

## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** October 7, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX; MacDonald, Alex MMHA:EX  
**Cc:** Lawson, Liam FIN:EX; Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX; Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: QP - Budget management  
**Attachments:** NR

NR  
IN\_Rural Dividend  
Fund 2019 reallocation\_Interior forest worker supports\_Sep 19\_425 PM.docx;NR  
NR

We have a few INs that may help:  
s.13

- Rural Dividend (FLNRO)
- s.13

Nada on the ones below:

- Forestry
- s.13

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**From:** Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX  
**Sent:** October 4, 2019 5:41 PM  
**To:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX ; MacDonald, Alex MMHA:EX  
**Cc:** Lawson, Liam FIN:EX ; Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX ; Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX ; Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: QP - Budget management

Forgot two:

Forestry  
Rural Dividend

----- Original message -----

From: "Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX" <[Robyn.Spilker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.Spilker@gov.bc.ca)>

Date: 2019-10-04 5:36 p.m. (GMT-08:00)

To: "Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX" <[Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca)>, "MacDonald, Alex MMHA:EX" <[Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca)>

Cc: "Lawson, Liam FIN:EX" <[Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca)>, "Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX" <[Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca)>, "Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX" <[Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca)>, "Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX" <[Chandler.Grieve@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chandler.Grieve@gov.bc.ca)>

Subject: FW: QP - Budget management

Hi again,

MCJ has her QP binder for the weekend!

Here's the list of outstanding notes (mostly lead by other Ministers) that we're hoping to add to the binder when they are ready.

s.13

If you need anything, just let me know.

Thanks,  
Robyn

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**From:** Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX

**Sent:** October 4, 2019 4:27 PM

**To:** MacDonald, Alex MMHA:EX <[Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Alex.MacDonald@gov.bc.ca)>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <[Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca)>

**Cc:** Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX <[Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca)>; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX <[Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** QP - Budget management

Hi folks,

Here's where I got to before the 430 meeting.

I'll likely format and give this to MCJ today, but appreciate your help tightening it up for Monday.

Thanks!  
Robyn

**Robyn Spilker**

Senior Ministerial Assistant

Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier

778-974-5995

## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

Date: September 19, 2019

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

# Rural Dividend Program – Fund Reallocation

## ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

## KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

On Sep. 19, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development sent letters to all Rural Dividend Fund applicants under the Jun. 15 – Aug. 15, 2019 intake period informing them that these applications were suspended.

A total of 332 applications with a total dollar value of \$33,939,501 have been suspended. Project applications ranged from approximately \$10,000 to \$500,000.

Additionally, six special circumstances applications totaling \$1,573,304 have also been suspended and the funding reallocated. These funding requests range from \$97,600 to \$499,261 (average request is \$269,959).

Funding for the Rural Dividend Program is being temporarily reallocated to address the near-term needs of workers, contractors and communities impacted by Interior mill closures and curtailments.

Recognizing that communities are important partners in the delivery of services for workers and contractors, interior communities addressing a permanent closure will receive \$100,000, communities addressing an indefinite full-facility closure will receive \$75,000, and communities dealing with a shift reduction will have access to a pool of funding to provide defined services for impacted community members.

s.13

Communications Contact:	Glen Plummer	250 952-0559
Program Area Contact:	Lori Henderson	778 698-7870
	Sarah Fraser	778 698-7253

File Location:
----------------

Program Area	GCPE	ADM	Minister's Office

## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Robb, Katie GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** September 23, 2019 9:29 AM  
**To:** Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX  
**Cc:** Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX; Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: UBCM/key messages on Forest Worker Support  
**Attachments:** KMs and info - forest worker support programs [1].docx

### Katie Robb

Communications Director | Ministry of Finance  
Government Communications & Public Engagement  
O: [250.953.4865](tel:250.953.4865) | M: [250.920.8371](tel:250.920.8371)

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**From:** LeGuilloux, Marg GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 6:20 PM  
**To:** GCPE Comm Directors; GCPE Comm Managers  
**Subject:** UBCM/key messages on Forest Worker Support

The announcement by government last Tuesday on support for forest workers, contractors and communities is likely to generate questions and discussion at UBCM.

