 year supply of natural gas. We have many other advantages, and I want to talk to you about that in a moment.

But first, I want to talk to you about LNG in a context that's bigger than energy, or even the economy. I want to tell you what this Trade Mission is really about...to talk about our motivations in BC, and how we see India -- our partnership in this world.

A great man once said "We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."

That was Albert Einstein.

He was right. The mother of science in Europe was math.
And the mother of math was trade...

Trade in the Mediterranean Sea that lifted Europe out of
the dark ages and into the renaissance.

Trade brought goods to Europe and ultimately innovations
from as far away as India -- this cradle of civilization.

It's not any different today.

I'm leading my second trade mission to India because I
see the potential of this great country. The entrepreneurial
spirit of the people. And here's the potential I see.

British Columbia is a big and beautiful place.
From the First Nations, to the first settlers, to the latest
wave of immigration, we have found a way to build a
prosperous life in that magnificent land between the Rocky

Mountains and the Pacific Ocean on Canada's West Coast.

We are good at natural resources, whether it's wood products or minerals like our high quality thermal coal...so vital to India's production of steel and cement.

In terms of population, at 4 and a half million, we're tiny by Indian standards.

So we've had to be smart and innovative... Whether it's cleantech, or our world class academic institutions, or our creative industries...all of whom are represented on this trade mission.

We've worked to manage our finances responsibly...to balance our budgets and achieve a triple-A credit rating.

We've worked hard to be global leaders on climate change.

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It's good to aspire to global leadership...but we have to remember the world is bigger than just our own backyard.

Partnering with India expands our horizons...by supporting India's goals and achievements...and by doing that we can be a part of change that is bigger, more widely felt, and perhaps more lasting.

Trade Mission

Let me give you an example.

India needs a million skilled workers a year, every year, for the next 15 years. We can help. If we can help train 3,000 and 300 of them help us build an LNG industry -- it's good for you and good for us.

That's why our universities and post-secondary institutions are signing numerous agreements on this trip to provide faculty exchanges, to open off-shore schools, to open opportunities to Indian students to come to BC, and for BC students to come to India.

I witnessed three more agreements just today:

-Indian Oil and Simon Fraser University have agreed to exchange research scientists to advance innovations in energy...like fuel cells, clean energy technology and advanced materials.

-GMR Group of Indian and IC-Impacts of BC will now work together on safe and sustainable infrastructure like innovative pavement technology, construction design and water and waste water infrastructure.

-Reliance Industries have also signed on with IC-Impacts to share research, training and develop new technologies in such areas as specialized building materials for infrastructure like bridges, roads and buildings.

Beyond today's agreements, my counterpart, the Chief Minister of Punjab and I have committed our governments to work together on skills training, education and agriculture.

My Minister of Advanced Education Amrik Virk is travelling to Bangalore...where I'm pleased to announce that a BC company, SignalChem is opening a research and development facility.

SignalChem specializes in cancer, inflammation, and central nervous system research.

This means more jobs in Bangalore, more jobs in BC...
And more opportunities to convert discoveries into treatment that will potentially save lives.

LNG and the BC Partnership

What do all of these sectors have to do with LNG? Each of these initiatives represent a part of India's story...and our role in it. As you write that story, as you shape your future, it will shape ours.

Indian Oil is poised to make its biggest investment in Canada to secure natural gas for India from BC.

We are working hard with Petronas to make sure that LNG project reaches FID...as we are with all of the proponents who are investing in BC today.

I had a Saturday morning meeting at Indian Oil...a great meeting, and I'll tell you the same thing I said to Chairman Ashok:

There's no secret to how we get to FID. BC has to be competitive for India. And we're fortunate to be blessed with several advantages...let me mention 8 of them:

One. Short transportation times to Asia...that saves costs.

Two. Lower operating costs for liquefaction because it's cold in northern BC -- to put it into perspective, that means liquefaction in northern BC is 34% more efficient than in Australia, and 32% more efficient than Qatar...

Here are 6 more advantages:

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We have vast gas reserves - enough to support domestic and export markets for the next 150 years...

We are a stable and reliable jurisdiction and partner offering a secure supply...now...tomorrow...and into the future...

We have a strong regulatory regime and a commitment to a streamlined and efficient environmental permitting process with defined timelines...

We have the vital support from First Nations...

We have a labour force training program to provide the skilled workers necessary to build and to keep costs down

And finally...we will bring into law a competitive taxation regime. It's coming very soon. It will be fair. It will be cost-competitive. And proponents will have certainty.

Conclusion

Let me close with this.

In all the agreements we have signed and will sign across sectors on this trade mission. In all our discussions with LNG proponents...

There will be celebratory moments, and there will be difficult ones. There are the grand and bold motivations like 'changing the world.' There can be differences on details as small as punctuation.

None of it. None of it is trivial when it comes to the attention, the focus, the purposeful determination and work required to get it done.

None of it is ever too tough.

There's an ancient proverb that says you have to do your utmost even on the small things. Because that shows sincerity. And when people see that sincerity...that work becomes brilliant. Brilliance changes people...and people change the world.

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As Prime Minister Modi likes to say:
SUB KA SAATH, SUB KA VEE-KAS
"Everyone working together, for everyone's progress or
development"

That is work worth pursuing.
And I am proud to be here...in partnership.

Thank you.

-END-

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Delhi
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ACKNOWLEDGE:
KPMG (sponsors)

Thank you. It's an honour to be here.

There's a rich history between British Columbia and India.

100 years of immigration from one Commonwealth nation to another helped make my home what it is today...

A thriving, prosperous, multicultural success story. One I'm eager to tell you about.

And that rich history between our two nations...is about to get richer.

Since becoming Premier three years ago, my focus has been on growing the economy – and a major part of that plan is expanding our overseas trade relationships.

We plan to take advantage of our strengths – both natural advantages, and ones we've worked hard to create.

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Let me touch on the latter first. We've made the tough decisions to achieve a balanced budget two years in a row, with increasing surpluses projected for the next five years.

We've achieved a triple-A credit rating, the highest possible. BC is a safe harbour for investment.

Through hard work and a commitment to fiscal discipline, we're in a position to capitalize on our natural advantages.

Our position as Canada's gateway to the Pacific.

Our strong cultural ties to the growing economies of Asia and India.

And our 150-year supply of the world's cleanest-burning non-renewable resource, natural gas.

Later today, I look forward to talking with you at length about B.C.'s LNG industry, and the opportunities for us both.

BC LNG Forum

October 14, 2014

Delhi

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Thank you very much.

Thank you. It's great to be back in one of the world's oldest and greatest cities.

Everyone in my delegation is proud to be here, representing our province.

We each understand the importance of the longstanding relationship between BC and India.

And we appreciate how far we've come in just a century.

Since the arrival of the first immigrants from India, Indo-Canadians have become pillars of their communities. It started in small towns, mostly working in forestry.

Today you all know about Abbotsford, Surrey, and Vancouver... but when those pioneers first arrived, they went small towns.

Places like Williams Lake, Duncan, 100 Mile House, or Prince George.

In each of those towns, they left a legacy.

Let me briefly tell you about one.

Harbanse Singh Doman, who became known in BC as Herb.

When Herb was just 12 years old, his father died. He was forced to quit school and start work to support his family.

When he was 16, he took a job delivering sawdust by truck.

Herb went from driving a truck to founding a lumber company with his brothers.

And under his watch, it became one of the largest lumber companies in BC, employing hundreds of people.

Today, Indo-Canadians are prominent in business, agriculture, advanced education, technology, and government.

The cultural ties with India are one of our greatest strengths.

It's because of our population -- Vancouver has one of the largest populations of Indian descent outside the subcontinent.

The Vaisakhi celebration in Surrey is the world's largest outside India, and has become one of the signature events in the city.

And last year, we hosted the Times of India Film Awards -- one of the largest-ever celebration of Bollywood outside India.

But it's also because you're accomplishing great things in India. As you grow the size of the middle class, and lift millions out of poverty...

It creates more and more opportunities for trade and investment.

With British Columbia's traditional role as Canada's gateway to Asia and the subcontinent, we're uniquely placed to take advantage.

In BC, we like to say that "Canada Starts Here." For a long time, Canada was seen as an Atlantic country that looked to Europe for direction, and south to the United States for trade.

Not anymore.

As the world's economic centre of gravity shifts to Asia and the Indian subcontinent, Canada will increasingly become a Pacific nation.

In every sense of the word...that starts in B.C.

When our two nations finally agree on a free trade agreement, it will open doors for trade, investment, cooperation, and prosperity.

And with a 150-year supply of the world's cleanest-burning non-renewable energy source, we're uniquely placed to help satisfy India's need for more and cleaner energy.

The LNG opportunity will transform BC, too. 100,000 new jobs, enough revenue to eliminate our provincial debt – and the biggest contribution we can make to fight global climate change.

And just as BC's forests attracted workers from India looking for opportunity...

We hope our LNG industry will attract more.

We have the opportunity those passengers who were turned away from our shores were denied: the chance to shape our children's future.

Friends of BC Reception
October 14, 2014
Delhi
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For the better.

As Prime Minister Modi likes to say –

“SUB KA SAATH, SUB KA VEE-KAS”

“Everyone working together, for everyone’s progress or development.”

That's our generation's responsibility.

And our success will be our generation's legacy...to all who come after us. Thank you.

Sponsored by Deloitte

Good morning. It's wonderful to be here.

Since I became Premier of British Columbia three years ago, my focus has been on growing the economy, and creating the conditions for job creation.

The best way to do that is expanding BC's international trade relationships, and moving forward on our plans to export LNG to Asia.

I want to speak to you about both, and the progress we've made here in India...

But first, I want to thank our sponsor, KPMG, for hosting us here today, and giving us the opportunity to meet you, and for

As Prime Minister Modi likes to say –
“SUB KA SAATH, SUB KA VEE-KAS”

“Everyone working together, for everyone’s progress or development.”

It’s not a language I have mastered yet – but it perfectly expresses our philosophy.

I want to share with you some of the progress we’ve made, but first I want to tell you a little about my home.

At the western edge of Canada, between the snow-capped Rocky Mountains and the Pacific... British Columbia is literally halfway around the world from here.

But despite all the obvious differences, there is much that unites us.

