Menzies, Brian FIN:EX

From:

Gill, Manjit PSSG:EX

Sent:

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 3:53 PM

To: Subject: Menzies, Brian FIN:EX FYI posted online yesterday

Lawsuit cites B.C. casino money-laundering allegations

Civil forfeiture court action alleges accused money launderer was paid out more than \$2 million by B.C. casinos over a 10-month period

Feb. 29, 2016, 6 a.m.

Law & Politics

Copyright

By Darryl Green

Page 2

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

news@biv.com

@bizinvancouver

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 8:13 PM

To:

Henderson, Kim N FIN:EX; Farkas, George FIN:EX; Edwardson, Jamie GCPE:EX; Menzies,

Brian FIN:EX; Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX

Cc:

Latham, David FIN:EX; Green, Ben GCPE:EX

Subject:

Fw: British Columbia 2016 Budget: Staying in the black while some others bleed

Attachments:

BCBudget_E_2016.pdf

Fyi...a constructive review

Cheers Jim

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: NBF Economics and Strategy < NBF. EconomyStrategy@nbc.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:23 PM

Subject: British Columbia 2016 Budget: Staying in the black while some others bleed

Copyright

The attached report along with selected research from the Economics and Strategy Group can also be accessed by clicking the link below:

http://www.nbc.ca/economics

To unsubscribe please click here

Warren Lovely | Managing Director, Head of Public Sector Research & Strategy | National Bank Financial

CONFIDENTIALITÉ: Ce document est destiné uniquement à la personne ou à l'entité à qui il est adressé. L'information apparaissant dans ce document est de nature légatement privilégiée et confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire visé ou la personne chargée de le remettre à son destinataire, vous êtes, par la présente, avisé que toute tecture, usage, cople ou communication du contenu de ce document est strictement interdit. De plus, vous êtes prié de communiquer avec l'expéditeur sans délai ou d'écrite à <u>confidentialite@bnc.ca</u> et de détruire ce document immédiatement. CONFIDENTIALITY: This document is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom il is addressed. The information contained in this document is legally privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby advised that you are strictly prohibited from reading, using, copying or disseminating the contents of this document. Please inform the sender immediately or write to <u>confidentiality@nbc.ca</u> and delete this document immediately.



BRITISH COLUMBIA 2016 BUDGET

Economics and Strategy

February 17, 2015

Staying in the black while some others bleed

Page 04 to/à Page 07

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 7:52 AM

To:

Henderson, Kim N FIN:EX; Menzies, Brian FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX; Edwardson, Jamie GCPE:EX; Farkas, George FIN:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Mirza, Sadaf

FIN:EX; Latham, David FIN:EX; Foster, Doug FIN:EX

Subject:

Attachments:

Fw: Scotiabank Economics: British Columbia's 2016-17 Budget British Columbia 2016-17 Budget (February 16, 2016).pdf

Fyi...constructive review

lim

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Mary Webb (Economics) < mary.webb@scotiabank.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 5:08 AM

Subject: Scotlabank Economics: British Columbia's 2016-17 Budget

Please see Fiscal Flash: British Columbia 2016-17 Budget attached.

Mary Webb | MBA CFA | Director, Economic & Fiscal Policy

Scotiabank | Economics

Scotia Plaza, 40 King Street West, 63rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario Canada M5H 1H1

T: 1.416.866.4202 M: 1.416.301,3194 mary webb@scotiabank.com scotiabank.com

Scotiabank is a business name used by The Bank of Nova Scotia

This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential or privileged information. If you are not an intended recipient, do not re-send, copy or use this e-mail. Please also contact the sender immediately and delete this e-mail in its entirety. Privilege is not waived by reason of mistaken delivery to you. The Bank of Nova Scotia (Scotiabank) and its affiliates accept no liability whatsoever for loss or damage in relation to this e-mail and may monitor, retain and/or review email. Opinions expressed in this e-mail are those of the author and may not represent the opinions of The Bank of Nova Scotia (Scotiabank) and its affiliates. Trading instructions received by e-mail or voicemail will not be acted upon.

To unsubscribe from receiving further Commercial Electronic Messages click here.

Pour obtenir la traduction en français cliquant ici.

Traducción en español clic aquí.

Page 11 to/à Page 12

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 7:53 AM

Ta:

Henderson, Kim N FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX; Farkas, George FIN:EX; Edwardson, Jamie GCPE:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX; Latham, David

FIN:EX; Foster, Doug FIN:EX

Subject:

Fw: British Columbia budget shows stable path (February 16, 2016)

Attachments:

BCBud16.pdf

Fyi. good review

Cheers Jum

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: CIBCMacroStrategy, Mallbox <Mailbox.CIBCMacroStrategy@cibc.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 5:02 AM

Subject: British Columbia budget shows stable path (February 16, 2016)

CIBC World Markets Inc.

