

## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** McKay, Ashley FIN:EX  
**Sent:** June 11, 2020 5:39 PM  
**To:** Lawson, Liam FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX  
**Cc:** Liu, Ange FIN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: BCFED Gender Equity Addendum to ERT Submission  
**Attachments:** BCFED ERT Addendum Gender Equity.pdf; BCFED ERT Submission.pdf

FYI

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**From:** President - BCFED <president@bcfed.ca>  
**Sent:** June 10, 2020 2:55 PM  
**To:** Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Kennedy, Christine JEDC:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>; Nash, Amber PREM:EX <Amber.Nash@gov.bc.ca>; Wanamaker, Lori FIN:EX <Lori.Wanamaker@gov.bc.ca>; Robinson, Jon PREM:EX <Jon.Robinson@gov.bc.ca>; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX <Robyn.Spilker@gov.bc.ca>; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX <Liam.Lawson@gov.bc.ca>; Geary, Vanessa PREM:EX <Vanessa.Geary@gov.bc.ca>; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX <Geoff.Meggs@gov.bc.ca>; don.wright@gov.bc.ca; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, LBR LBR:EX <LBR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AEST AEST:EX <AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX <AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MAH MAH:EX <MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MCF MCF:EX <MCF.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, HLTH HLTH:EX <HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX <SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, MMHA MMHA:EX <MMHA.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, ENV ENV:EX <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, JEDC JEDC:EX <JEDC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, TRD JEDC:EX <Minister.TRD@gov.bc.ca>; Transportation, Minister TRAN:EX <Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, TAC TAC:EX <TAC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; CC Minister MCF:EX <CC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Dean.MLA, Mitzi LASS:EX <Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Routledge.MLA, Janet LASS:EX <Janet.Routledge.mla@leg.bc.ca>; Minister, CITZ CITZ:EX <CITZ.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EDUC EDUC:EX <EDUC.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, EMPR EMPR:EX <EMPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, FIN FIN:EX <FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** BCFED Gender Equity Addendum to ERT Submission

To: The Honourable Carole James

Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier

[FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Cc: Premier John Horgan; Minister Melanie Mark; Minister Lana Popham; Minister Katrine Conroy; Minister Adrian Dix; Minister David Eby; Minister Mike Farnworth; Minister Harry Bains; Minister Selina Robinson; Minister Shane Simpson; Minister Judy Darcy; Minister George Heyman; Minister Doug Donaldson; Minister Scott Fraser; Minister Michelle Mungall; Minister of State George Chow; Minister Clare Trevena; Minister Lisa Beare; Minister of State Katrina Chen; Parliamentary Secretary Mitzi Dean; MLA Janet Routledge; Minister Anne Kang; Minister Rob Fleming; Minister Bruce Ralston; Christine Kennedy; Amber Nash; Lori Wanamaker; Jon Robinson; Robyn Spilker; Liam Lawson; Vanessa Geary; Geoff Meggs; Don Wright

Dear Minister James,

Further to the BCFED's participation in the Economic Recovery Task Force, please find attached an addendum to our initial submission. The addendum will be released publicly tomorrow, Thursday, June 11th.

This new document looks at the impact of the pandemic and the policies we need for an economic recovery for all through an intersectional gender equity lens.

We hope you'll find it useful, and that it fosters a discussion about a truly fair, equitable approach to rebuilding our economy.

Our original submission is attached for your reference. We'd be happy to discuss these documents with you or to provide any additional information.

In solidarity,

**W. LAIRD CRONK                      SUSSANNE SKIDMORE**

**President                              Secretary-Treasurer**

BC Federation of Labour | 200-5118 Joyce Street | Vancouver BC V5R 4H1

tel: 604-430-1421 | email: [exec@bcfed.ca](mailto:exec@bcfed.ca) | [www.bcfed.ca](http://www.bcfed.ca)

The BC Federation of Labour is located on unceded xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), sə́lilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) territories.

Sent by: Angela Boscariol 

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## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Rick FitzZaland <Rick@fcssbc.ca>  
**Sent:** April 23, 2020 4:18 PM  
**To:** Minister, FIN FIN:EX  
**Subject:** Economic Recovery Task Force - Social Services Sector

**Categories:** Draft PS Dean

Hi Minister James,

I know you are super busy, so I will be as brief as possible. I do not like to take up time at the Economic Recovery Task Force meetings with issues that I have previously brought forward. But there are issues that are a concern for me as I think about the restart of the economy.

As you know, the social services sector is vital to the social and economic health of our communities. As we restart the economy, having healthy workers able to do a great job is vital. And social services are key to having a healthy work force.

Women who are abused at home cannot show up for work ready to focus on their job. Men and women who are dealing with mental health issues, or substance use issues that have been made worse by this crisis will have trouble showing up for work and doing their job. Parents cannot focus on doing their job if they are worried about the care of their children. The list goes on.

Having ministry programs in place, or even increasing funding to those ministries, does not ensure the social service network is going to be able to provide the support to people and families that is necessary to rebuild the morale and effectiveness of our work force. Most of the government services are actually delivered to people and communities by local social service agencies.

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I fully understand that there are a lot of demands on limited provincial funds. But this sector has long standing structural issues, and those weaknesses are working against us doing what needs to be done now, and will be a barrier to rebuilding a strong and vibrant economy for everyone.

This is important, and I am available any time to do whatever is needed and supportive. Thank you. Please take care of yourself, we really appreciate your leadership.



Kind Regards,  
**Rick FitzZaland**, Executive Director  
Direct Line (Mobile): 250.480.8910

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THE FEDERATION  
of COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES of BC



Altogether better.

## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** June 17, 2020 12:20 PM  
**To:** Thomson, Krystal FIN:EX  
**Cc:** Lawson, Liam FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; McKay, Ashley FIN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Economic Recovery Engagement  
**Attachments:** 7591\_BC Recovery Discussion Paper\_WEB\_v2.pdf; 2020PREM0033-001082.pdf; KM-QA\_C19 Recovery Plan Engagement\_17June2020.docx

Finals attached!

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**From:** Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** June 17, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** FIN DMO MFEX <DMOMFEX@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** GCPE Communications - Finance <CommF@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Economic Recovery Engagement

Good afternoon,

The Premier and Minister James will announce the launch of public engagement on economic recovery at 1:45 this afternoon. The engagement opens today and closes on July 21<sup>st</sup>.

You can watch on any of these channels (turn off VPN first).

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/BCProvincialGovernment/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BCGovNews?s=20>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/ProvinceofBC> )

Attached:

- Engagement Paper
- NR
- KM-QA

Have a great day!

Lisa Leslie  
Communications Director  
Ministry of Finance  
250-213-7724



# **Building BC's Recovery, Together**

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**SHARE YOUR IDEAS**

Get involved  
[gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)





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## Message from the Premier

**THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS CHALLENGED** and changed our province.

More than 2,500 British Columbians have been diagnosed with COVID-19, and, tragically, more than 165 loved ones have died. Their passing occurred despite the heroic efforts of nurses, doctors and health-care workers.

Our friends and neighbours suddenly found themselves out of work. Some people were able to keep working from home, but if they had school-age kids, it required a lot of juggling. For others living in rural communities, working from home was not an option, and some traveled to remote work sites.

Across BC, thousands more kept working in grocery stores, transportation, pharmacies and other essential services to ensure we had what we needed while we fought to flatten the curve. Many business owners did their part to help flatten the curve by taking the difficult step of closing their doors.

Even if you haven't been touched directly by illness or job loss, you're likely facing some uncertainty about the future. We all are.

But there are better days ahead of us.

We've already taken critical steps to protect people's health, homes and incomes. In partnership with Ottawa, we've taken steps to maintain basic incomes, protect jobs and assist businesses. These measures are just the start.

Recently, with the guidance of Health Minister Adrian Dix and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, we announced our plan to carefully restart BC. Now we begin to turn our attention from a restart to recovery. But recovery means more than just returning to what we had before.



Like you, I know that British Columbia can bounce back better than ever. We can build a stronger, more resilient BC by putting people at the centre of every decision we make.

We can build a BC where strong public services are always there when people need them. We can meet the challenge of the climate crisis. And we can do so in partnership with Indigenous peoples to ensure that everyone can benefit from our progress.

But we can't do it without you. This document is the start of a discussion about what kind of a province we want to build.

Throughout the pandemic, we have emphasized transparency — by explaining the problem, sharing the evidence, charting a direction. That's the same approach we need to plan our economic recovery.

Today, I'm asking you to have your say by completing BC's online survey, participating in a virtual townhall or replying to this paper with your ideas and priorities. We'll be reaching out during the coming weeks and months to hear your views and hear from community, Indigenous, business and other groups across the province.

Since the pandemic began, British Columbians' response showed clearly that we are at our best when we work together. Your input will help us shape the decisions as we invest our \$1.5 billion Economic Recovery Fund and plan for our next budget.

I hope you will participate in planning BC's recovery — to help shape it, just as you helped flatten the curve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John J. Horgan", with a horizontal line underneath.

**JOHN HORGAN**

*Premier of British Columbia*

## Message From Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier

**SINCE THE FIRST CASE OF COVID-19 IN BC,** our government has focused on addressing the most pressing needs of British Columbians during the crisis.

We have had three main priorities: keeping people safe by supporting our hospitals and health-care workers; helping British Columbians who need it with programs like income supports; and making sure that essential services like groceries and public transit continue to be available.

The health threat of COVID-19 is far from over. But we are making progress.

Thanks to the efforts of everyone from front-line doctors to families who practiced safe physical distancing, we have flattened the curve.

We know many people are still worried about losing their jobs or their homes, and are anxious about the future. Business owners are worried about confidence. When will people feel confident enough to resume spending, and when will entrepreneurs feel the time is right to invest and expand again?

As we start preparing for the road ahead, we won't lose sight of these immediate concerns, and we'll keep doing everything we can to provide help to the people who need it.

Throughout the pandemic, businesses providing essential services remained open safely. In mid-May we began to restart BC, allowing more businesses and services like parks to open safely. Now it is time to begin getting our economy back to pre-pandemic levels deliberately and safely.





Rebuilding our economy after COVID-19 will be a massive job. But we're starting from a strong place. We have a lot of advantages in BC, from our natural resources and clean technology, to our capacity for research, to our culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. We're the gateway to Asia and a major port to the US. And our most important advantage is our people.

Our province's inherent strengths have not been lost during the pandemic. That is why, even though times are tough, and uncertainty clouds the year ahead, I have never been more optimistic about the future of British Columbia. By building on our strengths, and drawing on new ideas, we will restore economic growth and achieve a vibrant, inclusive, competitive economy.

The road to recovery will not be easy, but I know we can emerge stronger than ever.



**CAROLE JAMES**  
*Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier*

## WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

When the pandemic hit, our government quickly put in place a **\$5 BILLION** COVID-19 Action Plan that protects people's health, provides financial relief to people and businesses who need it, and builds BC's plan for economic recovery.

Some of the measures are intended to help the majority of British Columbians. For example, BC Hydro rates have been reduced by **1 PERCENT**, which helps almost all people and businesses in the province save money. Other measures are more targeted, focusing help on those who need it most.

