

Ministry of Municipal Affairs Estimates Debate 2022/23

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MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

1. Local Government Transfers

Question: There is a \$10M reduction in 2022/23 and outyears due to a fiscal adjustment from *Budget 2020*. Can you please identify why that reduction is occurring and which programs it will impact?

Response:

- Government continues to protect and grow funding for core programs and services while maintaining fiscal balance. In *Budget 2020*, Government redirected a modest amount of previously planned ministry budget allocations to core programs and services. These adjustments represent less than 1 per cent of government's annual operating expenses and enabled new Budget 2020 investments towards the growing demand for the essential services that British Columbians depend on, such as health care, education, social and family support services, and community safety and justice services.
- Within this context, the Province has made the decision to retire the 10-year old Climate Action Revenue Incentive rebate program (CARIP) commencing in 2022/23 and is working with UBCM to determine how best to support local governments through new initiatives the Province is investing in to tackle the challenge of climate change.
- The Province remains committed to tackling climate change and building resilience and that's why we launched the CleanBC strategy to cut air pollution, boost the economy and make life better for people.

2. Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG)

Question: Why are you getting rid of the Office of the AGLG?

Response:

- Government took a second look at the review done on the AGLG in 2018, and how the Office is supporting local governments to deliver for the public.
- While the review showed that some local governments found value in AGLG services, the Office was imposed on local governments when it was created and UBCM – on behalf of all B.C. local governments – continues to not be in support of the Office.
- While we have made the decision to dissolve the Office, I know the information gained during its time will help us and UBCM as we support local governments.

We want to thank the AGLG Mike Furey and the Audit Council members for their contributions to the Office.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs

2022/23 Estimates Summary

MINISTRY ESTIMATES BUDGET OVERVIEW

Ministry Operations Vote 38

2022/23 Estimate Budget: \$259.814M (a net decrease of \$48.524M or 15.7% from the Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$308.338M)

The \$48.524 M decrease is primarily due to the following:

- \$10.884M increase due to the following Local Government transfers:
 - \$3.3M increase for Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing
 - \$4.9M increase for Small Community and Regional Districts Program
 - \$0.88M increase for Bulkley Nechako / Kitimat Stikine Regional Districts
 - \$0.161M increase for First Nations Rail Tax Agreement
 - \$0.603M increase for University Endowment Lands Fire Contract
 - \$1.04M increase due to the additional funding of the Peace River Agreement
- \$1.548M increase due to general ministry staffing resourcing for the Local Government and Corporate Management Services divisions
- \$1.601M increase to the University Endowment Lands special account for administration expenses and offsetting recovery due to an increase in revenues in the UEL
- \$0.036M increase to Legal Services due to increased rates
- \$0.009M increase to the Minister's Office resources

The above increases are offset by:

- \$62M decrease due to the completion of the Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project
- \$0.602M decrease due to winding down of Office of the Auditor General for Local Government

CORE BUSINESS SUMMARY

Local Government Division \$270.950M

- \$220.500M (\$50.450M decrease from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$270.950M)
 - \$3.3M increase for Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing
 - \$4.9M increase for Small Community and Regional Districts Program
 - \$0.88M increase for Bulkley Nechako / Kitimat Stikine Regional Districts
 - \$0.161M increase for First Nations Rail Tax Agreement
 - \$0.603M increase for University Endowment Lands Fire Contract
 - \$1.040M increase due to the additional funding of the Peace River Agreement
 - \$0.645M increase due to budget lift for General Ministry Resourcing
 - \$0.021M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases
 - \$62M decrease due to the completion of the Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project

Immigration Services and Strategic Planning \$19.128M

- \$19.128M (\$0.011M increase from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$19.117M)
 - \$0.011M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

Executive and Support Services \$7.917M

- Minister's Office
\$629K (\$9k increase from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$620k)
 - \$9K increase to support Minister's Office resources
- Corporate Services
\$7.288M (\$0.305M increase from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$6.983M)
 - \$0.903M increase due to budget lift for General Ministry Resourcing
 - \$0.004M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases
 - \$0.602M decrease due to winding down of the Office of the Auditor General for Local Government

Special Accounts \$12.269M

- University Endowment Lands Administration Account
\$12.269M (\$1.601M increase from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$10.668M)
 - \$1.601M increase to the University Endowment Special Account for administration expenses and offsetting recovery due to an increase to revenues in the UEL

Ministry Capital Budget

- \$2.354M (\$0.247M decrease from Restated Estimates 2021/22 of \$2.601M)
 - \$247K decrease for the Local Government Information System



February 25, 2022

Honourable Nathan Cullen
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Cullen:

Thank you for agreeing to serve British Columbians as Minister of Municipal Affairs.

In this past year, as a member of Cabinet, your work has contributed to this government's efforts to support British Columbians as they face the impacts of COVID-19. People throughout the province continue to work together to stay safe and rebuild their lives and communities from the effects of the pandemic. Our government remains committed to getting through the pandemic and its after effects by building on this resilience and focusing on what matters most to people.

British Columbians voted for a government focused on their priorities: 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 –with support 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.

.../2

- **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 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.

.../3

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.

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

- Work with UBCM and local government elected leaders to support their communities through the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery.
- Improve local communities' ability to respond to the COVID-19 crisis by launching the new Strengthening Community Fund to enable local governments to apply for funding to help them tackle street disorder, cleanliness, and public safety, and improve their ability to respond to challenges posed to businesses and neighbourhoods by homelessness.
- Work with cabinet colleagues to redouble our government's efforts to streamline foreign credential assessments processed by various regulatory bodies and health-related colleges to make sure immigrants can more easily strengthen their language skills and access job opportunities in their field of training.
- With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, work to bring down the cost of housing for people by streamlining and modernizing development permitting and approvals.
- Work with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to support economic recovery in communities across BC by continuing to build important infrastructure projects, including through StrongerBC and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.
- Work with the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister responsible for Fisheries, to support the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, on the Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy to ensure greater alignment between transportation and land-use planning.
- Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing and the Minister of Finance to continue work to provide relief for commercial tenants with triple-net leases who are paying high property taxes.

- Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including those living in encampments.
- Support the work of the Minister of Finance to establish Property Assessed Clean Energy financing.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Horgan
Premier

Mandate Commitment Tracker

The Mandate Commitment Tracker will be included in the Estimates Binder. The purpose is to provide a brief (100 words max) snapshot of the project's status. Estimates Notes will provide additional information.

Please note whether the commitment is completed or underway. In the Status Description include any results to date, upcoming milestones and linkages to provincial strategies, action plans etc. that the commitment supports (e.g., CleanBC, Economic Plan, Homes for B.C.).

Minister Nathan Cullen - Mandate Letter Commitments 2022	Division Lead	Completed or Underway	Status Description (100 words max)
1. Work with UBCM and local government elected leaders to support their communities through the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery.	Local Government Division	Completed	<p>Completed 40 Ministerial Orders to provide legislative exemptions that allowed individual local governments to run safer elections for voters and election staff.</p> <p>Completed a Ministerial Regulation (under new Bill 10 amendments), to enable over 6 local governments to conduct safer by-elections or assent votes (expires March 31, 2022).</p> <p>Provided advice and published guidance materials on best practices during COVID, including: Open Meetings and Electronic Meetings; Electronic Meetings and Public Hearings; Conducting By-Elections and Assent Voting; Compliance and Enforcement Support under Order M314; Improvement Districts (Holding AGMs, Elections, and Electronic Meetings); and Adapting to the New Electronic Meetings Framework.</p>
2. Improve local communities' ability to respond to the COVID-19 crisis by launching the new Strengthening Community Fund to enable local governments to apply for funding to help them tackle street disorder, cleanliness, and public safety, and improve their ability to respond to challenges posed to	Local Government Division	Underway	<p>On the Province's behalf, UBCM is administering the \$100M Strengthening Communities' Services funding program to help B.C. communities address the impacts of homelessness and strengthen community health and safety.</p> <p>The program's first intake saw more than \$76M invested in 64 communities. This funding supports initiatives such as outreach, mental health supports, and expanded temporary shelters.</p>

Municipal Affairs Mandate Letter Commitments - Tracker

Minister Nathan Cullen - Mandate Letter Commitments 2022	Division Lead	Completed or Underway	Status Description (100 words max)
businesses and neighbourhoods by homelessness.			The program's second intake is open for applications from February to April 2022, with successful applicants planned to be announced in the summer.
3. Work with cabinet colleagues to redouble our government's efforts to streamline foreign credential assessments processed by various regulatory bodies and health related colleges to make sure immigrants can more easily strengthen their language skills and access job opportunities in their field of training.	Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division	Underway	Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
4. With support from the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, work to bring down the cost of housing for people by streamlining and modernizing development permitting and approvals.	Local Government Division	Underway	Substantive policy and program work underway in four key streams: s.13 Early actions include: funding of 43 local government initiatives to increase development approval efficiencies through the \$15M Local Government Development Approvals Program; Fall 2021 legislation to (1) remove requirements for public hearings for zoning bylaws that are consistent with the OCP, and (2) delegate some land-use decision-making authority to staff.
5. Work with the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to support economic recovery in communities across BC by continuing to build important infrastructure projects, including through StrongerBC and the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.	Local Government Division	Underway	Advice/Recommendations; Intakes and full allocation for Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the following streams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community, Culture & Recreation Rural and Northern Communities COVID-19 Infrastructure Resilience ICIP Environmental Quality – two intakes completed; final intake review under way. ICIP CleanBC Communities Fund - two intakes completed; final intake open for application until May 2022.

Municipal Affairs Mandate Letter Commitments - Tracker

Minister Nathan Cullen - Mandate Letter Commitments 2022	Division Lead	Completed or Underway	Status Description (100 words max)
6. Work with the Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister responsible for Fisheries, to support the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, on the Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy to ensure greater alignment between transportation and land-use planning.	Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division	Underway	Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
7. Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing and the Minister of Finance to continue work to provide relief for commercial tenants with triple-net leases who are paying high property taxes.	Local Government Division	Underway	MUNI is supporting the work of the Ministry of Finance as it undertakes consultation and develops options for approaches to address the issue of high taxes for commercial tenants under triple net leases. MUNI participates on the Executive Committee with ADM attendance and on the Deputy Minister Oversight Committee. The Executive Committee provides direction to the Finance project lead and vets policy options for DM oversight for ministerial and Cabinet approval.
8. Support the work of the Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including those living in encampments.	Local Government Division	Underway	LGD staff are participating in regular Cross-Ministry homelessness initiatives (including Cross-Ministry Encampment Coordination Calls, the Homelessness Strategy Coordinating Committee, and the Vulnerable Population Working Group).
9. Support the work of the Minister of Finance to establish Property Assessed Clean Energy financing.	Local Government Division	Underway – Cabinet Confidences	Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

Ministry Response to Reconciliation

ISSUE

- Ministry's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) Commitments

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We're working with Indigenous peoples to put the principles of The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act into action.**
- **Continuing to encourage strong relationship between Indigenous Nations and local governments is a fundamental aspect of the Declaration Act and achieving lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.**
- **Through the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan, my Ministry has committed to supporting inclusive regional governance and reviewing local processes that guide the naming of local governments.**
- **This will take time – examining the opportunities for increasing Indigenous participation on regional district boards and evolving naming processes will require additional engagement, collaboration and assessment.**
- **We are learning from the many successful collaborations between Indigenous Nations and local governments, partnering to build stronger, more resilient communities.**
- **I encourage all local governments to collaborate with their neighbours, especially around decisions that affect people and communities.**

If asked about what the province is doing to support the re-naming of local governments:

- **My ministry is committed to working with Indigenous peoples to put the principles of the Declaration Act into action.**

Honourable Nathan Cullen

March 2022

- **Local government names that are associated with Canada's colonial past can be a devastating reminder of the mistreatment of Indigenous peoples.**
- **In cases where local governments and Indigenous neighbours want to pursue re-naming, Ministry staff will be providing guidance and support to help adapt naming processes to emphasize collaboration between local governments and Indigenous Nations, as well as fulsome engagement with area residents.**
- **We are supporting local governments to develop even stronger relationships with Indigenous Nations to create a B.C. where everyone feels comfortable in their communities.**

If asked about the options the ministry is exploring to include Indigenous representation on regional boards:

- **We know there is a strong and growing interest from regional districts and Indigenous Nations for Indigenous representation to sit as a voting member on regional district boards, and we are looking into this.**
- **We encourage communities to learn from successful collaborations between Indigenous Nations and regional districts currently underway, in places like Capital Regional District and Central Okanagan Regional District to name a few.**
- **Opportunities may also exist for Indigenous Nations' representatives to:**
 - **Participate on boards and committees in an advisory role.**
 - **Enter into agreements and protocols on matters such as land use, reconciliation, or economic development.**
 - **Hold regional forums and other events to encourage collaborative discussion, such as Community to Community Forums.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has two commitments in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) Action Plan, to review the principles and processes that guide the naming of local governments and evolve practices to foster reconciliation and to support inclusive regional governance by advancing non-treaty First Nation participation on regional district boards. Ministry staff are working on actions to support both commitments, including researching existing governance systems of regional and Indigenous governments, engaging with Indigenous peoples and other interested parties, initiating pilot projects, and sharing lessons learned to decide if legislative changes are needed, as well as providing funding to some local governments (Powell River and Queen Charlotte) who are considering name changes to support reconciliation and collaboration with Indigenous Nations and engagement with area residents.
- In 2019, the Province passed legislation to bring provincial laws into alignment with the DRIPA. The Declaration Act establishes a clear framework for moving reconciliation forward, including exploring new ways to strengthen government-to-government relationships and work together on good governance at the community level.

Re-Naming Local Governments

- The idea of changing a municipal name can be divisive within the community. Ministry staff are working to support local governments and Indigenous Nations to find new practices for community collaboration and engagement to create greater social cohesion for all residents. Ministry staff are working with the City of Powell River and the Village of Queen Charlotte to encourage collaboration between the local governments and the Indigenous Nations of Tla'amin Nation and Haida Nation, and engagement with area residents to build support for the naming change prior to the local governments seeking a decision from the province.
- The Province has provided both communities funding (\$25,000 to Powell River and \$15,000 to Queen Charlotte) to support engagement with residents regarding possible name changes. Powell River and Tla'amin Nation have offered to be a pilot to demonstrate a collaborative and inclusive local approach the Ministry can then encourage in other communities to support the DRIPA commitment.

Indigenous Representation on Regional Boards

- The ministry is working with a provincial working group including staff from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) and the Ministry of Finance to prepare a work plan to determine the next steps for Indigenous participation on regional government boards.

Below are the Indigenous Nations that have access to representation on regional district boards:

- shíshálh Nation – The Sechelt Indian Government District operates as a municipality and is a full member of the Sunshine Coast Regional District based on federal and provincial legislation passed in 1986 and 1987 respectively.
 - Nisga'a Lisims Government and Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine – Nisga'a lands and communities are located in Electoral Area A of the Regional District. As a modern treaty First Nation, Nisga'a have an elected representative sitting on the Board.
 - Tsawwassen First Nation and Metro Vancouver – as a modern treaty First Nation, Tsawwassen is a member of the Metro Vancouver Regional District Board.
 - The Huu-ay-aht, Toquaht, Uchucklesaht, and Yuułu il ath First Nations, as modern treaty First Nations joined the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, all four First Nations are individually represented on the Board.
 - Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' (KY-OO-KIT / CHECK-LE-SET) First Nations (KCFN), as modern treaty First Nations joined the Strathcona Regional District.
 - Under the provisions in the Tla'amin Final Agreement, Tla'amin Nation, may become a member of the qathet Regional District without time restriction or obligation, by giving notice to the province.
- Without a treaty providing for direct representation, unless Indigenous Nation members are elected as an electoral area director or elected to a municipal council and then appointed as a regional district board [director] member, the Indigenous Nation may not have a [direct] voice in decision-making in their communities. And even in those instances, they are not directly representing an Indigenous Nation but all the residents within a defined geographical boundary.
 - Municipalities and regional districts are working with Indigenous Nations at the local level to build relationships, and in some cases Indigenous Nations can participate on boards and committees in an advisory role. For example, the Capital Regional District's standing committee includes representation from elected members of Indigenous Nations on a rotating basis. Also, Westbank First Nation participates on the Central Okanagan Regional District board as a non-voting member. However,

Honourable Nathan Cullen

March 2022

these positions do not provide Indigenous Nations with the authority to make decisions at a board level.

- The Union of BC Municipalities' policy on Indigenous Nations relations focuses on building stronger relationships between Indigenous Nations and local governments. A Memorandum of Understanding between UBCM and the Province on engagement was renewed at the 2021 UBCM Convention. One component of the Memorandum of Understanding includes engaging on matters of mutual interest including those matters that will impact local government jurisdictions.
- There are many examples of collaborative relationships between Indigenous and local governments. A collection of resources related to initiatives, agreements, arrangements, partnerships, and the provision of services (such as sewer, water, and fire services) between Indigenous governments and organizations, and local governments in British Columbia is available at: <https://civicinfo.bc.ca/first-nation-relationship-resources>
- A Community-to-Community Forum program is in place to facilitate exploratory discussion between Indigenous Nations and local governments. The program also provides funding for events between the two governments to encourage relationship-building. The Ministry contributes \$50,000 annually towards the program that is administered by UBCM in partnership with the BC First Nations Summit. Further information is available on the Union of British Columbia Municipalities website: <https://www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/funding/lgps/community-to-community-forum.html>
- After the 2019 UBCM convention, the ministries of Municipal Affairs and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation established an external working group with UBCM, the Central Coast Regional District and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District to explore 'beyond' treaty First Nations representation on a regional district board. The Central Coast Regional District and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District have both expressed interest in being part of a Ministry pilot project to include Indigenous participants on their regional district boards if that is feasible.

CONTACT: Alanah Connie, Senior Public Affairs Officer GCPE, 250 880-4935

Honourable Nathan Cullen

January 2022

COMMUNITY GAMING GRANTS – REGULAR

ISSUE

- More than 5,000 not-for-profit organizations, representing communities throughout B.C. benefit from \$140 million in Community Gaming Grants (CGG) every year to directly deliver approved programs in their communities.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- In 2022/23, Community Gaming Grants will continue to be awarded to a diverse range of not-for-profit organizations representing six sectors: arts and culture, sport, environment, public safety, human and social services and parent and district parent advisory councils. The Capital Projects Sector will return for its sixth year in 2022.
- In 2017/18, the program budget increased from \$135 million to \$140 million to accommodate the inclusion of a new Capital Projects Sector grant (\$5 million).
- A gaming revenue-sharing agreement between B.C. and First Nations communities was announced in *Budget 2019*.
- This revenue-sharing arrangement does not change the amount of funding that currently goes to B.C.'s not-for-profit sector through the CGG program.
- In light of the pandemic and resulting pressures on not -for-profit organizations, the Branch made changes to the program in 2020/21, such as:
 - Allowing organizations to redirect program funds for cancelled or postponed programming to any other approved program;
 - Extending the permissible timeframe to spend gaming funds from 12 to 24 months, allowing organizations to retain funding for future program delivery;
 - Relaxing financial eligibility criteria for returning applicants to ensure organizations can continue to access grants; and

2022/23 Estimates Note

Honourable Nathan Cullen

January 2022

- **Opening the Human and Social Services sector two months earlier to support organizations that were facing an increased demand for services due to the pandemic.**
- **For 2021/22 and 2022/23 grant years many of these COVID-19 response measures have continued. Other changes have been introduced to assist with re-start and recovery:**
 - **Allowing CGG funding to be used for the creation of new paid positions, which supports organizations to increase staff capacity to replace lost volunteers (introduced 2021/22);**
 - **Funding for programs that have been delivered for less than 12 months (introduced 2022/23); and,**
 - **Allowing organizations to use up to 15 per cent of their grant amount toward organization operational costs (introduced 2022/23).**
- **The Province is committed to considering input from all stakeholders regarding the program, including ongoing consultation with the British Columbia Association for Charitable Gaming (BCACG).**
- **The Branch has also incorporated stakeholder feedback from the 2018 BC Stats survey, which was sent to all applicant organizations plus a sample of non-applicant not-for-profits. 3,656 survey responses were received.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- CGG funding level history:
 - 2008/09 pre-economic recession funding was \$156 million.
 - 2009/10, CGG funding was reduced to \$112.5 million.
 - In March 2011, the funding level was increased to \$135 million.
 - In 2017/18 – CGG program funding increased to \$140 million. The \$5 million increase remains dedicated to funding Capital Projects.

2022/23 Estimates Note

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January 2022

- In 2019/20 there was a \$3 million year-end program surplus in the \$135 million regular program that was provided to Food Banks British Columbia to reallocate to food banks throughout B.C. during the provincial state of emergency.
- The primary reason for the surplus was fewer applications in the Human and Social Services sector due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the non-profit sector.
- The Branch also implemented changes to the CGG \$5 million 'Capital Projects' program in 2020/21, including: amendments to the program assessment criteria to give priority consideration to projects that are required as a direct result of COVID-19, and a reduction in the 'matching funds' requirements for COVID-19 related applications from 50 per cent to 20 per cent of project costs, in recognition of the financial challenges many not-for-profits face.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Community Gaming Grants Branch, 250-356-7325

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COMMUNITY GAMING GRANTS – CAPITAL PROJECTS SECTOR

ISSUE

- As part of Budget 2017, Treasury Board approved a \$5 million base budget lift starting in 2017/18 to support a new capital component of the Community Gaming Grants (CGG) program.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- The Ministry has successfully delivered the Capital Project Grant Program for five years, from 2017/18 to 2021/22. 2022/23 will be the sixth year of the program.
- Applications are competitively assessed against the published eligibility criteria by professional public servants in the CGG Branch.
- In 2021/22, 96 projects totalling \$8.9 million were funded representing all regions of B.C. and all six CGG sectors.
- Two Indigenous projects were supported, including construction of a post-treatment recovery home for a Friendship Centre in Lillooet and purchase of a van to improve community access for a wellness society's programs and services in Salmon Arm.
- In 2017/18, 2018/19, 2020/21 and 2021/22, additional capital projects were funded with money that was not fully spent in the regular \$135 million program; the Branch did not fund additional projects in 2019/2020.
- In consideration of the financial challenges faced by non-profit organizations as a result of the pandemic, in 2021/22, the Branch continued to allow a reduction in the 'matching funds' requirements for COVID-19 related applications for a second year. The matching funds requirement was reduced from 50 per cent to 20 per cent of project costs.

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- **As many not-for-profits had already implemented necessary changes needed to modify the delivery of programs and services during the COVID-19 pandemic, these requests were considered alongside regular applications in 2021/22.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- In February 2017, government announced that an additional \$5 million in funding for capital projects was allocated to the CGG program.
- Staff developed detailed assessment criteria with input from other areas of government and key stakeholders such as the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the British Columbia Association for Charitable Gaming.
- The Capital Projects Sector Guide is updated each year, providing information on eligibility, the application process, the assessment criteria, and the appropriate use of funds.
- The Manager of Policy and Community Outreach attended 14 virtual information sessions to share information on the Community Gaming Grant and Capital Project Grant in 2021/22, reaching nearly 1,400 people.
- Eligible not-for-profit organizations can be approved for between 20 to 50 per cent of the total cost of a project, to a maximum of \$250,000. Applicants are required to have matching funds. Projects require a total cost between \$20,000 and \$1,250,000.
- The project categories include the construction of new facilities and renovation of existing facilities, development of public amenities, and purchase of fixed capital assets. All projects are primarily for community benefit and accessible to the public.
- Additional considerations are made to include regional distribution, sector distribution, project size and Indigenous inclusion.
- The Branch received 196 applications in 2021/22, representing a total ask of \$21 million.
- Recent funding history is as follows:

2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22	
107 projects	\$9.2M	88 projects	\$8.3M	63 projects	\$4.9M	81 projects	\$7.7M	96 projects	\$8.9M

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Community Gaming Grants Branch, 250-356-7325

COMMUNITY GAMING GRANTS – 2022/23 POLICY CHANGES

ISSUE

- Every year, the Community Gaming Grant (CGG) Branch updates the Program Guidelines to incorporate major policy changes, address stakeholder feedback, improve administration and increase clarity.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The Program Guidelines were released in early January 2022 and took effect on February 1, 2022.**
- **As a result of the 2016 Office of the Auditor General Report, the Branch committed to a continuous improvement approach where the Guidelines are updated and improved annually.**
- **The Branch continued several temporary policy changes to the 2022 Guidelines to support COVID-19 re-start and recovery:**
 - **The Human and Social Services sector will open two months earlier, in June, to support organizations that are facing an increased demand for services due to the pandemic;**
 - **Financial eligibility criteria for return applicants are temporarily relaxed to ensure organizations can continue to access Community Gaming Grants;**
 - **The requirement for existing programming to have been delivered for 12 months will not be enforced for returning applicants impacted by COVID-19; and,**
 - **CGG funding may be used for the creation of new paid positions, supporting organizations to retain staff and increase capacity.**
- **The Branch adopted two new policy changes for 2022 to ensure not-for-profits have greater flexibility in spending the grant funds and to respond to emerging needs:**

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- **Grant recipients may use up to 15 per cent of funds toward core operating costs; and,**
- **Programs which have been delivered for less than 12 months may be considered for funding (this new policy change will be offered for a three-year pilot period at which time analysis will be done of the impacts of the change to the sector).**
- **In addition to the COVID-19 changes and new policy changes, the Branch also made minor changes and clarification to existing policy to better assist applicants.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Each year, Guideline development work begins in May and is finalized by November 30th to allow for the release of online and print materials by mid-January.
- Engagement from key stakeholders, including the BC Association for Charitable Gaming, is sought for material changes to the Guidelines prior to their finalization.
- The Branch made changes to the CGG \$135 million 'Regular' program in response to the pandemic in spring of 2020. Many of these changes have again been written into the 2022 Guidelines as temporary policy changes to support COVID-19 re-start and recovery.
- The Branch also carried forward a change to the CGG \$5 million 'Capital Projects' program from 2020/21, consisting of a reduction in the 'matching funds' requirements for COVID-19 related applications from 50 per cent to 20 per cent of project costs, in recognition of the financial challenges many not-for-profits face.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Community Gaming Grants Branch, 250-356-7325

DISSOLUTION OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ISSUE

- The Office of the Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG) has closed.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **While the results of the 2018 independent review showed that many local governments found value in AGLG services, the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) continued to oppose the Office.**
- **I want to thank both the AGLG and the Audit Council members for their hard work assisting local governments.**
- **The 32 performance audits and 10 good practices booklets produced by the AGLG will continue to be available through the ministry's website.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- In 2015, UBCM endorsed a resolution calling on government to eliminate the AGLG. The resolution stated that the AGLG's work is already being met under existing local government legislation and regulations. The UBCM opposed the Office, saying it was imposed upon them without consultation and insinuated that local governments were poor fiscal managers.
- In February 2020, the previous Minister decided to close the Office. Her reasons for closing the office included UBCM's continued opposition and the high costs of audits. The five-year review of the AGLG office found that each audit costs on average approximately \$400,000 to \$500,000.
- The mandated activities of the AGLG Office were completed by March 31, 2021 and the office closed. Final administrative tasks related to closing the office were managed by the Ministry.
- The *Auditor General for Local Government Act* is scheduled to be repealed in 2022.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division,
Phone Number 250 356-7325

INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY MANDATE COMMITMENT ISSUE

- Development of an Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Through the Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy (ITDS), the province is introducing an integrated planning approach to ensure greater alignment between transportation and land-use.**

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

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- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- **This province-wide initiative will enhance current planning processes to help focus government policy, coordinate with municipal and regional economic development and land-use planning initiatives and seek to work with local governments and other partners in a collaborative way.**
- **We are already applying these ITDS principles to projects like the Surrey Langley SkyTrain and the Central Okanagan Integrated Transportation Strategy.**
- **We will be engaging with partners to better understand opportunities and challenges in advancing integrated planning.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The November 2020 mandate letter states that the Minister, "Support the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to work on the Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy to ensure greater alignment between transportation and land-use planning."
- An integrated systems approach to planning is required to focus government policy, coordinate with economic development and land use planning initiatives, and prioritize transportation investments that contribute to an efficient and accessible multi-modal

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transportation network that moves people and goods while connecting communities, regions and global markets.

- This Province-wide initiative will align transportation/land use decisions and investments with broader government objectives such as affordable housing, climate action targets, resiliency, equity and reconciliation.

○ Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

○ Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

○ Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

○ Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- While the work on the province-wide initiative progresses, the ministry is already applying these goals and objectives in partnership with local governments and others on region specific projects.
- Central Okanagan Integrated Transportation Strategy is an example of a ministry initiative that is developing a multi-modal strategy to that connects and aligns with plans of the region and local governments. Findings and recommendations will enable all parties to coordinate transportation, land use and housing decisions, and investments that would best serve the communities and Central Okanagan region.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division,
Phone Number 250 356-7325

CREDENTIAL RECOGNITION AND LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION

ISSUE

- Government programs and initiatives to improve credential recognition and labour market outcomes of immigrants in B.C.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **My ministry is actively working to improve foreign credential recognition for all newcomers, including those with nursing and other health care experience.**
- **Through the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund, B.C. has invested \$2.2 million since 2019 toward projects that reduce or remove unnecessary barriers in regulated occupations.**
- **Systemic changes like these take time. That's why B.C. also increased its investment in the Career Paths program to help newcomers find employment in their field.**
- **Part of my mandate commitment is to redouble efforts to improve foreign credential recognition and I can tell you that we are actively exploring options.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Many immigrants arrive to B.C. with valuable education, skills and experience gained outside of Canada. However, they may experience barriers to professional recognition that can create challenges for employment success. There are over 60 regulators in B.C. responsible for assessing and certifying professionals in more than 250 regulated professions.
- Municipal Affairs provides information and expertise to ministries and regulators on foreign credential recognition and has programs to help newcomers find employment and to support regulator process improvement.
- The Province spends \$5.8 million annually on the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants program to help approximately 1,600 people new to B.C. each year find employment in occupations that match their pre-arrival skills, education and experience. 70% of clients find employment in their field and the average wage of clients increases by \$15.80/hour.

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- Another \$1 million annually is allocated for the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund, which supports projects to improve regulator processes and information for immigrants - levelling the playing field for newcomers.
- Approximately 40% of CAIF project funding (\$890,000) has gone towards 12 projects related to health care occupations, including a project to help the BC College of Nurses and Midwives develop a “triple track” assessment process expected to launch later this year.
- Municipal Affairs has no legal authority to direct regulators to improve credential recognition, as responsibility for regulator oversight resides with the applicable subject matter ministry. Questions specific to a particular regulator’s entry-to-practice standards should be redirected to the applicable ministry.
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Carling Helander, Executive Director, Immigration Policy and Integration Branch,
250-886-5632

BC SETTLEMENT SERVICES

ISSUE

- Provincial programs to support the settlement and integration of newcomers.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **When newcomers come to B.C., they may need help to connect to their new hometown and join the job market.**
- **The province provides \$12 million in annual funding to support newcomers, which is more than 50 per cent higher than in 2017.**
- **This complements federal funding to ensure newcomers have supports across their immigration journey.**
- **This year, we also have announced one-time funding of \$2 million to support refugees fleeing Afghanistan.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The province's annual investment of \$12M in settlement services is split between two programs: BC Settlement and Integration Services (BCSIS) and Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants.
- BCSIS (\$6.25M) provides services to approximately 26,000 vulnerable clients per year such as refugee claimants, international students, foreign workers and naturalized Canadian citizens, in over 60 communities across B.C.
- There continues to be growing demand for services. Over the past three years, annual client targets have been exceeded by approximately 56 per cent.
- Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants (\$5.78M) helps skilled permanent residents to find employment commensurate with their pre-arrival skills, education and experience. In 2020/21, Career Paths accepted more than 1,173 clients across B.C., and 70 per cent of clients achieved employment in the field. (See estimates note: Credential Recognition and Labour Market Integration).
- New Career Paths contracts launched in April 2022, with expanded client eligibility and services.
- In 21/22, the province also launched the \$2M Refugee Readiness Fund to support people fleeing Afghanistan and recently expanded supports to displaced Ukrainians. The one-time investment will ensure that B.C. communities are ready to respond to the needs of refugees arriving from Afghanistan and other countries.

BCSIS & Career Paths Contracts Budget (2016 - 2022)						
<i>from Contract Committed funding in CAS. Does not include actuals (ie: decommitted CP funding).</i>						
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Career Paths	\$747,522.71	\$3,075,567.04	\$4,644,374.12	\$5,521,066.18	\$5,657,480.91	\$5,789,377.71
BCSIS	\$3,939,835.00	\$4,039,425.00	\$5,248,172.00	\$5,958,205.79	\$5,932,916.46	\$6,250,451.59
one time projects						2,000,000.00
Total	\$4,687,357.71	\$7,114,992.04	\$9,892,546.12	\$11,479,271.97	\$11,590,397.37	\$14,039,829.30
	<i>Career Paths first launch Jan. 2017.</i>	<i>Budget 2018 funding received after estimates</i>		<i>CSSEA funding introduced after estimates</i>		<i>Additional recruitment and retention funding provided after estimates. RRF also after estimates</i>
Estimate Notes figures						
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Career Paths		2,990,068.87	3,213,567.04		5,823,574.61	5,800,000.00
BCSIS		3,982,200.00	5,037,600.00		5,779,546.00	5,900,000.00
one time projects						
Total		\$6,972,268.87	\$8,251,167.04	\$11,280,000.00	\$11,603,120.61	\$11,700,000.00
			<i>mentioned Budget 2018 increase of \$6M.</i>	<i>additional \$3.78M reported.</i>		

Note: The first table reflects funding committed to in program contracts with service providers. Actual spending may be slightly less due to 'slippage' (service providers not being able to spend their full budget). The second table reflects the planned program budget in Estimates, but is often lower than contract commitments due to mid-year funding lifts after Estimates have been tabled. Both tables are public information; contract values are proactively disclosed through Open Government.

CONTACT: Carling Helander Executive Director, Immigration Policy and Integration Branch, 250-886-5632

LABOUR SHORTAGE AND IMMIGRATION

ISSUE

- Employers across B.C. are reporting labour shortages. Immigration can be a part of the solution, but on its own can't solve these labour market challenges.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **I recognize that employers across the provinces are struggling with labour shortages and it's challenging for businesses.**
- **Immigration will play a major role in growing our labour force in the coming years, with the number of immigrants coming to B.C. expected to be at historic highs going forward.**
- **In recognition of the role immigration can play in filling essential jobs in B.C., we recently made changes to the BC Provincial Nominee Program to help more health care workers and early childhood educators immigrate.**
- **While immigration is a part of the solution to skills needs across the province, on its own it can't solve all labour needs. We must prepare British Columbians for the jobs in demand and support their ability to participate in the labour market.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- As of Feb. 2022, B.C. continued to lead all provinces, with the highest employment growth (3.2%) compared to pre-pandemic (February 2020) levels - 90% of job gains were full-time work, indicating strong employment expansion. The unemployment rate in B.C. steadily decreased to 5.6% by Dec. 2021, and fell further to 4.9% in Feb 2022.
- Immigration, on its own is not a solution to B.C.'s labour shortages. According to the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training's Labour Market Outlook, for every 10 immigrants that come to B.C., 6 enter the labour market. Ten new immigrants creates 4 new jobs in the economy. So, for every 10 immigrants there is only a net increase of worker supply of 2 workers.
- The number of immigrants coming to B.C. has increased in recent years. Canada met its target of 401,000 new permanent residents in 2021. Future targets will likely be higher; by 2024, B.C. may receive around 75,000 new immigrants per year, nearly double the number from 2016.



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CONTACT: Carling Helander, Executive Director, Immigration Policy and Integration Branch,
250-886-5632

UKRAINE

ISSUE

- BC's response to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We stand with the people of Ukraine against Russia's illegal invasion and we remain ready to help.**
- **The province has been working in coordination with the federal government to support access to a safe harbour during this humanitarian crisis.**
- **The federal government has announced several new measures to fast-track Ukrainian applications for people who want to study, work, reunite with family or start a new life in Canada.**
- **We know there is a large and vibrant Ukrainian diaspora in B.C. and there may be many Ukrainians with family here whom they want to reunite with temporarily or permanently.**
- **We are working in collaboration with settlement agencies, non-profits, and the Ukrainian community to make sure that we are doing everything we can to house, protect and care for as many people as we can.**
- **We recently expanded services for Ukrainians needing assistance and British Columbians wanting to offer housing, donations or volunteer, through a new partnership between Service BC, United Way and bc211.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- On February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation launched an invasion of Ukraine.
- On March 17, Canada introduced the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) program, a temporary pathway for displaced Ukrainians to enter Canada and remain for up to three years. The program provides visitor visas to an unlimited number of Ukrainians and their family with the option to apply for a study or work permit.
- The federal government has not put any limits on the number of people from Ukraine who are eligible to apply for these programs so it remains unclear how

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many people will come to B.C. However, the number could be thousands, or even tens of thousands of people. It will depend on how many Ukrainians would prefer to seek refuge in Canada rather than in European Union countries where they will also be allowed to stay and work for several years.

- As of April 14, 2022, Canada had received approximately 141,000 CUAET applications and approved approximately 46,500. The province expects to receive between 17-20 percent of all CUAET visa holders who travel to Canada.
- The federal government recently conducted a survey of 7,000 Ukrainians with approved CUAET applications. 95% of respondents were still overseas, and of those 95%, approximately 76% indicated they planned to come to Canada within the next 3 months.
- Ukrainians who arrive through CUAET are free to settle in any community of their choosing. They are eligible for an open work permit and can seek employment in any region of the province.
- CUAET is administratively distinct from Canada's refugee programs and does not provide permanent resident, protected person or refugee status in Canada. The federal government has announced that they will provide CUAET arrivals with access to federal settlement services (including language training), six weeks of emergency income support, and up to two weeks of hotel stay if needed.
- The province is working to expand eligibility for key health and social programs to displaced Ukrainians with temporary resident status where feasible and appropriate.
- The province has partnered with the United Way and bc211 to launch a "United for Ukraine" online portal. The portal expands the Service BC phone line to provide additional services and supports. British Columbians wanting to offer housing and/or volunteer can register on the portal and receive an expedited criminal record check through the United Way. Ukrainians needing support can connect with bc211 24 hours a day for confidential service in Ukrainian/Russian.
- BC will work closely with the federal government to coordinate our efforts so that the right supports are in place for Ukrainians.
- The BC government will ensure strong cross-ministry coordination to leverage individual, community based and private sector assistance to ensure Ukrainians have access to the services they need.