We are both Commonwealth nations, we have both inherited many of the same institutions, from legal traditions to adopting English sports.

But it goes beyond that. BC has longstanding cultural ties to India, thanks to 100 years of immigration.

The story of Indian immigrants has changed completely in that time. A century ago, our governments had racist policies and tried to exclude South Asians.

We have long since learned the error of those ways. Today, Indo-Canadians are pillars of their communities, and have enriched BC in every sense.

FILM

Many of the things that British Columbians take pride in come from our Indo-Canadian community.

From celebrated restaurateur Vikram Vij, to many of the world's best-loved movies shot on location in B.C.

Nowhere else in the world outside is Bollywood as popular influential as B.C.

That's why we invited the Times of India to hold their film awards in Vancouver last year.

Maybe you were one of the 100 million people who watched.

If you did, you saw B.C. at our very best. You saw a place I think you'd feel very much at home.

With everything from deserts with cacti, to snow-capped mountains, from the rainforest to sandy beaches, BC is often described as a living movie set.

And for over 25,000 British Columbians who work in the film industry – that's exactly what it is.

Last year saw almost \$1.5 billion in production spending by film and television producers, which included more and more Bollywood films like *Pardes* and *Neal 'n' Nikki*.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Film is a growing industry in B.C., but it's still relatively new.

Our core strengths – the industries that built our province – are natural resources and international trade.

And they also represent our best chance to make a difference. To help make the world a better place.

India is one of the world's greatest and oldest civilizations.

BC only has about four and a half million people. Our best chance to make a difference in the world...to punch above our weight...

Is to seize the opportunity presented by LNG.

Because as the economies of countries like India and China continue to grow, as the middle class continues to expand...

The demand for energy will increase. And one way or another – that demand will be met.

It could be met with something dirty, like coal. Or, it could be met with the cleanest-burning non-renewable resource in LNG.

In B.C., we have been safely extracting natural gas for 60 years. And underneath northeast British Columbia lies an ocean of energy – enough to last 150 years.

Even by Indian standards, 150 years is a long time. 150 years ago, John D Rockefeller created Standard Oil to sell kerosene for lamps.

Back then, there was no use for Petroleum, so it was just thrown away.

150 years ago, the British made Shimla their summer capital – couldn't stand the heat, I guess.

Things have changed.

A lot can change in a century and a half. LNG will kick-start new inventions and technologies to improve peoples' lives...in ways we can't even imagine today.

What we can do today is take immediate action -- and eliminate needless delay.

As Premier, I look at every government decision through the lens of LNG...because the creation of the LNG industry is the central pre-occupation of my government.

I've put together a special LNG cabinet, which I chair. There's a corresponding Deputy Ministers' LNG cabinet, which my deputy chairs.

There is still more to do, but momentum is on our side. Right now, there are 18 LNG exports proposals in BC.

The two proposals proposed for Grassy Point Crown Land – Aurora LNG and Gassy Pont LNG – continue to make strides.

Aurora LNG has an approved export license and an environmental review underway.

Grassy Point LNG has submitted their export application with Canada's National Energy Board and has initiated their environmental review.

One of our domestic operations – FortisBC's Tilbury facility – is even expanding to support the WesPac LNG proposal.

LNG is what I ran on. It's what we were elected on. It's a promise made, a promise we will keep.

Part of keeping that promise means ensuring British Columbians are first in line for the 100,000 jobs that will come...

and to avoid the spiraling wage inflation that took place elsewhere.

That's why we developed a 10-year skills training plan. I don't know of any province or state in North America that has taken on an undertaking of this size and scope.

We're re-engineering our education system to ensure our province's youth and workers have the skills they need to fill the jobs of the future.

Here's what that means.

We worked with industry, with First Nations and with labour unions to map out the labour market and needs...

Identify how many workers we have in key trades, and how many are required and by when.

Then we worked backwards to identify what we need to do today, what programs we need to fund, to provide the training that will create the workforce we need.

FORESTRY

But even if every single British Columbian gets a job in LNG – there will still be thousands of unfilled positions.

We will need to look outside our borders.

This is an old story in BC. For almost 100 years, our forestry industry has attracted immigrants looking to build a new career and new opportunities for their families.

We have a plan to ensure British Columbians are first in line for BC jobs. But with the growth we anticipate...

We will have to look elsewhere.

Politicians will play politics with issues like immigration. But in BC, we understand...

Immigration has made us what we are today.

Immigration has made us better.

Those Indian immigrants who built our forestry industry have left a legacy that transformed lives.

We still rely on forestry. More than 58,000 British Columbians work in the industry.

And as we work to expand BC's overseas markets, forestry will continue to play a major role.

BC's lumber exports are worth almost \$12 billion and growing – mostly thanks to increased trade with Asia.

SIGNALCHEM

India has made many of its recent contributions to the world in tech.

That's why BC's tech industry is well-represented in my trade delegation: because our tech industry is thriving.

And the more we cooperate and collaborate – the better for both of us.

Earlier this week I was pleased to announce that SignalChem is opening a research and development facility in Bangalore.

SignalChem specializes in cancer, inflammation, and central nervous system research.

This means more jobs in Bangalore, more jobs in BC... And more opportunities to convert discoveries into treatment that will potentially save lives.

CONCLUSION

Two years ago, we told British Columbians about the opportunity posed by LNG.

And while we didn't use Mr. Modi's words -

"Everyone working together, for everyone's progress or development..."

They echo the spirit that has gripped British Columbia.

They describe our plan to grow the economy and create opportunities for our children and grandchildren.

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

We in BC understand that our future lies across the Pacific and Indian oceans.

We understand we must keep the door open for those who see a role in building an LNG industry in our province.

Together, we have a generational opportunity to be energy innovators...

to power economic growth and at the same time, reduce emissions that would come from burning dirtier fuels...

Let's have the courage to work together...to shape our future for our children and grandchildren.

Because together, we have a chance to transform our world for the better.

BC India Business Luncheon
October 16, 2014
Mumbai
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you.

- END -

Good afternoon,
Thank you for that introduction...thank you to our sponsor
Deloitte...thank you all for being here today.

I have to tell you, I feel very much at home travelling
through India. It's the benefit of the South Asian diaspora
-- a very large and diverse community in British Columbia
that has helped build our province for the last hundred
years.

Now...it's only right...that British Columbians should return
the favour...

That British Columbians help build India exactly the way
you want it to be.

You are on the cusp of a remarkable transformation. And
when India transforms itself, India changes the world.
We in BC want to be your partner in that work.

The truth is, historically, when India was at her best, she invented all kinds of things we depend on today.

You invented the concept of Pi. Of course it takes Indians to understand the infinite.

It used to be the infinite bureaucracy, the myriad regulations, that tied down the entrepreneurial spirit. I think now it is the infinite potential of the people of India.

You invented algebra. You invented steel. You invented buttons. You invented zero. Which is exactly the amount some people would like our LNG tax to be.

A great man once said "We owe a lot to the Indians, who taught us how to count, without which no worthwhile scientific discovery could have been made."

That was Albert Einstein.

He was right. The mother of science in Europe was math. And the mother of math was trade...

Trade in the Mediterranean Sea that lifted Europe out of the dark ages and into the renaissance.

Because trade isn't just about investment and the movement of goods. It's about the movement of people and the sharing of ideas.

That, to me, is the point of a trade mission.
That's why I am in India.
Trade is historically how human beings change the world.

And India, right now, is the place to be to change the world for the better.

Here are three reasons why.

One, your new government, led by Prime Minister Modi, is setting a new path to unleash the Indian tiger...
to cut red-tape, to build smart cities, and grow the economy.

That's impressive...Because the pace of change I've already noticed in just the last three years since my first trade mission here is absolutely breathtaking.

Two...economic growth requires energy...more energy of all kinds. Let's face it, you're already experiencing astounding growth in India's middle class... you've added something like the entire population of my country to the middle class in just the last decade.

And yet, because poverty remains high, per capita energy usage remains very low.

Here's the good news. It won't stay that way. More families will need more power, industries like steel and cement will require not just more but also uninterrupted, reliable and cost-effective power.

So to my third point...where will this energy come from? What will turn your turbines? What will you burn?

You know, it's been a pretty good summer in Mumbai...as it has been in British Columbia's biggest city, Vancouver. The air quality index in Mumbai hovers close to 100 or more on any given day. In Vancouver 25 would be a bad day. People there might not leave their homes if it ever hit 50.

If pollution is not your biggest concern today...it will be. The decisions you make today will bring its own demands.

Today India relies on coal for 56 per cent of its energy needs. 30 per cent of your energy needs is fulfilled by oil. The world's cleanest fossil fuel, natural gas only provides 8 percent.

The Indian government has transmitted its desire to use more natural gas with the goal of building up a massive network of pipelines to transport gas. And there are already 4 re-gasification plants in operation and 9 more are planned. That's encouraging.

We, in British Columbia, would like to partner with this great country to realize its potential by providing LNG to power its future. We recognize that there will be a mix of energy sources - coal, oil, solar, wind.

But natural gas has the added benefit of lower GHGs and other pollutants. With the right infrastructure, natural gas has the added advantage of safe, dispatch-able, reliable, and uninterrupted power.

Your History, Our Motivations

In BC we have 150 year supply of natural gas.

We have many other advantages, and I want to talk to you about that.

We need to talk about this because Indian Oil is about to make the biggest ever Indian investment in Canada. \$4 Billion dollars to have a piece of a \$36 Billion dollar LNG project in BC. I had a great meeting with the Chief Executive of Indian Oil, and I will tell you what we talked about.

But if you'll indulge me, before I do that, I want to tell you about my province, and about all the ways we can help you teach and learn, innovate, inspire, and even dream.

British Columbia is a big and beautiful place. From the First Nations, to the first settlers, to the latest wave of immigration, we have found a way to build a prosperous life in that magnificent land between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean on Canada's West Coast.

We are good at natural resources, whether it's wood products or minerals like our high quality thermal coal...so vital to India's production of steel and cement.

In terms of population, at 4 and a half million, we're tiny by Indian standards.

So we've had to be smart and innovative... Whether it's cleantech, or our world class academic institutions, or our creative industries...all of whom are represented on this trade mission.

We've worked to manage our finances responsibly...to balance our budgets and achieve a triple-A credit rating.