The \$5 billion action plan is designed to complement measures brought in by the federal government, to amplify the benefits to people in BC. To take one example, the federal CERB offers people who have lost work due to COVID-19 a benefit of \$2000 per month. The BC Emergency Benefit for Workers (BCEBW) offers CERB recipients an additional **\$1,000** one-time payment.

## How has COVID-19 affected BC's economy?

It's too early to calculate the full economic consequences of COVID-19, or even say what will happen to our economy in the months ahead before the virus is controlled. But we do know the economic impact of this pandemic is as bad as any we have ever seen in the history of our province. Hundreds of thousands of British Columbians have lost their jobs. Everyone has a family member, friend or neighbour facing unemployment.

The crisis came about very suddenly. Like jurisdictions across the country and around the world, we are facing unemployment levels similar to those of the Great Depression — but this time they appeared in a matter of weeks, a process that took years in the 1930s.

The trigger for this crisis was also unusual. The problem did not start within the economy itself, with something like a stock-market crash or a housing bubble. This time it was a sudden, external shock that forced governments everywhere to temporarily close large parts of the economy in order to prevent many deaths and far greater economic damage.

The people who have been most affected work in the services sector, especially in public-facing jobs like retail stores, restaurants, tourism, and social services.

As a result, women and young people in particular have seen terrible increases in unemployment. Part-time, informal, and self-employed workers have also been disproportionately harmed.

The unusual characteristics of this economic downturn mean the recovery will probably look different than recoveries after previous downturns.



And since the effects have not been the same for all people, or all sectors of the economy, our rebuilding plan can't be one-size-fits-all, either.

The COVID-19 pandemic has helped us appreciate that “front-line” workers are not just on the front lines of health care. They include the thousands of other essential workers who have kept BC moving in challenging times.

**FIGURE 1: BC industries with biggest job losses due to COVID-19**

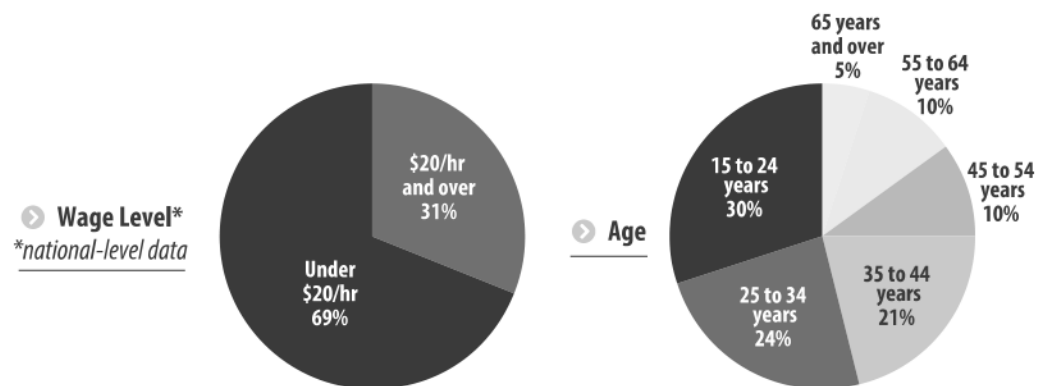
	% of industry's jobs lost	Share of total job loss	% of job losses that were women
<b>All industries</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>54%</b>
Accommodation and food services	50%	30%	65%
Retail trade	19%	19%	57%
Construction	14%	11%	10%
Information, culture and recreation	22%	8%	57%
Other services (except government)	29%	11%	70%
All other industries	4%	22%	49%

Grocery store clerks, truck drivers and farmers have kept the food supply chain open. Child-care workers have made it possible for nurses, firefighters and others to go to work knowing their kids are in good hands. Bus drivers have ensured public transit is there for those who need it. The list of essential workers is long. We are grateful to them all.

These examples remind us that when we talk about “the economy,” we are talking about people. The economy is not an abstract thing, separated from people’s real lives. Although we often use numbers to measure economic trends, behind those numbers are real people.

Above all else, a strong economy means one that benefits people. This understanding — that the economy is people — will guide us as we move into the next phase of our economic recovery.

**FIGURE 2: Share of total job losses by category**



Source: All data is from the Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey. All numbers are unadjusted. February to May 2020.

## Next Steps

There is still a lot of uncertainty about what will happen with the pandemic. How quickly we bounce back depends on a number of questions no one can yet answer. When will we have a vaccine? How quickly can we develop an effective treatment? We don't know.

Still, we can and must start to move forward, with caution.

Economically, the immediate challenge is to get people back to work as quickly and safely as possible, starting with those who have been hurt the most by the pandemic.

These people include:

- ***Indigenous peoples and new Canadians;***
- ***Women;***
- ***Young adults (18 to 35 year olds);***
- ***People earning less than \$30/hr; and***
- ***Service sector workers.***

Getting people working again will not be easy. Employers must see demand for their services, so they can hire. Workers need transit to get to work and schools for their children. Consumers need confidence they can shop safely. All these factors have to come together to build our recovery.

The pandemic has exposed underlying gaps in our economy and society. We all now better appreciate the importance of workplace safety, strong public services, and our collective responsibility to take care of each other.



As we move from restart to recovery, we have the chance to address those gaps, and to do much more. We can build back better than before.

For many years, our province's social and economic development have been hampered by a failure to acknowledge and address the title and rights of First Nations. Since the 1970s, the courts have confirmed and defined inherent title and rights, but government legislation and policies have not kept up. The results have included prolonged negotiations, protracted litigation, and confrontations — all of which have hurt First Nations and kept us all, as British Columbians, from reaching our full potential in a way we can all benefit from.