CONTACT: Carling Helander Executive Director, Immigration Policy and Integration Branch, 250-886-5632

BC PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (PNP) ENTREPRENEUR IMMIGRATION

ISSUE

- Adjustments to the Entrepreneur Immigration Base category and reopening application intake from foreign entrepreneurs.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The Entrepreneur Immigration (EI) stream enables the Province to facilitate immigration for foreign entrepreneurs who bring their business expertise and investment dollars and manage businesses in B.C.**
- **The EI-Base category is for entrepreneurs who wish to establish a business anywhere in B.C. New intake was paused in July 2021 to ensure that it continues to support B.C.'s economic priorities and recovery needs. We anticipate reopening for new intake in July after some modifications are made.**
- **The Regional Pilot (originally launched in 2019) is in its second phase with 50 participating communities. 59 applications were received in 2021 and communities will see increased numbers as international travel restrictions are lifted.**
- **A full 3rd party program evaluation and audit will take place this year as required under the Canada-BC Immigration Agreement.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- In 2021, the EI stream approved 81 work permits for entrepreneurs to come to B.C. and start their businesses, and made 38 nominations for permanent residency. Final 2021 statistics will be posted publicly in May.
- The Regional Pilot is open for the enrollment of additional new communities until May 31, 2022.
- The Regional Pilot has created a collaborative network between communities and the province, which can be leveraged for economic recovery efforts and development of new opportunities to attract international talent (workers) to regional communities.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning, 250.356-7325

BC PROVINCIAL NOMINEE PROGRAM (PNP) SKILLS IMMIGRATION

ISSUE

- Addressing labour shortages by facilitating immigration to B.C. for international talent.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **BC PNP Skills Immigration allows the Province to attract and retain skilled and semi-skilled workers and international students by facilitating their immigration to work and live in B.C.**
- **Recent program changes allow us to select workers needed to deliver services that people can count on by prioritizing and nominating workers who help deliver essential services.**
- **We responded to the critical need for more health care and childcare workers by implementing changes to increase support for the care economy.**
- **We continue to support the tech sector as well, with just under 30% of nominations being in high demand tech occupations.**
- **As the only immigration program within provincial control, we will continue to adjust our approach to support employers to meet their workforce needs by providing a tool to recruit and retain workers that are in-demand in B.C.'s economy.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Following a thorough review of the Skills Immigration categories changes were announced on March 10 to give priority access to newcomers in healthcare and childcare occupations, while safeguarding the integrity of the program. Other changes to be implemented in 2022 include supporting other priority sectors and further attracting newcomers to regions outside of the Lower Mainland.
- Applicants who are not in these priority occupations may still apply, however, there may be a higher threshold to meet to secure an invitation to submit a full application.
- B.C. approved 6,250 nominees 2021, compared to 6,268 in 2020 and 6,551 in 2019. The pandemic and travel restrictions had an impact across PN streams in



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2020. Temporary federal measures in 2021 resulted in a high volume of application withdrawals from the BC PNP. Individuals who withdrew likely still came to B.C. under other federal pathways.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning, 250 356-7325

ADDRESSING FRAUD IN IMMIGRATION

ISSUE

- Efforts to prevent fraud in the BC Provincial Nominee Program.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We are aware of the risk of fraud and corruption within all immigration systems and continue to strengthen our approach to detect and mitigate this behaviour.**
- **In 2021/22, we hired ^{Security Concern} investigators dedicated to investigating fraud and misrepresentation. This unit, established in 2020 now has ^{Se}_{cu} staff dedicated to this work. To date, they have completed over ^{Sec} reviews or investigations, with appropriate actions taken when misrepresentation has been established. All costs are covered through BC PNP application fees.**
- **We have developed public tools and information to educate our clients and the public on common scams, how to report them and to whom.**
- **Our internal processes and systems have been strengthened to track and carry out investigations or other actions related to fraud tips and concerning trends.**
- Advice/Recommendations

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Ministry has established a fraud risk management framework and risk registry to identify risks and prioritize actions to address based on risk level.
- Security Concern; Intergovernmental Communications



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- Numerous investigations have been completed or are underway related to tips or identification of fraud, many resulting in sanctions against applicants or other parties involved.

CONTACT: Rachel Holmes, ADM, Immigration Services & Strategic Planning, 250 356-7325

LYTTON RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

ISSUE

- On June 30, 2021, a fire swept through the Village of Lytton and adjacent communities, including the Lytton First Nations reserve. Widespread damage to the Village resulted in near total loss of buildings and public assets, displacement of residents, and the death of two people. Recovery has been further complicated by the atmospheric river in November and is ongoing.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We recognize the situation in Lytton continues to be incredibly difficult for residents of the village.**
- **At this time, Lytton's recovery efforts are necessarily focused on the short- and medium-term, including continuing to meet basic needs of evacuees.**
- **Successful wildfire recovery is led by local communities, and the province is working with Lytton as it plans for recovery. We are providing direct funding, advice, expertise, and dedicated resources as requested by the community.**
- **Unfortunately, the level of destruction to critical municipal infrastructure and impact to community resources means that Lytton's recovery journey will be extremely challenging.**
- **While EMBC is the lead provincial agency for recovery and emergency management supports to the Village, Municipal Affairs is supporting on needs regarding municipal infrastructure, finances, and governance.**
- **In doing so, Municipal Affairs is supporting the Parliamentary Secretaries appointed to lead recovery and is coordinating with other ministries and agencies as necessary (TRAN and CITZ).**
- **On February 9th, 2022, over \$8 million in funding was announced to support the Village in recovery and operations:**
 - **\$6.26 million will immediately help to address wildfire response costs, and**

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- **\$2.1 million will support the Village's core operations over the next three years, so they can focus on planning, recovery and rebuilding rather than on revenue generation.**
- **On March 7th, 2022, the province committed a further \$18.4 million for Lytton recovery. This funding will cover the substantial costs of debris removal, archeological work and soil remediation for municipal and all uninsured and underinsured properties in the village.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The ADM and MUNI staff (and other provincial agencies) are in direct contact with Lytton staff and the community. Staff attend meetings with Village staff, Council meetings and monthly community Town Halls, and other meetings hosted by the Parliamentary Secretaries for Emergency Preparedness and Rural Development. Requests from the community for assistance come to MUNI through these channels and EMBC.
- MUNI coordinates the municipal recovery related to the *Local Government Act*, while responsible provincial agencies engage directly with communities regarding specific related needs. Recovery support includes direct recovery management (EMBC), local government supports related to governance, finance, and infrastructure (MUNI), provincial transportation infrastructure (TRAN), economic recovery (FLNR) and community connectivity (CITZ).
- Community members have expressed concern over the speed of recovery. In comparison to other emergency events, recovery in Lytton has been complicated by the scale of the impacts compared to the size of the community, local capacity for response and recovery, compounding emergency events and highway closures, widespread discovery of contaminants, and the potential for undiscovered Indigenous artifacts given the area's history of human habitation.
- The province has addressed some of these concerns by providing a dedicated Provincial recovery team, funding for a dedicated local recovery team, financial and technical supports, and governance assistance (including a Policy Group Liaison Officer role provided by MUNI until March 31, 2022).
- After Lytton lost all of its physical and digital records in the fire, MUNI staff supported the recovery of lost bylaws, where possible, and Bill 2 was passed in the Legislative Assembly to provide legal tools that may be needed to provide certainty to Lytton in relation to unrecovered bylaws.
- MUNI has supported operations related to by-election requirements, cancelling a by-election scheduled for shortly after the fire and enabling Lytton to plan for a by-election in 2022 to fill two vacant councillor positions. The by-election is

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scheduled for Saturday, April 30, with an advance poll on Wednesday, April 20. All resident electors and non-resident property electors may vote by mail (eligible electors can request mail-in ballots from April 4 to April 28). There are three candidates for the by-election. The successful candidates will serve until the next general local election on October 15, 2022.

- The province is also supporting a single Village-wide demolition permit for uninsured properties that encompasses both hazardous waste and cultural heritage requirements.
- MUNI has supported financial recovery of the Village by assisting with recovery of financial records, identification of monetary assistance, and supporting local adoption of the Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw.
- MUNI received approval from Treasury Board for further support operations and planning for Lytton for the next three years during recovery, which was announced on February 9, 2022.
- Activities supported by the second funding announcement began on March 8th with debris removal on municipal properties and expanding to residential properties when that work is completed.
- The province will coordinate and fund archeological work that would otherwise be covered by the residents. In late March, Lytton Council approved a contract to the archaeology consulting firm A.E.W. for archaeological and heritage monitoring during the debris removal and remediation in the Village. A.E.W was formed in 2017 by Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council member communities.
- This new funding will also address costs of remediation work to support rebuilding efforts. Funding will also address temporary accommodations for staff, consultants and construction workers who will be undertaking this work as well as project management, engineering design work and security.
- MUNI will continue to provide supports and expertise for recovery as the Village plans and rebuilds the future community.
- The Village has applied to the 2021 Wildfire Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program, administered by EMBC. Three cost recovery plans (CRP) have been approved for infrastructure related costs.
- Most residents will want essential services such as fire, police, health care, postal services, access to food, and communications services to be in place before returning. Until services are fully restored, the RCMP and postal services are operating out of interim locations in or near the Village, and health care services are being provided from the Lytton First Nation health centre.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

INVESTING IN CANADA INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

ISSUE

- Status of Federal-Provincial Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Our government is committed to making life more affordable for British Columbians and improving the services people count on.**
- **That is why we are partnered with Canada on the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), a 10-year program investing \$3.9 billion of federal funds in B.C.**
- **Our government continues to work with Canada on strategic use of infrastructure funding so we can better support communities across B.C., especially through the post-COVID economic recovery.**
- **We work closely with the ministries of Transportation and Infrastructure, and Environment and Climate Change Strategy on delivering this funding.**
- **There are five Municipal Affairs-administered programs under ICIP underway:**
 - **The third intake for Environment Quality Program (EQ) closes February 23, 2022; final announcements expected by Spring 2023.**
 - **The third intake of CleanBC Communities Fund (CCF) opened January 26, 2022; final decisions from the second intake are expected by Spring 2023.**
 - **Second and final intakes for the Community, Culture and Recreation (CCR) and Rural and Northern Communities (RNC) programs closed in October 2020 (1st and 2nd respectively); decisions on both programs are currently being made or complete.**

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- **There are also 110 approved projects under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS), as well as 127 approved projects from the first intakes of EQ, CCR, RNC and CCF, and 85 approved projects from the second intake of EQ, CCR, RNC and CCF (20 EQ, 38 CCR, 23 RNC, 4 CCF, with more to come).**
- **A joint federal-provincial announcement on April 12, 2022 announced 56 project approvals from the second intakes of ICIP CCR and RNC. One additional project from ICIP EQ was added.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The federal government announced its 11-year \$81.2 billion Investing in Canada Plan in February 2017. ICIP is delivered through an Integrated Bilateral Agreement (IBA) between the federal and provincial governments, and it's a core program within the Plan.
- The ICIP IBA (signed March 22, 2018; announced April 2, 2018) is a \$3.929 billion federal investment in B.C. ICIP is a 10-year program (2018 to 2028).
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) is the primary interlocutor with the federal government on infrastructure funding agreements. Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) leads/co-leads program development and holds the budget for most, if not all, community-based projects. Climate Action Secretariat (CAS) Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV) is a key stakeholder.
- Under ICIP, the Province's commitment includes:
 - A commitment that participation will include all five of the funding streams;
 - A commitment to a minimum of 33.33 per cent cost share for local government projects (except CVRIS stream);
 - An equitable balance of investment between provincial and local government;
 - Consideration of projects that benefit Indigenous peoples, on and off reserve;
 - Report on targets outlined under each funding stream; and,
 - Finalize ICIP projects by March 31, 2025, (does not require full expenditure, only identification and approval of projects).
- Under the IBA, the federal commitment includes 5 funding streams:
 - British Columbia Public Transit Infrastructure (\$2.7 billion); Green Infrastructure (\$858 million); Community, Culture and Recreation (\$157 million); Rural and Northern Communities (\$102 million) and CVRIS (\$122

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- million). With \$212 million federal funding already committed to Northshore Wastewater Treatment Plant, total is \$4.1 billion.
- The newer CVRIS stream was funded by reprofiling federal allocations from two existing ICIP streams (transfer \$45 million from Green Infrastructure – Adaptation, Disaster Mitigation and Resilience stream, and \$64 million from Rural and Northern Communities Infrastructure stream).
 - CVRIS intake December 1, 2020 to January 27, 2021; final decisions in April and May 2021. \$79.5 million to support 87 projects that will result in upgrades to local government and Indigenous buildings, improve health and educational facilities, increase access to active transportation and increase resilience/adaptation to natural disaster events.
 - EMBC administered a parallel \$55.79 million intake to support 23 structural flood mitigation projects.
 - The EQ Program, a component of ICIP – Green Infrastructure, will provide funding towards reliable drinking water and wastewater systems.
 - There are 13 approved projects being monitored from the initial intake (May 31, 2018 to August 29, 2018); \$238 million, 12 approved in June and July 2019 and one project previously approved in Fall 2018.
 - There are 20 approved projects being monitored from the second intake (October 30, 2019 to February 26, 2020); \$161 million, approved in June - August 2021.
 - Third application intake closes February 23, 2022.
 - The CCR Program's initial intake was concurrent with the RNC intake. It provides up to \$234 million towards projects that improve access to or quality of cultural, recreational, or community infrastructure.
 - There are 52 approved projects; August 2019, 6 projects approved and a further 46 projects approved in July 2020. Projects are being monitored.
 - Second intake launched June 25, 2020 and closed October 1, 2020. Decisions expected in Winter 2022 (federal election delayed approvals). 39 of 100 approved projects have been announced.
 - The RNC will provide up to \$153.7 million towards projects that support infrastructure priorities in rural communities with populations under 25,000.
 - There are 46 spring 2020 approved projects being monitored from the initial intake (September 12, 2018 to January 23, 2019);
 - Second intake launched on June 25, 2020 and closed October 22, 2020; decisions now occurring (federal election delayed approvals). 21 of 100 approved projects have been announced.

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- The CCF, a component of ICIP – Green Infrastructure, had an initial intake December 18, 2018 to March 27, 2019. The first two intakes will provide up to \$110 million to community infrastructure projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions using clean or renewable energy or that improve energy efficiency.
 - The CCF is co-led with CAS, ENV and is aligned with the CleanBC plan.
 - 16 projects, approved in 2020 and early 2021, are being monitored.
 - Second intake launched August 12, 2020 and closed November 12, 2020; decisions expected in Winter 2022.
 - Third application intake (\$134 million) opened January 26, 2022.
- The Electricity Program, a component of ICIP – Green Infrastructure, supports provincial priorities in greenhouse gas emission reductions. Two BC Hydro projects are approved at a 50/50 cost share:
 - The Peace Region Electricity Supply Project received approval on December 7, 2018 for \$83,680,825 million in federal funding.
 - Government Financial Information
- The CleanBC Facilities Electrification Fund is the final component of this program. It has a federal allocation of \$84M, is administered by Energy Mines and Low Carbon Initiatives, and has no project approvals to date.
- All merit-based programs are claims based, which means that provincial funding will be required in out years as projects are constructed. Proponents incur and pay costs prior to submitting claims to the Province for reimbursement.
- Government Financial Information

Government Financial Information



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CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250 356-6575

SAFE RESTART FUNDING PROGRAM STATUS UPDATE

ISSUE

- Update on the Canada-BC *Safe Restart* funding programs.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- Communities across British Columbia are benefiting from the *Safe Restart* funding programs launched to address the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local governments.
- Most of this funding (\$425M) went directly to local governments to ensure financial liquidity through unanticipated pressures on local governments. The Province is monitoring the fiscal health of the local government system as well as the expenditures of the grants to ensure compliance.
- The remainder of the funding was allocated through two application-based funding programs - the Strengthening Communities' Services (SCS) Program and the Local Government Development Approvals Program (LGDAP). These saw high uptake by local governments:
 - The SCS Program has invested over \$76M to help 64 communities address the impacts of homelessness that have been made worse by the pandemic.
 - Under the LGDAP, 43 local governments are focusing on streamlining development approvals processes.
- Due to the pandemic's ongoing impact on homeless populations, the second SCS program intake was held from February to April 2022, with \$24M available. Successful applicants will be announced this summer.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The provincial and federal governments signed a Canada-BC *Safe Restart* Agreement in 2020 to support B.C. communities experiencing local challenges

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from COVID-19. The Province has contributed half of the \$540M Safe Restart funding for local governments. It is being delivered in three streams:

- \$425M for direct grants to local governments, with the majority (\$394M) allocated to municipalities;
- \$100M to address impacts of homelessness made worse by the pandemic; and
- \$15M for the streamlining of development approvals processes.

Safe Restart Funding – Local Government:

- The \$425M in direct grants assists local governments with fiscal impacts from COVID-19, including costs related to: facility reopening and operating; emergency planning and response; bylaw enforcement; protective services; and uncollected revenues.
- \$415M was paid to local governments in November 2020. An additional \$10M was paid to 27 regional districts in March 2021. Local governments must annually report on the use of funds until the funding is fully used.

Strengthening Communities' Services (SCS) Program:

- On behalf of the Province, UBCM is administering \$100M in application-based funding to help communities address the impacts of homelessness, support people and strengthen community health and safety.
- The program's first intake, which was open to all local governments and modern treaty First Nations, saw more than \$76M invested in 64 communities. This funding supports initiatives such as outreach, mental health supports, and expanded/new temporary shelters for people experiencing homelessness.
- The program's second intake was open for applications from February to April 2022, with successful applicants announced in the summer.
- Funded projects are expected to wrap-up within one year (though applicants can apply for an extension), after which participants must submit their final report. These reports will provide insight into program effectiveness and impact.

Local Government Development Approvals Program (LGDAP):

- The \$15M LGDAP supports local governments to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of their development approvals processes through implementing best practices and testing innovative approaches. Outcomes are anticipated to result in reduced development approval timelines.
- Administered by UBCM, all local governments and the Islands Trust were eligible to apply for grants up to \$0.5M.



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- Launched in March 2021, UBCM received 103 applications; 43 projects were approved in summer 2021 and are now underway. Advice/Recommendations
Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

ISSUE

- Interaction with local governments during the COVID-19 pandemic and 2021 heat wave, wildfire, and flooding emergencies.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The province's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2021 heatwave, wildfire, and flooding emergencies is built on collaboration and communication, and we will continue that approach throughout the recovery.**
- **During 2021, we built on a strong foundation of communication and collaboration with UBCM, and our experience of engaging directly with local governments in the early stages of the pandemic, to be responsive to emerging events and concerns.**
- **No matter how challenging the issues we all face, I know that we can have difficult conversations with local governments, and that engaging in dialogue leads to better decisions.**
- **That's because we've held regular regional meetings with local governments, providing a safe space for local elected officials to share their concerns, ideas and best practices.**
- **I am impressed by the flexibility and resilience of local government elected representatives, staff and the organizations key to our local government system.**
- **And I thank them for their willingness to collaborate on everything from vulnerable populations to support for local businesses, to vaccine rollout and their tireless efforts for communities and people throughout B.C.**
- **We will be able to tackle whatever comes by working together.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Since March 2020, the Minister responsible for local government held an unprecedented number of teleconferences with municipal mayors, regional

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district chairs and senior staff on a province-wide, regional, or other group basis: 48 in 2021/22, and a total of 102 since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Calls evolved from a strict focus on pandemic response to include emerging and evolving issues, such as wildfire and flooding emergencies, restart, and economic recovery. These calls provide a venue for other ministers and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer to inform and hear directly from local government leaders on issues such as PHO orders, enforcement, affordable housing, mental health and addictions, Indigenous relations and reconciliation, emergency management, and more.
- These calls were encouraged through emails out to all local government leaders/CAOs, providing general or topical updates, as well as in response to specific requests from local governments. Updates in this form provided clarity on implications of PHO orders for local governments and allowed the Ministry to relay reminders of important dates or necessary actions directly to local government leaders.
- Local government familiarity with the regional call format was leveraged to convene meetings with local governments and stakeholders to discuss specific topics of interest and to respond to specific events, such as
 - forestry announcement to defer the harvest of ancient and priority large stands of old growth, with Minister Conroy and local governments affected by the announcement, and
 - catastrophic flooding, after which MUNI DM and CAOs from affected local governments had 8 calls from November 21, 2021, to January 18, 2022.
- Calls with mayors and regional district chairs supplemented regular meetings with UBCM Executive and 61 teleconference meetings with specific local governments at the annual UBCM Convention. Coming out of the Convention, the newly elected UBCM President participated in regional calls with mayors and regional district chairs in October and December 2021.
- Other points of engagement with local governments during the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfire and flooding emergencies included:
 - staff-level day-to-day advice/problem solving with specific local governments (e.g., by-elections; public hearings; funding eligibility); and
 - regular and ad hoc engagement with partner organizations (e.g., minister's meetings with UBCM Executive; staff meetings with Municipal Finance Authority and Local Government Management Association);
 - agreements on program design/delivery.



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- Attendees have told Minister and staff how helpful these regional calls have been and expressed their appreciation in having a safe place to have a voice into – and be heard by – government.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division,

DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS PROCESS REVIEW AND Advice/Recommendations

ISSUE

- Cabinet Confidences

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- The development approvals process can be costly and lengthy, and slow down the provision of much needed housing supply.
- To address this challenge, the Province, through the Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR), is prioritizing the exploration of ways to make the development approvals process more efficient and effective, and helping to get the homes people need built faster.
- We know that this is a complex topic, and that many different elements affect the efficiency of the approvals process.
- Our government is committed to working closely with local governments, developers, and non-profits to get the right housing built for communities as quickly as possible, and we've recently taken some important foundational steps to do this.
- As part of this we expect to be reviewing the framework for official community plans and zoning, along with development finance tools, and public hearings. This work is complex with many interconnected pieces; it will take time to ensure we get it right and allow for engagement with key partners.
- We know that OCPs and zoning that allows more homes and mixed uses in existing neighbourhoods play a critical role in building more affordable, resilient, healthier, and greener communities for everyone.
- And we are aware that other jurisdictions have recently made, or are considering, changes around zoning to support more housing supply.

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- **We are also aware that other factors need to be considered as part of any review of the approvals process, like public hearings, amenities, and infrastructure requirements.**
- **And we know how important it is to ensure that we are working closely with our local government partners so we understand and are building the right supply for their communities**
- **Minister Eby and I are working together to find solutions to help local governments, developers and housing advocates deliver more affordable housing for everyone in B.C.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- The Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) consultation has raised the connection between zoning processes and housing supply, as did the BC-Canada Expert Panel on the Future of Housing Supply and Affordability. A wide range of housing and climate stakeholders and advocates have also called for greater density in existing neighbourhoods.
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations



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- Cabinet Confidences

- Complete, compact communities require a diversity of housing types, jobs, and community services that are close to a range of reliable transportation options, and a diversity of amenities and greenspace.
- Initial feedback from stakeholders also suggests that increasing the efficiency of development approvals will require consideration of a range of factors beyond zoning, including public hearings and development finance tools.

- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS PROCESS REVIEW

ISSUE

- The Ministry is taking steps through the Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR) to support more effective and efficient local government development approvals processes.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- The development approvals process can be costly and lengthy, and slow down the provision of much needed housing supply.
- To address this challenge, the province, through the Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR), is prioritizing the exploration of ways to streamline the development approvals process, making it more efficient and effective and helping to get the homes people need built faster.
- Early actions stemming from DAPR include recent legislative changes to help local governments move developments forward more efficiently, and funding for communities to streamline and improve their development processes to remove unnecessary barriers to housing approvals.
- The province looks forward to taking further action, in partnership with local governments and housing stakeholders, to deliver more housing for British Columbians.

If asked about the Expert Panel on Housing Supply and Affordability:

- Government is aware of the BC-Canada Expert Panel on Housing Supply and Affordability's recommendations, and those recommendations related to local government land use will be helpful to consider as the Development Approvals Process Review proceeds.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The province is committed to working with all orders of government, and the private and non-profit sectors to increase the supply of affordable housing.
- Following comprehensive consultations with a broad range of stakeholders and local governments, the Ministry released the *Development Approvals Process*

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Review: Final Report from a province-wide stakeholder engagement, in September 2019, which details both the challenges and opportunities for resolving the housing crisis, as identified during the consultations.

- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations
- In Fall 2021, the Ministry implemented legislation to remove requirements for public hearings for zoning bylaws that are consistent with the OCP, and delegate some land-use decision-making authority to staff as early DAPR measures.
- For 2022/2023, the Ministry will be:
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

- Consulting with local governments, the development industry and other stakeholders on building a provincial digital portal to support streamlining development approvals and permitting for local governments; and
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications
- The recommendations from the BC-Canada Expert Panel on the Future of Housing Supply and Affordability touch significantly on DAPR related items. Cabinet
Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

PACE – PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CLEAN ENERGY

ISSUE

- Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) is a form of financing available to property owners for energy retrofits to existing commercial or residential buildings through the municipal tax system. Cabinet Confidences

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- Retrofit of existing buildings provides a great opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and make energy efficient building improvements more affordable - but access to financing for retrofit can be a challenge for some participants.**
- In the February 2022 mandate letter, the Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation was directed to enhance energy efficiency programs including PACE financing. The Minister of Municipal Affairs 2022 mandate letter required the Ministry to support the work of the Minister of Finance to establish PACE financing. The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation is leading this file with technical support from the Ministries of Finance and Municipal Affairs.**

Cabinet Confidences

-

- We will carefully consider the potential implications of this program to ensure that it can optimally improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions from the built environment while ensuring safeguards around financial stewardship and tax policy.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- PACE is a method of financing residential/commercial energy retrofits through the municipal tax and borrowing system. Eligible property owners borrow the

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costs of energy retrofits, while the municipality recovers principal, interest, and administrative costs through an annual parcel tax levied on the property. A lien is placed on the property until the borrowing is fully paid.

- There is strong support for PACE from local governments and building sector stakeholders to ensure broader access to financing for retrofits as one component of a suite of complementary measures (including the CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings and utility program) that can incentivise comprehensive building energy retrofits.
- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

CONTACT: Brian Bedford, Local Government Infrastructure and Finance, 778-698-3241
Kara Woodward, LG Policy, Research & Legislation, 778-698-3465

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - INDIGENOUS NATIONS RELATIONS & DECLARATION ACT

ISSUE

- Local Government Relations with First Nations and Indigenous Peoples.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Encouraging strong local government - First Nations relations is an important part of our government's commitment to lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.**
- **The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) renewed last fall between the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, supported by Municipal Affairs, is critical to this commitment.**
 - **The MOU strengthens the partnership between the Province, UBCM and local governments to encourage collaboration with Indigenous peoples in B.C.**
- **We actively encourage relationship building by providing advice, assistance and partnering with other organizations to share working relationship examples on CivicInfo BC's website.**
- **On April 21st, our staff collaborated with UBCM and the City of Prince George on a webinar on the *Declaration Act*, and the role of local government.**
- **Our annual contribution of \$50,000 for the Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum program helps local governments and First Nations meet and build collaborative relations. Since 1999, the program has funded over 650 C2C events and is providing 100% funding for events.**
- **While there is more to do, the list of local governments and First Nations working together is growing. Last December, Ministers Osborne and Rankin heard from local government leaders how they are advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities**

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and to learn how we can continue to work together to the benefit of everyone.

- **Many local governments shared examples of collaboration with First Nation partners on: culture, arts and heritage; developing service agreements and MOUs; and incorporating Indigenous languages into signage and public spaces, to name a few.**
- **Under the province's Action Plan for implementing the *Declaration Act*, the Ministry has committed to supporting inclusive regional governance and reviewing local processes that guide the naming of local governments.**
- **This will take time – examining the opportunities for increasing Indigenous participation on regional district boards and evolving naming processes will require additional engagement, collaboration and assessment.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) uses various ways to encourage and assist local governments to build positive relationships with First Nations.
- The Ministry has two items to lead under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan, which was approved by Cabinet on February 23, 2022 and released publicly on March 30.
 - Theme 1: Self-Determination and Inherent Right of Self-Government
 - 1.11 Support inclusive regional governance by advancing First Nations participation in regional district Boards
 - Theme 4: Social, Cultural and Economic Well-being (Cultural Heritage)
 - 4.27 Review the principles and processes that guide the naming of municipalities and regional districts and evolve practices to foster reconciliation in local processes. (Ministry of Municipal Affairs)
- Local governments have no constitutional obligation to consult on the potential impacts to Indigenous interests arising from local government decisions. They are encouraged and supported to engage with their First Nation neighbours.
- The C2C program is administered by UBCM and First Nations Summit. The province and federal government provide funding. MUNI is providing \$50,000 for 2022-23.

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- MUNI supported the move to 100% funding coverage for this recent intake (previously 50% cost sharing formula), recognizing the unprecedented times local governments and First Nations are facing during the COVID-19 pandemic and to support implementation of the Declaration Act.
- In recent years, the partners have improved the C2C program with: UBCM contributed additional resources ensuring events with a reconciliation focus are within the program scope; and expanded eligibility so that events between staff are also in focus.
- Of the 300+ events held since 2008, 85 per cent identified relationship building as the primary outcome. Other outcomes included advancement of formal agreements, protocols and MOUs in relation to community well-being, economic development, environmental stewardship and emergency management.
- MUNI also supports and works with other partner organizations including CivicInfo BC, the Local Government Management Association (LGMA) and the Local Government Leadership Academy (LGLA) to help build relationships.
- The Province, the First Nations Summit, and UBCM have developed a new Indigenous and Local Government Initiatives and Relations research tool.
- Located at civicinfo.bc.ca/first-nation-relationship-resources, this resource collects examples of Indigenous communities and local governments working together. In this searchable database you can find: Pathways to Collaboration economic development case studies; materials that highlight MOUs and partnerships; information about service provision agreements; and more.

CONTACT: Brent Mueller, Director, Governance and Structure Branch, 778 698-3220

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

ISSUE

- Conduct-related issues of locally elected officials remain of interest and a working group is exploring ways to strengthen the local responsible conduct framework.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Local governments are autonomous, responsible, and accountable within their jurisdictions.**
- **Despite these challenging times, I am heartened to see elected decision-makers continue to strive to provide for good governance and engage in responsible conduct for their communities.**
- **Legislation enacted this past year supports the responsible conduct of elected officials by requiring local governments to give consideration to developing or updating codes of conduct.**
- **A staff-level working group continues to explore ways to strengthen the responsible conduct framework. The working group has developed various resources for local governments to use when responding to responsible conduct issues.**
- **While there are no ‘silver bullet’ solutions to complex and sensitive matters of conduct, staff are continuing to collaborate with UBCM and the Local Government Management Association on new opportunities to enhance legislative tools on issues related to responsible conduct.**

If asked about an integrity commissioner:

- **The work to strengthen the responsible conduct of elected officials continues to be a long-term, challenging, and complex issue that involves making fundamental cultural shifts.**
- **There is an interest on all sides in understanding more clearly the current framework for encouraging accountable behaviour for locally elected officials.**

- **Further research and policy work is necessary to understand where the gaps may be and what alternative approaches might be available, understanding other jurisdictions experience with mandatory codes of conduct and integrity commissioners is part of this work.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- “Responsible conduct” includes a range of issues respecting the conduct of local elected officials between themselves, with staff, and with the public.
- Ministry staff and the Local Government Management Association (LGMA) continue to support specific communities that may be experiencing responsible conduct issues (e.g., Pouce Coupe, Wells, Surrey, Maple Ridge).
- The Working Group on Responsible Conduct (with staff from the Ministry, UBCM and the LGMA) was created in response to a 2016 UBCM resolution calling on the province to empower local governments to appoint local independent integrity commissioners. The working group was formed to explore approaches to deal with the spectrum of conduct-related matters that occur primarily while elected officials are at the council/board table and carrying out their duties of office.
- Two resolutions on responsible conduct were endorsed at the 2021 UBCM Convention:
 - SR3, sponsored by the UBCM Executive, calls for a number of education and regulation-related changes, as well as legislation to require local governments to consider adoption or updating of a code of conduct at least once early in each new term of office.
 - 2020-NR1, called for the province to establish an independent Office of Integrity for Local Government to provide advice, education and investigation in the development, application, and enforcement of codes of conduct.
- A key focus this year has been on codes of conduct, and a framework for requiring local governments to consider such codes. Further education sessions and materials are under development to support local governments meet the new requirement. The working group is also updating the oath of office prescribed by regulation to include the foundational principles of responsible conduct and developing a continuing education module for elected officials.
- In addition to research, outreach and policy work, the working group published a range of guidance and resources, including a Model Code of Conduct, and a guide (“Forging the Path to Responsible Conduct in Your Local Government”) that supports compliance and enforcement of local codes of conduct.

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- In November 2021 the *Community Charter*, *Local Government Act* and *Vancouver Charter* were amended requiring councils and boards to consider developing or updating their codes of conduct following a general local election. Elected officials will be required to engage in a regular and meaningful dialogue about how they will govern together while carrying out their elected duties.
- There is continuing interest and media attention on various conduct issues at the local level, both responsible conduct and other issues (e.g., codes of conduct breaches; criminally charged elected officials; discriminatory statements or actions). Calls for varied “solutions and regulatory tools, (e.g., provincial integrity commissioner; recall; mandatory codes of conduct) are also ongoing.
- As conduct issues raise complex and sensitive issues, Ministry staff will continue to work through the working group to thoughtfully collaborate and explore the nature and impacts of proposed solutions and what additional tools may be appropriate. Ministry staff are also working on issues that may be seen as related to responsible conduct, including matters such as timing of disqualification provisions as well as tools around leave of absence for elected officials.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250 356-6575

OMBUDSPERSON REPORT – TAX SALES AND VULNERABLE PERSONS

ISSUE

- The Ombudsperson's investigation into municipal property tax sales includes five recommendations to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs which the ministry has accepted and is working to implement.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **I appreciate the work of the Ombudsperson in investigating and developing the report concerning the unfortunate loss of a property owned by a vulnerable person in Penticton.**
- **Ministry staff have worked extensively with the Office of the Ombudsperson to identify actions to improve the tax sale process to mitigate potential impacts to vulnerable persons.**
- **As a result, we have accepted all five of the Ombudsperson's recommendations.**
- **We are examining solutions to improve notice requirements to property owners that are in the tax sale process and developing educational and guidance measures for local governments to improve the process.**
- **We support the measures municipalities across B.C. are already taking to minimize tax sales and we are working with them to build on and enhance those practices with best practices guidance.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Ombudsperson conducted an investigation into a circumstance where a homeowner lost her property for unpaid property taxes when she did not redeem it within the redemption period after a tax sale of the property. The owner may not have had the capacity to understand the process and her sister brought the complaints forward.
- The investigation resulted in five recommendations to MUNI which have been accepted, and one recommendation to the City of Penticton. These recommendations are separate.
- Ministry staff have developed a workplan to implement the five recommendations directed to MUNI. It is expected that work will be complete by Fall 2022.

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- The *Community Charter* sets out a process for mandatory tax sales to recover taxes that are owing and outstanding. The minimum amount a property may be sold for is the 'upset price', which is the sum of taxes owing, plus interest, a penalty, and fees. Following the tax sale, the property owner has a one-year period to redeem the property by paying the sum of the upset price, maintenance costs incurred and taxes advanced by the purchaser, and interest, before it is conveyed to the successful tax sale bidder.
- While the Province does not keep records of tax sales data, MUNI obtained from the Land Title Survey Authority and municipal tax collectors shows that the scale of residential tax sales in B.C. is very small. A large majority of class 1 (residential) properties that go to tax sale are redeemed.
- Between 2015 and 2018, an average of 285 residential properties (including bare land and non-primary residences) went to tax sale annually (out of a total number of property folios of over 1,464,000). Of those, roughly 30 percent (or about 86 properties) transferred to a new owner because the original owner did not redeemed the property.
- A survey of municipal tax collectors conducted by the ministry indicates that many municipalities work actively to minimize the risk of a property going to tax sale. This includes providing notice above the legislated minimum requirements, informal outreach (phone calls to property owners, financial institutions) and entering into repayment plans.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250 356-6575

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SYSTEM REVIEW

ISSUE

- Through UBCM, local governments seek reform to provide them with a broader range of funding tools to address fiscal issues both existing and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We are committed to having frank, open conversations with UBCM about local government finance and how we can partner to serve the people in our communities.**
- **In January, the province, through the Ministries of Finance and Municipal Affairs signed a Memorandum of Understanding with UBCM to build this partnership.**
- **This MOU brings us together to delve into assessing how we can improve the local government finance system in a way that works for and benefits everyone, especially people in communities.**
- **Progress under the MOU will be made through the creation of a Local Government Financial Review Working Group made up of staff from the Province and UBCM.**

If asked about an agreement with the Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA):

- **Although the Province is not in a position to enter into negotiations at this time, we are committed to having an open dialogue with the RBA.**
- **The Northwest region is a priority for the Province, reflected in the significant funding commitments to the region since 2017:**
 - **over \$200M in direct infrastructure funding to local governments through federal-provincial programs;**
 - **\$25 million available through the Northern Healthy Communities Fund to expand services for communities that are experiencing growth right now; and**

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- **\$19.2M in operational funding provided through Safe Restart funding in response to the pandemic.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- At the 2021 annual UBCM conference delegates adopted the report *“Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency: Today’s Recovery and Tomorrow’s New Economy”* which contains 20 recommendations categorized under three cost drivers: Attainable Housing, Community Safety and Climate Change.
- At that convention, Premier Horgan committed to working towards developing an MOU between UBCM and the Province to guide a collaborative review of the recommendations within the report.
- The MOU was developed between the parties through the Fall 2021 and signed January 26, 2022.
- Staff from the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Municipal Affairs will begin working with UBCM on a Terms of Reference that will provide a framework for the work on a deeper analysis of the recommendations contained within the report.

Resource Benefits Alliance

- Minister Cullen visited local governments in the Northwest the week of April 19; culminating it a two day meeting in Terrace with representatives from all 21 RBA local governments.
- Minister Osborne met with the RBA Steering Committee on January 11, 2022. At the meeting:
 - The RBA asked the Province to jointly develop an MOU to guide the ongoing engagement between the parties. Minister Osborne agreed to take their request under consideration.
 - The RBA requested the Minister commit to a schedule of regular meetings with the RBA Co-Chairs.
 - The RBA invited Minister Osborne to tour the RBA region in April 2022. Minister Osborne accepted the invitation with the caveat that her availability will depend on the legislature calendar and current Public Health Orders.