We've worked hard to be global leaders on climate change.

It's good to aspire to global leadership...but we have to remember the world is bigger than just our own backyard.

Partnering with India expands our horizons.

Trade Mission

Let's start with how we dream of a better version of life. How we imagine a better version of ourselves. Through fiction. Through drama. Through film.

In India, Bollywood is an established global cultural influence. It's perhaps the first and best image many people around the world have of India.

It's also a major economic driver.

We're not in the same league as Bollywood, but B.C.'s creative sector is a critically important industry.

B.C. has more than 600 digital media companies, which employ about 16,000 people, and generate \$2.3 billion in annual sales.

Our film industry relies heavily on attracting productions from places like the United States and India.

They come to B.C. for three main reasons:

First, the locations. BC can offer everything from the big city to rainforest to the mountains.

Second, a talented and experienced labour force.

Third, Vancouver is home to some of North America's most expansive and sophisticated studio facilities, with leading-edge technology.

We've had success. Last year, 129 productions were either filmed, edited, or both in B.C. That works out to about \$1.5 billion in spending.

But we plan on doing better. That's why we're making the process as easy as possible.

It started with creating BC Creative Futures.

We've asked them to do work with both the public and private sector to help build a comprehensive strategy. That starts with not asking undermanned film studios to contact six different government agencies for six different things.

BC Creative Futures combines services, including tax credits, in one shop.

It's also why we're focusing on India.

We're well established in Hollywood and with Canadian production studios.

That's why BC is often called Hollywood North.

We're proud of that. But we'd like to add one more:
Bollywood West.

That's why we invited the Times of India to hold their film awards in Vancouver last year.

Maybe you were one of the 100 million people who watched.

If you did, you saw B.C. at our very best. You saw a place I think you'd feel very much at home.

And you might have seen some familiar locations from Bollywood films. We plan on Bollywood showing off a lot more of B.C. in the near future.

Of course...film is no substitute for the real thing.

Thousands of Indians will have an opportunity for a much longer and more rewarding experience of British Columbia.

India needs a million skilled workers a year, every month, for the next 15 years.

We can help. If we can help train 3,000 and 300 of them help us build an LNG industry -- it's good for you and good for us.

That's why our universities and post-secondary institutions are signing numerous agreements on this trip to provide faculty exchanges, to open off-shore schools, to open opportunities to Indian students to come to BC, and for BC students to come to India.

That's why our clean tech sector is also on this trade mission. To help design fuel cells, or exchange scientists, or help build more sustainable cement.

Yes really...more sustainable cement.

That's why in health, a BC company announced it's creating jobs in Bangalore, at a research facility, for better cancer treatments.

LNG and the BC Partnership

So in this constellation of ways in which BC can partner with India, there is at the centre, the brightest object. LNG. Because without energy there is no growth...and without growth, there is a shrinking ability to look after people who need help in our society.

So back to my story about the meeting with Indian Oil, and how we are working with them and Petronas to make sure that LNG project reaches Final Investment Decision.

And by the way, we are working hard with them, and all of the 15 or so proposals for LNG plants across our province.

At that great meeting with Indian Oil...I said to Chairman Ashok:

There's no secret to how we get to FID. BC has to be competitive for India. And we're fortunate to be blessed with several advantages...let me mention 8 of them:

One. Short transportation times to Asia...that saves costs.

Two. Lower operating costs for liquefaction because it's cold in northern BC -- to put it into perspective, that means liquefaction in northern BC is 34% more efficient than in Australia, and 32% more efficient than Qatar...

Here are 6 more advantages:

We have vast gas reserves - enough to support domestic and export markets for the next 150 years...

We are a stable and reliable jurisdiction and partner offering a secure supply...now...tomorrow...and into the future...

We have a strong regulatory regime and a commitment to a streamlined and efficient environmental permitting process with defined timelines...

We have the vital support from First Nations...

We have a labour force training program to provide the skilled workers necessary to build and to keep costs down

And finally...we will bring into law a competitive taxation regime. It's coming very soon. It will be fair. It will be cost-competitive. And proponents will have certainty.

Conclusion

Let me close with this.

In all the agreements we have signed and will sign across sectors on this trade mission. In all our discussions with LNG proponents...

There will be celebratory moments, and there will be difficult ones. There are the grand and bold motivations like 'changing the world.' There can be differences on details as small as punctuation.

None of it. None of it is trivial when it comes to the attention, the focus, the purposeful determination and work required to get it done.

None of it is ever too tough.

Your Prime Minister describes himself as a small man who helps small people. To me that speaks of humility. And it speaks of an attention to detail, no matter how small, to actually improve the experience of people whether they are getting a new passport or getting a business license.

You can't do the big things if you can't get the small things right. It shows sincerity. People will not follow a leader into changing the world, if they don't sense a sincerity about getting the small things right.

BC Luncheon Mumbai

October 16, 2014

Delhi

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

As Prime Minister Modi likes to say:

SUB KA SAATH, SUB KA VEE-KAS

"Everyone working together, for everyone's progress"

I will promise you, in our relationship between BC and India, we will get the small things right.

When you make the big decision to invest in BC, you will find a place that's made for business.

A low tax jurisdiction. An inspiring place. A place to dream...and a place to work to make that dream come true.

That is work worth pursuing.

And I am proud to be here...in partnership.

Thank you.

-END-

(note: formally known as BSE, not Bombay Stock Exchange)

It's energizing to be here at the nerve centre of India's economy.

The signals you send every day, drives the markets of the world – and the prosperity of millions of people.

And now, with a new government, open for business, cutting red tape...you are poised to unleash the Indian Tiger. Growing India's economy isn't just good for India...it will change the world. We want to be your partner.

In British Columbia, more than anywhere else in North America, your vitality is our future. That's not new for us, it's been a way of life as a resource-rich jurisdiction.

Every day, British Columbians work hard to produce wood, minerals, food products, technology --all the things you need to power your economy to greater heights.

BSE
October 16, 2014
Mumbai
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Now on the immediate horizon, we have BC's emerging liquefied natural gas industry...

To provide clean energy to replace dirty fuels,
To grow your economy and reduce emissions.

That's good news for your wealth...and health.

So thank you for allowing me to ring the ceremonial bell.

Now let's get working, together, on that new day for India,
Canada, and British Columbia.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

CYRUS MISTRY, Tata Group Chairman

Thank you. It's an honour to be in a room with so many women leaders. With women interested in being leaders.

I have to tell you, in my job, I'm usually in a room full of men. Even back home in British Columbia.

So standing here with you tells me, we have work to do. And when I look at you, where you are in life and in your careers, there is also hope. So I'd like to give all of you something memorable to take with you today...

An idea of what must change. And what we can do. Each of us. There are a few things I've been reading about and thinking about.

But before I do that, first I want to thank Tata Group and Mr. Mistry for bringing us here together today.

Change starts with leadership that recognizes we can't exclude 50% of the population if we want the best results.

Change continues with bringing people together -- as we have today. And change is up to all of us.

STORY OF RAZIA SULTAN

It's fitting we're talking about women in leadership here in India. Do you all know the story of Razia...the empress who ruled the Sultanate of Delhi in the 13th century?

Razia refused to be called "Sultana" because she was nobody's mistress or wife. She was called "Sultan". She wore a man's head-dress, she led her army into battle riding an elephant -- with her face proudly uncovered. By all accounts she was a great leader who walked among her subjects, cared for them, built places of learning and worship.

But if you know the story, you know it wasn't a happy ending.

Noblemen constantly conspired against her...whispering rumours about her to undermine her.

Even her childhood friend turned against her. He led a rebellion against her, captured and imprisoned her -- and only released her when she agreed to marry him.

You know those guys who say they are your friends?
Sometimes you have to be careful.

Her family wasn't much better. Her own brother usurped her throne.

Razia and her husband fought to regain it, lost, and were eventually murdered by thieves.

I guess we can call that the 13th Century version of a glass ceiling.

Of course, a lot has changed in 800 years...thank goodness...but there is an invisible thread of something familiar that runs through that story.

And it's this.

People still expect women in leadership to not succeed.

It's rarely overt, it's not necessarily that loud and ignorant kind of sexism, it's just an expectation.

When I first became Premier, experts and pundits would say 'she doesn't look or sound like a Premier'...'she's not a good manager'...and ultimately 'she's going to lose the election.'

These were smart people who said this. Men and also women. It wasn't personal. It wasn't a conspiracy to stop women from succeeding...

Just people seeing what they want to see.

In my case, I won the election -- so that shattered that consensus pretty quickly.

But you know, I think girls and women can get tied up in that invisible thread.

What happens is, along with the low expectations -- ironically -- girls and women get held to a higher standard.

You have to really do something special to break out of that spider web.

And that can lead to limiting yourself...self-editing, not speaking up, internalizing...because what's the point of expressing yourself if it just isn't good enough?

It's the opposite of what happens to 'the bright child'...who is praised by all the adults every time the child utters a word. Girls and women silence themselves to avoid falling short.

The head of Google, Lazlo Bock, is dealing with this in his organization.

Like most tech firms, it's made up of mostly men. Of their 36 top executives, only 3 are women. Bock describes it as hidden or unconscious biases -- something you don't know exists, that once you think about it, you start seeing it everywhere.

I was reading about a study on exactly this hidden bias conducted by Yale University researchers in 2012. It was

a simple study that looked at the hiring practices of American science professors...

The researchers created two fictional applicants ...John and Jennifer...each with exactly the same credentials...promising but not stellar candidates.

The professors were asked to rate John and Jennifer after reading a one-page summary. To give them a score between 1 and 7.

John got an average score of 4. Jennifer got 3.3

John got an average wage offer of \$30,000. Jennifer got an average wage offer of \$26,000. Same credentials, two different outcomes. And of course, the professors were not all men. Women were just as guilty of seeing Jennifer as less capable somehow...just from the name.

The Change

It's an easy trap to fall into. And I don't think we have to think of this as some kind of complex, impossible challenge.

Razia may have felt that way. We've got a few more tools.

As Premier, I try to make sure that women play key roles in my government.

Over a third of my cabinet are women. My caucus chair is a woman. The president of my party is a woman. So is the executive director. I've worked to make sure that women are appointed to head our Crown Corporations -- we're now at more than a third of all board appointments being women.

