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Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
2021/22 Estimates Summary

(in \$000's)

Estimates - Operating Budget	Restated Estimates 2020/21	Estimates 2021/22	Variance
Trade and Industry Development	25,801	25,903	102
Small Business and Economic Development	8,070	8,319	249
Investment and Innovation	11,109	11,198	89
Transfers to Crown Corporations and Agencies	25,640	25,640	-
Executive and Support Services	7,298	7,588	290
Northern Development Fund	500	500	-
	78,418	79,148	730

Variance Explanations:

Trade and Industry Development (\$102,000 increase)

- \$102,000 increase attributed to BCGEU negotiated wage increases

Small Business and Economic Development (\$249,000 increase)

- \$183,000 increase attributed to BCGEU negotiated wage increases
- \$102,000 increase attributed to the transfer of Immigration Programs to MUNI

Immigration programs were transferred to MUNI during the November 2020 Government Reorganization, and JERI's Estimates budget has been restated to reflect this. The budget allocated to the immigration programs and transferred to MUNI for 2020/21 was \$102,000 higher than the amount for 2021/22. As a result, on a restated basis JERI's budget shows an increase of \$102,000 for 2021/22.

- \$36,000 decrease attributed to the transfer of BCGEU increases to CITZ for BC Stats, as a result of the November 2020 Government Reorganization

Investment and Innovation (\$89,000 increase)

- \$89,000 increase attributed to BCGEU negotiated wage increases

Executive and Support Services (\$290,000 increase)

- \$97,000 increase attributed to BCGEU negotiated wage increases
- \$3,000 decrease attributed to BCGEU increases for the transfer of BC Stats to CITZ as a result of the November 2020 Government Reorganization
- \$196,000 increase attributed to the increase in Ministers' Offices budgets resulting from a cross Government Review
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations

Estimates - Capital	Restated Estimates 2020/21	Estimates 2021/22	Variance
Furniture and Equipment ¹	1	1	-
	1	1	-

¹ Budgets are placeholders in the event we need to incur Furniture & Equipment.

BUDGET 2021/22 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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Announced in Budget 2021

InBC Investment Corp.

1. How much funding has been provided to InBC Investment Corp. (InBC) in Budget 2021?

- InBC is a \$500 million strategic investment fund focussed on a triple bottom line approach, that will invest in small and medium-sized B.C. companies to help them scale up and reach their highest potential, while generating returns that support a growing economy.
- Prior to September 16, 2020 InBC Investment Corp. was called the BC Immigrant Investment Fund Ltd. (BCIIF). The BCIIF name was changed to InBC Investment Corp. to align with the Crown's new mandate to establish and administer a Strategic Investment Fund announced in September 2020 as part of the StrongerBC Economic Recovery Plan.
- No base funding has been allocated for InBC in Budget 2021. Crown operations will be funded through retained earnings, revenues from existing portfolios, and a fiscal agency loan.
- InBC's planned operating expenses are \$3.863M in FY22, \$6.5M in FY23 and \$6.781M in FY24.
- It is expected that over the next 10 years, up to \$500 million will be drawn down from this fiscal agency loan to fund InBC's investments.
- InBC is still in development and it is expected that its investment strategy and criteria will be published during 2021.

StrongerBC Initiatives – Small & Medium Sized Business Recovery Grants (including Circuit Breaker) & Future Leaders Initiatives

2. What is the Ministry's StrongerBC budget allocation for 2021/22?

- Some StrongerBC programming is continuing into the new fiscal year including the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant Program. The Ministry is also providing funding to support two initiatives under the StrongerBC Future Leaders program.
- The Digital Marketing Bootcamps program is also continuing its intake this fiscal although the funding for this program was provided in 2020/21 (see Q3)

• Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant Program

Cabinet
Confidences

- The Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant Program was approved and launched as part of StrongerBC in October 2020. The funding provides grants to enable small businesses to access professional advice and grants to support recovery for those which have been impacted by the pandemic
- The Program was extended to August 31, 2021 or when the funding runs out.

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- \$52.8 million from the Cabinet
Confidences Small and Medium Sized Business Grant program has been set aside for businesses through the new Circuit Breaker Business Relief Grant



- The Circuit Breaker Business Relief grant provides restaurants, bars, breweries, wineries, gyms and fitness centres impacted by the March 30, 2021, provincial health orders with up to \$10,000 in one-time funding to help with expenses like rent, insurance, employee wages, maintenance and utilities and other unexpected costs resulting from the restrictions such as the purchase of perishable goods. This program stream is open until June 4, 2021.

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- **Province's StrongerBC Future Leaders Program (\$22M under JERI, \$15M in 2021/22, \$7M in 2020/21)**

- The Province is providing more than 5,000 youth and young adults across BC with access to skills training and well-paid jobs through the StrongerBC Future Leaders Program.
- The Ministry of JERI is investing \$22 million to fund a minimum of 4,500 training spots and paid internships in two programs in partnership with Innovate BC and the Digital Technology SuperCluster.
- Innovator Skills Initiative (\$15M in 2021/22)
 - Budget 2021 provides \$15 million in funding to Innovate BC to expand the Innovator Skills Initiative program as part of the StrongerBC Future Leaders Program.
 - The new funding will expand the existing program to include non-student youth who have completed industry-approved certification or training.
 - The program will fund a portion of the internship costs for under-represented youth, creating 3,000 job placements for youth in a high-opportunity sector with higher-than-average wages.
- Canadian Tech Talent Accelerator (\$7M provided in 2020/21))
 - The Canadian Tech Talent Accelerator Program, is delivered by NPower Canada, In partnership with the Digital Technology SuperCluster and Microsoft.
 - The program provides valuable, in-demand tech skills to unemployed and underemployed youth from communities underrepresented in the digital economy.
 - This funding will provide training to a minimum of 1,400 B.C. youth (17-30 yr olds) over a two-year period. The training program is 15 weeks.
 - Graduates of the program will receive a certification as a Junior Data Analyst which enable them to work in roles related to cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and data visualization
 - Typical job placements include Help Desk Specialist, Jr Data Base Developer or Administrator, Business Analyst and project analyst



- 80% of graduates from the program have found employment or gone on to post-secondary training.
- The Ministry invested \$7 million towards this program in 2020/21.
- The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural development will invest more than \$11 million in 2021/22 for over 220 jobs in the Natural Resource Youth Employment Program and the Recreation Sites and Trails Program.
- The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy is creating opportunities for up to 180 young people to help tackle marine debris and plastic pollution in coastal communities. An investment of \$5 million will be made in the Clean Coast, Clean Waters program in 2021/22.
- The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy will invest \$4 million in 2021/22 to create 37 positions with BC Parks and 46 positions with the Conservation Officer Service, to work in a variety of fields to gain experience and help protect the environment.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills training invested \$1 million into Mitacs in 2020/21 for key internal program placements. This funding was in addition to the \$1.18 million provided in 2019/20, for a total investment of \$2.18 million over two years.

3. What was spent on StrongerBC Programming in 2020/21?

- ***Actual spending on StrongerBC programming for 2020/21 will be released through the public accounts later this year.***
- StrongerBC funding supported economic recovery and help businesses survive the impacts of the pandemic.
- Approximately \$230 million (StrongerBC Funding \$227.75M, \$3.25M base budget) was allocated to StrongerBC Programming in 2020/21.
- Actual spending will be released in the 2020/21 Public Accounts.

Stronger BC Programs (\$ In Millions)	2020/21 Allocation
a. Small & Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant ¹	\$150M
b. Launch Online	\$42M
c. Digital Marketing Bootcamps ²	\$4.5M
d. Agritech Grant	\$7.5M
e. Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grants ³	\$10.75M
f. Supply Chain Resiliency Grants	\$6M
g. Supply Chain Analysis	\$0.25M
h. Mass Timber Demonstration Projects	\$3M
i. Youth Corps – Canadian Tech Talent Accelerator	\$7M
Total Funding	\$231M
¹ Total allocation of Cabinet over 2 years (\$150M in 2020/21, Cabinet in 2021/22)	
² Includes \$2.5M funded through base budget savings	
³ Includes \$0.75M for administration costs funded through base budget savings	

New to JERI – Office of Mass Timber Implementation

4. How much funding was allocated to the Office of Mass Timber Implementation (OMTI) and Mass Timber Demonstration Projects in Budget 2021?

Office of Mass Timber Implementation:

- No base budget lift was provided to OMTI in FY22. Although no base budget lift was received, a \$2.01M allocation will be provided to the program this fiscal.
- Funding will be reallocated from anticipated base budget savings in FY22 as a result of COVID-19 impacts. JERI is expecting continued delays and cancellations of international programs and events partway into this fiscal.
- A base budget lift of \$1.27M per year was received in FY23 and FY24 (\$1.214 under Trade and Industry Development and \$56,000 for corporate support).^{Advice/Recommendations}

^{Advice/Recommendations}

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Mass Timber Demonstration Projects:

- As part of StrongerBC, FII received funding of \$3.0M in 2020/21 for a mass timber demonstration program, which offsets incremental costs related to the design and construction of buildings that can demonstrate mass timber building systems and construction processes
- An additional \$2 million per year for Mass Timber Demonstration projects will be provided to FII in 2021/22 and 2022/23. This transfer is shown in the Service Plan for FII.

COVID 19 Questions

5. What initiatives has the Ministry undertaken to support COVID-19 response and recovery?

In addition to Stronger BC Initiatives (See Question #3), the Ministry has undertaken several initiatives to support COVID-19 response and recovery:

- **Small Business BC Hotline and Website:** \$250,000 was provided to Small Business BC in 2019/20 and \$75,000 in 2020/21 to fund a dedicated COVID-19 hotline and internet-based resources. The COVID Support Line provides a much needed service to businesses looking for information on programs and supports. The Service was then rolled into the Small Business and Medium-Sized Grant Program.
- **Digital Marketing Bootcamp:** \$250,000 in funding to support the delivery of a digital marketing course for businesses that is intended to improve their digital platforms and marketing, and individuals for digital marketing positions. This program received



an additional \$4.5M (\$2 million in Stronger BC Funding and \$2.5 million in 2020/21 base funding) and has been extended in to fiscal year 2021/22.

- **Online Marketplace for Businesses:** \$205,000 in funding for the purpose of enhancing the functionality of Small Business BC's existing online Marketplace for businesses website by creating:
 - A searchable database of local BC vendors meant to connect businesses with consumers who want to shop local; and
 - an online listing that businesses can utilize to find vendors that have PPE and cleaning/disinfecting supplies available for sale.
- **BC Restart Application:** We've listened to small businesses. We built an application in partnership with the Ministry of Health to support small businesses with economic recovery. Over \$300,000 was allocated for this purpose from JERI's 2020/21 budget. The responsibility of this initiative transferred to the Ministry of Citizens' Services (please direct questions to CITZ).

6. What impacts has COVID-19 had on the Ministry's revenues and expenses.

- All ministries have been redirecting operations as needed to meet critical service needs during the pandemic. This included implementing new StrongerBC programs funded through the Vote 52 Contingencies for Pandemic Response and Economic Recovery and through a reallocation of base budgets. (See Questions # 3 and #5 detailing response and recovery initiatives undertaken by JERI).
- The pandemic resulted in 2020/21 savings due to the cancellation/rescheduling of international missions and events, resulting in limited travel and support costs. These savings are anticipated to continue partway into 2021/22.
- JERI's budgeted revenues and recoveries have not been significantly impacted by the pandemic but low interest rates have resulted in lower returns on investments.



General Budget 2021/22

7. Why has JERI's budget increased by \$730,000 in 2021/22?

JERI's 2021/22 budget of \$79.148M increased by \$730,000 from the 2020/21 restated estimates budget of \$78.418M.

Budget Increase/(Decrease) Summary	\$ 000's
BCGEU Negotiated Compensation Increases	\$471
Minister's Office Increases resulting from a cross Government Review ¹	\$196
Transfer adjustment to MUNI for Immigration Programs (November 2020 Government Reorganization) ²	\$102
Additional budget transfer to CITZ for BC Stats BCGEU increases (November 2020 Government Reorganization) ³	(\$39)
Net Budget Increase	\$730

¹. Ministers' Offices increase resulting from a cross Government Review Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations See Question #8 for further details.

². Immigration Programs were transferred to MUNI during the November 2020 Government Reorganization, and JERI's Estimates budget has been restated to reflect this. The budget allocated to the Immigration Programs and transferred to MUNI for 2020/21 was \$102,000 higher than the amount for 2021/22. As a result, on a restated basis JERI's budget shows an increase of \$102,000 for 2021/22.

³. BC Stats transferred to CITZ during the November 2020 Government Reorganization. Additional budget transfer of \$36,000 in 2021/22 for BCGEU negotiated wage increases.

8. Why has the Ministers' Offices budgets increased by \$206,000 in 2021/22?

- The Minister's Offices budget received an increase of \$196,000 as a result of a cross Government review Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations The intent of this review was to better align budgets with staffing levels and historic spending. The remaining \$10,000 increase was a result of BCGEU increases.
 - The \$196,000 increase includes funding for the Parliamentary Secretary expenses, as well as salary increases for staffing levels.
 - Increases were offset by a reduction in operating expenses as office expenses and information systems budgets were standardized across Ministries and some IT expenses will be centralized with the Ministry of Citizens' Services



Minister's Office	Increase (Decrease) In \$000's
Salaries and Benefits	172
Operational Expenses	(2)
Total Net Increase Minister's Office	170

Minister of State for Trade	Increase (Decrease) In \$000's
Salaries and Benefits	73
Operational Expenses	(47)
Total Net Increase Minister's Office	26

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

9. Why do Forestry Innovation Investment (FII) and Innovate BC's 2021/22 Estimates amounts differ from the amounts received from the Province in the Crown's Service Plan?

Crown Corporation	Per Crown Service Plan	Per Blue Book	Variance
Innovate BC	\$21.09M	\$6.09M	\$15M
FII	\$21.55M	\$19.55M	\$2M

Innovate BC:

- Innovate BC's 2021/22 Provincial Contributions will be \$21.090 in 2021/22
- This includes a base budget of \$6.09M plus one-time funding of \$15M for the expansion of the Innovator Skills Initiative

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd:

- FII's 2021/22 Provincial Contributions will be \$21.55 million in 2021/22
- FII's Provincial Contribution in 2021/22 includes base budget of \$19.550M and \$2.0M for the continuation of the Mass Timber Demonstration Program, ^{s.12; Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations;}



Demo projects in 2020/21)

- FI's Provincial Contribution in 2022/23 also includes \$2.0M for the continuation of the Mass Timber Demonstration Program, ^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information}

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Possible General Questions

10. What is the impact of the Employer Health Tax on the Ministry?

- Ministries previously paid MSP premiums on behalf of employees (until December 31, 2019). The impact of Employer Health Tax (EHT) is the difference between the previous MSP premiums and the EHT.
 - The EHT is included in the benefits chargeback rate ^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations} and charged to each Ministry.
 - The EHT amount included in the 2020/21 chargeback is 2.19% of salaries ^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations}
 - MSP was 1.87% in the chargeback rate in 2018/19 and 1.66% in 2019/20.
 - The annual impact of the difference between EHT and MSP is \$128,000.
 - The annual impact for the Employer Health tax was \$540,000 for the 2020/21 fiscal year.
 - The estimated MSP premiums for the same period would be \$399,000 using the 2019/20 rate of 1.66%.
 - The benefits chargeback rate is 25.4% in 2021/22 which is unchanged from 2020/21. ^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations}

11. What is government doing to minimize the cumulative impact on businesses of tax, regulatory and cost increases?

The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation helps support and maintain the strong and diverse economy that British Columbians need for long-term prosperity. We are making life easier and more affordable for small businesses and improving the lives of people throughout the province while strengthening our economy.

B.C. continues to have a strong, competitive economy with some of the lowest taxes in the country, including the second lowest small business rate among provinces, and one of the lowest competitive general corporate income tax rates in the country. Government has implemented the following supports for Small Business:

- We have reduced the small business tax rate by 20%, and eliminated the provincial sales tax on non-residential electricity.

- The B.C. government's 2019 Budget announced more than \$800 million in business tax reductions to support investment in new plants, machinery and equipment. This will benefit B.C. businesses by saving significant overhead costs when they need to buy equipment.
- B.C. has some of the lowest taxes in Canada, including:
 - The second lowest small business corporate income tax rate among provinces,
 - One of the lowest general corporate income tax rates among provinces, and
 - The lowest personal income taxes in Canada for individuals earning less than \$125,000 annually.
- These tax reductions are in addition to the federal government's boost in competitiveness through tax write-offs announced in November 2018.
- The Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit encourages investors to invest in B.C.'s small businesses, giving them access to early-stage funding that helps them grow. For the 2019 tax year, the Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit helped raise \$115 million in early-stage funding for over 230 small businesses.
- During the COVID-19 crisis, immediate help for businesses includes: delaying tax filing and payment deadlines, postponing the April 1st carbon tax rate increase, cutting the school property tax rate for some classes, and partnering with the federal government on the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent program.
- Through the Ministry of Citizen Services, we have established new procurement approaches that help businesses of all sizes access new opportunities, provide benefits to people, and solve everyday problems faster and more effectively through innovative solutions, partnerships and technology.
- We're revamping BC Bid to modernize how businesses of all sizes access and respond to government opportunities. In addition, we are also improving the process of informing suppliers of the status of procurements.
- Since 2017, this government has committed a total of \$180 million for the expansion and improvement of high-speed connectivity in rural and Indigenous communities across British Columbia. This includes \$40 million for Phase 2 and \$50 million for Phase 3 of the Connecting British Columbia program and \$90 million in 2020 under the Stronger BC Economic Recovery Plan. Since July 2017, projects underway or completed through the Connecting British Columbia program are benefitting more than 500 communities, including 87 Indigenous communities.
- We extended the Net Zero increase in regulatory requirements across government to 2022.
- While the former government doubled MSP premiums, we're proud to fully eliminate them. Getting rid of the unfair MSP premiums will save individuals up to \$900 a year and families up to \$1,800 a year. Eliminating MSP premiums is one of the biggest middle-class tax cuts in B.C.'s history.

- Under CleanBC, we have programs and incentives in place to help green businesses. Financial incentives are available to help businesses reduce energy consumption through energy-saving studies for buildings, upgrades for commercial buildings, small business equipment.
- We've relaunched Buy B.C. to help farmers market and food processors market their products and reach more people looking for made-in-B.C. products. Buy B.C. was expanded to provide an additional \$550,000 to farmers and food processors to integrate e-commerce technologies into their business and expand sales online.

12. How much funding has been allocated towards the Quantum Algorithms Institute for fiscal 2021/22?

- On October 2nd, 2019 the B.C. Government announced that it will be **supporting the creation of a Quantum Algorithms Institute that includes the province's network of post-secondary research institutes and industry partners.**
- The B.C. Government allocated up to \$17 million over five years (\$2M in FY20, \$3M in FY21, \$4M in FY22 to FY24) to establish the Institute, with \$4 million to be provided in 2021/2022, subject to available budget appropriation and review of future funding proposals from the Quantum Algorithms Institute Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

- The independent Quantum Algorithms Institute was formally established in March 2020 and received \$2 million in 2019/20 and \$3 million in 2020/21.

13. Is there new funding in the budget to address the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force?

- The Food Security Task Force mandated activities to date are funded by the Ministry of Agriculture.
- In 2020/21 JERI launched the Agritech Grant Program under StrongerBC. This program is an initiative with strong alignments to the Food Security Task Force's recommendations.
 - The program accelerates the growth of B.C.'s Agritech sector, in support of economic recovery, using one-time grant funding for B.C. companies to scale up or for companies to anchor within the Province.
 - A total of 21 applicants were awarded Agritech Grants, totalling \$7.5 million in 2020/21.
 - Grant recipients will work on a range of Agritech projects from nutrient and waste management to precision agriculture, aquaculture, genomics and robotics.
 - No additional funding has been provided in 2021/22



- Building on the 2020 Food Security Task Force report, the newly announced Agritech Concierge provides support to food producers and agritech companies to grow and scale their businesses.
 - The Concierge serves as a one-stop shop for companies to access government services and programs to expand operations, improve export readiness and attract further investment. We have an exciting, growing cluster of companies and increasing interest from companies outside of BC looking for opportunities to expand business opportunities. The concierge leverages our existing services to facilitate investments in a tailored and targeted way.

14. What is/has been the budget impact of the change in the Asia Trade and Investment Representative model?

This operational change was about improving services and diversifying our trade network. Cost savings were redeployed to increase the program funding we have available to support B.C. businesses. Moving to a co-location model means we can re-invest these savings into new initiatives that benefit B.C. businesses. As a result of the re-investment, there is no anticipated bottom line impact to the Ministry budget

This decision was made to allow the Ministry to provide more trade and investment programming support and diversify our trade and investment opportunities across Asia. The transition is made possible by the partnership with Global Affairs Canada and BC is benefiting from a closer relationship with the many new resources added by Global Affairs Canada in Asia in recent years.

BC's new co-located positions in Asia are already strengthening our relationship with the many trade resources of Global Affairs Canada. Our new representatives supported efforts of BC and Canada to source and secure COVID-19 related supplies from Asia. We re-directed efforts of the headquarters team, utilized low-cost temporary assignments in-market, and relied on Global Affairs Canada to provide interim supports for BC businesses. We expect service levels to increase as more international trade resumes in the months ahead.

15. Is there funding for the continuation of the Export Navigator Pilot program?

Yes. The Ministry has developed and maintained the Export Navigator Program since 2016. In April 2019, we moved Export Navigator out of its pilot phase and expanded the program to offer specialized supports for businesses owned by Indigenous peoples, women, and youth. The Ministry allocated funding to maintain the program on a continuing basis in 2019/20 and onward.

The Province currently allocates \$1.2M for EN. The Ministry has also worked with Western Economic Diversification Canada to access their funding. This resulted in a successful application of up to \$2.25M of WD funds over three years. This WD funding contract is set to expire on March 31, 2022. The additional funding allowed for the hiring of three sector

specialists to focus on the under-represented demographics of Indigenous, Women and Youth (under 30).

Export Navigator currently operates in six communities across the Province (Comox Valley, Port Alberni, Prince George, Vernon, Prince Rupert and Nelson).

16. What are the expected risks/impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on BC's international trade and does the Ministry have a plan to mitigate these?

The global economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to play out on the international trade and investment fields. Many of our conventional trading partners have experienced similar shut-down events and some are in the process of returning to broader activity.

- As our trading partners move to restart their economies, the Ministry is monitoring the status of key sectors and trade events to enable BC producers that experienced trade disruptions to access their international markets again as soon as possible. There have been virtual trade shows and business to business events supported by BC's export services staff and BC businesses such as BIO Partnering 2020, a Growing Indigenous Seafood Businesses Webinar, and continued engagement with BC businesses through online Trade Accelerator Programs. Additionally, the TIR network in international markets continues to engage with international buyers to provide made in BC solutions as well as monitor any trade policies that may be viewed as a barrier for BC products and services.
- The Ministry has expanded our capabilities to enable broader virtual event hosting and online networking events and has encouraged BC companies to adopt eCommerce solutions through the TAP training program and BC Government programs to offer an option to export their product to international markets.
- The Ministry continues to deploy domestic efforts to help existing investors and companies with their business continuity in BC; building investor confidence, thus keeping the economy going. Along with BC's Investor Services staff, our Trade and Investment Representatives (TIRs) overseas continue to engage international businesses to encourage and sustain investments and capital flows into BC. With current travel restrictions, instead of visiting the province, many global companies are spending time connecting electronically with potential partners and service providers in BC. Our staff has actively fostered introductions and executed connection days (tailored matchmaking sessions for vetted investors) to help guide international investors in identifying and shortlisting opportunities in BC's communities. As an example, the US TIR team has been organizing topical seminars such as the "Meet the VC" events in the Seattle area to connect BC technology companies with prospective funds.

- In order to ensure solid alignment and maximum impact of export and investment initiatives, the Ministry teams have been integrating planning and execution with Federal departments and foreign governments. As an example, the Ministry, in conjunction with the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, developed and implemented the Netherlands Agritech Event as part of the Letter of Intent (2019) in collaboration with the Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Vancouver to further ties between the two jurisdictions and its companies. The Ministry, in collaboration with the BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Initiatives, is also planning a LNG Forum in China with Global Affairs Canada, Natural Resources Canada and other provinces in order to promote Canadian natural gas and LNG development.
- The Ministry is working on the development of a Trade Diversification Strategy as part of the Ministry's mandate commitments in an effort to streamline efforts and leverage provincial resources in the markets and in the sectors that represent the greatest potential.





November 26, 2020

Honourable Ravi Kahlon
Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Kahlon:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation. You are taking on this responsibility at a time when people in our province face significant challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has turned the lives of British Columbians upside down. None of us expected to face the challenges of the past number of months, yet British Columbians have demonstrated incredible resilience, time and time again. We will get through the pandemic and its aftereffects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care for people and families, delivering affordability and security in our communities, and investing in good jobs and livelihoods in a clean-energy future.

I expect you – and the work of your ministry – to focus on the commitments detailed in our platform, *Working for You*, along with the following foundational principles:

- **Putting people first:** Since 2017, our government has focused on making decisions to meet people's needs. That focus drove our work in our first term and will continue to be our priority. British Columbians are counting on the government to keep them safe and to build an economic recovery that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Keeping people at the centre of everything we do means protecting and enhancing the public services people rely on and working to make life more affordable for everyone.
- **Lasting and meaningful reconciliation:** Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all. The unanimous passage of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* was a significant step forward in this journey. True

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reconciliation will take time and ongoing commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination. Our government – and every ministry – must remain focused on creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our economy and providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work toward lasting reconciliation.

- **Equity and anti-racism:** Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. Our government has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every ministry has a role in this work. While our caucus elected a record number of women, more work remains to address gender equity. Delivering on our commitments to address racial discrimination will require a commitment by all of government to ensure increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black and People of Colour) representation within the public service, including in government appointments. Our efforts to address systemic discrimination must also inform policy and budget decisions by reviewing all decisions through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens.
- **A better future through fighting climate change:** In 2018, our government launched our CleanBC climate action plan. CleanBC puts British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future by building a low-carbon economy with new clean-energy jobs and opportunities, protecting our air, land and water and supporting communities to prepare for climate impacts. It is every Minister's responsibility to ensure your ministry's work continues to achieve CleanBC's goals.
- **A strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone:** We will continue our work to support British Columbians through the pandemic and the economic recovery by investing in health care, getting people back to work, helping businesses and communities, and building the clean, innovative economy of the future. Our plan will train the workforce of tomorrow, help businesses hire and grow and invest in the infrastructure needed to build our province.

The pandemic has reminded us that we're strongest when we work together. Delivering on our commitments to people will require a coordinated effort with your cabinet and caucus colleagues, supported by the skilled professionals in the public service. You will also support your cabinet colleagues to do their work, particularly where commitments cross ministry lines.

British Columbians expect their elected representatives to work together to advance the broader public good despite their partisan perspectives. That means seeking out, fostering and championing good ideas, regardless of their origin. I expect you to reach out to elected members from all parties as you deliver on your mandate. Further, you will build thoughtful and sustained relationships through public and stakeholder engagement plans that connect with people to incorporate their perspectives early in the policy development process. These plans must include measurable outcomes and ensure active dialogue and ongoing outreach in your ministry's actions and priorities.

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Over the course of our mandate, I expect you will make progress on the following items:

- Support people and businesses in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing to deliver initiatives that will directly support small businesses and build an inclusive economic recovery across B.C.
- Work across ministries to lead the development and coordinate implementation of an industrial and manufacturing strategy that generates cleaner, more innovative, value-added economic activity across B.C., while supporting our commitments to reconciliation and CleanBC.
- With support from the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, boost B.C. as a global exporter of climate solutions by investing in B.C.-based carbon capture and storage and other low carbon technologies.
- Support the work of the Minister of State for Trade on special projects to support economic development, trade and innovation in areas such as B.C.'s shipbuilding sector, aerospace and forest sector innovation.
- Support B.C. shipyards to build capacity and become increasingly competitive with investments to support more shipbuilding, refit, repair, and maintenance here in B.C.
- Capitalize on the potential of B.C.'s aerospace industry by expanding support for B.C. companies to integrate into global supply chains and access new markets.
- Launch a strategic investment fund to support our government's objective of building a more innovative low-carbon economy by investing in high-potential B.C. businesses to help them scale up and grow here.
- Lead the Office of Mass Timber Implementation and, with support from the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, advance the mass timber action plan.
- Work to expand on the investment that our economic recovery plan, StrongerBC, is making for people pursuing online courses to re-skill for the digital economy.
- With support from the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training, work with B.C.'s Innovation Commissioner to lead investment in innovation clusters, with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies.
- Support the work of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to move forward with the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force and develop a new Regenerative Agricultural Network, which will create jobs for workers, opportunities for farmers and greater food security by bringing together natural systems of production with agri-technologies that enhance production.

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To assist you in meeting the commitments we have made to British Columbians, you are assigned a Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation. You will work closely together and ensure your Parliamentary Secretary receives appropriate support to deliver on the following priorities, outlined in the mandate letter issued to them:

- Develop an intellectual property strategy to support more innovation and commercialization by B.C. companies, including a First Patent Program.
- Help more people from underrepresented groups get their first job in the tech sector, while simultaneously helping B.C.-based tech companies hire and grow, by increasing the number of Innovator Skills Initiative Grants and prioritizing placements for women, Indigenous people, people of colour and others currently underrepresented in B.C.'s tech sector.
- Help more innovative B.C. businesses successfully scale up here by expanding the successful RevUp program that brings business owners together with experienced mentors who provide coaching and advice on growing small successful tech companies into larger ones.

Our work as a government must continually evolve to meet the changing needs of people in this province. Issues not contemplated in this letter will come forward for government action and I ask you to bring such matters forward for consideration by the Planning and Priorities Committee of cabinet, with the expectation that any proposed initiatives will be subject to the usual cabinet and Treasury Board oversight. Your ministry's priorities must reflect our government's overall strategic plan as determined by cabinet.

All cabinet members are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a minister of the Crown, your conduct will reflect not only on you but on cabinet and our government. You are responsible for providing strong, professional and ethical leadership within cabinet and your ministry. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your deputy minister and the public servants under their direction who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. You must ensure your minister's office meets the highest standards for integrity and provides a respectful and rewarding environment for all staff.

My commitment to all British Columbians is to do my level best to make sure people's lives are better, safer and more affordable. I believe the challenges we face can and will be overcome by working together. By way of this letter, I am expressing my faith that people can expect the same commitment from you.

Sincerely,



John Horgan
Premier



November 26, 2020

Honourable George Chow
Minister of State for Trade
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Chow:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Minister of State for Trade. You are taking on this responsibility at a time when people in our province face significant challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has turned the lives of British Columbians upside down. None of us expected to face the challenges of the past number of months, yet British Columbians have demonstrated incredible resilience, time and time again. We will get through the pandemic and its aftereffects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care for people and families, delivering affordability and security in our communities, and investing in good jobs and livelihoods in a clean-energy future.

I expect you – and the work of your ministry – to focus on the commitments detailed in our platform, *Working for You*, along with the following foundational principles:

- **Putting people first:** Since 2017, our government has focused on making decisions to meet people's needs. That focus drove our work in our first term and will continue to be our priority. British Columbians are counting on the government to keep them safe and to build an economic recovery that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Keeping people at the centre of everything we do means protecting and enhancing the public services people rely on and working to make life more affordable for everyone.
- **Lasting and meaningful reconciliation:** Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all. The unanimous passage of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* was a significant step forward in this journey. True

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reconciliation will take time and ongoing commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination. Our government – and every ministry – must remain focused on creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our economy and providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work toward lasting reconciliation.

- **Equity and anti-racism:** Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. Our government has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every ministry has a role in this work. While our caucus elected a record number of women, more work remains to address gender equity. Delivering on our commitments to address racial discrimination will require a commitment by all of government to ensure increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black and People of Colour) representation within the public service, including in government appointments. Our efforts to address systemic discrimination must also inform policy and budget decisions by reviewing all decisions through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens.
- **A better future through fighting climate change:** In 2018, our government launched our CleanBC climate action plan. CleanBC puts British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future by building a low-carbon economy with new clean-energy jobs and opportunities, protecting our air, land and water and supporting communities to prepare for climate impacts. It is every Minister's responsibility to ensure your ministry's work continues to achieve CleanBC's goals.
- **A strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone:** We will continue our work to support British Columbians through the pandemic and the economic recovery by investing in health care, getting people back to work, helping businesses and communities, and building the clean, innovative economy of the future. Our plan will train the workforce of tomorrow, help businesses hire and grow and invest in the infrastructure needed to build our province.

The pandemic has reminded us that we're strongest when we work together. Delivering on our commitments to people will require a coordinated effort with your cabinet and caucus colleagues, supported by the skilled professionals in the public service. You will also support your cabinet colleagues to do their work, particularly where commitments cross ministry lines.

British Columbians expect their elected representatives to work together to advance the broader public good despite their partisan perspectives. That means seeking out, fostering and championing good ideas, regardless of their origin. I expect you to reach out to elected members from all parties as you deliver on your mandate. Further, you will build thoughtful and sustained relationships through public and stakeholder engagement plans that connect with people to incorporate their perspectives early in the policy development process. These plans must include measurable outcomes and ensure active dialogue and ongoing outreach in your ministry's actions and priorities.

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Over the course of our mandate, I expect you will work with your Minister to make progress on the following items:

- Seek new strategies to expand B.C.'s export opportunities as the province recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, with a specific emphasis on B.C.'s emerging clean technology and innovation sector.
- In collaboration with cabinet colleagues and with support from the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, lead work on special projects to support economic development, trade and innovation in areas such as B.C.'s shipbuilding sector, aerospace and forest sector innovation.
- Expand B.C.'s Export Navigator program to help more small businesses export their goods and services beyond our borders.
- Develop and implement a new B.C. Trade Diversification Strategy that will help B.C. businesses build connections in new markets, increase exports and highlight B.C. as a low-carbon supplier.
- Work across ministries and with the federal government to ensure British Columbia's interests are protected and advanced in trade negotiations and disputes, including the softwood lumber negotiations with the United States.
- Continue to support Forestry Innovation Investment's efforts to promote B.C.'s manufactured wood products, including mass timber.
- Support the work of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to continue to promote B.C. food and agriculture exports.
- Work with the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport to continue the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.

Our work as a government must continually evolve to meet the changing needs of people in this province. Issues not contemplated in this letter will come forward for government action and I ask you to bring such matters forward for consideration by the Planning and Priorities Committee of cabinet, with the expectation that any proposed initiatives will be subject to the usual cabinet and Treasury Board oversight. Your ministry's priorities must reflect our government's overall strategic plan as determined by cabinet.

All cabinet members are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a minister of the Crown, your conduct will reflect not only on you but on cabinet and our government. You are responsible for providing strong, professional and ethical leadership within cabinet and your ministry. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your deputy minister and the public servants under their direction who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is

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fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. You must ensure your minister's office meets the highest standards for integrity and provides a respectful and rewarding environment for all staff.

