

Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

From: McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2018 10:47 AM
To: Smith, Jessica C AGRI:EX; Beale, William AGRI:EX
Cc: Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX; Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX
Subject: SN's -Ecotrust
Attachments: SN_MLP_EcoTrust Fisheries Feb 19_18 FINAL.docx

Here are the final SN's for EcoTrust, with reference to the shellfish processing that^{s.22} provided.

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SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

ECOTRUST CANADA
Fisheries for Communities Gathering
Croatian Cultural Centre – Room A
3250 Commercial Drive
Vancouver

Friday, February 23, 2018
Speaking Notes
9 AM for approx 10 - 12 minutes

Background:

The setting is the Fisheries for Communities Gathering and EcoTrust Canada describes the event as “bringing together individuals, communities, organizations and governments whose livelihoods, economies, food access, cultures, and wellbeing are tied to local fisheries, and who want to work together to ensure fisheries can continue to support them and their communities now, and for future generations.”

Minister Popham has been asked to provide remarks for up to 15 minutes to approximately 150-200 attendees. Due to some health issues, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard Dominic Leblanc will not be attending.

In an invitation to potential attendees, EcoTrust Canada said “there is an opportunity right now to make change! The Federal Minister of Fisheries is in support of instilling socio-economic objectives in support of fishermen, coastal communities and First Nations into the Fisheries Act, and creating policy reform that can enact it. There is now, for the first time in decades, the possibility of making changes to bad policy. It is not yet too late to stop privatization that disallows access by coastal communities and fishermen to Canada's Pacific fish stocks. Now there is a chance for change that can bring back the many benefits from this bounty of our oceans and revive or create new local fisheries, reinvigorate communities, food access and jobs, and rebuild our longstanding connections to the sea.

This gathering provides an opportunity for individuals affected by the generations of bad policy to combine their voices, and describe for the Minister the issue and the change needed to revitalize our coast and all that its ocean bounty has to offer Canada.”

Itinerary:

8:30 a.m. - Welcome

- First Nation Welcome –Tseil Waututh Nation
- Ecotrust Canada – Purpose, ground rules, welcome key notes

9 a.m. - Opening/key note Speaker(s)

- Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, BC (confirmed, 15 minutes)

9:15 a.m. - Speaker Panel 1 – Experience from Atlantic Canada

Organizer Contact: Abra Brynne, EcoTrust Canada, 250 777-2480

Introduction

- Thank you for that introduction and thank you to EcoTrust Canada for the invitation.
- It's a pleasure to be here as a guest on the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-waututh(Sail-Wha-Tooth) First Nations.
- I'd like to thank the Tsleil-waututh (Sail-Wha-Tooth) for welcoming all of us this morning.
- Before I begin I want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- The Premier recently returned from a successful trade mission where he was busy telling the world about the things we do best here in British Columbia!

- He had a lot of great things to say about the B.C. seafood industry.
- In 2016, B.C.'s seafood producers harvested over 291,000 tonnes of fish and shellfish with a wholesale value of \$1.7 billion.
- The stats are impressive.
- However, I like to focus on people.
- The British Columbia seafood industry has a long and rich history.
- Thanks to your hard work, British Columbians and consumers around the world are served a quality product that we are all proud of.
- And it is my honour to represent you as the new Minister of Agriculture.
- I was lucky enough to be raised on Quadra Island.

- I grew up learning that growing food and harvesting from the sea is a way of life.
- I entered into politics because of my love for agriculture and seafood and now I have my dream job.
- I could not be more grateful to be in the position to serve as your champion for agriculture and seafood production in B.C.

Budget – Ministry of Agriculture

- Being appointed minister is a dream come true, but it's not about me, it's about you!
- You are the face of the B.C. seafood sector.
- People like Gordy McLellan from Fanny Bay.
- His family's company, Mac's Oysters has been in business for 70 years.

- I met Gordy while touring with the BC Shellfish Growers Association last Fall.
- We had a great conversation about how our government can support B.C.'s seafood industry.
- My goal is simple – I want to help create opportunities for you.
- Opportunities like the BC Young Fisherman's Gathering that was held a few weeks ago in Steveston.
- The Ministry of Agriculture was happy to provide \$10,000 in support so 50 young fishers from coastal B.C. communities and First Nations could attend the gathering.
- It was an investment in our future.

- The young people spent two days learning about commercial fishing business practices, seafood marketing and sustainable harvesting.
- It was the perfect setting for young fishers to learn from experienced and successful industry members.
- Another opportunity that exists is Canada's Fisheries & Aquaculture Clean Technology Adoption Program.
- The Province has worked closely with the Federal government to ensure funding is available for projects that support British Columbia's seafood producers and processors.
- This program is about supporting market-ready technologies that reduce the environmental footprint of fisheries, aquaculture, and seafood processing.

- We also heard from you that meetings like this one today need to happen.
- That is why we stepped up and provided \$40,000 in funding for this important gathering.
- Ensuring that fisheries stakeholders could come together for a common goal that supports our province's seafood industry is a priority that aligns with my mandate.
- I am proud to be in a government that is working for all British Columbians.
- We are continuing to back up those words with action.
- This week, our government announced the Ministry of Agriculture's budget for 2018-19 will be more than \$93 million.

- This will result in an increased investment of \$29 million over the next three years for Grow, Feed and Buy BC.
- That is action for you – for British Columbia.
- The budget is an investment in B.C. seafood producers and our coastal communities.
- We want you to succeed, and generate good, well-paying jobs, economic activity and revenue along our coast and throughout B.C.
- Our combined efforts will help us build an even stronger British Columbia seafood sector.

Fisheries for Communities Gathering

- I know your gathering today has a specific purpose.

- As individuals - your perspectives might be diverse.
- However, as a group, your goal is similar and requires a team effort.
- The B.C. government wants to be on your team – we have your back.
- Together, let's send a clear message to the federal government that we support a B.C. fisheries policy for B.C.
- It should support B.C.'s First Nations, fish harvesters, and our coastal fishing communities.
- I want to congratulate everyone for walking in this room today with a commitment to work together.
- Let's build on this momentum.

- With the proposed changes to the Fisheries act, new opportunities exist for collaboration between all governments, Indigenous and Metis peoples, and our coastal communities.
- One way for the industry to realize greater benefits is to increase the value added to their product.
- Part of the mandate in my ministry is marketing and skills development.
- Our Ministry can partner with First Nations and community fisheries to meet their value added goals.
- Part of the Grow/Feed/Buy BC mandate is to increase the production and access to local food.

- An important part of this is supporting value-added and processing opportunities such as shellfish processing in our coastal communities like Lund & Powell River, Port Alberni and Ucluelet & Tofino.
- Much of the purchase and consumption of BC seafood comes from outside our Province.
- We want to work with you on ways to market our seafood locally.
- We will use Buy BC to get your high quality local products into the hands of more British Columbians.
- We also want to strengthen your relationship with restaurants throughout B.C.
- That is something we can all get behind.

Conclusion

- So in closing, those are some of my ideas, what about you?
- I am here this morning to listen and to learn.
- Let's get to work - I look forward to continuing the conversation today.
- Thanks for inviting me.