I'm almost embarrassed to say, I feel compelled to explain, the women are highly qualified. Of course they are.

I've also created a Premier's Women's Economic Council to give me advice on how to expand women's business opportunities.

Governments, businesses, academia -- everyone must do their part...

But I also believe change begins at home.

We need to raise our daughters like the bright child.

I have a 13 year old son at home...

and I think women and men need to raise boys to have higher expectations of girls and women.

Conclusion

I hope I am doing that for my son.

It will better prepare him for the world we are building today.

And give him the means to reach his full potential as a man.

I see signs...encouraging signs back home in British Columbia and here in India.

Here today with you.

India is poised to make transformational change...both in economic and social terms.

And when India changes, it necessarily changes the world.

I'm heartened to see Prime Minister Modi talking about the importance of educating girls and empowering women.

I know there are challenges. Deep ones. Tough ones. Ones that are incredibly unfair.

But you are where you are today because you overcame barriers.

That in itself is a major step.

And change will come with every step forward that you take.

BC Film & Digital Media Showcase
October 17, 2014
Mumbai
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
Thank you.

It's a pleasure to be here and have a chance to discuss what is, for us, a growth industry.

I'd like to tell you a bit about British Columbia's film industry, and our goals for it.

In India, Bollywood is an established global cultural influence. It's perhaps the first and best image many people around the world have of India.

It's also a major economic driver.

We're not in the same league as Bollywood, but the creative sector is a critically important industry.

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We're well established in Hollywood and with Canadian production studios.

That's why BC is often called Hollywood North.

We're proud of that. But we'd like to add one more:

Bollywood West.

That's why we invited the Times of India to hold their film awards in Vancouver last year.

Maybe you were one of the 100 million people who watched.

If you did, you saw B.C. at our very best. You saw a place I think you'd feel very much at home.

And you might have seen some familiar locations from Bollywood films like *Pardes* and *Neal 'n' Nikki*.

B.C.'s door is open. I look forward to welcoming you on location in the near future.

Thank you.

- Thank you for having me – and for supporting WE Day.
- Last year, I had the opportunity to speak to 20,000 students at GM Place, united in the belief they can make a difference in their world.
- That's what WE Day is all about – changing the belief that you just have to accept things.
- It's about standing up.
- Think about the difference one person can make. Think about Terry Fox, who raised \$24 million for cancer research. That's one dollar for every Canadian alive at the time.
- Today, students across B.C. are more involved than ever in their communities.
 - collecting for local food banks,
 - fundraising for clean water projects
 - and taking action to end bullying in our schools.

- They're making a real difference in people's lives. They are making the world a better place.
- Our generation has a job, too. To encourage these students to keep going.
- To show them there's no limit to what can be accomplished with hard work and dedication.
- Thank you.

-END-

Tilbury LNG Facility Expansion Project ceremonial ground breaking.

Audience:

- MLAs: Bill Bennett, Rich Coleman, Vicki Huntington, Scott Hamilton
- FortisBC president & CEO Michael Mulcahy will be the emcee and introduce the Premier. The president of Fortis Inc. Barry Perry will also be in attendance, but won't be speaking.
- Delta Mayor Lois Jackson
- Delta councillors: Sylvia Bishop, Robert Campbell, Jeannie Kanakos, Bruce MacDonald, Ian Paton
- FortisBC / Fortis Inc. executives
- John Walker, executive VP, Western Canadian Operations, Fortis Inc.
- Mike Mulcahy, CEO of FortisBC Inc. and FortisBC Energy Inc.
- Doug Stout, vice president, Market Development & External Relations
- Members of the FortisBC board of directors
- FortisBC employees

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Michael Mulcahy, President & CEO, FortisBC

MLA Scott Hamilton

Vicki Huntington

Lois Jackson, Mayor of Delta

We have the good fortune to live in a beautiful province with abundant natural resources.

And we are also fortunate to live in the right part of the world...

At the right moment of history...

To take advantage of a generational opportunity.

As the middle class in countries like China and India grows, the global demand for energy is expected to double over the next 20 years.

Make no mistake: that demand will be filled – one way or another. No amount of finger-wagging or wishful thinking will change that.

Our task, our opportunity...is to find ways to meet that demand, lifting millions out of poverty...while reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Natural gas is the world's cleanest-burning non-renewable resource – emissions are as much as 30% less than diesel.

And we're sitting on a 150 year supply.

We can create good-paying jobs – the kind that support solid families, a strong health care system and the public services that knit together all of our communities.

And over time, we can reduce and eliminate our provincial debt.

That's the opportunity before us. And we're fortunate to be in this position. Good fortune is one thing. But to realize this opportunity, we need hard work.

And that's what's brought us here today.

It starts with making the hard choices to balance our budget, and keep our triple-A credit rating, the highest possible.

And that's crucial, because it encourages investment and innovation.

FortisBC has been providing LNG as a fuel for use in B.C. for almost two decades, and as a transportation fuel for the past 5 years.

The Tilbury facility expansion allows FortisBC to further develop the LNG supply for the growing domestic market.

That's why the two largest ships in BC Ferries' fleet are going to be running on natural gas by 2018.

The Spirit of Vancouver Island and the Spirit of British Columbia will both be converted to run on both diesel and LNG – reducing fuel costs and emissions all at once.

The future is bright.

I want to thank FortisBC for its continued leadership.

B.C. has been blessed with good fortune. With hard work, we can bring this opportunity home.

Thank you.

–END–

Thank you.

We're here tonight to be told a story about bullying, and the lasting effects it has on its victims.

Bullying isn't harmless fun, or a rite of passage – it leaves scars that last a lifetime.

That's why we launched the ERASE Bullying Strategy in 2012. It includes:

- Training for educators to identify threats
- A Reporting Tool to anonymously report bullying
- The ERASE website and Twitter feed to share information and best practices
- ERASE Provincial Advisory Council and Student Forum

We've heard over and over again that the best thing we can do is remove the stigma of reporting bullying. To hear stories from others.

That's why the government of British Columbia provided Vancouver Opera with a \$500,000 grant – to help tell the story.

Statement by Premier Christy Clark
in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
on Reconciliation with the Tsilhqot'in Nation

October 23, 2014
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Madame Speaker, fellow Members of the Legislative Assembly, guests and honoured chiefs of the Tsilhqot'in Nation who are here with us on the floor of the Legislature today.

We come together today to acknowledge and to explain the wrongs done by past governments to the Tsilhqot'in people. We come today to talk about how we must overcome them, and how we must take a new path of mutual respect, and to begin the process of healing.

In the spring of 1864, the Tsilhqot'in people took action to defend their territory. It was a critical event in the conflict known as the Chilcotin War.

Long before the arrival of Europeans, the Tsilhqot'in lived on and cared for their homelands.

After the colony of British Columbia was established, Tsilhqot'in lands were declared open for access, without notice or without effort at diplomacy. Many newcomers made their way into the Interior.

Some of those came into conflict with the Tsilhqot'in, and some brought with them an even greater danger. That was smallpox, which by some reliable historical accounts was spread intentionally.

Facing the risk of extinction, and in response to a series of threats, the Tsilhqot'in convened a council to declare war.

The Tsilhqot'in attacked the road crew near Bute Inlet, and, over the ensuing days, they removed all settlers from their lands.

The Tsilhqot'in war party took refuge in their territory beyond the reach of the colonial militia, who had threatened the Tsilhqot'in people.

That summer, gold commissioner William Cox sent the Tsilhqot'in chiefs a sacred gift of tobacco, and with it an invitation to discuss terms of peace.

Chief Lhats'as'in and his men accepted this truce. They rode into the camp to negotiate peace.

Then, in an unexpected act of betrayal, they were arrested, imprisoned and tried for murder.

On October 26, five chiefs were hanged: Head War Chief Lhats'as'in, Chief Biyel, Chief Teilot, Chief Tahpitt and Chief Chayses. Their bodies are all buried in the city of Quesnel.

Statement by Premier Christy Clark
in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
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October 23, 2014
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

The following summer, Chief Ahan sought to pay reparations to compensate for any harm caused to innocents in the events of the Chilcotin War. He was also hanged. He is buried in New Westminster.

Madame Speaker, today we acknowledge that these chiefs were not criminals and they were not outlaws.

They were warriors, they were leaders, and they were engaged in a territorial dispute to defend their lands and their peoples.

Their descendants continue to reside on and care for those territories, and they do it with the same commitment to their lands and their culture that their forebears showed.

The Tsilhqot'in continue to assert their right and their responsibility to govern those lands. Despite every success that they have had, the pain of 1864 has never receded.

So, Madame Speaker, I stand here today in this Legislature, 150 years later, to say that the Province of British Columbia is profoundly sorry for the wrongful arrest, trial and hanging of the six chiefs, and for the many wrongs inflicted by past governments.

To the extent that it falls within the power of the province of British Columbia, we confirm without reservation that these six Tsilhqot'in chiefs are fully exonerated of any crime or wrongdoing.

The Tsilhqot'in people rightly regard these chiefs as heroes of their people. So today we offer this apology, a historic day 150 years later, in the presence of two of the six chiefs who have fought so hard to ensure that their territories and their people are recognized by the laws of this land.

I know that this Legislature will join me in supporting this redress that we offer today.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

JILL EARTHY (introduces PCC)

LOIS NAHIRNEY

Thank you.

I want to talk to you today about some of the ways women are behind and driving our growing economy...

and how we can encourage more women to get involved in business, and creating the jobs that people depend on.

But first, I want to share with you an experience from our most recent trade mission.

For ten days, I led a B.C. delegation to Chandigarh, Delhi, and Mumbai.

We were there to help make connections between B.C. businesses and institutions with Indian investors and businesses...

It's a fundamental part of our plan to grow the economy, because as you know, small and medium-sized business employs the majority of working British Columbians.

And the best way to help them thrive is opening and expanding trade markets.

While there, I had the privilege to address a forum on women in leadership sponsored by the Tata Group of Companies in Mumbai.

Until very recently, India had a very traditional view of the role women play in the economy. But they're making great strides.

What was striking was how they view British Columbia – as leaders.

They're playing catchup when it comes to fundamentals like making sure girls finish school, much less advanced education.

But in many ways – we have a lot of work to do, too. Because people still expect women in leadership to not succeed.