My commitment to all British Columbians is to do my level best to make sure people's lives are better, safer and more affordable. I believe the challenges we face can and will be overcome by working together. By way of this letter, I am expressing my faith that people can expect the same commitment from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John J. Horgan", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

John Horgan
Premier



November 26, 2020

Brenda Bailey, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Parliamentary Secretary Bailey:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation, supporting the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation. You are taking on this responsibility at a time when people in our province face significant challenges as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has turned the lives of British Columbians upside down. None of us expected to face the challenges of the past number of months, yet British Columbians have demonstrated incredible resilience, time and time again. We will get through the pandemic and its aftereffects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: fighting the COVID-19 pandemic, providing better health care for people and families, delivering affordability and security in our communities, and investing in good jobs and livelihoods in a clean-energy future.

I expect you – and the work of your ministry – to focus on the commitments detailed in our platform, *Working for You*, along with the following foundational principles:

- **Putting people first:** Since 2017, our government has focused on making decisions to meet people's needs. That focus drove our work in our first term and will continue to be our priority. British Columbians are counting on the government to keep them safe and to build an economic recovery that works for everyone, not just those at the top. Keeping people at the centre of everything we do means protecting and enhancing the public services people rely on and working to make life more affordable for everyone.
- **Lasting and meaningful reconciliation:** Reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all. The unanimous passage of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* was a significant step forward in this journey. True

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reconciliation will take time and ongoing commitment to work with Indigenous peoples as they move toward self-determination. Our government – and every ministry – must remain focused on creating opportunities for Indigenous peoples to be full partners in our economy and providing a clear and sustainable path for everyone to work toward lasting reconciliation.

- **Equity and anti-racism:** Our province's history, identity and strength are rooted in its diverse population. Yet racialized and marginalized people face historic and present-day barriers that limit their full participation in their communities, workplaces, government and their lives. Our government has a moral and ethical responsibility to tackle systemic discrimination in all its forms – and every ministry has a role in this work. While our caucus elected a record number of women, more work remains to address gender equity. Delivering on our commitments to address racial discrimination will require a commitment by all of government to ensure increased IBPOC (Indigenous, Black and People of Colour) representation within the public service, including in government appointments. Our efforts to address systemic discrimination must also inform policy and budget decisions by reviewing all decisions through a Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) lens.
- **A better future through fighting climate change:** In 2018, our government launched our CleanBC climate action plan. CleanBC puts British Columbia on the path to a cleaner, better future by building a low-carbon economy with new clean-energy jobs and opportunities, protecting our air, land and water and supporting communities to prepare for climate impacts. It is every Minister's responsibility to ensure your ministry's work continues to achieve CleanBC's goals.
- **A strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone:** We will continue our work to support British Columbians through the pandemic and the economic recovery by investing in health care, getting people back to work, helping businesses and communities, and building the clean, innovative economy of the future. Our plan will train the workforce of tomorrow, help businesses hire and grow and invest in the infrastructure needed to build our province.

As Parliamentary Secretary, you will assist your Minister in carrying out their duties. You may be asked to represent the Minister at public events, deliver speeches on behalf of the Minister, or act as a spokesperson for the government's position. You will reach out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society and individuals across B.C. to better understand their perspectives and bring their views to the Minister.

You are also being given special responsibility to support your Minister in specific areas within their mandate. You will work with, and be supported by, B.C.'s professional public service in this role.

Over the course of our mandate, I expect you will make progress on the following items:

- Develop an intellectual property strategy to support more innovation and commercialization by B.C. companies, including a First Patent Program.

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- Help more people from underrepresented groups get their first job in the tech sector, while simultaneously helping B.C.-based tech companies hire and grow, by increasing the number of Innovator Skills Initiative Grants and prioritizing placements for women, Indigenous people, people of colour and others currently underrepresented in B.C.'s tech sector.
- Help more innovative B.C. businesses successfully scale up here by expanding the successful RevUp program that brings business owners together with experienced mentors who provide coaching and advice on growing small successful tech companies into larger ones.

Your Minister is ultimately responsible and accountable for their ministry and their mandate; thus, all key decisions will be made by them. Your role is to understand your Minister's policy goals, develop a deep understanding of the issues, participate in consultations with key stakeholders, Indigenous peoples and the broader public, in order to give your best advice to the public service as it develops options for a decision by the Minister.

You will collaborate with your Minister, Ministry and the Premier's Office to develop a workplan to guide your efforts, including detail on how the professional public service will support your work through briefings, supporting consultations, and keeping you apprised of policy development.

All members are expected to review, understand and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act* and conduct themselves with the highest level of integrity. As a Parliamentary Secretary, your conduct will reflect not only on you, but on your Minister and our government.

You are accountable for providing strong, professional and ethical leadership. I expect you to establish a positive, respectful and collaborative working relationship with your Minister, their staff and the public servants who provide the professional, non-partisan advice fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities.

My commitment to all British Columbians is to do my level best to make sure people's lives are better, safer and more affordable. I believe the challenges we face can and will be overcome by working together. By way of this letter, I am expressing my faith that people can expect the same commitment from you.

Sincerely,



John Horgan
Premier

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

ROLE OF MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRADE AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Issue: Trade and technology are priorities, as supported by the Minister of State for Trade and the Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Minister of State for Trade helps advance provincial trade initiatives and the delivery of trade programs.
- Trade plays a key role in the economic recovery for all British Columbians from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The scope of the Minister of State for Trade's work includes leading on special projects to support economic development, trade and innovation in key sectors; and developing a new Trade Diversification Strategy to expand BC's export opportunities
- The Minister of State for Trade is also working across sector specific ministries to focus on sector initiatives such as agrifoods, forestry, and the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.
- The Minister of State for Trade will also chair the Cross Sector Mass Timber Advisory Council (MTAC) to consult with stakeholders to advance the mass timber action plan.
- The Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation assists the Minister in carrying out his duties by representing the Minister at public events and acting as the spokesperson for the government's position in technology and innovation.
- The Parliamentary Secretary has been asked to progress the following items within the Government's four year mandate: (1) develop an intellectual property strategy, (2) help more people from underrepresented groups get their first job in the tech sectors, and (3) help more innovative businesses successfully scale up.
- The Parliamentary Secretary will be reaching out to stakeholders, businesses, civil society and individuals across B.C. to better understand their perspectives working closely with the Innovation Commissioner and the Chair of Innovate BC.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD
[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 15, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778-974-5951
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Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
1. Support people and businesses in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by continuing to deliver initiatives that will directly support small businesses and build an inclusive economic recovery across B.C.	DMO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked in collaboration with Small Business BC and the federal government to establish the BC Business COVID Support Service, providing businesses with information and advice on how to access support throughout the pandemic. As of April 16th, 2021, more than 26,800 businesses were provided direct support through phone, email and chat. The website received almost 866K page views during that same period. • Provided support, in partnership with the federal government, for an enhanced BC Marketplace Platform launched by Small Business BC. At the end of March 2021, the platform, which supports businesses to shift their business models to online, was hosting over 2500 businesses from all regions in the province, receiving over 222K page views. • Provide ongoing support to help businesses to start, grow and exit through the delivery of a suite of core Small Business BC services. • Carried out consultation with business on a regular basis including developing/implementing the COVID-19 Industry Engagement Table and organizing regular virtual meetings of the Small Business Roundtable. • Investing over \$460M in business grants both for current state relief (Circuit Breaker Grant) and for longer term recovery (Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant). To date, over 7000 business and 78000 employees have received funding. • Invested more than \$44M to build digital marketing skills in businesses and help businesses cover the costs of adopting e-commerce solutions. More than 8,500 companies have accessed these programs. 3,000 businesses have completed digital marketing training while nearly 500 businesses have already

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
				<p>received a launch online grant. 2,000+ applications are under adjudication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invested \$7.5M to support promising agritech partnerships that will help to grow B.C.'s food supply. 21 companies received grants • \$6M in funding was granted to 24 businesses to help build supply chain resiliency that support businesses that manufacture • StrongerBC is the province's plan to build on B.C.'s core economic strengths and continue to help businesses reopen, adapt, hire, and grow- through the pandemic and beyond. • There are several initiatives under StrongerBC supporting small and medium sized businesses to build an inclusive economic recovery; including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the \$16.25 million B.C. Supply Chain Resiliency and Value-Added Manufacturing project which committed \$6-million to the Supply Chain Resiliency Grant program and \$10-million to the Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant program. This project helps manufacturing businesses accelerate innovation, strengthen critical supply chains, and create new, sustainable economic opportunities. ○ The \$7.5M Agritech Grant Program supported 21 companies with grants of up to \$500,000 – these companies will be able to continue to grow and

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
				generate new employment; all companies are already employing at least 10 people in B.C. with the potential to grow jobs/revenues
2. Work across ministries to lead the development and coordinate implementation of an industrial and manufacturing strategy that generates cleaner, more innovative, value added economic activity across B.C., while supporting our commitments to reconciliation and CleanBC	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation will launch an Industrial and Manufacturing Strategy by Spring 2023. The Industrial and Manufacturing Strategy includes collaborative work across government and with business stakeholders to identify specific strategic areas and activities to enhance the capability and capacity for B.C. manufacturing to add value to resources, unlock future opportunity through innovation, and enhance sustainability and resiliency. The Strategy will build off StrongerBC's \$16.25 million B.C. Supply Chain Resiliency and Value-Added Manufacturing project, which awarded \$6M in grants to 24 recipients under the Supply Chain Resiliency program and will award between 20 to 40 grants up to \$250,000 per company project, or \$500,000 per collaboration as part of the Accelerating Manufacturing Grant program. Staff have initiated research and analysis for the strategy and will be conducting stakeholder engagement, in collaboration with other ministries. The strategy will outline a path forward to support the province's manufacturing industries to generate cleaner, more innovative, value-added economic activity across B.C.

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
3. With support from the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, boost B.C. as a global exporter of climate solutions by investing in B.C.-based carbon capture and storage and other low carbon technologies.		TIDD		<p>Developing a framework for JERI, EMLI and CAS to work together to boost BC's position as a global exporter of climate solutions consistent with the Ministry mandate. ^{Advice/Recommendations} Advice/Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through a dedicated Cleantech Manager and the TIR network, TIDD supports innovators in the hydrogen fuel cell economy and other GHG-reducing cleantech industries to access international business opportunities. • Supported a virtual trade mission led by Canadian Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Association to Smart Energy Week/FC Expo Tokyo in March 2021. • Currently working on developing a virtual trade mission to Singapore International Water Week in June/July 2021. • Supported recruitment of BC participants for the China International Environmental Protection Exhibition & Conference in July 2021. • A trade mission to Enlit 2021 in Nov/Dec 2021 is under development.
4. Support the work of the Minister of State for Trade on special projects to support economic development, trade	TIDD			Provides government an opportunity to take a leadership role in de-risking certain domestic and international projects with the goal of longer term stability and growth. Initial steps will be building on the results of the StrongerBC economic recovery programs.

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
and innovation in areas such as B.C.'s shipbuilding sector, aerospace and forest sector innovation.				<p>Criteria for the 'special projects' designation is to be developed but with the intention that they will support the innovation, inclusivity and sustainable economic growth priorities.</p> <p>In addition to collaborating across line ministries and Crowns, this will be a cross Ministry endeavour, including and not limited to the International Trade and Investment Operations branch, Strategy, Intelligence, Marketing and Industry branch etc.</p>
5. Support B.C. shipyards to build capacity and become increasingly competitive with investments to support more shipbuilding, refit, repair, and maintenance here in B.C.	TIDD			<p>The ministry will work collaboratively with the industrial marine sector to launch a made-in-BC shipbuilding strategy that provides a strategic framework for shipbuilding, refit, repair, and maintenance in B.C.'s coastal communities to build on existing strengths, identify and expand emerging opportunities, and support economic growth.</p> <p>The strategy will leverage the generational 'National Shipbuilding Strategy' opportunity in support of sustainable vessel construction on the west coast - i.e., Major projects such as the Canadian Coast Guard Polar Icebreaker construction; and be aligned with the Industrial and Manufacturing Strategy to add value to resources, unlock future opportunity through innovation, and to enhance sustainability and resiliency.</p> <p>The workplan will include purposeful government-industry engagement, research, analysis and strategic advice that will support a robust, resilient and innovative shipbuilding sector in B.C.</p> <p>This Strategy will be completed in early 2022.</p>

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
6. Capitalize on the potential of B.C.'s aerospace industry by expanding support for B.C. companies to integrate into global supply chains and access new markets.	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry staff and our international office are preparing and delivering in-market programs to support BC's aerospace companies. Includes potentially taking a B.C. position and arranging opportunities for our companies at commercial shows such as the Zhuhai Airshow in China this September; Singapore Airshow in February; and Heli-Expo in Dallas this March Focus is on promoting the B.C. sector and facilitating opportunities for our companies to learn, build industry contacts, and explore supply chain partnerships in-market. Back at home, the Ministry is a partner and helps to organize the annual BC Export Awards, which recognizes B.C. companies for their successful international efforts. Has included awarding B.C. Aerospace companies such as Abbotsford's Conair Group in 2020 and Penticton's HNZ Topflight in 2021. Ministry staff have been directed to engage with companies in the sector to provide advice and assistance with business activities during the pandemic and guidance on navigating international travel restrictions while maintaining export activities MRK and MGC and ministry executives have met with a roundtable of aerospace industry executives to learn of issues and challenges in the sector and how government might be best to help navigate such challenges and support opportunities

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerospace Industry Association of BC was a successful recipient as part of the Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program.
7. Launch a strategic investment fund to support our government's objective of building a more innovative low-carbon economy by investing in high-potential B.C. businesses to help them scale up and grow here.				<p>InBC officially launched on April 27, 2021 with the First Reading of Bill 5, the <i>InBC Investment Corp. Act</i>, in the House, followed by a media event with MRK and PJH, as well as Dr. Wal van Lierop, Wendy Hurlburt, and Greg D'Avignon.</p> <p>Next steps: Second Reading of the bill, likely in May, as well as appointment of the full Board of Directors, also likely in May. <small>Advice/Reco</small></p>
8. Lead the Office of Mass Timber Implementation and, with support from the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, advance the mass timber action plan.		TIDD		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry staff and our international offices network are prepared to promote and support the province's mass timber companies and capabilities to international markets. Annual programs such as BC Wood's Global Buyers Mission, which in 2021 attracted buyers from more than 20 foreign markets, and the Forestry Mission to Japan and China (organized by Forestry Innovation Investment) could be explored as platforms to highlight and promote BC's mass timber efforts and opportunities. The Ministry's trade and investment representative offices in Europe and the U.S. are actively explore opportunity to advance

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
				trade and investment in this sector through industry conference, visits and building connections with industry contacts.
9. Work to expand on the investment that our economic recovery plan, StrongerBC, is making for people pursuing online courses to re-skill for the digital economy.				<p>JERI has extended delivery of the virtual digital bootcamp program into the new fiscal year with an aim of supporting at least 2,500 more participants to complete the program.</p> <p>Funding for the Innovator Skills Initiative program, led by Innovate BC will help to place people completing online courses into entry level tech sector and tech enabled jobs</p>
10. With support from the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training, work with B.C.'s Innovation Commissioner to lead investment in innovation clusters, with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management	P&I	IC TIDD		<p>Innovation Commissioner is engaging with businesses that have successfully scaled up and investors who assist scale up to understand barriers, effective tools and strategies and programming gaps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIDD connects BC companies in Cleantech, Life sciences, ICT, Fintech, Marine and Aerospace tech, Agritech and other tech areas to strategic international buyers through targeted domestic and international programs. • Through initiatives such as Connection Days (Mitsubishi) or Reverse Pitches (JETRO), TIDD regularly looks to match international interest in specific technology areas with BC's capabilities looking for growth through partnerships. • TIDD continues to support emerging technology sectors such as AI by raising the profile of BC's capabilities with foreign investors. We enhance the value of domestic events like the BC AI Showcase by

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies.				<p>recruiting international thought leaders and companies looking for partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry has provided significant support to Life Sciences BC for the development of a digital searchable directory of Life Sciences assets, with a view of raising the digital profile of the sector and supporting virtual ways of making trade and investment connections. Ministry engages with investment firms and companies regarding opportunities in BC, supporting the scale-up efforts of innovative BC technology companies Ministry staff conducts economic development outreach to advance trade and investment interests to a global and domestic audience through the delivery of business seminars/programs such as BC Spotlight Series (Invest in Canada), BC-EUCCAN's Province Series (EU-Canada Chamber/Foresight), and Investment Attraction with Municipalities (Governments) to increase awareness of BC's value proposition.
11. Support the work of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to move forward with the recommendations of the Food Security	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Province has a strong value proposition and dedicated mandate – through the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries – to grow the agritech sector, and the sector is already demonstrating strong potential. B.C.'s cluster of over 150 agritech companies contribute up to:

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister Ravi Kahlon Mandate letter				
Task Force and develop a new Regenerative Agricultural Network, which will create jobs for workers, opportunities for farmers and greater food security by bringing together natural systems of production with agri-technologies that enhance production.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$408 million in GDP; ○ 4,285 jobs; and ○ \$176 million in exports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministries are continuing to make progress on the recommendations of the 2020 Food Security Task Force report, and as part of StrongerBC, recently provided \$7.5 million in grants to agritech companies. • The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation recently launched the Agritech Concierge service as a “one stop shop” for companies to access government services. The Concierge provides tailored support to agritech companies to help them access land, expand operations, improve export readiness and attract further investment. <p>The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation is also supporting the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries in developing a Regenerative Agriculture Network. In pursuit of food security, the Network – a consortia of academia, government and industry – will encourage and incent the adoption of technology and innovation to increase productivity of the agriculture sector.</p>

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister George Chow Mandate letter				
1. Seek new strategies to expand B.C.'s export opportunities as the province recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, with a specific emphasis on B.C.'s emerging clean technology and innovation sector	TIDD			Ministry staff are actively monitoring markets for the impacts of COVID through B.C.'s international networks and economic analysis to understand vulnerabilities as well as emerging export opportunities.
2. In collaboration with cabinet colleagues and with support from the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, lead work on special projects to support economic development, trade and innovation in areas such as B.C.'s shipbuilding sector, aerospace and forest sector innovation.	TIDD			<p>Same item as above for MRK: Provides government an opportunity to take a leadership role in de-risking certain domestic and international projects with the goal of longer term stability and growth. Initial steps will be building on the results of the StrongerBC economic recovery programs.</p> <p>Criteria for the "special projects" designation is to be developed but with the intention that they will support the innovation, inclusivity and sustainable economic growth priorities.</p> <p>In addition to collaborating across line ministries and Crowns, this will be a cross Ministry endeavour, including and not limited to the International Trade and Investment Operations branch, Strategy, Intelligence, Marketing and Industry branch etc.</p>
3. Expand B.C.'s Export Navigator program to help more small businesses export their	TIDD			Export Navigator was expanded most recently in 2019 with the addition of three sector specialists to focus on the under-represented demographics of Indigenous, Women and Youth (under 30). Staff are currently exploring options and community needs regarding the most

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister George Chow Mandate letter				
goods and services beyond our borders.				desirable manner of additional expansion to ensure our communities and companies are well served to continue to grow exports.
4. Develop and implement a new B.C. Trade Diversification Strategy that will help B.C. businesses build connections in new markets, increase exports and highlight B.C. as a low-carbon supplier.	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry staff are developing a framework for development and implementation of the Trade Diversification Strategy. This includes a plan for targeted and thoughtful stakeholder engagement to ensure the strategy is meaningful to B.C. exporters and industry groups throughout the province. Initial engagement with stakeholders to Build Awareness of Trade Diversification: Establish a common understanding of what trade diversification means for B.C. and for B.C. exporters and businesses. Share market opportunity analysis undertaken by the ministry and emphasize existing supports and programs available for exporters and projects/companies seeking investment. Ministry staff have initiated research and economic analysis to inform the strategy and engagement with stakeholders. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysing trade and investment trends in B.C. priority markets and high-growth emerging international markets, assessing B.C.'s relative trade performance, and identifying potential prospects. Actively monitoring markets for the impacts of COVID through B.C.'s international networks and economic analysis to understand vulnerabilities as well as emerging trade and investment opportunities.

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister George Chow Mandate letter				
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial review and analysis of barriers to exporting and barriers to sector growth.
5. Work across ministries and with the federal government to ensure British Columbia's interests are protected and advanced in trade negotiations and disputes, including the softwood lumber negotiations with the United States	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue work with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations to advance and defend B.C.'s interests with the US on the softwood lumber disputes underway with the U.S. We are also monitoring developments and providing B.C.'s response to other concerns with the U.S. and leading B.C.'s response to U.S. investigations of various seasonal fruits and vegetables such as blueberries, bell peppers and cucumbers. • We are utilizing negotiations to further open markets to support diversification through our domestic trade negotiations with other provinces, territories and the federal government, and by leading B.C.'s input to international negotiations the federal government is engaged in considering. • Under existing agreements, B.C. works with the federal government, Provinces and Territories, regulators and other stakeholders to negotiate regulatory reconciliation agreements to secure preferential market access and remove trade barriers (irritants). • We are continuing a comprehensive and consolidated outreach initiative, with particular focus on underrepresented export groups, Small to Medium Enterprises and regional participation to gather input to inform TPN's work and to ensure the economic benefits of trade agreements are widespread and well understood

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister George Chow Mandate letter				
				throughout B.C. We've held 77 outreach activities to date, with over 1,300 in person attendees, 1,220 online attendees, over 6,000 views on BC Gov YouTube channel.
6. Continue to support Forestry Innovation Investment's efforts to promote B.C.'s manufactured wood products, including mass timber	TIDD	OMTI ADMO for FII		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry staff and our international offices network are supporting programs that promote B.C.'s wood products. This has included supporting FII's Virtual Japan and China Mission in early May 2021, which Ministers Kahlon and Chow participated in; and BC Wood's Global Buyers Mission, which FII is a funding partner. This year's Global Buyers Mission took place in January 2021 and attracted over 600 virtual attendees including 268 pre-qualified buyers from more than 20 foreign markets. The Ministry is a partner and helps to organize the annual BC Export Awards, which recognizes B.C. companies for their successful international efforts. The event has recognized and awarded B.C. wood companies such as Paper Excellence in 2020 and Kalesnikoff Mass Timber & Lumber in 2021.
7. Support the work of the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to continue to promote B.C. food	TIDD			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> B.C.'s network of trade and investment offices continue to arrange food promotion initiatives to support B.C. exporters. The net MGC has participated in industry events and staff continue to support exporting showcases for BC agrifood companies and B2B

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Minister George Chow Mandate letter				
and agriculture exports.				<p>connection meetings to support the development of new customers in new markets for BC's agricultural products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of business webinars to promote BC food, agriculture and agritech (e.g. Agriculture of the Future – BC/Netherlands)
8. Work with the Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport to continue the development of the Chinese Canadian Museum.	ADMo	n/a	TAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Province is committed to establishing a Chinese-Canadian Museum - a first in Canada. • The Museum will recognize the robust and significant contributions of Chinese Canadians in B.C., both past and present. • Minister Chow supports Minister Mark and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS) who have lead responsibility and oversight for this initiative. • Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Society opened a temporary exhibit, "A seat at the Table" in Vancouver's Chinatown in August 2020. The exhibit brought close to 3,000 visitors in its first 6 months. The Premier, Minister Mark, and Minister Chow all visited the exhibit at least once. • Instances of racism towards the Chinese community and anti-Asian sentiment during this pandemic reinforce the need for a museum that honors this community's contributions to our province. <p>Further questions on this matter should be directed to the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, and Culture.</p>

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Parliamentary Secretary Brenda Bailey Mandate letter				
1. Develop an intellectual property strategy to support more innovation and commercialization by B.C. companies, including a First Patent Program	CGIS	IIT		Scoping for an IP strategy has started in collaboration with teams working on the technology strategy, CleanBC roadmap to 2030, energy strategy elements such as hydrogen, and the economic narrative.
2. Help more people from underrepresented groups get their first job in the tech sector, while simultaneously helping B.C.-based tech companies hire and grow, by increasing the number of Innovator Skills Initiative Grants and prioritizing placements for women, Indigenous people, people of colour and others currently underrepresented in B.C.'s tech sector.	P&I		Innovate BC	Engagement with BIPOC groups and associations are underway. Summary of findings from stakeholder consultation to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from key stakeholders about potential programmatic elements to be considered as part of the Innovator Skills Initiative • Identification of various biases that present barriers to employment • Identification of other tools and concepts that could support the broader objective of helping under-represented groups gain their first job in the tech sector The revised ISI program is due to launch late summer.

Mandate Letter Commitments 2020	Division Lead	Support JERI	Support Other Ministry	Status
Parliamentary Secretary Brenda Bailey Mandate letter				
3. Help more innovative B.C. businesses successfully scale up here by expanding the successful RevUp program that brings business owners together with experienced mentors who provide coaching and advice on growing small successful tech companies into larger ones.	P&I		Innovate BC	Stakeholder consultation is planned for the fall of 21/22 to understand the various challenges with scale up.

2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan Questions & Answers

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Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

What are the Ministry's goals?

The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation is working to make life more affordable for British Columbians by building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone.

The Ministry is guided by three fundamental pillars: innovation, sustainability and inclusiveness.

The Ministry delivers programs and services that encourage business start-up and growth through innovation and adoption of new technologies throughout the province.

The Ministry Service Plan identifies three goals:

Goal 1: Support businesses and communities to create sustainable, family supporting jobs throughout British Columbia

Goal 2: Capitalize on British Columbia's strengths, including our low-carbon advantage, to build a brand that attracts investment and accelerates exports

Goal 3: Accelerate the innovation economy to catalyze future opportunities in core and emerging sectors to support recovery in British Columbia.

Have the Ministry's goals changed?

Two of the Ministry's goals have been adjusted from the previous year and we have one new goal.

Goal 1 has been adjusted from the 2020/21 Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness Service Plan to better reflect the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presents for B.C. businesses as we begin to recover as well as the Ministry's new mandate.

Previous - Goal 1: B.C. businesses are supported to start-up, scale up, grow and stay in B.C.

Goal 2 was adjusted from the 2020/21 Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness Service Plan. This goal continues to ensure B.C. is well positioned to take advantage of domestic and international trade development opportunities while highlighting B.C. as a supplier of choice for high potential markets to drive clean economic growth.

Previous - Goal 2: Encourage trade diversification and facilitate investment opportunities that benefit all British Columbians

Goal 3 is a new goal which reflects the modified focus for the Ministry. Coupling innovation with economic goals highlight the need to boost new and developing areas of B.C.'s economy.

Previous - Goal 3: Deliver programs in B.C. communities that increase participation in the economy and help raise the standard of living

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Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

How do these goals reflect the Ministry's work?

The Ministry's overarching goal is to support government to meet the changing needs of people in this province and is guided by three fundamental pillars: innovation, sustainability and inclusiveness. Additionally, government has identified five foundational principles: putting people first, lasting and meaningful reconciliation, equity and anti-racism, a better future through fighting climate change and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction commitments, and a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

The goals in the 2021/22 service plan support government's priorities, including these foundational principles, as well as select items identified in the November 2020 Minister's Mandate Letter.

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Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Have the Ministry's objectives changed?

The language for Objective 1.1 has changes from last year's Service Plan, but the PMs remain the same:

Objective 1.1: Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Support businesses to establish, grow and anchor in B.C.

With the Immigration program shifting to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs the Objective 1.2 has changed from last year's Service Plan. Objectives around immigration can be found in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs Service Plan.

Objective 1.2: Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Support B.C. communities,

Indigenous and other underrepresented peoples to increase participation in established and emerging economic sectors

This objective was Objective 3.1 in the previous Service Plan.

Objective 3.1: has been shifted to reflect the renewed focus of the Ministry to boost new and developing areas of B.C.'s economy. With a new performance measure, the Ministry will gauge the market share of mass timber as government drives system transformation in the development and construction sectors, ultimately stimulating the supply and transforming the forest product manufacturing sector.

Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Grow sectors of emerging opportunity including agritech, mass timber and transformative technologies like artificial intelligence and position them as drivers of good jobs and revenues

Objective 3.2 is discontinued. Objectives around immigration can be found in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs Service Plan.

Objective 3.2: Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

Has the Ministry revised or removed any performance measures?

Three performance measures have been revised or removed in this year's Service Plan:

1. Performance measure **1.2** is new. Businesses with more than 10 employees are shown to have higher salaries and a more stable workforce. Growing the number of businesses with more than 10 employees leads to better family supporting jobs for more British Columbians.

Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

2. The forecast for performance measure **2.1** has been adjusted to reflect the global uncertainty presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequent targets have also been adjusted to reflect our steady recovery and will be dependent on ongoing client and stakeholder feedback and development of a new trade diversification strategy.
3. Performance measure **3.1** is a new performance measure will gauge the market share of mass timber as government drives system transformation in the development and construction sectors, ultimately stimulating the supply and transforming the forest product manufacturing sector. Given the elongated timelines of building construction, it is anticipated that shifts in market share will be evident over several years.

How is the Ministry supporting Indigenous Peoples/communities?

The government of B.C. is committed to lasting and meaningful reconciliation. Recognizing that reconciliation is an ongoing process and a shared responsibility for us all the Ministry is continues to take the following actions:

- Engaging with communities, Indigenous peoples and stakeholders across B.C. to identify resources and investment opportunities suitable for matching with investors and executing focused programs to strategically attract investments targeted to these opportunities.
- Fostering partnerships between Indigenous organizations and peoples, industry and local governments, to increase Indigenous participation in the economy, strengthen communities, and increase growth and diversification.
- Continuing to develop and deliver tools and resources, including webinars, workshops and toolkits, to support Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities with their economic development efforts.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MASS TIMBER ACTION PLAN

Issue: Action plan to move mass timber from niche to mainstream

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Mass Timber Action Plan is a provincial engine for accelerating mass timber's transition from niche to mainstream.
- The purpose of the Action Plan is to build up domestic demand and supply as a platform for increasing international demand for B.C. product and talent, as B.C.'s construction market is too small alone to maximize the desired economic and climate benefits.
- The Office of Mass Timber Implementation is tasked with developing the Mass Timber Action Plan and coordinating its implementation across government.
- The Mass Timber Action Plan will complement existing government programs promoting B.C. wood, such as the *Wood First Act* and the Wood First Initiative run by Forestry Innovation Investment (FII).
- By supporting provincial climate and economic development goals, the Mass Timber Action Plan will complement and link to other cross-government strategies including CleanBC and the Economic Recovery Plan.
- The Plan distinctly focuses on mass timber and will support the forestry sector's transition to high-value over high-volume production. This complements the mandate of partner organizations such as Forestry Innovation Investment and the Canadian Wood Council who seek to advance the use of all wood products generally.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

N/A

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 – Jarrett Hutchinson A/ADM, OMTI

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Jeff Vasey	ADM	Office of Mass Timber Implementation	250-361-6673
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Mass Timber Advisory Council

Issue: New council to advise on the Mass Timber Action Plan

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Mass Timber Advisory Council (MTAC) was recently established as a strategic discussion forum on mass timber to provide advice and guidance on the Province's Mass Timber Action Plan.
- MTAC is designed to leverage members' knowledge and experience representing a broad range of interests related to mass timber.
- There are 16 members, all of whom are mass timber specialists or have a strong interest in mass timber.
- This includes local government members, First Nations members, structural and fire engineers, architects, developers, researchers, and associations representing forest product manufacturers.
- The first meeting was April 7th and the Council will meet twice a year after that.
- A list of MTAC members is attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 – Jarrett Hutchinson A/ADM, OMTI
[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Jeff Vasey	ADM	Office of Mass Timber Implementation	250-361-6673
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Attachment 1: Mass Timber Advisory Council Member List

- Andrew Harmsworth, Principal, GHL Consultants
- Anne McMullin, President & CEO, Urban Development Institute
- Brian Frenkel, President, Union of BC Municipalities
- Claire Huxtable, Senior Analyst, ERA Forest Products Research
- Dan Battistella, President, Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association
- Derek Newby, Principal, Diamond Schmitt Architects
- Dr. Guido Wimmers, Associate Professor Chair, Master of Engineering Program, UNBC
- Karen Tam Wu, BC Regional Director, Pembina Institute
- Karla Fraser, Construction Manager, Hive Projects Inc
- Lynn Embury-Williams, Executive Director, WoodWORKS! BC
- Michael Green, Founder, Michael Green Architects
- Paul Fast, Founder, Fast+Epp
- Robert Phillips, First Nations Summit Political Executive
- Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries
- Terry Teegee, Regional Chief, British Columbia Assembly of First Nations
- Tim Ryce, Chief Building Official, City of North Vancouver

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Mass Timber Demonstration Program - StrongerBC

Issue: Mass Timber Demonstration Program delivery and outcomes

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On September 17, 2020, the StrongerBC program was announced.
- One of the initiatives led by JERI includes the \$3 million Mass Timber Demonstration Program (MTDP).
- The program was developed by JERI with support from the Forestry Innovation Investment (FII), a Crown Corporation. FII is the delivery partner.
- Program goals focus on growing B.C.'s mass timber industry including: design and engineering services; technical research; and the adoption of virtual design and prefabrication practices.
- The Program includes two elements:
 - \$0.5 million - Mass timber technical research and testing
 - \$2.5 million - Demonstration project support (including project specific research and testing)
- Because of the very strong interest and uptake in the program, an additional 3 demonstration projects were funded. The funding required (above the \$3 million) was secured by reprofiling \$1.2 million of FII's budget.
- The combined investment of \$4.2 million will fund eight demonstration projects and four research projects, focused on addressing technical barriers to advancing the use of mass timber.
 - On April 7, 2021, 12 successful projects were announced representing mid-rise and tall multi-family residential, mixed-use commercial, institutional and industrial applications in the Okanagan, Lower Mainland and southern Vancouver Island.
 - Projects were chosen following an expression of interest intake process and technical review by a panel of government and industry representatives.
- Information and lessons learned from funded projects will be shared with B.C.'s building industry to expand technical knowledge and capacity within the sector and to advance the widespread use of mass timber.
- Agreed upon planning, design and testing activities will be completed within two years, and lessons learned will be shared broadly with the B.C. construction sector.
- While construction should be underway or nearing completion, final construction of every building during the two year period of this program is not expected.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Total expenditures in 2020/21 of \$4.2 million: \$3 million from Stronger BC to support five demonstration projects and four research projects and an additional \$1.2 million from FII to support three demonstration projects.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 – Jarrett Hutchinson A/ADM, OMTI

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 12, 2021

Contact:

Jeff Vasey	ADM	Office of Mass Timber Implementation	250-361-6673
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Attachment 1: Mass Timber Demonstration Program recipients and project summaries

The Mass Timber Demonstration Program has awarded a combined \$4.2 million to 12 B.C.-based developers and research bodies to support the incremental or first-time costs of mass timber design development, permitting and construction activities, and research.