Those are some of the reasons why, in November 2019, the Legislature voted unanimously to pass the *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

Similarly, taking action on climate change and keeping BC clean opens up incredible opportunities for jobs and growth. This argument is gaining support around the world — including from organizations like the International Energy Association and former central banker (and now-UN Special Envoy for Climate Change) Mark Carney.

By building partnerships with Indigenous peoples, businesses, research and education institutions, and workers, we are moving toward a low-carbon economy. That means a cleaner province for future generations, and a strong and diverse economy based on innovation.

The choices we make in the coming weeks and months can help us build an economy — and a province — that works for everyone. Reconciliation and clean growth will be at the heart of our recovery.

While some might say we can't afford to make significant investments now, we know that we can't cut our way back to where we were before — let alone to a better, fairer, more sustainable and more prosperous future.

## WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

### Supporting People – Highlights

People whose ability to work has been affected by the outbreak can get a tax-free **\$1,000** one-time payment, the BC Emergency Benefit for Workers (BCEBW) to supplement the CERB.

About **86 PERCENT** of British Columbians will receive enhanced payments up to **\$564** in July 2020 through an expanded BC Climate Action Tax Credit.

Renters will get help through temporary relief of up to **\$500/MONTH**, a moratorium on most evictions during BC's emergency order, and a freeze on new annual rent increases by landlords.

ICBC customers on a monthly Autoplan payment plan, who are facing financial challenges due to COVID-19, can **DEFER THEIR PAYMENT** for up to 90 days with no penalty.

BC Hydro customers who have lost income can receive a three-month credit, saving the average residential customer **\$477**.

## Putting BC values into our recovery

Before COVID-19, BC had one of Canada's fastest growing economies and lowest unemployment rates. But for years, many people and communities had not seen the full benefit of all that growth.

Some of those inequities have become even more noticeable during the pandemic. For example, for people in communities where broadband access is unavailable or unaffordable, working from home may be impossible. For workers in sectors like film or tourism, the pandemic has had a devastating and potentially long-lasting impact. In other sectors, like transportation or the resource sector, employment has been hit less hard, but there is still increased uncertainty about what the future holds.

The pandemic has also reminded us how important our health care system is to our quality of life, and how many rely on mental health services and personal care homes.

The pandemic has affected people across our province — from Port Hardy to Cranbrook, Surrey to Fort Nelson. But COVID-19 is also a chance to take stock and start building a better BC. We can't go back to an economy that only benefited those at the top, while leaving others behind.

We believe that everyone deserves the chance to learn, work and build a secure future with a good quality of life. We believe that public services should be there when people need them. We are convinced we must continue to confront the threat of climate change and the need for reconciliation with First Nations.



There are some key values we all share as British Columbians.

**ONE IS A COMMITMENT TO EQUITY** – economic opportunity should be available to all. Everyone should have an opportunity to improve their standard of living and participate fully in their local community.

**A SECOND IS TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER THROUGH CO-OPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP** – we're stronger when we work together, from little things like checking in on elderly neighbours or coaching a team, to providing quality public services like health care to everyone.

**A THIRD IS SELF-RELIANCE** – we have what it takes to build an innovative, creative economy that competes with the best, not one that works only for those at the top and leaves others behind. We value our environment and are committed to a low-carbon economy that achieves our commitment to fight climate change.

## AND A FOURTH IS OPTIMISM AND SENSE OF URGENCY

– the conviction that working together we can build our province even better than before, recognizing we also need to act boldly now because people are hurting.

Coming out of COVID-19, our priorities for a stronger BC include:

- **STRENGTHENING OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM** – making sure we’re ready for future threats and that people can always get the care they need, including mental-health services;
- **CREATING AND RESTORING** good-paying and sustainable jobs;
- **BECOMING MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT** – growing BC’s manufacturing capacity and protecting our access to essential supplies and food security;
- **IMPROVING EDUCATION**, training and apprenticeship opportunities so that good jobs don’t go unfilled;
- **TAKING ADVANTAGE OF BC’S ABUNDANT CLEAN ENERGY**, growing an economy that is innovative and clean – and exporting made-in-BC, low-carbon services, products and technologies to the world;
- **MOVING FORWARD ON MEANINGFUL RECONCILIATION** with Indigenous peoples, so that we can all benefit from BC’s success;
- **BUILDING THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE** and services that all communities need to thrive — from new roads, hospitals and schools to highspeed internet;
- **ENSURING THAT BC IS ON A STRONG FISCAL FOOTING**, ready and able to provide the services people count on.

We were already investigating ideas to grow BC’s economy and create family-supporting jobs of the future through innovation and technology before the pandemic.

The final report of BC’s innovation commissioner, *“Putting Innovation to Work for British Columbia: Growing B.C. Companies,”* and the final report of the Emerging Economy Task Force were both released last month. We will draw on these recommendations to help guide us as we work with researchers and industry to grow a resilient, sustainable economy that works for people.

## WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

### Supporting Business – Highlights

Most commercial property tax bills have been reduced by an average **25 PERCENT**, providing up to **\$700 MILLION** in relief. And to give commercial landlords and businesses more time to pay their reduced property taxes, late payment penalties for commercial properties have been waived until October 1, 2020.

Businesses with a payroll over \$500,000 can **DEFER THEIR EMPLOYER HEALTH TAX PAYMENTS** until September 30, 2020. (Businesses with a payroll under this threshold are already exempt.)