It's rarely overt, it's not necessarily that loud and ignorant kind of sexism...it's just an expectation.

When I first became Premier, experts and pundits would say:

- She doesn't look or sound like a Premier.”
- “She's not a good manager.”
- and ultimately... “She's going to lose the election.”

These were smart people who said this. Men and also women. It wasn't personal. It wasn't a conspiracy to stop women from succeeding...

Just people seeing what they want to see.

In my case, I won the election -- which shattered that consensus pretty quickly.

But I think girls and women can get tied up in that invisible thread.

What happens is, along with the low expectations -- ironically -- girls and women get held to a higher standard.

You have to do something really special to break out of that web.

And that can lead to limiting yourself.

Self-editing, not speaking up, internalizing...because what's the point of expressing yourself if it just isn't good enough?

It's the opposite of what happens to 'the bright child' praised by all the adults every time the child utters a word.

Girls and women silence themselves to avoid falling short.

We have to start there. With making sure girls feel like they can speak up.

Like gender doesn't make any difference in how they are perceived.

It starts with discussions like you're having here.

WOMEN IN SENIOR LEADERSHIP

I want to briefly touch on the three tracks discussed today.

First, women in senior leadership.

B.C. has a good track record.

- A third of my cabinet are women.
- The Speaker of the Legislature and Lieutenant-Governor are women.
- My caucus chair is a woman.

It's not just the front-and-centre roles. Women play vital roles behind the scenes, as well.

The president and executive director of the BC Liberal party are both women.

My Deputy Chief of Staff in Victoria is a woman. Each cabinet minister has a chief of staff, and half of them are women.

Since I've been Premier, over a third of all appointments to the boards of crown corporations are women.

I think it's worth pointing out, because this is a contentious issue in some parts...

Not one of those women got their jobs because of a quota.

Every one of those women is there because they earned it.

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

The second track today is a subject near and dear to my heart: women entrepreneurs.

And again, BC has a pretty good track record.

Almost 40 per cent of self-employed British Columbians are women. That's slightly higher than the national average.

Women are earning more money today than at any point in B.C.'s history.

But again – we can do better.

It starts with asking how.

That's why I created my Women's Economic Council.

To ask. To listen. To hear ideas on job creation from women with a proven track record on job creation.

One of the things we keep hearing about is family pressure – it's expensive.

That's why we invest \$292 million every year in child care, including funding for more than 100,000 licensed spaces, and subsidies for 45,000 more.

That's why next year, we will invest \$146 million in a new provincial tax credit.

It will provide up to \$660 a year to help families with the cost of raising children under the age of six.

We need to keep listening. Please keep telling us what we can do to support women entering or coming back to the workforce...

Because very soon – we're going to need every British Columbian able to work – man or woman.

NON-TRADITIONAL ROLES, EMERGING SECTORS

The third track discussed here is women in non-traditional roles and emerging sectors.

In many ways, this is the most important of the three tracks. It has the potential to change a lot of lives for the better.

By 2022, B.C. is expecting over one million job openings. 43 per cent of those will be in trades. That's more than the population of Surrey.

Obviously – employers want and need to look at the biggest possible pool of candidates.

And right now, that's not happening. Not to the extent it needs to.

Currently, only one in ten trades apprentices in BC are women. It's a little better for apprentices under 19 – a little over a quarter are women.

This is crucial, because we're already facing a shortage of skilled workers. And if we're going to fill those jobs with British Columbians...

We have to find a way to include 50 per cent of the population.

ITA's women in trades training initiative has been consulting industry associations, employers, and apprentices.

And what they heard was that women do not want to be treated differently.

Instead, what they heard was that to attract women to trades, we don't need a revolution.

What will be far more useful – and cheaper – are a few small workplace changes.

Basic things like:

- ensuring safety equipment comes in a range of sizes,
- more options for change facilities,
- and considering flexible scheduling that could accommodate family needs.

That's why today, the ITA introduced a resource for trades employers.

Leveling the Field – A Best Practices Guide to Employing Women in the Trades is for employers wondering how to attract the best people, regardless of gender.

It's not a series of directives. It's a dialogue.

It's sharing tips and best practices. It's asking them what they need, and what has worked for them.

We promised to increase opportunities for women in the trades.

With steps like a Best Practices Guide for employers, we're keeping that promise.

CONCLUSION

Our goal is simple: growing the economy.

Creating more opportunities, both today, and for next generations.

It's about lifting people up.

Not just women – but everyone.

Because when more women succeed.

Thanks in part to organizations like this, we've had some success.

We can take some pride in that. But we can't rest on our laurels.

We owe it to young women to give them opportunities in growing sectors.

We owe it to our kids, because having enough skilled workers is crucial for the investors lining up to do business in British Columbia.

And quite simply – it's the right thing to do.

With your continued help – we'll build a better, more prosperous future.

For men, women – everyone.

Thank you.

Thank you very much.

It is such a pleasure to be back in this place, where there is so much economic activity happening, with the people who are making that economic growth actually happen on the ground by dint of hard work and big dreams.

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

Minister Jason Kenney, very nice to see you here. I'm delighted that you came as well. This is a thriving heart of the Canadian economy, and I'm glad you're getting a chance to see it in action.

Michelle Stilwell is our caucus chair. She keeps us all in line, makes sure that the meetings run on time.

Sometimes I'll say "you know, well, that was really good. I think it was about second best."

She says: "I don't accept second best. I only accept winning." As you know, she holds 17 records in her field.

Minister Don McRae is with us as well -- Don McRae, who has set an ambitious goal to make British Columbia the

most accessible place in Canada as we become a society that ages and more of us need support in our mobility.

It is an ambitious and, frankly, an expensive agenda but one we're committed to doing, and it's been his vision that's got us there.

The thing, though, that you need to know about Michelle and Don most of all is that they are always fighting for the economic priorities of this part of British Columbia.

Fighting for the mid-Island, trying to make sure that your priorities are always front and centre and that we never, ever forget how important you are to our economic agenda.

That's the job they do for you every single day.

And so it is a great honour to be here in the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. I am honoured to be here with you.

We just came from Vancouver Island University, which is doing so much good work in ensuring that First Nations are fully participating in our post-secondary education

system and getting the chance to realize their potential -- but not just First Nations; all kids and learners in this part of British Columbia getting a chance to learn at a really world-class institution that Ralph Nilson is running.

Thank you, Ralph.

I want to talk to you today a little bit about what we're doing and how we see British Columbia's economy continuing to grow, because as you know, international trade is a crucial element of growing British Columbia's economy and Canada's economy.

We are a small trading jurisdiction, and the only way we create jobs and new money is if we continue to grow trade internationally.

That also means, though, that we need to improve trade across Canada. That means breaking down interprovincial trade barriers.

It is wrong that you can get wine from anywhere in Canada barrier-free here in British Columbia, but you can't open a bottle of Mission Hill or a bottle of Quail's Gate

when you're in Toronto without getting that wine through all kinds of barriers.

There is more trade in wine between British Columbia and China than there is between British Columbia and Ontario, and we have to fix that.

And as I said, we aren't a big player on the world stage, so we have to take advantage of all of the assets that we have been so blessed to inherit as British Columbians.

At 4.5 million people we are not as big as Japan or China or India or any of our trading partners, but I would argue that we punch above our weight, and here in Nanaimo you punch above your weight too.

We work so hard at this, at building these international trade relationships, but we're lucky too.

We should never forget how lucky we are to have the cultural ties that we do -- cultural ties from people who have come here from all over the world to work shoulder to shoulder together, to build a great country.

Unless you are of First Nations descent, this is a country of immigrants.

This is a country that is an experiment around the world, the most successful in human history where people have come together from Ukraine, from England, from India, from Singapore, from China, from Russia, from Romania, to build something bigger and build some prosperity for their future.

That is a tremendous strength for us as we look overseas to increase our trade relationships.

We have leverage and understanding and knowledge more deeply than any other country in the world has.

We have a AAA credit rating. We have a balanced budget, which, by the way, we didn't balance just once, we balanced twice, and we have some of the best fiscal discipline you will find in any jurisdiction in North America, an 18.5% debt-to-GDP ratio, which is what helps us keep our borrowing costs so low.

We are very proud of that fact that we are doing everything we can to control government spending, to keep government small.

And always, always remember it is not government that creates jobs. It is the private sector that creates jobs, and we want to give you the chance to do that.

Of course, a big part of Nanaimo's contribution as you punch above your weight around British Columbia is what's going on in the harbour.

I'm sure that you've had a chance to talk about the study that shows that \$665 million of economic output come from that harbour every single year; 6,000 direct, indirect jobs for the people of these communities produced by that port.

And that is just part of the story as you look internationally and overseas in strengthening our trade relationships.

And the work that you're doing here is reflected in decisions that other private sector companies are making: WestJet, two daily flights to Calgary now instead of one; Helijet starting a daily flight in November daily from

Nanaimo to Vancouver; \$4 billion that is produced from all enterprises in the Nanaimo region. That is up \$900 million from the year before.

That's a thriving private sector.

That is people with dreams who take those dreams -- because we all have them -- and do the hard part: turn those dreams into reality, into hard economic output and change and growth; who take those dreams and turn them into jobs and a future and prosperity and wealth; \$4 billion from the enterprises in this region.

This region is booming, and it's going to continue to grow, and you need to, but we have to keep up with that, and the only way we'll do that is by making sure that British Columbians have the skills that they need to be able to fill those jobs.

Liquefied natural gas is just one example, could be 100,000 new jobs.

The Petronas final investment decision, when it comes, will be a \$36 billion investment in British Columbia. The

total investment proposed in capital for natural gas in British Columbia is somewhere north of \$225 billion.

But we have to make it happen.

But making it happen, though, means low tax rates, an attractive climate for investment.

It means less regulation.

It means making sure those companies are doing their jobs right but government isn't getting in the way.

But the most important part of that is making sure that we have the people in British Columbia with the skills that they need to fill those jobs.

I don't look at it just from the companies' perspective, because, if you're running a business, you want to make sure there are people there to fill those jobs...but from a citizen's perspective.

Because for every young person in this province there is another dream, and that's to be able to lead a fulfilling life

where they can establish their future, buy a home, buy a car, start a family, begin saving for their future.