The following are grant recipients and project descriptions:

Happy Harvest Inc. (\$475,000): This 11-storey multi-family residential building will demonstrate the use of mass timber-steel hybrid for affordable rental buildings. The proposed design includes 120 affordable homes as well as a learning space and community theatre. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/main-and-cordova-mac/>

BentallGreenOak (Canada) LP (\$500,000): This 10-storey commercial office use building will demonstrate an innovative use of timber brace framing to withstand the effects of earthquakes in a tall building application. The design includes primarily commercial office space with some ground floor retail and outdoor amenity areas. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/2150-keith-drive/>

Reliance Properties Ltd. (\$500,000): A six-storey mixed-use commercial building that demonstrates an innovative use of mass timber-steel hybrid design to renovate a historic building. Built on top of an existing two-storey historic warehouse, the four-storey mass timber addition will provide more density and new commercial office space for the area. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/837-beatty-street-rehabilitation-and-addition/>

District of Saanich (\$500,000): The redevelopment of Fire Station #2 will demonstrate how mass timber can be used in a “post disaster” building designed to withstand emergencies. The project will replace the present one-storey, 353 square-metre building with a two-storey 2,190 square-metre steel and timber post and beam system that will accommodate a fire training tower and emergency vehicles. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/district-of-saanich-fire-station-2-redevelopment/>

First Nations Health Authority (\$500,000): This six-storey building will demonstrate institutional use of mass timber supporting health and cultural activities. The design will expose as much mass timber as possible to evoke the plank house tradition of the Coast Salish people; space will be used for First Nations Health Authority employees as well as social spaces for gatherings, cultural activities and education. The building will target Rick Hansen Foundation certification for accessibility. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/first-nations-health-authority-metro-vancouver-office/>

Bellevue Properties Partnership (\$500,000): This eight-storey multi-family residential building will demonstrate innovative use of mass timber-hybrid structural, flooring and balcony systems in tall multi-family housing. Construction will target Passive House certification to meet carbon emission goals. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/bellevue-and-22nd/>

Westbank (\$500,000): This 21-storey rental building will demonstrate mass timber-steel-concrete use in a tall building. The project will demonstrate cost-effective design solutions using materials for their highest value. Learning from the project will be shared as open source. The developers are aiming for the City of Vancouver’s Zero Emissions Building Plan standard. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/prototype/>

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Faction Projects (\$137,000): This four-storey hybrid mixed-use building will demonstrate the feasibility of local trades, rather than factories, to produce mass timber panels. Local mass timber panel production using available suppliers and trades will create local jobs and reduce supply-stream risks. This project will also be used to educate the insurance and lending industry on mass timber to reduce premiums associated with mass timber buildings. Developers will pursue Step Three of the BC Energy Step Code, the highest level for buildings of this type in the Okanagan. <https://www.naturallywood.com/project/the-exchange/>

Canadian Wood Council, GHL Consultants, CHM Fire Consultants (\$300,000): Mass timber demonstration fire tests will be used to educate key stakeholders about the performance of mass timber construction. Test data will support future code change proposals and new fire suppression systems. Cost shared with Natural Resources Canada, National Research Canada and other provincial governments, lessons learned will be shared with other jurisdictions in Canada.

Fast + Epp, GHL Consultants (\$92,000): This research project will assess the transferability of international tall wood building codes to B.C. and Canada to advance the next generation use of wood in buildings in B.C. and Canada.

Morrison Hershfield (\$105,000): The proponents will develop costing data on mass timber construction for wide use by developers, builders and other decision-makers. This will be especially pertinent as the B.C. Energy Step Code becomes more widely used to increase energy efficiency and meet CleanBC goals.

Athena Sustainable Materials Institute (\$70,000): Lifecycle assessment research will demonstrate the carbon benefits of mass timber use and encourage wider adoption by building designers, policymakers and other decision-makers.

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Mass Timber Key Facts

Issue: Mass timber in British Columbia

KEY MESSAGES AND FACTS

Key messages

- B.C. is a leader in the use of mass timber as an innovative way to reduce the carbon footprint of the building sector while supporting good paying jobs for people in communities throughout the province.
- Mass timber aligns with the Province's goal of transitioning the forest sector from high volume to high-value production, maximizing the value of our renewable forest resources. It is key to diversifying and creating more resilient forest and building sectors.

Mass timber in B.C.:

- Mass timber products such as glue laminated (glulam) beams and columns have been used in building construction in B.C. for many decades. More contemporary mass timber products such as cross-laminated timber, dowel-laminated timber and nail laminated timber have been introduced more recently.
- B.C. leads Canada with about 285 buildings that use some form of traditional mass timber. Of those, approximately 28 per cent also use more contemporary mass timber products.
- B.C. has three mid-size mass timber plants that produce cross-laminated timber and dowel-laminated timber. This currently represents 19 per cent of North America's annual production capacity for those materials.
- Mass timber can offer five to seven times more economic value than traditional sawn dimensional lumber when factoring in production of mass timber products, design services, and prefabrication of structural components.
- New provisions in the next edition of the National Building Code will allow encapsulated mass timber construction in buildings up to 12 storeys. B.C. adopted these provisions early for 21 interested communities.
- Mass timber is being used in several public buildings in B.C. recently approved for construction:
 - BCIT – 12-storey student residence in Burnaby
 - Okanagan College – student residences at the Kelowna, Vernon and Salmon Arm campuses
 - Two schools in Vancouver – Begbie and Bayview elementary schools

Climate benefits

- Mass timber is made from a renewable resource and has a lower carbon footprint compared to traditional concrete construction (at least 25 per cent lower).
- Mass timber reduces greenhouse gas emissions from buildings because it takes less fossil fuel to log, manufacture, transport, and deconstruct mass-timber buildings.

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Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- The wood components of mass timber buildings are also carbon sinks. Trees naturally draw large amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and this remains locked inside wood for the life of a building (as long as the wood remains in solid form).

Old growth

- It can be challenging to verify whether lumber used to make mass timber comes from old growth trees, but we do know it isn't needed and is avoided when possible.
- In fact, mass timber is a modern alternative to heavy timber beams as products emulate the characteristics of sturdy old-growth wood.

What is mass timber?

- Mass timber products are thick, structural load-bearing components – columns, beams and panels. They are typically manufactured off-site in factories by fastening multiple layers of wood together with glue, dowel or nails.
- Products are engineered for high strength, fire and seismic ratings similar to concrete and steel, but are significantly lighter in weight and can reduce carbon emissions by at least 25 per cent.
- Mass timber can be used in many types of construction, including residential, commercial and industrial buildings.
- Mass timber buildings are typically hybrid. Concrete is usually used for foundations, underground parking garages, elevator and stairwell shafts. Steel can be used for brace framing, beams and structural connectors.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 – Jarrett Hutchinson A/ADM, OMTI

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Jeff Vasey

ADM

Office of Mass Timber
Implementation

250-361-6673

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MAJOR INVESTMENTS AND CORPORATE INITIATIVES OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Issue: Major Investments and Corporate Initiatives Activities

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Major Investments and Corporate Initiatives Office (MICIO) works with proponents, municipalities, Indigenous organizations and government agencies to facilitate significant investment projects in B.C. The office strives to make it easier for major investors to create jobs in B.C.
- The MICIO supports and accelerates the government decision-making process without fettering approving authorities; projects must meet the same rigorous health, safety, environmental and consultation requirements as other projects.
- The MICIO supports proponents, government, communities and Indigenous organizations by:
 - Facilitating solutions to complex, cross-government problems facing proponents.
 - Fostering community outreach and Indigenous engagement with major investors.
 - Ensuring strong communication among clients, communities and government.
 - Providing strategic advice to proponents.
- MICIO also leads activities and/or acts as a secretariat for cross-government, investment-related strategic initiatives including the Cascadia Innovation Corridor initiative, the Ultra-High-Speed Transportation Corridor studies, and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) marine bunkering service.
- MICIO projects face unique challenges and opportunities and require specialized attention and services. MICIO projects include those that:
 - Cross traditional ministry boundaries and require cross-government coordination.
 - Involve issues beyond traditional permitting authorities.
 - Often involve foreign investors unfamiliar with B.C.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

March 22, 2021 – James Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister, Investment and Innovation Division

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 16, 2021

Contact:

Paul Pawlowski	Executive Director	Major Investments and Strategic Partnerships Branch	778-873-7037
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

STEMCELL ADVANCED BIOLOGICS MANUFACTURING FACILITY PROJECT

Issue: Current status and next steps related to the Advanced Biologics Manufacturing Facility (ABMF) Project

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Company Information

- STEMCELL is the largest Canadian-owned life sciences company in Canada.
- Spun off from Terry Fox Laboratory at University of British Columbia (UBC) in 1993 with 13 employees, it now has over 1,400 employees globally (1,000+ in Metro Vancouver).
- Produces a wide range of consumable life sciences products, electronic diagnostic systems and proprietary plasticware that support therapeutic research.
- Business Information; Government Financial Information
- STEMCELL consistently posted double-digit percentage annual revenue growth from 1993 to 2020.
- Business Information; Government Financial Information

Advanced Biologics Manufacturing Facility (ABMF) Project

- Regenerative medicine market expected to grow from \$20 billion to \$40 billion between 2020 and 2030.
- Companies must meet international regulatory standards to participate in clinical grade trials.
- Advice/Recommendations
- In April 2018, Treasury Board approved \$22.5 million over four years to construct the ABMF. Canada contributed \$22.5 million to the project from its Strategic Innovation Fund.
- The project start date was April 1, 2018 and the project end date is March 31, 2022.
- The Contribution Agreement (Agreement) sets terms for ABMF design, construction, commissioning and new product development.
- There are two categories of performance measures: project management and socioeconomic.
- There are seven project management metrics:
 - Facility Design and Build Out;
 - Commissioning and Validation;
 - Product and Process Development;

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Supply Chain Operations;
 - IT Systems Implementation;
 - Manufacturing Scale Up; and,
 - Support Infrastructure
- There are six socioeconomic performance metrics:
 - Employment;
 - Research & Development (R&D) Expenditures;
 - Training and Development Expenditures;
 - Equity and Diversity Reporting;
 - Academic/Private Sector Partnerships; and,
 - Expenditures on B.C.-Based Suppliers.
- The Agreement enables the Province to withhold up to 10 percent (\$2.25M) until STEMCELL completes to the project to the Province's satisfaction. The Province can also withhold and/or clawback portions of claims should STEMCELL not meet annual employment, R&D expenditure and training and development expenditure performance metrics.

Project Status

- Information technology, regulatory certification and new product development elements are currently on track to completion.
- Business Information; Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

• Business Information; Government Financial Information

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- On April 25, 2018, the Province announced an investment of \$22.5M in STEMCELL over four years.
- Funding provided to STEMCELL in 2020/21 will be release with the Public Accounts.
- 2021/22 is the final year of the Province's investment.
- Both governments have the option to hold back up to 10 per cent of remaining funds (\$2.25 million) until project completion.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- The Province has other financial remedies at its disposal under the Agreement should STEMCELL not meet its commitments such as withholding and/or invalidating portions of claim payments related to employment performance measures.

Approvals:

March 22, 2021 – James Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister, Investment and Innovation Division

[date approved] – FSB

Last Updated: May 11, 2021

Contact:

Scott Barillaro

Executive Project
Director

Major Projects and
Strategic Partnerships

778-584-7277

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

VENTURE CAPITAL TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

Issue: Investment through the *Small Business Venture Capital Act* (SBVCA) supports jobs and economic development throughout the province.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Innovation and entrepreneurship creates jobs, diversifies economic activity and helps keep B. C. globally competitive.
- The Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit de-risks investment and helps small businesses access early-stage venture capital to help start a business, commercialize ideas, and create jobs for people in every corner of the province.
- The SBVCA determines the types of businesses eligible for tax credit supported investment and includes manufacturing, research and development of proprietary technologies (e.g. in life sciences and information technology), clean technology manufacturing and R&D, and digital new media development (e.g. video game development).
- The SBVCA provides 30 per cent tax credits to B.C. resident investors who invest directly into companies or into managed funds. Tax credits offered support up to \$128.3 million of equity investment annually, from a tax credit budget of \$38.5 million.
- The tax credit budget is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance, however, the tax credit program is administered by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.
- For the 2020 tax year, the small business venture capital tax credit helped to raise over \$114 million in early-stage funding for more than 220 small businesses (see Appendix 1).
- As the amount of tax credits available each year is limited, businesses must apply to the program if they plan to raise investment during the year. The program will grant the business a specific amount which depends on the amount requested, its fund-raising objectives, how much tax credit budget is available, and the business's track record in raising investment. The program issues authorizations that range from a few thousand dollars to several million. The business can raise investment up to the set limit (e.g. \$3 million) and claim tax credits on behalf of investors through the program's web-based tax credit application system. For instance, if a business raises \$3 million it will claim \$900,000 in tax credits for investors, which is 30% of the investment raised.
- The maximum life-time amount of equity a business can raise in the tax credit program is \$10 million. The average amount of equity raised in 2020 was approximately \$100,000, and ranged from a low of \$2,000 to over \$3 million.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- The \$38.5 million tax credit budget is divided into five sub-budgets that support investment into specific business sectors. Over 100 businesses are registered in the program each year, and many of them qualify for registration under more than one sub-budget.
- The five sub-budgets are Business Creation, Community Diversification, Digital Media, Clean Technology, and Equity Capital which is the general category under which all businesses qualify (see Appendix 1). Businesses can qualify for more than one sub-budget, for instance a young business developing a digital media product and based in the regions can qualify for the Business Creation, Community Diversification, New Media, and Equity Capital budgets. This means that if one sub-budget is used up the program can switch the business to another budget category and it can continue raising investment to meet its needs. Likewise, if a business raises investment later in the year, when budgets are being used up, the program can switch the business to a budget with spare capacity. Irrespective of the budget category a business is assigned, a business cannot raise more than \$10 million during its life-time in the tax credit program .
- Tax credit utilization from any of the sub-budgets varies from year to year and depends on a number of factors, including economic conditions, investment opportunities available, investors' outlook, and the timing of companies raising investment to meet their operational needs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Attachment: Appendix 1 - Detailed Tax Credit Program Stats, 2019 and 2020

Approvals:

March 22, 2021 – James Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister, Investment and Innovation Division

Last Updated: May 11, 2021

Contact:

David Mortimer	Executive Director	Investment Capital and InBC Transition Branch	778 698-3363
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – Detailed Tax Credit Program Stats, 2019 and 2020 2020 Program Stats

Business Category	Tax Credit Budget Available	Tax Credits Claimed to Date	Tax Credit Variance* \$	Tax Credit Variance %**	Equity Raised
Business Creation	\$3 M	\$3.0 M	\$0.0 M	0%	\$10.0 M
Community Diversification	\$3 M	\$2.9 M	-\$0.1 M	-3.3%	\$9.6 M
Digital Media	\$5 M	\$4.8 M	-\$0.2 M	-4.0%	\$16.0 M
Clean Technology	\$7.5 M	\$3.7 M	-\$3.8 M	-50.7%	\$12.4 M ¹
Equity Capital	\$20 M	\$19.8 M	-\$0.2 M	-1.0%	\$66.0 M
Total	\$38.5 M	\$34.2 M	-\$4.3 M	-11.2%	\$114.0 M

Note 1: B.C. clean technology businesses raised approximately \$15 million in equity through the tax credit program in 2020. The amount of \$15 million is comprised of \$12.4 million under the Clean Tech sub budget, and \$2.5 million raised by clean tech businesses qualifying under the Community Diversification sub budget.

2019 Program Stats

Business Category	Tax Credit Budget Available	Tax Credits Claimed to Date	Tax Credit Variance* \$	Tax Credit Variance %**	Equity Raised
Business Creation	\$3 M	\$2.7 M	-\$0.3 M	-10%	\$8.9 M
Community Diversification	\$3 M	\$1.3 M	-\$1.7 M	-56%	\$4.3 M
Digital Media	\$5 M	\$4.9 M	-\$0.1 M	-2%	\$16.4 M
Clean Technology	\$7.5 M	\$5.9 M	-\$1.6 M	-21%	\$19.5 M
Equity Capital	\$20 M	\$19.9 M	-\$0.1 M	-0.5%	\$66.4 M
Total	\$38.5 M	\$34.7 M	-\$3.8 M	-9.8%	\$115.5 M

*Tax Credit Variance is the difference between the amount of tax credit budget available and the amount available at the end of the year after claims have been processed.

**Tax Credit Variance % is the difference in percent between the amount of tax credit budget available and the amount available at the end of the year after claims have been processed.

Tax Credit Budgets

Business Creation – for businesses less than two years old.

Community Diversification – for businesses located outside Metro Vancouver and the Capital Regional District.

Digital Media – for businesses developing interactive digital media products (e.g. video games).

Clean Technology – for businesses manufacturing clean-tech products or conducting R&D in clean technology.

Equity Capital – general category that includes the above plus businesses in manufacturing and R&D.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SMALL BUSINESS PROFILE

Issue: 2020 Small Business Profile

KEY FACTS

- The Small Business Profile, published annually, reflects the latest data available for relevant indicators. The 2020 Profile reflects annual data from 2019, and some more recent data related to impacts of COVID-19.
- Ministry staff have worked with BC Stats, the BC Chamber of Commerce and Canadian Federation of Independent Business to track and include more current data related to impacts on small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In B.C., a small business is defined as a business with fewer than 50 employees or a business that is operated by a person who is self-employed without paid help.
- Key indicators examined in the Profile include the number of businesses, employment and earnings, contribution to the economy, industry distribution, regional details and the role of small business exporters. Key Statistics are presented below in the tables below.
- B.C. led the country in business number growth, and small business employment increase between 2014 and 2019.
- In 2019, B.C. also ranked first among provinces in businesses per 1,000 persons.

Background/Status:

- The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, along with BC Stats, released the annual Small Business Profile in December 2020.
- The 2021 Small Business Profile, to be released in October 2021, will reflect data from 2020.
- In past years, the Small Business Profile has been a central focus of small business-related questions during the Estimates process. Examples of stats covered are in Table 1 and 2.

Table 1: Key statistics from the 2020 Small Business Profile

BC Small Business Indicator	2019	Change since 2014
Employment	1,110,800	+ 10.7%
Number of small businesses	523,800	+ 14.4%
Average annual wage	\$46,136	+ 14.7%
Export value	\$14.7 billion	+ 6.6%
Number of micro businesses 0-4 employees*	442,700	+ 15.1%
Businesses with 5-9 employees*	39,200	+ 8.1%
Businesses with 10-19 employees*	25,700	+ 13.1%
Businesses with 20-29 employees*	9,200	+ 10.2%
Businesses with 30-49 employees*	7,100	+ 16.7%

*In 2018 and 2019 specific questions were asked about the Small Business Profile. These statistics are responsive to the type of questions that have been asked in previous years' Estimates process.

- Much of B.C.'s small business sector employment growth was due to increased self-employment.
- In 2019, B.C.'s small business sector generated more GDP than the Canadian average.
- Workers of large organizations are more likely to belong to a union and generally earn higher wages. However, since 2014 employees of small businesses saw their average wage increase more than their counterparts in large working for large businesses (14.7 per cent, compared to a 9.3 per cent).
- Small business exporters represent a small portion of all goods producing small businesses in the province. This could be due to high start-up costs required for an exporting business to be able to compete internationally.
- B.C.'s had the lowest business bankruptcy rate in the country in 2019.
- Recognizing this report covers data pre-pandemic, preliminary data for 2020 not included in the profile indicate bankruptcies have remained low, with fewer bankruptcies than in 2019.

Table 2: Additional Small Business Statistics

BC Small Business Indicator	2019
Employment as % of private sector employment	53%
Businesses per 1,000 persons	103.3
Percentage of B.C. GDP	34%
Goods producing small businesses that export	6.2%
Business bankruptcies (all businesses) per 1,000 businesses	0.1
Businesses owned by women*	38%
Incorporated self-employed business owners*	201,600
Unincorporated self-employed business owners*	252,500
Self-employed with no employees*	326,000

*In 2018 and 2019 specific questions were asked about the Small Business Profile. These statistics are responsive to the type of questions that have been asked in previous years' Estimates process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- In fiscal 2020/21 the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between BC Stats and the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for the delivery of the Profile was \$33,000.

Approvals:

[date approved] - Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 18, 2021

Contact:

Angelo Cocco A/Executive Director Small Business Branch 250-952-0612

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SMALL BUSINESS AND COVID-19

Issue: B.C. supports for small businesses and those impacted by COVID-19

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Province supports the success of B.C. small businesses during and beyond COVID-19 by:
 - Providing core funding for Small Business BC to provide entrepreneurs throughout B.C. with access to business advisors, educational services and free resources.
 - Consulting with business through the BC Small Business Roundtable.
 - Maintaining one of the lowest small business tax rates in Canada at 2.0 per cent.
 - Extending the Net Zero Increase in Regulatory Requirements commitment to 2022.
 - Delivering Small Business Venture Capital Tax Credit and CleanBC incentives.
 - Providing access to labour and skills training through the Skills Training for Employment Programs and Provincial Nominee Program.
 - Supporting the BuyBC program for local shopping and Export Navigator to help grow sales internationally.
 - Investing in connectivity, affordable child care, housing and modernized procurement.
 - Implementing BizPaL, an online tool to identify permits and licences required by all levels of government with 132 local government partners and over 267,000 users last year.
 - In 2021, launching the Business Structures Wizard, an online tool to help entrepreneurs choose the best-fit business type (e.g. sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation).
 - Continuing the Mobile Business Licence Program, allowing certain types of mobile businesses to operate across participating jurisdictions. There are now 108 local governments participating in 18 regional agreements.

COVID-19 Supports for Small Businesses:

- COVID-19 has significantly impacted B.C. small businesses, hitting the tourism, hospitality and events sectors particularly hard and disproportionately impacting businesses owned by women, people of colour and Indigenous entrepreneurs.
- The B.C. Government has responded with a range of relief and recovery measures that build on the federal loan, rent subsidy and wage subsidy programs.
- B.C.'s \$5 billion COVID-19 Action Plan included deferring tax payments, delaying increases to taxes and providing \$500 million in relief to businesses by cutting the school tax in half.
- StrongerBC, B.C.'s \$1.5 billion Economic Recovery Plan, continues to provide supports for businesses, including:

- Grants of up to \$30,000 (\$45,000 for tourism businesses) through the \$345 million Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant program.
- Grants of up to \$20,000 to hospitality, fitness and accommodation businesses affected by the March 31, 2021 Provincial Health Officer's orders on gatherings/events and liquor/food serving premises, and the April 23, 2021 Emergency Programs Act order on travel through the \$125 million Circuit Breaker Relief Grant.
- \$42 million Launch Online program, with up to \$7,500 in grants to move to an online business model. 30 per cent is allocated to rural and Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) businesses.
- PST rebates of 100 per cent on select machinery and equipment to spur new growth.
- \$190 million in rebates through a 15 per cent Increased Employment Incentive tax credit.
- \$7.5 million in grants to help agritech, agriculture and tech companies scale up.
- Grants of up to \$250,000 through the \$16 million Supply Chain Resiliency and Value-Added Manufacturing projects.
- Grants of up to \$10,000 per participant through the B.C. Employer Training Grant.
- \$2 million to cover tuition costs for up to 2,500 people from small and medium sized B.C. businesses to participate in Alacrity Canada's Digital Marketing Bootcamp. An additional \$2.5 million was provided through the Ministry's base budget in 2020/21 to continue to offer the training for a further 3,450 business participants over fiscal year 2021/22.
- Supporting the hospitality sector by making wholesale liquor pricing and takeout/delivery liquor service permanent, and temporarily capping food delivery service fees at 15 per cent.
- Providing a single point of contact for businesses through the B.C. Business COVID-19 Support Service (operated by Small Business BC), directly serving over 30,000 clients (24,240 calls, 2,087 emails, 3,635 live chats), with 919,709 page views as of May 12.
- Launching the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Marketplace to help businesses find PPE to reopen safely.
- Supporting the B.C. Marketplace, a no-cost online listing currently with 2,660 businesses and 364,986 page views as of the end of April 2021.
- Creating the \$5 million BC Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund program providing grants of up to \$45,000 to Indigenous-owned tourism businesses.
- Continued stakeholder engagement through the B.C. Small Business Roundtable, Economic Recovery Task Force and COVID-19 Industry Engagement Table.
- With these supports, B.C.'s business confidence continues to rise, with Business Barometer Index rising 1.9 points in April 2021 to an index of 69.4 (tied for second highest in Canada).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- Core funding of \$686K for Small Business BC and annual BizPaL funding of \$78,620.
- Additional funding was provided in response to COVID-19 including initial financial support of \$325K for the B.C. COVID-19 Support Service (March to September 2020 - now funded by Recovery Grant program) and \$205K to support the B.C. Marketplace/PPE Marketplace.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] –FSB

Last Updated: May 18, 2021

Contact:

Angelo Cocco A/Executive Director Small Business Branch 778 698-1684

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SMALL & MEDIUM SIZED BUSINESS RECOVERY GRANT STRONGER BC

Issue: Status of grant approvals

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- As of DATE (*NB will update at time of estimates*) the program has committed # dollars, approved X businesses and supported X # in the labour force. Detailed table below.
- The program was announced September 17, 2020 and launched on October 9 2020, expanded on December 23 2020, and expanded further on March 4, 2021.
- Uptake since March 4, 2021 has increased significantly with 1000 applications fully submitted by businesses per week.
- The program is moving quickly to approve applications, approving over \$2.5 million per day
- 30 per cent to 50 per cent of businesses are fully prepared and easily complete the process, sometimes in as little as one week.
- 50 per cent to 70 per cent of businesses require support and receive it by personalized service provided by program staff and also have the option to access a service provider to help the business organize their financial documents and successfully apply.
- In addition to this large investment into the business community, X staff will be employed as a result of this initiative.
- Projections anticipate this program will be fully subscribed by DATE although may slightly change depending on the number of businesses who fully submit a completed application form and fully participate in the adjudication process.

Cabinet Confidences

- Detailed table (#s as of May 11 but will be updated before estimates)

	SMSBRG
# applications received	15,610
# applications adjudicated, approved and grant letters sent	7,872
# applications adjudicated, ineligible and ineligible letters sent	593
Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	
% applications submitted for adjudication and have all documents	30% to 50%
% who submit inaccurate banking information (personal bank accounts, incorrect numbers)	40%

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Ideal timelines with complete and accurate submissions	4 to 6 weeks
Current queue to be assigned to an adjudicator	3 weeks
Advice/Recommendations	
# of files processed per week*	825
Timeline to pay grants once correct banking information established and supplier account created	6 business days
Industries supported	Retail, accommodation, fitness, transportation, personal services
% complaints of all files coming through MLA and MO (500 to date)	1.6%
Top reasons for decline of files	1) Incomplete information including taxes not completed 2) Negative cash flow pre-covid 3) Majority ownership not in BC

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- *Budget 2021* includes allocating \$195 million in 2021/22 to extend the program to the end of August 2021 or until the funds are fully committed.
- In total, the budget for the program remains \$345 million total, as committed by the Province in the Fall.

Approvals:

[date approved] - Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 18, 2021

Contact:

Elizabeth Vickery Executive Director Business Grant Program 250-217-5055

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

CIRCUIT BREAKER RELIEF GRANT – STRONGERBC

Issue: Status of Grant Approvals

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On April 6, 2021 Treasury Board approved reallocation of \$52.8 million from the Small and Medium Sized Business Recovery Grant (SMSBRG) for a Circuit Breaker Business Recovery Grant (CBBRG) to support businesses affected by the March 29, 2021 provincial Public Health Office (PHO) Order which partially or fully closed hospitality and fitness facilities.
- On April 19, 2021 the order was extended and the Province also announced their intention to introduce travel restrictions under the *Emergency Program Act* to restrict people's ability to leave their health authority and asked the tourism industry to "limit bookings" from people outside of a particular area.
- Therefore the CB program was expanded to include accommodation providers ^{Advice/Recommendation}_{Advice/Recommendations}
- The program is on track to expend the majority of the budget by the deadline of June 4, 2021.

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Details as of May 11 (will be updated before estimates)

	CB
# applications received	10,510
# applications adjudicated, approved and grant letters sent	4,177
# applications adjudicated, ineligible and ineligible letters sent	1,381
Advice/Recommendations	
% applications submitted for adjudication and have all documents	90%
% who submit inaccurate banking information (personal bank accounts, incorrect numbers)	40%
Ideal timelines with complete and accurate submissions	2 weeks
Current queue to be assigned to an adjudicator	8 business days
Advice/Recommendations	

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

# of files processed per week	4200
Timeline to pay grants once correct banking information established and supplier account created	6 business days
Sectors supported	Restaurant, fitness, accommodation

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Expenditures on track

Approvals:

[date approved] - [ADM name, division]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Elizabeth	Executive	Small & Medium	250-217-5055
Vickery	Director	Sized Business	
		Recovery Program	
		Branch	

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

BC ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Issue: B.C.'s economy is recovering, but recovery remains uneven

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C.'s employment recovery has reached 99.1 per cent of pre-pandemic levels (February 2020), the highest of the large provinces.
- B.C.'s employment is down by 23,200 compared to February 2020.
- Some groups continue to struggle; unemployment rates for Indigenous people and people of colour are notably higher than for B.C. overall.
- Net business openings have been positive since June 2020 and the number of continuing businesses have recovered to 100.3 per cent of February 2020.

Employment

- B.C.'s employment increased each month since May 2020, with the exception of April 2021, and is now at 99.1 per cent of pre-pandemic levels (-23,200 compared to February 2020).
- Industries lagging recovery include Accommodation and food services (77.5 per cent of pre-pandemic employment), Agriculture (79.8 per cent) and Construction (87.5 per cent).
- Women's employment is 99.1 per cent of pre-pandemic (-10,800 compared to February 2020).
- Men's employment is 99.1 per cent of pre-pandemic (-12,400 compared to February 2020).
- Youth (age 15-24) employment recovery is 96.5 per cent of pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels (-12,200 compared to February 2020).
- Indigenous peoples' employment recovery is 96.1 per cent of pre-pandemic levels (-4,600 compared to February 2020).

Unemployment

- The April 2021 unemployment rate for B.C. sits at 7.1 per cent, compared to 5.1 per cent in February 2020 and 13.4 per cent at the peak of the pandemic in May 2020.
- Some groups have experienced higher unemployment rates during the pandemic:
 - Women's unemployment rate is currently 6.7 per cent, below men at 7.3 per cent. Women's unemployment was above men's at the start of the pandemic until August 2020 and from January 2021 to March 2021. Its peak was 14.1 per cent in May 2020.
 - Visible minorities' unemployment is 7.7 per cent, down from 14.1 per cent in July 2020 (the first month these data are available). It is tied for lowest in Canada with Manitoba.

- Youth unemployment rate is 11.6 per cent; it's peak was 29 per cent in June 2020.
- Indigenous peoples' unemployment rate is 12.4 per cent; its peak was 18.5 per cent in July 2020.

Wages

- In 2020, B.C.'s average wages increased 7.7 per cent to \$29.76. Among provinces, B.C. continues to have the third highest average wage, behind Alberta (\$32.73) and Ontario (\$30.24).
- Lower-wage earners and industries such as Accommodation and food services and Retail were among the hardest hit by the pandemic and continue to lag recovery.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

- B.C.'s GDP growth in 2020 was -3.8 per cent, above the national average of -5.4 per cent and fourth among provinces. PEI (-3.0 per cent), Nova Scotia (-3.2 per cent) and New Brunswick (-3.7 per cent) led the provinces.
- The major banks expect B.C. GDP to grow 5.9 per cent in 2021; the Conference Board of Canada forecasts 4.9 per cent B.C. GDP growth in 2021.

Exports

- Compared to February 2020, exports are up 27.2 per cent (March 2021), led by increases in forestry products and building materials, and metal and non-metallic mineral products.
- In 2020, goods exports were \$40 billion, down 8 per cent from 2019.
- Although total goods exports decreased in 2020, price growth resulted in higher export values for: copper (+16.8 per cent), lumber (+14.2 per cent) and agriculture and food products (+7.5 per cent).

Business Activity

- Statistics Canada developed an experimental data series to track business openings and closures, as well as active and continuing businesses.
- At the pandemic peak, business closures in B.C. reached almost 17,000 (April 2020);
- Net business openings in B.C. have been positive since June 2020.
- As of January 2021, B.C. recovered 100.3 per cent of continuing businesses compared to February 2020. Continuing businesses have employees in both the current and previous periods.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

Last Updated: May 20, 2021

Contact:

Angelo Cocco	Executive Director	Economic and Regulatory Analysis	778-698-1684
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

BETTER REGULATIONS FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS INITIATIVES

Issue: B.C.'s Regulatory Reform Policy and Count, Net Zero Increase Commitment, Legislated Annual Report and Annual Amendment Package

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C.'s approach to regulatory reform, referred to as Better Regulations for British Columbians, consists of cross-government efforts to develop and maintain modern and streamlined policy, regulation and services that work for people and businesses.
- The Regulatory Reform Policy operationalizes regulatory reform through the Regulatory Requirements Count, Regulatory Impact Checklist, Net Zero Commitment, Annual Report and the Better Regulations for British Columbians Annual Amendment Package.
- Key stakeholder Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) issues a Red Tape Report Card each year that compares provincial regulatory reform efforts. B.C. received an A- in 2021, ranking fifth overall. B.C. ranked first in the assessment from 2011-2016, with other provinces (e.g., Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, and Nova Scotia) moving ahead of B.C. in recent years.

Regulatory Requirements Count and Regulatory Impact Checklist

- The Regulatory Requirements Count was established in 2001 to measure and reduce burden on B.C. businesses and people.
- The Regulatory Impact Checklist supports the assessment of regulatory impacts and is required under the Regulatory Reform Policy for new or amended legislation, regulation, policy, or forms. It also captures impacts to the Regulatory Requirements Count.

Net Zero Commitment

- The Net Zero Increase (NZI) commitment pledges to keep the Regulatory Requirements Count below the baseline established in 2004.
- This commitment has been renewed every three years and will expire in 2022.
- The Regulatory Requirements Count for 2019/2020 was 167,635, which is 15 per cent below the 2004 baseline.
- The count fluctuates regularly due to new and amended legislation and regulation; it has remained well below the 2004 baseline since it was established.

Annual Report

- As per the *Regulatory Reporting Act*, the Better Regulations for British Columbians Annual report is released by June 30th of each year.
- The Annual Report provides an update of the regulatory requirements count.
- It also profiles stories of regulatory and service improvement from across government.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Better Regulations for British Columbians Annual Amendment Package

- The annual Better Regulations for British Columbians (BR4BC) regulatory amendment package combines small regulatory changes from across government. It uses a streamlined amendment process led by JERI to modernize B.C.'s regulatory framework.
- Approved changes are enacted on or close to the first Wednesday of March to coincide with Red Tape Reduction Day.
- Over 165 amendments have been made throughout the program's six cycles.
- Alongside 17 standard amendments, the March 2021 package replaced 600 instances of gendered language with more inclusive alternatives in 70 regulations across 15 ministries.
- Public perception of the gendered language amendment initiative was positive, with tweets, articles, and other media coverage in response to B.C.'s news release.
- The BR4BC process will continue to be used to ensure that language is inclusive, accessible and aligned with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

Other Regulatory Reform Initiatives

- The Business and Economic Implications Framework was implemented in late 2018 using a similar approach to the Regulatory Impact Checklist. All legislative and regulatory proposals must contain an analysis of the costs, benefits, and net overall implications to businesses and the economy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation Division

Last Updated: May 20, 2021

Contact:

Angelo Cocco Executive Director Economic and Regulatory 778-698-1708
Analysis Branch

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

DISCOVERY ISLANDS/FISH FARMS – ECONOMIC IMPACT

Issue: Impacts of Canada's Decision on Discovery Island Salmon Farms

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The phase out of the Salmon farms in the Discovery Islands archipelago near Campbell River is expected by the end of June 2022. Federal minister Jordan said the decision was largely a result of overwhelming opposition to the farms expressed by the region's seven First Nations.
- The impacts are immediate due to no new salmon stocks being added to the facilities; the destruction of young salmon has already started, and workers are being laid off.
- Canada's decision has wide-ranging impacts, including: First Nations, coastal communities and families and the broader business community. It took this action without any consultation with the local governments or the businesses which will be impacted.
- In the 2018 Broughton process, the Province initiated consultation with the federal government, Indigenous communities, industry, and others to find collaborative solutions. This process created a pathway for the federal government, given their lead responsibility for salmon aquaculture; Canada did not follow this model for the Discovery Islands.