Payments for provincial sales tax (PST), hotel tax, carbon tax, motor fuel tax and tobacco tax are deferred, freeing up capital for businesses to use now when they need it.

The BC Business COVID-19 Support Service serves as a single point of contact for businesses throughout the province looking for information on resources available to them.

Small businesses that had to close due to COVID-19 can have their BC Hydro bills forgiven for three months, saving on average **\$363**.

# Have your say – it's important

COVID-19 is a wake-up call that we need to be better prepared and that, although there will be financial costs, we can never again let a pandemic affect people and our economy so much.

To get there, your voice is essential. That's why we're asking you to share your ideas about BC's recovery.

## WHAT WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

Recovering from COVID-19 is about setting priorities. Your government's priority is people and the things that matter most in our everyday lives. Some of the critical questions that we need to answer together are:



- ❶ **WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TOGETHER** to strengthen and improve our health care system? That means everything from our hospitals, clinics and personal care homes, to the medical staff and supplies.
- ❷ **WHAT IS THE TOP PRIORITY** for you personally when it comes to improving your quality of life? For some people that means affordable child care or housing — what does it mean for you?
- ❸ **WHAT WOULD MOST HELP IMPROVE YOUR WORK LIFE OR WORK PROSPECTS?** That could mean training to allow you to take advantage of job opportunities, or affordable child care closer to home.
- ❹ **ARE WE ON THE RIGHT TRACK?** Do you see your concerns and needs reflected in this approach?



### THREE WAYS YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SAY

1. **SHARE YOUR OPINIONS:** An online survey is one of the fastest and easiest ways that you can ensure your opinions are heard. It's a chance to provide answers to some important questions and to give advice based on what you're seeing in your community. Visit [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas).
2. **RESPOND TO THIS PAPER:** This paper sets the stage for the challenges ahead of us. If you've read this far and already have some ideas and advice, you can submit them to [recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca).
3. **PARTICIPATE IN VIRTUAL TOWNHALLS:** We've connected with tens of thousands of British Columbians in virtual townhalls — and there's more to come. This is a chance to share your comments and ask questions. Learn more about the virtual townhalls at [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas).



### WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

## Economic Recovery Task Force

**THE PREMIER'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE** brings together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits to help ensure the Province's economic response to COVID-19 is effective and responsive to the needs of British Columbians.

The task force meets weekly to advise government on our economic response to the COVID-19 crisis. It includes Premier John Horgan, Finance Minister Carole James, Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness Michelle Mungall, other members of cabinet and leaders from business organizations, including the Business Council of BC, BC Chamber of Commerce, Vancouver Board of Trade, Surrey Board of Trade, the BC Federation of Labour, First Nations organizations and the not-for-profit sector.

The task force is helping ensure the benefits of provincial programs are reaching their intended targets and complementing federal programs.

## WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

### How WorkSafeBC is helping businesses restart safely

MANY BUSINESSES IN BC operated safely throughout the pandemic. Starting in mid-May, more businesses and services have started to open.

WorkSafeBC is providing sector-specific guidelines and other resources to help businesses with their planning. Every industry or sector is being asked to build on those guidelines to develop appropriate standards for health and safety measures in their areas.

Sector standards are then reviewed by WorkSafeBC, with input from public health officials.

Individual businesses and organizations do not need to submit their own plans for review or approval, but they must make them available to their workers and their customers by posting on the premises.

WorkSafeBC inspectors and public health officials will be working to ensure businesses have their COVID-19 Safety Plan in place, that it aligns with guidelines and sector standards, and that it is being followed. This will include inspectors visiting worksites across the province.

This approach strikes a balance between public health, the health and safety of workers, public confidence that shopping or visiting a business is safe, and not asking small businesses to develop complex plans for approval before they can begin to restart and rehire people.

## WHO ELSE WE'LL BE HEARING FROM

As conversations across the province move from restart to recovery, it is clear recovery means more than returning to the past. This is an opportunity for businesses, organizations and non-profit agencies to help us generate solutions to address the challenges they face.

Throughout the weeks and months ahead, Premier John Horgan and Finance Minister Carole James will be leading roundtable discussions with businesses, Indigenous peoples and organizations to get their ideas. These conversations will be framed to gather input on restoring consumer confidence, accelerating job creation, and supporting job security.

Engagement roundtables will also include discussions with academics and economists, youth and student groups, business owners and industry associations, social service providers, Indigenous leaders, local governments, environmental and civil society groups. Cabinet ministers and MLAs will continue reaching out to constituents, as well as sector stakeholders, local businesses and community organizations. Input received will help inform government's economic recovery plan. Acknowledging that these stakeholders are the experts in their fields, these conversations will provide an opportunity to collaboratively create solutions to challenges facing all British Columbians.

This outreach also includes the annual budget consultations that the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia Finance Committee will hold throughout the summer months. This will be one more way that people can share their ideas.



# List of business sectors that have restarted

## PHASE 2 (MID MAY ONWARDS)

### UNDER ENHANCED PROTOCOLS

- Restoration of health services
  - » Re-scheduling elective surgery
  - » Medically related services
    - ▶ dentistry, physiotherapy, registered massage therapy, chiropractors
    - ▶ physical therapy, speech therapy, and similar services

➤ Retail sector

➤ Hair salons/ barbers/other personal service establishments

➤ In-person counselling

➤ Restaurants, cafes, pubs – with sufficient distancing measures

➤ Museums, art galleries, libraries

➤ Office-based worksites

➤ Recreation/sports

➤ Parks, beaches and outdoor spaces

➤ Child care

## PHASE 3 (JUNE-SEPTEMBER, IF TRANSMISSION RATE REMAINS LOW OR IN DECLINE)

### UNDER ENHANCED PROTOCOLS

➤ Hotels and resorts (June)

➤ Parks – broader reopening, including some overnight camping (June)

➤ Film industry – beginning with domestic productions (June/July)

➤ Select entertainment – movies and symphony, but not large concerts (July)

➤ Post-secondary education – with mix of online and in-class (September)

➤ K-12 education – partial return in June, full return in September

➤ Fitness centres and gyms



# **Have your say on BC's recovery**



**Share your ideas at  
[gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)**





Get involved  
[gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)



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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2020PREM0033-001082  
June 17, 2020

Office of the Premier  
Ministry of Finance

### **British Columbians invited to have their say on recovery**

VICTORIA – British Columbians are invited to share their feedback as the province continues to build a strong economic recovery that works for people.