That's what those 100,000 jobs mean to me.

It means 100,000 citizens who are able to lead fulfilled and meaningful lives, making a contribution.

Next year, for the first time, there will be fewer young people entering the workforce than there are older people leaving it.

Think about that.

Even if we train every British Columbian up to exactly the right standard for exactly the right fit in exactly the right job...there still won't be enough British Columbians.

By 2022 we are expecting over a million job openings across the province. Two-thirds of those are driven by retirements, and if we are successful -- when we are successful -- in realizing our great goal of creating a brand-new industry in British Columbia in liquefied natural gas, we are going to make that problem even worse.

But it's a better problem to have than the opposite one, and Nanaimo remembers those days, where there weren't enough jobs for all the people that wanted them.

So how do we solve that problem? How do we make sure that British Columbians are ready to take on those job openings?

We need to make sure, that we map out what we need, and we've done that, working with the private sector, trying to understand what it is that the private sector is going to need on all the big projects, job by job, year by year, month by month.

You can go to Shirley Bond's office, our Minister of Jobs, and look at the chart on her wall and find out our prediction for the number of carpenters we are going to need in British Columbia in July 2018.

We take that back, and we are re-engineering, re-profiling \$3 billion in our post-secondary education system to make sure that we are delivering on the education that people are going to need to fill those jobs...

And then working further back from that and rethinking the way we deliver secondary education in BC so that secondary schools, kids in grade 10, grade 11 and grade 12 can start working toward those jobs in areas like the trades.

For many of them it means a chance to stay in school because it's something they're interested in and be able to graduate.

In BC 20% of kids still don't graduate from high school, and we should ask ourselves why.

I think part of the reason is we don't offer the breadth of programming for kids who need it. And so for all those kids who are great at the trades, we failed.

We haven't met it in every corner of the province -- there are some schools that are doing a spectacular job -- but there are too many where it's inconsistent.

And so for those 43% of new jobs that are going to be in the trades, we need to offer more opportunities for people to find them.

Those are good, family-supporting jobs, and people won't be able to take advantage of them if we don't make sure that the training is there for them.

It's still early days.

We are about six months into what is a ten-year skills blueprint and training plan, but we have already made some progress, an investment of \$6.8 million that created 1,400 new seats in trades training.

By doing that, we have already reduced wait-times by eight months.

The BC Access grant for labour market priorities, \$16,400 at the maximum per student to study the highest-in-demand trades, which are expensive to educate.

Construction is underway on two new trades training facilities, one at Okanagan College in Kelowna, and one in Camosun College in Victoria.

We have increased the number of apprenticeship advisors that are available to help employers get connected with the people who want that real work experience.

Peter Fassbender, our Minister of Education, was down at a new school site on the south Island the other day, celebrating the beginning of this new schools with young people in hard hats who are building the school their siblings will go to, young people who are still in grade 10, 11 and 12.

They're in the ACE IT program, a program where you can get your apprenticeship hours while you're still in high school and have that add up to your final apprenticeship numbers when you graduate.

We have doubled the number of ACE IT spaces in BC.

There are 238 new training spaces at VIU so we can accommodate the need and the demand on the mid-Island, which I know is just going to continue to grow. Those are for welders, for electricians, for heavy-duty mechanics.

We're going to continue to make those kinds of investments, but we know it is also not just about the trades; we know it's also about making sure that we are

continuing to do research and continuing to invest in high technology.

So today we announced \$2.6 million for research projects at Vancouver Island's three public universities. University of Victoria: more than \$2 million to fund 11 research projects. They range from genetic research to unmanned air vehicles.

Royal Roads: about \$100,000 for a computer-based simulation model that's going to help us make better-informed decisions about investing in communities.

In Nanaimo, VIU: about \$500,000 in new money to be able to do a whole range of new research here.

And then there's the tech community, which is booming on Vancouver Island.

One of the things that we learned when we lowered personal income taxes by 25% on the first day in office in 2001 is that when you lower personal income taxes, you make a huge impact on the tech industry...

Because tech is all about people, and it's all about attracting talent.

Low taxes help attract talent, and that was a big kick-starter for the tech industry.

The other thing we know about the tech industry is lifestyle matters, and I don't think it's any secret why Vancouver Island has become a destination for tech entrepreneurs all over the world.

It's because the lifestyle is great. It's unparalleled, some of the best lifestyle you'll find anywhere in North America, with low taxes, low regulation and a government that's open for business.

So in Nanaimo we have helped support the creation of SquareOne, a tech innovator that's helping to attract new tech startups to this community.

A 65,000-metre tech park is proposed for downtown Nanaimo.

Qualicum Beach has a digital animation studio that's opened.

You look at the amount of tech industry that's happening in the south Island; you're talking about \$3.5 billion in annual revenues there alone.

The tech industry is going to be a crucial element of the future for British Columbia. We now have a minister responsible solely for that area. It's not just trades, but it is trades. It's also tech in a diversified economy where we are very much going to push the boundaries for the future.

Now, speaking of the future, one of the things that we are pressed to do, required to do and, I think, obliged to do is to find a new path in British Columbia, the path down which we travel with First Nations.

We're entering a new era with aboriginal peoples across Canada but particularly here in British Columbia after the Supreme Court decision on the Tsilhqot'in case.

After that case was announced and the judgment was announced, I went to the Tsilhqot'in territory, beautiful land up around Williams Lake, and I stood on that title territory, the only title territory in Canada today, and I talked to the Tsilhqot'in about how we are going to find a way forward.

Because we need First Nations to make sure that economic development is happening, and First Nations need non-aboriginal communities to make sure that economic development is happening.

We can do this together, we have to do it together, and we should do it together to find a path for economic growth where we are sharing in those benefits so that every citizen in British Columbia, aboriginal and non-aboriginal alike, has an equal shot at living in a kind of community that they make for themselves, one that's healthy, wealthy and thriving.

We brought together an historic meeting of all First Nations chiefs, over 400 chiefs, in Vancouver with the entire cabinet and all of the deputy ministers.

We met for a full day to hear each other and understand each other's perspectives going forward, understanding that it all begins with dialogue.

And so today when I was at VIU with Ralph, we welcomed Chief Shawn Atleo to a new role in British Columbia.

He has been a national aboriginal leader, a leader in Canada for all of us, for about 15 years now.

He's coming home, and he is coming home in part to start a dialogue between First Nations, business leaders and government policy makers to help us find that path that will allow us to move forward together, because we all want economic growth.

We all want resource development.

We all know that in our province the bulk of the wealth still comes from the ground or off it, and so we need to find ways if we all want to live in healthy, wealthy communities to be able to do that together.

So welcome, Shawn. We are so glad to have you home.

So let me close by saying this, because British Columbia is changing, there is absolutely no question about it, and the question for us, though, is are we going to be ready to meet the challenges of all of that change.

We need to make sure that our partners across the Pacific Ocean -- and I've been on six trade missions now -- know exactly what it is that we have to offer.

Think about this statistic for a moment, if I can leave you with one statistic:

In India they have the exact opposite problem that we have. Here we are, faced with huge opportunities for economic growth, 100,000 new jobs from LNG alone, and we don't have enough...we have fewer young people entering the workforce than we do people retiring. In India they have a million people, new people, entering the workforce every month for the next 15 years -- every month a million people in the next 15 years.

Can you imagine the challenge that that poses for the people and the government of India?

We've got what they need to fix that. We've got education and we've got energy -- clean energy.

Our job is to make sure they understand how we can make this relationship work together. It's embracing an

opportunity for trade like we have never done it before, and that is done in communities.

I see, for example, Zoran is here. Zoran's from Port Alberni, and Zoran heads up the port, where they are putting together a tremendous plan for growing that port and its impact on that community, a community that has wanted and been looking for new employment for a long time.

So he and his group have created a new plan for an LNG plant. He has travelled with me on trade missions and his group from Port Alberni, including First Nations representatives who are also here today to make the point that they are a place that's worth investing in.

And people are listening. People in Korea, people in Japan, people in India, people in China are all talking about the possibilities of Port Alberni.

That is a project and an idea and a change that has happened at the ground level.

It's not something that I came up with, and it's not something that Minister Kenney came up with.

It's something that local people in that community made and decided for themselves. And we are so happy to support you in doing that, because your community has waited for new economic growth for way too long, and we want it to happen.

And if they don't go to Port Alberni or they don't go to Prince Rupert and they don't go to Kitimat, they're going to get it from somewhere.

They are going to find that clean energy to power up their economies from somewhere around the world.

The other day in the Legislature somebody proposed, and a good number of members voted for it, that we just wait for another six months to do anything on natural gas.

I can tell you this: if we wait, our opportunity will be gone. We need to seize this opportunity now.

The window is short, and it's closing, and we need to find a way to make sure that we deliver our energy overseas before they decide to go somewhere else.

This is our chance, that moment in history where we have a chance, if we work together, to build something new for the province, to change the trajectory not just of BC, not just of the Island, the trajectory of the entire country, forever by creating something that this country has never seen before in a liquefied natural gas industry.

But we need to do it together.

There are those who say that when you're in power, one of the benefits of that is that everybody else is out. It's the guys who get to make the decisions and everybody else who suffers from those decisions.

I don't see power that way. I don't see government that way.

I think the paradigm for government today is how do we bring more people in.

We won the election, but that doesn't mean that there are people we want on the outside of those decisions.

It means that we want First Nations to be inside and part of those decisions.

We want unions to be inside and part of those decisions.

We want communities to be inside and part of those decisions.

We want to build a bigger inside so that there are fewer people who feel like they are on the margins and don't have a chance to take part.

To me that is the way we will build a future for British Columbia that works.

It's one where we do it together and where we all recognize that we all have a stake in prosperity, in building a future for our kids.

Thank you.

October 30, 2014

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo

Minister Amrik Virk (MC)

Ralph Nilsen (President, VIU)

Doug White (Director, Centre for Pre-Confederation
Treaties and Reconciliation, VIU)

Elder Gary Manson (Snuneymuxw First Nation)

MLA Michelle Stilwell (Parksville-Qualicum)

Good morning.

I'm honoured to be here at Vancouver Island University,
on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish and
Snuneymuxw [*ph*: SUH-nay-moo] First Nations.

This institution is a model of building closer relationships
between our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal citizens.

