

## Key Messages – March 18, 2015

### B.C. on the Move

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Over the next three years, almost \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government will invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

## B.C. on the Move Regional Media – Stations and Plan Highlights

### Overarching Key Messages

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- This investment of almost \$2.5 billion over three years will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with over 12,500 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government will invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

### Thompson-Okanagan

#### Media:

**CHNL Kamloops                      250-374-1610**

**CBC Radio Kamloops              250-374-6802**

<b>CBC Radio Kelowna</b>	<b>250-861-3781</b>
<b>AM 1150 Kelowna</b>	<b>250-868-4720</b>
<b>KISS Vernon</b>	<b>250-545-5901</b>
<b>Sun-FM Penticton</b>	<b>250-493-6397</b>
<b>EZ Rock Salmon Arm</b>	<b>250-344-7177</b>

**BCOTM Highlights:**

s.13,s.17

**Highway 1 – Hoffman’s Bluff to Jade Mountain** (Kamloops South Thompson)

Planning and design for 4 laning by Chase.

**Highway 97 - Highway 33 to Edwards** (Kamloops South Thompson)

- Six lane 4.5 km of Highway 97 from Highway 33 to Edwards Road in Kelowna.

s.13,s.17

**Variable Speed Zone** (Shuswap)

- Install a variable speed zone on Hwy 1 between Sicamous and Revelstoke.

s.13,s.17

**Highway 1 - Salmon Arm West** (Shuswap)

- Planning and design for 4-laning west of Salmon Arm

s.13

s.13,s.17

**Continue project planning and community engagement for a future second crossing** of Okanagan Lake, including assessment of Highway 97 through Kelowna, West Kelowna and Peachland.

\$45 million over the next 5 years for safety improvements and resurfacing on **Westside Road**.

**Cycling Tourism Signage and Marketing Strategy Pilot (Pilot in South Okanagan):** The Okanagan Valley has been chosen as the first area in B.C. that will test a new tourism signage and marketing strategy, which will provide cyclists with a variety of different riding experiences that allow them to explore all parts of the region.

**Rest areas** throughout B.C. are being upgraded to improve accessibility for persons with limited mobility. including adding curb letdowns, accessible washrooms and other improvements. s.13,s.17  
s.13,s.17

**Enhanced Driver Information (Province-wide):** The safety of drivers is a constant priority for the Ministry, and B.C. On the Move provides a number of enhancements to existing safety systems, including upgrading DriveBC to provide a better user experience and increasing the number of changeable message signs, in order to provide the safest commute possible for all drivers.

**To improve worker safety** the ministry has enhanced legislation that requires vehicles to move over when approaching roadside work vehicles, similar to the requirement to move over when approaching emergency vehicles. We will continue to work with our partners and the public to explore additional strategies to improve roadside worker safety.



## Kootenays

### Media:

<b>CBC Radio Nelson</b>	<b>250-352-1642</b>
<b>KBS Castlegar/Trail</b>	<b>250-368-5510</b>
<b>Mountain-FM Castlegar</b>	<b>250-365-7600</b>
<b>EZ Rick Revelstoke/Golden</b>	<b>1-866-439-6397</b>

### BCOTM Highlights:

s.13,s.17

#### **Wildlife Detection System (Kootenay East)**

- Install wildlife detection system on Hwy 3 east of Cranbrook.  
s.13,s.17

#### **Highway 3 Passing Lanes - Cranbrook to Alberta Border (Kootenay East)**

- Design and construct passing lanes between Cranbrook and the Alberta border over the 10 year period.

s.13

#### **Highway 3 at Pine and Railway (Nelson Creston, Under Construction)**

- Intersection improvement.  
s.13,s.17

#### **Highway 1 Donald East (Columbia River Revelstoke)**

Design for 4 laning from Donald to Forde Station Rd west of Golden.

#### **Highway 1 Illecillewaet (Columbia River Revelstoke)**

Planning and Design for 4 laning east of Revelstoke.

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## Northwest

### Media

**CBC Prince Rupert      250-624-2161**

**CFTK Terrace/Kitimat    250-638-6325**

### BCOTM Highlights:

#### **Highways 16 and 37 Passing Lanes (Nechako Lakes/Stikine)**

- Begin work on 7 new passing lanes in next three years – locations to be determined.

#### **Resurfacing of Sande Bridge Deck Overpass (Skeena)**

- Deck Overpass resurfacing at intersection of Highway 16 and Keit Skeena h Avenue in Terrace.

s.13,s.17

#### **Sande Intersection (Skeena)**

- Design of Sande Overpass and Keith intersection improvements in Terrace.