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications



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Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

CONTACT: Brian Bedford, Local Government Infrastructure and Finance, 778-698-3232

RESTRUCTURE STUDIES

ISSUE

- Local governments request restructure studies to address a variety of community concerns related to services, governance and form of government.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Municipal and regional district restructure processes are typically locally driven, although the Ministry supports those processes through advice and grants.**
- **The Ministry acts as a resource and facilitator, assisting communities to overcome barriers to change and addressing current local circumstances.**
- **The Ministry may also provide local governments with restructure study grants to resource processes that examine, engage, and in some cases plan to implement change.**
- **Restructure studies require extensive collaboration at the local level with all sectors of the community -- including First Nations, community organizations and other local governments – to work through many complex issues.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The Ministry oversees changes to the form and function of local governments through the local government restructuring program. Taking a facilitative approach, this program seeks to ensure that the structure of local governments fits local needs while also serving local and provincial objectives (please see **Attachment 1** for restructure process).
- Local government restructuring can take various forms, including changing boundaries, service reviews, amalgamation, municipal reclassification, or incorporation of a new municipality.
- The structure of each local government should match the governed area's settlement pattern, the services required and local needs for political representation. As communities change, the need for restructuring may arise.

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- The Ministry uses a formal program of incentives and disincentives without forcing change. These incentives include Restructure Planning and Implementation Grants under the *Local Government Grants Regulation*.
- In 2021/22, the Ministry dispensed \$250,000 in restructure study grants to four regional districts. In addition, the Ministry spent \$132,750 on the University Endowment Lands Governance, Services and Structure Study contract.
- When a community considers restructuring, the process must account for the unique characteristics and issues in that community, while meeting the legislative requirements for the type of change that might address those issues.
- Changes to local government structures are enacted by Cabinet (Order in Council to issue Letters Patent), generally on recommendation of the Minister.
- Major municipal restructuring (significant boundary extension, incorporation, amalgamation) must involve engagement with local citizens, as the *Local Government Act* establishes assent of the electors as a pre-condition to Cabinet approval of municipal incorporation.
- In addition to the brief description of the local government restructure process (attachment 1), also attached as background are current and requested restructure projects and pending proposals (**Attachment 2**).

CONTACT: Karen Lynch, Director, Governance and Structure Branch, (778) 698-3229

Attachment 1

Local Government Restructure Process

- The province is often asked to resolve local and inter-local challenges by restructuring local government; in rural communities these challenges are often framed around the “solution” of municipal incorporation.
- Each community is unique and requires preliminary work and assessment before the Ministry sanctions an incorporation study. This preliminary phase can bring to light alternative solutions to incorporation, conflicting narratives, or evidence that challenges the claim of a broad interest in change.
- Grants are available to local governments to support the study of local governance, services, and structures. Local governments apply by a request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs that broadly outlines the objectives of the proposed study and estimates a reasonable budget for the work.
- Preliminary studies can take various forms: community issues assessment, diagnostic inventory of current services, service conversion studies, governance and services study, and boundary analysis.
- The preliminary study process typically consists of local education opportunities and encourages grounded conversations about motives for change. It also is an opportunity to have important, complex, and sometimes deeply-felt discussions about local governance without immediate pressure to decide on an outcome.
- After a preliminary study and boundary analysis, a regional district may be prepared to submit a request to the Ministry to fund an incorporation study.
- If the Minister sanctions an incorporation process, the Ministry assists the local government with developing study terms of reference and restructure planning grants to assist with hiring an independent consultant with expertise in local governance, services and finance.
- The regional district creates a restructure committee with broad representation of community interests to objectively oversee the process at arms length from the Ministry, the regional district and municipalities. The committee works closely with the consultant hired by the local government to conduct the study.
- In parallel, the Ministry engages and consults Indigenous nations on the proposed new municipality.
- Extensive community engagement is conducted and the study findings are shared with the community. Based on the results and public input, a recommendation is made on proceeding to a restructure decision.

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- If the committee wishes to proceed, the Minister offers a restructuring assistance grant and orders a referendum on restructuring. If the vote passes, the implementation process begins.
- Ministry staff prepare the Letters Patent, which are then considered by Cabinet. If the Letters Patent are approved, Ministry staff then coordinate the implementation of the restructuring.

Attachment 2

Current Restructure Projects

Columbia Shuswap (*Sorrento-Blind Bay incorporation*)

\$100,000 for study and engagement in 2019/2020

\$10,000 additional funding 2020/2021

\$75,000 for updating study, engagement activities
including Indigenous Nations in 2021/2022

- Sorrento and Blind Bay are adjacent communities on the south shore of Shuswap Lake near Highway 1, with a combined population of approximately 4,700.
- The Sorrento - Blind Bay Municipal Incorporation Study, which was launched in Fall 2019, evaluates the service delivery, governance, financial, and property tax implications associated with incorporating these communities as a single municipality. When the study concludes in Spring of 2022, local voters expect to indicate their preference between incorporation and establishing a new Electoral Area for these communities.
- The 2017 governance and services study for all of Electoral Area C recommended enhanced governance for these communities. Based on the previous work, the regional district has indicated it would first examine incorporation and request reconfiguration of electoral areas if incorporation is not supported by the communities.
- In March 2021, the Minister conveyed an Offer of Restructure Assistance to the incorporation study committee that outlines Provincial support to a new municipality and a level of transition assistance. The Ministry's \$1.7M contribution would be payable in the year of incorporation if a new municipality is established.
- Community engagement occurred in the latter part of January 2022 with two virtual open houses hosted by the consultant as well as an online discussion panel, made up of panelists who have experienced municipal incorporation.
- The final study was released in early March 2022; the CSRD Board of Directors supported the Study Committee's call for a vote on incorporation. Minister ordered an incorporation vote to occur April 30, 2022.

Okanagan-Similkameen (*Area D Services and Boundary Configuration Study*)

\$80,000 in 2020/21

- Okanagan Falls is a former forestry community located at the south end of Skaha Lake on Highway 97. Located in the south Okanagan, its economy is in transition, and it is home to several significant wineries and to the mass timber producer, Structurelam.
- The possibility of incorporating Okanagan Falls has been raised many times over the years. It was last rejected by residents in 1989. A governance study process in 2016 led to creation of an additional Electoral Area with more focus on the Okanagan Falls just before the 2018 local election.
- Based on continuing local discussion of incorporation, funding was approved in March 2021 for an Electoral Area D Services and Boundary Configuration Study.
- The Study is underway and examines current service provision in Electoral Area D, including exploring community opinions on potential incorporation, and a boundary configuration for a potential next phase incorporation study.
- The consultants and Study Committee will be conducting public engagement throughout Winter 2022 – including open houses (as PHO permits) and mail-in surveys. The final study, recommending a potential municipal boundary, is expected in May 2022.

Central Okanagan (North Westside)

\$60,000 in 2021/22

- Funding was approved in October 2021 for a governance and services study in the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) Electoral Area West North Westside communities.
- The governance and services study will describe and educate on facets of governance and services, engage the public to understand the concerns and interests of North Westside residents, and identify robust options, within the regional district framework, for addressing the most pressing interests of the communities.
- RDCO and the Ministry have agreed on terms of reference, and RDCO is convening a study committee and the hiring of a consultant to undertake the work in January-February 2022. A final report is anticipated by the end of September 2022.

Capital (*Salt Spring water optimization*)

\$40,000 in 2019/20

- Since electors turned down an incorporation proposal for Salt Spring Island in Fall 2017, the Ministry has been working with the Capital Regional District and North Salt Spring Waterworks District on an approach to consolidating management and planning for water provision on Salt Spring and increasing access to infrastructure grants.
- In July 2019, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District and Capital Regional District Boards endorsed draft terms of reference for the Water Service Optimization Study and obtained funding from the Ministry.
- The study was completed a year ago and identified options for a more coordinated approach to water delivery on Salt Spring. The regional district, waterworks district and Ministry have struggled to reach agreement on a suitable governance model and a strategy for infrastructure funding.
- Capital Regional District and the North Salt Spring Waterworks District have been encouraged to work together to apply for a grant under the ICIP program as this is the only “known” infrastructure program at this time.
- North Salt Spring Waterworks District trustees have resolved not to apply for infrastructure grants until presented with a sufficiently “independent” governance model, which would not involve staff reporting through the Capital Regional District CAO.

Central Coast (*Hagensborg Waterworks District conversion*)

converted Dec 2020
\$40,000 in 2020/21

- The Ministry has been working with the Central Coast Regional District to support an upgrade to the Hagensborg Waterworks District drinking water system, culminating in the awarding of \$3.7M in infrastructure funding to address a long-term boil water advisory.
- As a condition of the infrastructure grant, the regional district and waterworks district agreed to convert the improvement district to regional district water and fire protection services. The conversion was implemented by Order in Council in December 2020, and received an implementation grant of \$15,000 to assist with the transitional costs.
- The regional district has also requested study funding to examine the creation of a local community commission or alternative governance option that affords residents a say in how services are provided to them. This work is expected to be undertaken in 2022. Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications



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Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

UEL (*Governance, Services, and Structure Study*)

initiated 2020

- See separate Estimates Note #41

Nanaimo – Electoral Area F (Coombs-Errington-Hilliers)

initiated February 2022

\$60,000 in 2021/22

- Ministry staff have received a request from Regional District of Nanaimo for a governance study in Electoral Area F. Early indications are that the communities are interested in building a case for municipal incorporation.
- Rather than focus on incorporation, the study will highlight governance matters in Electoral Area F and gauge residents' interests through a series of engagement activities.
- The study's terms of reference were confirmed in late January 2022. Regional District of Nanaimo anticipates convening a study committee and hiring a consultant to undertake the work in February-March 2022.

Proposed Restructure Projects

Saanich-Victoria (Citizens' Assembly to examine amalgamation)

\$250,000

- See separate Estimates Note #42

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY CHANGES

ISSUE

- Municipal boundary changes arise from local requests to accommodate community growth, servicing, or manage other local issues.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The Ministry works with municipalities on changes to their boundaries through a process that is locally initiated and provincially implemented.**
- **The municipal boundary change process looks at the benefits and trade-offs to service delivery, taxation, land use and community interests for the municipality, property owners and regional district.**
- **The Ministry carefully reviews and evaluates all relevant local information and consults Indigenous Nations and other provincial ministries on boundary change implications.**

If asked about holding a vote in the remainder of the electoral area (not just in the municipality)

- **Where there would be a material impact, the municipality is expected to work with the regional district to minimize, mitigate, or otherwise manage the effect.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Municipal boundary changes involve extending a municipal boundary and reducing an adjacent municipal or regional district electoral area boundary.
- A municipal boundary change may impact taxation, revenues, infrastructure and overall service provision by the local governments.
- Municipalities are encouraged to take a strategic approach to boundary extension proposals as the process involves significant time and resources (both locally and provincially), pursuing proposals that align with land use and servicing plans.
- Municipal electors and the affected property owners must be consulted and have an opportunity to express an opinion on a municipal boundary change (electoral approval must be obtained).

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- Municipal boundaries are set and changed in Letters Patent by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister. The Ministry works in advance of those decisions to reduce potential conflicts and adverse impacts through consultation and referral processes.
- Changes to a municipal boundary must be complete well in advance of the local general election, so that both election officials and electors know the boundary of the jurisdiction.
- Attached as background information, is a brief description of the local government boundary change process and a list of current projects (Appendix 1).

CONTACT: Karen Lynch, Director, Governance and Structure Branch, (778) 698-3229

Appendix 1
Municipal Boundary Change Process and Active Projects

Municipal Boundary Change Process

- A municipal boundary extension proposal begins with a council resolution endorsing an extension concept and authorizing staff to develop the proposal details, consult potentially affected parties, and send it to the Ministry for review.
- In developing and refining the proposal, the municipality is expected to consider the input of affected parties, including property owners, residents, other public service providers and land use regulators and neighbouring Indigenous Nations.
- Once the Ministry receives a detailed proposal, Ministry staff review the submission, confer with other Ministries, and provide feedback. If further work is required, Ministry staff can work with the municipality to update the proposal.
- The Ministry initiates a series of consultation and referrals with provincial ministries including the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, and the Ministry consults with Indigenous Nations that have an interest in the area.
- The municipality must obtain elector approval before the council adopts a second council resolution that formally requests extension of the boundary and confirms the legal description of the parcels proposed to be included.
- Once the statutory requirements and Indigenous consultations are complete, the Ministry works with the Attorney General and Ministry responsible for Housing to prepare draft Letters Patent that implement the proposed boundary change, for Cabinet consideration. The Minister must recommend a municipal boundary extension before it may be approved by Cabinet.
- If the boundary change proposal is approved, the Ministry notifies the municipality, the regional district and other ministries and agencies, such as BC Assessment and the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC, and the consulted Indigenous Nations.

Recent Municipal Boundary Changes

Village of New Denver (Denver Siding)

- neighbourhood scale extension, improving water quality for 63 properties, supported by Gas Tax Strategic Priority funding of \$0.5M.

City of Vernon (BX Elementary School)

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- minor extension, including a single school site that will connect to municipal sanitary sewer as part of a \$11.1M renovation funded by the Ministry of Education.

Town of Osoyoos (Lakeshore Drive and 87th Street)

- minor extensions, including several properties interested in accessing municipal services and potential future development.

District of Barriere (Armour Mountain Property)

- minor extension, proposed in 2018, including a large parcel to facilitate more intensive development and servicing than permitted in the electoral area.
- consultation with Indigenous Nations have resolved several concerns, and the parties are awaiting archaeological information to conclude consultation on the remaining area of concern.

City of Cranbrook – (17th Street and 3rd Street)

- minor extensions, to allow connection to the City's sanitary sewer system and to facilitate the subdivision/development.

Advice/Recommendations: Intergovernmental Communications

UEL SERVICES, STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE STUDY

ISSUE

- The Ministry is undertaking a study to examine the services, structure and governance of the University Endowment Lands (UEL).

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- The UEL is the only urban area in B.C. that is run directly by the province rather than by a local government.
- Today the UEL and its governance model are facing many pressures due to development, demographic shifts and the community's interest in change and representation.
- The province recognizes the need for a long-term solution, and has launched a multi-year services, structure and governance study that will explore the impacts of pursuing change.
- The study has been ongoing since January 2020 and is anticipated to conclude in Spring 2022.
- The study will document current and future service needs, identify alternative governance scenarios, the technical impacts of any change, and the perspectives of the community, First Nations and others through engagement.
- The project consultant has completed the first two phases of the study and drafted the technical analysis.
- The project consultant is compiling the results of a second round of public engagement in which their findings from the technical analysis were presented and additional feedback gathered from UEL residents.
- This study will lay the groundwork for the province's future consideration of changes to the UEL's services, structure and governance; it will yield information and analysis, but will not recommend options.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Advice/Recommendations

- The study is a significant undertaking that will explore the UEL's current state, its projected pressures and needs, as well as the costs, impacts and transition considerations from shifting to other forms of local governance; the study itself will not recommend options.
- The study process is intended to be open and inclusive and will include opportunities for engagement and input from a range of interested parties.

Advice/Recommendations



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Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-356-6575

SAANICH VICTORIA STUDY PROCESS (AMALGAMATION PROCESS)

ISSUE

- Victoria and Saanich are working towards establishing a Citizen's Assembly to study municipal amalgamation.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- Our government is working hard with municipalities to improve the services people count on.
- Voters in Saanich and Victoria signalled their support for a study on amalgamation, and the councils have submitted terms of reference for a joint study process. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (the ministry) continues to be interested in supporting the municipalities in this endeavour.
- Given the significance of this proposal it is important that there is a clear understanding about the objectives, goals and deliverables of the Citizens' Assembly and how their findings might impact future work.
- The City of Victoria, District of Saanich and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs are all committed to exploring our citizens' views on amalgamating the City of Victoria and the District of Saanich
- We have all agreed to each contribute \$250,000, for a total of \$750,000, toward the cost of a citizens' assembly and to explore the possible outcomes, costs, benefits and disadvantages of amalgamation so that residents have a more complete understanding of what amalgamation may involve.

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KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Voters in both Saanich and Victoria supported a 2018 non-binding ballot question to explore potential costs, benefits and disadvantages of amalgamation through a Citizens' Assembly, receiving 66 per cent support in Victoria and 56 per cent support in Saanich. The ballot question quoted each municipality spending up to \$250,000 on the study.
- Since 2018, work on the project has been interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, a local by-election and the reconsideration of the project by Saanich council.
- In late June 2021, Saanich and Victoria submitted a joint proposal for a Citizens' Assembly that would examine amalgamation. Over the summer and into the fall Ministry staff worked with local government staff on the terms of reference.
- In December 2021 the then Minister indicated that she is open to discussing the terms of reference and the request for funding with the mayors of the two municipalities.
- The municipalities are requesting \$250,000 from the Ministry. Larger studies such as this one are typically funded through multiple, related grants for components of the overall process (e.g., technical analysis, community engagement).
- In March 2022, the Minister signalled commitment to the project through the awarding of up to \$250,000 for work associated with the Citizens' Assembly.
- Given the timing of the upcoming general local election it was agreed that in a joint meeting that launch of the citizens' assembly will occur after the general local elections

CONTACT: Karen Lynch, Director, Governance and Structure, 778 698-3229

CLIMATE ACTION FUNDING

ISSUE

- Update on the new local government climate action funding program to replace the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP).

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Local governments across the province are on the forefront of fighting climate change and our government is committed to supporting and amplifying their work.**
- **That's why we're announcing a new \$76-million Local Government Climate Action Program.**
- **This program will provide local governments with the long-term, predictable funding they need to fight climate change and keep people and communities safe.**
- **This past year has been incredibly challenging for British Columbians and local government leaders have been on the frontlines of responding to extreme weather events and natural disasters.**
- **This new Local Government Climate Action Program will support municipalities and regional districts in supporting climate action and related planning.**
- **Local governments will be able to plan and implement initiatives that support the CleanBC Roadmap and the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy.**
- **In partnership with UBCM, we've revitalized the Green Communities Committee – to support local government emissions reductions and help create more compact, resilient, and energy efficient communities.**
- **Our government will continue to take steps to ensure local governments have the tools and supports they need to fight climate change and build stronger, more resilient communities.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- From 2010 to 2021, local government signatories to the B.C. Climate Action Charter, who reported annually on their actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, were eligible for a Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) grant equivalent to 100 per cent of the carbon taxes paid directly by the local government to provide services.
- In February 2021, government approved one final year of CARIP funding in 2021/22 and directed MUNI to communicate the wind down of the program.
- For the final year, the only reporting requirement for local governments was completion of the carbon tax calculation form to calculate their grant amount.

Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

- Local governments, climate-focused non-profits, and the broader community raised concern about the loss of CARIP funding for local climate action.
- MUNI staff are currently supporting Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy staff in developing the newly announced funding program for local governments.
- The new program will be operational in early Q1 of 2022/23.
- It is likely that local governments will be required to report on the actions they are taking to reduce GHG emissions and prepare for a changing climate.
- Ministry staff will keep local governments informed of the development of this work, including through the revitalized Green Communities Committee, an established partnership between UBCM and the Province to support local government climate action.
- Additionally, to support the third local government commitment of the B.C. Climate Action Charter and new commitments under the CleanBC Roadmap to focus on land use planning, the Province set aside \$11 million in Budget 2021/22 specifically to create a program to support creating complete, compact communities.
- Creating complete, compact energy efficient communities will be the most challenging Climate Action Charter commitment to achieve, but has the potential to significantly and permanently reduce community emissions and energy use.

○ Intergovernmental Communications; Government Financial Information

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CLEANBC ROADMAP

ISSUE

- The CleanBC strategy, including the recently released *Roadmap to 2030*, sets out opportunities to build local government climate action, including through infrastructure funding and other supports to enhance the integration of planning and land use with transportation and building initiatives.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The CleanBC *Roadmap to 2030* was released in October 2021 and includes ambitious targets for achieving significant greenhouse gas emissions reductions.**
- **Local governments have a key role to play in meeting the provincial climate targets. They continue to show ambition as climate leaders, through UBCM's Special Committee on Climate Action recommendations and their ongoing leadership in implementing the Climate Action Charter commitments.**
- **The CleanBC Communities Fund (CCF), under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), supports local governments' efforts on climate action through the development of energy efficiency and clean energy infrastructure projects.**
- **Budget 2022/23 commits \$76M over three years to a new local government climate action program which will provide predictable, annual and long-term funding.**
- **Looking ahead, we will continue to work with local governments with a focus on integrating planning, land use and infrastructure that supports complete, compact and resilient communities.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- The *Climate Change Accountability Act* commits the Province to a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
- Building on the 2018 CleanBC strategy, the recently released *CleanBC Roadmap to 2030* is an ambitious climate plan to reach government's emissions reductions targets and build a strong, low-carbon economy.

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- The Roadmap includes actions across eight pathways, including one focused on communities. Several initiatives identified in the Roadmap connect to the work of local governments, such as:
 - new requirements to make all new buildings net-zero emissions by 2030;
 - a goal of 90% Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) by 2030 and 100% by 2035;
 - an accelerated shift towards active transportation and public transit; and
 - a goal to reduce distances travelled in light-duty vehicles by 25% by 2030.
- The Roadmap commits the Province to establishing a new program to support local government climate actions through flexible, predictable funding (**see Estimates Note 43 'Climate Action Funding'**).
- Budget 2022/23 commits \$76M over three years to this new program. Program design is underway with a public announcement in early May 2022.
- The Roadmap also builds on previous CleanBC supports for local governments, including the CleanBC Communities Fund (CCF) and the Ministry of Transportation's Active Transportation strategy and grant program.
- MUNI co-leads the CCF with the Climate Action Secretariat (in the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy). MUNI holds the budget and leads program management.
- The CCF is supported by the federal Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). Through ICIP the provincial and federal governments are investing funding to help local governments and Indigenous communities develop community infrastructure that reduces greenhouse gas emissions using clean or renewable energy or by improving energy efficiency.
- Sixteen projects, worth \$63 million, were approved in the first CCF intake in 2020/21. Decisions on applications for the second intake (\$48 million), which closed on November 12, 2020, were initially anticipated in summer 2021; applications remain under review with the federal government. A \$134 million third intake launched January 26, 2022 and closes May 25, 2022.
- Additionally, as part of Budget 2021/22, MUNI received funding dedicated to furthering local government action on the creation of complete, compact communities. Work to design a funding program is underway.
- The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), which provided annual funding to local governments based on their carbon tax expenditures since 2010, ended in 2021/22 (**see Estimates Note 43 'Climate Action Funding'**).

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND ADAPTATION STRATEGY

ISSUE

- MUNI is supporting the development of a provincial Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Government is strongly aware of the importance of supporting local governments in adapting to a changing climate.**
- **The draft Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy (CPAS) was released in June 2021 and included an opportunity for partner and public input on further climate adaptation actions for a second phase of the Strategy.**
- **Budget 2021 provided funding for several CPAS Phase 1 initiatives. An announcement by Government on Phase 2 projects and funding is anticipated in 2022.**
- **The Union of BC Municipalities' Special Committee on Climate Action has also made recommendations related to supporting local governments' climate mitigation and adaptation efforts.**
- **These will be considered by the joint Provincial - UBCM Green Communities Committee. Further information on the Ministry's priorities is anticipated in the near future.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy

- The draft Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy (CPAS) was developed by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV) through extensive internal, public, partner engagement and engagement with First Nations.
- Local government engagement included a CPAS session at the 2019 UBCM Convention, several information sessions in summer 2020, as well as a presentation to the UBCM Special Committee on Climate Action.
- The draft CPAS was released in June 2021, setting out actions in two phases. Phase 1 funding was approved for several initiatives led by different ministries.

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- MUNI received \$50,000 to develop a funding program for climate resilient infrastructure planning and a share of the funding for a joint initiative with Emergency Management BC (EMBC) and Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) to:

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Cabinet Confidences

- Advice/Recommendations

Advice/Recommendations

- Advice/Recommendations

- Advice/Recommendations

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UBCM Special Committee on Climate Action Recommendations

- In 2019, the UBCM established a multi stakeholder Special Committee on Climate Action (SCCA) to consider and identify opportunities for local governments to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
- The SCCA final report was released in late 2020. Adaptation-focused recommendations include completion of regional climate risk assessments, adoption of local government adaptation plans by 2030, and renewal of the joint Provincial-UBCM Green Communities Committee (GCC).
- A renewed GCC, which now includes staff representation from ENV, is currently scoping committee priorities, including consideration of adaptation and resilience as a focus of their work.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

LNG CANADA & COASTAL GASLINK SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS MANAGEMENT PLANS

ISSUE

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) is collaborating with provincial agencies, including the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Canada Implementation Secretariat, to ensure the socio-economic effects of LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink's projects on B.C. communities are identified and appropriately addressed.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy is a priority for our government.**
- **LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink are expected to provide \$23 billion in direct provincial revenue, and lasting, multi-generational benefits to B.C. and Canada.**
- **As well as delivering benefits, large projects like these can have adverse direct and indirect impacts, including impacts on community utilities, housing, health care, social services, childcare and policing.**
- **We're working to ensure the effective delivery of provincial programs and services to support communities impacted by LNG projects. The Northern Healthy Communities Fund is available to northern communities who are facing increased and/or specific needs due to the social impacts of economic growth in this region.**
- **We are also monitoring the implementation of Environmental Assessment Certificate conditions that require LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink to mitigate socio-economic effects.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Provincial Structures for LNG Oversight

- Provincial governance structures that oversee the implementation of the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects include the Deputy Minister LNG Steering Committee and the ADM level LNG Canada Executive Project Board.

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- The MUNI ADM, Local Government, sits on the Project Board which oversees government activities related to project implementation.
- MUNI staff also co-chairs -- with the LNG Canada Implementation Secretariat - the Social and Economic Management Committee (SEMC), comprised of approximately 20 provincial agencies.
- The SEMC monitors socio-economic effects from LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink construction and operations activities on communities and supports the effective delivery of provincial programs and services to mitigate those effects.

MUNI Roles for LNG Oversight

- Legally binding conditions attached to the Environmental Assessment Certificates of each project required proponents to develop socio-economic effects management plans to address the potential effects of the projects on services and infrastructure delivered by provincial agencies, Indigenous Nations, and local governments.
 - LNG Canada's Community Level Infrastructure and Services Management Plan (CLISMP) outlines actions to mitigate the project's adverse direct effects on community level infrastructure and services; approaches to engagement, monitoring and reporting; and an adaptive management process for mitigation of effects not previously anticipated.
 - Coastal GasLink's Socio-Economic Effects Management Plan (SEEMP), similarly outlines actions to engage affected parties, mitigate potential adverse effects on regional and community infrastructure and services, monitor and report on effectiveness of mitigation and adaptively manage where monitoring indicates a mitigation action is not achieving its intended outcome.
- As required by the EAC conditions, LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink are implementing their plans in consultation with MUNI.
- Associated MUNI roles include senior staff participation in the LNG project governance structures and oversight of CLISMP and SEEMP implementation which include engaging with local governments and First Nations.

Intergovernmental Communications

- Where applicable, MUNI also helps ensure consideration of non-regulatory matters related to local governments that fall outside of the scope of the CLISMP or SEEMP, by directing those to the SEMC/appropriate provincial agency (e.g., local government concerns about lack of LNG-related employment activities).



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CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

NORTHERN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FUND

ISSUE

- Status update on the Northern Healthy Communities Fund.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **The Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF) will provide \$25 million to help support the long-term resilience of northern communities experiencing major economic development.**
- **The NHCF launched February 2, 2021 and is available to local governments and First Nations near the LNG Canada and Coastal Gaslink projects that are facing increased and/or specific needs due to social impacts of rapid economic growth. Non-profits serving in those communities are also eligible.**
- **Up to \$100,000 per application will be available for capacity-building projects and up to \$300,000 for capital projects, to help communities meet increased demand for key social services.**
- **The NHCF is being administered by the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT). Applications will be reviewed and funded quarterly.**
- **In 2021/2022, there were 25 projects (approx. \$2.9 million) approved from eligible local governments, First Nations and non-profit organizations. The first intake of 2022 saw another four projects approved (approx. \$573 k).**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- On March 31, 2020, the Province entered into an agreement with the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) to establish a \$25 million funding program. Over six years (2020-2026), the Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF) will support communities adjacent to the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects to remain healthy, sustainable and resilient while facing rapid and large-scale economic development.
- Under the funding agreement, NDIT will administer and manage the fund, and is entitled to deduct an administrative fee equal to 4% of the funding payment to defray its actual costs.

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- The eligible 22 local governments and 27 First Nations have been/are directly impacted by the ongoing construction of the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects, or have been deemed, through the Environmental Assessment or Pipeline Benefit Agreement processes, to be impacted by the projects. Advice/Recommendations
- The program is providing two funding streams:
 - Capacity Building Stream: Applicants are eligible to receive up to 90% of the eligible budget, to a maximum of \$100,000, for projects such as expanding hours for childcare centres, hiring more employees for mental health services or supporting small business recruitment, retention and resiliency.
 - Capital Stream: Applicants are eligible to receive up to 80% of the eligible project budget, to a maximum of \$300,000 for projects such as renovating a childcare facility, a mental health services building, or multi-unit housing, or undertaking upgrades to an Indigenous cultural space.
 - Advice/Recommendations; Government Financial Information
- There will be four intake deadlines each year and applications will be reviewed quarterly. Applications received late for an intake deadline are considered as part of the next intake.
 - Advice/Recommendations
- The NDIT is implementing a marketing program to ensure that all eligible communities are better aware of the program and its possibilities to support community needs.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

Attachment A:

Capacity Building			
Proponent	Project Name	Eligibility Area	Approved Amount
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	First Nations Liaison	Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	\$100,000.00
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	First Nations Engagement Capacity Building	Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	\$62,934.00
Nawican Friendship Centre	Nawican Family Wellness Program	Dawson Creek	\$100,000.00
Ksan House Society	Mental Health Coordination & Support	Terrace	\$79,722.00
Kitimaat Valley Education Society dba Kitimat Valley Institute	Kitimaat Valley Education Society Leadership Training Initiative	Kitimat	\$86,153.00
Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Society	Healthy Children, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities	Smithers	\$95,517.00
Doig River First Nation	Tsaa Natsadle Programs Manager - Capacity Building	Doig River First Nation	\$98,000.00
Connexus Community Resources Society	Mental Health and Addiction Services	Fraser Lake	\$98,797.00
Connexus Community Resources Society	Child and Youth Mental Health and Addiction Services	Fort St. James	\$99,617.00
City of Terrace	City of Terrace Social Development Program	Terrace	\$100,000.00
Canadian Mental Health Association of Northern BC	Peer Support Expansion for Northern BC	Prince George	\$82,000.00
Mackenzie Counselling Services Society	Rest of Us Counselling Program	Mackenzie	\$80,097.00
Positive Living North	Support Service and Mental Health Department Expansion	Prince George	\$46,980.00
South Peace Art Society	Dawson Creek Art Gallery Program Expansion	Dawson Creek	\$87,120.00
Terrace & District Community Services Society	Family Peer Support Worker Program	Terrace	\$50,815.00
Kitimat Community Services Society	Community Resource Worker	Kitimat	\$76,627.00



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Advice/Recommendations

Capital			
Proponent	Project Name	Eligibility Area	Approved Amount
Village of Fraser Lake	Fraser Lake Emergency Services Expansion-Fire Engine	Fraser Lake	\$300,000.00
Bulkley Valley Little Horizons Child Care Association	Little Horizons Childcare Centre Renovations	Smithers	\$232,000.00
Nawican Friendship Centre	Nawican Emergency Temporary Shelter - Facility Upgrades	Dawson Creek	\$120,000.00
Fort St. James Primary Care Society	Primary Care Center - Mental Health and Addictions Program	Fort St. James	\$87,000.00
Carrier Sekani Family Services	Healing/Treatment Centre	Prince George	\$300,000.00
Prince George Alano Club	Building Accessibility Upgrades	Prince George	\$182,873.00
Fort St. John Friendship Society	Building Expansion Project	Fort St. John	\$213,520.00
Lakes District Family Enhancement Society	Link Food Centre Renovation	Burns Lake	\$57,372.00
South Peace Child Development Society	SPCDC Daycare Spaces	Dawson Creek	\$53,600.00

Advice/Recommendations

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL GROWTH AND TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES

ISSUE

- Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro) has been developing an updated Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), *Metro 2050*, since 2019, while TransLink prepared its Regional Transportation Strategy (RTS), *Transport 2050*. *Transport 2050* is now approved and MVRD anticipates full adoption of *Metro 2050* in July 2022.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- I am pleased that Metro Vancouver and TransLink worked closely together to ensure alignment between the *Metro 2050* Regional Growth Strategy and the *Transport 2050* regional transportation strategy.
- I am pleased that *Transport 2050* was approved in January, and that the *Metro 2050* bylaw has received initial readings and is now out with member jurisdictions for acceptance.
- The Province appreciates being involved as a senior government partner on *Transport 2050*, as well as the effort on the part of Metro and TransLink in developing both strategies with a high level of engagement with provincial ministries and other partners.
- Regional cooperation in Metro Vancouver is more important than ever to manage growth and address many complex challenges and interrelated goals, including reconciliation with First Nations, equity, climate action, affordable housing, transportation and economic development.
- Our government remains committed to working with partners to make sure the plans that shape future land use, transportation and development in Metro Vancouver benefit the region and the province.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro) is in the process of updating its Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), to be known as *Metro 2050*. The current RGS, *Metro 2040*, was adopted in 2011. The update process builds on the strengths of *Metro 2040* and addresses identified policy gaps while responding to emerging trends. For example, *Metro 2050*'s refined land use policies built around the regional transit network will help shape future growth.
- Metro has worked closely with TransLink to align the updated RGS with the RTS, known as *Transport 2050*. The RTS long-term vision sees active transportation and transit as competitive choices, accounting for at least half of all passenger trips, by 2050. This matches *CleanBC Roadmap to 2030* objectives to reduce distance travelled by car and shift travel mode share to 50% walking, cycling and transit by 2050.
- MUNI and MOTI have been coordinating provincial engagement throughout the process of developing both *Metro 2050* and *Transport 2050*. The Province contributed to both strategies at the executive/elected official level through the Policymakers Coordination Forum (PCF) and at the staff level through a cross-ministry Provincial Working Group (PWG).
- The *Metro 2050* RGS bylaw received first and second readings on March 26, 2022, followed by a public hearing on April 20. If accepted by all member jurisdictions between April to June 2022, the bylaw will then go before the regional board for adoption in July (see attachment). Metro staff indicate that feedback from member jurisdictions and stakeholders has been generally very supportive and outstanding concerns can be addressed through ongoing dialogue prior to or after adoption.
- The *Transport 2050* strategy was approved by the Translink Mayors' Council in late January 2022.
- Twenty-two of the 23 members of the TransLink Mayor's Council are also on the Metro regional board as a board member or alternate.
- Together, the RGS and RTS updates have provided a key opportunity for the Province to help shape the region's future. The PWG gave positive feedback on *Metro 2050* and *Transport 2050* as they worked toward a range of provincial priorities such as affordable housing; integrated land use and transportation planning; climate action; healthy and resilient communities; and improving mobility for people, goods and services.
- As *Transport 2050* and *Metro 2050* move into implementation, the Province will continue working closely with the region to deliver on the long-term goals and targets of the strategy.

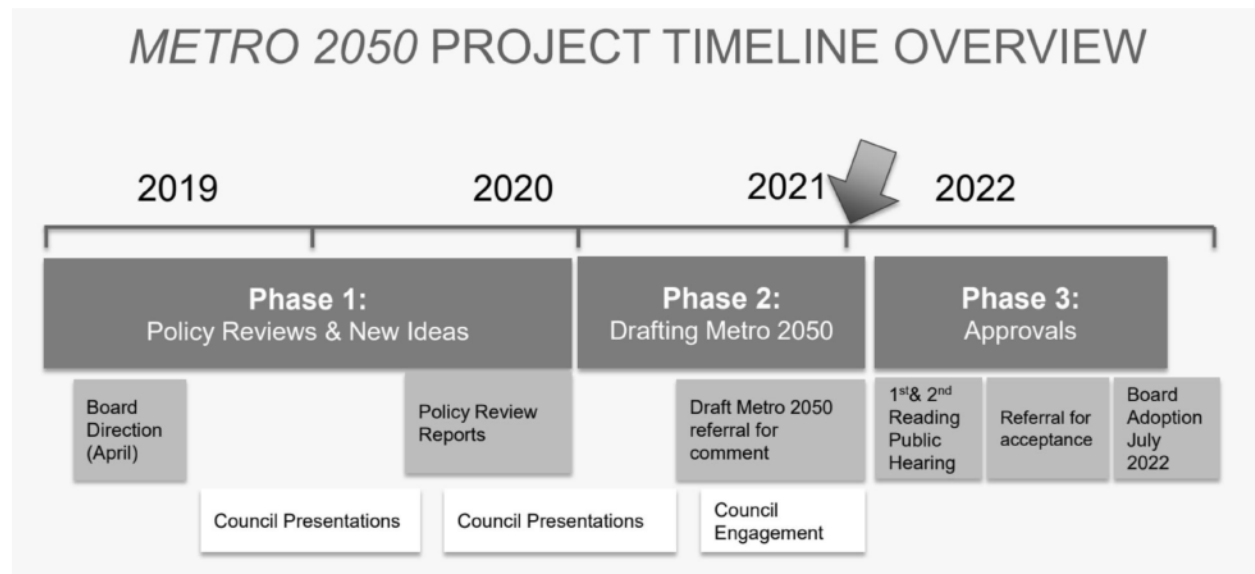
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- MUNI's Minister's mandate letter commitments include working with MOTI on the development of an Integrated Transportation and Development Strategy (ITDS) to ensure greater alignment between transportation and land-use planning. The joint work on the RGS and RTS reflects ITDS objectives and is a leading example of a more integrated approach for long-range regional planning.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

Attachment



From: Report to MVRD Regional Planning Committee (January 14, 2022)

ISLANDS TRUST

ISSUE

- The Islands Trust (Trust) has been criticized by some local residents over the proposed update to the Trust Policy Statement. The Trust Council has also requested legislative amendments to the *Islands Trust Act* (Act) with respect to tree cutting authority.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- The Islands Trust has an important role in preserving B.C.'s Gulf Islands so they can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Policy Statement

- The Islands Trust Council is updating its policy statement and is engaging with First Nations, the Islands' residents, local authorities and other partners as it moves forward.
- Once The Islands Trust has completed this work, I will receive the Policy Statement for consideration of approval.