Relationships grounded in respect...and based on
understanding.

Partnerships – between equals.

My government and I are focused on building those
partnerships...because it's the right thing to do.

There is a long, difficult, and sometimes painful history between our Aboriginal communities, and those who came here more recently.

We need to hear each other's stories and acknowledge each other's struggles if we're going to move forward.

We can only move forward to a better future for all British Columbians if we understand each other's perspectives...

And work to heal the wounds that history has left...through recognition and reconciliation.

That's why I recently visited the Tsilhqot'in people in the Nemiah Valley...and apologized in the Legislature for the hanging of their six chiefs, 150 years ago.

It's why we convened the All Chiefs gathering between the Crown and BC's First Nations, this fall.

Dialogue between leaders is important.

But if we're going to achieve recognition and reconciliation, dialogue has to take place between citizens as well.

That's why, today, we are introducing the first Shqwi qwal [ph: Sh-kwee-kwall] for Indigenous Dialogue here at VIU.

The role of the Shqwi qwal, or speaker, is to lead the development of dialogue sessions, research, and public policy...

That will foster understanding and partnerships between Indigenous peoples, the broader public, and the private sector.

I can't imagine anyone better suited to that task than Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo.

Chief Atleo has been an exemplary leader on First Nations issues for more than 15 years...in BC and in Canada.

As Regional chief of the BC Assembly of First Nations...then National Chief...he gave voice to the needs and the potential of First Nations communities across our country.

In 2008, he became the first chancellor here at Vancouver Island University.

And so I'm very pleased that he has agreed to serve as the first Shqwi qwal, here at VIU's new Centre for Pre-Confederation Treaties and Reconciliation.

British Columbia's First Nation communities make a tremendous contribution to the province we all love.

I know they will continue to do so.

And Chief Atleo will play a leading role.

Thank you.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Norm Letnick

Steve Thomson

OCI Team:

Lane Merrifield, Club Penguin Co-Founder

Jeff Keen, Former CEO of Accelerate Okanagan

Ron Cannan, MP Kelowna-Lake Country

Mayor Walter Gray, City of Kelowna

Mayor Doug Findlater, West Kelowna

Today marks another milestone for innovation and free enterprise in Kelowna and the Okanagan.

In July, I announced 6 million dollars in funding to help build a new, cutting-edge centre to support local technology entrepreneurs.

It's a great example of partnership with the private sector, post-secondary institutions, and the City of Kelowna.

And today, it's my pleasure to announce the official start of construction of the Okanagan Centre for Innovation.

It means about 500 new construction jobs...

And, once the Centre is operational in early 2016, it will accommodate another 300 to 500 tech workers, some of them in newly created jobs.

The Centre won't just house established technology businesses...

It will also provide low-cost, flexible work space for budding local entrepreneurs, students and start-up companies.

Being together, under one roof, will give start-ups unique opportunities to learn and grow in collaboration with established companies and mentors like Accelerate Okanagan.

Every day, BC innovators and entrepreneurs are driving advances in technology that give rise to new and better products and services.

Whether they are already big players like Hootsuite and Club Penguin...

Or promising starts-up like Bananatag, right here in Kelowna.

We want them to succeed.

That's why we are investing in this project – so local innovators get a head start in growing their businesses...

Creating jobs...

And solidifying Kelowna as a tech leader.

The tech sector is already the third-largest contributor to B.C.'s economy, and it's growing.

Earlier today, KPMG released a report card on the strength of the tech sector in BC.

They reported that our tech industry directly employs about 84,000 British Columbians, paying salaries 66 per cent higher than average.

They also highlighted that over the last five years, the tech sector has grown at double the rate of the overall economy.

For the tech sector to reach its full potential, we have a lot more work to do.

And it can't just happen in Vancouver.

Because Kelowna is coming into its own, not only as a national tech leader – but a globally recognized centre of excellence.

I'd like to thank all of the industry, community and academic partners here today...for sharing that vision...and collaborating to make this project possible.

Thank you.

- It's good to have Premier Prentice here in BC.
- I'd also like to congratulate him on becoming the new MLA for Calgary-Foothills.
- When BC and Alberta are strong, Canada is strong.
- We share a commitment to grow our economies, and that includes a healthy resource sector.
- That also means continuing to reduce barriers to trade and mobility here in Western Canada, and across the country.
- And on those areas where we don't have agreement, we're committed to a friendly and respectful working relationship.

Thank you.

I want to thank Premier Wall for hosting us, and Premier Prentice for coming to Vancouver on Monday.

It's a pleasure to meet with my colleagues from Alberta and Saskatchewan, but it's also important.

Increasingly, our three provinces are arguably the most important in Canada. The West is not on the periphery of anything.

Collectively, we represent the equivalent population of Ontario – but it's not just about numbers.

Our economies are driving Canada's growth. Saskatchewan, Alberta, and B.C. are crucial to Canadian prosperity.

In B.C., we have a plan to continue to grow our economy – seizing on our traditional role as Canada's Pacific gateway.

And as the economies of countries like China and India grow – one of the greatest transformations in human history – this role has never been so vital.

Growing the middle class, lifting millions out of poverty, takes massive amounts of energy and resources.

Canada – and the West in particular – has what Asia needs.

In B.C., we like to say that Canada Starts Here. It sounds backwards to some of our friends in Central Canada and the east coast, used to seeing Canada as an Atlantic nation.

But for us, it's just a statement of fact.

In B.C., trade with Asia is already the foundation of our economy. It's the centrepiece of our plan to continue growing our economy.

That's why I've led six trade missions across the Pacific – a strategy that works.

Since 2000, BC's exports to Asia have nearly doubled. Today, British Columbia accounts for almost a third of Canada's exports to Asia, the most of any province.

Vancouver -- the Asian capital of North America -- is already a preferred location for trade with Asia.

Not just for Canada, but increasingly for companies in the U.S. and in other countries in North and South America.

It's where the Asian deals are increasingly getting done.

In the next ten years, we're going to see much more demand for clean energy and resources.

We're already setting records with exports in forestry, mining, agriculture

That's why we're pursuing the opportunity of LNG. It has the potential to transform B.C.'s economy in much the same way oil transformed Alberta's.

That's the opportunity before us. But if we're going to take advantage of it - if we're going to play a role in this global turning point...

We have to be ready.

Because it's not just an opportunity for B.C. Together, Canada's three westernmost provinces account for over 60% of Canada's exports to Asia – almost \$13 billion of goods every year.

That's expected to double in the next decade.

That's why we're making transportation infrastructure our top priority.

Make no mistake – we have a good network in place.

Port Metro Vancouver is already the largest export port in North America. Each year, it trades \$172 billion in goods – or one-fifth of Canada's trade.

The Port of Prince Rupert is the closest North American port to Asia.

But if we're going to meet this opportunity, we have to be ready for more volume.

We've worked closely with the governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan in the Pacific Gateway Alliance. We need to continue this collaboration through events like today to prepare to seize these opportunities.

We're going to continue to work together, and our colleagues in Ottawa, to lay the foundation for more success through free trade agreements.

And we're going to work together to take down barriers to trade here at home, too.

I'm looking forward to working with Premiers Wall and Prentice – to expand our trade networks, to continue to grow our economies, and cement our status as the economic engine of Confederation.

-END-

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Minister Norm Letnick

Brian Witzke

As some of you know, the free enterprise roots here in Kelowna and the Okanagan run deep.

Long before Steve, Norm, or I were elected here, WAC Bennett was the MLA. Before that, he kept a successful hardware store.

There's a great story about how his friend, Cap Capozzi, got WAC to invest in some winemaking equipment he wanted to ship in from Europe.

But at that time, it wasn't for grapes. It was to process the surplus apples that were lying, rotting, on the ground.

That's how Calona Winery got started.

And it goes to show, the Okanagan is famous for our wine...but it was tree fruit that planted the seeds, if you will, of agricultural abundance here.

In 2013, B.C. growers produced more than 103,000 tonnes of tree fruits – almost a third of the total Canadian production...

That's about the same weight as an aircraft carrier in apples, sweet cherries, peaches, pears, plums, nectarines, apricots, and more.

Over the past 30 years, B.C. has seen a major increase in the production of crops for export. We ship BC agriculture products to more than 140 countries.

B.C.'s interior tree fruit industry generates \$130 million in wholesale revenue...and contribute \$900 million to B.C.'s economic activity.

We want to be sure that we continue to produce the highest quality of food, and that we do it sustainably.

And in Norm Letnick, B.C. tree fruit growers have a great champion to make sure that continues.

He encouraged government to commit to a longer-term, dependable, sustainable re-plant program that you could bank on.

That's why, today, we're announcing \$8.4 million for a 7-year tree fruit replant program that supports growers' efforts to meet consumer demand for high-value, high-quality B.C. fruit.

We estimate that more than 1,500 acres of orchards will be replanted over the next 7 years...providing 2,600 jobs each year for the Okanagan.

Starting April 1 of next year, through to 2021, B.C. growers will be able to apply for this new program.

This funding will help meet consumer demand for popular Okanagan apples like the Ambrosia and Gala, and late-season cherries.

You and Cap Capozzi both knew: the world can't get enough Okanagan produce. We're making sure you have every chance to give it to them.

Thank you for being here.

It's a pleasure to speak with the ICBA – the elder statesman of Canada's open shop community.

Formed back in 1975, to lobby a hostile government, and ask them to treat you the same – not differently, not better – than unionized contractors.

A lot has changed since 1975.

That hostile government – the one that wanted to deny independent contractors the ability to win public contracts – was shown the door that same year.

In the same year Dave Barrett lost the election here, Margaret Thatcher became the leader of the opposition in the UK.

That's 40 years ago next year.

Margaret Thatcher is a divisive figure in Britain – some people literally danced on her grave.

And because the left hated her, and the right loved her – I sometimes found myself being compared to the Iron Lady.

You know who gave her that nickname?

Pravda. The Soviet newspaper.

It was meant as an insult – they were trying to say she was too tough to be ladylike.

But she loved it.

I was thinking about that during the election campaign, and since then, as we've fought to balance our budgets and shrink government spending, change the ALC, drag liquor laws into the 21st century.

And as we settled the teachers' dispute.

But as the ICBA has proven, you have to stand for principles, core values – and you have to be consistent.