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## Northeast

### Media

**EnergyFM Fort St. John**                      **250-785-6397**

**Peace-FM Chetwynd/Dawson**   **250-784-2002**

### BCOTM Highlights:

#### **Alaska Highway Passing Lane** (Peace River North)

- Passing lane near Mile 63 – north of Fort St. John, with design work underway for a second passing lane.

s.13,s.17

#### **Alaska Highway at Pine Avenue in Taylor** (Peace River South)

- New traffic signal in Taylor at Alaska Highway/Highway 97 and Pine Avenue Intersection.

s.13,s.17

#### **Trucking Strategy** (Province-wide)

- Pullouts, parking, staging, chain ups/offs.

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## Cariboo/Central Interior

### Media:

<b>CBC Radio Prince George</b>	<b>250-562-6701</b>
<b>CFIS Prince George</b>	s.17
<b>DriveFM/The River PG</b>	<b>250-563-0111</b>
<b>Wolf/CJCI PG</b>	<b>250-564-2524</b>
<b>Rush/Wolf FM Williams Lake</b>	<b>250-992-7946</b>

### BCOTM Highlights:

#### **Highway 97 Williams Lake South** (Cariboo North)

- Cariboo Connector Phase 2 – south of Williams 4 laning.  
s.13,s.17

#### **Cache Creek and Quesnel Priority Projects** (Cariboo North/Cariboo South)

- Work with Cache Creek and Quesnel to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion through their communities.

#### **Highway 97 Salmon River Bridge** (Prince George – Mackenzie)

- Design for bridge replacement.

#### **Highway 97 Parsnip Bridge** (Prince George – Mackenzie)

- Design for bridge replacement.

#### **Highway 97 - Stone Creek to Williams (Cariboo Connector)** (Prince George Valemount)

- Cariboo Connector Phase 2 - 4 laning south of Prince George.  
s.13,s.17

#### **Highway 27 Resurfacing** (Nechako Lakes)

- Hot in place 43 km of Highway 27, south of Ft. St. James.  
s.13,s.17

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- Pullouts, parking, staging, chain ups/offers.

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## Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley/Sunshine Coast

### Media:

<b>CKNW</b>	<b>604-331-2798</b>
<b>CBC Radio</b>	<b>604-662-6913</b>
<b>CKWX</b>	<b>604-873-0877</b>
<b>MountainFM Squamish/Whistler</b>	<b>877-450-6397</b>
<b>Star-FM Abbotsford/Chilliwack</b>	<b>604-792-6681</b>
<b>Coast Radio Sechelt</b>	<b>604-741-9171</b>
<b>Sun-FM Powell River</b>	<b>604-485-6200</b>

### **Ethnic:**

<b>Fairchild AM 1470</b>	<b>604-295-1233</b>
<b>CHMB</b>	<b>604-263-1320</b>
<b>Red-FM</b>	<b>604-727-0007</b>

### BCOTM Highlights:

#### **Highway 1 - Langley to Abbotsford 6 Laning**

(Abbotsford West/Abbotsford South/Fraser Valley Aldergrove)

- Initiate design for 6 laning.

#### **Mt. Lehman Road (Abbotsford West)**

- Design project for future upgrades – Mt. Lehman Rd between Highway 1 and the Abbotsford Airport.

#### **Variable Speed Zone (Chilliwack Hope)**

- Install a variable speed zone on Hwy 5 on snowshed hill.

s.13,s.17

#### **Highway 3 Passing Lanes – Hope to Princeton (Chilliwack Hope / Fraser Nicola)**

- Design and construct passing lanes between Hope and Princeton over the 10 year plan.

#### **George Massey Tunnel (Richmond Centre)**

- Project development.

#### **Highway 1 - Mountain Highway Interchange in North Vancouver**

(West Vancouver Capilano, Announced)

- Design for new interchange, with construction to begin in 2016.  
s.13,s.17      dollar value.

**Variable Speed Zone** (West Vancouver Sea to Sky)

- Install a variable speed zone on Highway 99, north of Squamish.  
s.13,s.17      dollar value.

**Trucking Strategy** (Province-wide)

- Pullouts, parking, staging, chain ups/off.

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## Vancouver Island

### Media:

<b>CBC Radio Victoria</b>	<b>250-360-2227</b>
<b>CFAX</b>	<b>250-381-6397</b>
<b>TheQ! FM Victoria</b>	<b>250-475-2800</b>
<b>Sun-FM Duncan</b>	<b>250-748-1500</b>
<b>Wave/Wolf Nanaimo</b>	<b>250-758-2467</b>
<b>The Beach Parksville</b>	<b>250-248-4211</b>
<b>Eagle Radio Courtenay</b>	<b>250-703-0199</b>
<b>Jet-FM Courtenay</b>	<b>250-334-4033</b>
<b>Peak Port Alberni</b>	<b>250-723-1240</b>

### BCOTM Highlights:

#### **Alberni Connector Review** (Alberni Pacific Rim)

- Business case review is underway to assess alternate connection between the Island Highway and Port Alberni.

s.13,s.17

#### **Highway 4 Kennedy Lake (2)** (Alberni Pacific Rim)

- Planning and Design alignment and widening improvements.