“The pandemic has been challenging, but our province has already accomplished so much in this fight, thanks to British Columbians. We are at our best when we work together, and that’s how we’re going to move forward,” Premier John Horgan said.

“Throughout the pandemic we’ve been meeting with businesses, labour, First Nations, not-for-profits and more to get their perspective. We’ve heard lots of good ideas, and we are taking action. We want to hear directly from British Columbians to make sure the recovery works for them.”

There are three main ways for people to share their ideas, experiences and priorities:

- An online survey is the fastest and easiest way to provide answers to some important questions and give advice. Visit: [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](http://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)
- Respond to the paper, Building B.C.’s Recovery, Together: Have Your Say, which was released on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. Ideas and responses can be submitted to: [recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca)
- Participate in virtual town halls. British Columbians can learn more about the virtual town halls here: [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](http://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)

Building B.C.’s Recovery, Together describes the values the government considers foundational for economic policy-making in the months ahead. It also details the economic effects that COVID-19 has had on B.C., in particular the job losses, and how those losses have been felt across different communities. Nearly half of all jobs lost due to COVID-19 have been in accommodations, food services and retail. Women, young adults and low-wage workers have all experienced relatively greater job losses.

“The recovery is going to be a tough task, and we need to be open to new ideas and new approaches. At the same time, core B.C. values like equity, taking care of each other, sustainability and reconciliation have not changed,” said Carole James, Minister of Finance. “In practice, those values will take the form of more good-paying jobs, advancing reconciliation and meeting climate goals, and growing an innovative, resilient economy that works for people.”

When the pandemic hit, government acted immediately, focusing on three main priorities: protecting people’s health; providing income, rental and other supports for families and businesses; and ensuring things like groceries, public transit and child care for essential workers remained available.

Essential businesses remained open safely during the pandemic, and starting last month the province began a process of restarting safely.

**Learn More:**

Learn more about B.C.'s economic recovery planning: [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas)

For information about B.C.'s Restart Plan, visit: [gov.bc.ca/restartbc](https://gov.bc.ca/restartbc)

For the latest medical updates, including case counts, prevention, risks and testing, visit: [bccdc.ca/](https://bccdc.ca/)

Or follow the BCCDC on Twitter @CDCofBC

For the provincial health officer's orders, notices and guidance, visit: [gov.bc.ca/phoguidance](https://gov.bc.ca/phoguidance)

For non-health related information, including financial, child care and education supports, travel, transportation and essential service information, call (toll-free) 1 888 COVID19 (1 888 268-4319) between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Pacific time), seven days a week, or visit: [gov.bc.ca/Covid19](https://gov.bc.ca/Covid19)

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Connect with the Province of B.C. at: [news.gov.bc.ca/connect](https://news.gov.bc.ca/connect)



# COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement

## KEY MESSAGES

- The pandemic has reminded us we are at our best when we work together.
- That's how we've been successful in flattening the curve. And that's how we're going to plan our economic recovery.
- We've seen staggering job losses in food service, retail and accommodation sectors, hitting young people, women, and low-wage earners particularly hard.
- We need to be open to new ideas about getting people back to work in good-paying jobs and growing an innovative, resilient economy that works for people.
- As we move through the cautious economic restart, we want to hear your priorities and your ideas to make sure the recovery plan works for you.
- COVID-19 has changed our lives and, at the same time, magnified the importance of core values like equity, taking care of each other, sustainability and reconciliation.
- Recovery is going to be a tough task, but we are compassionate and capable in British Columbia. This is our chance to build B.C.'s recovery, together.

# COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement

## QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

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### Consultation and Planning

#### How can I offer ideas?

- The fastest and easiest way to offer advice and information is to do the online survey [engage.gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas/](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas/)
- People can also read the Building BC's Recovery, Together discussion paper and email your responses to [recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:recoveryideas@gov.bc.ca)
- And you can participate in virtual townhalls: British Columbians can learn more about the virtual townhalls at [gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas](https://gov.bc.ca/recoveryideas).

#### How long will the consultation last?

- The public survey and consultation is open now and runs until July 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### When will you release the plan?

- We'll want the consultation period to run its course, gather, analyze, and cost out what British Columbians tell us are their greatest concerns and greatest priorities.
- It will take several weeks to get it right.
- Right now, we are still in the middle of the restart plan, which we – like businesses, are monitoring very closely to make sure we're going in the right direction – that the curve remains flat and the restart remains safe.

## **COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement**

**Is this about how to allocate the \$1.5B from the action plan? Is that enough?**

- Economic recovery is a long-term endeavour.
- \$1.5 billion is currently what we have set aside as part of the COVID-19 Action Plan and like the pandemic, our response and recovery planning will evolve as needed.