Macro Strategy

British Columbia budget shows stable path (February 16, 2016)

Non-violet	
Copyright	
@ CIRC Morld Markets inc. All tights reserved. I Inquito	rized use, distribution, dealication or disclosure without the prior written
nermission of CIBC World Markets Inc. is prohibited and	rized use, distribution, duplication or disclosure without the prior written I may result in prosecution.
politicosoff of the control of the c	, ,

Page 15 to/à Page 17

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 10:19 AM

To:

Edwardson, Jamie GCPE:EX; Henderson, Kim N FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX;

Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Farkas, George FIN:EX

Subject:

FW: Bloomberg Articles on BC's Budget

Attachments:

(8N) British Columbia Imposes Citizenship Disclosure for Home Buyers; (8N) British

Columbia Projects Three Consecutive Budget Surpluses

A couple of more articles from Bloomberg

Thx Jim

From:

Jacqueline Rawluk (PROVINCE OF BRITISH) < jrawluk@bloomberg.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:18 AM

To:

Rawluk, Jacqueline FIN:EX

Subject:

(BN) British Columbia Imposes Citizenship Disclosure for Home Buyers

British Columbia Imposes Citizenship Disclosure for Home Buyers 2016-02-16 22:31:31.627 GMT

By Jeremy van Loon and Katia Dmitrieva

Copyright

To contact the reporters on this story:

Jeremy van Loon in Calgary at ivanloon@bloomberg.net;

Katia Dmitrieva in Toronto at edmitrieval@bloomberg.net

To contact the editors responsible for this story:

David Scanlan at dscanlan@bloomberg.net

Jacqueline Thorpe, Chris Fournier

From:

Jacqueline Rawluk (PROVINCE OF BRITISH) <jrawluk@bloomberg.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:16 AM

To:

Rawluk, Jacqueline FIN:EX

Subject:

(BN) British Columbia Projects Three Consecutive Budget Surpluses

British Columbia Projects Three Consecutive Budget Surpluses 2016-02-16 23:09:03.653 GMT

By Jeremy van Loon

Copyright

To contact the reporter on this story:

Jeremy van Loon in Calgary at jvanloon@bloomberg.net
To contact the editors responsible for this story:
David Scanlan at dscanlan@bloomberg.net
Theophilos Argitis

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 10:48 AM

To:

Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Galbraith, David J FIN:EX; Henderson, Kim N

FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX

Subject:

FW: CMHC Presentation in Boston.

Attachments:

CMHC Deck - Boston Lunch Feb 29 2016.pdf

Fyi

From: Williams, Grant [mailto:Grant.Williams@bmo.com]

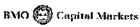
Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2016 7:10 AM Subject: CMHC Presentation in Boston.

Interesting reading on the Canadian housing market.

Grant

Grant Williams

Managing Director | Co-Head of Government and SSA Origination Fixed Income, Currencies and Commodities 100 King Street West | 3rd Floor Podium | Toronto, ON, M5X 1H3 T: 416.359.4345 | F: 416.359.1636 | C: 416.456.8155 grant.williams@bmo.com



We're here to help.

This e-mail and any attachments may contain confidential and privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, delete this e-mail and destroy any copies. Any dissemination or use of this information by a person other than the intended recipient is unauthorized and may be illegal. Unless otherwise stated, opinions expressed in this e-mail are those of the author and are not endorsed by the author's employer.

Le présent message, ainsi que tout fichier qui y est joint, est envoyé à l'intention exclusive de son ou de ses destinataires; il est de nature confidentielle et peut constituer une information privilégiée. Nous avertissons toute personne autre que te destinataire prévu que tout examen, réacheminement, impression, copie, distribution ou autre utilisation de ce message et de tout fichier qui y est joint est strictement interdit. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire prévu, veuillez en aviser immédiatement f'expéditeur par retour de courriel et supprimer ce message et tout document joint de votre système. Sauf indication contraîre, les opinions exprimées dans le présent message sont celles de l'auteur et ne sont pas avalisées per l'employeur de l'auteur.

Page 27 to/à Page 49

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

From:

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Sent:

Saturday, March 5, 2016 8:09 AM

To:

Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX; Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Galbraith, David J FIN:EX; Henderson, Kim N

FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX

Subject:

Fw: House Price Index for BC, Regions, and Greater Vancouver

Attachments:

Vancouver and Surrounding - Det.pdf; Vancouver and Surrounding - Apt.pdf; BC and

Regional Housing Conditions v2.pdf

Further to a call with FICOM Friday, they shared this analysis of housing in the province and gives a more balanced view and one which contrasts with the headlines

Cheers Jim

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

From: Rastan, Mehrdad FIN:EX < Mehrdad.Rastan@ficombc.ca>

Sent: Friday, March 4, 2016 5:26 PM

To: Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX

Cc: Chong, Frank FIN:EX; Rogers, Carolyn FIN:EX

Subject: House Price Index for BC, Regions, and Greater Vancouver

Hí Jim,

You can see from the attached charts that what you hear in the news is certainly not the most accurate nor fulsome picture of what is going on with housing in BC, its regions, and the Vancouver region. Also as shown in the table below, Vancouver's 2015 detached sales account for only 13% of all sales in the Lower Mainland/Southwest region:

2015	Vancouver Sales	LM/SW Region Sales	Vancouver's Share of Total LM/SW Region
Detached	4,006	30,180	13%
Attached	1,265	14,305	9%
Apartment/Condo	8,641	27,398	32%
Total	13,912	71,883	19%

I have attached 3 files:

- "BC and Regional Housing Conditions" Housing Price Index (HPI), sales, and HPI growth rates for BC and its 8 development regions
 - Most regions behave differently from each other and the BC average
- "Vancouver and Surrounding Det." HPI charts for detached homes in Vancouver and other surrounding cities
 - o Abbotsford, Surrey, Langley and Coquitlam show very modest growth over the past 5 years.
 - These cities account for a significant percentage of the population and number of houses in the GVRD
- "Vancouver and Surrounding Apt." HPI charts for apartments and condos in Vancouver and other surrounding cities
 - o Abbotsford, Langley, Coquitlam, and West Vancouver show negative growth over the past 5 years

In general, the farther a city is from Vancouver, the lower its price growth rate.

