

Core Review

Presentation to PPC July 16, 2013



Commitments

From platform . . .

Launch a core review of all government ministries.

From mandate letter . . .

- 1. Work with my office and the Minister of Finance to identify a core team to undertake the core review work;
- 2. Develop a core review plan and present to PPC by August 30th, 2013;
- 3. Provide core review updates to Cabinet on a monthly basis identifying opportunities for savings or redeployment and their associated cost benefits;
- 4. Complete the core review process by December 31, 2014;
- 5. Make recommendations to Cabinet on how to improve our regulatory reform and red tape reduction initiatives.



- Articulated 5 specific questions that ministries and crowns would be expected to address:
 - Public Interest Test: Does the mandate, program, activity or business unit continue to serve a compelling public interest?
 - <u>Affordability Test</u>: Is the package of programs, activities or business units affordable within the fiscal environment?
 - Effectiveness and Role of Government Test: Are we doing the right thing? Is there a legitimate and essential role for the provincial government in this program, activity or business unit?
 - Efficiency Test: Are the current organizational and service delivery models the most efficient way to manage and deliver the program, activity or business unit?
 - Accountability Test: Are the current measures and reporting mechanisms the most effective way to account for program, activity or business unit performance (relevancy, effectiveness, service)?



The stated **objectives** of core review were to:

- Examine programs, activities and business units systematically to ensure that:
 - they continue to be relevant to the public interest;
 - where programs, activities and business units are found not to be in the public interest, they are eliminated or redesigned in such a way that they represent the best value for taxpayers' dollars;
- Clarify the government's program and policy responsibilities, in relation to other levels of government and other sectors of society, by eliminating overlap and duplication or providing better service at less cost through innovative or alternative delivery models;
- Institutionalize reforms and performance objectives through the Budget
 Transparency and Accountability Act and a revised planning and accountability
 process for Government (Service Plans); and
- Ensure Government is affordable and sustainable within BC's fiscal framework.



The approach was described as:

- Phase 1 Mandate Review: Ministries and crowns were to respond to the public interest test, the affordability test and the effectiveness and role of government test (began August 2001);
- Phase 2 Service Delivery Review: Ministries and crowns were to respond to the efficiency test and the accountability test (Oct/Nov 2001);
- Phase 3 was Implementation and Phase 4 was Continuous improvement.
- Financial targets were not provided in original instructions.





12, s.1





The proposed **objectives** for Core Review are to:

- Ensure that the programs and activities of ministries are focused on achieving government's vision of a strong economy and secure tomorrow;
- Ensure that government is operating as efficiently and effectively as possible by:
 - Eliminating overlap and duplication between ministries and within the broader public sector;
 - Reducing red-tape and unnecessary regulations that hinder economic development;
 - Restructuring government program delivery and governance models where costs can be reduced and outcomes improved for the public.
- Confirm government's core responsibilities and eliminate programs that could provide better service at less cost through alternative service delivery models;



Objectives continued

- Ensure budget targets are achieved consistent with *Budget 2013* (June Update);
- Identify opportunities where further savings can be re-directed to high priority programs;
- Ensure public sector management wage levels are appropriate while recognizing the need for leaders who can positively impact the effectiveness and productivity of public sector agencies.



s.12, s.13

Confidential



s.12, s.13

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Pages 14 through 15 redacted for the following reasons:

s.13