Tree Cutting Authority:

- Government is committed to ensuring healthy forest habitats and appreciates the importance of tree cover in the reduction of green house gas emissions and sustainable forestry jobs.
- Tree cutting has long been a contentious issue on the Gulf Islands. Tree management and increased tree logging on private land has consistently been a challenge in the Islands Trust area.
- Regulatory authority over tree cutting is a significant request, requiring substantial policy work and consultation with local governments, Indigenous communities, and stakeholders, including private landowners, to take into consideration the various interests affected.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Policy Statement

- The Islands Trust began updating its Policy Statement in 2019 and is seeking input and engagement with First Nations, community residents, local authorities and other partners as it moves forward.
- The Policy Statement guides the development of the official community plans (OCP) and land use bylaws of local trust committees and Bowen Island Municipality, as well as the Trust Council's Strategic Plan and advocacy program. OCPs and land use bylaws must be consistent with the Policy Statement.
- The Policy Statement is approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs after the Minister is satisfied that the provincial interest and the duty to have early and meaningful consultation with First Nations have been satisfied.
- The Policy Statement has not been updated in over 25 years and is now being updated to better address the Trust Council's priority themes of reconciliation, climate change, and affordable housing.
- There has been significant public pushback on many elements in the updated draft Policy Statement, including in relation to foreshore development, forestry, and housing. Once completed, the draft Policy Statement will come to the Minister for approval, and staff will evaluate the level of consultation and engagement.

Tree Cutting Authority

- The Trust Council has requested legislative amendments to the Act to provide the Trust with municipal-equivalent authority to regulate tree cutting, which would complement the proposed draft Policy Statement provisions to restrict certain types and scales of forestry on private lands.
- The issue of the Trust's authority in relation to trees is longstanding and complex, with private property rights in tension with the Trust's mandate to "preserve and protect". ^{Advice/Recommendations}

Advice/Recommendations

- ^{Advice/Recommendations}
- The Ministry of Forests is also working on a review of its private managed forest land (PMFL) policies. The voluntary PMFL program encourages sound forest management practices on private forested land and may not address the Trust's concerns.



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- The Ministry of Forests is initiating a second phase of its review of the PMFL program in 2022. Consultations with local governments and Indigenous Nations will help inform recommendations for changes to the PMFL Program. Advice/Recommendations s.13; Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

PROVINCIAL HIGHWAY INTERCHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGES (DCCS)

ISSUE

- Cabinet Confidences

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Municipalities enter into agreements with the province for improvements to provincial highways that help achieve Councils' goals for community development.**
- **Improved provincial highways benefit growing communities and the developers that build them.**
- **If developments directly benefit from improved highways, it is fair that developers, through Development Cost Charges (DCC), pay for a share of the improvements that benefit them.**

- Cabinet Confidences

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Development Cost Charges (DCCs) are a mechanism for local governments to finance new or expanded infrastructure owned by them. A DCC program charges a portion of the cost of infrastructure to the new development that benefits from the infrastructure.
- A bylaw establishing DCCs required the Inspector of Municipalities' approval to become effective.
- The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (TRAN) has entered into partnerships with municipalities for additional components to provincial highways that benefit municipalities and their road networks. Common examples include the construction of a new interchange, multi-use paths or transit facilities.
- These components sometimes benefit new development in the municipality by improving transportation capacity or providing amenities.

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- Legislation does not permit infrastructure that is not owned by a local government to be included in a DCC program. The Inspector of Municipalities has declined to approve DCC programs that contain infrastructure owned by the province.
- This interpretation threatens the ability of municipalities to contribute to provincial highway improvements, removing the potential for desired amenities.
- These amenities provide significant benefits to development and enabling their contribution would be equitable.
- Cabinet Confidences
- Cabinet Confidences; Advice/Recommendations

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-356-6575

Joshua Craig, Local Government Infrastructure and Finance, 778-698-3231

PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING

ISSUE

- Campaign to increase provincial funding for public libraries.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Libraries are key partners in delivering quality and innovative public services throughout B.C.**
- **The Province contributes \$14 million annually to public libraries.**
- **The pandemic has highlighted people's need for digital access and other library services.**
- **With our one-time \$3 million investment we helped improve library collections and public computing at the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic.**
- ***[CONFIDENTIAL (Not Announced): Government made a further \$8 million investment in March 2022 to support public libraries with COVID-19 relief and recovery.]***
- **The Ministry continues to work with the library community to identify priorities and make smart investments through planning and collaboration.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Local governments provide the majority of funding to public libraries (95% on average, but there are significant differences between libraries in smaller versus larger communities).
- Government has committed \$14 million in funding for public libraries within the Ministry's budget in 2022/23, which has been the level of funding since 2009/10.
- This annual provincial investment focuses on increasing the reach of services and collections and supporting libraries in smaller communities (provincial funding makes up between 5% and 67% (2020) of such libraries' operating budgets).
- The public library community, local governments and CUPE BC continue to call on government to address the provincial funding gap in B.C.'s public libraries (calling for an annual increase of \$8 million to \$22 million per year).

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- CONFIDENTIAL (not announced) In March 2022, MUNI allocated \$8 million in COVID-19 Relief and Recovery funding to public libraries and sector organizations. This funding will help
 - adapt physical and virtual library spaces to make them safer.
 - address changing demands for virtual programs/activities, Internet broadband and digital collections.
 - extend or continue services developed during the pandemic (takeaway, lendable computers)
 - build upon local emergency planning and response efforts.
- The COVID-19 relief and recovering funding, is the second one-time investment in public libraries in 2 years; the last time being March 2020 in an effort to improve access to digital collections and technology.
- Annual funding is scheduled for June, and was last distributed on June 11, 2021.
- Responsibility for Public Libraries changed to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs from the Ministry of Education in November 2020.
- Funding is distributed to public libraries through eight grants:
 - Four grants directly to Public Libraries: *Per Capita Operating*, *Resource Sharing*, *BC OneCard*, and *Literacy/Equity* grants.
 - Four grants to partner associations and library federations for operations, technology and alternate formats that deliver support of provincial services/programs, training and system-wide support.
- Grants to public libraries were kept the same in 2021/22 as in 2020/21, ensuring that no library system experienced a provincial funding reduction.
- Ministry staff continue to review the funding framework (distribution) as part of actions under the Strategic Plan; also as part of that work, a plan will be developed for Minister's consideration on the approach and next steps.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250 356-6575

Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch, Local Government Division, 250 886-2584

COMMUNITY LITERACY FUNDING

ISSUE

- Funding for Community Literacy Programs.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Literacy is one of life's essential skills, and is connected to living a longer and a healthier life. It opens the doors to meaningful work and new learning opportunities.**
- **The province provides \$2.185 million annually to Decoda's *Literacy Outreach Coordination Program*.**
 - Decoda supports 100 Literacy Outreach Coordinators, who provide literacy programming support to 400 communities in B.C.
 - Decoda uses a community-based, local approach to literacy, as learning happens in the context of home and community.
- **The province is also pleased to continue its support of the Vancouver Sun's annual *Raise a Reader* campaign, with its \$500,000 contribution in 2021.**
- **The *Raise a Reader* campaign plays a vital role in increasing literacy awareness, community involvement and much-needed funding for literacy programs.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Community literacy programming develops literacy and learning skills for individuals and groups outside of the formal education system.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs provides funding for Community Literacy through two key programs: *Literacy Outreach Coordination Program* and *Raise a Reader* campaign.

Decoda Literacy Outreach Coordination (LOC) Program

- Decoda is B.C.'s key provincial literacy organization and coordinates the LOC program, plus other provincial programs such as Community Adult Literacy

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Program (CALP) funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training.

- The province has provided \$2.185 million in the spring of each year since 2015 to Decoda's LOC Program. This is not operational funding for non-profit organizations but supports locally based collaboration and community coordination of literacy activities across communities.
- Decoda provides professional development, learning resources and support for Literacy Outreach Coordinators in 100 community literacy task groups (Task Groups) across 400 communities.
- Task Groups are made up of representatives from various community organizations, including libraries, family resource programs, employment agencies, business community, K-12 school system, and literacy organizations.
- Task Groups identify literacy needs and priorities, then develop action plans to deliver literacy programs and services that best serve people in their communities.
- LOC Program outcomes include:
 - Increased awareness of need for essential literacy skills at the community level;
 - Better linkages between formal and informal education programs;
 - Growth of professional development opportunities for community-based literacy practitioners; and
 - A stronger community-based network of literacy organizations.

Raise a Reader Campaign

- The awareness and fundraising campaign usually runs the 3rd week of September.
- Decoda manages the funding and distribution on behalf of the Vancouver Sun (Postmedia), fund raising communities and the province. Communities receive different grants each year depending on the total funds raised and their communities' contributions.
- Funds are used by communities to build literacy awareness, host family programs and purchase literacy materials.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-356-6575
Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch, 250-886-2584

LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE

ISSUE

- In 2021, local governments in B.C. have faced a pandemic, a heat wave, wildfires, and an atmospheric river precipitation event that caused numerous emergency evacuations, flooding, highway closures, infrastructure damage, capacity shortages, structural damage, and other negative impacts to local communities. Recovery and response to these events are still ongoing.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **Local and First Nations governments determine the direction of recovery and response, requesting aid as needed and ensuring that emergency efforts align with community direction.**
- **Emergency Management BC supports local efforts and is the lead coordinating agency for emergency management, including community recovery under the Interim Disaster Recovery Framework.**
- **The Ministry of Municipal Affairs supports local governments in emergency response and recovery by assisting them in sustaining public infrastructure, local governance, corporate operations, disaster mitigation and community planning. On April 12th, 2022 \$53.6 million was announced to support of 10 local governments impacted by the November flood event.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Under the *Emergency Program Act*, when an event has been declared eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA), Emergency Management BC (EMBC) reimburses local governments for 100% of eligible costs associated with emergency response actions. Only a few recovery related costs are eligible for reimbursement (e.g., initial assessments, rental of halls for reception centres, initial contract for a community recovery manager).
- The Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance regulation, administered by EMBC, shares the costs of local government infrastructure repair in recovery on an 80/20 provincial-local basis. It only provides funding to restore eligible infrastructure to its pre-event functionality.
- The Province has been guided by the Interim Provincial Disaster Recovery Framework. Under the Framework, EMBC is responsible for recovery

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coordination and facilitating a one door provincial government approach, while respecting community leadership of local recovery.

- After an emergency event a comprehensive needs assessment is undertaken by the affected community, and clear support needs are identified in a community's recovery plan.
- MUNI provides a range of supports for local governments in emergency response and recovery. MUNI staff engage directly with local governments and community recovery teams and may listen to or participate in town halls and dedicated meetings. This past year, the Minister and Deputy Minister hosted calls with Mayors, Chief Administrative Officers and Corporate Officers of several wildfire and flood impacted communities.
- Advice/Recommendations evolving. Recovery efforts have typically sought to use existing programming and funding supports (including at the federal level) but have also required additional funding requests.
- Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

This resulted in \$53.6

million being approved to assist 10 impacted local governments.

- MUNI also provides governance supports, such as helping to identify funding sources and advising on administrative and fiscal operations during response and recovery. MUNI also supports other needs such as Mayor/Council functions and corporate operations (meetings, space, staffing supports, communications, financing and Municipal Financing Authority supports, etc.).
- In unusual circumstances, MUNI can explore legislative solutions that can ease the burden on local governments dealing with an emergency. For municipalities with council vacancies, such as Merritt or Lytton, this has included a ministerial regulation to enable them to choose not to proceed with a by-election.
- Emergency borrowing provisions under s.13(6) of the *Emergency Program Act* presuppose the ability to collect taxes and fees to cover the costs of debt. If larger events reduce the revenue collection capability of a local government, it may require additional financial support to ensure the continuity of operations.
- For more information on MUNI supports for the Village of Lytton and communication with affected local governments, see Estimates Notes 28 and 31.
- More broadly, MUNI facilitates sound decision making and supports for local communities to reduce future disaster risk for all hazards, promoting community resilience, hazard mitigation, and disaster risk reduction. Advice/Recommendations; Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications



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Advice/Recommendations; Intergovernmental Communications

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, Local Government Division, 250-365-6575

150 TIME IMMEMORIAL PROGRAM

ISSUE

- The \$30-million 150 Time Immemorial program is a partnership between the province, the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation (FPCF) and Heritage BC.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **We are in the 150th year since B.C. joined confederation, but the history of this place stretches back to time immemorial.**
- **To heal and move forward together, it is important that everyone sees themselves reflected in B.C.'s heritage and cultural programs.**
- **This program is an opportunity for everyone to learn more about B.C.'s colonial past and to honour the resilience that both Indigenous and non-Indigenous marginalized communities have shown.**
- **We were pleased to collaborate with colleagues in the ministries of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR) to frame a program and to engage in partnership with First Peoples Cultural Foundation and Heritage BC.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Budget 2020/21 identified the province's intent to acknowledge the 150th year of entering Confederation. \$30 million in one-time funding was committed to supporting this directive.
- The program budget was divided into the following program and endowments:
 - \$10 million to Heritage BC for an application-based program open to local governments, Indigenous communities and organizations, and heritage mandated not for profits.
 - \$7.5 million to FPCF for an application-based program open to Indigenous communities and organizations.
 - \$2.5 million will be delivered by FLNR to not-for-profit groups operating heritage sites on Crown lands.
 - *The following two components have not been publicly announced:*

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- \$5 million endowment to the Heritage Legacy Fund.
- \$5 million to establish the province's first endowment for Indigenous cultural heritage, administered by First People's Cultural Foundation.
- On November 22nd, 2021 intakes for the program were announced with the two administrative partners:
 - FPCF's intake closed on February 1st, 2022.
 - Heritage BC's intake closed on December 24, 2021.
 - Successful projects are expected to be announced in Spring 2022.

CONTACT: Tara Faganello, ADM, LGD, 250-365-6575

SUMMARY - DECREASE TO BUDGET (CHANGES DUE TO COVID, FIRES, FLOODS)

ISSUE

- Changes to budget related to COVID, Fires, Floods

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- Overall Municipal Affairs (MUNI) saw a budget decrease in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22 of \$48.524 million.
- The majority of that decrease was based on the completion of the CRD Wastewater Treatment project (\$62M) and winding down of the Office of the Auditor General for Local Government (\$0.6M).
- The budget decrease is partially off-set by an increase of \$1.547 million for 13 FTEs (6 in Local Government Division and 7 in Executive and Support Services Division).
- These additional FTEs are to alleviate ongoing staffing pressures as well as to support programs and initiatives related to COVID, Fires and Flood response.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Overall MUNI saw a budget decrease in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22 of \$48.524 million:

2022/23 Net Budget (Net of External Recoveries) (\$000's)	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	Variance
Local Government	270,950	220,500	-50,450
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	19,117	19,128	11
Executive and Support Services	7,603	7,917	314
University Endowment Lands Administration	10,668	12,269	1,601
Total	308,338	259,814	-48,524

- The decrease was primarily due to completion of the CRD Wastewater Treatment project (\$62M) and winding down of the Office of the Auditor General for Local Government (\$0.6M).

Honourable Nathan Cullen

March 2022

- Offsetting that decrease was a base budget increase of \$1.547 million for 13 FTEs (6 in Local Government Division and 7 in Executive and Support Services Division).
- These additional FTEs are to alleviate ongoing staffing pressures as well as to support programs and initiatives related to COVID, Fires and Flood response.
- The funding for programs related to COVID, Fires and Floods flowed through contingencies funding in 2021/22.

CONTACT: Alana Best, ADM/EFO, Management Services Division 250-507-8461

BUDGET AND FORECAST OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS

ISSUE

- Breakdown of the budget and forecast for Municipal Affairs over the next three fiscal years

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- Breakdown of the Municipal Affairs budget and forecast over the next three years including operating and capital expenditures are as follows:
- Estimates budget of \$259.814 million operating in 2022/23 with an additional \$2.354 million in capital
- Forecast of \$262.260 million operating in 2023/24 with an additional \$2k in capital
- Forecast of \$261.437 million operating in 2024/25 with an additional \$2k in capital

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Financial Summary:

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates ¹	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Local Government ²	270,950	220,500	221,641	219,804
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning ³	19,117	19,128	19,128	19,128
Executive and Support Services	7,603	7,917	7,926	7,926
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10,668	12,269	13,565	14,579
Total	308,338	259,814	262,260	261,437
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)				



2022/23 Estimates Note

Honourable Nathan Cullen

March 2022

Executive and Support Services	316	69	2	2
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	2,285	2,285	0	0
Total	2,601	2,354	2	2

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2021/22 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 Estimates.

² Local Government includes University Endowment Lands (UEL)

³ Immigration Services and Strategic Planning includes Strategic Planning, Immigration programs, Provincial Nominee Program and Community Gaming Grants

CONTACT: Alana Best, ADM/EFO, Management Services Division 250-507-8461

SUMMARY - INCREASE TO FTES (COVID, FIRES, FLOODS)

ISSUE

- Increases to FTEs related to COVID, Fires, Floods

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE

- **As at February 28th, 2022 Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) saw an Full Time Equivalent (FTE) average burn increase compared to 2020/21 of 11 FTEs.**
- **The majority of this increase was directly related to the COVID, Fires and Floods response as additional FTEs were required to administer programs and work closely with Local Governments to aid in planning and recovery initiatives in 2021/22.**
- **Budget 2022 includes a base budget increase of \$1.547 million for 13 FTEs (six in Local Government Division and seven in Executive and Support Services Division).**
- **These additional FTEs are to alleviate ongoing staffing pressures as well as to support programs and initiatives related to COVID, Fires and Flood response.**

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Average burn is based on the average number of FTE's working during the fiscal year. This takes into account staff starting or leaving partway through a fiscal year and gives an average of the total FTE's each month.
- Breakdown of the FTE average burn year over year change from 2020/21 to 2021/22:

2022/23 Estimates Note

Honourable Nathan Cullen

March 2022

	FTE Average Burn as at March 31, 2021 Restated ¹	FTE Average Burn as at February 28, 2022	Year over year change
Local Government	90	101	11
University Endowment Lands	21	22	1
Subtotal Local Government	111	123	12
Strategic Planning	11	6	-5
Workforce and Immigration	94	97	3
Community Gaming Grants	17	18	1
Subtotal Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	122	121	-1
Ministers' Offices ²	5	5	0
Deputy Minister's Office	5	5	0
Corporate Services ³	77	77	0
Subtotal Executive and Support Services	87	87	0
Total MUNI FTE's	320	331	11
JERI Management Services FTES ⁴	33	33	0
Total Including JERI Management Services FTE	353	364	11

Notes:

1 March 31, 2021 FTE count restated to MUNI's current organizational structure

2 Ministers' Offices salaries and benefits budget supports a staffing complement of 5 FTEs

3 Corporate Services includes 3 DMO Correspondence Unit FTEs supporting MUNI and Management Services supporting the 4 Economy Sector Ministries

4 Includes management services FTEs supporting 4 Economy Sector ministries (33 of these FTEs are on JERI's payroll)

CONTACT: Alana Best, ADM/EFO, Management Services Division 250-507-8461

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

The mission of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs is to provide British Columbians with liveable environments by helping local governments and residents build sustainable, well-governed communities; support newcomers to settle and integrate into the province; facilitate economic integration to address British Columbia's labour market needs; and attract international entrepreneurs.

MINISTRY SUMMARY

(\$000)

	Estimates 2021/22 ¹	Estimates 2022/23
VOTED APPROPRIATION		
Vote 40 — Ministry Operations.....	297,670	247,545
STATUTORY APPROPRIATION		
University Endowment Lands Administration Account.....	10,668	12,269
OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>308,338</u>	<u>259,814</u>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ²	2,601	2,354
LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS ³	—	—
REVENUE COLLECTED FOR, AND TRANSFERRED TO, OTHER ENTITIES ⁴	—	—

NOTES

¹ For comparative purposes, figures shown for the 2021/22 operating expenses; capital expenditures; loans, investments and other requirements; and revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities are restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 *Estimates*. A reconciliation of restated operating expenses and capital expenditures is presented in Schedule A.

² A listing of estimated capital expenditures by ministry is presented in Schedule C.

³ A summary of loans, investments and other requirements by ministry is presented in Schedule D.

⁴ A summary of revenue collected for, and transferred to, other entities by ministry is presented in Schedule E.

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SUMMARY BY CORE BUSINESS

(\$000)

	2021/22	2022/23 ESTIMATES		
OPERATING EXPENSES	Net	Gross	External Recoveries	Net
Core Business				
Local Government.....	270,950	416,847	(196,347)	220,500
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning.....	19,117	168,830	(149,702)	19,128
Executive and Support Services.....	7,603	7,920	(3)	7,917
University Endowment Lands Administration Account Special Account.....	10,668	12,269	—	12,269
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	<u>308,338</u>	<u>605,866</u>	<u>(346,052)</u>	<u>259,814</u>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	Capital Expenditures	Capital Expenditures	Receipts and P3 Liabilities	Net
Core Business				
Executive and Support Services.....	316	69	—	69
University Endowment Lands Administration Account Special Account.....	2,285	2,285	—	2,285
TOTAL	<u>2,601</u>	<u>2,354</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2,354</u>

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates
2021/22Estimates
2022/23

VOTE 40 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS

This vote provides for the programs, operations, and other activities described in the voted appropriations under the following core businesses: Local Government, Immigration Services and Strategic Planning, and Executive and Support Services.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Voted Appropriations

Local Government Services and Transfers.....	265,353	214,300
University Endowment Lands.....	5,597	6,200
	<u>270,950</u>	<u>220,500</u>

Voted Appropriations Description: This sub-vote provides for the administration of core local government legislation, including the *Community Charter*, the *Local Government Act*, and the *Local Government Grants Act*; financial and other support to local governments and related organizations; development and administration of policy, legislation, and regulations; and the management and delivery of cross-government initiatives. These activities may involve consultation with other ministries; agencies; governments, including local governments; First Nations; and external stakeholders. This sub-vote also provides for the operation of the University Endowment Lands, and for funding to support the public library system. Costs may be recovered from special accounts, ministries, organizations within the government reporting entity, other organizations, and local and federal governments for activities described within this sub-vote.

IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

Voted Appropriations

Strategic Planning.....	530	530
Workforce and Immigration.....	16,905	16,916
Community Gaming Grants.....	1,682	1,682
	<u>19,117</u>	<u>19,128</u>

Voted Appropriations Description: This sub-vote provides for the development and implementation of provincial plans, programs, and policies related to administration of the British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program and immigrant settlement and integration services, including negotiating and entering into agreements or arrangements with parties inside and outside of British Columbia; and Part 6 of the *Gaming Control Act*, as well as the distribution of gaming proceeds through community gaming grants. Costs related to the British Columbia Provincial Nominee Program may be recovered from fees. Costs may also be recovered from ministries, the British Columbia Lottery Corporation, other organizations, and local and federal governments for activities described within this sub-vote.

EXECUTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Voted Appropriations

Minister's Office.....	620	629
Corporate Services.....	6,983	7,288
	<u>7,603</u>	<u>7,917</u>

Voted Appropriations Description: This sub-vote provides for the office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. This sub-vote also provides for executive support of the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation; the Ministry of Labour; the Ministry of Municipal Affairs; and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport; including financial administration and budget coordination, strategic and business planning and reporting, human resources, office management, accommodation, and information systems; and support for ministry programs and initiatives. Costs may be recovered from ministries, Crown agencies, other levels of government, and parties external to government for activities described within this sub-vote.

VOTE 40 — MINISTRY OPERATIONS

297,670

247,545

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

STATUTORY DESCRIPTIONS

(\$000)

Estimates
2021/22Estimates
2022/23

STATUTORY APPROPRIATIONS

This statutory appropriation provides for the programs, operations, and other activities of the following special account: University Endowment Lands Administration Account.

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT LANDS ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT

Statutory Appropriation

University Endowment Lands Administration Account.....	10,668	12,269
--	--------	--------

Statutory Appropriation Description: This statutory appropriation provides for the University Endowment Lands Administration Account which is governed under the *University Endowment Land Act*.

MINISTRY GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

GROUP ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION

Salaries and Benefits	29,039	31,599
Operating Costs	13,475	14,620
Government Transfers	607,252	559,414
Other Expenses	10,901	12,506
Internal Recoveries	(10,673)	(12,273)
External Recoveries	(341,656)	(346,052)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES.....	308,338	259,814

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS¹

(\$000)

	Estimates 2021/22	Estimates 2022/23
UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT LANDS ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT		
This account was established as a Miscellaneous Statutory Account by authority of the <i>University Endowment Lands Administration Act</i> and was continued under the <i>University Endowment Land Act</i> in 1979. This account provides for services to residents of the University Endowment Lands. Revenue is derived from University Endowment Lands resident ratepayer contributions, including fees, licences, and property taxes. Other revenue sources (net of direct costs) include land sales, rent from land tenures, fees, and the recovery of costs associated with a redevelopment/rezoning process. Expenses include the ratepayer's portion of costs transferred from the Ministry Operations Vote for services provided.		
SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	24,388	22,321
OPERATING TRANSACTIONS		
Revenue.....	10,668	12,269
Expense.....	(10,668)	(12,269)
Net Revenue (Expense).....	—	—
FINANCING TRANSACTIONS		
Receipts.....	—	—
Disbursements.....	—	—
Capital Expenditures.....	(2,285)	(2,285)
Net Cash Source (Requirement).....	(2,285)	(2,285)
Working Capital Adjustments and Other Spending Authority Committed ³	218	296
PROJECTED SPENDING AUTHORITY AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR ².....	22,321	20,332

NOTES

¹ A Special Account is an account in the General Fund where the authorization to spend money from the account is located in an Act other than the *Supply Act*.

² The Spending Authority Available at the Beginning of the Fiscal Year 2021/22 is based on the 2020/21 *Public Accounts*. The Projected Spending Authority Available at the End of the Fiscal Year represents the cash and temporary investments projected to be available at the end of each fiscal year.

³ The Working Capital Adjustments and Other Spending Authority Committed includes those adjustments that would change the cash balance of the Special Account. This may include amortization expense, changes in accounts receivable and payable, and the recognition of deferred revenues.

MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

(\$000)

VOTE 40 Ministry Operations

Description	Total 2021/22 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
Local Government	270,950	9,914	88	2,519	—	12,521	—	239	645	3,209	375	667	—	2	5,809
Local Government Services and Transfers	265,353	8,334	57	2,117	—	10,508	—	233	545	664	347	387	—	2	—
University Endowment Lands	5,597	1,580	31	402	—	2,013	—	6	100	2,545	28	280	—	—	5,809
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	19,117	9,735	14	2,473	—	12,222	—	93	110	69	731	195	30	—	—
Strategic Planning	530	389	2	99	—	490	—	16	—	14	3	9	—	—	—
Workforce and Immigration	16,905	8,053	8	2,046	—	10,107	—	73	110	55	695	167	30	—	—
Community Gaming Grants	1,682	1,293	4	328	—	1,625	—	4	—	—	33	19	—	—	—
Executive and Support Services	7,603	5,374	40	1,386	56	6,856	—	136	23	120	326	347	—	—	7
Minister's Office	620	371	—	116	56	543	—	58	—	—	10	15	—	—	—
Corporate Services	6,983	5,003	40	1,270	—	6,313	—	78	23	120	316	332	—	—	7
Total	297,670	25,023	142	6,378	56	31,599	—	468	778	3,398	1,432	1,209	30	2	5,816

Statutory Appropriations

Description	Total 2021/22 Operating Expenses	50	51	52	54	Total Salaries and Benefits	55	57	59	60	63	65	67	68	69
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10,668	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10,668	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2022/23 Operating Expenses
735	—	377	9	12,067	194,830	1,123	208,559	404,512	—	—	17	17	(12,269)	(1)	(12,270)	(1,000)	(195,347)	(196,347)	220,500
—	—	81	9	2,268	194,830	1,123	200,608	396,561	—	—	11	11	—	(1)	(1)	—	(195,047)	(195,047)	214,300
735	—	296	—	9,799	—	—	7,951	7,951	—	—	6	6	(12,269)	—	(12,269)	(1,000)	(300)	(1,300)	6,200
—	—	—	275	1,503	140,000	—	14,902	154,902	—	—	204	204	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(149,701)	(149,702)	19,128
—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	530
—	—	—	275	1,405	—	—	14,902	14,902	—	—	202	202	—	—	—	—	(9,700)	(9,700)	16,916
—	—	—	—	56	140,000	—	—	140,000	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	(140,000)	(140,000)	1,682
16	—	42	33	1,050	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	16	—	(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(3)	7,917
3	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	629
13	—	42	33	964	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	16	—	(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(3)	7,288
751	—	419	317	14,620	334,830	1,123	223,461	559,414	—	—	237	237	(12,269)	(4)	(12,273)	(1,003)	(345,049)	(346,052)	247,545

70	72	73	75	Total Operating Costs	77	79	80	Total Govt Transfers	81	83	85	Total Other Expenses	86	88	Total Internal Recoveries	89	90	Total External Recoveries	Total 2022/23 Operating Expenses
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,269	—	—	12,269	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,269
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,269	—	—	12,269	—	—	—	—	—	—	12,269

Ministry Operations
Three Year Budget Targets FY23
(including Special Accounts)
(in \$millions)

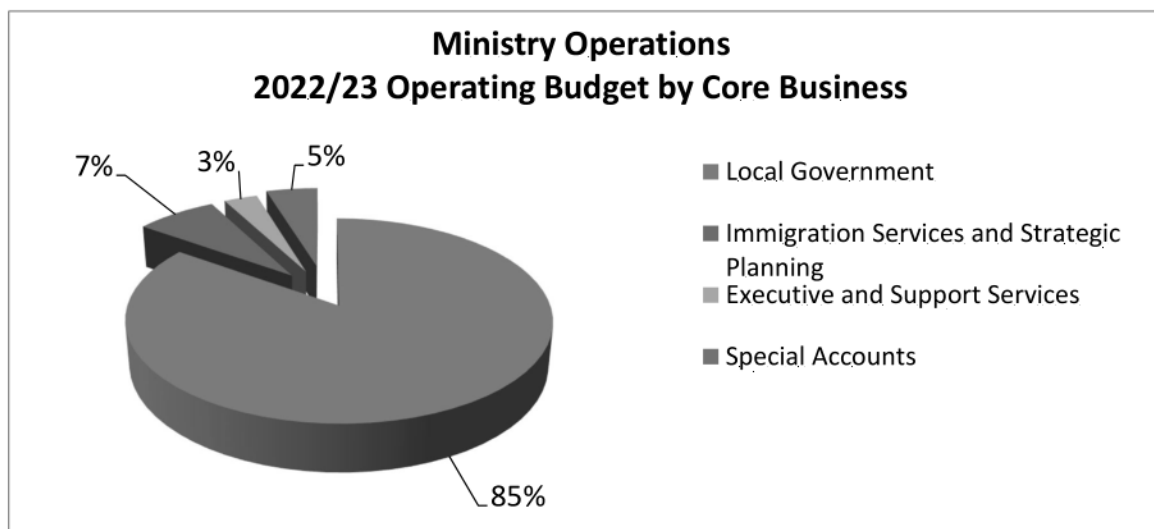
Year over Year Service Plan Changes	Restated Estimates 2021/22	Estimates 2022/23	Target 2023/24	Target 2024/25
Service Plan 2021/22	308.198	246.665	246.674	246.674
Budget 2022 changes:				
General Ministry Resourcing budget lift for Local Government and Corporate Management Services Divisions		1,548	1,548	1,548
Base budget lift for Legal Services due to increased rates		0.036	0.036	0.036
Base budget lift for Local Government Transfers		9.844	10.985	9.148
Gross-up UEL administration expenses and offsetting recovery from Special account for increased revenues in UEL		1.581	2.877	3.891
Budget transfer for WelcomeBC from Ministry of Advanced Education	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140
Service Plan 2022/23	308.338	259.814	262.260	261.437

Budget 2022 allocations by Core Business (Net of external recoveries)	Restated Estimates 2021/22	Estimates 2022/23	Target 2023/24	Target 2024/25
Ministry Operations				
Local Government	270.950	220.500	221.641	219.804
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	19.117	19.128	19.128	19.128
Executive and Support Services	7.603	7.917	7.926	7.926
Special Accounts				
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10.668	12.269	13.565	14.579
Municipal Affairs	308.338	259.814	262.260	261.437

Estimates - year over year change	Restated Estimates 2021/22	FY23 Estimates	Variance
Local Government	270,950	220,500	(50,450)
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	19,117	19,128	0,011
Executive and Support Services	7,603	7,917	0,314
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10,668	12,269	1,601
	308,338	259,814	(48,524)

Ministry Operations
2022/23 Operating Budget by Core Business

Vote, Core Business	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Ministry Operations Vote				
Local Government				
Local Government Services and Transfers	265,353	214,300	(51,053)	(19.2%)
University Endowment Lands	5,597	6,200	603	10.8%
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning				
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning	530	530	-	0.0%
Community Gaming Grants	1,682	1,682	-	0.0%
Workforce and Immigration	16,905	16,916	11	0.1%
Executive and Support Services				
Minister's Office	620	629	9	1.5%
Corporate Services	6,983	7,288	305	4.4%
Special Accounts				
University Endowment Lands Administration	10,668	12,269	1,601	15.0%
Total Ministry Operations Vote	308,338	259,814	(48,524)	(15.7%)
Total	308,338	259,814	(48,524)	(15.7%)



Ministry Operations
2022/23 Operating Budget by Core Business
(in \$000s)

Core Business	LG Government Transfers	Legal Services Adjustment	General Ministry Resourcing	Minister's Office Resources	UEL Special Account	Dissolution of AGLG	Total Variance
Local Government	(51,116)	21	645				(50,450)
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning		11					11
Executive and Support Services		4	903	9		(602)	314
Special Accounts	(51,116)	36	1,548	9	1,601	(602)	1,601
							(48,524)

Local Government Division**LGD Government Transfers: \$51.116M decrease due to:**

\$62M decrease for the Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project payment
\$3.3M increase for Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing
\$4.9M increase for Small Community and Regional Districts Program
\$0.88M increase for Bulkley Nechako / Kitimat Stikine Regional Districts
\$0.161M increase for First Nations Rail Tax Agreement
\$0.603M increase for University Endowment Lands Fire Contract
\$1.040M increase to Peace River payment

\$0.021M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

\$0.645M increase for General Ministry Resourcing budget lift

University Endowment Lands (UEL) Special Account: \$1.601M Increase - for administration expenses and offsetting recovery from Special Account for increase revenues in UEL

Immigration Services and Strategic Planning

\$0.011M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

Executive and Support Services

\$0.004M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

\$0.903M increase for General Ministry Resourcing budget lift

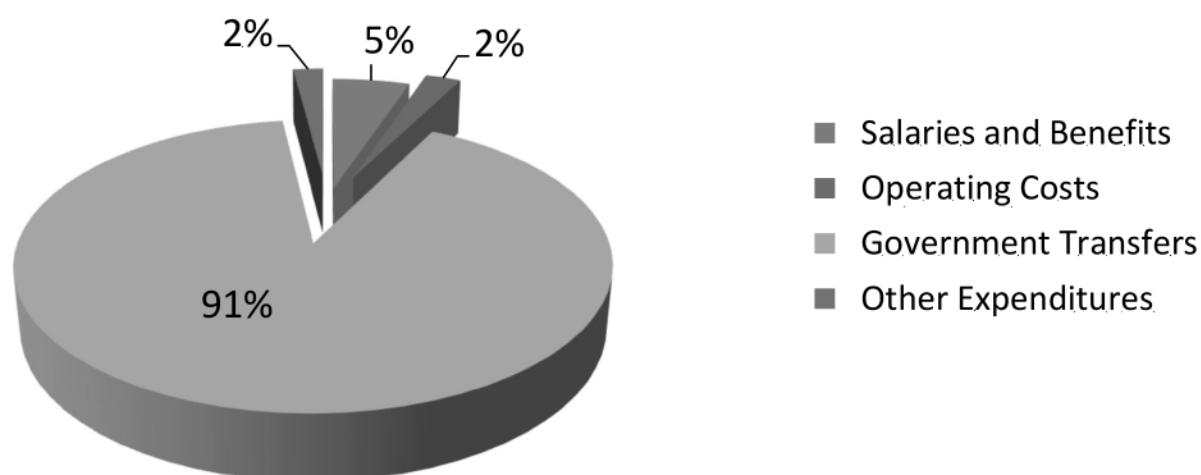
\$0.009M increase to the Minister's office resources

\$0.602M decrease due to the dissolution of the Auditor General for Local Government

Ministry Operations
2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type
(Includes Special Accounts)

Expenditure Type	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Salaries and Benefits	29,039	31,599	2,560	8.8%
Operating Costs	13,475	14,620	1,145	8.5%
Government Transfers	607,252	559,414	(47,838)	(7.9%)
Other Expenditures	10,903	12,508	1,605	14.7%
Total Gross	660,669	618,141	(42,528)	(6.4%)
Internal Recoveries	(10,673)	(12,273)	(1,600)	15.0%
External Recoveries	(341,658)	(346,054)	(4,396)	1.3%
Total Net	308,338	259,814	(48,524)	(15.7%)

Ministry Operations
2022/2023 Estimates by Expenditure Type



Ministry Operations
2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type
(In \$'000s)

Core Business	LG Government Transfers	General Ministry Resourcing	Immigration Program STOB Realignment	Legal Services Adjustment	UEL Admin Gross Up	Minister's Office Resources	Gross Up-Down Adjustment	UEL Special Account	AGLG Dissolution	Total Variance
Salaries and Benefits		1,370	1,070		507	9	(20)		(376)	2,560
Operating Costs		178		36	1,042		98	20	(229)	1,145
Government Transfers	(51,116)		(1,070)		28		4,320			(47,838)
Other Expenditures					4			1,601		1,605
Recoveries					(1,581)		(4,398)	(20)	3	(5,996)
	(51,116)	1,548	-	36	-	9	-	1,601	(602)	(48,524)

Local Government Division**LG Government Transfers: \$51.116M decrease is due to:**

\$62M decrease for the completion of the Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project
\$3.3M increase for Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing
\$4.9M increase for Small Community and Regional Districts Program
\$0.88M increase for Bulkley Nechako / Klimalat Stikine Regional Districts
\$0.161M increase for First Nations Rail Tax Agreement
\$0.603M increase for University Endowment Lands Fire Contract
\$1.040M increase for the Peace River Agreement payment

\$0.021M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

\$0.645M increase for General Ministry Resourcing budget lift for Local Government and Corporate Management Services Divisions

Fiscal Neutral adjustment to UEL Administration due to expenses and recoveries Gross Up

Fiscal Neutral adjustment to gross up salaries and operating STOBs to reflect the actual budget for expenditures and offsetting recoveries for the Federal portion of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program

University Endowment Lands (UEL) Special Account: \$1.601M Increase - for administration expenses and offsetting recovery from Special Account for increase revenues in UEL

Immigration Services and Strategic Planning

\$0.011M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

Net zero impact due to Immigration Program STOB realignment

Executive and Support Services

\$0.004M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

\$0.903M increase for General Ministry Resourcing budget lift for Local Government and Corporate Management Services Divisions

\$0.009M increase for the Minister's Office resources

\$0.602M decrease due to the dissolution of the Auditor General for Local Government

Local Government - Core Business
2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type

Expenditure Type	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Salaries and Benefits	11,473	12,521	1,048	9%
Operating Costs	10,802	12,067	1,265	12%
Government Transfers	451,280	404,512	(46,768)	(10%)
Other Expenditures	13	17	4	-
Total Gross	473,568	429,117	(44,451)	(9%)
Internal Recoveries	(10,669)	(12,270)	(1,601)	15%
External Recoveries	(191,949)	(196,347)	(4,398)	2%
Total Net	270,950	220,500	(50,450)	(19%)

Variance Explanations (in \$000):

Expenditure Type	Government Transfers	Legal Services Adjustment	General Ministry Resourcing	Infrastructure Programs Federal Gross- up	UEL Admin Gross-Up	Total Variance
Salaries and Benefits			561	(20)	507	1,048
Operating Costs		21	84	98	1,062	1,265
Government Transfers	(51,116)			4,320	28	(46,768)
Other Expenditures					4	4
Recoveries				(4,398)	(1,601)	(5,999)
Total	(51,116)	21	645	-	-	(50,450)

Government transfers: \$51.116 decrease due to:

\$62M decrease for the completion of the Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project

\$3.3M increase for Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing

\$4.9M increase for Small Community and Regional Districts Program

\$0.88M increase for Bulkley Nechako / Kitimat Stikine Regional Districts

\$0.161M increase for First Nations Rail Tax Agreement

\$0.603M increase for University Endowment Lands Fire Contract

\$1.040M increase for the Peace River Agreement payment

\$0.021M increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

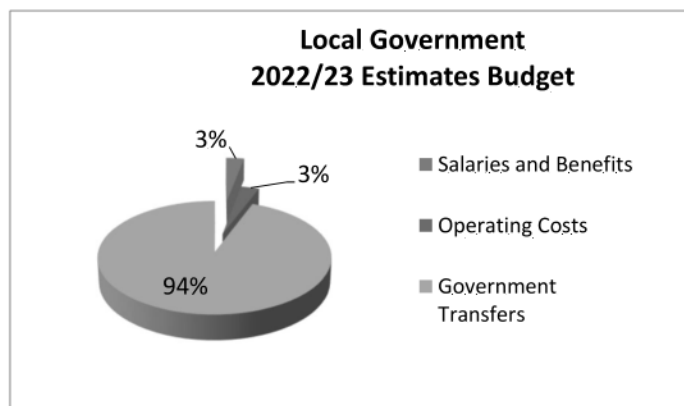
\$0.645M increase for General Ministry Resourcing budget lift for Local Government and Corporate Management Services Divisions

Infrastructure Programs Gross-up

Adjustment to Federal recoveries; increase in salaries and benefits and government transfers offset by a increase in recoveries. No overall net impact.