City	Distance from Vancouver (km)
West Vancouver	7 .

Richmond	13
Coquitiam	24
Surrey	31
Langley	47
Abbotsford	63

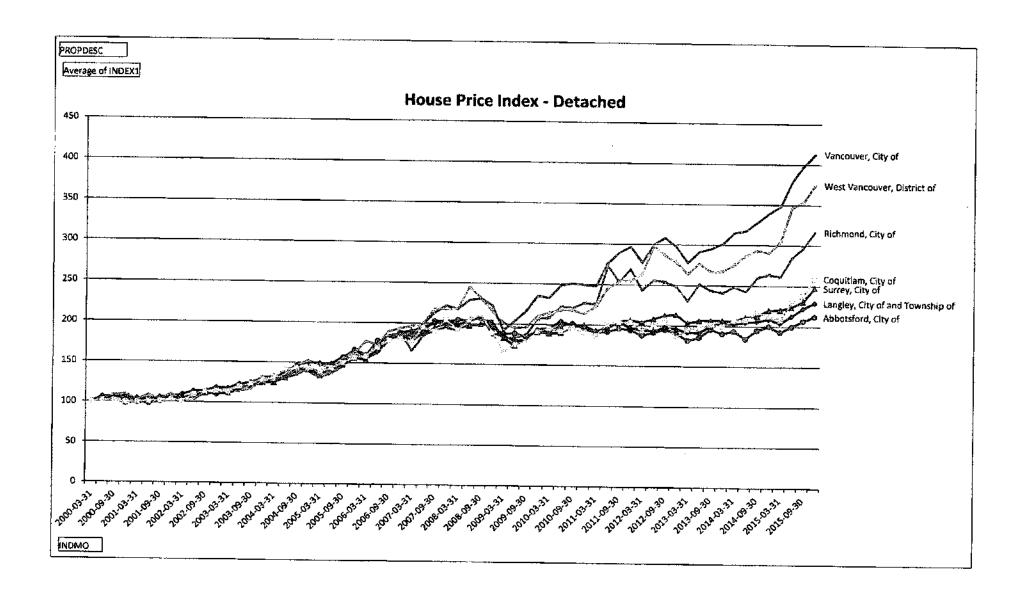
If you have any questions about the charts, would like more information, or would like to set up a call with us and the rating agencies, let us know and we would be happy to help.

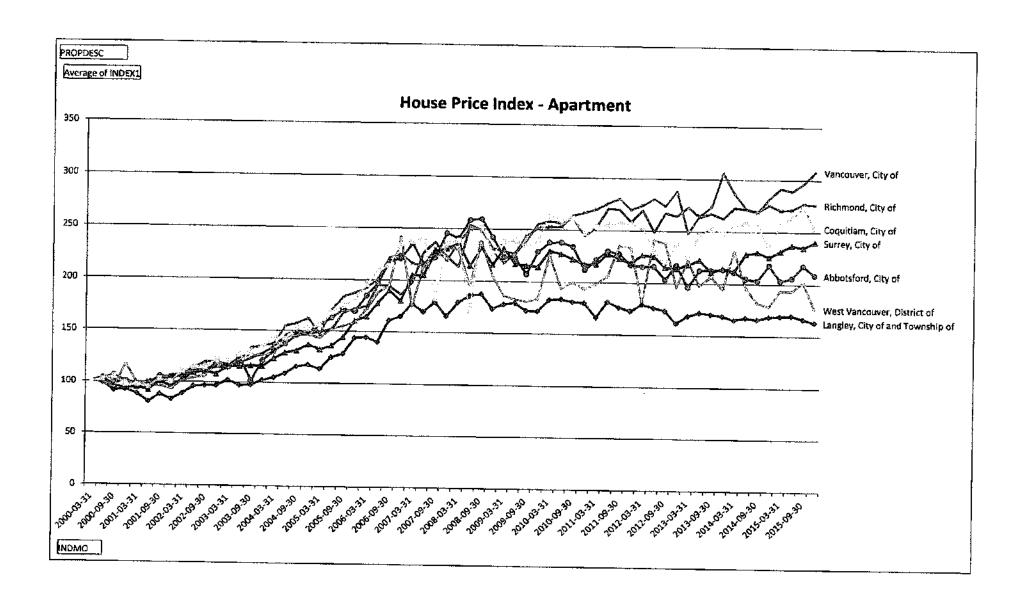
Have a great weekend Jim.