Company Impacts

- 19 salmon farming operations are impacted, including 220 direct salmon farm employees, along with 470 people who work for companies that supply goods and services to the industry
- Mowi Canada, the largest operator in the region, said in a media report that its 15 affected farms represent 645 jobs and 30 per cent of the company's operations in B.C.
- Cermaq Canada has three farms that are impacted, representing 21 jobs and about 20 per cent of Cermaq Canada's overall production.
- Grieg Seafood has one impacted farm, of its total of 20 farms in B.C. Overall they employ 180 in B.C.
- Operators Mowi Canada, Cermaq Canada, Grieg Seafood and Saltstream Engineering have applied separately to the Federal Court of Canada for judicial reviews of the decision.

Community Impacts

- North Island Communities have expressed concern, citing that salmon farming is one of the most significant local employers for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and provides jobs in other industries, such as transportation, fish processing, scientific research, and hatcheries.
- Anticipated impacts are:
 - Up to 1,500 jobs impacted, including 220 direct salmon farm employees, and 470 who work for companies that supply goods and services to the industry.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Average salaries in the industry are \$79,000 in an area where median income is \$35,000.
- Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
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Provincial Response to DFO's Decision

Advice/Recommendations; Legal Information; Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

Intergovernmental Communications

- We have met with impacted stakeholders: January 8, 2021 - North Island Mayors; January 12, 2021 - The BC Salmon Farmers Association; January 29, 2021 - Indigenous Leaders.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation Division

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 24, 2021

Contact:

Angelo Cocco Executive Director Economic and Regulatory 778-698-1684
Analysis branch



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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

COVID Restart Plan

Issue: B.C. needs a plan to safely re-open the economy and lift restrictions following increasing vaccinations and decreasing COVID-19 cases.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In early 2020, COVID-19 emerged as an unknown, highly transmissible respiratory pathogen able to cause moderate to severe illness and death across the population.
- A state of emergency was declared and temporary restrictions were imposed to limit infection and deaths and ease the burden on B.C.'s health care system.
- These measures have had significant impacts on the social and economic health of British Columbians, and were always intended to be temporary.
- Increasing rates of vaccination and decreasing rates of illness now permit B.C. to gradually lift these restrictions and re-open the economy.

Vaccines

- Safe and effective vaccines reduce the individual risks associated with COVID-19 and change COVID-19 from a public health emergency to a manageable, communicable disease that persists in our society (e.g., the seasonal flu).
- Increasing rates of vaccination in B.C. have changed the risk profile of COVID-19 and numerous activities and behaviours that were previously restricted during the pandemic.

Restart Plan

- Lifting restrictions is important for the economic and social well-being of British Columbians.
- A phased restart plan allows B.C. to transition out of the state of emergency, rescind health orders, and gradually re-open while monitoring key COVID-19 metrics and allowing time for further vaccination progress.
- This plan is an all-of-government approach that applies to the entire province.
- A clear plan can incentivize vaccination and help the public to adjust expectations and risk assessments as the COVID-19 situation evolves.
- Many existing COVID-19 safety protocols will remain in place throughout the restart plan and will be adjusted when appropriate based on public health guidance.

Current Phase of Restart

- Following the end of the May Long Weekend, B.C. moved into the second of four restart phases. This phase includes:
 - Removal of intra-provincial and inter-province travel restrictions;
 - Reduction of restrictions on private and public social gatherings, including at restaurants, events, religious services and cinemas and theatres;
 - Resumption of individual and group sports and indoor fitness activities; and
 - Removal of visiting limitations to long-term care and assisted living facilities.
- During this phase, strict safety protocols and plans will still be required of many businesses.
- The timing of the subsequent two phases of the restart plan will depend on a number of variables including case rates, hospitalizations and vaccinations.

Lessons Learned

- The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted pre-existing challenges and inequalities in our society and efforts are being made to address these as we move forward with recovery. Examples include:
 - An emphasis on enhanced care for older adults, particularly in long-term care homes;
 - The significant role that high-quality, affordable childcare has on our economy and the well-being of British Columbians;
 - A focus on better internet connectivity to rural communities, to promote inclusion and better connect people to services and information;
 - Leveraging technology to modernize how we do business and deliver services, including virtual appointments, digital signatures, teleworking, and increasing e-commerce opportunities for small businesses.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Angelo Cocco

Executive Director

Economic and Regulatory Analysis 778-698-1684

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INNOVATION COMMISSIONER

Issue: Innovation Commissioner Role and Appointment Status

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Dr. Gerri Sinclair was appointed as B.C.'s second Innovation Commissioner on July 15, 2020, by Order in Council for a one-year term.
- As the provincial champion for technology and innovation, the Innovation Commissioner facilitates partnerships and promotes innovation across all sectors of the economy.
- The role was created in 2018 to fulfil a commitment under the Confidence and Supply Agreement (CASA) between the B.C. New Democratic Party and the B.C. Green Party.
- Since her appointment, Dr. Sinclair has been meeting with key stakeholders and reviewing findings from recent tech industry recovery roundtables to advise on and help implement innovation-related initiatives as part of Government's larger COVID-19 recovery efforts.
- Dr. Sinclair is recognized for her incredible skill set and breadth of experience in senior leadership positions in the investment capital, digital media, and information technology fields. She is also the recipient of numerous awards as a leading woman in technology.
- The Minister's 2021/22 Mandate Letter directs him to "work with B.C.'s Innovation Commissioner to lead investment in innovation clusters, with a focus on emerging industries where B.C. companies have developed the early lead – such as life sciences, emergency management technology, engineered wood, clean tech, artificial intelligence, and quantum and virtual reality technologies."
- In coordination with Parliamentary Secretary Bailey and the new Innovate BC Board Chair, Dr. Sinclair is taking a leadership role in stakeholder engagement that is getting underway to support government's refreshed approach to economic recovery and tech and innovation.
- Dr. Sinclair's term as Innovation Commissioner ends on July 17, 2021.
- A decision regarding the continuation of the Innovation Commissioner role and appointment for another one-year term will be required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- The salary and operating costs for the Innovation Commissioner are supported by the Investment and Innovation's divisional budget of \$11.198 million.

Approvals:

[date approved] – ADM Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – Brian Urquhart, FSB

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Maija Duffy A/Executive Director Planning and Innovation 250 507-0685



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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

QUANTUM ALGORITHMS INSTITUTE

Issue: The B.C. Government's funding of the Quantum Algorithms Institute

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Quantum Algorithms Institute will make the Province an innovation centre for one of the world's most pivotal emerging technologies.
- B.C. has an emerging quantum computing ecosystem with companies that have significant potential to become global leaders in applying quantum computing technology to commercial applications.
- The Institute will help grow B.C.'s quantum computing capabilities by:
 - Developing a B.C.-based talent pool that will be the basis for growing B.C.'s quantum computing cluster, attracting investment and supporting the growth of B.C.-based companies.
 - Assist B.C.'s quantum computing cluster to advance the commercialization of quantum computing technologies which will make B.C. a world leader in this area.
- Students will be able to obtain post-secondary qualifications in quantum computing, gain access to many types of quantum hardware and software, conduct applied research and capitalize on opportunities for commercialization.
- It will also assist in attracting and retaining world leading quantum talent.
- The Institute will be based at Simon Fraser University's (SFU) Surrey campus and have connections to other B.C. post-secondary institutes. COVID-19 has delayed establishing operations in the physical space, and the Institute has been operating virtually for its first year.
- Positioning Surrey as a hub for technology will create affordable, live-near-work opportunities and support distributed job growth throughout region.
- The Institute was established on March 31, 2020 as an independent not-for-profit corporation.
- The first members that have joined the Institute to-date are: D-Wave, 1Qbit, Photonic, IBM, Microsoft, Amazon Web Services, SFU, University of British Columbia (UBC) University of Victoria (UVic) and B.C. Government.



- The members have committed over \$2 million annually in cash and in-kind contributions to the Institute.

Why Quantum Computing – Context

- Quantum computing represents the next major evolution of computing capability. While still pre-commercial, there is consensus that quantum computing holds the possibility of solving incredibly complex problems faster and with less energy than classical computers.
- It is also expected to be able to solve problems that are too complex for even today's super computers.
- Experts believe that quantum computing will have applications in nearly every sector, including cybersecurity, mining, communications, healthcare, biology, chemistry and optimization problems that involve huge and complex data sets.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- B.C. Government is allocating up to \$17 million over five years to establish the institute, with \$4 million to be provided in 2021/22, subject to available budget appropriation and review of future funding proposals from the Institute.

Approvals:

[date approved] – Christine Little, Small Business Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – Brian Urquhart, FSB

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Maija Duffy A/Executive Director Planning & Innovation 250 507-0685



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

DIGITAL MARKETING - STRONGERBC

Issue: Consumer preferences have changed during the pandemic leading to a doubling in online sales. Recognizing businesses are already facing challenges and pressures, the Province is helping B.C. businesses move to online sales so they can connect with local and global customers while supporting public health objectives.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Public health orders have placed more conditions on businesses that impact consumers' experiences. This includes changes such as waiting in line, doing curbside pick up or pre-booking appointments to visit a business.
- Many consumers are trying to limit the risk of exposure by using online tools and resources to do research, book appointments and purchase services.
- These changes led to an increase in online tools utilization. For example, e-commerce grew by more than 70 per cent in Canada in 2020 as a result of the pandemic, while service based businesses are rapidly using things like scheduling tools.
- JERI has been supporting the shift to e-commerce through two primary initiatives; the Digital Marketing Bootcamp program, which was expanded from a pilot program and Launch Online Grant program, which is a new initiative under StrongerBC.

Digital Marketing Bootcamps

- In 2019, JERI worked with the Alacrity Foundation and industry to develop and pilot a 12-week digital marketing bootcamp addressing talent and capability gaps in B.C.
- The first pilot was delivered in fall 2019, followed by a second in winter 2020. The pilots included businesses, under-represented peoples and people already working in the field who wanted to improve their skills. The pilot also tested classroom and virtual delivery.
- The 2019 pilot resulted in a 85 per cent job placement rate within one month of completion.
- The summer 2020 delivery (10 weeks) had a 43 per cent worker placement rate within three months of completion.
 - The average wage reported by participants upon completion was \$58K per year.
 - 75 per cent of participating businesses reported seeing a demonstrable increase in digital sales,
 - 84 per cent reported a demonstrable increase in market reach,
 - 56 per cent reported an increase in revenue from online sales, and
 - 100 per cent would recommend the program to another business.
- The initial pilots represented a \$500K investment by the Province and trained nearly 500 businesses and workers representing a cost of \$1,000 per participant.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- The program was expanded under StrongerBC and relaunched in November 2020 providing an 8-week training program. The program has now skilled 3,200 participants from B.C. Businesses (the original target was 2,500 businesses).
- Due to positive feedback and ongoing demand, JERI is supporting continued delivery of the bootcamps.
- Course content has been made available at no cost to all B.C. businesses through a self-directed online platform. This piece of work was covered under the StrongerBC funding.

Launch Online:

- The Launch Online Grant program provides funds to B.C.'s small and medium sized businesses that need to build or improve their e-commerce tools and supports.
- The Program is administered by Alacrity Canada in partnership with South Island Prosperity Project, the successful proponents on a RFP.
- The program launched Feb 3, 2021 began by supporting businesses selling tangible goods and was expanded on March 17th, to include service-based businesses.
- Launch Online Grant program provides up to \$7,500 in grant funding to eligible businesses. Businesses must fund 25 per cent of the project costs. 25 per cent of the funding was originally ear-marked for regional and Indigenous businesses but this was extended to 30 per cent on March 17th as part of the program expansion.
- Eligible expenses include:
 - Service provider costs – these expenses must be to B.C.-based businesses, registered to do business in B.C.;
 - Digital marketing costs, such as Facebook ads, search engine optimization costs and platform subscription costs; and
 - Course fees for staff training related to the management of the online operations and/or digital marketing.
- Businesses receiving the grant must use the funding to hire B.C.-based businesses to do any work for them, ensuring the bulk of the funding remains in B.C. and provides an economic multiplier effect that supports businesses and job creation.
- Over 6,500 applications have been received and 1,379 businesses have received \$9.33 million in funding (as of May 14, 2021).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

Digital Marketing Bootcamp

- In 2020/21, \$250,000 was allocated from JERI's based budget to deliver the program during summer 2020 to 250 businesses. A further \$2 million was allocated from StrongerBC to train 2,500 participants from B.C.'s small and medium sized businesses and to develop a self-directed online course that will be available to all B.C.-based businesses.
- A further \$2.5 million was allocated from the Ministry base budget in 20/21 to continue to offer the training for a further 3,450 business participants over fiscal year 21/22.

Launch Online



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- \$12 million through original StrongerBC programming extended to \$42 million total on March 17th.

Approvals:

[date approved] - James Harvey, ADM, Investment and Innovation

[date approved] – Brian Urquhart, CFO FSB

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Nathan Nankivell	Executive Director	Innovation Strategy, Policy and Coordination	(250) 217-5395
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INNOVATE BC BOARD CHAIR APPOINTMENT

Issue: Appointment of Andrew Petter as Innovate BC Board Chair

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On March 19, 2021, Andrew Petter was appointed by Order in Council as Innovate BC's new Board Chair for a two-year term.
- Government recognizes and thanks the outgoing Innovate BC Board Chair, Dr. Alan Shaver, for his leadership over the past three years.
- Andrew Petter is a visionary leader who will be instrumental in helping Innovate BC support entrepreneurs to launch and commercialize technologies, while generating jobs and economic growth in the province.
- Andrew Petter has more than two decades of academic leadership at Simon Fraser University (SFU) and the University of Victoria. He was SFU's president and vice-chancellor from 2010 to 2020 and he is currently a professor in its School of Public Policy.
- Andrew Petter brings a deep knowledge of government from his decade working as an MLA from 1991 to 2001, serving in multiple cabinet positions, including Advanced Education, Training and Technology, and Finance and Corporate Relations.
- See attached Board member biographies.

Innovate BC Board of Directors:

Name	Position	Appointment Date	Term Expiry
Jack Chang	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Lesley Elizabeth Esford	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Michael James Fergusson	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Catherine Suzanne Gill	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Stephen David Krysko	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Elicia Maine	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Gail Cecile Murphy	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Andrew Petter	Chair	19-Mar-21	15-May-23
Thomas Wolfgang Roemer	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Gerri Sinclair	Director	17-July-20	17-July-21
Benjamin Stuart Sparrow	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Donald Raymond Stuckert	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Denise Marie Williams	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] – James Harvey, ADM, Innovation and Investment Division

[date approved] – Brian Urquhart, CFO, FSB

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Maija Duffy A/Executive Director Planning and Innovation 250 507-0685

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Biographies – Innovate BC Board of Directors



Andrew Petter, Chair, Board of Directors, Innovate BC

Andrew Petter, C.M., Q.C., is President Emeritus of Simon Fraser University (SFU) and a professor in its School of Public Policy. Prior to joining SFU, he was a professor in the Faculty of Law of the University of Victoria where he served as dean from 2001 to 2008. From 1991 to 2001, he served as a British Columbia MLA and held numerous cabinet portfolios including Advanced Education, Training and Technology, Intergovernmental Relations and Attorney General.

As SFU President from 2010 to 2020, Andrew Petter oversaw the implementation of a Strategic Vision that distinguished SFU as “Canada’s engaged university defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting edge research and far-reaching community engagement.” Under his leadership, SFU was named Canada’s top comprehensive university in the Maclean’s Rankings for nine of ten years, and was ranked first in the world in the 2020 Times Higher Education’s Impact Rankings for its impact on sustainable cities and communities.

Among his honours, Andrew Petter received Public Policy Forum’s 2018 Peter Lougheed Award for Leadership in Public Policy, and in the following year was inducted into the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to public policy and his leadership in advancing university-community engagement and higher education in Canada.



Jack Chang, Partner, Fort Capital Partners

Jack Chang is a Partner of Fort Capital, specializing in industrial and clean technologies, and covers outbound investment and M&A transactions from Greater China. He is also a Canada Representative with Zhongguancun Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (ZVCA). Mr. Chang formerly served as a Director of Corvus Energy, and Empire Industries Ltd. Previously, he founded Canadian Resources Capital Corporation, an Exempt Market Dealer registered with various securities commissions across Canada.

Jack Chang is a CFA Charterholder from CFA Institute and certified Financial Risk Manager with Global Association of Risk Professionals. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration, specializing in Finance, Marketing and Economics from Simon Fraser University.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon



Dr. Lesley Esford, Kauffman Fellow

Dr. Esford received her PhD in microbiology and immunology from UBC, and has spent many years in academia, industry and government in positions supporting the growth of the life-sciences sector. She is a Kauffman Fellow, which is a Silicon Valley-based international leadership program for venture capitalists and innovators.



Michael Fergusson, CEO + Founder, Ayogo

For his work as a health-tech innovator, Michael Fergusson was Ernst & Young's Social Entrepreneur of the Year, and was recently named to the PharmaVOICE 100, a peer-nominated list of the 100 most inspiring people in life sciences. Ayogo has won many awards for its innovative use of behavioural science and service design to empower patients to better health outcomes and higher quality of life.



Suzanne Gill, Vice President, Government Relations & Public Affairs, Canada's Digital Technology Supercluster

Suzanne Gill brings over 18 years of experience in research management and the not-for-profit sector, catalyzing and coordinating public-private partnerships. As the Digital Technology Supercluster's Vice President, Government Relations and Public Affairs, she is responsible for helping to share, guide and build essential relationships including public, academic and government stakeholders. She also leads the development and launch of the Supercluster's inaugural Capacity Building Pilot Program aimed at connecting employers to job ready digital talent.

Prior to joining the Supercluster, Suzanne Gill was at Genome BC for over a decade and held the role of Vice President, Corporate Development, responsible for corporate strategy, corporate performance management and government relations. She moved to B.C. following her work at the Ontario Genomics Institute, where she was responsible for oversight of the more than \$300 million research portfolio during the time the organization scaled up from startup mode to full operations.

She holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business at York University in Toronto and a MSc degree from UBC.



Dave Krysko, Co-founder, Club Penguin + Entrepreneur in Residence, Okanagan College

In 2005, along with two other New Horizon Production staff, Dave Krysko co-founded Club Penguin, an online virtual world for kids. The Walt Disney

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Company was so impressed with Club Penguin that in 2007, it purchased the company outright for \$350 million. He left the company as senior vice-president in 2010, and started Davara Enterprises to focus on developing a wide range of culture-making enterprises.



Dr. Gail Murphy, Professor and Vice President, Research and Innovation, University of British Columbia

A leading researcher on software evolution and tools, Dr. Murphy provides extensive experience as a software developer and principal investigator of a large research group. In recognition of her research, she has received several international awards. Dr. Murphy was also elected to be a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. This fellowship is the highest academic accolade in the sciences, humanities and arts bestowed in Canada.



Dr. Elicia Maine, Special Advisor on Innovation to the Vice-President Research at Simon Fraser University

Dr. Elicia Maine is the W.J. VanDusen Professor of Innovation & Entrepreneurship at the Beedie School of Business, Academic Director of the Invention to Innovation (i2I) Program, and Special Advisor on Innovation to the VPRI at Simon Fraser University. Within the SFU VPRI, she has oversight of the SFU Innovates strategy, including the new TLO.

Her research interests are in technological innovation, science & technology entrepreneurship, and the translation of inventions from university research labs. Professor Maine was the founding educational coordinator for New Ventures BC, was awarded the 2017 TD/Canada Trust Distinguished Teaching Award, and was recognized as one of B.C.'s Most Influential Women 2018: STEM Stars. She serves on the Boards of Directors of the Foresight Cleantech Accelerator, the Composites Knowledge Network and Innovate BC, and is actively involved in innovation initiatives and in mentoring scientist-entrepreneurs.

An interdisciplinary scholar and engaged educator, she holds a PhD in Technology Management & Materials Engineering from the University of Cambridge, Master's degrees in Technology & Policy and Materials Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a BSc in Materials Engineering from Queen's University.



Dr. Tom Roemer, Vice President, Academic, B.C. Institute of Technology

Dr. Roemer was appointed vice-president academic at BCIT in January 2016. He is also adjunct professor in SFU's faculty of education. He was previously vice-president of strategic development at Camosun College. Dr. Roemer has a

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
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strong interest in trades and technology education, is experienced in economic development and has worked in Brazil, Germany, China and Africa.



Dr. Gerri Sinclair, Innovation Commissioner

Dr. Gerri Sinclair is currently the B.C. Innovation Commissioner. She was formerly Managing Director at Kensington Capital Partners, managing the \$100M BC Technology fund and \$91M BC Renaissance Fund on behalf of the Province of British Columbia.

Her cross-domain career includes more than 25 years' experience spanning the fields of Internet, mobile and digital media technologies, entrepreneurial business, commercialization of research, and government policy. She has also served as a Director on the Boards of numerous public and private companies and organizations.



Ben Sparrow, CEO + Co-founder, Saltworks Technologies

Ben Sparrow grew desalination company Saltworks from a small machine in his apartment, to a profitable firm with two factories and global customers, including many Fortune 100 companies. He was previously a senior project manager for BC Hydro rebuilding power stations. He completed his MBA at

SFU and his BSc in mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta.



Don Stuckert, Principal, Dstuckert + Associates

A technology executive, Don Stuckert has more than 35 years of business and technology leadership experience throughout North America. He has held executive positions in a broad range of industries, and worked for Placer Dome, TELUS, Sierra Systems and Systemhouse, and is a former vice-president and chief information officer at BC Hydro.



Denise Williams, Executive Director, First Nations Technology Council

At the intersection of Indigenous sovereignty, technological advancement and a rapidly expanding technology and innovation economy, in demand of new ideas and new skills, Denise Williams works with Indigenous peoples, governments, academics, technology futurists and social change makers to map the ecosystem that will result in fair and equitable access to the tools and education required for success in the digital age. She leads a theory of change that will not only ensure Indigenous peoples are competitive in B.C.'s technology and innovation sector, but leading in unprecedented ways and growing local digital economies.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
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Denise Williams proudly serves as the President of the Urban Native Youth Association, advisor on innovation to the Governor General of Canada, Status of Women Canada's Indigenous Women's Circle, First Mile Connectivity Consortium board member, Vancouver Economic Commission board of directors and on the Simon Fraser University Board of Governors as Alumni-in-Order, where she earned her masters degree in business administration in 2015.

2021/22 Estimates Note Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SOUTHERN INTERIOR DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TRUST

Issue: Updates to the Economic Trust of the Southern Interior (ETSI-BC), formerly known as Southern Interior Development Initiatives Trust (SIDIT).

KEY FACTS

- In spring 2018, we first heard concerns being expressed by Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT) clients and stakeholders. Ministry staff have been working with the SIDIT board and staff over the past 3 years to support their resolution of the issues.
- The Ministry supports regional economic and business development throughout the province, and we acknowledge the concerns that have come to us.
- The SIDIT board elected a new Chair and Vice Chair in June 2019, and we've appreciated their engagement and active involvement.
- Laurel Douglas, former CEO of the Women's Enterprise Centre, was appointed the new CEO of SIDIT effective May 4, 2020.
- SIDIT has rebranded and is now known as the Economic Trust of the Southern Interior (ETSI-BC). The Trust worked with key stakeholder groups to implement changes that will benefit their service region.
- In the summer of 2020, ETSI-BC carried out 15 consultations with diverse groups of stakeholders and conducted a survey to explore the region's economic development needs, opportunities, and how the Trust can contribute to these. Over 400 stakeholders participated in the process.
- Along with a continued effort to collect or write-off outstanding loans owed to the Trust, the major changes to the Trust include new strategic pillars, a new funding model and streams, new online funding application portal, and new branding and website.

Background/Status:

- The Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT) was established by government in 2006 through the *Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust Act* and a \$50 million infusion.
- An independent regional economic development corporation focused on stimulating economic growth and job creation, the Trust provides grants to community projects, scholarships to students and loans to eligible businesses in a range of sectors.
- SIDIT's mandated region in southern and eastern B.C. is bounded by the United States border to the south, the Alberta border to the east, Hope to the west and Blue River to the north and includes many rural and remote communities, as well as urban areas such as Kelowna and Kamloops.

- In spring 2018, Ministry staff started hearing directly from SIDIT clients, MLAs, mayors and councillors, economic development practitioners, former staff and contractors of SIDIT, regarding concerns with the Trust's approach to collecting on investments (they updated their loan procedures and guidelines in March 2018).
- The Ministry hired an independent expert (Simplex Management Consulting Ltd.), who conducted a limited review starting in October 2018 of the Trust's standard operating procedures relating to loan approvals and monitoring and made recommendations in support of its core objectives and long-term sustainability.
- The report and its recommendations were sent to the SIDIT Board of Directors for their consideration.
- According to SIDIT's 2020 Annual Report, in fiscal year 2019/20 the Trust disbursed \$1.03 million in grants and loans, created 217 jobs (based on proponent reporting) and provided \$204,000 in bursaries and scholarships to students.
- Since inception in 2006 and as of March 31, 2020, the Trust has maintained \$46.8 million of the original \$50 million, invested \$63.9 million in projects worth almost \$249 million and created and preserved over 3,620 jobs in the region.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- N/A

Attachments: Appendix 1 – List of ETSI-BC Board Members

Approvals:

[date approved] – Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 16, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs & Engagement Branch	250 361-5571
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2021/22 Estimates Note Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – List of ETSI-BC Board Members

** denotes government appointee*

- Chris Pieper – Board Chair (Mayor of Armstrong)
- Philip Barker* - Vice-Chair (UBC-Okanagan, resident of Kelowna)
- Sharon Shepherd* - Director (former Mayor of Kelowna)
- Peggy DeVries* (CFP, resident of Nelson)
- Robert Fine* (Economic Development, City of Kelowna)
- Tanya Wall – Director Area B (Regional District of Central Kootenay)
- Sue McKortoff (Mayor of Osoyoos)
- Diana Lockwood (Mayor of Salmo)
- Linda Brown (Mayor of Merritt)
- Terry Rysz (Mayor of Sicamous)

All government appointed members have expiry dates of August 27, 2021.
Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

2021/22 Estimates Note Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

ISLAND COSTAL ECONOMIC TRUST

Issue: Expansion of the Island Coastal Economic Trust's (ICET) service area to include the Capital Regional District (CRD) electoral areas.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Government values the contributions that the regional economic trusts have made to their regional economies in the years since their inception, including job creation, economic stimulation and diversification.
- Over the past two plus years, staff at JERI engaged with ICET, consulted with stakeholders and Indigenous groups and organizations to explore the implications of a possible regulation change to expand their service area to include the three electoral areas within the CRD: Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands.
- This followed several requests from various stakeholders that consideration be given for the CRD electoral areas to be included in the Island Coastal Economic Trust.
- Two Order-in-Councils were approved on September 20, 2020 and February 16, 2021 to amend North Island-Coast Development Initiative Trust Regions Regulation (B.C. Reg. 34/2006). The amendments add the Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island, and the Southern Gulf Islands electoral areas to ICET's service area.
- We have committed to working with ICET to ensure the change will enable a smooth transition, taking into account their operational requirements.
- The Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) was created by the Province in 2006 through the *North Island-Coast Development Initiative Trust Act* (the Act) and an original funding allocation of \$50 million, increased in fiscal year 2017/18 by an additional \$10 million.
- As part of the \$10 million contribution agreement, ICET committed to developing an expenditure plan for the \$10 million which disburses this amount over a minimum of 4 years, and to raise funds in addition to the Provincial contribution to support ICET's long term sustainability.



- An independent regional economic development corporation focused on stimulating economic growth and job creation, ICET supports economic development and capacity building initiatives in a range of sectors on central and northern Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast.
- Since inception in 2006 and as of March 31, 2020, ICET has invested over \$52 million in 225 projects, working in partnership with over 150 organizations involved in the regional economic diversification ecosystem. These investments have leveraged more than \$245 million into the region, or \$4.62 for every dollar of ICET funding, and created 2,550 construction-phase jobs and 2,700 long-term jobs. In addition, more than 35 per cent of funding has gone to communities with less than 5,000 people.
- In 2018, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) made the decision to designate as rural the three CRD electoral areas of Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and the Southern Gulf Islands for purposes of eligibility for provincial and federal funding programs.
- MUNI found the CRD electoral areas experience reduced services compared to their urban neighbours, have a lack of a capacity to compile general revenue funds to cover the costs of core services and amenities and face challenges in developing their economies. They therefore have a greater need for government grant funding programs.
- Following these changes and responding to various requests from stakeholders, ICET's regulation was amended to add the Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island and Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas of the Capital Regional District to the ICET service area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- No new resources accompanied this change to the regulation.

Attachments: Appendix 1 – List of ICET Board Members

Approvals:

[date approved] – Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 16, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs and Engagement Branch	250 361-571
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2021/22 Estimates Note Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – List of ICET Board Members

CEO: Line Robert

** denotes government appointee*

- Aaron Stone – Chair (Mayor of Ladysmith)
- Ian Morrison – Vice-Chair (Cowichan Valley RD, F-Cowichan Lake south)
- John Jack – Chair (Member of Council for Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Alberni-Clayoquot RD)
- Megan Hanacek* - Treasurer (resident of Port McNeill)
- Dana Thorne* - Secretary (Cowichan Tribes)
- Barry O'Neill* (former President of CUPE BC, resident of Lantzville)
- Roger Kishi* (resident of Cumberland)
- John Elliott* (Stz'uminus First Nation, Ladysmith)
- Jesse Ketler (Comox Valley Regional District)
- Michelle Staples (Mayor of Duncan)
- Al Siebring (Mayor of North Cowichan)
- Darnelda Siegers (Mayor of Sechelt)

All government appointed members have expiry dates of August 27, 2021.^{Advice/Recommendations}
^{Advice/Recommendations}



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT COUNCIL

Issue: Realizing economic reconciliation and well-being for Indigenous Peoples in B.C.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

Current activities at the staff level include:

- IBICs website and social media channels are communicating information on Covid 19 Pandemic recovery programs and initiatives through the Covid-19 Resource Directory to the Indigenous business and economic development community;
- IBIC has engaged its broader network of Indigenous business, industry and business support organizations to provide critical and timely feedback on the efficacy of provincial programs and initiatives in support for Covid 19 Pandemic recovery;
- IBIC is collaborating with the Ministry of Citizen Services and Indigenous organizations on the Indigenous Business Listings to support access to procurement opportunities and increase the number of Indigenous companies listed.

Established in 2011, IBIC is an advisory council to the Minister.

The vision of IBIC is to realize economic reconciliation and well-being for Indigenous peoples in British Columbia. The purpose of IBIC is to advise the Minister and Government on actions, strategies, issues and opportunities pertaining to the advancement of economic development for Indigenous peoples and communities, and Indigenous and industry collaboration. Since its inception, IBIC's primary activities have been policy advice, education, and relationship-building.

IBIC's current mandate is to encourage and support economic growth by:

- Increasing Indigenous peoples' participation in the economy;
- Promoting Indigenous business and entrepreneurs;
- Inspiring industry and Indigenous partnership towards increased investment and economic activity; and
- Creating sustainable pathways forward for all British Columbians.

The activities of IBIC have resulted in a significantly increased level of awareness of the need for reconciliation in the investment and business community and has generated goodwill among Indigenous, industry and government leaders.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - [ADM name, division]

Last Updated: March 17, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs and Engagement	250 361-5571
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TRUST

Issue: Background and status of the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT)

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) was created by the Government of B.C. in 2004 through the *Northern Development Initiative Trust Act* (the Act).
- NDIT received an allocation of \$135 million in 2005 from the proceeds of the sale of BC Rail and a further \$50 million from the Province in 2006.
- NDIT supports economic development initiatives in central and northern British Columbia.
- NDIT is guided by a Board of Directors and four Regional Advisory Committees (RACs), which include dozens of locally elected officials and MLAs. The Board includes eight members elected by the RACs and five members appointed by Order in Council.
- NDIT is an independent regional economic development corporation focused on stimulating economic growth and job creation in central and northern British Columbia in the following key sectors: Agriculture; Economic Development; Energy; Forestry; Mining; Pine Beetle Recovery; Small Business; Tourism; and Transportation.
- NDIT provides direct funding to communities for economic development through a diverse range of programs. Since inception in 2005, and as of December 31, 2020, NDIT reports that its Board has approved \$308 million in funding committed to 4,203 projects, \$160 million of it stemming from Trust funds and the remaining \$148 million from funds managed by NDIT on behalf of third-party partners.

Advice/Recommendations

- At the outset of COVID-19, NDIT rapidly responded to the changing dynamics by introducing new programs (e.g. regional business advisors) and altering existing programs to better suit the business and community conditions on the ground during the early days of the pandemic.
- NDIT has recently completed their five year legislative review of the Act. Ministry staff are reviewing the report and will provide analysis on their findings in the coming weeks.
- NDIT currently contracts with government and other agencies to manage and administer funds. A list of current partner programs is provided (Appendix 2).