**Are you prioritizing the people and sectors you've identified as the hardest hit?**

- The job loss numbers and the sector losses help to show us where the greatest immediate needs lie, but we are also early on in restart mode. We will begin to see some positive changes as a result of the cautious restart.
- The pandemic has hit all sectors and we want economic recovery planning to encompass all sectors.
- We had a strong, diverse economy before the pandemic and we can build back strong and find new opportunities.
- I don't want to put British Columbians in a box as to what that looks like. I want to hear their personal priorities and ideas and build our recovery plan together.

**Do you envision strong recovery support for the tourism sector or film industry?**

- Yes. Those are important sectors of our economy so I suspect they will be important to many British Columbians. But let's give time to build the plan together.

**Will you increase new training/retraining opportunities?**

- We are looking at where we need to focus in skills training and post secondary education. It has always been important – and now more than ever.

# **COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement**

**Do you already have some recovery plans through the economic recovery task force?**

- We have had really productive discussions and we are carefully considering all ideas. The task force is comprised of business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits. They know their sectors and have a strong voice in the economic recovery planning.
- We also need to hear from people who aren't represented by those leaders – young people, parents, seniors, those at all ages of stages of their lives who have unique needs and priorities.
- That's why we are surveying British Columbians about what matters to them – to ensure recovery works for them.

**How is reconciliation factored into the economic recovery planning?**

- First Nations leaders are helping to shape our discussions and planning as part of our economic recovery task force.
- We will also be seeking Indigenous input as part of the public consultation period.
- As we have said, we have an opportunity to bring in measures to address longstanding equity gaps that COVID-19 has shone a light on so Indigenous priorities are going to be an important part of this conversation.

**You mention advancing climate goals – what specific ideas do you have already?**

- We want to put Clean BC at the centre of our recovery.
- From clean energy opportunities to the actions we announced yesterday on mass timber, we have an opportunity to advance that work as our economy bounces back from the COVID-19 crisis.
- With mass timber for example, we can help transition the forestry sector to high-value over high-volume production, creating opportunities for local workers, strong partnerships with First Nations and make a significant contribution to advancing CleanBC.

# COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement

## Other top COVID-related questions

**Where can businesses get PPE needed to meet WorkSafeBC Guidelines and who will pay for this? Can the Province help with this cost at all?**

- We recognize that many businesses and organizations in B.C. are having issues accessing the personal protective equipment and other supplies they may need to implement their COVID-safe reopening plans.
- Sectors are currently working with WorkSafe and public health officials to determine what's appropriate in their specific context.
- The Province's Supply Hub has been focused on helping to fulfill the PPE needs of the Health Sector.
- The work of the Supply Hub has helped increase availability of PPE in the private sector, as it frees up traditional supply chains for others to access.
- The federal government also announced a new web hub to connect businesses looking for PPE with suppliers.
- B.C. is continually working on new ways to keep the economy moving and help keep workers protected.
- As we move forward, we will take any and all feedback around what's required to meet the guidelines put out by WorkSafeBC.

## **COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement**

**Do you intend to help businesses worried they'll face bankruptcy if forced to provide severance to their temporary laid off workers?**

- I understand many businesses are in a difficult position as they prepare to reopen under the new reality we are in today.
- That's why we've been there to provide immediate relief to businesses and workers who have been hit hard.
- I encourage employers and employees to come to an agreement that works for both parties. Everyone wants to be part of a strong recovery.
- This is also why we hope to see even more employers apply for the 75% wage subsidy in the coming weeks.

**There have been layoffs at BC Ferries and for some municipal governments. Are you considering layoffs at the provincial level?**

- No. We rely on our public service to ensure that we can deliver the services that people count on and people are working harder than ever to support British Columbians.

**Have you identified fraud in the BCEWB like the CERB is?**

Applications go through a verification and adjudication process. People are only able to apply once.

# **COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement**

## **Impacts to the Budget and Fiscal Plan**

### **How big is the deficit?**

- Government budgets have taken significant hits. Investments in support for people, businesses and services are up. Revenues are down.
- This is a state of emergency so priority one is protecting people's health and safety, and we will spend what we need to keep people safe and supported.
- A deficit is certain, just like in other jurisdictions and provinces.
- Our province is in a relatively strong financial position, with affordable debt levels that make it possible to weather this crisis.
- And our COVID-19 Action Plan will help our economic recovery by helping people and businesses through this uncertain time.

### **Much has changed since you released Budget 2020. When can we expect to see revised financial forecasts?**

- There is no question that COVID-19 is having an impact on our economy and on our budget.
- As all of us know, the situation is evolving — and our response to support people and the economy will be evolving with it.
- The evolving situation means that reliable forecasting is still weeks away.
- We'll also release a revised economic and fiscal forecast in the First Quarterly Report in mid-September.
- But certainly, in many ways, Budget 2021 will be a recovery budget.

# COVID-19: Economic Recovery Public Engagement

## Key Support Measures in British Columbia

### Supports for People:

- **\$1,000 BC Emergency Benefit for Workers** for people who've lost income due to COVID-19, all workers eligible for the federal CERB benefits
- **Up to \$500/month for renters**, paid to landlords to reduce the cost of rent for those with low to moderate income. [*for three months*]
  - Only province in Canada with a specific relief program for renters.
- **A 3-month credit** for BC Hydro customers who've lost income due to COVID-19.
  - Average residential customer will receive a credit of \$477.