Mehrdad

Mehrdad Rastan, Executive Director, Risk, Analytics & Reporting Financial Institutions Commission - Ministry of Finance 2800-555 West Hastings Street | Vancouver, BC | V6B 4N6 Phone 604.306.2714| Fax 604.660.3365 www.fic.gov.bc.ca

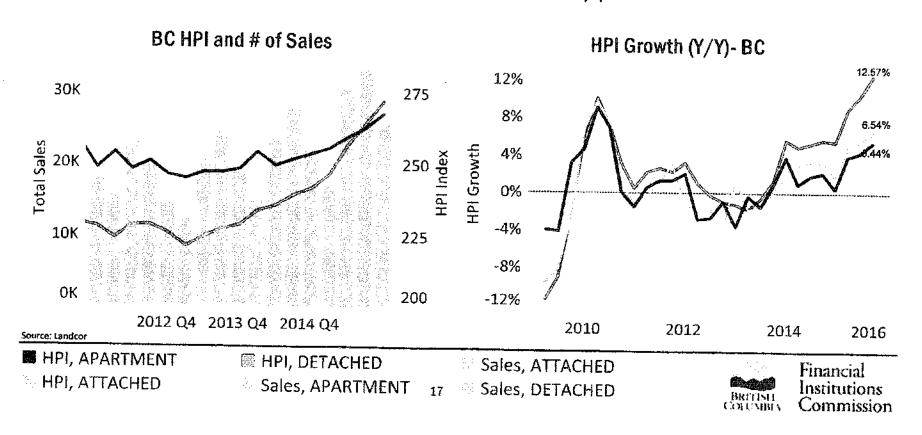
Unless otherwise agreed expressly is writing by the author, this communication is to be treated as confidential and the information in it may not be user, or inschessed except for the pulmone for utable 4 has been send at its interced only for the usu of the person to which it is addressed. Any distribution copyrights used by arrange case is droughout distribution for the received truster and exercise the pulmone due immediately and desirely this decrease the entering please telephone cue immediately and desirely this decrease.





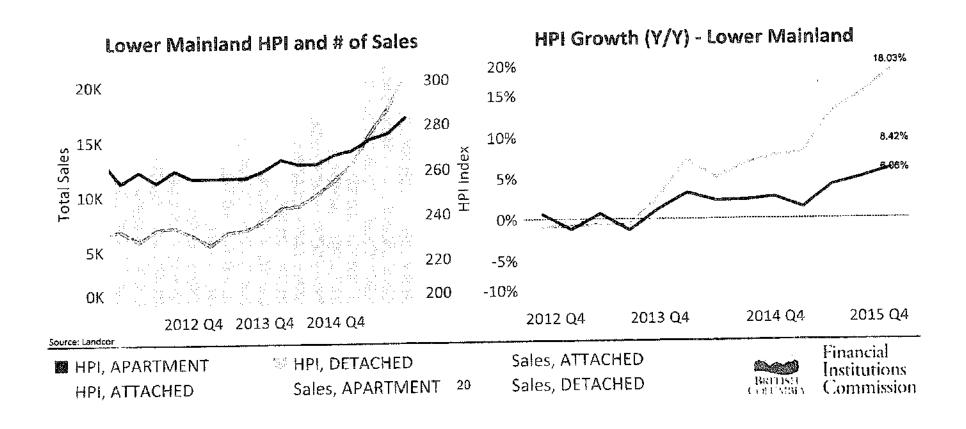
B.C. housing market growth trends higher

- Seller's market condition led by LM/SW and Vancouver Island/Coast
- Strong demand boosts construction trends
- Weak regional housing markets due to low commodity prices



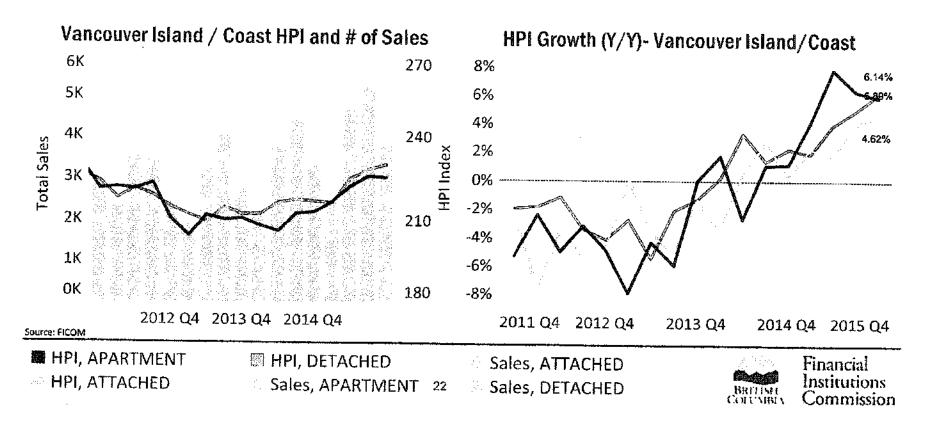
LM/SW region exhibits seller's condition

- Land constraints led to strong increase in detached housing
- Shift towards more affordable multi-family properties



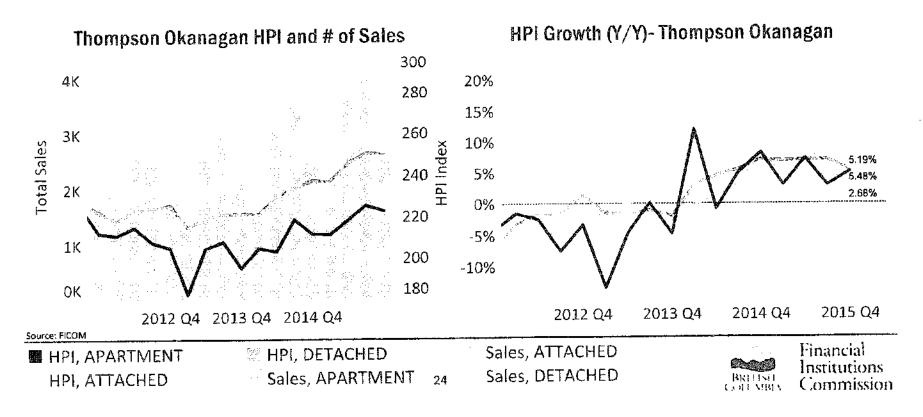
VI-Coast housing exhibits seller's condition