University Endowment Lands (UEL)

Net zero impact to UEL Administration due to gross-up adjustment



**Local Government - Core Business
2022/23 Estimates by Sub Sub Vote**

Sub Sub Vote	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Local Government Services and Transfers	265,353	214,300	(51,053)	(19%)
University Endowment Lands	5,597	6,200	603	11%
Total	270,950	220,500	(50,450)	(19%)

Local Government Services and Transfers (\$000s)

Changes related to Government Transfers:

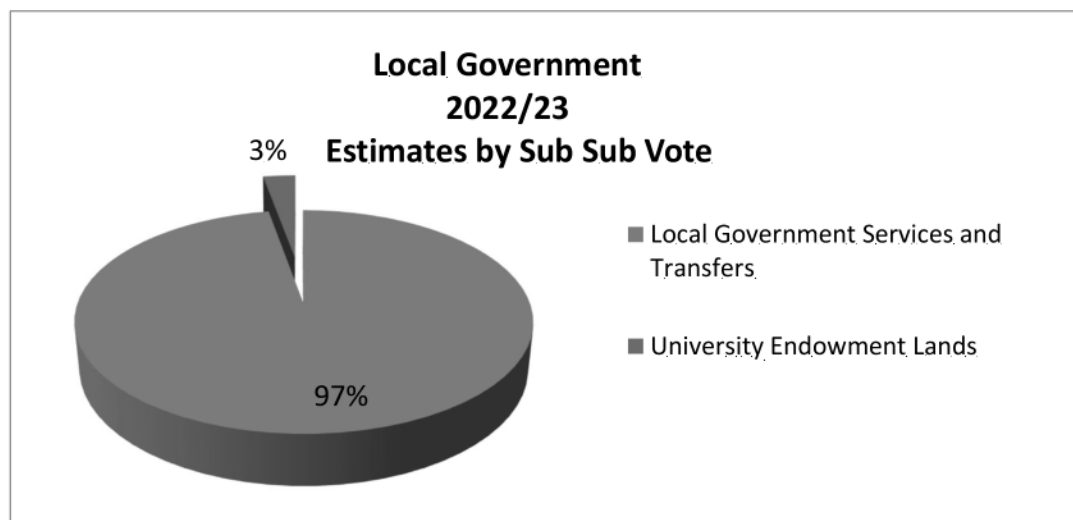
Completion of Capital Regional District Wastewater Treatment Project	(62,000)
Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing	3,300
Small Community and Regional Districts Program	4,900
Bulkley Nechako / Kitimat Stikine Regional Districts	880
First Nations Rail Tax Agreement	161
University Endowment Lands Fire Contract	603
Peace River Agreement	1,040
	<u>(51,116)</u>

Other budget changes:

Legal Services budget increase due to rate increases	21
General Ministry Resourcing budget lift	645
	<u>666</u>

Local Government Services and Transfers total changes

(50,450)



Immigration Services and Strategic Planning - Core Business

2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type

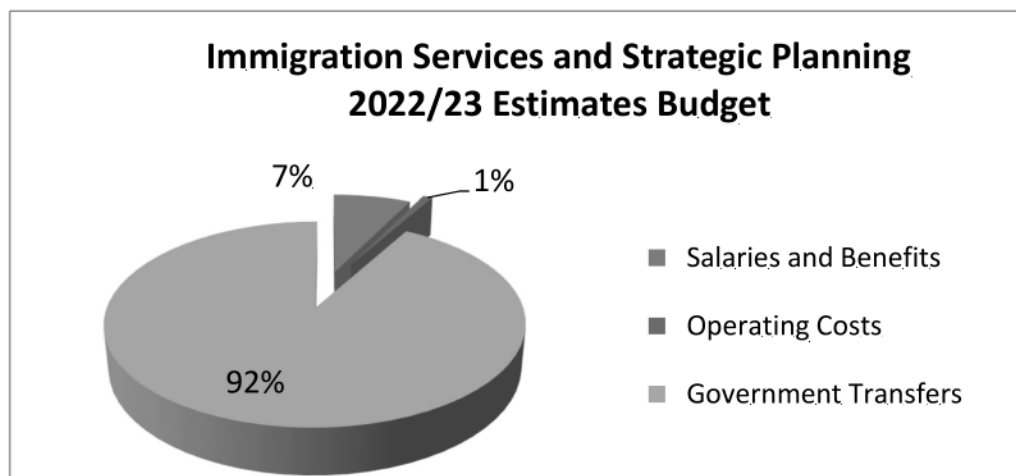
Expenditure Type	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Salaries and Benefits	11,152	12,222	1,070	10%
Operating Costs	1,492	1,503	11	1%
Government Transfers	155,972	154,902	(1,070)	-
Other Expenditures	204	204	-	-
Total Gross	168,820	168,831	11	0%
Internal Recoveries	(1)	(1)	-	-
External Recoveries	(149,702)	(149,702)	-	-
Total Net	19,117	19,128	11	0%

Variance Explanations (in \$000):

Expenditure Type	Immigration Program STOB Realignment	Legal Services Adjustment	Total Variance
Salaries and Benefits	1,070		1,070
Operating Costs		11	11
Government Transfers	(1,070)		(1,070)
Other Expenditures			-
Recoveries			-
	-	11	11

Immigration Programs STOB Realignment - net zero impact to realign budget loaded in Budget 2018 for Settlement and Integration for Newcomers

Legal Services \$0.011M Increase - budget lift due to Legal Services rate increases

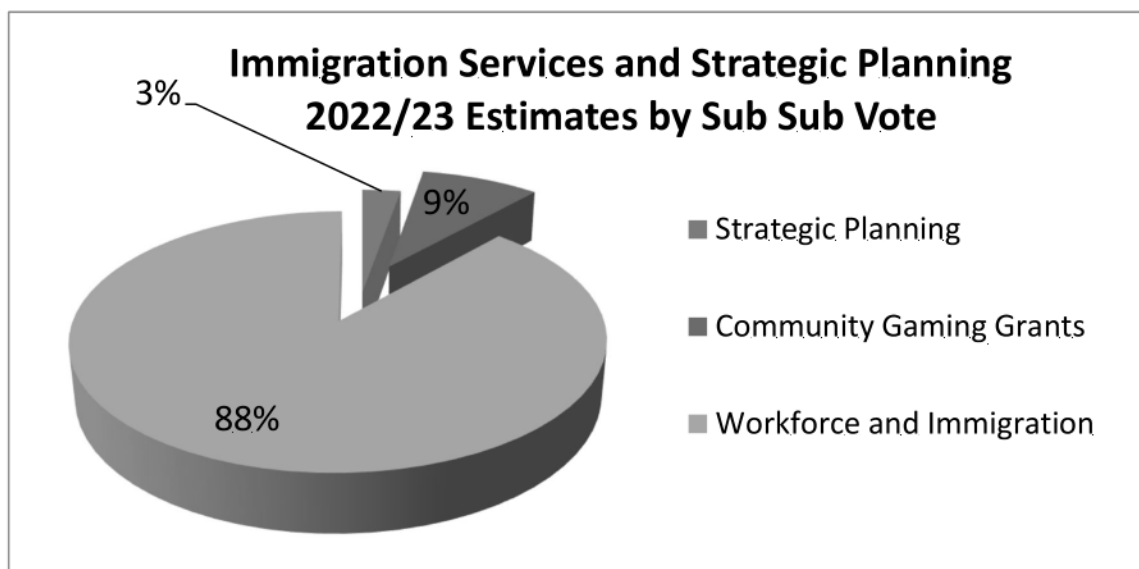


Immigration Services and Strategic Planning - Core Business
2022/23 Estimates by Sub Sub Vote

Sub Sub Vote	2021/22	2022/23	Year-Over-Year	
	Restated	Estimates	Increase/(Decrease)	
	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	(\$000s)	% Change
Strategic Planning	530	530	-	-
Community Gaming Grants	1,682	1,682	-	-
Workforce and Immigration	16,905	16,916	11	0%
Total	19,117	19,128	11	0%

Workforce and Immigration - \$0.011M Increase

\$0.011M increase due to Legal Services rate increases



Executive and Support Services - Core Business
2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type

Expenditure Type	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Salaries and Benefits	6,414	6,856	442	7%
Operating Costs	1,181	1,050	(131)	(11%)
Government Transfers	-	-	-	-
Other Expenditures	16	16	-	-
Total Gross	7,611	7,922	311	4%
Internal Recoveries	(3)	(2)	1	(33%)
External Recoveries	(5)	(3)	2	-
Total Net	7,603	7,917	314	4%

Variance Explanations (in \$ 000):

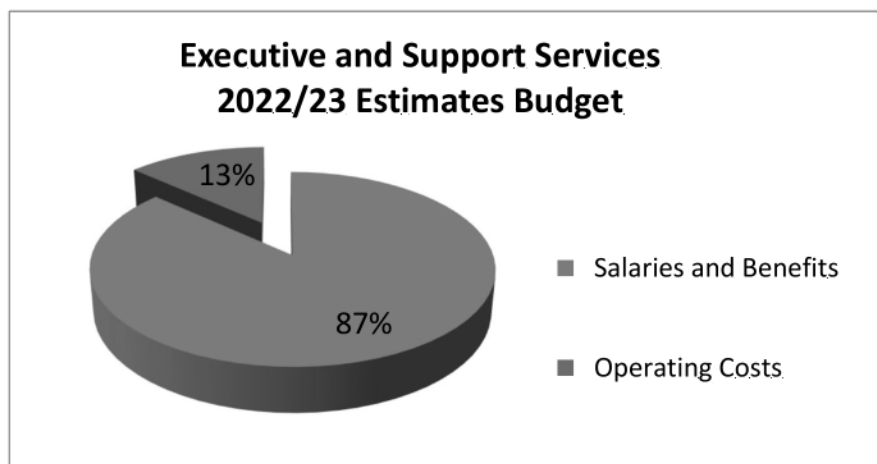
Expenditure Type	AGLG Dissolution	General Ministry Resourcing	Legal Services Adjustment	Minister's Office Resources	Total Variance
Salaries and Benefits	(376)	809		9	442
Operating Costs	(229)	94	4		(131)
Other Expenditures					-
Recoveries	3				3
	(602)	903	4	9	314

AGLG Dissolution - \$0.602M Decrease due to the winding down of the Auditor General for Local Government

General Ministry Resourcing - \$0.903M increase budget lift to Local Government and Corporate Management Services divisions

Legal Services Adjustment - \$0.004M increase to Legal services due to rate increases

Minister's Office Resources - \$0.009M increase to Minister's Office resources



**Executive and Support Services - Core Business
2022/23 Estimates by Sub Sub Vote**

Sub Sub Vote	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Minister's Office	620	629	9	1%
Corporate Services	6,983	7,288	305	4%
Total	7,603	7,917	314	4%

Minister's Office - \$0.009M Increase

\$9K increase to support Minister's Office resources.

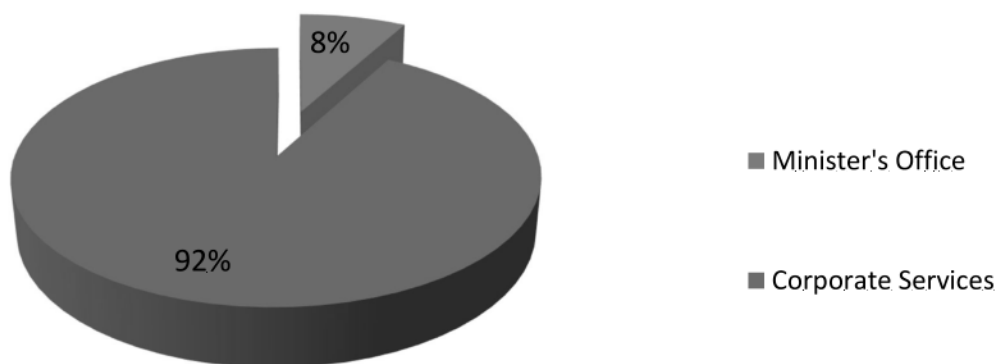
Corporate Services - \$0.305M Increase

\$0.602M decrease due to winding down of AGLG. Final fiscal budget has been transferred under ESS.

\$903K increase to Salaries and Benefits due to budget lift for General Ministry Resourcing

\$4k increase to Legal Services due to rate increases

**Executive and Support Services
2022/23 Estimates by Sub Sub Vote**



University Endowment Lands Administration - Special Account

2022/23 Estimates by Expenditure Type

Expenditure Type	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Salaries and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Operating Costs	-	-	-	-
Government Transfers	-	-	-	-
Other Expenditures	10,668	12,269	1,601	15%
Total Gross	10,668	12,269	1,601	15%
Internal Recoveries	-	-	-	-
External Recoveries	-	-	-	-
Total Net	10,668	12,269	1,601	15%

\$1.601M increase due to gross-up UEL administration expenses and offsetting recovery from Special account for increased revenues in UEL

The Budget for these expenditures are fully recoverable against revenues within the UEL Special Account.

The University Endowment Lands Administration Special Account provides for services to residents of the University Endowment Lands (UEL).

Revenue is derived from University Endowment Lands resident ratepayer contributions including water usage fees, building permits, property taxes and other public works user fees. Other revenue sources include land sales, rent from land tenures, and the recovery of costs associated with a redevelopment/rezoning process. Expenditures are incurred for the provision of municipal-like services to the local residents.

Capital Budget By Core Business

Core Business	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Year-Over-Year Increase/(Decrease)	
			(\$000s)	% Change
Executive and Support Services	316	69	(247)	(78%)
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	2,285	2,285	-	-
Total	2,601	2,354	(247)	(9%)

	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	Percent Composition 2021/22
1. Office Equipment	2	2	0.08%
2. Local Government Information Systems	359	67	2.8%
3. University Endowment Lands Administration Account	2,285	2,285	97.1%
	<u>2,646</u>	<u>2,354</u>	<u>100%</u>

Local Government Information System (LGIS)

LGIS is the Ministry's top corporate information systems initiative to deliver an integrated solution for grant and regulatory tracking programs for the Local Government Division.

The LGIS system:

- Enables 189 local governments to submit financial and other information online.
- Provides invaluable assistance to government to achieve the best quality and value in infrastructure and other large-scale projects.
- Assists governments in evaluating and delivering projects in a cost effective and efficient manner.
- Provides project assessment, delivery and management for government to ensure the best value for money is achieved in infrastructure grant and project management.

LGIS is a strategic tool for efficient management of Infrastructure programs which are central to the Province's objectives in protecting public health, ensuring clean drinking water, waste water management, protecting the natural environment, conserving energy, and reducing Green House Gas Emissions.

University Endowment Lands

The University Endowment Lands Administration Account is for the Westbrook Mall road capital project.

3 Year Capital Budget by Core Business (\$000s)

Program	2021/22 Restated (\$000s)	2022/23 Estimates (\$000s)	2023/24 Estimates (\$000s)	2024/25 Estimates (\$000s)
Executive and Support Services	316	69	2	2
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	2,285	2,285	-	-
Total	2,601	2,354	2	2

The capital budget consists of a \$2K placeholder for Office Equipment and a capital budget for the Local Government Information System (LGIS). The University Endowment Lands capital budget comes from the UEL Special Account.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION: LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

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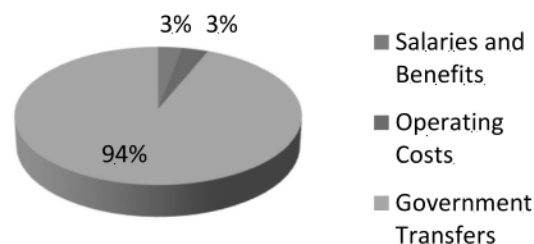
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2022/23 BUDGET BY EXPENDITURE TYPE

Local Government Division (LGD)

Description:

LGD supports local governments and public libraries to improve the quality of life for all communities by encouraging sustainable, livable and well governed communities that are healthy and safe, economically resilient and socially and environmentally responsible for British Columbians. Services for local governments, public libraries, and others include: maintaining and applying the policy and legislative framework; administering grant programs; and providing advisory services and problem-solving support. LGD is also responsible for municipal-like services in the University Endowment Lands (UEL)



Operating Budget (\$000s)	2021/22 Budget Restated	2022/23 Estimates	Increase/ (Decrease)
Salaries and Benefits	11,473	12,521	1,048
Operating Costs	10,802	12,067	1,265
Government Transfers	451,280	404,512	(46,768)
Other Expenditures	13	17	4
Total before Recoveries	473,568	429,117	(44,451)
Internal Recoveries	(10,669)	(12,270)	(1,601)
External Recoveries	(191,949)	(196,347)	(4,398)
Total	270,950	220,500	(50,450)

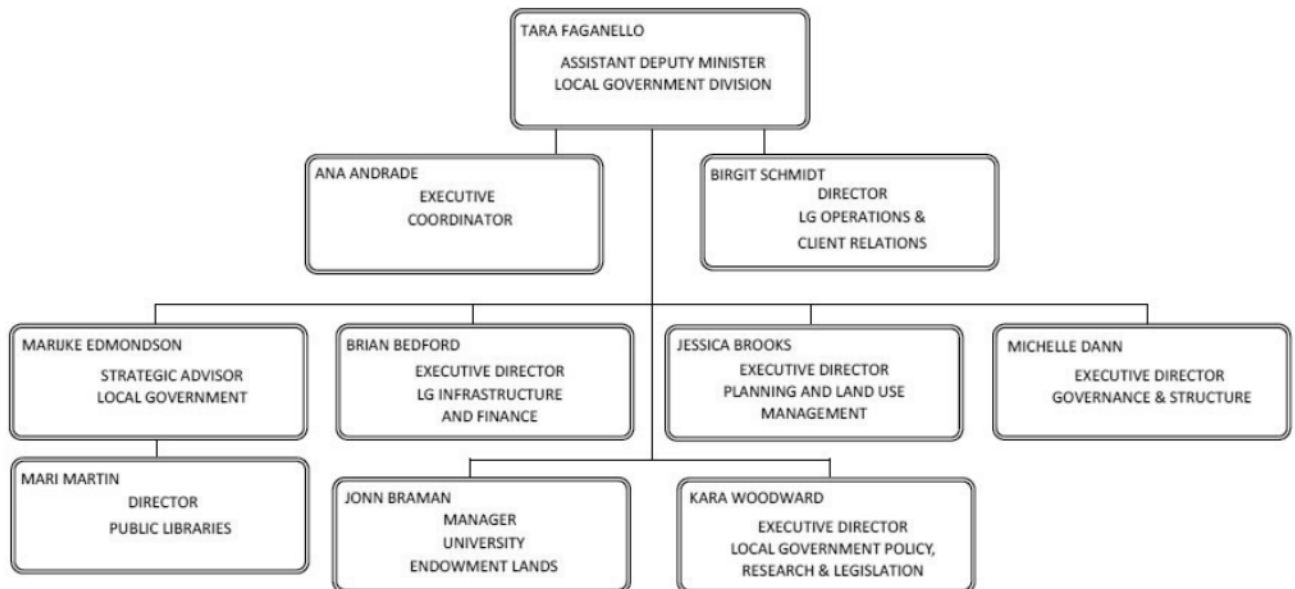
Local Government Division: 127 full time equivalents (at December 31, 2021)

Includes: Local Government, Public Libraries Branch and University Endowment Lands (UEL) Administration and Public Works.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION OVERVIEW

Organization Chart:

Ministry of Municipal Affairs Local Government Division



Branch	Description
ADM Office	<p>Oversees the delivery of a full range of programs to serve local governments and their communities. Supports internally for the division the management of financial and human resources; creating and maintaining strong partnership relations with other provincial ministries, the federal government, local governments, and other internal and external clients, in particular with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and local government professional organizations including through formal bodies such as supporting Board of Examiners; overseeing major project initiatives such as multi-dimensional policy and program projects; and facilitates partnerships with internal and external clients regarding the provincial planning and participation at the annual UBCM Convention, involving all provincial ministries, some Crown corporations and other agencies – typically 1900+ delegates representing elected and non elected officials from 188 local governments and 9 UBCM-member First Nations, Cabinet Ministers, MLAs, and the federal government attend the Convention each year.</p> <p>Also maintains the functional connection between the ministry and the UEL administration (a unique body responsible for providing direct municipal-like services to an unincorporated area on the Point Grey Peninsula). On behalf of the ministry, leads the quasi-judicial process for hearing statutory appeals under the University Endowment Land (UEL) Act in the UEL. Also provides Executive leadership to the Public Libraries Branch.</p>
Planning and Land Use Management Branch	<p>Supports effective implementation and enhancement of the local government planning and land use framework by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with local governments to develop and implement related provincial policies and regulations. • working with provincial agencies to align the local government planning framework and provincial policies, programs, and legislation. <p>Develops and implements policies, programs and legislation and supports cross-ministry, local and federal collaboration on issues of high provincial interest that intersect with the land-use planning framework, e.g., affordable housing, climate action, integrated transportation and development, hazards risk mitigation, regional growth management.</p> <p>Facilitates resolution of inter-jurisdictional issues/disputes. Liaises with other orders of government to negotiate agreements and support commitments. Supports work to ensure that communities are prepared for impacts of major industrial growth (e.g. Liquefied Natural Gas in Northwest). Leads coordination of the LGD's support of emergency response and recovery.</p>

Branch	Description
Local Government Infrastructure and Finance Branch	<p>Provides infrastructure and operating support to local governments and improvement districts; provides local finance advisory services and monitors annual Local Government Data Entry submissions; coordinates approvals for the Deputy Inspectors and Inspector of Municipalities.</p> <p>Works to maintain and enhance the local government finance system. Develops and administers multiple local government funding assistance programs.</p> <p>Partners with the federal government, UBCM and other provincial ministries on a variety of significant, simultaneous infrastructure funding programs.</p>
Governance and Structure Branch	<p>Supports the work of local governments in three main areas: advising, problem solving and educating on complex local and regional governance issues, including provincial oversight of certain bylaws and other actions; overseeing the restructure of local governments, including municipal incorporations and boundary extensions; and supporting the building of productive relationships between local governments and First Nations.</p>
Public Libraries	<p>Supports effective public library governance and accountability, and work to ensure provincial funding helps to extend local services and improve access to public library services throughout British Columbia.</p>
Local Government Policy, Research and Legislation	<p>Leads and undertakes forward-looking policy and legislative development on virtually any aspect of the local government system; is responsible for local government framework legislation and local government campaign financing legislation. The Branch is also responsible for knowledge gathering/sharing about that system, cross-government UBCM Resolutions Response process, coordination and support for minister's regional calls to local governments and support for BC's participation on the Provincial Territorial Officials Committee.</p>
University Endowment Lands (UEL) Fire Contract	<p>Provides fire protection services to the University of British Columbia, Pacific Spirit Regional Park and the UEL, through a contract with the City of Vancouver.</p>
University Endowment Lands Administration – Statutory Appropriation	<p>Provides local government-like services including: planning; land use regulation; building regulation and inspection; local roads; water; sewerage; drainage; community parks; and bylaw enforcement. The cost of these services is recovered from local taxes through the UEL Special Account.</p>

QUICK FACTS ABOUT B.C. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local and Regional Government in B.C.

- Local governments in British Columbia (B.C.) consist of incorporated municipalities and regional districts.
- 161* municipalities (cities, districts, towns, villages, resort municipalities and regional municipalities) and 27 regional districts as well as the Islands Trust. The legislative framework for local governments is established in the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* (except for the City of Vancouver, which has the *Vancouver Charter*).

Population Distribution

- In 2020, B.C. had a population of over 5.1 million.** Eighty-nine per cent of B.C.'s population lived in an incorporated area (municipality), while the remainder lived outside an incorporated area.
 - Incorporated municipalities – approx. 4.6 million
 - Electoral (unincorporated) areas – approx. 0.5 million
- Municipal populations ranged from under 120 (Zeballos, est. 118) to almost 700,000 (City of Vancouver, est. 697,000).
- The average municipal population size was 28,440; however, the median population size was 4,741. 63 per cent of municipalities had a population of less than 10,000.
- Most of BC's urban population lives in Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver), Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD), and Capital Regional District (CRD), which account for only 1.97 per cent of the province's entire area.
- 53 per cent of B.C.'s population lives in Metro Vancouver, which only accounts for 0.30 per cent of the province's territory.

Regional Growth and Planning

- B.C.'s metropolitan regions are experiencing high growth. An additional 1.4 million people are expected to live in B.C. by 2041.**
- Over 90 per cent of the population increase is expected to be in the urban areas of B.C.'s high growth regions (Lower Mainland, Southeast Coast of Vancouver Island and the Okanagan Valley).**
- Ten regional districts in B.C.'s high growth areas have established regional growth strategies to guide growth and development to support a high quality of life for communities and regions.
- The Capital, Central Okanagan, Comox Valley, Fraser Valley, Metro Vancouver, Nanaimo, North Okanagan, Okanagan-Similkameen, Squamish-Lillooet, and Thompson-Nicola regional districts have adopted regional growth strategies and are undertaking implementation efforts with over 75 member municipalities and one Treaty First Nation.
- Metro Vancouver has developed a new regional growth strategy, *Metro 2050*, which is progressing toward full adoption and will work in concert with TransLink's new Regional Transportation Strategy, *Transport 2050*. The Province has participated directly in both processes to support robust integration of transportation and land use within the region.

* Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality was dissolved in December 2021. In 2022 there are 161 municipalities in B.C.

** These numbers are based on the 2020 Population Estimates from BC Stats.

*** Comparison using 2020 Population Estimates from BC Stats

QUICK FACTS ABOUT LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

Local Government Expenditures*

- In 2020, local government spending accounted for approximately 4.3 per cent of B.C.'s Gross Domestic Product at approximately \$10.6 billion.
- Municipal vs. regional district spending:
 - Municipal \$9.0 billion (85 per cent of local total)
 - Regional \$1.6 billion (15 per cent of local total)

Local Government Revenue Sources*

- In 2020, local government revenue was approximately \$14.1 billion. Local government revenue sources have remained stable for the last seven years.
- Local government revenue is composed of property taxes; user fees; transfers from other levels of government; and other sources such as construction permits and business licenses.

Local Government Labour Force

- Approximately 43,300 people make up the local government public sector labour force in BC.
- Between 2010 and 2020, the number of people working in local government in BC increased by 21 per cent. During that same time period, the employment rate in the Federal Government in BC decreased by eight per cent and increased in the provincial government by 36 per cent (BC Stats).

*Excludes data from Village of Lytton, Village of Warfield, District of Wells and Regional District of Mount Waddington. These four local governments have not submitted their 2020 data to the Ministry.

SMALL COMMUNITY GRANTS (SCG) AND REGIONAL DISTRICT GRANTS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- Ensure that small municipalities and regional districts have the fiscal capacity to provide services and support their governance structure.

Program Description:

- Small Community Grants are based on a formula involving basic funding, population-based funding and assessment-based funding.
- Regional District Grants are provided to regional districts based on population and the number of local community commissions that serve unincorporated areas; an equivalent transfer is also provided to the Islands Trust in support of local governance.

Grant Formula:

- Small Community Grants are allocated based on the formula set out in the Local Government Grants Regulations. A grant is paid when the sum of the following components is \$100,000 or more. The allocation begins with a base funding amount of \$200,000 plus:
 - A population funding amount of \$50 per resident up to 5,000, less \$25 per resident after that; and
 - An assessment equalization funding amount based on the relative size of the local tax base.
- Regional District Grants are similarly allocated based on a formula set out in the Local Government Grants Regulations. The grant consists of three components:
 - Up to \$120,000 based on total regional population;
 - Up to \$80,000 based on total combined electoral area population; and
 - \$5,000 for each Local Community Commission in the regional district.
- The Islands Trust receives a grant in support of local governance that is equivalent to what would be provided under the Regional District Grants formula.

Client Profile:

- Most of BC's 161 municipalities
- All 27 regional districts
- Islands Trust

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Small Community Grants	55,100	55,100

Note: These figures include grants to Regional Districts and Islands Trust.

Program Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- The Province remains committed to ensuring that small municipalities have access to the financial resources they need in order to deliver quality services in their communities.

Please see: Appendix A – Small Communities Grants
 Appendix B - Regional District Grants

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778.698-3232

SAFE RESTART FUNDING GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

One-Time

- The objective of this one-time grant program was to inject needed liquidity into the local government system to address cost pressures caused by COVID-19, including:
 - facility reopening and operating costs;
 - emergency planning and response costs;
 - bylaw enforcement costs;
 - costs of policing, fire protection and other protective services;
 - costs of programs and services for persons living with disabilities, mental illness or addictions, or persons experiencing homelessness or other vulnerable persons;
 - computer and other electronic technology costs;
 - budgeted revenues that have not been collected.

Program Description:

- In Fiscal 2020/21, the Ministry provided \$425 million in Federal-Provincial COVID-19 Safe Restart Funding to local governments around the province. These were direct one-time grants to local governments to help in addressing current and ongoing fiscal impacts caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Grant Formula:

- The apportionment for municipalities (\$394M) was calculated on a base amount plus an adjusted population which provides more money to larger communities but a higher per capita level of funding to smaller and mid-sized communities that lack a diverse revenue base or economies-of-scale to easily restart their operations.
- The 27 regional districts received a smaller portion of the funding because their regional tax revenue was kept whole in 2020 (by the Province and municipalities, with regional district requisitions being required to be paid), whereas the Province could not make the same guarantee to the 161 municipalities

Program Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- The Safe Restart Grant was a one-time grant to local governments.
- \$415M was paid to local governments in November 2020. An additional \$10M was paid to 27 regional districts in March 2021. Local governments must annually report on the use of funds until the funding is fully utilized.
- Annual reviews of the financial statements are conducted to monitor how local governments are spending the Safe Restart Funds.

Please see: Appendix D – Restart Grant Funding for Local Governments

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

TRAFFIC FINE REVENUE SHARING (TFRS) PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- Share financial benefits with municipalities that contribute to traffic safety and enforcement.

Program Description:

- The Traffic Fine Revenue Program returns 100 per cent of net traffic fine revenue to municipalities whose population is greater than 5,000 and who are responsible for policing costs.
- Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing is distributed based on municipal policing costs and municipalities are required to use the funds towards community safety and policing initiatives.

Grant Formula:

- Consistent with the Local Government Grants Regulations, Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grants are distributed to municipalities in accordance with the ratio of an individual municipality's policing costs to the total municipal policing costs, two years previous.
- Municipalities are responsible for submitting details regarding police expenditures to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.
- Annual funding fluctuates based on the amount of traffic fines collected and municipal policing expenditures.

Client Profile:

- 77 of 162 municipalities.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
TFRS	61,100	64,400

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics:

Since the expansion of the program in 2004, municipalities have boosted their police forces by hiring additional police officers and establishing innovative programs in order to help make BC safer.

Please see Appendix C Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grants

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

PEACE RIVER AGREEMENT PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- On May 29, 2015, the Peace River Agreement was signed by the Province and the eight local governments in the Peace River region.
- Funding under this agreement provides a stable source of revenue to local governments in the province's major oil and gas producing region where most of the industry assets are not subject to local taxation. The current agreement will go through to fiscal year 2034/35.

Program Description:

- The Peace River Agreement is a 20-year agreement signed in 2015 that provides provincial funding of \$50.0 million annually to the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) and to the seven municipalities located within the regional district. Since 2020/21, provincial funding also includes a 2% compounding inflation escalator.

Client Profile:

- One regional district
- Seven municipalities

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Peace River Agreement	52,020	53,060

Service Provider:

- The Province allocates annual funding under this agreement based on formulas and procedures set out in an appendix to the agreement.
- The funding agreement establishes eligibility criteria and reporting requirements for the PRRD and its seven member municipalities including submission of:
 - Long-term Development Plan (LTDP)
 - Annual Development Plan (ADP)
 - Annual Progress Report (APR)
- This agreement is an extension of a previous agreement (called the Peace River Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)). Between 2005 and 2020, total funding under the MOU was approximately \$688.0 million, bringing significant benefits to the region.

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics:

- Funds are primarily directed to Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, the region's two major service centres, but all signatories receive some funding each year.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

The agreement allows northeast communities to access new resources to improve the infrastructure that is crucial to a healthy community and an active business sector. .

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-32320

NORTHERN ROCKIES INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- Funding under the Infrastructure Development Contribution Agreement provides a stable source of capital funding to the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality (NRRM) to facilitate and accommodate the growth of the NRRM as a regional service centre for the natural gas industry.

Program Description:

- Growth in the natural gas industry will place significant demands on the NRRM for housing, infrastructure, and community services.
- In April 2013, the Province and NRRM signed a 20-year agreement, whereby the Province may provide NRRM with up to \$10.0 million annually (beginning in fiscal 2015/16), to facilitate and accommodate the growth of the NRRM as a regional service centre for the natural gas industry.
- From 2015-2019, the Province provided the NRRM with an annual contribution of \$10.0 million for community infrastructure.
- For the 2020-2024 cycle, the annual payment was determined by the annual growth in the previous five-year cycle (2015-2019). This annual payment is comprised equally between a fixed (\$5 million) and variable (\$5 million) component. The variable component is based on whether the NRRM achieves an annual growth target (averaging 2% per year) over the previous five-year cycle (2015-19) for each of three indicators (transient and permanent population and regional gas production).
- Based on the indicator data available for 2015-2019, the annual funding level for 2020 to 2024 will be \$5 million.

Client Profile:

- 1 regional municipality

Note: In 2019/20, the Ministry funded the \$10.0 million payment through the Contingency Vote. In 2020/21, the Ministry has budget appropriation of \$5.0 million.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Northern Rockies	5,000	5,000

Service Provider:

- This program will provide the NRRM with up to \$10.0 million per year to fund infrastructure works established in an approved capital plan.