To be fair, Dave Barrett and municipal governments like the People's Republic of Burnaby are consistent:

They want to reward their friends.

But if you want to succeed, you need competition and hard work.

That's the lesson I'm trying to teach my son.

Because it's true of the education system, the health care system, and the construction sector – everywhere.

You've done that – and you've grown to represent the companies that build the vast majority of projects in B.C.

Thank you for doing your job.

My job as Premier is also to build. It's building confidence in B.C., in our economy, as a place to invest.

And I know exactly how to tell whether I'm doing a good job:

I look to you.

It's when you're busy.

Because we all know that construction is another word for economic development.

You never see one without the other.

BRIGHT FUTURE

By 2022, we're looking at a million job openings in all sectors and in all parts of the province.

It's just eight years from now.

About two thirds of those openings will be created by retirements. But the remainder – well over 300,000 new jobs – will be created by economic growth.

That's going to happen for a number of reasons, but it starts with the fundamentals.

Low taxes, a commitment to reducing red tape, and two consecutive balanced budgets – with surpluses projected to increase over the next few years.

Those are the fundamentals. Then we must capitalize on them.

MAJOR INVESTMENTS

Over the next three years, we're investing \$11.4 billion in major capital investments.

Here in the Lower Mainland alone, that includes projects like the Massey Tunnel replacement...

Redeveloping of the BC Children's and Women's Hospital...

The new emergency department and critical care tower at Surrey Memorial...

And the new campus at Emily Carr.

Each of these projects needs builders, framers, plumbers, drywallers, electricians...a lot of people.

Or consider another project that hasn't received final approval yet, the Site C dam.

One of the biggest infrastructure projects proposed in Canada.

Construction would mean \$3.2 billion in the purchase of goods and services alone.

We are making sure BC Hydro has developed its procurement approach to ensure opportunities for companies of all sizes — small, medium and large.

Being ready for growth is also why we're growing the Pacific Gateway.

Recently, the Western Premiers secured \$1.5 billion from the federal government — which we will match.

It's going towards railway bridges, sidings, grade separation, Highway 1, and Highway 16.

It's how we're building this nation.

Because we started with getting the fundamentals right... we're expanding our customer base.

EXPANDING TRADE

Exports are what drives our economic growth. They generate one in five jobs.

In 2013, BC exported \$33.4 billion of goods — up more than 32 per cent in four years.

That's why we doubled our international presence to 11 trade offices.

And that's why I have led six international trade missions.

LNG

The biggest part of our plan to drive economic growth, of course, is LNG.

This month, we introduced legislation to attract LNG investment. It gives certainty to business, with a competitive tax structure.

It makes sure BC is a great place to invest.

It ensures British Columbians get a fair share of the benefits from a resource that belongs to them.

There's no question: this is a challenging time for natural gas prices.

But I believe we've managed to find the right balance.

If just one medium-sized plant starts to export LNG, it will generate \$800 million per year for BC taxpayers.

That's as much as the entire forestry industry last year – from just one medium-sized LNG plant.

And of course, there's well over a dozen LNG plants proposed for BC.

And as soon as the market begins to deliver, we will do what we promised to do: build a Prosperity Fund to pay down our debt.

LNG BUY BC

Last week, we launched the LNG Buy BC tool.

Consider it a formal introduction. We'll help you connect with proponents – they'll see for themselves that you are a good investment for the billions they'll be spending.

So far, 300 companies have pre-registered. I hope some of you are among them. If not, it's easy to do at LNGBuyBC-dot-ca.

Because it's just getting started.

This platform will evolve...

Eventually serving multiple sectors and supporting B.C

businesses, large and small, as they enter and compete in the global supply chains coming here.

SKILLS TRAINING

And if...when...you compete and win more contracts – when you line up jobs – you're going to need good people.

Connecting young people with skills and training has never been more important.

Of the one million new jobs by 2022, 44 per cent will be in trades and technical professions. That's more than the population of Surrey.

That's why we launched the Skills for Jobs Blueprint in April.

It's still early days.

We are just six months into a 10-year plan – but we've made significant progress in a short time:

- With an investment of \$6.8 million, we created more than 1,400 new seats for trades training. Wait times have been reduced by an average of eight months.
- The BC Access Grant for Labour Market Priorities will provide up to \$16,400 per student for help to study in-demand trades.
- Construction is underway at two new trades training facilities – at Okanagan College in Kelowna, and Camosun College in Victoria.
- We've increased the number of Apprenticeship Advisors to connect employers with people who want real work experience.
- Re-allocating money within secondary institutions
- Shifting the focus of secondary schools
- Re-engineering the system.

We must make it easier for British Columbians to get trained for careers in high-demand industries.

YOUR JOB

And it's a job I need you to help with.

What I need from you...when you feel confident about your business...

Is to bring on an apprentice or two.

Give some young people a chance, and the training to build their own career.

That's the mistake Premier Barrett made back in 1975 – trying to push out open shops, because he thought you had to be in a union to care about the greater good...

The future of this province.

He was wrong then, and he'd be even more wrong today.

He believed government intervention, more government spending, and therefore higher taxes would produce a fairer society – better health care.

That's wrong.

Lower taxes, small government, and a bigger private sector produce much more money.

CONCLUSION

We must be competitive. Because the world has changed.

The economic centre of gravity has moved east.

In India alone, there's going to be a million people joining the workforce every month for the next 15 years.

That's adding another B.C. every four and a half months. Another Canada every three years.

The world is going to change, whether we're a part of it or not.

And if we embrace this opportunity, and not turn away from it...

We're in a position to be a part of this unique moment in history.

But we have to be ready. We have to instill confidence.

Maintain our credit rating.

Keep taxes low.

Minimized red tape.

Create a workforce ready to build.

We need all hands on deck.

You succeeded in a very tough environment because you believed in what you stood for – and you stuck to your guns.

It's the story of the ICBA. And I am determined that will be my story too.

Thank you.

What a great way to kick off the holiday season here in Victoria...

To celebrate both our capital...and these Parliament Buildings that belong to all British Columbians.

In this season of short days and long nights...we're about illuminate the darkness with a truly incredible display.

And as they've done for 30 years...legislatures across Canada are doing the same.

It's a reminder that, despite the vast distances across five and a half time zones, and two official languages...we are one country.

A great country, with a lot to be proud of.

And here at the Pacific shore, that's especially true.

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, I want to wish you a safe and happy holiday season with your loved ones...and all the best in the coming year.

Merry Christmas...happy Chanukah...happy holidays.

Now let's light it up.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon (KOE-hawn)
David Braley, BC Lions owner
Dennis Skulsky, President & CEO, BC Lions

Premier Jim Prentice (TBC)
Premier Bob McLeod (TBC)

Welcome to Vancouver.

And welcome to the biggest party in the country.

You don't have to be a football fan to enjoy the Grey Cup Festival.

I can't think of another event that brings together people from coast to coast, wearing their home colours with pride, cheering for their favourites.

Aside from elections.

Like elections, the CFL only has so many teams, which breeds great rivalries.

I don't know if I can think of two cities with less in common than Hamilton and Calgary.

Steeltown and Cowtown.

Blue collar and white collar.

Complaining about Toronto and...okay, they have one thing in common.

I haven't decided who I'm cheering for tomorrow – but I am looking forward to a great game.

Welcome to Vancouver.

I want to thank Scotiabank for sponsoring tonight, and everyone here – thank you for supporting a Canadian icon.

I meant the Grey Cup, but thank you anyway.

The Stanley Cup may get more attention. But the Grey Cup is a lot like Canada.

It may not be as glamorous. But if you scratch the surface, you'll find a rich tradition – one well worth preserving.

Like Canada, the CFL thrives on regional pride. In too much of the world, this is a foreign concept. Wearing the wrong team colours is a serious mistake that might even lead to violence.

But here, you see Lions fans laughing with Tiger-Cats fans.

You see people in Argos blue lining up to take photos of the Stampeders' horse.

That's worth preserving. It's worth celebrating.

So whether you're cheering for Hamilton, for Calgary, or just for a good game – enjoy.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Rupa & Rana Vig (Rue-pa & Raw-na)

I'm honoured to be here with you this evening.

I feel especially honoured to be in the company of the descendants of the very first South Asian pioneers to this country.

The first families of a community I greatly admire.

It has been 100 years since the *Komagata Maru* arrived in the harbour...just outside this room.

Canadians who were born here can barely imagine the experience of the 376 men, women and children on that ship.

To leave your home, not knowing what the journey would hold.

Rolling the dice...leaving behind everything you know...believing that a better future is waiting for you across the sea.

To make that ocean passage, seven weeks in length.

Bringing only the best of intentions...to adopt a new country as your home and make it a better place.

And then, arriving at the threshold of this wide open country...to find the door slammed shut.

I visited India a few weeks ago, and I was welcomed with incredible warmth and hospitality...from first ministers, to ordinary people on the street.

The passengers of the *Komagata Maru* got a very different kind of welcome...

At best, indifference. At worst, hostility.

Much has changed in these 100 years.

Our South Asian community has grown and prospered.

British Columbians of Indian heritage are doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, skilled tradespeople, farmers...police officers, first responders, courageous members of our armed forces.

You know...and I know...that you stand on the shoulders of the generations that came before.

Who endured deeply ingrained racism and discrimination.

Who worked without rest or thanks to provide for their families.

Who endured, because they knew it would be worth it...for their children and grandchildren.

It makes me think about the next 100 years. What legacy we can leave for future generations...that will be worthy of the ones who came before us.

Each of you, in this room, is shaping that next century in British Columbia and Canada.

And every day, we're joined by newcomers...modern-day pioneers making a journey that is easier now, but still full of challenges.

Whether they come as immigrants, or as temporary workers aspiring to citizenship...we have a duty to give them the welcome the *Komagata Maru* was denied.

So that...in 100 years...racism can be a distant memory.
So that our children, and theirs, and theirs...can know
nothing but prosperity and peace.

That's why I'm so glad to hear about the special edition
magazine *100 Year Journey*.

It will profile the pioneers on the Komagata Maru, and tell
their stories for future generations

Thank you for doing more than your share...by
remembering the *Komagata Maru*, and by working every
day to make this a better place.

The passengers on that ship would be proud.