- Low interest rates and inventories boost sales and prices
- Spillover effect from Lower Mainland
- More constructions expected to meet demand



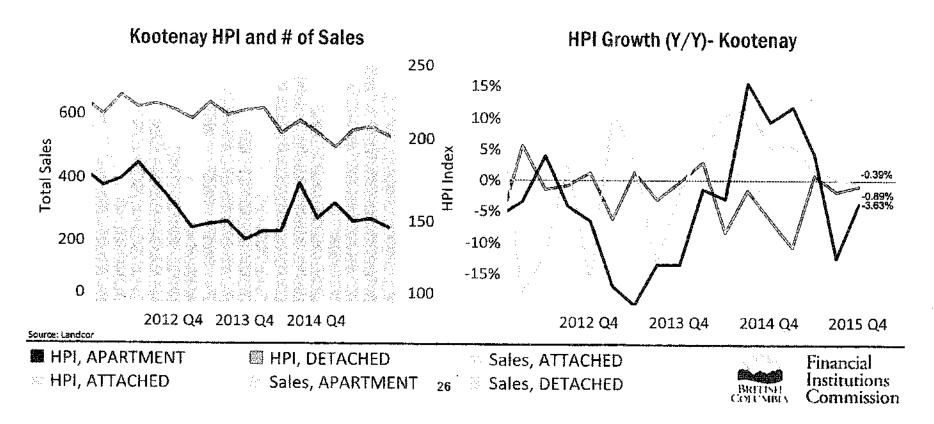
TO housing market exhibits balanced condition

- Growth in sales and constructions due to low interest rates and population growth
- Economic downturn in Alberta impacting secondary housing market
- Given the region's growth, price and sales levels are anticipated to increase



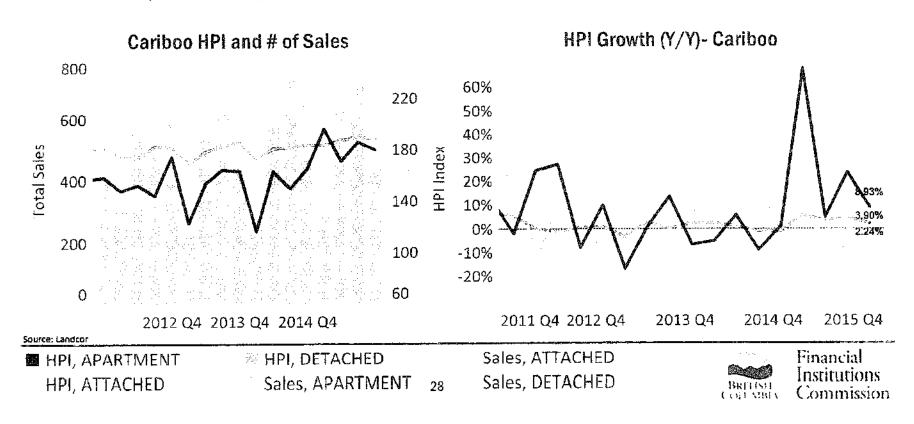
KO housing market affected by slowing economy

- Housing market dependent on resource and tourism sectors
- Low demand and excess inventories exert downward pressure on prices
- Spillover effect from Alberta impacts secondary housing market



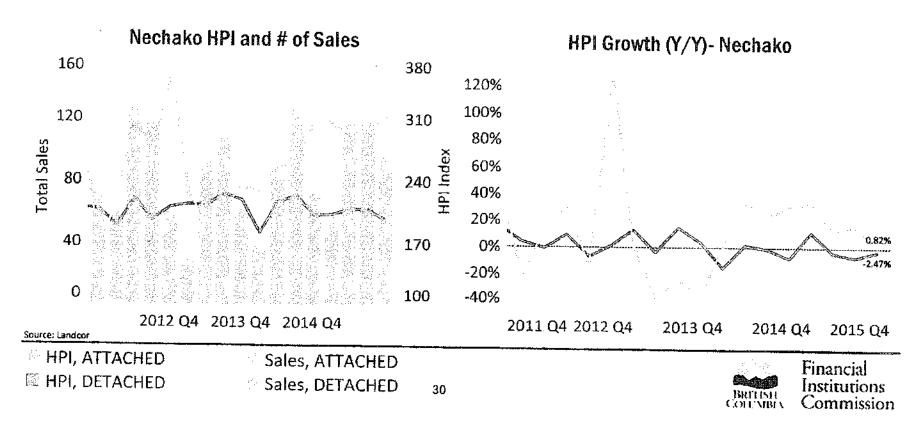
Cariboo housing exhibits balanced conditions

- Highest level of transactions in a year since 2008
- Positive sales and price growth in 2015
- Uncertainty in forestry and mining sectors and weak population outlook a drag