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics:

- The long-term outcome of this funding agreement is to develop the NRRM as a regional service centre for natural gas development.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The 20-year agreement provides up to \$10.0 million per year, allowing the NRRM to access new resources for infrastructure crucial to a healthy community and an active business sector.
- The ministry, Treasury Board Staff, Management Committee, and staff from the NRRM established three economic and demographic indicators (for permanent population, transient population, and natural gas production), which are used to determine future annual funding under the agreement.
- Continue to support and monitor the agreement

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

TRANSFER PROGRAMS – OTHER PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Description:

Annual

Other Transfer Programs includes a variety of unique programs, outlined as follows:

- Local Services Grants specifically relates to the Province's 15-year commitment from 2009 to 2023 to provide an annual grant of approximately \$1.6 million in lieu of taxes to the Regional Districts of Bulkley-Nechako and Kitimat-Stikine for the Kemano hydroelectric facility. A 1950 agreement between the Province and Alcan exempted Kemano from property taxation; this grant compensates the two regional districts and allows them to provide and support infrastructure in their regions. The amount is calculated and divided between the two regional districts according to the same formula used for payments in lieu of taxes made by BC Hydro for their generating facilities.
- Climate Action Programs provided additional support from 2009-2021 to local governments taking action on climate change. Local government signatories to the BC Climate Action Charter who report annually on actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have been eligible for a Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) grant equal to 100 per cent of the carbon taxes paid directly to provide services. **2021/22 was the final year of funding under the program.**

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Local Service Grants	1,000	1,000
Climate Action Programs	0 ¹	0 ¹
Total	9,744	1,000

¹ CARIP funding in the amount of \$10.3M was approved as part of Vote 45 contingencies for 2021/22, the final year of funding for this program

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics:

- Assist local governments to become carbon neutral in internal operations and to take other actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions within their communities.
- Annual CARIP reporting requirements enable monitoring of local government climate action progress year over year, assist in measurement of intended program outcomes and support public transparency and accountability.
- Program funding allocation is tied to the price of carbon, therefore if the price of carbon increases, program funding will need to increase proportionally.

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778.698-3232

Last update: February 2022

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE GRANTS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- To assist communities in choosing local government structures that meet local and provincial needs and objectives, including long-term cost savings and service integration.

Program Description:

- The program oversees the restructure of local governments in the province. Restructure can include incorporating new municipalities; amalgamating existing municipalities, significantly or modestly extending municipal boundaries; restructuring of regional districts, and restructuring of services or functions, including conversion of improvement districts to municipal or regional district services.
- The program supports locally initiated restructure processes by providing advice and guidance and financial incentives under the *Local Government Grants Act* and Regulation:
 - Restructure Planning Grants assist communities in studying the services, issues and governance structures in a community and implications of restructure.
 - Restructure Assistance Grants provide an incentive for communities to restructure and support newly incorporated or restructured municipalities with transitional assistance.
 - Restructure Implementation Grants support the implementation of approved restructures by providing for interim administration and the transfer of improvement districts to local government.
- The program also works with other ministries, particularly Transportation and Infrastructure, Public Safety and Solicitor General, Finance, and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.

Client Profile:

- Unincorporated communities interested in restructure and existing municipalities, regional districts and improvement districts seeking to address governance and service challenges.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2020/21 Budget	2021/22 Budget
Restructure grants	500	500

Service Provider:

- LGD staff, in cooperation with municipalities and regional districts.

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics:

- Amended boundaries of Fort St. John, New Denver, Vernon, Osoyoos, and Cranbrook.

- Amended regional district membership to implement treaty commitments (Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations joining Strathcona Regional District), reclassified and renamed a municipality to reflect its contemporary identity (City of Mission).
- Transferred responsibility for improvement district services to local governments (Union Bay to Comox Valley Regional District and Florence Lake Waterworks District to the Capital Regional District).
- Dissolved the Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality and re-established the previous electoral area boundaries, representation, and land use regulations of the Regional District of East Kootenay.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Supporting incorporation decision process for Sorrento-Blind Bay in the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, including consideration of a vote in Spring 2022, concluding consultation with First Nations, and preparation for possible incorporation in advance of the general local election in October 2022.
- Support emerging municipal restructure initiatives, such as Okanagan Falls exploration of interest in incorporation (Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen), and anticipated proposal for a Citizens' Assembly on municipal amalgamation for the District of Saanich and City of Victoria in the Capital Regional District.
- Manage governance review plan for University Endowment Lands (currently directly administered by the Province), completing the UEL Services, Structure and Governance Study to provide a foundation for future government consideration of options for change. Continue the work of the overall review (fact-finding, engagement, developing options, negotiations, developing legislative and other legal instruments, government decisions).
- Monitor emerging restructure requests and support strategic decision-making on governance study requests. Evaluate and process further routine municipal boundary extensions and improvement district boundary amendments for decision.
- Continue to explore options and opportunities to convert legal municipal, regional district, and improvement district boundary descriptions from text (metes-and-bounds) to visual (map-based) format.
- Update program materials to more effectively assist communities seeking changes to achieve different governance and service delivery arrangements (e.g. articulate criteria for municipalization, rural governance enhancement, or service delivery enhancement initiatives; identify opportunities for locally led service and governance improvements).

Please see Appendix G Local Government Structure Grants

Contacts:

Karen Lynch, a/Director
Governance and Structure Branch
778 698-3229

TRANSITIONAL/SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TRANSFERS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- Special purpose grants assist in the resolution of unique local problems and provide grants in lieu of taxes on provincially owned property within a municipality.

Program Description:

- Special purpose grants provide for the resolution of unusual or unique situations including railway property tax reform mitigation and grants in lieu paid under the *Municipal Aid Act*. The latter are given to municipalities for buildings owned by the provincial government and not maintained by Shared Services BC.

Client Profile:

- Local governments including municipalities and regional districts.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Railway Tax Mitigation	658	658
First Nations Rail Tax Agreement	749	910
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	500	500
Total	1,907	1,907

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Continue to support specific agreements.

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778.698-3232

INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

NEW BUILDING CANADA – SMALL COMMUNITIES FUND (NBCF-SCF) PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

2014 - Open

- To assist local governments with populations of less than 100,000 with up to 2/3 of total eligible costs of building local public infrastructure.
- The Province committed \$109.0 million to match federal funding contributions.
- Through this program over \$327.0 million will be invested in BC communities.

Program Description:

- The Federal New Building Canada Plan (NBCP) provides \$53 billion nationally over 10 years, from 2014/15 until 2023/24. The NBCP contains numerous programs, including the Gas Tax Fund and GST Rebate Program. From this, the NBCP results in approximately \$14 billion of new federal funding as the New Building Canada Fund (NBCF) with the following components:
 - \$4.0 billion National Infrastructure Component (NIC) to support projects of national significance;
 - \$10.0 billion Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component (PTIC) for projects of national, regional or local significance.
 - The PTIC allocation to BC is \$1.09 billion over the 10-year period. The Federal Government requires that a minimum of 10 per cent of each provincial allocation under PTIC is dedicated towards the Small Communities Fund (NBCF-SCF) and matched with a provincial contribution.
- Through the NBCF-SCF program, the provincial and federal governments will each allocate approximately \$109.0 million to support infrastructure projects in communities with a population of less than 100,000 people.
- NBCF-SCF funding provides communities with support in addressing their infrastructure needs and operates concurrently with Canada Community-Building Fund (Gas Tax), Clean Water and Wastewater Fund, and Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.
- The NBCF-SCF funding formula is based on 1/3 of project funds contributed by each order of government: federal, provincial and local.
- Through two application intakes (2015 and 2016) 80 projects were approved for the combined federal and provincial funding contribution of \$218 million. The program is now fully allocated and the projects are underway and being monitored. An additional 2 projects were approved in 2019/20 to utilize residual program funding.
- Eligible project categories are:
 - Brownfield Redevelopment
 - Connectivity and Broadband

- Disaster Mitigation
- Drinking Water
- Green Energy
- Highways and Major Roads
- Innovation
- Local and Regional Airports
- Public Transit
- Short Sea Shipping
- Shortline Railways
- Solid Waste Management
- Wastewater

Client Profile:

- Primarily local governments.
- Note: In 2021/22, the Ministry accessed the Contingency Vote to fund provincial contributions. \$9.08 million was included in the Ministry budget in 2021/22 to reflect Federal contributions which are fully offset by Federal recoveries.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	0	0
Total	0	0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Monitoring approved projects through monthly budget forecast reports, quarterly progress reports, processing claims, site visits, and reporting out to the federal partners on progress.
- 85% of projects are complete; 9% of projects are in progress; and 6% of projects are in design phase (as of December 31, 2021).

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

CLEAN WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND (CWWF) PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

2016 - Open

- To support the rehabilitation of local government drinking water, wastewater and storm water infrastructure, and the planning and design of future facilities and upgrades to existing systems.

Program Description:

- Canada and British Columbia launched the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (Fund) following the signing of the agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia on September 30, 2016.
- The Fund accelerates short-term local government investments, while supporting the rehabilitation of water, wastewater and storm water infrastructure, as well as the planning and design of future facilities and upgrades to existing systems. Eligible project categories include:
 - Asset management – Design and Planning
 - Drinking Water
 - Storm water
 - Wastewater
- Canada and British Columbia governments are investing up to \$373.6 million under the Fund. The Government of Canada will contribute \$225.1 million and the Province of British Columbia will contribute \$148.5 million to the total program funds. An initial list of 35 approved projects was announced under the Fund as part of the signing announcement, which represents \$60.0 million of the combined \$373.6 million available.
- The Fund offers funding up to a maximum of eighty-three per cent (83 per cent) of the total eligible project costs. Fifty per cent (50 per cent) is contributed by the Government of Canada and thirty-three per cent (33 per cent) by the Province of British Columbia.
- 180 projects were approved through the Fund; 35 at the initial signing of the agreement with 144 more announced in March 2017 and 1 additional project approved in June 2017. The program is fully allocated.
- More information and applications can be found at:
www.gov.bc.ca/cleanwaterwastewaterfund.

Client Profile:

- All local governments.
- Note: In 2021/22, the Ministry accessed the Contingency Vote to fund provincial contributions. \$14.2 million was included in the Ministry budget in 2021/22 to reflect Federal contributions which are fully offset by Federal recoveries.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	0	0
Total	0	0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Monitoring approved projects through monthly budget forecast reports, quarterly progress reports, processing claims, site visits, and reporting out to the federal partners on progress.
- 95% of capital projects are complete; and 5% are in progress (as of December 31, 2021).
- 100% of asset management and design projects are complete (as of December 31, 2021).

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM (IPG) PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual Ongoing

- To assist local governments in developing long-term comprehensive infrastructure plans or studies used for a range of activities related to assessing the technical, environmental and/or economic feasibility of infrastructure projects.
- Eligible projects are those that will improve public health and safety, protect the natural environment and strengthen local and regional economies.
- The provision of a study grant demonstrates direct provincial support for local government efforts to plan for construction and replacement of infrastructure, focusing on planning, designing, constructing and managing sustainable community infrastructure.

Program Description:

- Each year, local governments apply for assistance of up to \$10,000 per application for infrastructure planning projects.
- Grants are based on a formula that provides 100 per cent of the first \$5,000 and 50 per cent of the next \$10,000. The Minister approves the final list of funded projects.
- The grants help local governments assess feasibility, costs, location, technology and other factors to improve or develop water, sewer, drainage and active transportation infrastructure, increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 51 projects were approved through the program in fiscal 2020/21.
- The 2020/21 Round 1 approvals in September 2020 resulted in \$255,577 awarded to 27 projects. Round 2 approvals in March 2021 resulted in \$233,245 awarded to 24 projects.

Client Profile:

- Primarily local governments.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Infrastructure Planning Grants	500	500

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The 2021/22 Round 1 approvals in August 2021 resulted in \$117,202 awarded to 13 projects.
- The next round of grant approvals will be based on applications received by December 15, 2021.

- Continue to explore ways to encourage innovation, cost effectiveness, asset management, and climate risk and vulnerability analysis.

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

CANADA COMMUNITY-BUILDING FUND (CCBF) - FORMERLY FEDERAL GAS TAX FUND (GTF) FUNDING PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Annual

- The BC Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) is a federal funding program that provides local governments with predictable, long-term funding for investments in sustainable infrastructure and capacity building.

Program Description:

- The CCBF is a tri-partite agreement between the federal and provincial governments and the UBCM that delivers federal funding to BC local governments.
- The current Agreement covers a 10-year period to March 31, 2024. Between 2014 – 2024, over \$3.05 billion will be transferred to BC communities under the current CCBF.
- On March 26, 2021, the Government of Canada tabled Bill C-25 with the intention of a one-time doubling of the Gas Tax payment in 2021. BC local governments received an additional \$280 million with the scheduled payment of \$293 million. Further the Bill changed the name of the program to the CCBF.
 - In 2019 a previous one time doubling of the CCBF occurred. BC local governments received an additional \$278.6 million.
 - In 2020, in response to the pandemic, Canada made the CCBF payment in one lump sum (June 2020) rather than the scheduled July and November timelines.
- In BC, funding is delivered through a combination of direct allocation to individual local governments, and pooled funding programs.
 - Strategic Priorities Fund – application based for local governments outside of Metro Vancouver
 - Community Works Fund – per capita allocation to all 189 local governments
 - Greater Vancouver Regional Fund – supports TransLink projects within Metro Vancouver
- On August 5, 2021, Canada announced fire halls and fire stations were added as an eligible category under the CCBF.
- The first intake for the SPF program occurred in 2015. Application reviews resulted in 66 projects approved for \$120.0 million in spring 2016.
- The second intake and reviews occurred in 2017. In January 2018 program Management Committee approved 112 projects, four of which are conditional, for \$192.2 million. Joint public announcement occurred on March 9, 2018.
- The four projects with conditional approvals had until by March 31, 2019 to meet the conditions. One project met the conditions and is now approved. One did not and the remaining two withdrew their applications.

Client Profile:

- Local governments.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

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- CCBF is administered by UBCM in accordance with the Agreement. The ministry has key support responsibilities including Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) program applications and review stages that will occur throughout the implementation of the program.
- The SPF is an application-based pooled funding program that provides opportunities to local governments outside the GVRD for funding for eligible projects that are larger in scale, regional in impact, or innovative and meet national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment and strong cities and communities.
- Confidential: A SPF application intake is anticipated to open in spring 2022, with reviews commencing this fall.

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT (CRD) WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROJECT PROFILE

Program Objectives:

2017 - 2023

- To cost-share the funding for the provision of wastewater treatment in the core area of the Capital Regional District (CRD).
- The provision of the grant demonstrates the Province's direct support for local governments' efforts to advance sustainable community infrastructure.

Program Description:

- Provide sewage treatment for the CRD core area that meets new federal and provincial regulatory requirements and incorporates resource recovery.
- The Province has committed to contributing 1/3 of eligible costs to a maximum contribution of \$248 million, dependent on the completion of all project components.
- On March 10th, 2017, the Province signed a shared costs agreement with the CRD.
- To ensure the project meets its goals and objectives, and to protect provincial interests, the provincial contribution will be made at substantial completion and after final commissioning of the entire wastewater system.
- The Province has reprofiled payments under the CRD agreement. In 2019/20, the Ministry made the first payment of \$62 million and accessed the Contingencies Vote to provide a second payment of \$124 million in 2019/20. The last payment of \$62 million was made in 2021/22.
- The shared contribution agreement was amended in Fall 2019 and the first payment was transferred to CRD in December 2019.
- The CRD has demonstrated sound project management and implementation under the tight timelines and constraints on this project. The project is on track for completion and meeting key objectives.

Client Profile:

- Capital Regional District. The CRD core area includes the municipalities of Victoria, Oak Bay, Saanich, Esquimalt, View Royal, Colwood and Langford and communities of the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	\$62,000	\$0
Total	\$62,000	\$0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The CRD has met all requirements for the provincial grant, and all provincial funds allocated to the project have been expended. The final payment was made in Fall 2021. Tertiary

Last update: February 2022

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treatment has been ongoing since commissioning began in November 2020 and was in place ahead of the Dec 31, 2020 regulatory deadline.

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

INVESTING IN CANADA INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (ICIP) PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

2018 - Open

The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) invests in infrastructure that will create economic growth, sustain well-paying jobs, build inclusive communities and support a low-carbon, green economy.

Program Description:

- The federal government announced their \$81.2 billion Investing in Canada Plan in February 2017. A core program of this is ICIP which is delivered through an Integrated Bilateral Agreement (IBA) between the federal and provincial government.
- The IBA for ICIP was signed on March 22, 2018, representing a \$3.917 billion federal investment in BC. On November 27, 2020 the IBA was amended to create the ICIP COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS).
- The new CVRIS stream is supported by reprofiling \$109 million in federal allocations from two existing ICIP streams (transfer \$45 million from Green Infrastructure – Adaptation, Disaster Mitigation and Resilience stream, and \$64 million from Rural and Northern Communities Program).
- ICIP is a 10-year program, running from 2018 to 2028. The commitment includes funding towards five streams:
 - Public Transit Infrastructure (\$2.7 billion);
 - Green Infrastructure (\$858 million);
 - Community, Culture and Recreation (CCR) (\$157 million);
 - Rural and Northern Communities (RNC) (\$102 million); and
 - CVRIS (\$109 million).
- British Columbia has committed funding towards current program intakes for the following programs administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs:
 - Green Infrastructure – Environmental Quality Program: \$727.3 million (\$324.6 million provincial)
 - Green Infrastructure – CleanBC Communities Fund* (CCF): \$243.67 million (\$102.24 million provincial) **Includes Climate Reserve Fund*
 - CCR Program: \$229.2 million (\$72.83 million provincial)
 - RNC Program: \$148.54 million (\$50.47 million provincial)
 - CVRIS - \$79.74 million (\$15.75 million provincial).
- Final intakes are currently underway that will fully allocate the program.
- More information and applications can be found at: www.gov.bc.ca/Investing-in-Canada-Infrastructure-Program.

Client Profile:

- All local governments, Indigenous recipients, not-for-profit, and for-profit.

Note: In 2021/22, the Ministry accessed the Contingency Vote to fund provincial contributions. \$165.86 million was included in the Ministry budget in 2021/22 to reflect Federal contributions which are fully offset by Federal recoveries.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	0	0
Total	0	0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The Environmental Quality Program had an initial application intake from May 31, 2018 to August 29, 2018. There were 13 approved projects; \$238 million, 12 projects were approved in June and July 2019 and 1 project approved in Fall 2018. Projects are being monitored.
 - The second intake opened October 30, 2019 to February 26, 2020; 20 projects approved in June to August 2021; \$161 million in federal-provincial funding.
 - The third application intake is open and closes February 23, 2022.
- The CCR Program's initial intake was concurrent with the RNC intake. It provides up to \$234 million towards projects that improve access to or quality of cultural, recreational, or community infrastructure.
 - There are 52 approved projects; August 2019, 6 projects approved and a further 46 projects approved in July 2020. Projects are being monitored.
 - Second intake launched June 25, 2020 and closed October 1, 2020. Decisions expected in Winter 2022 (federal election delayed approvals).
- The RNC Program will provide up to \$153.7 million towards projects that support infrastructure priorities in rural communities with populations under 25,000.
 - There are 46 spring 2020 approved projects being monitored from the initial intake (September 12, 2018 to January 23, 2019);
 - Second intake launched on June 25, 2020 and closed October 22, 2020; decisions expected in Winter 2022 (federal election delayed approvals).
- The CCF, a component of ICIP – Green Infrastructure, had an initial intake December 18, 2018 to March 27, 2019. The first two intakes will provide up to \$110 million to community infrastructure projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions using clean or renewable energy or that improve energy efficiency.
 - The CCF is co-led with Climate Action Secretariat, ENV and is aligned with the CleanBC plan.

- 16 projects, approved in 2020 and early 2021, are being monitored for up to \$54.4 million; second intake launched August 12, 2020, closed November 12, 2020; decisions expected in Winter 2022.
- The third application intake is opened January 26, 2022 and closes May 25, 2022
- The Electricity Program, a component of ICIP – Green Infrastructure, supports provincial priorities in greenhouse gas emission reductions with two approved BC Hydro Projects.
 - The CleanBC Facilities Electrification Fund is the final component of this program. It has a federal allocation of \$84M, is administered by Energy Mines and Low Carbon Initiatives, and has no project approvals to date.
- CVRIS intake was announced December 1, 2020 and closed January 27, 2021, final decisions in April and May 2021. \$79.5 million to support 87 projects that will result in upgrades to local government and Indigenous buildings, improve health and educational facilities, increase access to active transportation and increase resilience/adaptation to natural disaster events.
 - EMBC administered a parallel \$55.79 million intake to support 23 structural flood mitigation projects.
- 9% of MUNI approved projects are complete; 31% of projects are in progress; and 60% of projects are in design phase (as of December 31, 2021).

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RECOVERY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives: 2021- 2023 (project completion)

Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) provides fully funded provincial grants to support economic resilience, tourism, heritage, and urban and rural economic development projects in communities impacted by COVID-19. Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) is responsible for the \$30 million CERIP Community Economic Resilience Stream (CER).

Program Description:

- CERIP is an umbrella program that was developed by MUNI in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture, and Sport (TACS), Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), and Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) to help communities across B.C. recover from the economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- CERIP provides provincial grants to Local Governments, First Nations, and Not for Profit applicants to support capital projects in communities across the province.
- Announced September 17, 2020, as part of the province's Economic Recovery Plan, CERIP provides \$100 million in approved funding for "shovel worthy" infrastructure projects across five program streams managed by four ministries.
- CERIP provides a one time 100% funded infrastructure grant for shovel worthy, merit-based, smaller scale projects throughout the province.
- All CERIP CER funding was released to successful applicants by March 31, 2021. Projects must start by December 31, 2021 and end by March 31, 2023.
- For each stream in CERIP, the minister responsible is required to provide final approval over projects.
- MUNI manages the \$30 million CERIP Community Economic Resilience (CER) stream that supports initiatives through investment in short term, small scale public infrastructure meeting the economic recovery objectives of initial job creation in the community and ancillary job creation in other areas hard hit with COVID-19.

Client Profile:

- All local governments, Indigenous recipients, not-for-profit.

Note: In 2020/21, the Ministry funded \$30 million through contingencies as a one-time payment.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	0	0
Total	0	0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- In regard to the CERIP Community Economic Resilience (CER) stream, applications were accepted from October 1, 2020, to October 29, 2020.
- The Minister approved 63 projects representing the \$30 million funding envelope.
- Following Ministerial approval, the CERIP CER projects were publicly announced on February 24, 2021.
- All CERIP CER funding was released to successful applicants by March 31, 2021.
- 8% of CERIP CER projects are complete; and 92% are in progress (as of December 31, 2021).

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778.698-3232

150 TIME IMMEMORIAL PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

2021- 2024 (project completion)

The program recognizes B.C.'s 150th year since entering Confederation and will support projects in B.C. communities focused on reconciliation and building resiliency throughout the next 150 years and beyond, honouring B.C.'s diverse cultural heritage.

Program Description:

- Program delivery was divided into application based and endowments components through administrative delivery partners.
- Heritage BC and First Peoples Culture Foundation are administering the program on behalf of the Province.
 - \$10 million to Heritage BC for an application-based program open to local governments, Indigenous communities and organizations, and heritage mandated not for profits.
 - \$7.5 million to FPCF for an application-based program open to Indigenous communities and organizations.
- Not-for-profit groups that operate heritage sites on Crown lands are not eligible for application-based streams. To address the gap the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resources Operation (FLNR) will administer \$2.5 million directly to these projects.
- The endowment components [**not publicly announced**]:
 - \$5 million endowment to the Heritage Legacy Fund (HLF). The HLF revenues provide an annual funding allocation for Heritage BC to administer cultural heritage grants.
 - \$5 million to establish the province's first endowment for Indigenous cultural heritage; administered by First People's Cultural Foundation (FPCF). This endowment will operate under a similar model to the HLF in providing future revenues for FPCF to administer grants to support Indigenous cultural heritage.

Client Profile:

- All local governments, Indigenous recipients, not-for-profit heritage organizations.

Program Budget	Budget \$000	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
	0 ¹	0
Total	0	0

¹ Funded through contingencies in 2021/22. One-time payment

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Collaborating with FLNR on the monitoring of the program delivery by the administrative partners (Heritage BC and FPCF).
- Announcements of successful projects, through the various funding streams, planned for Spring 2022

Contact:

Brian Bedford, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778 698-3232

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

HOUSING NEEDS REPORTS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Potential fifth intake in 2022

The Housing Needs Reports Program supports local governments to undertake housing needs reports, as required by legislation, in order to better understand local housing needs.

Program Description:

- Legislative requirements took effect April 16, 2019 requiring local governments to collect information and then prepare and publish online a report showing current and projected housing needs. Local governments must complete their first housing needs reports by April 2022, with subsequent reports required every five years thereafter.
- Budget 2018 provided \$5 million over three years for a program to assist local governments to develop housing needs reports. Consultations with local governments and UBCM highlighted the value of such support, particularly in smaller communities with limited financial resources, staff capacity, or experience assessing housing needs.
- In August 2018, UBCM agreed to administer and deliver the Housing Needs Report Program over three years.
- All local governments and First Nations with modern treaties in British Columbia are eligible to apply, with funding amounts based on population size.
- Funding requests for a combination of local governments may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects.
- All program funding has been transferred: \$3.1M in FY18/19, \$1.050M in FY19/20, \$0.850M in FY 20/21.
- **Client Profile:** Local governments.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Housing Needs Reports Program	0	0

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- There has been a high degree of local government interest in this program; two funding intakes occurred in 2019, a third in 2020, and a fourth in 2021, in which over \$4.4 million was awarded for housing needs reports that together cover 144 local governments and seven Treaty First Nations.
- More than 90% of local governments have successfully applied for housing needs report grants, or developed housing needs reports without provincial funding, in advance of the April 2022 deadline for completing a first report.

- The fourth intake that occurred in Spring 2021 was scheduled to be the program's final intake. However, due to the approximately \$430,000 remaining in residual funding, MUNI staff are working with UBCM to determine the details and timing of a potential fifth, final intake.
- MUNI staff have ensured alignment between the program, legislation, and related guidance and communications materials.
- The Province has made most of the data required by local governments, such as demographics and household income levels, available online at no cost.

Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Infrastructure and Finance Branch
778-698-3483

SAFE-RESTART – LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Spring 2021 Intake

- The Local Government Development Approvals (LGDAP) program supports local governments in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of their development approvals processes through implementing established best practices and testing innovative approaches.

Program Description:

- LGDAP's \$15 million funding is being provided under the BC-Canada Safe Restart Agreement, as part of the Province's \$270 million in matched funding towards a \$540 million federal/provincial Safe Restart funding package for local governments.
- The program aligns with the Ministry's ongoing Development Approvals Process Review (DAPR), initiated in response to the Province's *Homes for B.C.: Government's 30-Point Plan for Housing Affordability in British Columbia*.
- Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of development approvals processes will help accelerate the construction of homes communities need -- a particularly critical issue during, and following, the pandemic.
- The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) is administering the program on behalf of the Province.
- Municipalities, regional districts and the Islands Trust were eligible for up to \$500,000 for projects.
- Examples of eligible activities included: improving information technology used for development application processing; undertaking a comprehensive review of current development approvals processes to increase effectiveness and efficiency; and implementing existing strategies and action plans to address previously identified process challenges.
- Client Profile:** Local governments.

Program Budget	Budget \$000
	2021/22 Budget
Local Government Development Approvals	0 ¹

¹ Funded through contingencies in 2020/21. One-time payment

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The program anticipates improved effectiveness and efficiency of development approval timelines, while also meeting local government planning and policy objectives.
- Following program launch in March 2021, 43 local government projects were approved in summer 2021 and are now underway.
- Funded projects are expected to complete over the next year.

Last update: February 2022

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Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Planning and Land Use Management Branch
778-698-3483

SAFE-RESTART – STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES' SERVICES PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

Spring 2022 Intake

- The Strengthening Communities' Services program helps local governments and Treaty First Nations address the impacts of homelessness, support people and strengthen community health and safety.

Program Description:

- The \$100M Strengthening Communities' Services program is part of the \$540M *BC-Canada Safe Restart Agreement* funding package for local governments
- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the visibility of unsheltered homelessness in many communities and raised additional concerns for community health and safety.
- In March 2021, UBCM agreed to administer and deliver the Strengthening Communities' Services Program on behalf of the Province. As the program administrator, UBCM serves as the point of contact for all inquiries and questions from applicants.
- The program's first intake, which was open to all local governments and modern treaty First Nations, saw more than \$76M awarded to 64 communities. This funding supports initiatives such as outreach, mental health supports, and expanded/new temporary shelters for people experiencing homelessness.
- Details are being finalized for the program's second intake, which will be open for applications from February to April 2022, with successful applicants announced in the summer.
- Funded projects are expected to wrap-up within one year (though applicants can apply for an extension), after which participants must submit their final report. These reports will provide insight into program effectiveness and impact.
- **Client Profile:** Local governments and Treaty First Nations.

Program Budget	Budget \$000's
	2021/22 Budget
Strengthening Communities' Services	0 ¹

¹ Funded through contingencies in 2020/21. One-time payment

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The intent of the program is to assist local governments and Treaty First Nations with:
 - Improved health and safety of unsheltered people living in public or private spaces, including reduced risk of COVID-19 or other disease transmission;
 - Reduced community concerns about public health and safety in neighbourhoods where people are seeking temporary shelter and services;

Last update: February 2022

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- Improved coordination among eligible applicants and health/social service providers, Indigenous organizations and others working on housing, homelessness and service provision; and;
- Increased capacity of eligible applicants to work with homeless people and Indigenous organizations towards culturally safe and trauma-informed responses.
- The tentative application deadline for the second intake is April 22, 2022. Grants will be awarded in two payments: 50% with the project approval and return of a signed Approval Agreement to UBCM; and 50% when the project is complete and UBCM has received and approved the required final report and financial summary.

Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Planning and Land Use Management Branch
778-698-3483

NORTHERN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FUND PROGRAM PROFILE

Division: Local Government

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- The Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF) provides funding to help support the long-term resilience and sustainability of northern communities facing large-scale economic development due to LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects.

Program Description:

- NHCF provides \$25 million to local governments, First Nations and non-profits that operate within them, that are situated near LNGC and Coastal GasLink projects. 22 local governments and 27 First Nations have been deemed as directly impacted by ongoing construction either through Environmental Assessment or Pipeline Benefit Agreement processes and are eligible for the program.
- The NHCF was designated in 2020 and runs until 2026. Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) administers and manages the fund. They are entitled to deduct an administrative fee equal to 4% of the funding.
- Projects under NHCF must fit within the following categories: Housing and wraparound services (such as services that are included as part of a housing project to support residents), health support services and addiction counseling, emergency services, victim services, violence against women prevention or support services, Indigenous peoples support services for on and off-reserve members, childcare, small business recruitment, retention and resiliency, local and Indigenous Nation government capacity and support.
- There are two funding streams within the program:
 - **Capacity Building** allows for up to \$100,000 per application and is meant for projects such as expanding hours for childcare centres, hiring more employees for mental health services or supporting small business recruitment, retention, and resiliency.
 - **Capital** applications are eligible for up to \$300,000 for projects such as renovating childcare facilities, buildings that provides mental health services or multi-unit housing or undertaking upgrades to an Indigenous cultural space.
- Projects must be incremental to the applicant's core responsibilities, obligations, and day to day operations. NDIT retains discretion over which projects and costs will be considered eligible and ineligible.
- **Client Profile:** Local governments and First Nations and non-profit organizations from eligible communities

Program Budget

Budget \$25,000 000

**2021/22
Budget**

1 Full budget expensed in 2019/20

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- To date, a total of 25 projects have been approved for a total of \$2,890,744 for capacity building and capital.
- There are four intake deadlines each year and applications are reviewed quarterly on a rolling basis.

Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Planning and Land Use Management Branch
778-698-3483

BOARD OF EXAMINERS PROGRAM PROFILE

Division: Local Government

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- Certification of local government employees and provision of financial support for training of local government staff.

Program Description:

- The principal goal of the Board of Examiners is to improve the professional skills of BC's local government employees.
- The Board is responsible for awarding certificates to local government employees who meet the standards of qualification in local government administration, as prescribed in the Board of Examiners Regulation, pursuant to the *Local Government Act*.
- The Board is also responsible for issuing scholarship awards to eligible persons employed by a municipality, regional district, improvement district, UBCM, MFA or a First Nation with membership in the UBCM who wish to undertake training leading to certification or to upgrade their professional skills.
- The three-person Board is appointed by Cabinet with representation from key partners in the local government system. The three appointees and their respective organizations are as follows: vacant – appointment in process for Marijke Edmondson (MUNI); Ron Poole (Local Government Management Association); and Marie Crawford (UBCM). The current LGMA appointee is retiring on March 31, 2022 and there is a new appointment in process for his successor, Linda Glenday.

Client Profile:

- Local government employees.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Providing four levels of certification to local government staff – who qualify based on experience in local government and mandatory education in the fields of local government leadership and management, services, finance, law, policy and economics – remains a key function of the Board.
- Providing scholarship awards to eligible persons employed by a municipality, regional district, improvement district, UBCM, MFA or a First Nation with membership in the UBCM who are pursuing courses leading to certification or wishing to upgrade their professional skills through enrolment in post-secondary courses of study and/or attendance at seminars relating to local government administration, ensures a continuing high level of skill and professionalism of employees in the local government field.

Website: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/localgov-board-of-examiners>

Contact:

Marijke Edmondson, Strategic Advisor
Local Government Division
778 698-3227

ISLANDS TRUST PROGRAM PROFILE

Division: Local Government

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- The Islands Trust (Trust) is an autonomous, elected body.
- The provincial role is limited to legislative oversight and statutory approval of some Trust decisions. Currently, the most prominent of these is Ministerial approval of Local Trust Committees' (LTC) official community plan (OCP) bylaws in accordance with section 27 of the *Islands Trust Act* (the Act).
- OCP bylaws are reviewed as to their impact on provincial interests, including Indigenous interests. While approval is seldom withheld, citizens have the expectation that the ministry provides due consideration to each approval.

Program Description:

- The Trust is a special purpose local authority, authorized to plan and regulate land use and protect special places throughout the Islands Trust Area (Trust Area). The Trust was established by legislation in 1974 to address the challenges encountered by regional districts in dealing with increasing development on the Gulf Islands, and to manage threats to their unique natural environment.
- The Act establishes the "object" (mandate) of the Trust: "to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and of BC generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of BC."

Client Profile:

- The Trust Council is responsible for overall policy for the entire Trust Area and locally elected trust committees undertake land use planning and regulation for 13 Island groupings in the Trust Area (covering over 450 islands in Georgia Strait and Howe Sound, running from the US border north to and including Denman Island).
- Other than planning, the Trust does not provide services (e.g. water; sewer) as those are provided by eight regional districts, improvement districts and the Bowen Island Municipality.
- Local governance of the Trust Area is provided by 12 LTCs, one island municipality and, to a lesser extent, the eight regional districts that provide services to the local trust areas. The directly elected LTCs develop land use bylaws for the main islands in the Trust Area except for the Bowen Island Municipality. A 26-person Trust Council comprised of all trustees makes policy for the entire Trust Area and provides oversight of LTC bylaws. The chair and vice-chairs of the Trust Council form the Executive Committee.
- The Trust has a budget of \$8.19 million for the 20/2021 fiscal year and has 66 staff serving a population of about 26,000. Trust staff are included in the provincial bargaining unit with equivalent status to other provincial public servants.

- The Trust is almost totally self-financing with the provincial grant comprising less than 3 per cent of revenues (the grant in 2020/21 was \$0.18 million). The majority of the revenues come from the annual property tax levy which comprises more than 90 per cent of revenues.
- The Trust has strong relationships with regional, provincial and federal governments and land conservancies, the closely associated Islands Trust Conservancy, other agencies, community groups and landowners.
- The Trust is committed to building meaningful relationships with the many First Nations that have interests in the Trust Area.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The biggest challenge for the Trust over the years has been managing the diversity of the islands, which range from populous and connected (Salt Spring, Gabriola, and Bowen have more than 3,500 residents and are bedroom communities to regional centres) to small and remote (South Pender and Gambier have fewer than 250 residents, Gambier and Lasqueti are off-grid, and accessing Saturna and Hornby requires island-hopping).
- In September 2019, the Trust initiated public consultation on an update to the Islands Trust Policy Statement, which guides land use planning and regulation, and strategic planning and advocacy work in the Trust Area. OCPs and land use bylaws must be consistent with the Policy Statement. The Policy Statement update project, called "Islands 2050" is entering Phase 3 of public engagement in early 2022. Once completed, the draft Policy Statement will come to the Minister for approval, and staff will evaluate the level of consultation and engagement.
- In response to Islands Trust Council requests made in 2018, the Act was amended by the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act (No.2)*, 2021 in November 2021 to:
 - include a specific reference to First Nations in the Trust's Object statement to recognize its ongoing relationship and reconciliation efforts with First Nations;
 - enable Islands Trust to give financial support to third parties for activities that provide education about or preserve the environment and unique amenities of the Trust Area; and
 - streamline the Islands Trust development approvals processes by transferring from Trust Council the ability to adopt and amend development approval information bylaws to local trust committees.

Advice/Recommendations

- The Trust continues its efforts to foster preservation and protection of the Trust Area's ecosystems through the creation of public parks, conservation covenants on private lands, and other means. By March of 2020, public and non-profit conservation organizations (including the Islands Trust Conservancy) had protected 15,477 hectares (20 per cent) of the Islands Trust Area.

Website: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/>

Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Local Government Division
(778) 698-3483

ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY PROGRAM PROFILE

Division: Local Government

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- The Islands Trust Conservancy (Conservancy) works to preserve natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and ecosystems in the Islands Trust Area.
- As a regional land trust, the Conservancy works with landholders, local conservancies, and communities to protect places of natural significance in perpetuity.

The Conservancy receives donations of land, conservation covenants, and cash; monitors and manages land to conserve and restore biodiversity; and works with islanders on private land stewardship. **Program Description:**

- The Islands Trust Conservancy (Conservancy) is a separate corporate entity within the Islands Trust, established by the *Islands Trust Act*.
- The Islands Trust pays the administration expenses of Conservancy. The Conservancy is a regional conservation land trust, empowered to accept donations, grants and bequests and to hold land and other property in compliance with a plan approved by the Ministry. The Conservancy is administered by a board of directors, comprising three members of the Trust Council (one of whom must be an Executive Committee member) and up to three persons appointed by the Minister.
- As of March 2021, the Conservancy has protected more than 1,300 hectares (3,188 acres) of land, including 12,958 metres of shoreline on 107 properties throughout the Islands Trust area, through acquisition of land assets and conservation covenants.