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- N/A

Attachments: Appendix 1 – List of NDIT Board Members
Appendix 2 – List of Current Partner Programs

Approvals:

[date approved] – Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs and Engagement branch	250 361-5571
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – List of NDI Board Members

CEO: Joel McKay

** denotes government appointee*

- Margo Wagner – Chair (Cariboo Regional District Electoral Area H Director)
- Lori Ackerman – Vice-Chair (Mayor of Fort St. John)
- Lyn Hall (Mayor of Prince George)
- Alison Hoskins* (resident of Prince George)
- Carol Leclerc (Mayor of Terrace)
- Barry Pages (Mayor of Massett)
- Mark Parker (Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Director - D-Fraser Lake)
- Wayne Plenert* (resident of Dawson Creek)
- Dan Rose (Vice-chair of Peace River Regional District and Director of Electoral Area E)
- Fred Sam* (Nak'azdli Whut'en First Nations, near Fort St James)
- Sally Watson (Thompson-Nicola Regional District member)
- Julie Ziebert* (resident of Fort St. John)

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 2 – List of current partner programs

Program title	Funded by	Amount allocated	Program description
<u>BC Hydro GO Fund</u>	BC Hydro (Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation)	\$800,000 total over eight years	Provides support to non-profit organizations in the Peace Region to generate opportunities during the construction of the Site C Clean Energy Project.
<u>BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund</u>	BC Hydro (EMLCI)	\$20M total	Provides support to agricultural production and related economic activity in the Peace region as part of the Site C Agricultural Mitigation and Compensation Plan.
<u>Connecting British Columbia</u>	Ministry of Citizens' Services	\$90M in 2020 (as part of StrongerBC)	Helps fund infrastructure required to delivery high-speed internet connectivity to rural and remote areas of the province.
<u>Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF)</u>	Ministry of Municipal Affairs	\$25M total over the next five years (starting in 2021)	Supports initiatives that assist healthy, sustainable, and resilient communities (adjacent to the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects) facing rapid growth for enhanced social service readiness.
<u>Rural Business and Community Recovery Program</u>	Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development	\$1.5M total (as part of StrongerBC)	Helps rural businesses and communities recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19. The money is used to support temporary jobs that will focus on providing support and advisory services to help communities with economic recovery efforts.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

NECHAKO-KITAMAAT DEVELOPMENT FUND SOCIETY

Issue: Background and status of the Nechako-Kitamaat Development Fund Society (NKDFS)

KEY FACTS

Background:

- Established in 1997 as part of a resolution of legal issues surrounding the cancellation of the Kemano Completion Project in northwestern British Columbia, the government of B.C. and Alcan Inc. each contributed \$7.5 million to create the BC-Alcan Northern Development Fund.
- Incorporated in 1999, the Nechako-Kitamaat Development Fund Society (NKDFS) uses the Northern Development Fund to support sustainable economic development activity in northern B.C. communities affected by the Kitimat-Kemano project and by the creation of the Nechako Reservoir.

Program Description:

- Historically, the province has provided NKDFS with \$500,000 annually from the Northern Development Fund.
- Payment from the fund is a legal requirement, subject to the Minister's discretion.
- The Fund's investment area includes lands impacted by the Kemano project and focuses on communities in the Nechako and Haisla regions of the north.
- NKDFS spends the income from its long-term investments on programs and projects that meet each community's goals for economic development and community stability, as long as they do not subsidize private business.
- In the 2020-21 fiscal year, NKDFS approved 15 new projects throughout the region to a total of \$ leveraging a further \$1,038,000.

Governing Legislation:

BC-Alcan Northern Development Fund Act

- Promotes sustainable economic development in Northwestern British Columbia. The fund may be used to support investment in new or existing businesses, create new employment or stabilize existing employment, and support other goals that are consistent with sustainable economic development.

Issues:

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

Attachments: Appendix 1 – List of NKDFS Board Members

Approvals:

[date approved] – Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs and Engagement branch	250 361-5571
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – List of NKDFS Board Members

- Cindy Shelford – Chair (Burns Lake)
- Doris Fraser – Secretary/Treasurer (Kitimaat)
- Tom Clement (Vanderhoof)
- Greg Goodwin – Ministry Representative (Victoria)
- Katherine LaForge (Vanderhoof)
- Carolyn Leigh (Vanderhoof)
- James Neilson (Fraser Lake)
- Mike Robertson (Southbank)
- Lianne Olson – Rio Tinto Representative (Burns Lake)

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

EMERGING ECONOMY TASK FORCE

Issue: Background and results of the Emerging Economy Task Force (EETF)

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Emerging Economy Task Force (EETF) was a commitment of the Confidence and Supply Agreement (CASA) with the B.C. Green Caucus which states:
 - “Establish an Emerging Economy Task Force to address the changing nature of business over the next 10 to 25 years. The EETF will be charged with developing ‘made-in-BC’ solutions that keep our government, our policies and our thinking on the cutting edge. The task force will report to the government within one year of the 1st sitting of the next session of the B.C. Legislative Assembly with a BC New Democrat Government.” (Page 5, SX, 2i)
- A 14-member Task Force was launched in July 2018.
- The Task Force undertook engagement, assessment and advisory work starting in the summer of 2018 and provided an interim report to the Ministry in early 2019. The EETF received an extension on the timelines for the submission of the final report (originally spring 2019). The Task Force submitted a report to government in May 2020.
- The Task Force, chaired by Kathy Kinloch, President of the British Columbia Institute of Technology, engaged with key stakeholders in industry, academia and communities from January to June 2019 to fulfill their mandate.
- The Task Force examined the current state of the economy, addressed the changing nature of business and society over the next 10 to 25 years and looked at opportunities for government to encourage innovative and sustainable industries to drive economic growth.
- The EETF’s strategic objectives were to advance the emerging economy by:
 - Defining the nature and scope of the “emerging economy”, ensuring an all-encompassing approach is taken; this may include emerging global trends, new industries, and the infusion of new technologies into traditional sectors;
 - Identifying the current level of emerging economy activity in B.C. and determine the potential scope and impacts of that activity in the next 10 to 25 years;
 - Identifying challenges and opportunities associated with the province’s capacity to maintain its strong economic position, with a view to capitalizing on new opportunities as a result of the emerging economy, as well as potential impacts on traditional industries and on government revenues;

- Identifying challenges and opportunities associated with the emerging economy, including impacts on jobs and livelihoods, with a view to identifying ways to ensure income security and provide support for health and wellbeing; and,
- Proposing 'made-in-B.C.' solutions and recommendations to ensure the government's perspective, policies and actions stay on the cutting edge as the emerging economy impacts industries, government and individuals.
- As the lead ministry, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation provided staff support to the Task Force.

Results:

- The 25 recommendations and 40 suggested actions were presented within five key strategic priorities:
 1. embracing technology and innovation
 2. leveraging B.C.'s green economy
 3. building a highly-skilled and adaptable workforce
 4. ensuring an effective enabling ecosystem
 5. demonstrating public sector leadership
- A list of JERI-led initiatives was compiled and demonstrated that our Ministry alone was working on 26 of these suggested actions.
- Through programs like Export Navigator, Venture Acceleration, Venture Capital Tax Credit, Super Cluster, CivicLabs, Quantum, BC PNP, Food Security Task Force, The Community Information Tool (now with Ministry of Citizens' Services), Small Business BC, and so many more, we're working to ensure a stronger, and in many cases, tech-enabled future.
- Advice/Recommendations

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- N/A

Attachments: **Appendix 1 – Members of the EETF**
 Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental
 Communications; Government Financial

Approvals:

[date approved] - Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Greg Goodwin	Executive Director	Regional Programs and Engagement branch	250-361-5571
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix 1 – Members of the EETF

Members of the Emerging Economy Task Force

Chair, Kathy Kinloch, President of British Columbia Institute of Technology
Kevin Campbell, Managing Director, Investment Banking, Haywood Securities
Peter Elkins, CEO, Impactmic.ca
Jock Finlayson, Executive Vice-President and Chief Policy Officer, Business Council of B.C.
Raghwa Gopal, President and CEO, Innovate BC
Carol Anne Hilton, CEO and Founder of The Indigenomics Institute
Iglika Ivanova, Senior Economist, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Daniel Pauly, Professor, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, University of British Columbia
Corinne Stavness, Independent Consultant
Coro Strandberg, President Strandberg Consulting
Eric Termuende, Co-founder, NoW Innovations Canada
Jill Tipping, CEO of BC Tech Association
Eric Werker, Non-resident Fellow at the Centre for Global Development
Alan Winter (ex-officio member) Former B.C. Innovation Commissioner

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Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

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Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

Advice/Recommendations ; Intergovernmental Communications ; Government Financial Information

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Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Advice/Recommendations ; Government Financial Information

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

BC ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK

Issue: B.C.'s Economic Plan 2019-2020: A Framework for Improving British Columbians' Standard of Living

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On January 15, 2020, the framework was released internally to the Public Service.
- The Economic Framework is an organizing framework and plan that communicates elements of our government's direction to grow the economy and improve the standard of living for British Columbians by:
 - Growing the economic base of the province to generate new revenues to expand prosperity and support government's ability to invest in services that were neglected for far too long;
 - Focusing on distributed economic growth that supports the creation of good jobs in every region of the province; and
 - Working to make life more affordable and providing the services and programs needed by our diverse and growing population.
- The framework organizes existing (in progress, completed or funded) initiatives from across government into five key areas that will drive quality economic growth and create value for British Columbians:
 - Maintaining a competitive business climate;
 - Supporting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;
 - Powering our CleanBC future;
 - Investing in transportation and infrastructure; and
 - Investing in technology and innovation.
- The framework was informed by the existing mandates of ministries and ongoing dialogue and consultations with the business community that had occurred since 2017.
- As we work to restart our economy and come back stronger after COVID-19, the Economic Framework will continue to be a foundation for guiding economic growth and creating value for British Columbians.

Advice/Recommendations

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

N/A



Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Assistant Deputy Minister, Small Business Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Tim Lesiuk	Executive Director	Economic Coordination	250-216-5893
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

CANNABIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Issue: Helping cannabis businesses enter and succeed in the legal market

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Medical cannabis has been legal in Canada since 2001, and non-medical cannabis was legalized in October 2018. Edibles, extracts and topical products were legalized in October 2019.
- More than two years into legalization, progress has been made in establishing a robust legal cannabis production and distribution framework.
- To date, 144 production licenses have been issued in B.C. by the federal government (out of 626 nationally), making B.C. the second-highest licence holder in Canada next to Ontario.
- Likewise, the Province has expedited its processing of cannabis retail applications. A total of 281 private licenced retailers are now open, with an additional 26 coming soon. Government has also opened 25 public B.C. Cannabis Stores.
- This is translating into access to safer products for consumers, good paying jobs across communities and increasing revenue to government from the legal cannabis sector.
- Cannabis is a significant economic driver in the province. Cannabis production and retail in B.C. represented a combined \$2.1 billion of economic activity in 2019.
- B.C. has a significant underground cannabis economy - Statistics Canada estimates that 66 per cent of all cannabis produced in 2019 was sourced from unlicensed growers.
- From 2018 to 2019, the value generated by licensed cannabis producers in B.C. increased from \$200 million to \$644 million, while unlicensed production decreased by 20 per cent.
- As of January 2021, public and private authorized cannabis retailers in B.C. sold a combined total of \$510 million worth of products since legalization in October 2018.
- As of March 2021, B.C. has received \$41.5 million in cannabis excise tax revenue from the federal government since October 2018.
- The Province is committed to supporting the development of a robust, diverse and sustainable cannabis industry in B.C., including participation from Indigenous and craft producers.

- To promote growth in the legal cannabis market, the Province developed step-by-step guidance on how to become federally licensed for cultivation and processing. Launched in June 2020, the online Cannabis Production Regulatory Navigator helps prospective licensed cannabis cultivators and processors work their way through the steps required to get their regulated and approved products to market. To date, the navigator has registered over 10,000 views.
- The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction provided Community Futures Central Kootenay with approximately \$900,000 over two years to deliver the Cannabis Business Transition Initiative. The initiative helps startup and existing unlicensed cannabis businesses overcome the barriers to operating in the legal economy in the region. Results of this pilot project will be evaluated to inform further policy and program decisions to support the legal sector.
- The Province is developing new direct delivery and farm-to-gate sales programs to implement by 2022 and continues to analyze other policies to encourage cannabis producers and retailers to enter and succeed in the legal cannabis market.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 23, 2021

Contact:

Tim Lesiuk	Executive Director	Economic Coordination Branch	778-698-4039
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SUPERCLUSTER

Issue: B.C. Government's participation in the Digital Technology Supercluster

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C. is a founding member of the Digital Technology Supercluster.
- The Province contributes \$1M/yr to the Capacity Building Program, which co-invests in projects that equip British Columbians with digital skills and leadership capabilities.
- B.C.'s contributions have funded about 10 projects that will grow digital talent and promote increased participation of women and other under-represented groups.
- The Province recently invested \$7M in the Supercluster's Tech Talent Accelerator to support 1,400 to 2,000 Indigenous, Black, people of colour and under-represented B.C. youth in a 15-week skills training and job placement program, part of StrongerBC Future Leaders.
- The Supercluster's projected impact is \$2.4B (GDP) and 20,000 jobs in Canada.
- The Supercluster's members represent organizations, industry and research institutes from across Canada and range from start-ups to world-leading companies.
- The Province of B.C. welcomes the federal government's 2-year recapitalization of the Superclusters announced in the federal Budget 2021.
- During the pandemic, the Supercluster invested \$65M in COVID-19 related projects. Over the past year, the Supercluster worked to increase Canada's competitiveness, build resiliency in the healthcare system, address COVID-19 and help Canadians return safely to work and community.
- The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation is the lead ministry coordinating the Province's interactions with the Supercluster and its projects.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- The Province contributes \$1.5M/yr between 2018-2023.
- Government Financial Information
- The Province's annual contribution supports the Capacity Building Program (\$1.0M) and Supercluster operations (\$0.5M).

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Tim Lesiuk Executive Director Economic Coordination 250-589-5607



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

Issue: Overview of B.C.'s Cleantech Sector

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C.'s cleantech sector is important to help realize CleanBC goals and make B.C. industries across the province cleaner and more competitive.
- B.C.'s cleantech sector exhibit consistent growth in revenue, as well as growing contributions to GDP and increasing employment in a broad range of industries within our economy.
 - B.C. has over 293 cleantech companies that are providing high-paying jobs and reducing GHG emissions.
 - Four B.C. companies (Axine Water Technologies, Carbon Engineering, MineSense Technologies and Svante) made the 2021 Global Cleantech Top 100 list of companies in sustainable technology and innovation.
 - In 2018, B.C.'s cleantech companies generated nearly \$2 billion in domestic revenue, \$1.2 billion in exports and employed more than 9,700 people.
- The Ministry continues to offer programs such as the BC Fast Pilot program at Innovate BC, which aims to help B.C. cleantech companies access funding for pilot and small demonstration projects at a potential customer site to ultimately achieve a product sale, advance technology adoption, and address BC problems in priority areas (e.g. GHG reductions, regional projects, benefits to Indigenous communities).
- As part of the Province's economic recovery plan, StrongerBC, B.C. offered funding programs that targeted the cleantech sector, including the Agritech Grant Program (JERI) and the Building Innovation Fund (EMLI).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] - [Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 23, 2021

Contact:

Tim Lesiuk Executive Director Economic Coordination 778-698-4039

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

TRADE ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

Issue: Ministry commitment to the Trade Accelerator Program.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In the fall of 2017, the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade launched Canada's Trade Accelerator Program (TAP) under the World Trade Centre Vancouver (WTC-V) banner with a \$2.5 million, one-time transfer from the Province. This initiative was modelled after the navigator program has been successfully operated by the Toronto Regional Board of Trade since 2015.
- WTC-V received \$1.5 million dollars for the TAP program from the federal government in April 2019.
- In March 2020, WTC-V presented the Ministry with a new funding proposal, requesting \$2.7 million over three years. The Ministry reviewed this request, but decided against funding it.
- The effect of the Province not providing further funding to TAP will be mitigated by the federal funding. WTC-V has indicated that even without further provincial funds, TAP will continue to deliver similar programming levels as in the past.
- To date the program has hosted:
 - 18 training cohorts in 7 B.C. cities,
 - graduating 265 companies,
 - coordinating 2,149 mentorship meetings and
 - helping companies reach 44 countries.
- The Ministry continues to support the program by reviewing TAP participant business plans, meeting with them and making appropriate introductions to the Ministry's Trade and Investment network. In addition, Minister Chow's video introductions are part of each event until such time as in-person events resume.

Format of Program:

- Nine days – Day 1 Support and Advisory Services / Day 2 Strategic Planning / Balance of time working on export plan development, then feedback from JERI and other advisors on plans on final days.
- <https://www.boardoftrade.com/wtc/tap>

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Program Overview

ONBOARD	ASSESS	ACTIVATE
<p>The program begins with an intensive two-day training and orientation session.</p> <p>Participants will learn about the program, the exporting resources available to them throughout B.C. and Canada, and the fundamentals of exporting and international trade.</p> <p>Hosted by World Trade Centre Vancouver, this session will be delivered by leading Canadian industry practitioners and export advisors through dynamic interactive workshops.</p>	<p>Participating companies complete an intensive workshop to begin elaborating their export strategy and writing their export plan.</p> <p>Experts in international business development will provide individual one-on-one coaching to program participants to help guide them through the process.</p> <p>Each company receives a report outlining the strengths and gaps related to their Export Plan and are matched with Expert Partners to fill in the gaps.</p>	<p>Partners and export specialists from World Trade Centre Vancouver will spend individual time with each participant to help them finalize their export plan.</p> <p>By the end of the process, participating firms have a new Export Plan and begin to implement it with assistance from Partners and World Trade Centre Vancouver.</p> <p>These organizations are resolved to help participating companies take the first step into a new marketplace.</p>

- “The TAP program has provided us with invaluable tools that will increase our competitive edge in the marketplace and keep our company healthy as we grow. Thank you to the entire TAP team, and everyone involved to make this happen for B.C. companies. The future is bright for BC businesses thanks to programs like these.”
Humble & Frank Foods – Victoria
- “Coming out of the TAP program armed with our completed Export Plan and the guidance and support of so many great advisors we feel confident and excited about this next phase of growth for Boosh Food. 100% recommend TAP to any company looking to expand to new markets.” **Connie Marples, Boosh Food Inc- Abbotsford**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- None.

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

EXPORT NAVIGATOR

Issue: Export Navigator Expansion and Key Outcomes

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Since 2016, Export Navigator has helped more than 550 B.C. businesses on their journey to export their products across Canada and internationally.
- Export Navigator is designed to help small and medium-sized businesses export their goods and services to new markets by providing free access to community-based export advisors, and connecting them with programs and services that are tailored to their specific business needs.
- Small Business BC (SBBC) is the contracted service provider for Export Navigator. The Ministry has asked them to track numerous key metrics such as jobs created, export sales growth and revenue growth which are reported in quarterly and annual reports.
- In April 2019, the Ministry allocated \$1.2 million in funding towards the continuation of Export Navigator. In addition, Western Economic Diversification provided \$2.25 million over three years which contributed to expanding the program to offer specialized support for businesses owned by Indigenous peoples, women and youth.
- There are six regional Export Navigators located in Duncan, Port Alberni, Prince Rupert, Prince George, Nelson and Vernon. In addition, there are three dedicated advisors for businesses owned by Indigenous peoples (Kamloops), youth (Van) and women (Van).
- Since the expansion of the program in 2019, participating companies' export sales within Canada have grown by more than \$8m and internationally, by about \$6m.
- The 2020 mandate letter for Minister Chow states "Expand B.C.'s Export Navigator program to help more small businesses export their goods and services beyond our borders." *Advice/Recommendations*

Format of Program:

- Eligible applicants will be assigned to an Export Advisor if accepted
- One -on-one coaching and guidance; no intake date / graduation date
 - Hours of free expert advice
 - Step-by-step guidance, at your pace
 - Strategy and planning to guide the growth of your business
 - Connections and information specific to your market and industry
 - Access to the most up-to-date resources for interprovincial or international exporting
 - An assessment of the export readiness of your business
- <https://exportnavigator.ca/the-program/how-the-program-works/>

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- *Example:* Business Information joined the program seeking expansion advice and has seen significant growth with new customers in the USA and Singapore and Business Information during the past year. With current plans to hire 15 new employees the company owner comments.
 - “Working with our Export Navigator advisor, we developed a phased approach to expansion, including increasing production capabilities and infrastructure investment. We have gained valuable connections to customers and have access to an Export Advisor who can help answer questions and point us in the right direction.”

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Annual Ministry budget of \$1.2M. Currently additional funding of \$750K per year for 3 years from Western Diversification. This funding is set to expire March 31, 2022.

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MISSIONS EXPENSES

Issue: What are the budget and costs associated with trade missions? What is the Ministry's policy for providing gifts and alcohol on Missions?

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation holds an annual budget of \$500,000 to support international trade missions led by the Premier and the Minister of JERI (or designate).
Advice/Recommendations
- Mission budget estimates include projected costs for: official delegation and support staff travel; ground transportation in-market; visas; meetings, ceremonies, luncheons and/or receptions; gifting; and third-party services providers such as translation.
- There was no cost associated with international trade missions in 2020/21.
- Advice/Recommendations
- Using Cvent event management platform, the Ministry organized 11 virtual events in 2020/21.

What is the Ministry's policy for providing gifts and alcohol on Missions?

Gifting

- The Province participates in gift exchanges when it is appropriate to do so under protocol guidelines and country culture or customs.
- All gifts provided meet government guidelines to ensure that the gifting by British Columbia reflects international standards and that the recipients receive a gift that is appropriate to their position.

Alcohol

- Our Missions provide an opportunity to showcase BC products at overseas trade and investment events.
- VQA wines are chosen to be featured at BC trade and investment events in-market. They represent the best of what BC wines have to offer.



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Virtual Events

- Due to COVID-19, all events and missions were cancelled and/or switched to virtual events. In 2020/21 the ministry organized 11 virtual events using the Cvent Virtual Event platform.
- The cost of purchasing 5 credits for hosting virtual events using Cvent Virtual Event platform was \$23,000.
- In FY21 we used 2 credits totaling of \$7,000. The remaining credits will be carried forward to 2021/22.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures: Our trade missions are cost-effective, with a minimum of staff support and travel

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Carla Merkel

Director

Management Services
Division

778 698-3361



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SOFTWOOD LUMBER DISPUTE

Issue: Softwood lumber dispute with the United States (U.S.)

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The softwood lumber dispute was initiated on November 25, 2016, when the U.S. industry filed a petition with the U.S. Commerce Department alleging that Canadian lumber exports are subsidized, that Canadian exporters were selling lumber into the U.S. below cost (“dumping”) and that these actions injure the U.S. industry. The U.S. identified four companies as mandatory respondents for the subsidy and dumping investigations; three are B.C.-based (Canfor, West Fraser and Tolko).
- This is our number one trade priority.
- B.C. will continue to defend the 57,000 hard-working people whose livelihoods depend on B.C.’s forest industry against these unfair and unjustified tariffs.
- We will continue to pursue growth in markets for B.C. wood products both at home and abroad by promoting innovation and expanding trade relationships with global markets:
- The U.S. Commerce Department published its final determinations on January 3, 2018, and most Canadian producers’ exports were subject to a combined countervailing duty (CVD) and anti-dumping duty (AD) rate of 20.23%. These lumber duties are reviewed each year in through a series of Administrative Reviews (ARs). The results of AR1, released Nov. 24, 2020, substantially reduced the duties charged to an average of 8.99%. The table below shows final AR1 results.

	Rates applied to imports from 2017 through December 31, 2018 (retroactive reconciliation)			Rates that will apply to new shipments after publication of the AR1 final determination		
Company	CVD	AD	Total	CVD	AD	Total
Canfor	2.94%	1.99%	4.93%	2.63%	1.99%	4.62%
Irving	3.43%	1.57%	5.00%	2.66%	1.57%	4.23%
Resolute	18.71%	1.15%	19.86%	19.10%	1.15%	20.25%
West Fraser	6.76%	1.40%	8.16%	7.57%	1.40%	8.97%
All others	7.26%	1.57%	8.83%	7.42%	1.57%	8.99%

- Canada’s challenges of U.S. decisions through the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) / Canada – United States – Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) are proceeding. Although these dispute settlement processes yielded important wins for Canada in the last iteration of the softwood lumber dispute, these processes take many years.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- On August 24, 2020 a WTO dispute-resolution panel found the U.S. Commerce Department's determination of countervailing duties inconsistent with its WTO obligations. The U.S. has appealed this decision, but because the U.S. has blocked the appointment of new Appellate Body members, the appeal will not be resolved in the near future.
- On April 9, 2019 a separate WTO panel provided a mixed ruling on the U.S. Commerce Department's antidumping determination. The panel found in favour of some aspects of Canada's case, but unexpectedly ruled in favour of the U.S. regarding its use of "zeroing" in its calculation of antidumping duties, which results in higher antidumping duties. Canada appealed the ruling, but as mentioned above, the Appellate Body is non-functional.
- One NAFTA panel has ruled on the U.S. International Trade Commission's determination that Canadian imports have harmed the U.S. industry; the panel unanimously affirmed the U.S. International Trade Commission's determination on May 22, 2020.
- Canada has requested two other NAFTA panels – regarding the countervailing duty and antidumping duty determinations.
- Canada also requested the establishment of a CUSMA panel on December 10, 2020 to review the results of the countervailing duty determination in AR1. A panel has not yet been formed in this challenge.
- The softwood lumber dispute has been ongoing for decades. In the past, Canada and the U.S. ultimately resolved the dispute by negotiating an agreement. Intergovernmental
Intergovernmental Communications
- As of the end of September 2020, the U.S. had collected an estimated \$2.2 billion on B.C. lumber shipments (\$4.5 billion estimated for all of Canada). The U.S. holds duties in trust until all appeals are complete.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021 – Selena Basi, TIDD

Last Updated: May 18, 2021

Contact:

Steve Anderson

Executive Director

Trade & Industry
Development

778 698-8769

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

TRADE AND INVESTMENT NETWORK

Issue: Status of B.C.'s international office network following decision to co-locate trade offices in Asia

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On December 30, 2019 ministry staff notified contract trade and investment representatives in Asia (China, Japan, South Korea, Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore and India) that their contracts would not be renewed.
- This was due to a government decision to transition to a co-location model similar to other provinces (AB, ON, SK, PQ) which allows B.C. to maximize efficiency and cost effectiveness and better leverage the Canada brand.
- Service Agreements with Contractors in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore and Tokyo ended on March 31, 2020, while service agreements with contractors in Seoul, Manila, and Jakarta ended on May 19, 2020.
- In accordance with the terms of the contract, the notification to the contractor in India was reversed as it was not possible to transition the services to co-location in India in FY 2021.
- Trade and investment representative offices in Europe, the U.K. and the U.S. were not affected by this delivery model change and continue to advance B.C. interests within the contract model.
- In 2020-21, B.C. had approximately 29 trade and investment representative based in 16 locations worldwide. Prior to the transition, B.C. had about 65 representatives.

TIR Locations		
Tokyo, Japan	Manila, the Philippines	San Francisco, United States
Seoul, South Korea	Singapore	Los Angeles, United States
Beijing, China	Jakarta, Indonesia	Seattle, United States
Shanghai, China	New Delhi, India	Boston, United States
Guangzhou, China	Chandigarh, India	London, United Kingdom
	Mumbai, India	

Global Affairs Canada Co-location in Asia

- In 2020-21, B.C. requested 16 co-located positions at Canadian Missions in Asia, of which 15 positions were approved by Global Affairs Canada.

Advice/Recommendations

- The COVID-19 pandemic initially delayed hiring for the co-located positions as many Canadian consular staff were relocated to Canada and consular services were prioritized.

Japan



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- There are three full-time trade and investment representatives in place.

Advice/Recommendations

South Korea

- There are two full-time trade and investment representatives in place.

Advice/Recommendations

China

- There are six full-time trade and investment representatives in place, located in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.
- Hong Kong is covered out of the office in Guangzhou.

Southeast Asia

- There is one full-time trade and investment representative in place. Additional service was provided by team members in B.C. and through Canadian missions in Southeast Asia.

Advice/Recommendations

- Locations include Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

India

- The contract for service with Dynamis Global will conclude on August 31, 2021.

Advice/Recommendations

- The positions will be located in New Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore.
- There is an existing co-located position in Chandigarh which will continue.

Europe

- B.C. maintains a contract for service with Articulate International for the European market including the U.K.
- Representatives are based in the U.K., Germany, and the Netherlands.

United States

- B.C. maintains a contract for service with Fox Group International for the United States.
- Representatives are based in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Boston.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

Last Updated: March 15, 2021

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto	Executive Director	Trade & Industry Development	604 775-2201
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

PWC TRADE OFFICE REPORT

Issue: The Ministry commissioned a review to examine important aspects of B.C.'s international Trade and Investment Representative (TIR) network, which is used to provide a diverse range of business opportunities that generate economic benefits across the province.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In February 2019, Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) was selected to review B.C.'s international office model.
- This was the first review of the model since 2011.
- PWC was selected through a competitive bid process and the government released the information related to the contract in March 2019.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- The review included consultations with our trade and investment offices, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness and other ministries, Global Affairs Canada, Invest in Canada, B.C. sector associations, regional economic development agencies and companies, and individuals in other jurisdictions who operate trade and investment models.
- Alternative trade and investment office models were identified and assessed through the review, Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- A version of the report is available for download on government's Open Information website as "FOI Request - JTT-2020-00078" at the following link:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/enSearch/detail?id=26EE74C124B8476EA280E7A3C823A2D8&recordid=JTT-2020-00078&keyword=FOI>
- Some information has been removed in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This is due to its confidential and or sensitive nature including information about those individuals and jurisdictions interviewed to help inform the report's primary research.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures: Total contract cost not exceeding \$330,000 CAD. Details of the contract and the contractor were released as part of our regular contract disclosures in March 2019.

Approvals:

Date approved - ADM name, Div

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Jeff Rafuse	EA/Executive Director	Trade & Industry Development	778 698-1685
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING

Issue: Managing B.C.'s international business brand and delivering marketing strategies and activities to support export and investment

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The International Marketing team within the Trade and Industry Development Division manages the international-facing business brand for British Columbia from the website, to social media channels, to conferences and trade shows, and to conventional marketing materials and collateral. Working in close collaboration with GCPE and domestic marketing teams within other Line Ministries, this team provides international marketing support across government.
- In an effort to provide a strong and consistent business brand image for B.C., the international marketing team also works with other levels of government, industry associations, and other strategic partners, to align and coordinate our messaging for B.C.-based Ministry teams, our B.C. Trade and Investment network abroad, as well as for some of our external partners.
- B.C.'s international marketing strategy is being refreshed to align with CleanBC, StrongerBC and the Province's economic priorities. The International Marketing Strategy will be designed to leverage business intelligence in the development of market and sector specific marketing tactics that promote British Columbia's priority export and investment opportunities.
- BritishColumbia.ca, a site external to gov.bc.ca, is the digital platform on which all international marketing efforts are based. The website is on a path to be modernized, with a prototype design being built in FY 2021 and a live site to be launched in FY 2022.
- Delivery of marketing products has shifted to primarily digital delivery to support virtual event platforms and digital engagement. International Marketing is implementing a digital asset management system to better support the client-facing teams (Investor Services, Trade Representatives and Trade Readiness) to enable expedited access to approved marketing materials.
- B.C.'s international brand positioning will be adjusted through updated value propositions, highlighting B.C.'s commitment to sustainability, innovation and inclusiveness. These value propositions will infuse brand assets and marketing content developed in FY 2022.
- International Marketing produces a large volume of multilingual content to promote B.C.'s competitive advantages to a diverse and international audience.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

Last Updated: March 16, 2021

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto	Executive Director	Export Markets and Investor Services	604 775-2201
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

Issue: B.C.'s Government collaborates with many partners to foster investment into all regions of the province, supporting good jobs, growing B.C. companies and providing new opportunities for British Columbians

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- COVID-19 brought significant headwinds in international trade and investment globally.
- Despite this challenge and a worldwide softening in Foreign Direct Investment activity, British Columbia did not see the drop in investment that other jurisdictions experienced.
- Global Foreign Direct Investment, or FDI, fell by 42 per cent in 2020.
- Canada saw a drop of inbound investment of over 35 per cent while international investment into B.C. was virtually the same in 2019 and 2020.
- While this is the case, we anticipate the impact of COVID-19 on dampening global investment activity to continue in 2021.
- The Ministry, its network of trade and investment representatives and other parts of government actively work together to deliver effective investment attraction programs for the Province.
- The Ministry promotes British Columbia as a stable and secure place to invest and seeks to diversify investment by attracting interest from many global markets, into a range of sectors.
- For example:
 - The Ministry is working with communities and businesses throughout B.C. to make sure that international investors are aware of opportunities in all regions of B.C., leading to investment decisions that can help foster creation of highly skilled, sustainable jobs in every corner of the province;
 - Recognized as one of Canada's fastest growing companies, ThoughtExchange (HQ-Rossland) continues to scale and internationalize with support from capital investors. ThoughtExchange employs in remote offices across B.C. and now has a growing team in the U.S.A.
 - Komatsu Mining Corp. (subsidiary of Komatsu Ltd) invested approximately \$40 million to construct a 85,000 sq. ft. sales and service facility in Sparwood, where the company has been operating and employing British Columbians for over 30 years.
 - The Ministry and international network promotes investing in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner; inclusive of all communities including Indigenous communities;

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- and creating shared prosperity for all British Columbians.
- Companies continue to express interest in B.C. because of our safe, welcoming business climate, commitment to innovation and our talented workforce.
- Ministry teams seek to qualify and respond to investment queries from potential investors, assess opportunities, identify potential challenges, offer guidance, facilitate investment decisions, and provide post-investment services.
- There is continuous investment interest among prospective investors even though the process has slowed due to the pandemic. Ministry teams continue to use virtual platforms to match investors with high-quality investment opportunities across B.C.
- Ministry teams coordinate with internal and external B.C. stakeholders and partners toward jointly servicing investors and promoting opportunities in the province.
- For example:
 - On February 23 the Ministry collaborated with Invest in Canada, City of Surrey, Vancouver Economic Commission and South Island Prosperity Partnership to present three hour-long *Spotlight on BC* series of community presentations to Global Affairs Canada investment officers posted around the world.
 - The Ministry and BC Trade and Investment Network supported the organization of the virtual *CrossOver AI* event on March 4, promoting investment into B.C.'s thriving and innovative Artificial Intelligence sector to global participants.
 - At PDAC, the virtual Mineral Exploration and Mining Convention which occurred March 8 to 11, our team collaborated with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Initiatives, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the Association of Mineral Exploration of BC, and federal colleagues at Global Affairs Canada and Invest in Canada to showcase investment opportunities in B.C.'s mining sector.
 - From March 8 to 12 the Ministry joined the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Global Affairs Canada to showcase investment and trade opportunities with B.C. life sciences companies to major healthcare corporations in Japan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 – Selena Basi, TIDD

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto

Executive Director

Export Markets and
Investor Services

604 775-2201



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

TRADE DIVERSIFICATION STRATEGY

Issue: Develop and implement a new B.C. Trade Diversification Strategy that will help B.C. businesses build connections in new markets, increase exports and highlight B.C. as a low-carbon supplier.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- B.C.'s is a trade dependent province that is affected by shifts in global trade, trade policies and agreements, geopolitical circumstances, and overall market volatility.
- B.C. exports are subject to protectionist international trade policies, globally set commodity prices and a volatile Canadian dollar which directly challenge the B.C. economy.
- Trade diversification is about securing more opportunities for British Columbian exporters to compete and succeed in fast-growing global markets and solidifying B.C.'s position as an ideal place to invest.
- A Trade Diversification Strategy for B.C. will broaden and deepen the province's trading base, stimulate economic growth and build resiliency in our economy. It will help mitigate global market uncertainty caused by COVID-19 and other factors, and balance overreliance on any one market and seize new opportunities for export and investment.
- A Trade Diversification Strategy is about who we trade with, how we trade with them and what we trade. It is an opportunity to rethink our offering to the world and pinpoint and develop opportunities where B.C. can be competitive.
- Trade diversification also means amplifying our range of product offerings to world markets, ensuring that B.C. companies maximize opportunities, hit the right product mix in the right markets (capturing new and existing markets), and open pathways for investment.
- Development of the strategy will support a coordinated approach where B.C.'s international presence consistently maximizes opportunities for market expansion and diversification.
- Research and analysis will involve examining new and emerging economies to identify countries that offer diversification potential for B.C. exporters and/or investment attraction.
- The Trade Diversification Strategy will build upon the ongoing trade and investment activities undertaken by the ministry including:
 - Enhancing and growing client relationships and business networks through B.C.'s international network of offices as well as its B.C.-based teams- removing barriers, and supporting new clients and investors.
 - Actively monitoring markets for the impacts of COVID-19 through B.C.'s international networks and economic analysis to understand vulnerabilities as well as emerging trade and investment opportunities.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Supporting new market entry through alternative service delivery programs (e.g. B.C. Alacrity Cleantech Program).
- Analyzing trade and investment trends in B.C. priority markets, high-growth emerging international markets, assessing B.C.'s relative trade performance, and identifying potential prospects to complement our existing international network.
- Promoting the benefits of, and encouraging the use of, trade agreements through targeted outreach sessions with a focus on SMEs in B.C.'s regions, and under-represented export groups such as women, Indigenous and youth-owned businesses.