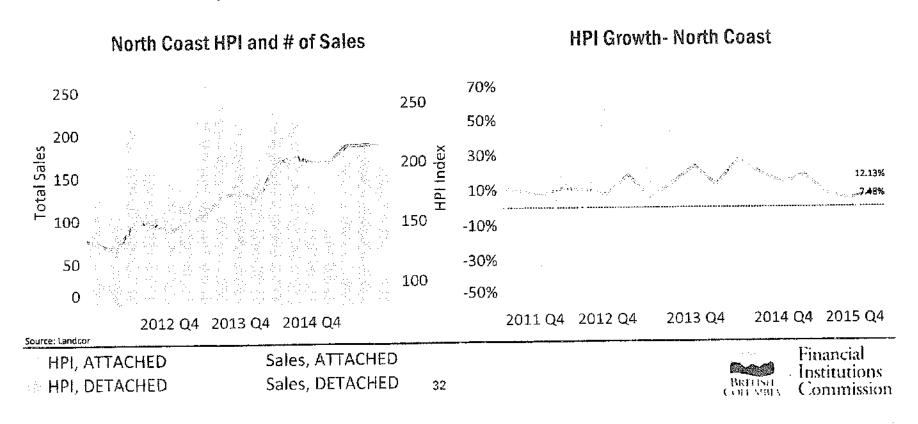
Nechako housing exhibits balanced condition

- Sales activity and price have been subdued since the recession
- Sales are trending higher while price is declining slightly
- Activity should increase in 2016 due to stronger growth in the North



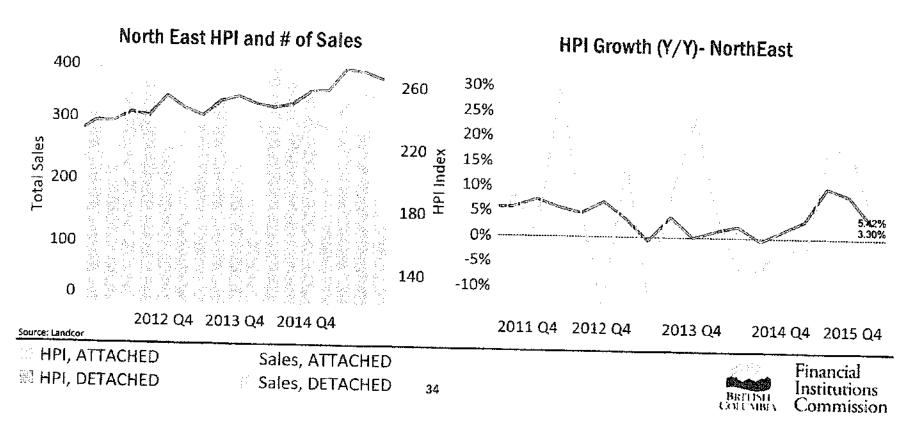
NC volume recovers after declines in Q2 and Q3

- Housing activity in 2015 slowed sharply after surge in sales activity in 2014
- Price of detached housing trended higher despite lower volumes
- Market should improve as economic conditions pick up in 2016



Northeast housing saw volume shrink in 2015

- Increased volatility due to LNG activities
- Sales activity declined due to slower economic growth but expected to pick up
- Prices continue to increase due to demand for new homes



Wharf, Sandy PREM:EX

From:

Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX

Sent:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 9:38 AM Riley, Dave FIN:EX; Mirza, Sadaf FIN:EX

To:

Latham, David FIN:EX; MacLean, Shelley FIN:EX; Mentzelopoulos, Athana JTST:EX;

Hopkins, Jim FIN:EX; Henderson, Kim N FIN:EX; Farkas, George FIN:EX

Subject:

Questions for Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday,

February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30 PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hello Dave and Sadaf,

I have assigned the questions below among you and Debt Management; please provide answers for briefing the Minister at the pre-Investor call meeting at 7:50 am tomorrow.

Regards

Neil

From: Stewart, Hugh [mailto:Hugh.Stewart@nbc.ca] **Sent:** Wednesday, February 17, 2016 7:28 AM

To: Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX

Cc: Hashimoto, Steven; Latham, David FIN:EX; XT:Marion, Stefane FIN:IN

Subject: RE: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30

PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hi Neil,

Listed below are some potential questions that may arise from the call:

- 1) Given rising refinancing requirements in 2017-18 and 2018-19, would you consider actively pre-funding some future requirements in the coming year assuming market conditions are favourable? **Neil Philadelphia**
- 2) It seems every province has a list of priorities they'd like to see the federal government address. What areas or policies would you like to see the federal government take action on in upcoming federal budget? Dave Riley
- 3) The federal budget is expected to deliver meaningful fiscal stimulus. How much uncertainty does this add to the BC fiscal plan? Can you give us a sense as to how much the profile for capital spending and/or federal transfers change? Dave Riley
- 4) Regarding the Prosperity Fund, is there a commitment to funneling any additional improvement in the 2015-16 surplus into the Fund. Will you consider a strict formula for making deposits to this fund. Dave Riley
- 5) Will the "Prosperity Fund" be focused on reducing debt going forward or will it's focus broaden over time? Dave Riley
- 6) Could you give us an update on the LNG industry, including how key milestones ahead and what risk this may or may not pose to the economic and fiscal outlook?**Sadfaf Mirza**
- 7) If global economic weakness persists going forward, how do you think it will affect the Province? Sadfaf Mirza

- 8) How much of an impact do you expect the new property transfer tax system on housing activity? Should we be concerned about a hard landing in BC's housing market? Sadfaf Mirza
- 9) Will the collection of more data on foreign home buying lead to any changes / action by the government? Dave Riley
- 10) After your Panda Bond earlier this year, do you expect to issue debt in other currencies going forward?Neil Philadelphia

Let us know if you have any questions, Hugh

From: Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX [mailto:Neil.Philadelphia@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:02 PM

To: Stewart, Hugh

Cc: Hashimoto, Steven; Latham, David FIN:EX

Subject: RE: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30

PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hi Hugh,

Do you think that you will be able to forward the questions for the call by end of day on the 16th?