Client Profile:

- The Trust Area consists of over 450 islands located in Georgia Strait and Howe Sound, running from the United States border north to and including Denman Island.
- The Conservancy has strong relationships with regional, provincial and federal governments and land conservancies, other agencies, First Nations, community groups and landowners.
- The Islands Trust administers operations of the Conservancy. The Conservancy had \$1.7 million in operational expenses combined for 2020/2021 and has seven staff. The Conservancy is empowered to accept donations, grants and bequests and to hold land and other property in compliance with a plan approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The Regional Conservation Plan 2018 –2027 guides the work of Islands Trust Conservancy to protect the ecosystems of and around islands in the Salish Sea. The Conservancy has four Regional Conservation Goals: identify, investigate and communicate about important natural areas to generate action on conservation priorities; strengthen relationships with First Nations to identify and collaborate on shared conservation goals; continue to secure and manage Conservancy lands and conservation covenants to maximize ecological

integrity, and; continue to build internal and shared organizational strength and resilience to ensure long-term nature conservation in the Islands Trust Area

- In the autumn of 2020, Islands Trust Conservancy signed a three-year agreement with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to deliver a Species at Risk Program (SAR Program) for the Islands Trust Area. The agreement included a financial commitment from ECCC of \$597,000, with \$187,000 allocated to programming in 2020/2021.
- In October of 2020, Islands Trust Conservancy began preparing a Reconciliation Action Plan reflective of commitments made through the Reconciliation Declaration passed in the previous year.
- In 2020/2021, the Conservancy worked on negotiations for 100 hectares of conservation covenants. Although no new conservation covenants were registered, conservation efforts on these lands were advanced. The Conservancy acquired land for the Sandy Beach Nature Reserve and Lisa Baile Nature Reserve.

Website: <http://www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca/>

Contact:

Jessica Brooks, Executive Director
Local Government Division
(778) 698-3483

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT LANDS PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- To provide effective administration, community planning and a broad range of municipal-like services to residents of the University Endowment Lands (UEL) in accordance with the principles of good governance.

Program Description:

- The ministry is responsible for the UEL in accordance with the *University Endowment Land Act* (the Act).
- The Minister hears appeals, primarily of land use decisions of the UEL Manager, and adopts bylaws in accordance with the Act.
- The Minister appoints a manager to administer the day-to-day operations of the UEL, with delegation of specific and general powers and functions.
- The program provides the community with general administration; community planning; development and building inspection services; utility services, such as, water, sewer, and garbage collection; maintenance of local roads, street lighting and parks; and other typical municipal services. (Note: Potable water is provided to both UEL residents and UBC.)
- The costs of these services are recovered through a UEL tax levy administered by the provincial Surveyor of Taxes, revenues from water sales, fees for licences and permits and parking meter revenue. Property taxes in the UEL are substantially lower than adjacent jurisdictions, but are intended to increase to cover the cost of replacing aging infrastructure and meeting other service needs.
- Fire protection is provided by the City of Vancouver through a contract with the Province. A portion of the contract cost has always been attributed to the UEL (recovered from UEL residents through property tax). Since 2016, a portion of the costs are being recovered from the University of British Columbia (UBC) for the residential segment of the campus. The majority of the costs are for protecting UBC (academic areas) and these are paid for by the provincial government.
- The UEL community has representation through a Community Advisory Council, constituted under the *Society Act*, which has a role in advising the manager and in reviewing the draft annual budget and draft property tax requisition.

Client Profile:

- The UEL is a community of roughly 3,000 people, based on most recent census data, living in the jurisdiction between Vancouver and UBC.
- The UEL community has existed since the 1920's under provincial administration, and has historically not been in favour of amalgamation with the City of Vancouver. In 1995, a proposal to incorporate as a municipality was defeated in a referendum. In 2014, the Community Advisory Council requested that the Minister fund a study of incorporation as a stand-alone municipality within the current boundaries. Reviewing UEL governance involves significant policy, technical and other work such as consultation with diverse key interests (Musqueam First Nation, Community Advisory Council, Metro Vancouver Regional District,

City of Vancouver, UBC, other provincial ministries/agencies--). The UEL Services, Structure and Governance Study is currently underway -- see Structure Program profile).

- In November 2016, the Musqueam First Nations' rezoning/development proposal for Ieləṁ (Block F) was approved. Ieləṁ is held by the Musqueam as fee simple land and is expected to be developed over at least 10 years to include commercial/retail, apartments and high-rise residential as well as a community park and community centre; and to increase the UEL population by 2,500 people. The public works infrastructure has been installed and construction will be complete this year on an 18-storey tower and townhouse complex, followed early in 2022 with the completion of the adjacent commercial retail and rental housing complex, which includes below market housing. Community centre construction and a second 18-storey tower/townhouse development is expected to begin late this fiscal
- Other First Nations or provincial interests (e.g. Crown land) could also arise in the UEL.
- More generally, the UEL is seeing a wider interest in redevelopment from other landowners in the multi-family / commercial neighbourhood called Area D and anticipates change in land use applications that will include additional rental housing, consistent with the recently updated Official Community Plan for that neighbourhood.
- The administration is completing an update of its ten-year infrastructure plan in 2022 for ongoing utility infrastructure repairs, particularly respecting water, sewer and road works. Annually, the UEL completes infrastructure repairs through its capital plan, with recent work including sewer pipe repairs and enlargement and soil/water monitoring well installation.

Service Provider: Provincial government

Program Budget	Budget \$000's	
	2021/22 Budget	2022/23 Budget
Administration and Public Works	10,668	12,269
Fire Prevention Services	5,597	6,200
Total	16,264	18,469

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Continue oversight and support work for Musqueam First Nation's Ieləṁ (Block F) development permit applications and further subdivision processes.
- Complete the community centre design, begin construction and develop a strategy, including revenue options, for the operation of the new facility when it opens (projected in 2023).
- Implement the priority Area D Neighbourhood Plan outcomes and respond to rezoning and development applications, with a strong emphasis on Residential Rental Tenure Zoning and affordability to offer greater diversity in housing options for the UEL.
- Continue to implement the Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Replacement plan, as budget and staff capacity allow – for 2022/23, it is expected that \$2.1 million of infrastructure work will be completed.

- Work with UBC to manage the costs for/impact on UEL of Phase 3 of the Wesbrook Mall redevelopment in 2022.
- Continue work with an interagency group to address a specific slope erosion/stability issue that, longer term, could threaten sanitary and storm sewers and a significant road.
- Provide information/fact checking support to consultants/Victoria headquarters staff for the UEL Services, Structure and Governance Study (see Structure Program profile).

Contact:

Jonh Braman, Manager
University Endowment Lands
604 398-5180

SPONSORED CROWN GRANTS AND NOMINAL RENT TENURES PROGRAM PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- To assist local governments and community organizations in obtaining tenures and title to Crown land for the benefit of all community residents.
- The Sponsored Crown Grants/Nominal Rent Tenures (SCG/NRT) program meets provincial objectives of fostering enhanced economic and social development by providing Crown land for community infrastructure and public use.
- The program is led by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR).

Program Description:

- Local governments or community groups proposing to use Crown land for community purposes are eligible to apply to the SCG/NRT program, which was introduced in 2004.
- Sponsored Crown Grants (SCG) are transfers of Crown land from the Province to municipalities and regional districts.
- Nominal Rent Tenures (NRT) are leases and licences of occupation of Crown land provided to municipalities, regional districts and community groups for token rent.
- Ministry sponsorship of SCGs or NRTs is available to local governments. Only NRT sponsorship is available to community organizations.
- Where the value of an NRT exceeds \$100,000, the application process requires the ministry to review applications and confirm sponsorship. Applications for an NRT for land valued at less than \$100,000 can be obtained directly through FrontCounter BC (FCBC).

Client Profile:

- Municipalities, regional districts and improvement districts access NRTs and SCGs for community uses such as parks, recreation, and water or wastewater treatment.
- Community organizations obtain NRTs for recreation and park management, youth activities, protecting heritage, promoting the arts, and other community activities.

Sponsorship Approvals, Completions and Allocation:

- Since 2004/05, ministry allocations under the Crown Land Special Account (CLSA) were provided to enable sponsorship of proposed uses of Crown land that meet provincial priorities.
- All Crown land applications are submitted through FCBC. If a ministry sponsors a proposal, FLNR engages stakeholders, and First Nations, and manages land transfer to applicants.
- Following sponsorship, the SCG or NRT process typically takes one-three years to complete land transfer or tenure. At completion, NRTs with terms of 30 years and over are booked against the ministry's CSLA allocation.

- 2014/15 accounting changes now show completed SCG as zero value against CLSA allocations.

Year	SCG Sponsored	NRT Sponsored	Total \$ Sponsored
2013/14	6	8	\$7.5 million
2014/15	2	4	\$10.5 million
2015/16	4	5	\$4.6 million
2016/17	1	7	\$2.7 million
2017/18	2	3	\$5.9
2018/19	5	2	\$3.1 million
2019/20	2	10	\$10.7 million
2020/21	4	7	\$9.1 million

The Crown Land Special Account budget allocations are booked for NRTs only on completion, not at sponsorship. Completions of SCG and NRT occur in the years following sponsorship.

MUNI only tracks SCG and NRT sponsorship (not completions), by fiscal year, as shown above. FLNR is responsible for undertaking completions. MUNI's allocation changes every fiscal depending on the applications that FLNR has on the go. FLNR takes the value of all the NRT applications for 30 years and above and uses this number to estimate MUNI's allocation for the following fiscal year.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Review Crown land applications from municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts and community organizations to determine if key provincial and ministry criteria are satisfied as part of the evaluation for recommending sponsorship.
- Continue to support provision of Crown land and tenures to eligible organizations that provide enhanced opportunities for local governments and community groups to deliver services to the greatest possible number of residents in the community. Examples include: local water/ sewage treatment, administrative buildings, fire halls, recreation space, parks, and local airports

Contact:

Brent Mueller, Director
Governance and Structure Branch
778.698-3220

Appendix A – Small Communities Grants 2021/22

Municipality	2021/22 Small Community Grants
100 Mile House	385,000
Alert Bay	444,000
Anmore	355,000
Armstrong	558,000
Ashcroft	433,000
Barriere	452,000
Belcarra	257,000
Bowen Island	432,000
Burns Lake	518,000
Cache Creek	406,000
Canal Flats	340,000
Castlegar	455,000
Central Saanich	183,000
Chase	432,000
Chetwynd	427,000
Clearwater	448,000
Clinton	386,000
Coldstream	376,000
Colwood	193,000
Comox	297,000
Cranbrook	167,000
Creston	574,000
Cumberland	527,000
Dawson Creek	361,000
Duncan	546,000
Elkford	404,000
Enderby	493,000
Esquimalt	197,000
Fernie	501,000
Fort St. James	400,000
Fort St. John	114,000
Fraser Lake	371,000

Municipality	2021/22 Small Community Grants
Fruitvale	478,000
Gibsons	502,000
Gold River	460,000
Golden	492,000
Grand Forks	542,000
Granisle	567,000
Greenwood	421,000
Harrison Hot Springs	328,000
Hazelton	529,000
Highlands	388,000
Hope	491,000
Houston	535,000
Hudson's Hope	313,000
Invermere	457,000
Kaslo	365,000
Kent	501,000
Keremeos	421,000
Kimberley	510,000
Kitimat	412,000
Ladysmith	451,000
Lake Country	272,000
Lake Cowichan	509,000
Lantzville	458,000
Lillooet	441,000
Lions Bay	300,000
Logan Lake	374,000
Lumby	415,000
Lytton	344,000
Mackenzie	517,000
Masset	429,000
McBride	418,000
Merritt	508,000

Municipality	2021/22 Small Community Grants
Metchosin	527,000
Midway	353,000
Montrose	432,000
Nakusp	430,000
Nelson	376,000
New Denver	351,000
New Hazelton	467,000
North Saanich	318,000
Northern Rockies	446,000
Oak Bay	145,000
Oliver	541,000
Osoyoos	500,000
Parksville	311,000
Peachland	501,000
Pemberton	407,000
Pitt Meadows	141,000
Port Alberni	235,000
Port Alice	323,000
Port Clements	389,000
Port Edward	295,000
Port Hardy	619,000
Port McNeill	481,000
Pouce Coupe	393,000
Powell River	338,000
Prince Rupert	366,000
Princeton	449,000
Qualicum Beach	407,000
Queen Charlotte	412,000
Quesnel	448,000
Radium Hot Springs	284,000
Revelstoke	444,000
Rossland	510,000

Municipality	2021/22 Small Community Grants
Salmo	473,000
Salmon Arm	191,000
Sayward	377,000
Sechelt (District)	362,000
Sechelt (Indian Govt)	286,000
Sicamous	394,000
Sidney	318,000
Silverton	297,000
Slocan	368,000
Smithers	548,000
Sooke	305,000
Spallumcheen	535,000
Sparwood	477,000
Squamish	101,000
Stewart	261,000
Summerland	348,000
Sun Peaks	264,000
Tahsis	359,000
Taylor	356,000
Telkwa	466,000
Terrace	383,000
Tofino	354,000
Trail	465,000
Tumbler Ridge	374,000
Ucluelet	351,000
Valemount	352,000
Vanderhoof	573,000
View Royal	359,000
Warfield	476,000
Wells	435,000
Whistler	258,000
Williams Lake	428,000
Zeballos	375,000

TOTAL \$ 51,488,000

Appendix B - Regional District Grants 2021/22

Regional Districts	2021/22 Regional District Grants
Alberni-Clayoquot	190,000
Bulkley-Nechako	185,000
Capital	60,000
Cariboo	140,000
Central Coast	200,000
Central Kootenay	150,000
Central Okanagan	110,000
Columbia-Shuswap	160,000
Comox Valley	160,000
Cowichan Valley	140,000
East Kootenay	170,000
Fraser Valley	60,000
Fraser-Fort George	155,000
Islands Trust	180,000
Kitimat-Stikine	190,000
Kootenay-Boundary	190,000
Metro Vancouver	60,000
Mount Waddington	205,000
Nanaimo	100,000
North Coast	200,000
North Okanagan	160,000
Okanagan-Similkameen	165,000
Peace River	165,000
qathet	200,000
Squamish-Lillooet	200,000
Strathcona	190,000
Sunshine Coast	190,000
Thompson-Nicola	140,000
Total	4,415,000

Appendix C Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Grants 2021/22

Municipality	2021/22 Traffic Fine Revenue Grants	Municipality	2021/22 Traffic Fine Revenue Grants	Municipality	2021/22 Traffic Fine Revenue Grants
Abbotsford	2,440,740	Ladysmith	37,933	Prince Rupert	246,330
Armstrong	23,896	Lake Country	99,795	Qualicum Beach	43,974
Burnaby	2,711,808	Langford	385,564	Quesnel	192,242
Campbell River	473,066	Langley (City)	534,333	Revelstoke	96,433
Castlegar	95,539	Langley (Township)	1,527,199	Richmond	2,606,401
Central Saanich	246,826	Maple Ridge	1,124,372	Saanich	1,463,987
Chilliwack	1,258,161	Merritt	100,316	Salmon Arm	168,750
Coldstream	42,545	Mission	498,868	Sechelt	105,991
Colwood	174,050	Nanaimo	1,325,884	Sidney	106,769
Comox	80,174	Nelson	175,950	Smithers	79,229
Coquitlam	1,516,136	New Westminster	1,261,405	Sooke	90,808
Courtenay	278,854	North Cowichan	299,702	Spallumcheen	27,003
Cranbrook	264,894	North Saanich	78,376	Squamish	248,346
Creston	45,073	North Vancouver (City)	676,461	Summerland	71,287
Dawson Creek	198,422	North Vancouver (District)	854,095	Surrey	7,527,701
Delta	1,799,187	Oak Bay	233,172	Terrace	189,211
Esquimalt	372,055	Osoyoos	45,970	Trail	110,725
Fernie	35,725	Parksville	113,754	Vancouver	14,461,182
Fort St. John	327,002	Peachland	31,714	Vernon	545,038
Hope	107,480	Penticton	425,601	Victoria	2,205,321
Kamloops	1,270,989	Pitt Meadows	238,719	View Royal	74,021
Kelowna	1,854,558	Port Alberni	342,501	West Kelowna	269,956
Kent	47,785	Port Coquitlam	676,610	West Vancouver	829,405
Kimberley	51,406	Port Moody	565,974	Whistler	306,746
Kitimat	127,004	Powell River	130,772	White Rock	240,086
		Prince George	1,297,673	Williams Lake	226,914

TOTAL \$ 61,459,940

Appendix D – COVID Safe Restart Grants 2021/22

Regional District	2021/22 COVID Safe Restart Grant
Alberni-Clayoquot	166,000
Bulkley-Nechako	314,000
Capital	575,000
Cariboo	646,000
Central Coast	55,000
Central Kootenay	516,000
Central Okanagan	357,000
Columbia Shuswap	344,000
Comox Valley	402,000
Cowichan Valley	640,000
East Kootenay	290,000
Fraser Valley	431,000
Fraser-Fort George	284,000
Kitimat-Stikine	270,000
Kootenay Boundary	173,000
Metro Vancouver	1,476,000
Mount Waddington	61,000
Nanaimo	715,000
North Coast	64,000
North Okanagan	336,000
Okanagan-Similkameen	404,000
Peace River	384,000
Qathet	117,000
Squamish-Lillooet	125,000
Strathcona	185,000
Sunshine Coast	241,000
Thompson-Nicola	429,000

TOTAL	\$ 10,000,000
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Public Libraries Branch (PLB) Program Profile

Division: Local Government Division

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- Through the *Library Act*, support effective public library governance and accountability, and work to ensure provincial funding helps to extend local services and improve access to public library services throughout B.C.

Program Description:

- The Ministry mandate under the *Library Act* includes,
 - Providing the regulatory structure that supports public libraries' operation and governance
 - Promoting the improvement and extension of public library service throughout B.C.
 - Apportioning grants to help library boards and public bodies that are engaged in delivering and improving public library service.
- The PLB provides strategic leadership and direction through its provincial strategic plan released April 2020, *B.C.'s Strategic Plan for Public Library Service*.
- The PLB advises and consults with library boards and local governments on matters relating to the *Library Act* and provincial programs.
- B.C. aims to support a province-wide library system with programs (e.g. Interlibrary loans), resources (province-wide digital collections, Summer Reading Club) and a technology infrastructure that benefits all libraries and communities.
- The PLB joined the Ministry in November 2020 from the Ministry of Education and is part of the Local Government Division.

Client Profile and Service Providers:

- There are 71 public library systems in B.C., with 249 branches. There are four main types of library systems: Municipal Library Systems (30), Public Library Associations (36), Regional District Library Systems (three), and Integrated Library Systems (two).
- There are also six library federations – quasi-library systems that deliver shared services to two or more public libraries in a similar geographic region.
- Public libraries are further supported by the 4 key library organizations (BC Libraries Cooperative, BC Library Trustees Association, Association of BC Public Library Director, and BC Library Association) which are also provincial grant recipients.

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- Public libraries and library organizations are supported with advice, guidance, some oversight, and funding by the Ministry's PLB staff.

Public Libraries Fast Facts

Key Library Statistics (2020):

- 99 per cent of B.C.'s population has access to a public library
- 43 per cent of B.C.'s population are active library cardholders
- 71 public libraries supported by
 - 700 library trustees (elected or appointed members of boards)
 - 3,760 library employees

Many library branches were physically closed for several months in 2020 and have pivoted towards online services instead (e.g. virtual programs, digital collections).

- 28.2 million people visited library websites and/or online catalogues
- 16 million digital loans (up 47% over previous year)
- 8,700 virtual library programs offered (new data in 2020)

Program Outcomes

- Equitable access to library services for all British Columbians, including efforts to extend and improve library programs and services throughout the province.
- Effective board governance, meaning that public libraries are accountable for the delivery of library services best suited for their community.
- British Columbians with print and perceptual disabilities have improved access to alternate format materials and an increased selection of reading materials.
- Library staff and trustees throughout B.C., including in rural areas, have more equitable access to the training and resources needed to best support their communities.

2021-22 Accomplishments:

- Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Public Library Services
 - Coordinate the use of \$3 million (2019/2020) in one-time funding for digital initiatives, collections, and improvements in internet connectivity.
 - Increased people's access to Internet/WIFI, computers/printing/technology and online reading materials.
 - Library-card holders can use three new province-wide resources from home (LinkedIn Learning, Tumblebooks and digital magazines)

- Increased the number of training and development opportunities in partnership with library federations and BC Library Trustee Association, in areas of governance, reconciliation and inclusion (for library staff and boards).
 - For example, Safe Harbour Training online course, and speakers from on reconciliation and relationship building.
- Led COVID-19 Guidance for Public Libraries (liaison with Health and partners)
- Revised the annual survey of public libraries to include data on internet/broadband connectivity, physical and technical infrastructure.

2022-2023 Priorities/Key Initiatives

- Support government activities in economic and social recovery during the COVID-19 pandemic through the public library system. For example health and vaccine information for parents, understanding library services during emergencies.
- Develop a plan to review the funding framework (distribution) including engagement with the library community.
- Support government implementation of the Accessible B.C Act by working with public libraries and partners to address barriers and champion inclusive services.

Contact: Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch
Phone: (250) 886-2584

Public Libraries Funding: Grants Profile

Division: Local Government Division

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- To support equitable access to information, programs and services across B.C.; greater collaboration between libraries to share services and digital collections; technical infrastructure, such as library catalogues, websites and basic library technology; and Province-wide programs such as BC OneCard, resource sharing and the BC Summer Reading Club.

Program Description:

- The ministry provides \$14 million in annual funding directly to B.C. public libraries and library sector partners, which typically accounts for about 5% of the total funding to libraries (local governments provide about 90%, and other sources make up the remaining 5%).
- Under the Library Act s.51 (3), the Director of the Public Libraries Branch is responsible for allocating and managing provincial grants to public library boards and public bodies. The \$14 million is divided as follows
 - Library federations and service partners receive four grants (\$2.2 million) for operations, technology and alternate formats that deliver support of provincial services/programs and system-wide support.
 - Public libraries receive four grants (\$11.8 million) including:
 - **Per Capita Operating grants:** help offset cost of library operations. Population based/rates.
 - **Resource Sharing grants:** help offset cost of shipping out library materials to other B.C. public libraries via Interlibrary Loan.
 - **BC OneCard grants:** enable libraries to expand service to B.C. residents through the BC OneCard program, ensuring that active patrons of any public library in B.C. may use their card wherever they travel within the province.
 - **Literacy and Equity grants:** support the promotion of literacy and life-long learning within B.C. public libraries through expanding collections and services to support literacy in communities or collaboration with other libraries or federations on related projects.
- Public libraries submit three reports (Statement of Financial Information, Annual Survey of Public Library Statistics, and Public Library Grant Report) and participate in provincial programs (Interlibrary Loan, B.C. OneCard) to be eligible for provincial funding.

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- Provincial funding is intended to support and supplement strategic priorities and specific provincial programs, as opposed to supporting daily operations. However, libraries supporting smaller communities rely more heavily on provincial funding (5 per cent – 67 per cent of operating funds).

Grant Formula:

- The funding framework has been in place for over 15 years, and the Public Libraries Branch makes adjustments each year to stay within the annual budget amount.
- In 2021 libraries received the same funding allocations as in 2020 (e.g. rates and current data were not used to calculate grant amounts).
- The general funding framework (not used in 2021) is as follows:
 - Per Capita Operating grants are calculated using population data multiplied by one of 12 rates ranging from \$1.78/person to \$4.10/person, based on library type, population size tier, and whether the library service area is urban or rural.
 - The Resource Sharing grant uses a piece-rate of \$2.24 per item lent through interlibrary loan (services during the previous calendar year).
 - BC OneCard grants are based on either a piece rate of \$0.05 per item lent and returned in the previous calendar year, or a flat amount ranging from \$6,350 to \$24,000 based on population size tier – whichever is greater.
 - Literacy and Equity grants have been held at fixed, flat amounts since 2009/10 and are not based on a calculation formula.
- Federation grants are fixed, flat amounts based on historic population.
- Service partner grants are a combination of flat amounts to offset operation costs, and annually adjusted amounts to cover the costs of specific services such as resource sharing software licensing.
- Funding is allocated in Spring each year and published in the [Public Libraries Grants Allocation document](#).

Client Profile:

- There are 71 public library systems in B.C., and six library federations (quasi-library systems that deliver shared services to two or more public libraries in a similar geographic region).
- There are 4 key library organizations (BC Libraries Cooperative, BC Library Trustees Association, Association of BC Public Library Directors, and BC Library Association), which provide support to public libraries through advocacy, IT infrastructure (catalogues, connectivity), professional development

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workshops/training, governance/trustee supports, and delivery of programs and services such as the BC Summer Reading Club, and the National Network of Equitable Library Service (focused on library materials in accessible formats).

- For many years, the public library community and local governments have called on the Province to provide more than the \$14 million it has provided annually since 2009/10 – see *Estimates Note for more information*.
- “Budget line item” --There is a perception among some public library stakeholders, (e.g. CUPE BC; local governments) that the absence of a specific budget line for public libraries makes funding tenuous and less transparent. The consolidation of the libraries budget line (in 2011/12) was an administrative exercise to make budget estimate documents more succinct and has not impacted the security of funding to public libraries.

Community Literacy Program Profile

Division: Local Government

ADM Responsible: Tara Faganello

Program Objectives:

- The Community Literacy program enables a responsive local approach, based on each community's specific needs and plans. Program objectives include:
 - A stronger community-based network of literacy organizations;
 - Increased awareness and need for essential literacy skills at the community level;
 - Better linkages between formal and informal education programs; and
 - Growth of professional development opportunities for community-based literacy practitioners.

Program Description:

- Municipal Affairs, through the Public Libraries Branch (PLB), provides annual funding for Community Literacy through two key programs: \$2 million for Literacy Outreach Coordination (LOC) and \$500,000 for Raise a Reader (RAR) Campaign.
- Decoda Literacy Solutions (B.C.'s main literacy organization) provides professional development, centralized learning resources and support for 100 local coordinators working within community literacy task groups in B.C.
- Accountability for the LOC and RAR funding is managed through an Accountability Agreement with Decoda. It is reviewed and signed each fiscal year. The agreement outlines objectives and deliverables expected each year.
- PLB manages accountability for the RAR program by requiring an annual workplan/fund distribution report as well as a final report to ensure communities receive RAR funds in a transparent and accountable fashion.
- PLB also supports the Council of the Federation Literacy Award (COFLA), recognized by Canada's 13 Premiers. The COFLA celebrates outstanding achievement, innovative practice, and excellence in literacy. Each jurisdiction administers the award independently, with different selection processes and submission periods. Recipient is announced September 8th.

Client Profile:

- Clients are the LOC network and the Community Literacy Task Groups (CLTGs). CLTGs are organized by Decoda among the local community organizations within a region/school district. As the task group is not a legal entity, it recommends a steward organization (usually a community college or

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the like) that can receive and manage literacy outreach coordination funds and formally hire the literacy outreach coordinator (LOC).

- LOCs provide coordination services to local community literacy organizations within CLTGs to ensure effective regional and provincial programming needs assessment, program delivery and evaluation.
- Local community literacy organizations address the literacy needs of those entering or re-entering the workplace, newcomers and visible minorities with low English literacy skills. They also tend to focus on people who have not been adequately served by mainstream education, job training, information technology and/or community resources.

Service Provider:

- Decoda manages the LOC program on behalf of the Ministry, including distributing annual LOC funding to communities through an established funding formula and delivering an annual report to the Ministry on the outcomes achieved.
- Decoda also administers two other provincial programs: RAR campaign (distribution of funds and promotion); and Community Adult Literacy Program (CALP). CALP is funded and managed by the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training), which organized tutors and tutoring locally.

Community Literacy Fast Facts

Program Outcomes/Service Statistics

- In 2021/22 Decoda provided \$2 million funding and support services to 100 LOCs in 400 communities;
- 1228 community literacy organizations were involved in service delivery;
- Despite the impacts of COVID-19, there were 135,387 participants across all community literacy training programs which include adult tutoring, family-times, and job training workshops.
- 441 new community literacy initiatives were developed despite communities having to cope with restrictions on in-person program delivery as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2021.
- In 2020-21 there were 49,582 participants across 3065 RAR supported programs. Examples include the creation of story walks and story-telling sessions, Books for Babies, and Man in the Moon-a literacy program for male caregivers. An innovative outdoor "Word in the Wind" event was held in Saanich where participants searched for wooden letters hidden amongst trees to unscramble a phrase that would lead them to prizes.

2021/22 Priorities/Key Initiatives

PLB Initiatives:

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- Continued financial support and effective oversight of the LOC program
- Lead the selection of the Council of the Federation Literacy Award (decision July 2022) for B.C.

Decoda Initiatives:

- Website refresh: increasing access to Decoda programs, resources and tools
- Increase and enhance use of the online training and professional development library
- Development of creative alternatives to local Raise a Reader in-person fundraising events and development of a more online campaign.
- Host and coordinate an in-person conference May 4-6, 2022.

Contact: Mari Martin, Director, Public Libraries Branch
Phone: (250) 886-2584

IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING DIVISION

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IMMIGRATION SERVICES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING DIVISION OVERVIEW

Description:

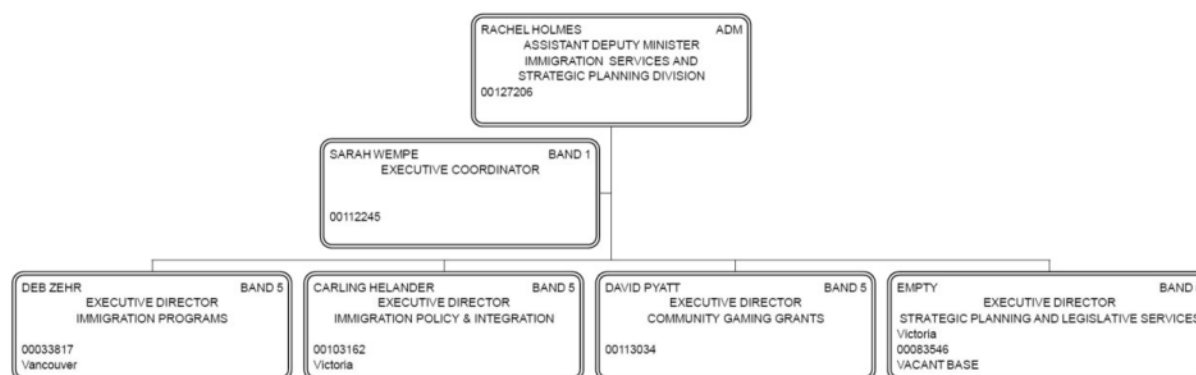
The Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division provides the Ministry with leadership and support in the areas of legislation; Orders-in-Council; board appointments; Community Gaming Grants; Immigration programs and Immigration Policy & Integration.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning Division	19,117	19,128	19,128	19,128

Immigration Services and Strategic Planning: 128 full time equivalents (At December 31st, 2021)

Organization Chart:



STRATEGIC PLANNING AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES BRANCH PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- To provide services and leadership in the areas of legislative services, community policy, corporate priorities, corporate government initiatives and strategic planning. The branch is responsible for and executes the legislative program and coordinates of Orders in Council (OIC) and board appointments for the ministry.

Program Description:

- Legislative program management and planning, including development and execution of the ministry's legislative plan.
- Lead and support on cross government strategic initiatives and mandate commitments.
- Engage with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (TRAN), branches across the ministry, stakeholders and government on long-term strategic planning for integrated transportation and land use policy development.
- Lead and support branches from across the ministry in undertaking and implementing strategic policy and legislative issues, program design, project management and research and analysis.
- Coordination and management of ministry OIC, Ministerial Orders and board appointments processes.
- Ministry contact and liaison with the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office.

Client Profile:

- The Minister
- B.C. local governments
- Key stakeholders
- Ministry branches / divisions
- Other ministries

Service Provider:

- Ministry staff

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Support the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (TRAN) in the development of the integrated transportation and development strategy to better align transportation and land use planning.
- Lead cross-ministry coordination to support the development and implementation of government's strategic initiatives including the economic plan, accessibility plan, B.C.'s environmental, social and government report and poverty reduction.
- Support the ministry's legislative plan, including lead and provide assistance on legislative and policy initiatives that have local government implications. Projects include working with TRAN on ride-hail legislation and pilot projects involving e-scooters and micro-mobility devices which support the Province's Active Transportation Strategy and providing legislative support to other MUNI branches on legislative amendments such as the *Gaming Control Act*.
- Engage with branches and cross government partners to assess community resilience risks and shape an approach to strengthen provincial response.
- Chair and provide secretariat support for the ministry's 10 Principles committee which coordinates ministry efforts related to the Province's 10 draft principles that guide the Province's relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

Contact:

Lynne Tang, Director, Legislation, Strategic Planning and Legislative Services Branch
778 698-8795

Chris Jensen, Director, Strategic Planning and Policy, Strategic Planning and Legislative Services Branch
778 698-3316

COMMUNITY GAMING GRANTS BRANCH PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- To ensure all eligible not-for-profit organizations in B.C. have fair and equitable access to gaming funds to support the delivery of programs that benefit their communities.

Program Description:

- The Community Gaming Grants Branch distributes commercial gambling revenue to eligible not-for-profit organizations to support programs that directly benefit British Columbians and their communities.

Client Profile:

- Eligible organizations are those delivering approved programs and services in the following six sectors, generally in keeping with the brief descriptions below:
 - **Arts and culture**
 - Dance, theatre and music
 - Visual arts
 - Fairs and festivals
 - Museums, heritage sites and archives
 - **Sport**
 - Community-based, competitive sports leagues, including for example:
 - soccer, swimming, hockey, baseball, and skiing programs
 - Special Olympics and Seniors Games
 - **Public Safety**
 - Land and marine search and rescue
 - Volunteer firefighting/Disaster relief
 - Recreation/trail safety
 - **Environment**
 - Ecosystem conservation
 - Climate action
 - Agriculture and food systems
 - **Human and Social Services**
 - Childcare and family programs
 - Mental health support
 - Seniors services and activities
 - Food banks
 - Hospices
 - Community building

- **Parent Advisory Councils and District Parent Advisory Councils**
- Not-for-profit organizations must meet the organizational, program and financial eligibility requirements set out in the program Guidelines.
- The branch works collaboratively with its partners in the not-for-profit sector, such as the BC Association for Charitable Gaming, the seven regional Community Charitable Gaming Associations, the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and other umbrella organizations with connections throughout the sector.

Program Outcomes (Impacts)/Service Statistics

- Approximately 4,800 community organizations—representing virtually every community in British Columbia received a total of \$140 million in Community Gaming Grant funding in 2020/21.
- The annual budget to support community-based programming is \$135 million, subject to per-applicant annual funding maximums of:
 - \$100,000 for organizations offering programs locally.
 - \$225,000 for organizations offering programs regionally.
 - \$250,000 for organizations offering province-wide programs.
- Beginning in 2017/18, an additional \$5 million in annual funding was allocated for a new Capital Projects program stream. In 2020/21, the branch awarded 81 capital project grants, totalling \$7.7 million in funding (an additional \$2.7 million in funding was reallocated from community-based programming after all other eligible applications had been funded).

Service Provider:

- Ministry Staff

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The Community Gaming Grants Branch is committed to supporting not-for-profit organizations and increasing awareness about the program. Staff will continue to provide a broad range of outreach activities throughout the 2021/22 fiscal year.
- In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting pressures on not-for-profit organizations, the Branch has made changes to the program for 2021/22, such as:
 - Allowing organizations to redirect program funds for cancelled or postponed programming to any other approved program;
 - Opening the Human and Social Services sector two months early to support organizations facing an increased demand for services due to the pandemic;
 - Relaxing financial eligibility criteria for return applicants to ensure organizations can continue to access funding; and
 - Allowing Community Gaming Grant funding to be used for the creation of new paid positions, supporting organizations to increase staff capacity.

- The branch remains committed to implementing the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) recommendations from its 2016 review of the Community Gaming Grants program. Eight of the ten recommendations have been fully implemented and the remaining two recommendations were implemented in 2021/22.
- Work on these final two OAG recommendations – implementation of a performance reporting framework and improved public reporting – was finalized in 2021/22. The branch began publishing sector infographics for the 2020/21 grant year to better demonstrate the program's broad community benefit and it released its first ever public annual report with performance measures in 2021/22.

Contact:

David Pyatt, Executive Director
Community Gaming Grants
778 698-3345

IMMIGRATION PROGRAMS BRANCH PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- Attract and retain new workers, entrepreneurs and international students through the BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) to help meet the province's economic and labour market needs and to support government's priorities.
- Position and promote the BC PNP as an efficient pathway to permanent residence for skilled and entrepreneur immigrants, targeting those who are best able to have an economic impact in B.C.

Program Description:

- The Branch delivers the BC PNP under the *Provincial Immigration Programs Act* and the Provincial Nominee Annex of the 2021 *Canada-BC Immigration Agreement*. The Province has the authority to invite, assess and nominate economic immigrants for permanent residence based on B.C.'s needs, priorities and selection criteria.
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) sets annual national immigration targets and annual calendar-year nomination targets for B.C. and other provinces. In 2021, B.C.'s nominations allocation was 6,500 plus an additional 250 for semi-skilled workers.
- The Skills Immigration stream of the BC PNP (99 per cent of total nominations) targets skilled workers and selects semi-skilled workers with a B.C. job offer,

and international postgraduates from B.C. institutions with an advanced science or technology degree.

- The Entrepreneur stream attracts experienced entrepreneurs to invest in, develop and manage businesses that will create or maintain jobs for British Columbians, and expedites the entry of key corporate staff essential to establishing a foreign branch or subsidiary in B.C.
- The Entrepreneur Immigration – Regional Pilot, recently extended to March 2024, is a collaboration with communities across B.C. to attract, support and retain foreign entrepreneurs in establishing new businesses in smaller centres.
- The Branch provides immigration expertise to support investment attraction activities and is a referral partner for the federal Global Skills Strategy (GSS). The GSS is a federal pilot program that provides case management support and expedited processing of highly skilled temporary workers for Canadian companies creating a significant economic benefit.
- The Branch administers WelcomeBC.ca, the provincial immigration portal with information about immigrating, working, studying and living in B.C. and the province's primary online immigration presence.

Client Profile:

- Prospective immigrant workers, with a focus on temporary foreign workers seeking a permanent residence pathway to remain in B.C., international post-secondary students and experienced entrepreneurs.
- B.C. employers, industry organizations, regional communities and economic development organizations.
- Federal government: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada and Canada Border Services Agency.