B.C.'s Export Performance

- On March 5, 2021, BC Stats released an export report for the month of January 2021. Year-to-date B.C. exports were about \$3.5 billion in January 2021, an increase of 16.6 per cent compared with January 2020. Most of this increase can be attributed to an increase in exports to the U.S., Australia and Taiwan.
- In 2020, B.C. exported \$39.9 billion in goods. This is a drop of 8 per cent from 2019, however B.C. outperformed the national average as Canadian exports fell 12.3 per cent in 2020.
- B.C. is the 4th largest provincial exporter. Compared to other Canadian provinces, B.C.'s export profile is relatively diverse in terms of the goods exported and the destination of exports.
- The U.S. continues to account for half of B.C.'s goods exports (\$21.99 billion in 2019), and B.C.'s export base is generally geared toward natural resources. While still B.C.'s most major export partner, our reliance on the U.S. has decreased due to the province's strategic efforts to enter new markets in Asia.
- China follows the U.S., with B.C. goods exports to China at \$6.48 billion in 2019 (15 per cent of B.C. goods exports).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Covered in base budget

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto

Executive Director

Trade & Industry
Development

604 775-2201



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

ALACRITY B.C. CLEANTECH PROGRAM

Issue: Program support for B.C. cleantech and ocean tech companies in targeted global markets in support of export market diversification

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Alacrity B.C. Cleantech Program was developed by JERI, Western Economic Diversification (WD) and Alacrity in 2019 to address gaps in support for B.C. cleantech businesses as they progress from market ready solutions to fully developed sales networks in export markets.
- Alacrity Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Victoria, B.C. which was founded in 2009 to promote tech entrepreneurship & facilitate investment.
- The Alacrity B.C. Cleantech Program will:
 - a) Find qualified opportunities for promising B.C. cleantech companies that permit them to commercialize, scale-up and become investment-ready
 - b) Build relationships between B.C. cleantech companies and international clients
 - c) Support participating companies in customer acquisition and revenue building
 - d) Create a global content marketing initiative to raise awareness about participating B.C. cleantech companies and the B.C. cleantech sector

What is JERI Doing with Alacrity?

- B.C. is working to grow the number of cleantech companies that have passed the developmental stage and are working to competitively enter foreign markets.
- The Alacrity B.C. Cleantech Program also supports the mandate for export market diversification by helping B.C. companies to enter new markets or regions.
- Alacrity offers incubation, mentoring, and access to a global network, including in-market consultants in four target markets: India, Mexico, Singapore, and Northern Europe.
- The Alacrity in-market consultants work collaboratively with the B.C. Trade and Investment representatives and Global Affairs Canada by providing complementary and value-added services, e.g. market entry strategies, and introductions to potential clients.

Key Deliverables – Program Services

- Alacrity will provide the following deliverables by May 31, 2023:
 1. Promote opportunities to B.C. cleantech companies that would benefit the most with an emphasis on technologies that advance the objectives of *CleanBC*.
 2. Develop a comprehensive business development program in Mexico, India, Singapore, and Northern Europe.
 3. **Investment Attraction:** New inbound investment from local and international investors as a result of Program: \$50 million (full program target).

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

4. **Export Development:** Export revenue generated as a result of the program to B.C. cleantech participants: \$20 million (full program target).
5. **Jobs:** Number of high-quality jobs facilitated (full program target): 100
6. Value to new global export/sales/licensing/partnership revenue: \$30.million
7. Number of B.C. companies assessed for entry into the Program: 100
8. Minimum number of B.C. cleantech companies accepted into the Program: 30
 - Note: B.C. cleantech companies are chosen according to their market readiness.
 - No cost to B.C. companies that participate: Alacrity provides portfolio companies with basic support, e.g. marketing, sales, introductions for opportunities.
 - If a cleantech company is asking for additional support (e.g. negotiating a deal, RFP support), Alacrity charges a negotiated service fee that does not exceed 6 per cent of the deal.

Activities to Date

- **Mexico:** LED solar lighting; containerized solar storage systems; crop treatment trials for organic pesticide and fertilizer products; water treatment opportunities
- **India:** autonomous underwater vehicles; water quality monitoring systems; air quality monitoring systems; electricity smart grids
- **Northern Europe:** B.C. ocean tech companies active in Norway and other regions, e.g. ocean mapping

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Cost-Share Agreement – JERI, Western Economic Diversification (WD) & Alacrity: March 18, 2020-May 31, 2023.
- Funding: WD: \$1,334,427 | JERI: \$1,334,427 (\$735,000 in FY 2019/20; \$599,427 in FY 2020/21 | Alacrity: \$296,999

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Richard Sawchuk

Director

Trade & Industry
Development

604-617-0378

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

BC – CHINA TRADE RELATIONS

Issue: Opportunities and Challenges in BC – China Trade Relations

KEY FACTS

Key Messages:

- B.C. is an open, trade-dependent province and trade and investment will be a crucial part of our economic recovery.
- British Columbia values its strong trade relationship with China, based on close economic and cultural ties that have been established over many decades.
- As we work towards re-opening our economy, we are committed to ensuring B.C. businesses continue to benefit from our trade and investment relationship with China, particularly in energy, forestry, agriculture, clean technology, tourism and education.
- Our trade and investment teams in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou co-located in the Canadian Embassy and Consulates General continue to work on active trade and investment opportunities, facilitating virtual business-to-business meetings and staying connected to key contacts.
- China (including Hong Kong) is our province's second largest trading partner, with \$6.67 billion in goods exports in 2019, accounting for 25.6 per cent of Canada's total.

Background/Status:

- In 2019, B.C.'s export to Mainland China and Hong Kong reached \$6.67 billion (\$6.48 billion for Mainland China), accounting for 25.6 per cent of Canada's total.
- Top 5 B.C. origin exports to Mainland China and Hong Kong in year 2019:
 1. Chemical wood pulp, soda or sulphate (28 per cent);
 2. Copper ores and concentrates (15 per cent);
 3. Lumber (12per cent);
 4. Coal and solid fuels manufactured from coal (11per cent);
 5. Wood in the rough (6 per cent).
- B.C. seafood and blueberry export to China decreased more than 15per cent in 2020. Since mid-June, China has imposed a series of import measures on food products, including suspension of imports from establishments that have had COVID-19 outbreaks among workers.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- B.C. exported \$760 million of wood products (including lumber) to China in 2020, a decrease of 34.2 per cent from \$1,155 million in 2019. Rising demand and competitive prices in the U.S. resulted in B.C. exporters shifting supply to the U.S. away from other markets including China.
- B.C. has attracted \$6.5 billion of investments in 102 deals from China during year 2016-2019, which accounted for 17 per cent of total investments attracted from foreign countries.
- 66 per cent of the total deal value are merger and acquisition (M&A) deals.
- 44 per cent in Materials and Resources); and,
- 22 per cent in Life Sciences.
- B.C.'s trade and investment promotion in China is mainly focused in the following priority sectors:
 1. Agrifood,
 2. Forestry and Construction,
 3. Cleantech and Clean Energy
 4. Mining and LNG
 5. Transportation (Aerospace),
 6. Life Sciences.
- At the core of B.C.'s economic ties with China is its 26-year sister province relationship with Guangdong province in southern China.
- China is B.C.'s second largest source of tourists, with 333,837 visitors in 2019. From January to August 2020, Chinese tourists visiting B.C. decreased by 82.6per cent compared to 2019.
- China is the second largest source of international students in Canada. In 2019, there were 141,400 Chinese students in Canada. There was a 17per cent decline for Chinese study permit holders in 2020 compared to 2019. This is the same for the overall global decline.
- In 2020, B.C. companies kept active engagements with their clients in China either online or offline. For example, more than 25 B.C. companies exhibited at China International Import Expo (CIIE) held in Shanghai in November 2020.
- The December 2018 arrest of Huawei Chief Financial Officer Ms. Meng Wanzhou has had an impact on Canada-China relations.
- On January 12, 2021, Global Affairs Canada announced measures related to the human rights situation in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The measures are to address the risk of forced labour from any country from entering Canadian and global supply chains and to protect Canadian businesses from unknowingly becoming complicit.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- On February 22, 2021, Canada's House of Commons voted overwhelmingly to declare China's treatment of its Uyghur minority population a genocide.
- Intergovernmental Communications
- B.C. maintains trade and investment representative offices in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou co-located in the Canadian Embassy and Consulates General.

Success Stories

- **Xiamen Sungiven Foods Holding Ltd.**, in 2020, the parent company of Sungiven Foods Canada Inc., opened 5 grocery stores across B.C., respectively in Richmond, Burnaby, North Vancouver and Surrey (2 stores). The total investment amount was \$20 million.
- **Mont'air Aviation** reached an agreement with Kunming Airlines Co., Ltd. In 2020 to provide a 1-year pilot training program to 35 pilots. Mont'air Aviation is one of 3 pilot training schools in Canada with CAAC certification.
- **Ballard Power Systems** received two purchase orders from China for total value of \$64.9 million with delivery in 2020.

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto	Executive Director	Trade & Industry Development	604-775-2201
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

B.C. SHIPBUILDING SECTOR STRATEGY

Issue: B.C.'s considerations regarding a shipbuilding strategy

KEY FACTS

Background:

- The Government has made a number of Mandate Letter commitments to the marine sector including an “industrial and manufacturing strategy” and “support for B.C. shipyards to build capacity”.
- On January 28, 2021, the Premier made a public statement to launch a ‘made-in-BC shipbuilding’ strategy working with Seaspan, Point Hope and other shipyards.
- There are a wide range of companies in B.C. that could be considered part of the shipbuilding industry including shipyards, steel fabricators, and equipment providers.
- The Association of British Columbia Marine Industries (ABCMI) serves the business interests of B.C.’s industrial marine sector and supply chain. According to ABCMI, the shipbuilding and repair industry in British Columbia is one of the largest in Canada, representing over \$1.4 billion in GDP and directly employing approximately 12,000 FTEs.
- B.C. shipbuilding is dominated by one large commercial operator (Seaspan), one large public employer (Navy shipyard – FMF Cape Breton in Esquimalt B.C.) and a number of smaller shipbuilding and repair facilities throughout the southwestern B.C.
- BC Ferries is a key industry stakeholder, generating significant economic value for industry with \$100M + annually spent on dry-dockings and refits, repairs, mid-life upgrades, and life extension projects. BC Ferries will be putting billions into their forward capital plan for a number of fully-electric vessels on top of new vessel builds.
- B.C. has a cluster of experienced companies with global reputations in niche areas of maritime architecture and design as well as technology companies in areas such as control, communication, information, environmental monitoring and navigation systems.

Current Context: Shipbuilding Industry

- In 2010, Seaspan Shipyards was announced as the federal government’s long-term non-combat vessel builder under the National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS) with expected long-term contracts worth billions and expectations for further growth for decades.
- Industry advises B.C.’s shipbuilding sector has the potential to grow further with expected demand for ship refit and repair services to continue to rise as a result of increasing marine traffic from the Pacific Rim. A number of industry proponents have approached government about the need for marine infrastructure.
- Key issues flagged by ABCMI as critical to growth include workforce development -i.e., Labour shortages, insufficient marine infrastructure to fulfill increased demand for ship

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

building, ship refit, maintenance and repair services, collaboration with government, and increased support from the federal government support for the ocean and marine sector.

Status:

The manufacturing community, including shipbuilding, continued operations at a slower pace following the COVID-19 outbreak. As part of B.C.'s Economic Recovery Plan, the Province committed up to \$16.25 million in one-time funding toward the 'Supply Chain Resiliency and Value-Added Manufacturing project' ("Project"). Specific to shipbuilding:

- In February 2021, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery, and Innovation (JERI) launched the \$6M **Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program** to support projects that strengthen supply chain capacity and manage the risk of future disruption. Grant recipients were announced on April 18th. 100 per cent funded provincial grants (marine) were awarded to:
 - i. ABCMI was awarded \$400,000 for targeted supply chain development business training, support and a sector roadmap to identify next steps and industry opportunities/challenges that could be developed into a shipbuilding strategy.
 - ii. Advantec was awarded \$200,000 to develop a project to help rebuild the marine supply chain by supporting the Chilliwack, BC company's ability to supply certified glass into the NSS program.
- On April 1, 2021, the \$10 million **Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program** was launched to support small and medium sized B.C. businesses that manufacture or process value-added products to accelerate innovative capacity, strengthen provincial supply chains, sustain and create new economic activity in B.C.

The program supports manufacturing projects with a one-time, 75 per cent funded provincial grant (up to \$250,000 for individual businesses or \$500,000 for groups in collaboration) to:

- (i) Pivot, retool or scale-up production,
 - (ii) Commercialize products that are close to being market ready, and / or
 - (iii) Increase supply chain transparency and sustainability going forward.
- JERI staff will continue to regularly engage with industrial marine stakeholders, to obtain an informed perspective on the business environment and key issues fundamental to growth, such as marine infrastructure.
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi Assistant Deputy Minister Trade and Industry Development 778-974-5951

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FOOD SECURITY TASK FORCE

Issue: B.C. Food Security Task Force 2020 Recommendations and government responses

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The 2019 Throne Speech announced the B.C. Government's commitment to launch a Food Security Task Force.
- The Task Force was appointed by the Premier in July 2019 with a mandate to provide recommendations on how technology and innovation can help strengthen B.C.'s agriculture and food security, and how B.C. agricultural technology can be further developed and exported internationally.
- The Task Force conducted extensive engagement with key industry, business community and academia within and outside the Province. Between July and December 2019, the Task Force met with over 100 stakeholders and almost 450 people participated in an online survey.
- On January 30, 2020, the Task Force released their recommendations to the public, which are for the B.C. Government to:
 1. Apply the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals to agricultural policies;
 2. Establish an agritech incubator/acceleration strategy;
 3. Create an agriculture and agritech institute in partnership with post-secondary institutions; and
 4. Review land use planning policies and regulations to ensure B.C.'s agritech sector has a place to grow.
- Since the report's release in January 2020, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation (JERI) has been working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (MAFF) to consider implementation strategies for the recommendations – specifically, recommendation 4, by exploring policy considerations related to agri-industrial land that could support agritech activities.
- On December 11, 2020, JERI launched the \$3 million Agritech Grant Program, under StrongerBC. An additional \$4.5 million was approved in further funding for a total of \$7.5 million in grants. 100 applications were received and 21 companies were awarded grants.
- On March 26, 2021, the Ministry announced the launch of the Agritech Concierge as a one-stop shop for companies to access government services and programs to expand operations, improve export readiness, attract further investment and facilitate partnership opportunities. Concierge staff work with other levels of government and industry partners to provide tailored and professional path-finding services to companies and program referrals as required.
 - To date, the Concierge has directly supported over 15 companies, ranging from start-up to revenue-generating, including clients that were recipients of the Agritech Grant Program (e.g., Bakerview Ecodairy, Lucent Biosciences).

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- The Ministry is also working collaboratively with MAFF to develop a land inventory to consider where agritech companies may be able to invest/scale and anchor.
- The B.C. Government is committed to supporting regenerative agriculture in the Province. There is a cross-governmental approach (JERI, MAFF) to develop a Regenerative Agriculture Network.
- B.C.'s agritech sector is currently estimated to contribute up to:
 - \$564 million in direct revenue (\$913 million by 2025);
 - 4,285 jobs (6,710 jobs by 2025); and
 - \$176 million of exports (\$285 million by 2025).
- Implementation of the Food Security Task Force recommendations will further grow B.C.'s current cluster of over 150 agritech companies, create efficiencies in production, enhance our local food supply, create skilled jobs, and contribute to exports.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- No budget commitments within 2021/2022. Funding for the Task Force was through AGRI in a dedicated fund held by Innovate BC.

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021- Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Leslie Teramoto

Executive Director

Trade & Industry
Development

604 775-2201

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

StrongerBC Summary

Issue: StrongerBC provided more than \$1.5 billion in funding to support economic recovery and help businesses survive the impacts of the pandemic. The majority of StrongerBC programs are completed with some continuing into the new fiscal year in-line with the approved program design.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Over spring and early summer 2020, Government gathered ideas and input from stakeholders and the public on how to support sustainable and inclusive economic recovery.
- Government responded by reviewing and assessing the feedback, analyzing recommendations and in many cases, designing programs that could be launched in fall and completed within a relatively short time-period supporting British Columbians in economic recovery while ensuring a focus on maintaining public health.
- StrongerBC projects were announced as part of the StrongerBC plan on September 17, 2021.
- Initiatives that were fully developed and approved, were launched during the interregnum period while government was in care-taker mode.
- Where additional program and policy development was needed, ministries returned once the new government was formed to get policy direction or approval of program design.
- StrongerBC includes 55 initiatives from across government totaling more than \$1.5 billion in expenditures.
- 46 of the initial 55 initiatives will continue to deliver benefits to British Columbians over the next two years which includes construction projects across B.C. communities and education skills training programs
- StrongerBC programming focusses on four key streams of initiatives:
 1. **Supporting BC businesses:** This stream includes programming for businesses in various sectors and includes the Small and Medium Sized Business Grant, digital marketing, programs, grants to support companies that manufacture, mass timber demonstration funding, support for the agritech sector and PST rebates.
 - Total funding under this stream amounts to more than \$435M
 - More than 9,000 businesses accessed these programs as of March 31, 2021.
 - All funding is projected to have reached the intended recipients by summer 2021
 2. **Getting People Back to Work:** This stream focusses on retraining and helping people get back into well paying, durable jobs. Initiatives include, Community Job Creation Projects, Employment Supports for People with Disabilities, funding for retraining,

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Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

targeted Training for Health and Human Services, microcredential programs and Indigenous Community Skills Training and Education

- Total funding under this stream amounts to more than \$106.7M
- Advice/Recommendations

- **Better Healthcare:** This stream includes funding for more medical professionals, including contact tracers, screening staff at long-term care and assisted living facilities as well as financial support for the Health Career Access Program which provides paid training for British Columbians who are training to fill essential healthcare positions. This stream also includes improved services such as mental health supports that will be available to British Columbians. Total funding under this stream amounts to more than \$304M
 - The funding has already helped support 4,521 people to gain employment as of March 31, 2021
3. **Stronger communities-** includes funding for infrastructure and local governments and other supports to address community needs. Projects include road construction, port and airport upgrades, connectivity expansion, habitat conservation and support for tourism dependent communities.
- Total funding under this stream amounts to more than \$ 802M
 - The funding will continue to drive economic growth and job creation across B.C. for the next two to three years.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Please see the table in Appendix A

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Nathan Nankviell Executive Director 250 387-8131

Appendix A



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

APPENDIX A:

Supporting B.C. Businesses			
Program	Allocation FY 20/21	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Program Completed or Continuing
1. Small and Medium Business Grants (includes \$45M from Tourism taskforce) JERI	\$345M		Continuing into spring of 2021 and also includes the funding for the Circuit Breaker grant
2. Agritech Grants JERI	\$7.5M		Completed
3. Manufacturing grants JERI	\$17M		Continuing into spring of 2021
4. Launch Online & Digital Marketing Bootcamps JERI	\$44M		Continuing into 2021
5. Mass Timber Demonstration JERI	\$3M		Completed
6. Supports for agricultural businesses (food hub) AFF	\$5.6M		Completed
7. Increasing BC Food Production and Processing AFF	\$1.95M		Completed
8. Small Farm Business Acceleration Program and Provincial Replant Program AFF	\$0.89M		Completed
9. On-Farm Innovation Top-Up Program AFF	\$1.6M		Completed
10. Restoring Confidence App CITZ	\$2M		Completed
11. Digitization of industrial land CITZ	\$0.7M		Work ongoing during FY 21/22
12. Destination BC Tourism Recovery Strategy TACS	\$5M		Work ongoing during FY 21/22
13. Tourism Taskforce Indigenous Tourism Recovery Fund TACS	\$5M		Work ongoing during FY 21/22
Total	\$436.74M		

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Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Getting People Back to Work			
Program	Budget Allocation in FY 20/21	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Key Outcomes & notes
14. Youth Employment Program (YEP) for Parks and Conservation Officer Service ENV	\$1.80M		Completed. New funding allocated to extend the program under StrongerBC Future Leaders
15. Community Job Creation Projects - Rural opportunities and Wildfire Risk Reduction FLNRORD	\$25.00M		Projects continue into fall 2022
16. Forest Employment Program FLNRORD	\$12.000M		Some projects continuing into spring 2023
17. Recreation Sites and Trails Youth Crew Program Expansion FLNRORD	\$0.428M		Completed but additional funding will extend the program into 2021
18. Employment Supports for People with Disabilities and Facing Barriers SDPR	\$20.000M		Additional projects will be funded Sept 2021 and March 2022
19. Targeted Training for Health and Human Services AEST	\$10.535M		Training continuing throughout FY 21/22
20. Short-Term Skills Training for In-demand Jobs AEST	\$20.000M		Training will continue until March 2022
21. Micro-Credentialing AEST	\$2.000M		Completed
22. Indigenous Community Skills Training and Education AEST	\$15.000M		Funds expended but training will continue to be delivered in FY 21/22
Total	\$106.763M		

Stronger Communities			
Program	Budget Allocation in FY 20/21	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Key Outcomes & notes

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23. Anti-Racism Restart and Recovery AG	\$1.900M	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Funds expended. Programming continuing during FY 21/22
24. Technology and Innovation – Connectivity CITZ	\$90.000M		98% allocated to projects. Fully allocated to projects by end of April. Majority of projects to complete by Nov 2021. Some extend to 22/23
25. Tulsequah Chief Mine Remediation EMLI	\$1.575M		Initiative completed
26. Building Innovation Fund Recapitalization EMLI	\$8.000M		Projects delivered over 21/22 and 22/23
27. Commercial Vehicle Innovation Challenge – ARC Program EMLI	\$30.000M		Program continuing over 21/22
28. Go Electric Specialty Use Vehicle Incentive Program EMLI	\$31.000M		Program continues to March 2023
29. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Roadmap and Pilot Program EMLI & ENV	\$2.000M		Initiative is ongoing in FY 21/22 subject to TBS approval
30. BC Parks Stimulus Proposal – Construction Projects ENV	\$5.000M		Construction continues into June 2021
31. Species and Ecosystems Conservation and Restoration ENV	\$10.215M		Projects will continue until December 2021
32. Watershed Initiative and Wetlands Projects (Watersheds BC) ENV	\$27.000M		Projects will continue until December 2021
33. Clean Coast, Clean Waters Initiative Fund ENV	\$14.830M		Completed by December 2021. Top of of \$5M through StrongerBC Future Leaders
34. Recycled Plastics Manufacturing Stimulus ENV	\$5.000M		\$2.8M awarded to applicants. Remainder distributed by January 2022

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Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

35. Invasive Species Detection and Removal FLNRORD	\$12.000M	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Initiatives continue into spring 2022
36. Convert Underperforming Forests FLNRORD	\$5.000M		Some initiatives continue to be delivered during 2021
37. Remote and Rural Road Access - Capital and Operating FLNRORD	\$8.05 M		Project work continuing into summer 2021
38. Early Retirement Bridging Program LBR	\$10.000M		Funding will continue in 2021 as people hit their retirement dates
39. Childcare Spaces and Safety Grants MCFD	\$46.000M		Funding will continue to create new spaces into 2021
40. Huu-ay-aht First Nations – Anacla/Bamfield Road MIRR	\$25.700M		Project work will continue into fall 2023
41. COVID-19 Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program MUNI	\$100.000M		Ongoing- Funding with UBCM. Adjudication in April 2021 and funds will be distributed in summer 2021.
42. Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Program MUNI	\$136.540M		Program continues into December 2021
43. Tourism Dependent Communities TACS	\$19.400M		Initiatives continue to be delivered in 2021
44. Targeted Regional Tourism Development Initiatives TACS	\$13.600M		Initiatives continue to be delivered in 2021
45. Arts and Culture Resilience Plan TACS	\$35.800M		Initiatives continue to be delivered in 2021
46. Active Transportation – Connections, Road Widening and Maintenance TRAN	\$16.675M		Projects continue into 2021

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47. Highways Climate Change Adaptation TRAN	\$20.700M	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Projects continue into 2021
48. Regional Port Enhancement Program TRAN	\$40.000M		Supports larger port expansion projects that will complete in 23/24
49. Remote and Rural Community Access Program TRAN	\$25.650M		Projects continue into 2021
50. Air Access Grants TRAN and EMLI	\$15.750M		Project work ongoing in 2021
51. Return to school funding EDUC	\$45.6M		completed
Total	\$ 802.985M¹		

Better Health Care			
Program	Budget Allocation in FY 20/21	Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information	Key Outcomes & notes
52. Jobs in Healthcare HLTH	\$299.99M		Ongoing
53. Mental Health Support for the Workforce MMHA	\$2.0M		Ongoing programming
54. Youth Suicide Prevention and Life Promotion MMHA	\$2.335M		Ongoing programming
Total	\$304.25M		

Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information

¹ Additional funding of \$14.8M was added to the Arts and Culture Resilience Plan



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

AGRITECH GRANT PROGRAM - STRONGERBC

Issue: \$7.5 million B.C. Agritech Grant Program launched under StrongerBC

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- On December 11, 2020, the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation (JERI) announced the \$3 million Agritech Grant Program under StrongerBC – the Province’s COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan. This program is an initiative with strong alignments to the Food Security Task Force’s recommendations.
- The program accelerates the growth of B.C.’s agritech sector, in support of economic recovery, using one-time grant funding for B.C. companies to scale up or for companies to anchor within the Province.
- The goals of the Agritech Grant Program are to:
 - Increase the development, scale up and expansion of made-in-B.C. companies and technologies;
 - Attract and retain investments to B.C. that create jobs for British Columbians; and
 - Further B.C.’s reputation as an ideal jurisdiction for agritech with an exceptional base of farmland and a highly-skilled technology sector, by contributing to company or industry-led research, demonstration, testing or knowledge transfer activities.
- The Grant aligns with and supports the 2020 Food Security Task Force report, specifically recommendation #2: to help develop, demonstrate and deploy novel agri-technologies.
- There were 100 applications received by the program deadline of February 12, 2021.
- On March 8, 2021, ^{Cabinet Confidences} \$4.5 million in additional funding for the Agritech Grant Program, for a total of \$7.5 million.
- Evaluations of short-listed applications were conducted by a six-member Technical Review Panel consisting of representatives from:
 - Selena Basi (ADM, JERI), Chair;
 - Mark Raymond (Executive Director, MAFF);
 - Michelle Koski (Executive Director, Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C.);
 - Mike Manion (Executive in Residence, Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C.);
 - Nadine Diner (Director, Innovate BC); and
 - Rustam Sengupta (Investment Lead, Sustainable Development Technology Canada).
- Recommendations from the Technical Review Panel were brought forth to the five-member Strategic Review Panel for review and validation.
- The five-member Strategic Review Panel consisted of:
 - Selena Basi (ADM, JERI), Chair;
 - Peter Dhillon (CEO, Richberry Group of Companies and previous Chair of B.C.’s Food Security Task Force);
 - Naina Sloan (ADM, Western Economic Diversification Canada);

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

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- Gerri Sinclair, B.C. Innovation Commissioner; and
 - Arif Lalani (ADM, MAFF).
- A total of 21 applicants/companies were awarded Agritech Grants for a total of \$7.5 million. Of the \$7.5 million in total grant funding:
 - \$1,780,000 was awarded to regional communities;
 - \$760,000 was awarded to Indigenous-related projects; and
 - \$2,620,091 was awarded to regenerative agriculture projects.
- Appendix A provides a summary of recipient companies, including project descriptions.
- Grant recipients will work on a range of agritech projects ranging from nutrient and waste management to precision agriculture, aquaculture, genomics and robotics.
- The Agritech Grant Program is expected to help strengthen the anchors of an agritech cluster while supporting local tech and innovation, as well as attract investment in B.C.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- In 2020/21, The Agritech Grant Program had an initial budget of \$3 million under the *StrongerBC Economic Recovery Plan*.
- Additional funding of \$4.5 million was allocated to the Agritech Grant Program in 2020/21, for a total of \$7.5 million.

Approvals:

March 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: March 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778-974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix A: Summary of Agritech Grant Recipients (*alphabetized by applicant*)

Applicant	Theme	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
Advanced Intelligent Systems (AIS)	Labour automation	Autonomous robotics company that uses proprietary library of hardware and software modules to significantly reduce the development time and cost of new robotic solutions. It plans to create an indoor, driverless, autonomous electric vehicle to transport produce within greenhouses for processing, packing and shipping.	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000
AgriForest Biotechnologies Ltd.	Agri-biotech	Plant biotechnology company that will use the grant to focus on improving the methods and decreasing the costs of propagating disease-free berry varieties to meet a growing demand for superior planting materials by the growers of B.C. and Canada.	Thompson-Okanagan	\$150,000
Bakerview EcoDairy Ltd.	Traceability e-commerce	42.5-hectare farm in Abbotsford that will work to pilot a blockchain encrypted information management system to follow beef products from farm to consumer. Bakerview Eco Dairy will partner with KPMG to use existing software in a new way.	Mainland/Southwest	\$230,265
Barrel Wise	Precision agriculture QA	Develops smart technology to enhance wine analysis and production. BarrelWise has developed a proprietary wine barrel management system that increases operational efficiency, decreases process errors and allows for precision barrel-by-barrel management of wine quality through the collection and analysis of critical data.	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000
BC Cattlemen's Association	Precision agriculture GPS	Developing wearable cattle technology that will allow producers to manage and track cattle movement within and outside of cellular service, taking advantage of existing cellular and satellite technology and infrastructure	Thompson-Okanagan	\$350,000

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Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Applicant	Theme	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
BW Global	Innovative production system	Western Canada's largest food systems/greenhouse design and manufacturing company that is building the Better World Innovation Centre, an international collaboration on a 18.2-hectare regenerative organic farm in Abbotsford to demonstrate new agriculture and clean technology, along with new business models that will decarbonize food production and distribution and improve food supply, security and sovereignty in B.C. and around the world.	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000
Cascadia Seaweed	Aquaculture	Improvements to farm operations using technology, increasing seaweed cultivation productivity and enhancing Indigenous relationships.	Vancouver Island/Coast	\$258,821
Flex Alert Company Ltd.	Precision agriculture IoT	Develops low-cost wireless biosensors to monitor pathogens common in agriculture, such as powdery mildew, brown rot and botrytis. Flex Alert plans to use ozone nanobubble technology in irrigation for pathogen remediation in grape fields with Summerland Estate Vineyard as project partner.	Mainland/Southwest	\$240,000
FoodMesh	Traceability, e-commerce	Builds digital solutions to reduce and track food waste for the food sector. FoodMesh will work to commercialize a data aggregation and insights engine to help retailers reduce and prevent avoidable wasted food.	Mainland/Southwest	\$450,000
Industrial Plankton	Aquaculture	Specializes in developing and manufacturing cutting-edge algae bioreactors for aquaculture hatcheries and biotech. Industrial Plankton is developing a turnkey seaweed hatchery/nursery, built in shipping containers for easy delivery, installation and adoption by industry. This technology will facilitate selective breeding and provide a reliable source of high-quality seaweed seedlings for commercial farms.	Vancouver Island/Coast	\$200,000
i-Open Technologies Inc.	Precision agriculture IoT	Specializes in geospatial web-mapping applications, data integration and spatial artificial intelligence. The company is developing Agrilyze, B.C.'s first spatial data analytics platform for precision agriculture that collects, tracks and maps data allowing for efficiency and better regulatory compliance while optimizing resource usage (such as human, equipment, consumables and waste).	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Applicant	Theme	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
Lucent Biosciences Inc.	Nutrient/waste management	Develops sustainable, carbon-positive, non-polluting micronutrient fertilizers that improve soil health. Lucent BioSciences Inc. will work with Salmon Arm's Valid Manufacturing Ltd. to take recovered dry-cake dairy livestock waste and transform it into a non-polluting, safe, high-performance fertilizer and bring it to market.	Mainland/Southwest	\$248,145
NovoBind Livestock Therapeutics	Agri-biotech	Develops next-generation biologics that target and neutralize the specific bacteria, viruses and parasites that cause intestinal ailments in livestock, aquaculture and pets. NovoBind's novel biotherapeutic solutions are based on nanobodies (or single-domain antibodies) and provide a complementary alternative to conventional treatments.	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000
Point 3 Biotech Corp.	Nutrient/waste management	Consortium of more than 20 technology pioneers that have come together to drive technology solutions at the back end of animal agriculture, such as developing community scale manure management. PT3 plans to use recovered and processed dairy manure fibre instead of the wood fibre that B.C. imports, for hog fuel, shavings, sawdust and compost. The project will demonstrate the ability to harvest long strand dairy manure fibre from farms that bed on sand, for use in poultry barns and mushroom production.	Mainland/Southwest	\$257,820
Sanctuary Cognitive	Labour automation	Global leader in robotics and artificial intelligence, creating general-purpose robots able to perform physical work supporting the human labour force. It is currently working on a robotic hand to semi-automate blueberry picking and as proof of concept for the semi-automated harvesting of cherries, raspberries, strawberries and other potential applications.	Mainland/Southwest	\$500,000
Skipper Otto	Traceability e-commerce	community-supported fishery that connects fishers/harvesters directly to consumers. The company represents 37 small-scale, independent fishers/harvesters and 5,000 consumers. Skipper Otto's digital expansion project will use a technology partner to enhance agritech software for independent producers, filling a gap in the marketplace.	Mainland/Southwest	\$227,775

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Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Applicant	Theme	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
TechBrew Robotics	Labour automation	robotics company based in Salmon Arm. The company provides solutions for industry. TechBrew plans to develop a final prototype of a mushroom harvesting robot able to identify, locate and automatically pick mushrooms ready for harvest, without damaging them. This can result in a significant increase in yield and solve labour issues.	Thompson-Okanagan	\$500,000
ThisFish	Traceability, e-commerce	Seafood traceability and production software that reduces costs, strengthens process control and improves compliance in global supply chains. ThisFish will work on scaling up by establishing an operational centre in B.C. to position it for North American growth.	Mainland/Southwest	\$353,313
Trident Processes	Nutrient/waste management	Develops and automates processing systems for liquid and solid separation of agricultural wastewater into high-value fibre biomass, nutrients and water. Trident's project will determine community needs and whether a business case exists to establish a future manure processing plant.	Mainland/Southwest	\$413,861
Valid Manufacturing	Nutrient/waste management	Designs, engineers and manufactures innovative solutions for a wide range of industries. The company has recently developed a nutrient recovery system to help dairy farms manage their agriculture waste. Valid Manufacturing Ltd. will work with Vancouver's Lucent BioSciences Inc. to take recovered dry-cake dairy livestock waste and transform it into a non-polluting, safe, high-performance fertilizer and bring it to market.	Thompson-Okanagan	\$320,000
Verdi Expeditions	Precision agriculture IoT	Climate proofs crops by helping farmers customize growing conditions for every plant. Verdi will focus on piloting and commercializing hyper-precise irrigation technology, which has been piloted successfully at two wineries.	Mainland/Southwest	\$300,000
			TOTAL	\$7,500,000

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MANUFACTURING RECOVERY PROJECTS

Issue: Overview of economic recovery projects providing targeted support to the manufacturing sector

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

B.C. manufacturing is a critical component of our economy, representing:

- 172,000 good paying jobs;
- Over 7 per cent of provincial gross domestic product;
- 11,000 small and medium-size companies; and
- \$17 billion contribution in GDP.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the importance of B.C.'s manufacturing sector, including its economic contributions, the critical goods it delivers and the jobs it provides in all regions of the province.