We are thinking this will give our folks just enough time to adequately prepare their answers.

Cheers

Neil

From: Stewart, Hugh [mailto:Hugh.Stewart@nbc.ca]

Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2016 11:41 AM

To: Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX

Cc: Hashimoto, Steven; Latham, David FIN:EX

Subject: RE: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30

PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hi Neil.

Attached is the list of domestic syndicate contacts that we sent the invite too. Our sales force has also forwarded along the invite to all of their investor contacts as well.

Thanks,

Hugh

From: Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX [mailto:Neil.Philadelphia@gov.bc.ca]

Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 2:19 PM

To: Stewart, Hugh

Cc: Hashimoto, Steven; Latham, David FIN:EX

Subject: RE: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30

PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hi Hugh,

Thanks for sending these off.

Is it possible to share the invite list with me?

I will forward it to the International folks today.

Cheers

Neil

From: Stewart, Hugh [mailto:Hugh.Stewart@nbc.ca] Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2016 11:38 AM

To: Philadelphia, Neil FIN:EX

Cc: Hashimoto, Steven; Latham, David FIN:EX

Subject: FW: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30

PST / 4:30 (London UK)

Hi Neil,

The following invite has now been sent to the domestic syndicate.

Thanks, Hugh

From: NBF Government Finance

Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 2:36 PM

Subject: Province of British Columbia - Investor Conference Call - Thursday, February 18, 2016 @ 11:30 EST / 8:30 PST

/ 4:30 (London UK)

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia's global underwriting syndicates, we are pleased to invite you to participate in a conference call with the Honourable Michael de Jong, Q.C., Minister of Finance, Province of British Columbia, to discuss the release of the Province's 2016 Budget.

DATE:

Thursday, February 18, 2016

TIME:

11:30 a.m. EST 8:30 a.m. PST 4:30 p.m. London UK

CONFERENCE CALL NAME:

Province of British Columbia 2016 Budget Update Address

RESERVATION NUMBER:

4235523

DIAL-IN NUMBER:

Toll-Free (Canada/US):

866-862-3930 416-340-2217

Local: UK:

00-80042228835 001-80042228835

Hong Kong & Singapore:

0011-80042228835

Australia: Passcode:

5972151

PLAY-BACK1:

Toll-Free (Canada/US):

800-408-3053

Local:

905-694-9451

Passcode:

1630005

¹Playback will be available from February 18th to February 24th, 2016

The Minister will provide a brief summary and overview of the Budget followed by a question and answer session. The call will be hosted by Warren Lovely, Managing Director and Head of Public Sector Research & Strategy, NBF.

Participants will be required to provide the conference call name as well as their name and company prior to being admitted to the call. We look forward to your participation.



Sunil Bhutani I Managing Director and Head, Government Finance and Syndication I National Bank Financial I 416-869-8636 | 416-419-8480 (Mobile)

Sales and Marketing Disclosures http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_english.jhtml http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_french.jhtml

CONFIDENTIALITÉ: Ce document est destiné uniquement à la personne ou à l'entité à qui il est adressé. L'information apparaissant dans ce document est de nature légalement privilégiée et confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire visé ou la personne chargée de le remettre à son destinataire, vous êtes, par la présente, avisé que toute lecture, usage, copie ou communication du contenu de ce document est strictement interdit. De plus, vous êtes prié de communiquer avec l'expéditeur sans délai ou d'écrire à confidentialite@bnc.ca et de détruire ce document immédiatement.

avec respectiteur sans delay ou d'ecrire a <u>commertiante connecte</u> et de detrante de document infinite document is intended in this document is legally CONFIDENTIALITY: This document is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. The information contained in this document is legally privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby advised that you are strictly prohibited from reading, using, copying or disseminating the contents of this document. Please Inform the sender immediately or write to <u>confidentiality@nbc.ca</u> and delete this document immediately.

Sales and Marketing Disclosures http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_english.jhtml http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_french.jhtml

CONFIDENTIALITÉ: Ce document est destiné uniquement à la personne ou à l'entité à qui il est adressé. L'information apparaissant dans ce document est de nature légalement privilégiée et confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire visé ou la personne chargée de le remettre à son destinataire, vous êtes, par la présente, avisé que toute lecture, usage, copie ou communication du contenu de ce document est strictement interdit. De plus, vous êtes prié de communiquer avec l'expéditeur sans détai ou d'écrire à confidentialité@bnc.ca et de détruire ce document immédiatement.

avec rexpediteur sans usar on a come a <u>complementagementa</u> et de debune de document immediatement.

CONFIDENTIALITY: This document is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. The information contained in this document is legally privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby advised that you are strictly prohibited from reading, using, copying or disseminating the contents of this document. Please inform the sender immediately or write to <u>confidentiality@nbc.ca</u> and delate this document immediately.