### Supports for Businesses:

- **Cutting the average commercial property tax bills by 25%** for businesses, providing \$700 million in immediate relief. Average business in an urban setting will save about \$5,600.
- **Deferring tax payments** until the end of September for the EHT, the PST, the tobacco tax, the Municipal and Regional District Tax, the motor fuel tax, and the carbon tax.
- **Filled a gap in the federal CECRA program** to protect businesses that would otherwise qualify for federal rent relief if their landlords would apply.
- **BC Hydro relief** for small businesses struggling due to COVID-19 will have their hydro bills forgiven for three months, **saving on average \$363**.
  - Major industries, like pulp and paper mills and mines, will be able to defer 50% of their bill payments for three months.

### We've also worked with the federal government to:

- Work towards establishing a national program for **10 days sick leave**
- Improve access for businesses to the **75% wage subsidy**



## Lund, Rose FIN:EX

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**From:** Hockin, Amber PREM:EX  
**Sent:** March 25, 2020 3:49 PM  
**To:** MacDonald, Alex LBR:EX; Lawson, Liam FIN:EX; Spilker, Robyn FIN:EX; Monroe, Danielle JEDC:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Terms of Reference & Participants  
**Attachments:** Terms of Reference - Internal Document .docx; Economic Recovery Task Force Participants.docx

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**From:** Nash, Amber PREM:EX  
**Sent:** March 25, 2020 3:35 PM  
**To:** Hockin, Amber PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Terms of Reference & Participants

### Amber Nash

*Director of Executive Operations & Scheduling  
Office of the Premier | Government of British Columbia  
501 Belleville St, Victoria, BC V8V 2L8  
Direct: 778-974-6068 | Cell: 778-584-3330*

## ECONOMIC RECOVERY TASK FORCE

Premier Horgan, Minister James, Minister Mungall and other members of Cabinet will hold a weekly conference call with leadership representatives from the B.C. Federation of Labour, First Nations business organizations, the non-profit sector and business organizations including the Business Council of B.C., B.C. Chamber of Commerce, Vancouver Board of Trade and Surrey Board of Trade.

This process will remain in place during British Columbia's emergency response to COVID-19. The weekly calls will provide an opportunity for discussion of the Province's COVID-19 response programs and economic stabilization initiatives and share information that umbrella associations can communicate to their members. The calls will also seek input on:

- ***Provincial programs developed to respond to COVID-19;***
  - Alignment and coordination between provincial and federal programs;
  - Barriers to uptake being experienced by their members or employees;
  - Whether programs are reaching their target audience;
  - Suggestions for effective communication with members or workers, such as online town halls, Facebook gatherings, virtual meetings or other opportunities.
- ***Issues and opportunities related to:***
  - Essential and critical service designations;
  - Child care and other supports for essential workforces;
  - Safe operating guidelines for sectors that can continue operating;
  - Safe re-start guidelines for sectors where operations have been restricted by orders of the Provincial Health Officer.
- ***Longer-term suggestions for economic recovery and resilience:***
  - General suggestions for recovering B.C.'s economy following COVID-19;
  - Note that sector-specific recovery work would be undertaken directly with sector trade associations and companies. Except when relevant to all participants, these efforts would not be covered on the weekly calls.

***Economic Recovery Task Force Participants***  
***March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020***

***Government:***

Premier Horgan  
Minister James  
Minister Mungall  
Geoff Meggs  
Amber Hockin

Don Wright  
Christine Kennedy  
Lori Wanamaker  
Fazil Mihar  
Trevor Hughes

Liam Lawson  
Danielle Monroe  
Jon Robinson (Observer)  
Evan Pivnik (Observer)

***Stakeholders:***

**BCBC :**

Greg D'Avignon, President & CEO

**BC Chamber of Commerce:**

Val Litwin, President & CEO

**VBOT:**

Bridgitte Anderson, CEO

**SBOT:**

Anita Huberman, CEO

**BC Federation of labour:**

Laird Cronk, President

**First Nations Major Project Coalition**

Chief Sharleen Gale, Chair

**Federation of Community Social Services**

Rick FitzZaland, CEO

**SUCCESS**

Queenie Choo, CEO

**Creative BC**

Prem Gill, CEO

## James, Carole FIN:EX

---

**From:** Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX  
**Sent:** May 27, 2020 5:39 PM  
**To:** Wright, Don J. PREM:EX; Meggs, Geoff PREM:EX; Hockin, Amber PREM:EX; James, Carole FIN:EX; Mungall, Michelle JEDC:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Submission to the Task Force  
**Attachments:** Economic Recovery Task Force\_CKTL 05.26.2020.pdf  
**Importance:** High

A submission attached from Rick FitzZaland.

I have circulated it to Deputies as well.

---

**From:** Rick FitzZaland <Rick@fcssbc.ca>  
**Sent:** May 27, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Kennedy, Christine PREM:EX <Christine.Kennedy@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Submission to the Task Force  
**Importance:** High

Hi Christine,

I hope you are doing well. I am attaching a submission that I would appreciate being circulated to appropriate ERTF staff, as well as the Premiere, Minister James, and Minister Mungall for their information. I do not want to speak to this on the weekly call, although I can if its useful. I just needed to put my concerns for the community social services sector in front of government. I have also provided some thoughts on the role of the sector in economic recovery and reinforce the need for significant sector reform.

s.13

I do not want to distract from the other important work of the ERTF, nor take time from other participants during our roundtable conversation each meeting, especially when I will frequently be repeating myself. So I have put this paper together.

A lot of this work can be done at the Social Services Sector Roundtable, but some of it is more relevant to community economic development, or broader public policy.

Anyway, thank you for redirecting this document as you think best. I am happy to meet with anyone in government who would like to talk about my concerns or ideas.

Thank you, and keep safe.

Kind Regards,  
**Rick FitzZaland**, Executive Director  
Direct Line (Mobile): 250.480.8910

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