As part of B.C.'s Economic Recovery Plan, the Province committed up to \$16.25 million in one-time funding toward the 'Supply Chain Resiliency and Value-Added Manufacturing Project' ("Project") to support small and medium-sized businesses to build manufacturing capacity, generate new economic opportunities, and enhance the resilience of provincial supply chains.

The project funding was broken down into three components:

1. A \$10M Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program;
2. A \$6M Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program; and
3. A \$0.25M Strategic Supply Chain Analysis.

1) Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program:

- JERI sought an external agent to deliver the Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant, including developing website content, managing the application intake process, dispersing grants and monitoring for appropriate use of grant funds.
- A Request for Proposal opportunity was posted on B.C. Bid between January 21 to February 18, 2021. Nine proposals were received and scored based on a set of weighted desired criteria, including capabilities, approach, and price. The successful proponent was Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP (PWC).
- PWC has launched the Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant with an application intake open from April 15 until May 31, 2021.
- The program will provide \$10 million to support small and medium sized B.C. manufacturing businesses to accelerate innovative capacity, strengthen provincial supply chains, and sustain and create new economic activity in B.C.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

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Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Applicants are eligible for a one-time, 75 per cent funded provincial grant up to a maximum of \$250,000 for individual businesses or up to \$500,000 for groups in collaboration. Projects will:
 - Prototype, pilot or demonstrate new technology;
 - Commercialize new technology or products;
 - Support in-market access activities; or
 - Assess or conduct process / operational improvements to increase production capacity.

Status Update: Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC) is currently accepting applications for the program until May 31, 2021. PWC will conduct a merit assessment review of all eligible applications and will inform grant applicants of decisions by July 2021. The Province anticipates 20 to 40 grants will be awarded and all projects are expected to be completed by March 2022 with detailed reporting requirements.

2) Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program:

- A \$6 million program to support key industry stakeholders and groups in collaboration to strengthen supply chain capacity and manage the risk of future disruption.
- Applicants were eligible for a one-time, 100 percent funded provincial grant to support projects.
- Eligible applicants included the following:
 - **Industry Organizations:** Up to \$400,000 for registered Canadian or BC industry, sector, or trade associations or organizations that have operations, members, and a demonstrated record of supporting manufacturing in B.C.; and
 - **Groups in Collaboration:** Up to \$200,000 for a group of two or more legally registered entities working in collaboration as project partners that are directly involved in or support manufacturing in B.C. (can include for-profit or not-for-profit entities).
- Program intake was managed by JERI staff, who accepted 94 applications totaling \$21.6 million between January 18 and February 18, 2021. Eligible applications were reviewed by a project team of JERI staff and also underwent a technical review by staff from FLNRORD, MAFF, and JERI.

Status Update: 24 applicants were successfully awarded funding for their projects and will report back quarterly on project implementation, outcomes, and deliverables as a condition of the program contribution letter. All projects are expected to be completed by March, 2022. See Appendix A for more information on the successful grant recipients.

3) Strategic Supply Chain Analysis:

- \$250,000 to support a comprehensive study focused on key B.C. manufacturing and related strategic supply chains and emerging value-added manufacturing opportunities, including actionable recommendations for the near-term.

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- JERI posted a Request for Proposal opportunity on BC Bid for delivery of the project, which closed on March 9, 2021. Five proposals were submitted and assessed.

Status Update: PWC was the successful proponent of the Request for Proposal. PWC is currently conducting research and analysis for the study and will submit their final report to JERI by August 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

Project Component	Budget
Accelerating Manufacturing Scale-Up Grant Program	\$10 million
Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Program	\$6 million
Strategic Supply Chain Analysis	\$0.25 million

Approvals:

Mar 23, 2021 - Selena Basi, TIDD

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: 18 March 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778-974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Appendix A: Summary of Supply Chain Resiliency Grant Recipients (*alphabetized by applicant*)

Applicant/ Partners	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
AdvanTec Manufacturing Canada	Creation of certified laminated and fire-rated glass within B.C. that enables the local supply chain to deliver equipment at the specification needed for shipbuilding at Seaspan Vancouver Shipyards.	Mainland/Southwest	\$200,000
Aerospace Industries Association of Canada-Pacific	Project to increase understanding for pandemic impacts on the current aerospace manufacturing supply chain, identify emerging opportunities and implement plans to strengthen the B.C. aerospace cluster.	All Regions	\$280,000
Association of BC Marine Industries (ABCMI)	Increase supply-chain resiliency in the marine sector through the implementation of the following activities: one-time funding for a research, development and commercialization project for a marine sector consortium; tailored supply-chain development training targeted to small and medium enterprises and to identify marine business integration opportunities; and an industrial marine sector roadmap in strategic, emerging areas of opportunity.	Vancouver Island/Coast	\$400,000
Atli Resources LP (the forestry arm of the 'Namgis First Nation), with the Kwakiutl First Nation, FPInnovations, Paper Excellence, the Regional District of Mount Waddington and LinksEdge Ltd.	Project to overcome barriers creating under-utilized harvest residuals on northern Vancouver Island. This includes the development of a fibre supply chain model, validation to test model results and business case development.	Vancouver Island/Coast	\$200,000
BC Council of Forest Industries	Project includes informed development of a supply-chain roadmap, augmented by an inclusive engagement process, existing market information, industry data and subject matter expertise. This results in supply chain benchmarks, barriers and opportunities; digitalization opportunities along the full supply chain; and learning and opportunities from other jurisdictions.	All Regions	\$400,000
Bc Food and Beverage Association	Analyze the impact of supply-chain disruptions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, identify best practices in addressing and adapting to supply-chain disruptions, assess feasibility of the proposed solutions and develop a supply-chain guide that identifies barriers and solutions for the food and beverage sector.	All Regions	\$326,325
BC Tech Association, with the City of Surrey, City of Richmond, and the Township of Langley	Pilot an industrial capabilities inventory, pilot the de-risking emerging market opportunities toolkit and hold a series of education seminars to support manufacturers to adopt technology.	All Regions	\$400,000
BC Wood Specialties Group Association	Project supporting sector engagement of the supply chain for value-added wood manufacturers by sub-sector.	All Regions	\$90,750
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters-BC Division	Implement program activities in support of the Technology Assessment and Adoption Diagnostic Tool. These activities include training the facilitators, marketing the opportunity	All Regions	\$400,000

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Applicant/ Partners	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
	to B.C. manufacturers and implementation throughout the province. This tool will help enable manufacturers to make the right decision in relation to technology investments.		
Construction Foundation of BC	Conduct research on the technology and training gaps that create barriers for local northern-based manufacturers to compete for work on major projects in the region.	All Regions	\$195,800
Cowichan Green Community Society, with the Cowichan Valley Co-operative Marketplace	Enable the adoption of process improvement and efficiencies strategies to improve service delivery for Cowichan Green Community Society members to better support environmental sustainability and resiliency in their local food production and processing.	Vancouver Island/Coast	\$200,000
Domtar Pulp Mill, with the BC Pulp & Paper BioAlliance	Develop a supply-chain strategy for bio-based replacements for petroleum-based packaging materials through three actions: confirm end-users and requirements; identify key supply-chain participants and their roles and develop a supply-chain strategy to determine the best way to supply industrial end users.	All Regions	\$194,000
FP Innovations	Accelerate the development of key wood-based systems created and to be commercialized by B.C.-based companies. This includes the testing and certification of at least two novel B.C.-based building system concepts that are in demand by B.C.-based designers and builders.	All Regions	\$400,000
Gitmaxmak'ay Nisga'a Society, with the Prince Rupert and District Chamber of Commerce and Ecotrust Canada	Develop a food distribution network in northwestern B.C. by using a web platform that connects key players in this supply chain to build strong relationships. Research will be conducted by consulting key players in the food supply chain to understand how to best connect them within the region. A web platform will then be developed to showcase stakeholders in northern B.C.	North Coast and Nechako	\$167,000
Independent Wood Processors Association of B.C.	Study and analyze the barriers and opportunities of processing value-added hemlock products in B.C., as well as analyze fibre-supply constraints that restrict opportunities for higher-value-added wood products.	All Regions	\$85,300
Inno Foods, with Foodverify Blockchain Inc., Maitri Health Technologies Corporation and Bacata Food Group Inc.	Enable the development of a fully functional blockchain supply-chain traceability solution called FoodVerify. This proposal relies on a technological solution for supply-chain issues and could potentially be applied across a multitude of sectors (food, personal protective equipment and other material goods).	Mainland	\$200,000
Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association	Development of a computer model that will identify value extraction opportunities to improve allocations of the available logs to the various manufacturing facilities in an area.	Thompson Okanagan	\$107,460
Krayden Canada, with Avcorp Industries	Enable the investment of equipment to allow for aerospace film cutting locally. The investment creates a local capability to store and cut aerospace adhesive film for use on	All Regions	\$163,372

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Applicant/ Partners	Project Description	Economic Region	Approved Funding
	aircraft spoilers, maintaining control of the supply in B.C. and increasing economic potential.		
Natures Formulae Health Products Ltd., with Saje Natural Business Inc.	Enable additional warehouse capacity to allow the company to meet current supply chain demand for ingredients and packaging used to produce natural products, including hand sanitizer.	Thompson Okanagan	\$200,000
Rainhouse Manufacturing Canada Ltd., with the Canadian Electric Vehicles Ltd. and the University of Victoria	Design, test and certify battery packs for the manufacturing of electric and hybrid electric vehicles to expand sustainable economic opportunities in the supply chain for electric vehicles.	Vancouver Island/ Coast	\$200,000
Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, with Boundary Community Ventures Association, Magnum Meats Inc., Kirkaberry Farms and Kettle Valley Food Co-operative	This investment will allow for the creation of a marketing and distribution strategy for the Boundary Food Hub through three activities: hiring a distribution manager, developing a Boundary-wide food product brand and launching a distribution system.	Kootenay	\$200,000
Small Scale Food Processor Association	Create and implement an online marketplace with a support system that assists B.C. food and beverage producers, processors and institutional buyers to market, sell, purchase and distribute their products within the local food supply chain.	All Regions	\$399,993
Williams Lake First Nation, with the Atlantic Power Corporation	Enable the purchase of equipment that will allow Williams Lake First Nation to turn raw product into a value-added product for the sale of energy generation and biomass fuel. These products are then turned into electricity. This enables Williams Lake First Nation to have a more sustainable and energy efficient supply chain.	Cariboo	\$200,000
Wood Pellet Association of Canada	Enable the development of a near-term strategy and actions to address logistical bottlenecks and supply-chain disruptions to rail shipping in Prince Rupert. The funding will enable the groundwork to examine increased track space through an environmental assessment.	All Regions	\$390,000

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

InBC INVESTMENT CORP. PROFILE

Issue: Overview of the InBC Investment Corp.

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- InBC Investment Corp. (InBC) is a new \$500 million strategic investment fund that was announced in September 2020 as part of StrongerBC, B.C.'s economic recovery plan.
- InBC was created by repurposing an existing Crown Corporation, the BC Immigrant Investment Fund (BCIIF). All the assets and responsibilities of the BCIIF have been transferred to InBC. The Crown was renamed to reflect its new and expanded mandate.
- The purpose of InBC is to invest on a triple bottom line basis alongside the private sector to support high growth potential firms in BC and drive low carbon innovation and the low carbon economy.
- By providing a local source of capital, InBC will help B.C. businesses scale up, and make sure talent, intellectual property and family supporting jobs stay in the province.
- Through its triple bottom line mandate, InBC's investments will contribute to positive environmental, economic and societal impacts in the province.
- These impacts may include: distributed growth, scaling small and medium-sized businesses, anchoring intellectual property in B.C., supporting the development of an innovative low-carbon economy, investing in businesses owned by or benefitting Indigenous people and fostering an inclusive economy that benefits diverse groups of peoples.
- To achieve those goals, InBC must operate within investment parameters that address financial as well as environmental, economic, and social policy goals. These parameters constitute a triple bottom line, where InBC measures success against both financial as well as socio-economic and environmental policy objectives.
- The Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation and the Minister of Finance are the shareholders of InBC.
- InBC will be overseen by a nine-member Board of Directors, made up of both public and private sector members, who are appointed by the Minister. The full Board was appointed on May 6, 2021. Board members include the following: Christine Bergeron (Chair), , Kevin Campbell, Iglia Ivanova, Carole James, Ingrid Leong, Glen Loughheed, Suzanne Trottier, Bobbi Plecas, Heather Wood .
- InBC will submit annual reports as required by the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* as well as an annual report regarding its investments to the Ministers responsible for InBC for tabling in the Legislature. InBC's legislation also requires an external review by an independent third party every five years.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- All investment decisions will be made by the fund's independent Chief Investment Officer (CIO). The CIO's independence will be enshrined in statute.
- InBC's operations are currently provided by staff within the Ministry of JERI. As part of the transition, the Crown will be establishing autonomous operations separate from the Ministry.
- Recruitment of senior executives, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer, will commence in the spring and summer of 2021.
- InBC is also the sole shareholder of a subsidiary corporation, the BC Renaissance Capital Fund Ltd. (BCRCF) which holds venture capital investments in British Columbia's technology sector.
- The BCRCF, through its two portfolios of venture capital investments (Portfolio 1 and BC Tech Fund) makes capital available to B.C. technology companies by investing in venture capital funds and co-investing in B.C. companies. Portfolio 1 is a mature fund and is not making any new investments. The BC Tech Fund is nearing the close of its investment period, with most capital committed. These portfolios will continue to be administered by InBC.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- As of December 31, 2020, InBC manages approximately \$104.4 million in assets, which includes \$15.5 million in outstanding infrastructure loans, \$71.5 million in venture capital fund investments and \$17.4 million in cash and short-term investments.
- InBC will have higher operating costs starting in 2021/22 in line with its new mandate and larger budget.
- InBC's operations and investments will be financed through a combination of returns from its existing investment portfolios, accumulated surplus, and a fiscal agency loan, arranged through the Ministry of Finance.
- The intention is for InBC to be self-sustaining over the long run; however, InBC is forecasting a deficit of \$3.52 million for 2021/22, and deficits of \$6.22 million and \$6.54 million in the following two years.
- InBC does not include revenue or losses from venture capital investments when forecasting, due to the variable and unpredictable nature of the investments. Actual results may be significantly different as a result.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

March 22, 2021 – James Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister, Investment and Innovation Division
[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

David Mortimer	Executive Director	Investment Capital Branch and InBC Transition Branch	778 698-3363
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

BC RENAISSANCE CAPITAL FUND LTD.

Issue: Status of the BC Renaissance Capital Fund Ltd.'s Investments

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The BC Renaissance Capital Fund Ltd. (BCRCF) is a wholly owned subsidiary of InBC Investment Corp. (formerly the BC Immigrant Investment Fund Ltd.). The BCRCF holds two portfolios of venture capital investments: the BCRCF Portfolio 1; and the BC Tech Fund.
- In 2007, the Province launched the BC Renaissance Capital Fund which made \$90 million in commitments to nine venture capital funds, termed Portfolio 1:
 - Portfolio 1 attracted global venture capital investment to B.C.'s information technology, digital media, clean technology and life sciences sectors;
 - As of September 2020¹, Portfolio 1 fund managers and their co-investors had made 35 investments in B.C. companies totaling over \$679.4 million in, and supporting over 900 jobs in B.C.
- In October 2016, the BCRCF launched the \$100 million BC Tech Fund, which is a fund-of-funds that invests in B.C.-based venture capital funds and makes direct co-investments into B.C.-based companies:
 - The BC Tech Fund is managed by an expert private sector fund manager, Kensington Capital Partners (Kensington), who make the investment decisions. Kensington was selected through a rigorous procurement process that was overseen by a fairness adviser.
 - As of September 2020, the BC Tech Fund had made seventeen investments:
 - 10 into venture capital funds with a presence in B.C. (Vanedge II and III, Scale Up Ventures, Lumira, Yaletown, Pangea, Versant, Framework Venture Partners, Voyager Capital and Panache Ventures) and
 - 7 investments into B.C.-based companies, Mojio, Eventbase, FoodeeD-Wave, Procurify, Tasktop and Thinkific.
 - As of September 2020, BC Tech Fund investments had led to:
 - 39 investments in B.C. companies.
 - 1,350 B.C. jobs in the invested companies.
 - \$660 million in investments in these companies from the BC Tech Fund and partner investors.
 - The BC Tech Fund also requires Kensington Capital Partners to engage in activities that help build B.C.'s venture capital system (for example: encouraging new venture capital funds to form in B.C., helping existing funds establish a presence in B.C., growing

¹ Latest available reporting



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Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

investment readiness in B.C. tech companies, helping to grow diversity in B.C.'s venture capital system and raising awareness of B.C. companies, B.C.-based venture capital funds and the investment opportunities that are available in B.C.) These activities are designed to help B.C.'s venture capital system continue to grow and mature.

- Business Information

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Portfolio 1 is currently distributing investment returns and invested capital. Year to date investment revenue from Portfolio 1 as of December 2020, is \$4.20 million. Portfolio 1 is expected to be fully matured by 2024.
- The BC Tech Fund is over 90 percent committed, with another one to three direct investments expected before the fund is fully committed.
- Of the amounts committed to date, \$53.0 million has been deployed into investments by the fund manager. The BC Tech Fund is expected to mature in 2030.

Approvals:

March 22, 2021 – James Harvey, Associate Deputy Minister, Competitiveness and Investment Division
[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: 12 March 2021

Contact:

David Mortimer	Executive Director	Innovation and Investment Division	778 698-3363
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FII PROFILE AND MANDATE LETTER

Issue: Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. profile and mandate

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. (FII) is British Columbia's Crown Corporation responsible for creating, maintaining and diversifying markets for B.C. forest products.
- Building and maintaining markets is important to a strong and growing economy because forestry is the largest manufacturing sector in B.C. and roughly one-third of B.C.'s regional economies are moderately to heavily reliant on the sector.
- Developing and diversifying international markets is particularly important since nearly 90 percent of B.C.'s forest products are sold outside of Canada.
- Reflecting this, FII was established in 2003 to build markets internationally and domestically for B.C. forest products.
- FII works closely with industry associations and other levels of government in developing markets for B.C. forest products around the world. About half of FII's budget supports programs delivered by industry trade associations and other partners. The federal government and industry also financially support these programs.
- FII benefits the B.C. economy by:
 - Working to maintain existing markets for B.C. forest products in collaboration with the forest sector, supporting forestry jobs throughout B.C.
 - Opening up new markets for B.C. forest products and creating the potential for new jobs to service these markets.
 - Building awareness of B.C. internationally, particularly in China, India and elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific region, which helps strengthen and grow trade ties.
 - Supporting the growth of a sustainable and green economy by promoting the environmental benefits of using renewable wood from B.C. in structural and non-structural applications.
- FII's mandate:
 - Promote wood's environmental merits as a preferred, sustainable and renewable building material.
 - Expand international market diversification for B.C. wood products by opening new opportunities in existing and new markets, with a strong focus on high-potential markets in Asia, including China, Japan, South Korea, India and Vietnam.
 - Showcase B.C.'s leadership in manufacturing and using wood by profiling innovative projects and leverage that experience to expand the use of wood in Canada and abroad.

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Collaborate with B.C. Provincial Government partners to jointly deliver on the Province's objective to expand our mass timber and engineered wood-products sector in B.C.
- For 2020/21, FII's reported outcomes include the following:
- 24,064 B.C. manufacturer searches and engagements through FII's online product and supplier sourcing tool, the Supplier Directory – advancing connections with B.C. companies for potential commercial opportunities.
- 65 product trials conducted in India, including an innovative cluster trial program involving a newly developed western hemlock panel product for door frames.
- In the U.S., 406 non-residential and multi-storey residential construction projects converted to wood resulting in an incremental \$238 million of wood use (reported by FII's funding recipient, US WoodWorks).
- In B.C., 72 non-residential and multi-storey residential construction projects were converted to wood resulting in an incremental \$69.6 million of wood use (reported by FII's funding recipient, WoodWORKS! BC).
 - Board Composition:
 - John Allan, Special Advisor, PREM (Chair)
 - Bobbi Plecas, Deputy Minister, JERI (Vice Chair)
 - Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister, AEST
 - Neilane Mayhew, Deputy Minister, TACS
 - Board members are appointed by Shareholder Consent Resolution.
 - The Board was renewed effective December 15, 2020; no Board appointments are set to expire within the next 90 days.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- FII's base budget received from the Province is \$19.55 million.
- For 2021/22, FII anticipates receiving \$21.55 million in funding from the Province and \$1.98 million from Natural Resources Canada, and \$0.28 million of other revenue for a grand total of \$23.81 million revenue for the fiscal year.
- The additional \$2.0 million for 2021/22 has been allocated for new mass timber projects on top of the continuing base budget of \$19.55 million.

Budget/Expenditures:

- FII's 2021/22 budget includes base funding received from the Province of \$19.55 million plus an additional \$2 million for the continuation of the Mass Timber Demonstration Program.
- For 2021/22, FII anticipates receiving \$21.55 million in funding from the Province and \$1.98 million from Natural Resources Canada, and \$0.28 million of other revenue for a grand total of \$23.81 million revenue for the fiscal year.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Approvals:

[April.22, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FII BUDGET

Issue: Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. budget summary for 2021/22

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Provincial funding for Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. is provided by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.
- About half of Forestry Innovation Investment (FII)'s funding is used to share the cost of market development, including Wood First activities, which the B.C. forest industry trade associations and other organizations will deliver in North America and Asia.
- For 2021/22, Forestry Innovation Investment's revenue is projected to be \$23.81 million which includes:
 - \$21.55 million in funding from the Province (base funding of \$19.55 million plus \$2M for the continuation of the Mass Timber Demonstration Program);
 - \$1.98 million from the Government of Canada, primarily to support the Forestry Innovation Investment India and Vietnam programs; and
 - \$280,000 from other sources.
- The 2021/22 total is projected to be \$1.61 million less than the 2020/21 actuals (a total of \$25.42 million), mainly due to the difference in funding for the delivery of the Mass Timber Demonstration Program. \$3M was provided in 2020/21 as part of the StrongerBC economic recovery plan and \$2M is allocated in 2021/22 for a continuation of the program.
- FII China:
 - The 2021/22 budget for FII in China will be \$2.40 million
 - China remains a key priority for FII, with the focus on building deeper and broader relationships with Chinese government agencies and state-owned development companies.
 - FII China maintains offices in Beijing and Shanghai.
 - FII China works in close partnership with the Canada Wood Group, the forest sector's trade market development trade association. FII funds roughly 1/3 of the budget of Canada Wood China (the remaining 2/3 is split evenly between Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and the forest industry).
- FII India:
 - With a projected 2021/22 budget of \$3.40 million, FII's subsidiary in India will continue to accelerate efforts to advance a strong Canadian Wood brand in India using targeted funds provided in the provincial budget.
 - Program activities will focus on investing to build market knowledge; expanding promotional and educational efforts; increasing the number of product trials; and advancing product demonstration activities.

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- These efforts are actively supported by the B.C. forest industry and encourage the B.C. industry to continue to expand its commitment and engagement in the India market as the program accelerates. The Federal Government, through NRCan, will fund \$1.32 million roughly 39 percent of the total cost for the India program
- FII's India headquarters in Mumbai has been outfitted as a showcase for B.C. wood products. There are also two satellite offices; one in Delhi and one in Bangalore.
- FII Vietnam:
 - In 2021/22, FII is allocating \$1.08 million to the Vietnam program, with \$0.53 million in funding from NRCan.
 - Program activities are focused on exploring opportunities for B.C. species in the Vietnam furniture manufacturing segment and identifying key players in the supply chain including importers, distributors and end users to introduce them to B.C. species.
 - FII's Vietnam office is based in a business suburb approximately 45 minutes outside Ho Chi Minh City.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- For 2021/22, FII anticipates receiving \$21.55 million in funding from the Province and \$1.98 million from Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), and \$.28 million of other revenue for a grand total of \$23.81 million revenue for the fiscal year.
- NRCan has confirmed funding for our subsidiary operations to the amount of \$1.915 million and has agreed to cost-share some other expenditures to a total of \$1.98 million.
- FII Vancouver's expenditures for Government Initiatives and Outreach as well as the Recipient funding programs will account for \$15.44 million.
- The subsidiary companies located in China, India and Vietnam account for another \$6.88 million of expenditures.
- Finally, Corporate Services will consume another \$1.49 million for total planned expenditures of \$23.81 million (a planned balanced budget for the fiscal year).

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Selena Basi

Assistant Deputy
Minister

Trade & Industry
Development

778 974-5951



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

SUPPORT FOR THE VALUE-ADDED WOOD SECTOR

Issue: Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. support for the value-added wood sector

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The value-added cluster includes innovative and entrepreneurial companies and is an important element of B.C.'s diverse forest sector, representing some 16,888 jobs (Natural Resources Canada's Secondary Manufacturing of Solid Wood Product report, published 2019).
- Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. (FII), as the government's market development agency for forest products, has a mandate to work with the forest sector, including the value-added and specialty wood segment, to help industry access and grow markets, and to enhance the capacity of companies in the sector to compete globally.
- For Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd., value-added refers to products manufactured beyond the primary stage, beyond lumber, basic panels and other commodity products. This includes everything from furniture, doors and windows, to millwork and cabinets. It also includes non-commodity next-generation engineered products such as dowel-laminated timber and cross-laminated timber.
- The value-added wood sector in B.C. is key to generating greater value from the forest resource as there is significant opportunity for growth – especially in the U.S. market where value-added exports from B.C. totaled \$675.5 million in 2020.
- FII has long supported market development and capacity building in the value-added sector through investments in programs developed and delivered by not-for-profit trade associations and B.C. research institutions.
- Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. supports the value-added sector by:
 - Funding export readiness and new exporter training programming to help small and medium sized companies start to export.
 - Investing in capacity and competitiveness, such as business management and marketing training, as well as improvements on the shop floor to manufacturing processes, plant layout and product innovation.
 - Helping industry understand trends in products and markets.
 - Funding association-delivered market development activities in high potential markets in North America and in key markets in Asia.
 - Supporting innovation in the use of mass timber and engineered wood products to derive greater value from the forest resource.
- With cost-shared funding provided through FII's Market Initiatives program, BC Wood Specialties Group, the leading trade association for the value-added sector, is delivering a program of market development activities for the sector in the domestic and U.S. markets, and in Japan, South Korea, Europe and Mexico.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- In 2020/21, with funding support from FII, BC wood delivered six virtual trade events in the U.S., allowing participating B.C. member companies to collect 672 new leads generating an estimated incremental sales of almost \$7.9 million.
- FII is also providing cost shared funding to the Canadian Wood Pellet Association for market development activities in Japan and in Canada, and the Cedar Shake and Shingle Bureau for market activities in the United States.
- At the same time, FII's Wood First program is providing funds for the UBC Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (UBC CAWP), and BC Wood to deliver an array of technical, marketing and education activities focused on improving the capacity of B.C. companies.
- With COVID-19 requiring the transition to online formats, the two programs were able to reach 195 participants from across B.C. through virtual seminars and workshops.
- The Future of Prefabrication Symposium in February and March 2021, hosted online by UBC CAWP, helped attendees gain the knowledge and skills to participate in the growing market for prefabricated mass timber and leading wood prefabricated building systems.
- In 2020/21, BC Wood transitioned its Export Readiness Training Program to an online format, enabling 19 value-added companies to participate. The program helped companies like B.C.-based Skana Wood Products and Longhouse Trading to develop the skills and knowledge to pursue export markets.
- To support the adoption of mass timber building solutions, and uptake of B.C.'s mass timber products, FII has developed a mass timber research library with more than 1,600 academic and technical research studies available to support adopters of wood technology.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- In 2020/21, FII invested approximately \$0.96 million in a suite of program activities designed specifically to support the province's value-added industry. In 2021/22, FII anticipates to fund \$1.6 million for this suite of programs.

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

Last Updated:

Contact:

Selena Basi

Assistant Deputy
Minister

Trade & Industry
Development

778 974-5951



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR MARKET DEVELOPMENT IN THE FOREST SECTOR

Issue: Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. programs and funding support

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. (FII) is the Government of B.C.'s market development agency for forest products.
- FII works through and with industry and government partners to advance opportunities for B.C. wood products here in B.C. and in priority global markets.
- China remains a key priority for FII, with the focus on building deeper and broader relationships with Chinese government agencies and state-owned development companies. Culture, wellness, tourism and elderly care, wood in manufacturing and industrialized construction (prefabrication) are key areas of focus.
- In India, FII continues to accelerate its engagement with users of wood products by promoting sustainable forest products from B.C., providing information and targeted educational opportunities to potential end users and undertaking product trials and commercial demonstration projects. FII will continue to build connections between B.C. suppliers and potential customers in India.
- In Vietnam, FII is exploring opportunities for B.C. species in the Vietnam furniture manufacturing segment and identifying key players in the supply chain including importers, distributors and end users to introduce them to B.C. species.
- FII leads the Wood First program, which focuses on advancing wood use and innovative wood construction technologies in B.C., expanding the acceptance and use of mass timber, and establishing the province as a showcase for forest products in construction, interior design and daily living.
- Through its Market Outreach Program, FII also delivers "pro-wood" messaging in B.C. and is collaborating across North America and in key offshore markets to position wood for its environmental and performance benefits. At the same time, FII works to position B.C. as a leading supplier of products from sustainably-managed forests.
- Through this collection of efforts, achievements to date include:
 - 170 wood buildings profiled on FII's naturallywood.com project gallery, promoting leading wood projects in B.C. and providing inspiration for design professionals.
 - In China, 125 codes, standards and policies have been influenced/ supported through work with Chinese regulators to address barriers and advance wood use in China.
 - In Japan, three million 2x4 houses have been built as of March 2020. This represents a 480% increase since the inception of the Canada Wood program in 2003.
 - In South Korea, 13 Super-E certified projects have been completed, introducing and showcasing Canadian innovation in energy-efficient wood building design.

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Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Since 2014, over 160 product trials have been conducted in India – introducing Indian manufacturers to B.C. wood species. FII India has also helped establish over 40 importers and distributors of B.C. wood species in India to enable the timely delivery of B.C. supply.
- In Vietnam, 41 product trials have been completed over the past year, resulting in signs of positive uptake of B.C. wood species with western hemlock emerging as a preferred product for furniture and door applications.

Funding Investments

- About half of FII's budget is used to share the cost of activities that trade associations and other not-for-profit organizations propose in a competitive process, and ultimately deliver. These programs are cost-shared with industry, the federal government and other funders.
- Through its Market Initiatives Program, FII provides funding to industry trade associations to support their market diversification efforts to expand sales in emerging markets while maintaining growth with existing trade partners.
- Each year, FII makes available \$6.5 million to cost-share international programming with industry and the federal government. An industry advisory committee provides input to support alignment of market priorities between FII and industry.
- In B.C., FII delivers the Wood First program with a budget of \$3.0 million, of which \$2.4 million is allocated to share the cost of work done by trade associations and research institutions in an annual call for proposals. A broad-based committee of experts in manufacturing and using wood products is providing FII with advice on strategies, priorities and programming.
- For every dollar FII invested in cost-shared programs in 2020/21, FII leveraged an additional \$2.29 million in funding from industry, the federal government and other partners for a total delivered program of \$3.29 million. Therefore, for 2020/21, FII's \$6.55 million investment was leveraged to a total program of \$21.56 million.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- FII plans to spend \$23.81 million in 2021/22, of which \$21.55 million is from the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, \$1.96 million is from the Federal Government (Natural Resources Canada) for market development in China, India and Vietnam and other cost shared initiatives, as well as \$280,000 from other sources (contributions by industry stakeholders for co-funded projects and deferred revenue).

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

[date approved] – [CFO] FSB

Last Updated:

Contact:

Selena Basi

Assistant Deputy
Minister

Trade & Industry
Development

778 974-5951



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INDIA MARKET DEVELOPMENT – WOOD PRODUCTS

Issue: FII's program for wood products in India

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- With nearly 90 percent of forest products destined for export markets, diversification is important to help protect the B.C. forest sector from ups and downs in the global marketplace.
- Forestry Innovation Investment (FII), the government's market development agency for forest products, is working with industry and the federal government to open the market for B.C. wood products in India.
- FII began operations in India in 2014 and, since that time, has continued to build connections between B.C. suppliers and potential customers in India by:
 - Accelerating engagement with users of wood products.
 - Promoting sustainable forest products from B.C.
 - Providing information and targeted educational opportunities to potential end users.
 - Undertaking product trials to encourage India manufacturers to try B.C. wood products.
 - Advancing demonstration projects to showcase the possibilities for B.C. softwoods.
- Research into the India market suggests that several factors—high projected rates of economic growth, rapid urbanization, an expanding middle class and a leaning toward “westernization” of fashion and décor—will drive a steady growth in the demand for wood. These trends, coupled with the existing fibre deficit in India, point to a growing opportunity for B.C. wood products to enter the market.
- Market conditions have recently become more favourable to softwood products and there is now a growing opportunity for B.C.'s species in value-added applications such as doors, windows, architectural millwork and furniture.
- Potential in construction applications is also being explored, but is currently not the focus of program efforts.
- FII's strategy in India is being delivered through a wholly-owned subsidiary company, FII India based in Mumbai, with satellite operations in New Delhi and Bangalore.
- In addition to the locally-engaged FII staff in India, industry contributes to the cost of one business development staff who represents Canada Wood on the ground as part of the market development team.
- Because the market for softwoods in India is at a very early (pre-commercial) stage of development and barriers to entry are high, FII and the federal government have led initial market entry efforts.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- These early efforts are helping “pave the way” for industry by delivering market research, product education and technical demonstration.
- However, opening a new market for B.C. wood products in India is challenging and achieving success will take several years of sustained effort by both government and industry.
- India is still a developing, but highly price-sensitive, market for B.C. wood products, so fluctuations in export volumes are expected.
- Coastal species are the main focus of FII’s strategy in India, which continue to see a positive growth trend.
- We will continue to dedicate funds to our work in India, as we recognize that market development takes time. Focused investment strategies are expected to achieve results over the medium to long term.
- These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to market diversification, and to cultivate multiple markets in high-potential regions.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- In 2020/21, FII invested a total of \$2.9 million in support of the India market development program, including a contribution of \$1.3 million (47 percent) from Natural Resource Canada.
- In 2021/22, FII is projecting to spend \$3.4 million for the India program with \$1.3 million (39 percent) to come from Natural Resource Canada.