Sales and Marketing Disclosures http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_english.jhtml http://www.nbcn.ca/disclosure_french.jhtml

CONFIDENTIALITÉ: Ce document est destiné uniquement à la personne ou à l'entité à qui il est adressé. L'information apparaissant dans ce document est de nature légalement privilégiée et confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire visé ou la personne chargée de le remetire à son destinataire, vous êtes, par la présente, avisé que toute lecture, usage, copie ou communication du contenu de ce document est strictement interdif. De plus, vous êtes prié de communiquer présente, avisé que toute lecture, usage, copie ou communique de déroire ce document immédiatement.

avec l'expéditeur sans délai ou d'écrire à <u>confidentialite@bnc.ce</u> et de détruire ce document immédiatement.
CONFIDENTIALITY: This document is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. The information contained in this document is tegally privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient or the person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby advised that you are strictly prohibited from reading, using, copying or disseminating the contents of this document. Please inform the sender immediately or write to <u>confidentiality@nbc.cs</u> and delete this document immediately.

2016-61291

Ministry of Finance

BRIEFING DOCUMENT

To:

Honourable Michael de Jong, Q.C. Date Requested: February 23 2016

Minister of Finance

Executive Director

Initiated by: Paul Flanagan

Date Prepared:

March 3 2016

Ministry

Steve Hawkshaw

Phone Number:

250 387 7364

Contact:

Tax Policy Analyst

Email: Steve.Hawkshaw@gov.bc.ca

Cliff#:

349871

TITLE:

BC Housing Affordability Fund Proposal

PURPOSE:

(X) FOR INFORMATION

COMMENTS: The province has received a proposal to introduce a new tax that would target property owners with limited economic or social ties to Canada and property owners who leave residential property vacant. The revenues would then be directed to a housing affordability fund.

DATE PREPARED: March 3, 2016

TITLE:

BC Housing Affordability Fund Proposal

ISSUE:

Whether to introduce a new property tax targeting property owners with limited economic or social ties to Canada and property owners

who leave residential property vacant.

BACKGROUND:

The province has received a proposal to introduce a new tax that would target property owners with limited economic or social ties to Canada and property owners who leave residential property vacant. The goal of the new tax would be to:

"[make] British Columbia a better place to live and work, by making B.C. a less attractive target for investors who wish to avoid taxation or park cash in residential real estate."

The authors of the proposal define "limited economic or social ties" to mean those who do not pay (or pay a modest amount) of Canadian and Provincial income tax.

The new tax would take the form of a 1.5 per cent property tax levied on all residential property in a given region or municipality. For comparison, the average annual property tax rate for residential property located in a municipality (including provincial and municipal levies) is approximately 0.5 per cent.

The application of the tax would then be narrowed by a series of offsets and exemptions in order to only apply to property owners who do not pay a sufficient amount of federal and provincial income tax, or property owners who fall into certain exempt categories.

The proposed offsets and exemptions are as follows:

- 1. A dollar for dollar offset would be provided for federal and provincial income taxes paid by all members of a household. The rationale for using income tax is that income taxes are a proxy for contributing to the "local economy".
- Veterans and those living with them would be exempt.
- Disabled persons and those living with them would be exempt.
- Canadian residents receiving CPP plan benefits or Old Age Security would be exempt.

- 5. Individuals who have resided in their current home for a significant number of years would be exempt from paying the tax on their current home, in order to protect long-time residents of a community. Additionally, they suggest that this could be a lifetime benefit, once an individual qualifies as a long term resident they would exempt in any home they occupy.
- 6. Occupied rental properties would also be exempted from the surcharge. The proposal suggests either using an offset based on gross rental revenue reported to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), or a complete exemption, provided some minimum amount of rental income is reported to the CRA. An income averaging mechanism is suggested to deal with temporary vacancies.

The goal of these offsets and exemptions would be to target owners of vacant properties, owners of multiple properties, and those who own property but do not pay a significant amount of income tax, such as so called satellite families.

Although not clear from the proposal, it is likely that the authors envision the program will be administered in a similar fashion as the home owner grant program. A taxpayer would receive their property tax notice and then apply online for an offset based on the amount of income tax they have paid, or indicate their eligibility for an exemption. Data would then be provided from the CRA to the Property Taxation Branch for audit and enforcement purposes.

Revenues from this tax would be distributed as lump-sum payments to all Canadian tax filers in a given region or municipality, or that they be used to reduce provincial tax rates. According to the proposal, this would help offset the cost of living in BC. A tax on vacant properties in the City of Vancouver could raise between \$90 and \$100 million.

DISCUSSION:

s.13

Page 4 to/à Page 6

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Appendix; s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

- Ontario implemented two measures aimed at curbing house price inflation in the 1970s.
 - o A 20 per cent transfer tax on non-residents of Canada s.13,s.16
 - An income tax on land speculation aimed at short term speculators (flippers).
 - o The taxes were enacted in 1974 and repealed by 1978...
 - The 20 per cent rate for non-residents remained for the acquisition of certain land (farmland) until 1997.

The 20 per cent land transfer tax on non-residents

 This imposed a 20 per cent tax upon the acquisition of property in Ontario by non-residents of Canada.

s.13,s.16

The tax was imposed at a rate of 20 per cent (initially 50 per cent) of the excess of proceeds of disposition over the adjusted cost of acquisition, if property was sold before ten years s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

Page 8

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.13