Service Provider:

- Branch staff

Program Outcomes/Service Statistics

- Average processing times for skills immigration applications is within the service standard of 80% of files within 3 months; processing times for entrepreneur applications in the base category are 80% of files within 4-6 months. Processing time was under 4 months for the Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot prior to the pandemic. Global travel restrictions are creating delays given that an in-person exploratory visit is a requirement for the pilot.
- In 2021, 6,250 applicants were nominated with over 99% being under Skills Immigration. Over 7,700 decisions were made on Skills and Entrepreneur applications at various stages of the program.

- From 2015 to now, entrepreneur nominees have invested close to \$270 million in B.C. businesses and created approximately 1,000 jobs for British Columbians.
- An independent evaluation (2016), indicated that the PNP is relevant, needed and aligned with B.C. priorities; is valued and well-regarded by stakeholders; nominates people who thrive in B.C. and contribute to economic growth.
- An Office of the Auditor General (OAG) performance audit (June 2020) showed that the BC PNP Skills Immigration program is supporting B.C.'s forecasted labour market and economic development needs.
- The Branch operates under full cost recovery with revenue from program fees.

Priorities/Key Initiatives

- Further address recommendations from 2020 OAG audit, including enhancements to performance management and program integrity.
- Implement changes to the Skills Immigration stream to ensure alignment with B.C.'s labour market and economic priorities.
- In collaboration with community stakeholders, deliver the renewed Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot.
- Comprehensive evaluation and audit of the Entrepreneur Immigration BASE stream.

Contact: Deb Zehr, Executive Director
778 572-5685

IMMIGRATION POLICY & INTEGRATION BRANCH PROFILE

Program Objectives:

- Businesses and communities can access international talent to address identified labour needs and support sustainable economic development.
- Newcomers to B.C. successfully settle and integrate, achieving a good standard of living and quality of life.
- Workers experience fast, fair and transparent credential recognition.

Branch Description:

Immigration Policy: The branch undertakes comprehensive policy analysis to provide strategic advice to elected officials and senior executives on all matters relating to immigration. This includes:

- Negotiating and implementing the *Canada-BC Immigration Agreement*.
- Working with the Immigration Programs Branch to align B.C.'s annual PNP nomination allocation to labour market demand and maximize the program's contribution to B.C.'s economic prosperity.
- Providing strategic advice on the role of international workers and federal/provincial immigration programs in addressing labour needs in the province.

Settlement and Integration: The branch delivers settlement and integration programs that complement federal services and build community capacity to attract and retain immigrants across B.C. This includes:

- The BC Settlement and Integration Services program (BCSIS) for naturalized citizens and temporary residents (such as Temporary Foreign Workers, International Students and Refugee Claimants) to support their settlement and integration in communities and the labour market in B.C.
- The Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants program (Career Paths) to provide individualized employment supports to assist skilled immigrants to find employment that utilizes their pre-arrival skills, knowledge and experience. Career Paths is co-funded with the federal government.
- The Refugee Readiness Fund, a one-time investment of \$2 million to support the successful resettlement of Afghan refugees in B.C.

Credential Recognition: The branch works to reduce barriers to the recognition of qualifications for internationally trained workers and ensure national labour mobility is maintained. This includes:

- Implementing the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund and overseeing other initiatives related to foreign qualification recognition.

- Advancing the ministry's mandate commitment to redouble government efforts to improve credential recognition.
- Oversight of pan-Canadian labour mobility requirements under the Canada Free Trade Agreement.

Intergovernmental Relations: The branch leads intergovernmental relations for the immigration portfolio, including the Ministry's participation in multi-lateral forums for immigration and settlement to ensure provincial interests are included in national and regional federal policy development and programming.

Key Stakeholders

- Employers, industry associations, and labour organizations.
- Professional regulatory bodies.
- Contracted service providers, non-profit organizations and immigrant-serving organizations.
- Federal departments – Employment and Social Development Canada, and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.
- Provincial ministries and agencies.
- Municipal government partners.

Client Profile:

Employers, job-seekers, immigrants and refugees in B.C. communities.

Service Providers:

- Ministry staff.
- Provincial regulators working with contractors.
- Contracted service providers (primarily non-profit immigrant-serving organizations).

Program Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- Through the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund, B.C. has invested \$2.2M since 2019 toward projects that reduce or remove unnecessary foreign credential recognition barriers in regulated occupations.
- The BC Settlement and Integration Services Program serves 26,000 clients annually in 60 communities throughout the province through \$6.25M in annual funding. Over the past three years, annual client targets have been exceeded by approximately 56 per cent.
- The Career Paths for Skilled Immigration Program serves approximately 1,600 clients per year through \$5.78M in annual funding. Over 70% of clients achieve employment in their field upon completion and the average wage of program participants increases by \$15.30/hour. The program underwent re-procurement in 2021/22 with expanded client eligibility and enhanced services.

- The Refugee Readiness Fund was launched and procured in 2021/22, utilizing \$2M in one-time funding to create community-based supports for Afghan refugees who will be arriving in B.C. over the next two years.
- Developed, with the Immigration Programs Branch, new program objectives and a performance management framework for the PNP Skills Immigration Stream, as well as recommendations for program criteria changes to strengthen alignment of the program with government's strategic objectives.

Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Implement new contracts for the Career Paths for Immigrants Program, as current contracts expire March 2022.
- Implement contracts for the Refugee Readiness Fund, and work collaboratively with the federal government and other ministries to ensure the successful resettlement of Afghan refugees in B.C.
- Reprocure the BC Settlement and Integration Services Program, as contracts expire March 2023.
- Develop and implement additional initiatives to improve foreign credential recognition and continue pursuing new project-based contracts with professional regulatory bodies through the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund.
- Oversee and manage the Canada-BC Immigration Agreement, which became effective in April 2021.
- Develop an evidence-based Levels Submission for federal government consideration during their immigration levels planning process, including the right level of PNP nominations to support B.C.'s labour needs and economic growth.
- Ensure continued labour mobility for skilled workers from across Canada under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

Contact: Carling Helander, Executive Director
250 886-5632

EXECUTIVE OFFICES PROFILE

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MINISTER'S OFFICE PROFILE

Minister of Municipal Affairs

Description:

Minister's Office

The Minister's office is comprised of the executive and support staff of the Minister. The role of the staff are to be a source of support and advice for the Minister. The Minister is accountable for meeting the provincial government's objectives as outlined in their Mandate Letter from the Premier.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Planned	2024/25 Planned
Minister's Office	620	629	638	638

Positions:

The Minister's Office salaries and benefit budget provides funding for 5 FTEs.

**DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE
PROFILE**

Deputy Minister: Okenge Yuma Morisho

Deputy Minister's Office

The Deputy Minister's Office (DMO) is responsible for all aspects of information that flows from Elected Officials and the Executive Council (Cabinet) to the ministry by acting as the touchpoint between the elected arm of government and the public service. The office provides strategic advice on issues management, oversees the development of Cabinet material, and provides strategic direction to staff. The DMO also ensures the ministry is in compliance with Cabinet approved mandates, Treasury Board directives and other specific issues.

The DMO builds strategic alliances across government and works with the Executive team and ministry staff to ensure efficient collaboration, the flow of information and increased integration within the Ministry to support the achievement of the Ministry's strategic direction and government's overall objectives.

Budget (in \$000s):

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Planned	2024/25 Planned
Deputy Minister's Office ¹	879	879	879	879

¹Including the Correspondence Branch.

Positions:

The DMO currently has 8 FTEs (including Executive Correspondence Services 3 FTEs)

Organization Chart:



Contact: Okenge Yuma Morisho
Deputy Minister
250-387-0752

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION PROFILE

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MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION OVERVIEW

ADMs: Alana Best (TACS and MUNI); Joanna White (Labour and JERI)

Description:

The Management Services Division (MSD) develops the internal infrastructure and systems that support ministry programs and contribute to improved service delivery. This includes supports in the areas of:

- Budget, procurement, and financial management
- Facilities
- Information technology
- Human resources
- Corporate planning & compliance reporting
- Correspondence
- FOI & records management.

MSD provides services to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI); the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation (JERI); the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport (TACS); and the Ministry of Labour (LBR).

Budget (in \$000s):

MSD's operating budget is provided below.

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates ¹	2022/23 Estimates ²	2023/24 Planned	2024/25 Planned
Management Services	11,138	12,540	12,540	12,540

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2021/22 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 Estimates.

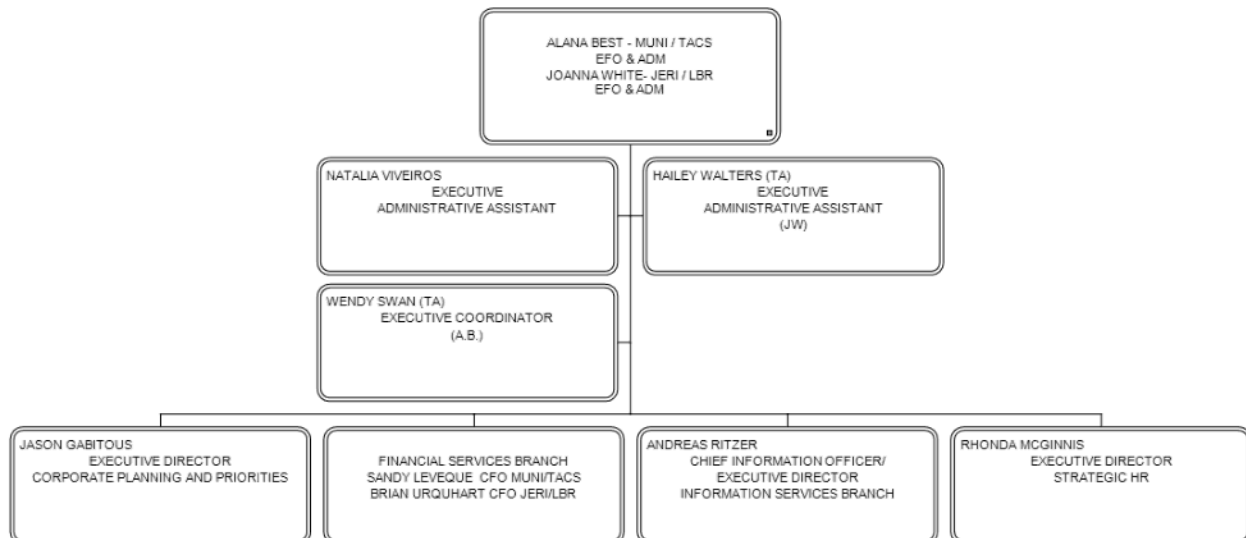
² The fiscal 2022/23 Estimates includes \$5.502M from MUNI, \$5.636M from JERI, \$0.414M from LBR and \$0.080M from TACS

Positions:

The table below summarizes the Management Services Division FTEs at December 31, 2021. The table includes JERI and MUNI FTEs that provide support to the Economy Sector ministries.

Support Services FTEs	
MUNI FTE's	
MSD	73
JERI FTE's	
MSD	33
Total Economy Sector FTE's	
Total	106

Organization Chart:



FINANCIAL SERVICES BRANCH PROFILE

Branch Objectives:

To support the Economy Sector, by providing financial management, oversight of ministry budgets, procurement, and facilities services. The branch offers cost-effective financial support in the areas of financial planning and reporting, financial operations and contract policy and review.

Branch Description:

Financial Planning and Reporting (Budgets)

The branch works to ensure that the Ministry has the ability to discharge its financial reporting duties related to expenditures, revenue, capital, FTEs and forecasting. The branch provides the following budgetary services:

Ensuring that the Ministry's Executive and Ministers have timely access to appropriate financial information to facilitate decision making.

Coordinating the Ministry's estimates, budgets and monthly forecasts for program managers and Executive.

Coordinating the quarterly forecast (signed by the Deputy Minister) to Treasury Board.

Coordinating the development of the Ministry's account structure (Chart of Accounts, STOB listing and rollup values).

Ensuring ministry staff has access to financial report training.

Producing monthly financial reports for program managers.

Coordinating the development of all Treasury Board Submissions with ministry program staff and Treasury Board Staff and advising on financial aspects of cabinet and treasury board submissions.

Coordinating the presentation of the Ministry's annual financial performance in the public accounts with the Ministry of Finance.

Financial Operations (Accounts)

Financial Operations provides a comprehensive suite of accounting and financial services including fiscal year-end coordination, analysis and reporting, asset capitalization administration, purchasing and travel card administration, Goods and Services Tax administration, training and outreach, balance sheet management, payment and journal entry processing as well as control framework implementation, monitoring and recommendations.

Procurement and Contract Management

The branch manages the Economy Sector's procurement practices by providing advice and expertise on all aspects of compliance with government policies and trade agreements. This work includes policy and process development, procurement reporting, procurement and contract support, and managing the vendor complaint process and contract monitoring services.

Facilities

Facilities manages building maintenance issues and physical security for our locations in conjunction with various service providers. In addition, this branch handles large and small space planning projects including various Lean Workplace Strategy moves, and furniture and equipment acquisition.

Client Profile:

- Ministers and Ministry Executive
- Program managers
- Ministry staff

Service Provider:

- Branch staff

Branch Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- 2020/21 spending was within budget, with minimal underspending
- 2019/20 audited financial statements reported in accordance with PSAB with no exceptions from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG)
- No outstanding recommendations from OAG.

2021/22 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- The Financial Services Branch will continue to monitor monthly reporting, and support expenditure approval processes to ensure ministry expenditures remain within budget, ministry hiring adheres to managed hiring controls and salary expenses are managed within STOB 50 targets, and expenditures are managed within expenditure guidelines, core policy, and budget letter directions
- Implement the new BC Bid system.
- Continue to move towards paperless processes, including electronic retention of ministry contracts.

Contacts:

TACS and MUNI: Sandy Leveque, Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer
(250) 952-9487

Labour and JERI: Brian Urquhart, Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer
(236) 478-1767

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS BRANCH
PROFILE****Branch Objectives:**

To support the Economy Sector and the office of the Government Chief Information Officer by overseeing the procurement, development and deployment of technology solutions, ranging from workstations and mobile devices through to large internationally accessible business applications.

Branch Description:Program Management and Oversight:

ISB is responsible for overseeing and implementing corporate information technology (IT) programs and initiatives within the sector. ISB also provides IT Business consulting services to oversee the delivery of vendor services and to ensure that these services align with client needs and corporate priorities (such as the Internet Strategy, Digital Strategy, and open Data).

Legislative / Policy Compliance, Intellectual property protection

ISB assists the Economy Sector in meeting the requirements set out in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) and the *Electronic Transactions Act*. The branch also works to enable its sector clients to meet the extensive IM/IT and Data Stewardship policies outlined through Core Government and the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) policy.

Information Security and Privacy

ISB works to protect the sector's IT assets from unauthorised access and to ensure that personal information trusted to the sector is stored and accessed in an appropriate manner. This is accomplished through proactive security threat and risks assessments, educational awareness and ongoing security audits, the development of privacy impact assessments and information sharing agreements, as well as the investigation and management of incidents.

IT Operations & Application Development

ISB provides desktop and mobile device support to the sector and manages the larger system and network infrastructure required for the sector's line of business applications.

The branch supports the development of new applications through the provision of architecture and specialised technical expertise along with defined processes that support the Branch's IT security mandate, ensure the quality of vendor deliverables and secure the intellectual property delivered by vendors under contract.

Client Profile:

- Sector ministries and staff
- OCIO

Service Providers:

- ISB staff

Branch Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- Direct, enable & implement multiple IM/IT projects as well as manage an average spend of \$4 million per fiscal on vendor resources
- Support four ministries in their line of business desktop, mobile and communications needs
- Implement cross government initiatives and infrastructure updates on behalf of the OCIO
- Aid clients in creating their capital submissions, including OCIO IM/IT and Treasury Board business cases.
- Work with clients on road mapping their IM/IT plans for the coming years and provide advice on how best to meet their business outcomes through their technology investments.

2022/23 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Provide oversight and support in the development and maintenance of digital services provided by the Economy Sector.
- Develop and renew internal policies, processes, standards and guidelines to align with changes in information and technology trends and directions.
- Ensure that systems are in compliance with internal and corporate IM/IT policies, procedures and standards.
- Support for major cross government & economy sector transformation initiatives.
- Implementation of the Privacy policy & preparation for internal audit.
- Improve security and risk assessment methods and implement a risk register to better track and manage risks.
- Develop and implement an IM/IT strategy to support business transformation, information protection, business continuity and succession planning.

Contact: Andreas Ritzer, Chief Information Officer and Executive Director
(250) 356-7081 (office)
Government Financial Information

STRATEGIC HUMAN RESOURCES BRANCH PROFILE

Branch Objectives:

Strategic Human Resources is a trusted business partner, aiding client Ministries with the development and delivery of organizational effectiveness strategies and exceptional internal communications.

Branch Description:

The Strategic Human Resources Branch (SHR), as part of the Management Services Division, provides support to the four sector Ministries. SHR's mission is to design and deliver strategic human resources services, programs and communications that build workforce capacity, enhance employee engagement, support delivery of corporate priorities and help clients achieve lasting business results.

Program Management and Oversight

SHR develops and delivers customised programs and tools for the sector. This includes but is not limited to: the development and implementation of professional supervision, and leadership development programs, mentorship programs and specialized workshops to support the rollout of corporate priorities. The branch also delivers and facilitates team dynamics sessions and specialized programs to help optimize individual and team results.

SHR also oversees corporate programs and initiatives at the sector level including Work Environment Survey (WES) unpacking and strategy development, Pacific Leaders Scholarship Program, Long Service Awards, Premiers Awards, and Performance Management (My Performance).

SHR also manages the hiring approval process for all Ministries in the sector.

Strategic HR Planning

SHR leads the development of the annual workforce plan for each Ministry within the sector. This includes workforce analysis and reporting, identification of human resources priorities and the development and deployment of succession management strategies and organizational development tools.

Customised Advisory Services

Last update: February 2, 2022

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SHR provides support and advice on organizational design and development, managed staffing strategies, change management, facilitation and the Management Compensation and Classification Framework (MCCF). SHR also provides ongoing support and advice through its participation in a variety of committees including but not limited to Ministry Employee Advisory Committees, Article 29 Committees and special project committees, at both the Ministry and corporate levels.

Client Profile:

- Economy Sector Executives, managers, supervisors and staff.

Service Providers:

- Strategic HR team members.

Branch Outcomes/Service Statistics:

- Improved organizational performance from meeting leadership development goals.
- Development and delivery of workforce plans and reporting to Ministry Executive.

2022/23 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Support ongoing succession planning and workforce planning in each Ministry.
- Provide strategic human resources consulting services to Ministry clients.
- Support the implementation and ongoing development of strategies to become a diverse and inclusive professional public service.
- Provide Ministry support for the Work Environment Survey.
- Providing organizational development tools to Ministries, divisions and branches, to help them achieve their mandates and future organizational goals.
- Deliver experiential, classroom and virtual leadership and professional development opportunities to develop capacity within each Ministry.
- Support hiring managers through the recommendation of effective and expedient recruitment strategies and hiring practices for use in merit-based competitions.
- Support communications and change management initiatives for reorganizations and leading workplace strategies projects.
- Support Occupational Health, Safety and wellness within the Ministries.
- Provide internal communications support and web-based intranet services.

Contact: Rhonda McGinnis, Executive Director
(778) 698-7937 office, Government Financial Information

CORPORATE PLANNING AND PRIORITIES BRANCH PROFILE

Branch Objectives:

To support the Economy Sector's key corporate processes by providing: Executive support on major corporate projects; corporate and compliance reporting; legislative portfolio management¹; Crown portfolio management; risk management; business continuity planning; correspondence Services² and FOI and records management.

Branch Description:

Executive Support

CPP supports the Ministry Executive by coordinating key corporate projects, such as ministry transitions, estimates, and UBCM³. This entails working with staff across the organization to ensure that Executive and the Minister have the information they need to effectively participate in these processes.

Corporate and Compliance Reporting

CPP coordinates the development of a number of corporate reports on behalf of its clients, including: service plans, annual reports, enterprise-wide risk management, business continuity readiness, multiculturalism reports, carbon-neutral reports, continuous improvement reporting and regulatory reports. In case of service plans and annual reports, CPP works with program areas to develop ministry-wide performance measures and targets.

Crown Portfolio Management

CPP provides support to program leads and their Crown corporations to deliver a consistently high level of service for all economy sector Crowns. Branch services include support for Crown service planning, Crown annual service plan reports, mandate directives and corporate initiatives (e.g., Crown direction and accountabilities).

Risk Management, Business Continuity Management Program

CPP is responsible for leading sector-wide risk management frameworks, capacity-building and reporting, business continuity planning and preparedness as well as the Ministry Operations Centre plan and procedures.

Correspondence Services

¹ For Ministries of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport; Labour and Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.

² For Ministries of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport; Labour and Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

³ With the exception of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' UBCM process.

CPP supports Executive and Minister correspondence to ensure timely responses to public and other stakeholder inquiries (JERI, TACS, LBR).

FOI and Records Management

Branch services include responsibility for timely responses to access to information (FOI) requests, records management support for programs/branches, and assistance with planning and delivery of information management initiatives across the sector.

Client Profile:

- Economy Sector ministry executives and program staff.
- Deputy Minister's Offices and Minister's Offices.

Service Providers:

- CPP branch staff.

Branch Outcomes/Service Statistics (Sector-wide):

- Twelve Ministry and Crown service plans and annual reports annually.
- Eight Crown mandate letters every term and updated as needed.
- Support for ministers and ministry executives across the sector in preparing for the Budget, Estimate Debate and UBCM⁴, as well as reorganizations, resulting in the production of over 100 briefing binders annually.
- From January 1, 2021 – Dec 31, 2021:
 - Coordination of 106 Board Resourcing and Development Office board appointments/reappointments.
 - TACS had 61
 - JERI had 34
 - LBR had 11
 - Correspondence team handled 43,628 pieces of Executive correspondence in total.
 - TACS had 11,307
 - JERI had 13,032
 - LBR had 19,289

⁴ With the exception of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' UBCM process.

- FOI/Records team processed and closed 520 records requests and reviewed 39,337 pages to support appropriate information release.

Ministry	# processed and closed	# pages reviewed
JERI	151	5,057
LBR	121	9,185
MUNI	127	17,057
TACS	121	8,038
TOTAL for all 4	520	39,337

2022/23 Priorities/Key Initiatives:

- Development of Ministry and Crown service plans and reports.
- Coordination of Budget 2022/23 briefing materials and preparation for the budget estimates debates.
- Coordination of Mandate Letter process for ten Crown Corporations.
- Strengthened Risk Management capacity and sector planning to support contributions to government's strategy for coordinated catastrophic response.
- Timely FOI responses facilitated by increased training and awareness around records management.

Contact: Jason Gabitous, Executive Director
(778) 698-7040 (office)
Government Financial Information

Ministry of Municipal Affairs

2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan

February 2022



For more information on the Ministry of Municipal Affairs contact:

PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Vancouver 604-660-2421 Victoria 250-387-6121

Or visit our website at

<https://www.gov.bc.ca/muni>

Published by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Minister's Accountability Statement



The *Ministry of Municipal Affairs 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Osborne', written in a cursive style.

Honourable Josie Osborne
Minister of Municipal Affairs
February 4, 2022

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Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs helps make B.C. communities great places to live by taking leadership in supporting local governments, not-for-profit organizations and residents to build vibrant and healthy communities that are well governed, liveable, safe and diverse as well as economically, socially and environmentally resilient.

The Ministry supports newcomers to settle and integrate into the province, facilitates economic immigration to address B.C.'s labour market needs and attracts international entrepreneurs.

The Ministry also oversees the University Endowment Lands and works with public library partners to sustain the public library system.

The effective delivery of the Ministry's mandate relies on key legislation, including: the Community Charter, the Vancouver Charter, the Local Government Act, the Municipal Aid Act, the Municipal Finance Authority Act, part six of the Gaming Control Act, the Islands Trust Act, the Provincial Immigration Programs Act, the Ministry of International Business and Immigration Act, and the Library Act.

Strategic Direction

In 2022/2023, the Government of British Columbia will continue its whole-of-government response to the COVID-19 pandemic with a focus on protecting the health, social and economic well-being of British Columbians. Building on our economic, environmental, and social strengths while looking to seize opportunities to improve outcomes for all British Columbians will be an important aspect of each ministry's work as we respond to COVID-19 and recover from devastating floods and wildfires. The policies, programs and projects developed over the course of this service plan period will align with the five foundational principles established by Government in 2020: putting people first; working toward lasting and meaningful reconciliation; supporting equity and anti-racism; ensuring a better future through fighting climate change and meeting our greenhouse gas reduction targets; and supporting a strong, sustainable economy that works for everyone.

This 2022/23 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Municipal Affairs will support the government's priorities including the foundational principles listed above and selected action items identified in the November 2020 Minister's Mandate Letter.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: Strong, sustainable, and well-governed communities

By cultivating strong partnerships and delivering services that support sustainable and well governed communities, the Ministry enables a local government framework that can support the financial, economic, environmental, social and infrastructure health of communities for all British Columbians.

Objective 1.1: Further a governance system that considers local government and provincial interests and builds strong relationships for the benefit of all people.

Key Strategies

- Work with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and other local government partners, to ensure the annual UBCM Convention provides a comprehensive exchange of ideas and optimizes cooperation and collaboration among the Province, UBCM, individual local governments, and UBCM First Nations members.
- Consistent with the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act)* as the Province's framework for reconciliation, support local governments in building respectful relationships and fostering meaningful and lasting reconciliation with First Nations. As part of this, collaborate with UBCM on providing advice to local governments. Under the *Declaration Act*, continue to meet, engage and collaborate with First Nation communities and Indigenous partners and organizations.
- Review and enhance the policy, legislative and education framework for local governments where needed, including working with key partners to support the 2022 general local elections, to implement and further explore responsible conduct measures among locally elected officials and to move forward on other requests that are provincial priorities.
- Provide advice, resolve problems and give targeted support and oversight on a range of local and regional governance matters of local government and provincial interest, both directly and in partnership with others.
- Work with public library partners to sustain a public library system that is effectively governed and accountable, where provincial funding helps extend local services and improve access throughout B.C.

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
1.1a Actively engage with UBCM local governments and UBCM First Nations members with ongoing meetings between elected officials and staff, including: number of formal meetings held annually between UBCM Executives and the Minister of Municipal Affairs	4	4+	4+	4+
1.1b Actively engage with UBCM local governments and UBCM First Nations members with ongoing meetings between elected official and staff, including: number of meetings held annually between the Ministry, UBCM, individual local governments and UBCM First Nations members during UBCM Convention and throughout the year	100+	100 +	100+	100+

Data source: Meeting schedules (calendar meeting invites) and agendas for Senior staff and Minister's meeting. Informal meetings with staff are not counted.

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

The number of formal interactions between the Minister and UBCM Executive is an important indicator that the relationship between local governments and the provincial government is being actively sustained. UBCM Executive has four scheduled meetings annually and holds time to meet with the Minister to discuss issues of importance to the membership and to Government. Individual meetings with local governments occur significantly at the annual UBCM Convention, and throughout the year as interest and issues arise. These meetings create a reciprocal opportunity to better understand the interests of local governments and UBCM First Nations members and to ensure policy and programs are meeting the needs of communities.

Objective 1.2: Maintain local governments' financial sustainability so they can meet the service needs of their communities.

Key Strategies

- Support ministries and other partners in reviewing pressures in the local government financial system, including issues related to revenues and property tax impacts.
- Provide advice and statutory approvals on local government finance (revenues and expenditures) to support sound local government financial management practices and stewardship that ensures fiscal viability.
- Deliver stable, predictable and timely grant funding for professional administration to smaller and rural local governments throughout B.C. through the Small Community Grants and Regional District Grants as well as provide targeted funding to municipalities

with over 5,000 people for community safety initiatives, through the Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Program.

- Support the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA) in obtaining a high credit rating and low rates for borrowing through: overseeing the *Municipal Finance Authority Act*; setting local government borrowing limits; reviewing and approving loan authorization bylaws and setting financial reporting requirements; and ensuring local government financial data is available to the MFA and the broader public.
- Work with UBCM to establish a Memorandum of Understanding further to the province's commitment to collaborate in reviewing UBCM's Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency: Today's Recovery and Tomorrow's New Economy report and its recommendations.

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
1.2 Municipal Finance Authority's Credit Rating	AAA	AAA	AAA	AAA

Data source: Municipal Finance Authority Ratings provided by the Moody's, Standard & Poor's, and Fitch rating agencies

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

A strong credit rating of the MFA reflects the sustainability of the local government financial system which gives local governments the freedom to engage in capital projects that touch the lives of people in B.C. every day.

Objective 1.3: Support improvement of community and regional infrastructure and local government planning to further the environmental, economic and social health of communities.

Key Strategies

- Encourage resilient, efficient and effective community planning, fiscal and asset management practices to support the development of sustainable communities, including continued progress on the Development Approvals Process Review to streamline and modernize development permitting and approvals.
- Support local governments to make effective, integrated and collaborative choices, through problem solving, guidance and program support for delivery of local and regional services such as water, recreation and economic development, and integrated sustainable land use, resiliency and infrastructure planning.
- Advance the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 and Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy by collaborating with other ministries and supporting local government land use planning and infrastructure projects through initiatives such as the CleanBC Communities Fund.

- Partner with the federal government and other ministries to develop and implement community capital funding programs for local governments and First Nations that build and upgrade local infrastructure including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, clean energy, recreation facilities and community centres.
- Support ministries and other partners to develop initiatives related to integrated planning, transit-oriented development, clean transportation, regional growth strategies, energy and the environment, and housing and homelessness.

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
1.3a Number of approved projects from local governments, Indigenous communities, and non-profits funded under the Northern Healthy Communities Fund.	25	25	20	15
1.3b Number of approved projects from local governments and modern treaty First Nations funded under the Strengthening Communities' Services Program ²	50	20	N/A ¹	N/A

Data source:

1.3a Northern Development Initiative Trust (Deliver Agency) Program Tracking Documentation, Program Budget Allocation and LNG Canada/Coastal Gas Link Construction Schedule.

1.3b Strengthening Communities' Service Program Evaluation Committee approval of funding applications. Some applications are for projects that serve multiple, adjacent communities.

¹The Strengthening Communities' Services Program, funded under the Canada-BC Safe Restart Agreement, is expected to end in 2023.

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

The application-based \$25 million Northern Healthy Communities Fund (NHCF), administered by the Northern Development Initiative Trust, supports initiatives that assist communities to remain healthy, sustainable, and resilient in the face of rapid and large-scale economic development and associated need for enhanced social service readiness. Given the immediacy of the current economic development activities, the NHCF is focusing on communities adjacent to the LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink projects.

The application-based \$100 million Strengthening Communities' Services program (SCS), administered by the Union of BC Municipalities, aims to support unsheltered homeless populations and address related community impacts. This program is meant to bridge the period between the COVID-19 outbreak and the post-COVID recovery period.

Discussion

The performance measure has been updated from the previous service plan to reflect the wind down of the Housing Needs Reports program.

The new performance measure acknowledges the varying aspects of community environmental, economic, and social health that fall within the stewardship of local governments and the breadth of infrastructure, planning, and services undertaken by local governments in communities.

Goal 2: Communities in ongoing/continued economic recovery beyond COVID-19

Working with other governments and partner organizations to enable local governments and others to support people through economic recovery beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and other unprecedented events into a stronger and better future for our neighbourhoods and communities.

Objective 2.1: Support the governance, financial, planning and infrastructure resiliency of communities impacted by extraordinary emergencies

Given the broad impacts of the pandemic and natural disasters such as wildfires and floods on communities, focus on monitoring and support as communities work to re-establish services, adjust financial plans, and ensure good governance.

Key Strategies

- Deliver and monitor targeted funding, including with the federal government, to respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities and their operations.
- Work with local governments, UBCM and other partners to share information, monitor local government system impacts and respond to issues that arise.
- Provide guidance, advice and problem solving for communities, including initiating actions when required (e.g., Minister's orders; policy and legislative change).
- Ensure infrastructure projects approved through economic recovery funding meet reporting requirements and achieve completion.
- Support specific communities impacted by emergencies, to coordinate governance, infrastructure, operations, finances, and planning activities to bridge from response into recovery and beyond from events with severe environmental and economic impacts.

Performance Measures	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
2.1a Number of approved Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program, Community Economic Resilience stream (CERIP-CER) projects that attain completion of community recovery-targeted infrastructure within program timeframe	23	37	N/A ¹	N/A
2.1b Number of approved Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure projects that attain completion of community recovery-targeted infrastructure within program timeframe	10	67	10 ²	N/A

Data source: Program applications and approvals

¹The Targets for 23/24-24/25 are N/A as this program was designed to respond to COVID-19 pandemic and only run from 2020/21, completed by March 31, 2023.

²COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream projects must be substantially completed by December 31, 2023, or by December 31, 2024, for projects in designated remote communities.

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

Accelerated funding programs specifically designed to respond to the impacts of the pandemic assists to further community resilience overall, with the short approval and completion timelines that are essential to help communities recover economically from COVID-19 impacts. Each project represents a community that is being supported in recovery. COVID-19 resilience programs deliver funding to local governments, Indigenous governments and not-for-profit organizations. Ministry continues to engage on supports for other emergency circumstances that may arise.

Discussion

While the overall number of CERIP projects remains consistent with the 2021/22-2023/24 Service Plan, targets were adjusted as project progress has been impacted by external factors (supply chain delays; labour issues; unexpected 3rd & 4th waves of pandemic) which have compromised proponents' ability to meet forecasted completion dates.

The program was designed to have adequate time to allow for projects to complete. Projects are still operating within the established program parameters.

The ICIP COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) funding is focused on building infrastructure that will help British Columbians with the significant health and socio-economic challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic by responding to the specific needs of communities. Once approved projects are completed, the new infrastructure will provide

community members with expanded or improved services, as well as increased public safety. This will be achieved by encouraging outdoor activities through improvements to active transportation networks and recreation sites, and by completing upgrades to local government buildings to increase the ability to provide services while socially distancing during the pandemic.

Goal 3: Communities are vibrant, inclusive, and enriched by the contributions of newcomers

Objective 3.1: International talent helps to address B.C.'s skills needs and support sustainable economic development in communities across the province

Key Strategies

- Align immigration policies and programs to provincial priorities and community needs.
- Work with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training to identify how immigration can best meet the skills needs of B.C.'s economy.
- Use B.C.'s Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP) to attract international talent to communities throughout the province, helping fill skills needs, enhance innovation, and drive a sustainable economic future.
- Through B.C.'s PNP Entrepreneur Immigration Regional Pilot, support regional communities to grow their economies and create jobs by attracting international entrepreneurs.
- Employ targeted initiatives to enhance attraction and retention of newcomers in communities throughout B.C.

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
3.1 Percentage of BC PNP applications processed within service standard commitment	75-85%	80%	80%	80%
3.1a - Skills applications: 3 months				
3.1b - Entrepreneur Regional Pilot applications: 4 months	80%	80%	80%	80%

Data source: Internal Ministry of Municipal Affairs tracking

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

The BC PNP is the province's only direct immigration selection tool to identify and facilitate the arrival of international workers and entrepreneurs. Expedient processing is critical to the ability of the BC PNP to effectively achieve its intended outcomes of addressing skills needs and attracting entrepreneurs to help grow regional economies.

Discussion

Processing times refer to the provincial role in making a decision (approval or refusal) on a BC PNP file at the application stage; 80 per cent is considered a reasonable target for a service standard commitment given there will always be a certain percentage of files that will take longer to process (e.g., incomplete application, complexity, delays related to international travel).

Objective 3.2: Provide grants and services to help communities thrive and to support newcomers to settle and integrate.

Key Strategies

- Distribute \$140 million in Community Gaming Grants to not-for-profit organizations throughout B.C. to support their delivery of ongoing programs and services that meet the needs of their communities.
- Build upon government's efforts to streamline and support fair, efficient and transparent foreign credential recognition by occupational regulators, including with continued investments through the Credential Assessment Improvement Fund.
- Help skilled newcomers achieve employment in their field through the Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants program.
- Support newcomers to integrate into communities and workplaces through the BC Settlement and Integration Services Program.

Performance Measure(s)	2021/22 Forecast	2022/23 Target	2023/24 Target	2024/25 Target
3.2 Percentage of Career Paths Clients employed in their field upon program completion	70%	70%	70%	70%

Data source: Internal Ministry of Municipal Affairs tracking

Linking Performance Measure to Objective

The Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants program supports the successful integration of newcomers by assisting skilled immigrants and refugees in B.C. find work that utilizes their pre-arrival skills, education and experience. As such, a critical performance measure of the program is the proportion of clients who successfully achieve employment in the field of work that they have pre-arrival experience in.

Discussion

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the flow of newcomers arriving to B.C. for most of 2020 and 2021. It also impacted the ability of Career Paths clients to access related supports as part of their participation in the program, such as additional skilling training or access to an exam required by an occupational regulator. Additionally, the pandemic has impacted the job opportunities and employment prospects of all British Columbians, including immigrants. These external factors

will continue to impact the Career Paths program outcomes in 2022/23. Current Career Paths contracts with service providers expire in March 2022 and will be replaced with new contracts starting in April 2022 following an open competitive procurement process.

Despite the changing landscape, the program is anticipating outcomes at or near the 70% target and will maintain the target of 70% while continuing to monitor pandemic-related impacts on the program.

Financial Summary

Core Business Area	2021/22 Restated Estimates ¹	2022/23 Estimates	2023/24 Plan	2024/25 Plan
Operating Expenses (\$000)				
Local Government²	270,950	220,500	221,641	219,804
Immigration Services and Strategic Planning³	19,117	19,128	19,128	19,128
Executive and Support Services	7,603	7,917	7,926	7,926
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	10,668	12,269	13,565	14,579
Total	308,338	259,814	262,260	261,437
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) (\$000)				
Executive and Support Services	316	69	2	2
University Endowment Lands Administration Account	2,285	2,285	0	0
Total	2,601	2,354	2	2

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2021/22 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2022/23 Estimates.

² Local Government includes University Endowment Lands (UEL)

³ Immigration Services and Strategic Planning includes Strategic Planning, Immigration programs, Provincial Nominee Program and Community Gaming Grants

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals

As of February 4, 2022, the Minister of Municipal Affairs is responsible and accountable for the following:

Board of Examiners

Islands Trust Conservancy