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

CHINA MARKET DEVELOPMENT- WOOD PRODUCTS

Issue: Advancing opportunities for B.C. wood products in China

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Since Forestry Innovation Investment Ltd. (FII) began working with industry and the federal government to develop the market for wood products in China, the results have been very positive.
- When FII entered China in 2003, China represented five percent of all B.C. forest product exports by value. In 2020, it is now 23 percent (\$2.8 billion in 2020).
- B.C.'s lumber sales have also increased by 723 percent over the same period (\$568 million in 2020).
- The wood products program in China involves a unique collaboration of FII, a number of industry trade associations (most notably the Canada Wood Group collective of major industry associations) and Natural Resources Canada.
- Under the "Canada Wood China" brand, FII and Canada Wood have worked together since 2003 to create and expand a wood culture in China, a country that has long built exclusively in steel, concrete and masonry.
- To advance this objective, the program has delivered a comprehensive suite of activities including:
 - building relations with Chinese national, regional and local government entities (including state-owned developers);
 - supporting the development of building codes that recognize wood construction;
 - providing educational and training programs;
 - delivering marketing and promotion initiatives;
 - fostering relationships with commercial developers and the building sector; and
 - leading research.
- The current market strategy concentrates on higher value market segments, where product differentiation provides a comparative advantage for B.C.'s wood products.
- Objectives are to optimize returns in China by increasing the value of wood sold, growing wood's acceptance as an accepted building system, and positioning Canadian wood products as high-quality, energy-efficient, environmentally friendly and sustainably managed.
- To achieve these objectives, the market development program is focused on three strategic priorities:
 - Using more wood in mainstream construction, with an emphasis on promoting wood use in hybrid (concrete and wood) building systems.
 - Pursuing new opportunities in select wood-frame construction niches, including the culture, wellness, tourism and elderly care sector.
 - Increasing the use of B.C./Canadian wood in China's massive manufacturing sector, especially in furniture and decorating products.



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- We will also continue to work with the Chinese government in developing wood friendly construction and environmental policies, an area where we have seen real progress recently.
- Together with the federal government and industry, we see large future potential for the forest sector in the Chinese market, but recognize the challenges, and have developed a strategy focused on growth and diversification.
- While China remains a priority for FII and its partners, diversification initiatives are also ongoing in other global markets, such as India, Vietnam, Japan, South Korea and in North America.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- In 2020/21, FII invested a total of \$3.7 million in support of the China market development effort. This investment is leveraging an additional \$1.4 million from Natural Resource Canada and \$1.4 million from industry for an overall delivered program of \$6.5 million.
- In 2021/22, FII is investing \$4.0 million to fund the China market development program, including \$1.6 million for recipient-led programs. This investment is leveraging an additional \$1.6 million from Natural Resource Canada and \$1.6 million from industry for an overall delivered program of \$7.2 million.

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

COVID-19 IMPACTS AND RESPONSE

Issue: COVID-19 impacts on FII programs and in-market activities

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Forestry Innovation Investment (FII) is B.C.'s market development agency for forest products.
- To help fulfil its mandate, FII maintains a head office in Vancouver, and subsidiary companies in both China (12 staff), India (16 staff) and Vietnam (5 staff).
- In addition to its physical representation, FII also supports the activities of industry organizations (i.e. Canada Wood, BC Wood) in priority markets, including B.C., the U.S., China, Japan and Korea. Funded through FII's Market Initiatives and Wood First programs, these activities require cost-sharing contributions from the funding recipient and leverage federal contributions where available.
- With broad international operations, FII is already well set up to make effective use of technology to advance its work and enable staff to work remotely.
- While staff in some markets have returned to the office, in some markets distancing measures remain and have required new online models of stakeholder engagement.
- FII Vancouver:
 - FII staff continue to work remotely; any changes will be informed by Public Health Office direction.
 - Access to the office is available for staff as required, following required COVID-19 protocols.
- FII China:
 - Normal operations resumed in spring 2020, including engagement with local partners and some in-person events.
 - The team continues to adjust to local situations as they occur, operating remotely and restricting travel if required.
 - Virtual tools remain valuable to reach audiences across China and to connect with stakeholders in B.C.
- FII India:
 - The FII India team is operating on a remote basis with COVID-19 safety measures continuing to limit in-person meetings, group activities and travel.
 - FII India has effectively used virtual tools to deliver on-line events and engage with stakeholders.
- FII Vietnam:
 - With very low levels of COVID-19 transmission over the pandemic, the FII Vietnam team has remained operational with efforts focused on advancing product trials in the furniture manufacturing sector.
 - Currently there are no COVID-19 restrictions impacting FII Vietnam's programming.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Across 2020/21, FII worked closely with stakeholders to understand the impact of COVID-19 on industry partner operations and to share best practices for remote models of stakeholder engagement.
- In collaboration with industry partners and Natural Resources Canada, FII delivered a series of online best practices forums to further dialogue with key industry partners in Canada and around the world:
 - With sessions delivered in July, October and December, these events focused on sharing best practices on virtual delivery tools, technical industry topics as well as diversity, equity and inclusion priorities.
- Impacts to association-delivered projects in priority markets continue to be monitored internally.
- The majority of planned programming and stakeholder engagement activities for 2020/21 proceeded either via virtual delivery and/ or in-person engagements depending on the market.
- In 2021/22, it is anticipated that remote models will continue to be utilized through the first three quarters, with in-person events resuming in 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- No significant expenditures are anticipated as a result of COVID-19 measures.

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

Last Updated: May 19, 2021

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

FII VIETNAM MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Issue: Positioning B.C. wood products in Vietnam's manufacturing sector

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- With nearly 90 percent of forest products destined for export markets, diversification is important to help protect the B.C. forest sector from ups and downs in the global marketplace.
- While not a significant market for B.C. forest products today, Southeast Asia markets hold potential given large populations and growing manufacturing sectors.
- In particular, Vietnam holds good potential for B.C. softwood and panel products.
- As the second largest Asian exporter of furniture after China, Vietnam's value-added wood products processing has now outpaced the growth of domestic wood supply, presenting opportunity to introduce B.C. species for import.
- In early 2015, FII, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and the Canada Wood Group completed market assessments of key markets in Southeast Asia. The initial analysis concluded that Vietnam represents the strongest near-term market opportunity for B.C. of the markets studied.
- FII initiated activities in Vietnam in 2017/18 to make initial inroads through education, product trials and outreach efforts.
- FII's strategic focus in Vietnam is to explore opportunities for B.C. species in the Vietnam furniture manufacturing segment and identify key players in the supply chain including importers, distributors and end users to introduce them to B.C. species.
- In-market promotional and outreach activities have been initiated to help build the demand and brand for Canadian wood products and species.
- FII currently maintains five staff in Vietnam to deliver on FII's market development program.
- In 2020/21, following Ministry approvals, FII initiated the process to establish a legal entity (subsidiary company) through which market development efforts in Vietnam can be delivered.
- The FII Vietnam subsidiary, including a new, B.C./Canadian Wood-branded office space are expected to be operational by August 1, 2021.
- In 2021/22, the FII Vietnam team will continue to build on efforts through:
 - Promotion and outreach to target audiences in Vietnam (importers/ traders, furniture manufacturers) to share information on B.C. species, position B.C. as a reliable supplier of products from sustainably managed forests, and to create awareness and acceptance of B.C. softwood species.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

- Delivering educational events and seminars that enhance understanding and appreciation for what B.C. has to offer, and the fit with Vietnam's current and emerging consumption trends. FII's in-market personnel are introducing manufacturers to B.C. softwoods; explaining how to process softwoods to create similar finishes to their experience with hardwoods.
- Conducting product trials and demonstration activities: FII will continue its "Try Canadian Wood" program that is engaging manufacturers, end users and the design community by supplying small volumes of B.C. wood species for manufacturing trials. Along with technical assistance provided, these efforts help convert product lines from traditionally used materials to B.C. species, which in turn leads to commercial orders.
- B.C. species that have become popular as a result of the trials include western hemlock, sprucepine-fir (S-P-F) and western red cedar.
- An underutilized species in B.C., western hemlock has emerged as a preferred product for use in a wide variety of furniture applications due to its favourable finishing properties and ability accept paint, stain or clear finish.
- 41 product trials were completed in 2020/21.
- Positive early results have included commercial orders of hemlock furniture for export to the U.S., and a domestic order of 800 doors made with S-P-F (core) and hemlock (exterior).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Budget/Expenditures:

- In 2020/21, FII invested a total of \$0.92 million in support of the Vietnam market development program, including a contribution of \$0.5 million (55 percent) from Natural Resource Canada.
- In 2021/22, FII is projecting to spend \$1.08 million for the India program with \$0.53 million (49 per cent) to come from Natural Resource Canada.

Approvals:

[March 23, 2021] - [Selena Basi, TIDD]

Last Updated:

Contact:

Selena Basi	Assistant Deputy Minister	Trade & Industry Development	778 974-5951
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INNOVATE BC PROFILE

Statutory Authority: *Innovate BC Act*

Type of Organization: Crown Corporation

Appointment Process: Order in Council

Background:

- In spring 2018, Government renamed the BC Innovation Council (BCIC) to Innovate BC and expanded the Crown corporation's mandate in a legislative amendment (*Innovate BC Act*). This fulfilled a key commitment under the Confidence and Supply Agreement between Government and the B.C. Green Caucus to establish an Innovation Commission.
- The former BCIC was established in 2004 resulting from a merger between the Innovation and Science Council of BC and the Advanced Systems Institute of BC. The BCIC achieved legal status with an amendment to its operating Act on March 30, 2006.
- Innovate BC is funded through an annual operating grant of \$6.09 million from the ministry's voted appropriation. The 2021/22 budgeted allocation for Innovate BC is \$21.09 million. This represents \$6.09 million in base funding plus \$15 million in one-time funding directed to the expansion of the Innovator Skills Initiative (ISI).

Program Description:

- Innovate BC is a Crown agency responsible for the policy, administration, operation, and delivery of programs that support innovation, entrepreneurship and business development in the technology sector.
- Innovate BC acts as government's program delivery arm supporting the growth of B.C.'s technology ecosystem, growing jobs, increasing revenue, and ensuring all regions of the province benefit from the opportunities of the emerging economy.
- The key programs of Innovate BC are:
 - *Venture Acceleration Program* – A structured venture growth program designed to guide and grow ambitious early-stage technology entrepreneurs and their technology ventures.
 - BC Acceleration Network – The Network is formed by 10 partners across the province delivering the Venture Acceleration Program: VIATEC, Innovation Island, entrepreneurship@UBC, Foresight Cleantech Accelerator, New Ventures BC, VentureLabs, Accelerate Okanagan, Kootenay Association for Science and Technology, Kamloops Innovation and Hubspace (Prince George).



- Executives in Residence (EIRs) – Each entrepreneur in the program is assigned an experienced professional as a primary advisor. EIRs often act like an active member of the management team, helping entrepreneurs overcome challenges and meet start-up milestones that improve company success.
- *Innovator Skills Initiative (ISI)* – Helps companies hire and develop talent by providing a grant that covers a portion of an employee's salary (up to \$5,000) over a four-month internship. *Budget 2021* provided \$15 million in 2021/22 for ISI programming to support an estimated 3,000 ISI placements. The funding is subject to expanding the program to make it more inclusive by:
 - Removing the requirement that workers be in a post-secondary program
 - Making workers who have completed a certification, micro-credential or some other form of training eligible
 - Providing preference to IBPOC and other under-represented groups
- *Innovate BC-New Ventures Competition* – Provides B.C. entrepreneurs with the skills to launch and manage a start-up through a 10-week business seminar and networking series while competing to win one of several prize packages totalling \$275,000 in capital and in-kind business services. Past winners have raised over \$807 million in financing, \$288 million in revenues, and have created over 5,400 jobs in B.C. Since its inception, more than 1,500 entrepreneurs have participated in the program.
- *Ignite* – Provides funding to accelerate commercialization of new technologies and innovations in the natural resources and applied sciences in B.C., with awards of up to \$300,000 to consortia that are conducting research projects. Past winners include fast-growing B.C. companies such as Aspect Biosystems, Terramerra, Axine Water Technologies, Jeti, and Performance Biofilaments.
- *#BCTECH Summit* – Annual event in Vancouver that showcases B.C.'s technology industry, builds cross-sector opportunities for businesses, and explores the latest ideas that will drive a competitive advantage for B.C. and Canada. In 2020 and 2021, the event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- *BC Fast Pilot Program* – Launched in Summer 2019 using federal funding, the program helps companies establish cleantech-related pilot and small demonstration projects at a potential customer site.
- *Innovation Marketplace/Challenges* – Links technology buyers (industry and government) with technology providers through a challenge process designed to solve business problems and commercialize innovative technologies. Past challenge areas include agritech, aquaculture, internet of things (IoT), data visualization, artificial intelligence, and transportation technologies.
- In 2020, Innovate BC launched two new federally-funded programs directly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - The Digital Economy: Rapid Response + Resiliency Program (DER3) and the Tech Resiliency Program:



- These programs provide business coaching and/or funding to local businesses in need of support due to the pandemic. In addition, Innovate BC pivoted three existing programs – Ignite, BC Fast Pilot, and Tech Co-op Grants (in partnership with Mitacs) – to favour projects related to COVID-19.
- Innovate BC launched another new program in 2020, the federally-funded Digital Skills for Youth program, which provides funding and skills training for companies who hire underemployed youth aged 15 to 30.

Board Composition:

- The Board is made of up to 15 members who are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council via an Order in Council for a term of no more than three years, with no member serving more than six consecutive years.
- Currently, there are 13 members:

Name	Position	Appointment Date	Term Expiry
Jack Chang	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Lesley Elizabeth Esford	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Michael James Fergusson	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Catherine Suzanne Gill	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Stephen David Krysko	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Elicia Maine	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Gail Cecile Murphy	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Andrew Petter	Chair	19-Mar-21	15-May-23
Thomas Wolfgang Roemer	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Gerri Sinclair	Director	17-July-20	17-July-21
Benjamin Stuart Sparrow	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Donald Raymond Stuckert	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Denise Marie Williams	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23

Website: innovatebc.ca

Contacts:

Innovate BC:

Raghwa Gopal
President and CEO
604 683-2724

Ministry:

Maija Duffy
A/Executive Director, Planning & Innovation
250 507-0685



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INNOVATE BC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Issue: Innovate BC Board of Directors Status

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In spring 2018, Government renamed the BC Innovation Council (BCIC) to Innovate BC and expanded the Crown corporation's mandate in a legislative amendment (*Innovate BC Act*).
- Innovate BC is led by a Board of Directors.
- The Board's primary business is to help advance B.C.'s economic development and global competitiveness through innovation and commercialization. It facilitates collaboration amongst industry, government and academia and provides companies, educational institutions, technology industry awareness groups, and federal science and technology agencies with a single access point to important resources and programs supporting innovation and commercialization within the province.
- The *Innovate BC Act* allows for a maximum of 15 directors appointed by Order in Council for a term of up to three years, with no member serving more than six consecutive years.
- Innovate BC currently has 13 board members.
- Innovate BC board members are recognized leaders from their sub-sectors in B.C., nominated for their expertise and their ability to represent a broad range of innovation and technology sub-sectors, regions, and GBA+ diversity and inclusion.
- Andrew Petter was appointed as Innovate BC's new board Chair, effective March 19, 2021, for a two-year term.
- As the Innovation Commissioner, Dr. Gerri Sinclair is also an Innovate BC Board member. Her one-year term as Innovation Commissioner ends on July 17, 2021.
- No Board appointments are required; however, Government may wish to make new Director appointments up to the maximum of 15 board members.
- See attached Board member biographies.

Name	Position	Appointment Date	Term Expiry
Jack Chang	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Lesley Elizabeth Esford	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Michael James Fergusson	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Catherine Suzanne Gill	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Stephen David Krysko	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Elicia Maine	Director	15-May-21	15-May-23
Gail Cecile Murphy	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Andrew Petter	Chair	19-Mar-21	15-May-23

Name	Position	Appointment Date	Term Expiry
Thomas Wolfgang Roemer	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Gerri Sinclair	Director	17-July-20	17-July-21
Benjamin Stuart Sparrow	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Donald Raymond Stuckert	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23
Denise Marie Williams	Director	14-May-20	15-May-23

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Board members are currently unpaid volunteers, only reimbursed for certain expenses.

Approvals:

James Harvey, Associate DM, Innovation and Investment Division

Brian Urquhart, CFO, FSB

Last Updated: May 17, 2021

Contact:

Maija Duffy A/Executive Director Planning and Innovation 250-507-0685

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Biographies – Innovate BC Board of Directors



Andrew Petter, Chair, Board of Directors, Innovate BC

Andrew Petter, C.M., Q.C., is President Emeritus of Simon Fraser University (SFU) and a professor in its School of Public Policy. Prior to joining SFU, he was a professor in the Faculty of Law of the University of Victoria where he served as dean from 2001 to 2008. From 1991 to 2001, he served as a British Columbia MLA and held numerous cabinet portfolios including Advanced Education, Training and Technology, Intergovernmental Relations and Attorney General.

As SFU President from 2010 to 2020, Andrew Petter oversaw the implementation of a Strategic Vision that distinguished SFU as “Canada’s engaged university defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting edge research and far-reaching community engagement.” Under his leadership, SFU was named Canada’s top comprehensive university in the Maclean’s Rankings for nine of ten years, and was ranked first in the world in the 2020 Times Higher Education’s Impact Rankings for its impact on sustainable cities and communities.

Among his honours, Andrew Petter received Public Policy Forum’s 2018 Peter Lougheed Award for Leadership in Public Policy, and in the following year was inducted into the Order of Canada in recognition of his contributions to public policy and his leadership in advancing university-community engagement and higher education in Canada.



Jack Chang, Partner, Fort Capital Partners

Jack Chang is a Partner of Fort Capital, specializing in industrial and clean technologies, and covers outbound investment and M&A transactions from Greater China. He is also a Canada Representative with Zhongguancun Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (ZVCA). Mr. Chang formerly served as a Director of Corvus Energy, and Empire Industries Ltd. Previously, he founded Canadian Resources Capital Corporation, an Exempt Market Dealer registered with various securities commissions across Canada.

Jack Chang is a CFA Charterholder from CFA Institute and certified Financial Risk Manager with Global Association of Risk Professionals. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration, specializing in Finance, Marketing and Economics from Simon Fraser University.



Dr. Lesley Esford, Kauffman Fellow

Dr. Esford received her PhD in microbiology and immunology from UBC, and has spent many years in academia, industry and government in positions supporting the growth of the life-sciences sector. She is a Kauffman Fellow, which is a Silicon Valley-based international leadership program for venture capitalists and innovators.



Michael Fergusson, CEO + Founder, Ayogo

For his work as a health-tech innovator, Michael Fergusson was Ernst & Young's Social Entrepreneur of the Year, and was recently named to the PharmaVOICE 100, a peer-nominated list of the 100 most inspiring people in life sciences. Ayogo has won many awards for its innovative use of behavioural science and service design to empower patients to better health outcomes and higher quality of life.



Suzanne Gill, Vice President, Government Relations & Public Affairs, Canada's Digital Technology Supercluster

Suzanne Gill brings over 18 years of experience in research management and the not-for-profit sector, catalyzing and coordinating public-private partnerships. As the Digital Technology Supercluster's Vice President, Government Relations and Public Affairs, she is responsible for helping to share, guide and build essential relationships including public, academic and government stakeholders. She also leads the development and launch of the Supercluster's inaugural Capacity Building Pilot Program aimed at connecting employers to job ready digital talent.

Prior to joining the Supercluster, Suzanne Gill was at Genome BC for over a decade and held the role of Vice President, Corporate Development, responsible for corporate strategy, corporate performance management and government relations. She moved to B.C. following her work at the Ontario Genomics Institute, where she was responsible for oversight of the more than \$300 million research portfolio during the time the organization scaled up from startup mode to full operations.

She holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business at York University in Toronto and a MSc degree from UBC.



Dave Krysko, Co-founder, Club Penguin + Entrepreneur in Residence, Okanagan College

In 2005, along with two other New Horizon Production staff, Dave Krysko co-founded Club Penguin, an online virtual world for kids. The Walt Disney Company was so impressed with Club Penguin that in 2007, it purchased the company outright for \$350 million. He left the company as senior vice-president in 2010, and started Davara Enterprises to focus on developing a wide range of culture-making enterprises.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon



Dr. Gail Murphy, Professor and Vice President, Research and Innovation, University of British Columbia

A leading researcher on software evolution and tools, Dr. Murphy provides extensive experience as a software developer and principal investigator of a large research group. In recognition of her research, she has received several international awards. Dr. Murphy was also elected to be a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. This fellowship is the highest academic accolade in the sciences, humanities and arts bestowed in Canada.



Dr. Elicia Maine, Special Advisor on Innovation to the Vice-President Research at Simon Fraser University

Dr. Elicia Maine is the W.J. VanDusen Professor of Innovation & Entrepreneurship at the Beedie School of Business, Academic Director of the Invention to Innovation (i2I) Program, and Special Advisor on Innovation to the VPRI at Simon Fraser University. Within the SFU VPRI, she has oversight of the SFU Innovates strategy, including the new TLO.

Her research interests are in technological innovation, science & technology entrepreneurship, and the translation of inventions from university research labs. Professor Maine was the founding educational coordinator for New Ventures BC, was awarded the 2017 TD/Canada Trust Distinguished Teaching Award, and was recognized as one of B.C.'s Most Influential Women 2018: STEM Stars. She serves on the Boards of Directors of the Foresight Cleantech Accelerator, the Composites Knowledge Network and Innovate BC, and is actively involved in innovation initiatives and in mentoring scientist-entrepreneurs.

An interdisciplinary scholar and engaged educator, she holds a PhD in Technology Management & Materials Engineering from the University of Cambridge, Master's degrees in Technology & Policy and Materials Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a BSc in Materials Engineering from Queen's University.



Dr. Tom Roemer, Vice President, Academic, B.C. Institute of Technology

Dr. Roemer was appointed vice-president academic at BCIT in January 2016. He is also adjunct professor in SFU's faculty of education. He was previously vice-president of strategic development at Camosun College. Dr. Roemer has a strong interest in trades and technology education, is experienced in economic development and has worked in Brazil, Germany, China and Africa.



Dr. Gerri Sinclair, Innovation Commissioner

Dr. Gerri Sinclair is currently the B.C. Innovation Commissioner. She was formerly Managing Director at Kensington Capital Partners, managing the \$100M BC Technology fund and \$91M BC Renaissance Fund on behalf of the Province of British Columbia.

Her cross-domain career includes more than 25 years' experience spanning the fields of Internet, mobile and digital media technologies, entrepreneurial business, commercialization of research, and government policy. She has also served as a Director on the Boards of numerous public and private companies and organizations.



Ben Sparrow, CEO + Co-founder, Saltworks Technologies

Ben Sparrow grew desalination company Saltworks from a small machine in his apartment, to a profitable firm with two factories and global customers, including many Fortune 100 companies. He was previously a senior project manager for BC Hydro rebuilding power stations. He completed his MBA at

SFU and his BSc in mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta.



Don Stuckert, Principal, Dstuckert + Associates

A technology executive, Don Stuckert has more than 35 years of business and technology leadership experience throughout North America. He has held executive positions in a broad range of industries, and worked for Placer

Dome, TELUS, Sierra Systems and Systemhouse, and is a former vice-president and chief information officer at BC Hydro.



Denise Williams, Executive Director, First Nations Technology Council

At the intersection of Indigenous sovereignty, technological advancement and a rapidly expanding technology and innovation economy, in demand of new ideas and new skills, Denise Williams works with Indigenous peoples, governments, academics, technology futurists and social change makers to map the ecosystem that will result in fair and equitable access to the tools and education required for success in the digital age. She leads a theory of change that will not only ensure Indigenous peoples are competitive in B.C.'s technology and innovation sector, but leading in unprecedented ways and growing local digital economies.

Denise Williams proudly serves as the President of the Urban Native Youth Association, advisor on innovation to the Governor General of Canada, Status of Women Canada's Indigenous Women's Circle, First Mile Connectivity Consortium board member, Vancouver Economic Commission board of directors and on the Simon Fraser University Board of Governors as Alumni-in-Order, where she earned her masters degree in business administration in 2015.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

INNOVATE BC BUDGET

Issue: Innovate BC Budget 2021/22

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- Innovate BC is funded through an annual government transfer of \$6.09 million from the ministry's voted appropriation.
- In addition, *Budget 2021* provides \$15 million in one-time funding to expand the Innovator Skills Initiative Program.
- As a result, the 2021/22 budgeted allocation for Innovate BC totals \$21.09 million.
- In addition, Innovate BC forecasts revenue of \$1.745 million in interest from the Natural Resources and Applied Sciences Endowment¹, \$1.065 million from internal program funding, and \$1.19 million from interest/other funding.
- In total, Innovate BC is budgeting expenditures of \$25.09 million in 2021/22.
- Innovate BC will deliver all programs and initiatives within this budget in 2021/22.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget/Expenditures:

- Government of B.C. funding to Innovate BC will total \$21.09 million in 2021/22. \$6.09 million is funded from JERI's base budget, with an additional \$15 million provided in 2021/22 to expand the Innovator Skills Initiative Program funded from contingency access.
- Innovate BC forecasts expenditures of \$25.09 million in 2021/22.
- Financial Summary Table from Innovate BC's 2021/22 – 2023/24 Service Plan (below)

¹ In fiscal year 2005/2006, Innovate BC was charged with stewarding a contribution of \$50,000,000 for the Natural Resources and Applied Sciences (NRAS) Endowment. The Endowment capital is permanently restricted. Investment earnings are restricted for the support of training, research, and development in natural resources and applied sciences.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

(\$000)	2021/22 Budget
Total Revenue	
Province of British Columbia	21,090 ⁶
Government of Canada	990
Internal Program Funding ¹	1,065
NRAS Endowment ²	1,745
Interest and Other	200
Total Revenue	25,090
Total Expenses	
Programs and Initiatives	20,169
NRAS Endowment	1,745
Salaries and Benefits	2,150
Rent	348
Amortization	38
Operational Administrative Expenses ³	640
Total Expenses	25,090
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	0
Total Debt	0
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)⁴	57,058
Capital Expenditures⁵	50

¹Internal Program Funding represents the use of deferred program revenues.

² Accumulated interest from the Natural Resources and Applied Sciences Research (NRAS) Endowment Fund will provide funding for research activities of B.C. academic institutions and technology developers leading to commercializable projects.

³ Other operating costs include legal, audit, travel, and office expenses.

⁴ Accumulated Surplus includes the \$50 million NRAS Endowment Fund capital.

⁵ Capital expenditures include costs of equipment, computer hardware and software.

⁶ Includes a one-time contribution of \$15 million for the Innovator Skills Initiative.

Approvals:

Christine Little, Small Business, Economic Development and Innovation Division

April 27, 2021 – Brian Urquhart, FSB

Last Updated: May 14, 2021

Contact:

Maija Duffy A/Executive Director Planning and Innovation 250-507-0685



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE BUDGET IN 2021/22

Issue: Deputy Minister's Office budget in 2021/22

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Deputy Minister's Office budget in 2021/22 is \$1.172 million. There is no change from the Restated Estimates in 2020/21.
- There are seven FTEs in the Deputy Minister's Office (includes Deputy Minister).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Estimates Budget	2020/21 Estimates (\$)	2021/22 Estimates (\$)	Change (\$)
Salaries and Benefits	986,000	986,000	0
Travel	68,000	68,000	0
Legal Services	7,000	7,000	0
Information Systems	25,000	25,000	0
Office and Business	68,000	68,000	0
Operating Expenses	15,000	15,000	0
Building Occupancy	1,000	1,000	0
Other Expenses	2,000	2,000	0
TOTAL	1,172,000	1,172,000	0

Approvals:

April XX, 2021 -Joanna White, EFO

April 20, 2021 – Brian Urquhart, CFO

Last Updated: April 20, 2021

Contact:

Carla Merkel Director, Budgets Financial Services Branch 778-698-3361



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (CROWNS)

Issue: Executive Compensation in Ministry Crown corporations reported by PSEC

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- In 2008, amendments were made to the Public Sector Employers Act (PSEA) requiring employers to disclose their senior executive compensation within six months of their fiscal year end in a form and manner directed by the CEO of PSEC.
- Since 2008, government has publicly disclosed executive compensation for public sector employers on an annual basis.
- Since 2008, government has publicly disclosed executive compensation for public sector employers on an annual basis.
- The compensation that is disclosed includes holdbacks, benefits, perquisites, allowances, pension, severances, salary continuance and any other payments.
- The requirements to disclose apply to all public sector employers', CEOs/Presidents and the top four executives earning \$125,000 or more in base salary.
- Under the new guidelines, Crowns may continue to utilize holdbacks for executive compensation or, with the endorsement of the Board and approval from PSEC Secretariat, may phase them out. In situations where holdbacks are phased out, the maximum achievable salary (base plus full holdback) may not be exceeded. JEDC Crowns do not currently utilize holdbacks in their pay structure (see below).
- In addition, InBC Investment Corp. (InBC) currently operates in a unique way; members of InBC's management team are employees of JERI and receive all of their compensation as JERI employees. However, under its new mandate, InBC will be transitioning to a traditional Crown structure, and staff will no longer receive their compensation as JERI employees.
- Increases in total compensation may be due to legitimate vacation payouts, retirement allowances or other payments.
- To support the principles of fiscal restraint, this government:
 - provides direction to public sector entities on standards of conduct, including post-employment restrictions;
 - ensures direction for crowns intended to strengthen accountability, promote cost control, and ensure public sector entities operate in the best interest of taxpayers;
 - maintains an effective and transparent executive compensation framework for Crown corporations.

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Name and Position	Salary	Holdback / Bonus and/or Incentive Plan Compensation	Benefits	Pension	All Other* Compensation	2019/20 Total
Innovate BC						
Raghwa Gopal, President & CEO	\$187,200	\$0	\$11,589	\$18,439	\$9,180	\$226,408
Jennie Choboter, CFO	\$157,500	\$0	\$4,679	\$0	\$0	\$162,179
Tomica Divic, VP Operations	\$149,300	\$0	\$11,607	\$14,706	\$0	\$175,613
InBC Investment Corp.						
Currently, InBC employees are employees of JERI and receive compensation as JERI employees. However, as we Crown moves towards greater independence, we will have staff that are compensated through the Crown. The budget outlined in the InBC Annual Service Plan reflects this.						
Forestry Innovation Investment						
Michael Loseth, CEO	\$182,518	\$0	\$9,500	\$17,833	\$0	\$209,851
David Fisher, VP, International Marketing	\$154,951	\$0	\$3,563	\$15,138	\$6,865	\$180,517
Douglas Greig, CFO & VP, Finance & Administration	\$156,132	\$0	\$8,756	\$15,250	\$16,835	\$196,973
Sonya Zeitler-Fletcher, VP Market Development	\$158,318	\$0	\$9,503	\$15,446	\$6,405	\$189,672

*Other compensation includes categories such as vacation payout, sick leave payout, vehicle allowance, paid parking, severance/salary continuance, retirement allowance, professional dues or fees and administrative leaves.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Approvals:

[date approved] – Joanna White, Management Services Division

[date approved] – Brian Urquhart, Management Services Division

Last Updated: April 9, 2021

Contact:

Joanna White

ADM and EFO

Management Services
Division

778 698-3382



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MINISTERS' OFFICES BUDGET

Issue: Ministers' Offices Budget in 2021/22

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

The Ministers' Offices budget for 2021/22 is \$1.212 million, a \$206,000 increase from the 2020/21 Restated Estimates.

- The Minister's Office Budget is \$835,000, a \$180,000 increase from the 2020/21 Restated Estimates.
- The Minister of State for Trade's Office budget is \$377,000, a \$26,000 increase from the 2020/21 Restated Estimates.

The \$206,000 increase is attributed to:

- \$10,000 in BCGEU increases.
- \$196,000 related to a cross Government Review ^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations}
^{Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations} The intent of this review was to better align budgets with staffing levels and historic spending.

The Minister's Office has a staffing complement of 7 FTEs and the Minister of State's Office has a staffing complement of 2 FTEs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Minister's Office			
Expenditure Type	2020/21 Restated Estimates	2021/22 Estimates	Increase/ (Decrease)
Salaries	349,000	481,000	132,000
Salaries – Supplementary Costs	10,000	0	(10,000)
Benefits	109,000	151,000	42,000
Legislative Salaries	54,000	72,000	18,000
Travel	100,000	100,000	0
Information Systems	6,000	10,000	4,000
Office and Business	8,000	20,000	12,000
Amortization Expense	1,000	1,000	0
Other Expenses	18,000	0	(18,000)
TOTAL	\$655,000	\$835,000	\$180,000



2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

Minister of State for Trade's Office			
Expenditure Type	2020/21 Restated Estimates	2021/22 Estimates	Increase/ (Decrease)
Salaries	137,000	194,000	57,000
Benefits	50,000	65,000	15,000
Legislative Salaries	38,000	39,000	1,000
Travel	79,000	79,000	0
Office and Business	8,000	0	(8,000)
Other Expenses	39,000	0	(39,000)
TOTAL	\$351,000	\$377,000	\$26,000

Approvals:

April xx, 2021 – Joanna White, EFO

April 20, 2021 – Brian Urquhart, CFO

Last Updated: April 19, 2021

Contact:

Carla Merkel Director, Budgets Financial Services Branch 778-698-3361

2021/22 ESTIMATES NOTE

Advice to the Minister

Ministry: Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
Minister Responsible: Hon. Ravi Kahlon

MINISTERS' OFFICES TRAVEL

Issue: Minister's Office and Minister of State's Office Travel Expenses

KEY FACTS

Background/Status:

- The Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation's Office has a 2021/22 travel budget of \$100,000, which is consistent with previous years.
- The Minister of State for Trade has a travel budget in 2021/22 of \$79,000, which is consistent with previous years.
- The Ministers' travel expenses will be made available on a quarterly basis on the government's Open Information website.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Minister Kahlon's travel expenses with the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation for 2020/21 were \$ 5,192.
- Minister Michelle Mungall's travel expenses with the Ministry in 2020/21 were \$4,554.
- Minister George Chow's travel expenses for 2020/21 were \$10,492.

Approvals:

April XX, 2021 -Joanna White, EFO

April 20, 2021 – Brian Urquhart, CFO

Last Updated: April 19,2021

Contact:

Carla Merkel Director, Budgets Financial Services Branch 778-698-3361