The attached note has been approved by the PO as a common message on the worker assistance program, if your Min requires any messaging support on it.

Thanks all.



### Marg LeGuilloux

Executive Director, Communications  
Social Ministries

Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Government of British Columbia  
Cell: 778-584-1259  
Office: 778-698-8926  
[marg.leguilloux@gov.bc.ca](mailto:marg.leguilloux@gov.bc.ca)

## Program Overview – Forest Worker Support Programming

- \$69 million in funding has been reallocated from existing programs to support forest workers impacted by closures/curtailments in the interior forest sector

### Key messages:

- Details on all programs will be available shortly, website is <https://forestryworkersupport.gov.bc.ca/>
- s.13

### Program details:

#### 1) \$40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for age-eligible workers

##### Responsible agency: Ministry of Labour

- The program will provide up to \$75,000 per eligible worker, cost shared with industry. Government funding augments the amount that industry provides based on individual company / worker circumstances, tenure, severance eligibility.
- To be eligible, workers must be 55 or older, and either an impacted employee from a permanent closure, an indefinite curtailment, or a curtailment of longer than four months duration.
- Workers that are not currently impacted, but are 55 or older can also voluntarily transition to retirement if their resignation will create a confirmed spot for a younger, impacted worker
- It is anticipated that information will be made available to companies and workers both through targeted outreach and web and community-based information before the end of September.

#### 2) \$2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted workers on an individual basis

##### Responsible agency: Ministry of Labour

- This office will be overseen by the Ministry of Labour – but will primarily be run through a contract with Frank Everitt, former USW President in Prince George, who has considerable history in earlier cycles of forest industry contraction and expansion and is a recognizable name for impacted workers and forestry communities.
- The office will have a physical presence (possibly multiple locations) in proximity to impacted communities and will provide support for placement coordination and linkage with government programs and services.
- The work of this office will augment the existing services and programs provided by government and provide a specialized focus on individual worker outcomes.

#### 3) \$15 million to establish a short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects

**Responsible agency: FLNRORD**

- The ministry will work with other agencies, to identify projects that can provide work opportunities for impacted contractors
- Details of the process for contractors to access this work will be established and communicated by end of September

**4) \$12 million to fund new worker training, and enhanced community mental health support programs**

**Responsible agencies: AEST, SDPR, with some coordination support through Labour and CITZ (ServiceBC)**

- No new programs will be created, rather a dedicated allocation of funding for impacted workers will be communicated through the main Forest Worker Support page (Ministry of Labour/FLNRORD joint page, links to specific programs of relevance)
- The goal of making the dedicated funding available is to highlight the most relevant areas of training and support for the workers, and provide links to these specific sites through the main worker support website
- WorkBC and ServiceBC staff in the regions will also receive information and briefing to ensure they can provide tailored support to forest workers and direct them to relevant programming

**5) Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer, including permanent mill closure, indefinite curtailment or permanent / indefinite shift reduction.**

**Responsible agency: FLNRORD**

- This work links with the ongoing work of FLNRORD's regional teams
- Work of this branch will continue to include community transition/adjustment
- The direct funding to heavily impacted communities will acknowledge and support the additional resource/services that communities have been providing to workers/citizens since impact
- Currently three communities have permanent closures: Clearwater / Vavenby, Quesnel and Clinton (Chasm)
- 4 communities have indefinite curtailments: 100 Mile – Kelowna – Mackenzie - Fort St. John, and many others are dealing with a shift reduction.

## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Robb, Katie GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** September 23, 2019 10:12 AM  
**To:** Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX  
**Cc:** Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX; Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: IN\_Rural Dividend Fund 2019 reallocation\_Interior forest worker supports\_Sep 19\_3 PM  
**Attachments:** IN\_Rural Dividend Fund 2019 reallocation\_Interior forest worker supports\_Sep 19\_425 PM.docx; ATT00001.htm

In case you haven't received yet and given the Twitter/opposition chatter

### Katie Robb

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## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

Date: September 19, 2019

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

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s.13

Communications Contact:	Glen Plummer	250 952-0559
Program Area Contact:	Lori Henderson	778 698-7870
	Sarah Fraser	778 698-7253

File Location:
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Program Area	GCPE	ADM	Minister's Office

## Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX

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**From:** Robb, Katie GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** September 24, 2019 7:54 AM  
**To:** Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: TNO: Vaughn Palmer - Forestry aid package comes with trade-off - Vancouver Sun

One for this morning...see MDDs comments third to last paragraph

### Katie Robb

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[tno@gov.bc.ca](mailto:tno@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** September 24, 2019 at 03:43:06 PDT  
**To:** Undisclosed recipients;;  
**Subject:** TNO: Vaughn Palmer - Forestry aid package comes with trade-off - Vancouver Sun

**Forestry aid package comes with trade-off**  
Vancouver Sun  
24-Sep-2019  
Page A09  
By Vaughn Palmer

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## Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX

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**From:** Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX  
**Sent:** September 24, 2019 2:08 PM  
**To:** Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: KM/QA

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Robb, Katie GCPE:EX" <[Katie.Robb@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Katie.Robb@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** September 24, 2019 at 1:20:48 PM PDT  
**To:** "Lawson, Liam FIN:EX" <[Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca)>, "Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX" <[Robyn.Spilker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robyn.Spilker@gov.bc.ca)>, "Bretscher, Paul FIN:EX" <[Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Paul.Bretscher@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Youngs, Kirsten R GCPE:EX" <[Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kirsten.Youngs@gov.bc.ca)>, "Grieve, Chandler GCPE:EX" <[Chandler.Grieve@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chandler.Grieve@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: KM/QA

FYI - the latest from flnro

**Katie Robb**  
Communications Director | Ministry of Finance  
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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Haslam, David GCPE:EX" <[David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca](mailto:David.Haslam@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** September 24, 2019 at 13:19:50 PDT  
**To:** GCPE Comm Directors <[PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:PABDirectors@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** GCPE Comm Managers <[GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:GCPECM@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca)>, "Zadravec, Don GCPE:EX" <[Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Don.Zadravec@gov.bc.ca)>, "Farmer, Leila GCPE:EX" <[Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Leila.Farmer@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** KM/QA

All below are FLNRORD KMs and QAs in response to BC Liberal news release and media avail on the Rural Development Fund. News release follows the QA.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

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**BC Liberal news release:**

VANCOUVER (September 24, 2019) – John Horgan and the NDP are once again telling hard-working British Columbians they don't matter to government after indefinitely suspending the job-creating Rural Dividend Fund program to help pay for their 'white flag' forestry plan.

“John Horgan and the NDP have already ignored the crisis in the interior forest industry, and now they are going to steal from the Rural Development Fund to pay for their half-baked Forestry Transition program,” says Andrew Wilkinson, BC Liberal Leader. “This is an insult to every single community that has lost its primary forestry employment, and now the NDP are taking away their only real hope of diversification.”

The Rural Dividend Fund was created so smaller communities can build capacity and promote economic



diversification. The NDP government should not be punishing rural B.C. by taking away important funding that helps create jobs and contributes to the overall wellness and sustainability of smaller communities.

“It is simply unbelievable that during a time of crisis for forestry-dependent communities, the NDP would pile on with the suspension of the Rural Dividend Fund,” says Donna Barnett, MLA for Cariboo-Chilcotin and Opposition Critic for Rural Development. “Only the NDP would think alienating small communities, driving away economic growth and putting even more jobs at risk is a good idea.”

<https://bcliberalcaucus.bc.ca/bc-liberals-call-on-john-horgan-to-immediately-re-instate-the-rural-dividend-fund-program/>