#### **Malahat Village Improvements** (Juan De Fuca)

- Planning and design is underway for median barrier and safety improvements on Highway 1 Malahat corridor.

#### **Highway 14 Cycling** (Juan De Fuca)

- Widening the shoulders on Highway 14 east of Sooke on Vancouver Island.

s.13,s.17

**Sayward Road Cycling (North Island)**

- Shoulder widening cycling project – Vancouver island north.

s.13,s.17

**Victoria Approaches Bus Lane (Saanich South/Victoria Swan Lake)**

- Design work is underway to extend the Douglas Street bus lane from Tolmie to Uptown.

**Highway 1 Improve Commuter Mobility from Langford to Victoria (Saanich South/Victoria Swan Lake)**

- Preliminary engineering work is underway to assess the potential for a future interchange on Highway 1 at McKenzie Avenue in Victoria.

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## Proposed Talk Radio Week of March 17-20

### **Talk Radio:**

Tuesday, March 17	CKNW Mike Eckford Show (Lower Mainland) (weekdays 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.) Call-in – <b>BC on the Move</b>
Wednesday, March 18	CBC On the Coast (focus Lower Mainland) host Stephen Quinn (weekdays 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.) Call-in/ pre-tape after 2:30 p.m. – <b>BC on the Move &amp; BC Ferries</b>
Thursday, March 19:	CBC On the Island (Vancouver Island focus) host Gregor Craigie (weekdays 5:30 - 8:37 a.m.) – Call-in – <b>BC on the Move &amp; BC Ferries</b>
Thursday, March 19	CBC Daybreak North (focus PG) hosts with Carolina de Ryk and Russell Bowers (weekdays 6:10 to 8:37 a.m.) In-studio/ Call-in – <b>BC on the Move</b>
Thursday, March 19	CFAX Mornings with Al Ferraby Weekday Mornings 5:00AM - 9:00AM – <b>BC on the Move &amp; BC Ferries</b>
Thursday, March 19	CHNL with Jim Harrison - <b>BC on the Move</b>
Friday, March 20:	CBC Early Edition (South Coast focus) host Rick Cluff (every morning from 5:10 to 8:37 a.m.) – <b>BC on the Move &amp; BC Ferries</b>
Friday, March 20:	CBC Daybreak Kamloops – <b>BC on the Move</b>
Friday, March 20:	CKNW: Jon McComb Monday to Friday, 5:30am – 10am <u>or</u> Mike Eckford Monday to Friday, 2pm – 6pm – <b>BC on the Move &amp; BC Ferries</b>
Saturday, March 21	CKNW - Sean Leslie Weekends, 1pm – 5pm

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2015TRAN0020-000345  
March 17, 2015

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

### **B.C. launches 10-year transportation plan**

VICTORIA – The B.C. government today announced B.C. on the Move, a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.

This \$2.5-billion plan will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.

The plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.

British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition, which is why the plan includes more than \$800 million over the next three years dedicated to existing infrastructure and almost \$1 billion toward expansion of major highways and the network.

B.C. on the Move includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry working together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.

Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:

- Partnering with First Nations on projects that support economic activity.
- Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas.
- New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities.

The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

#### **Quote:**

#### **Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone –**

"The best possible transportation network is vital to the daily lives of every single British Columbian and is one of the most important foundations of a strong economy. B.C. on the Move is the roadmap for the next 10 years on how we will expand and improve our transportation network to ultimately improve the quality of life for us all."

#### **Learn More:**

B.C. on the Move is available online at: <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/transportationplan>

A backgrounder follows.

**Media Contact:**

Media Relations  
Government Communications and Public  
Engagement  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
250 356-8241

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

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## BACKGROUND

For Immediate Release  
2015TRAN0020-000345  
March 17, 2015

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

### **Summary of twelve priorities for B.C. on the Move**

1. **Rehabilitating Highways, Bridges and Side Roads**

95% of B.C. on the Move survey respondents agreed that keeping existing highways, bridges and side roads in good condition was important. The Province will resurface 1,000 kilometres of provincial highway annually, increase its investment in bridge rehabilitation funding by 50% over previous years, and deliver up to 30 projects each year that will improve over 500 kilometres of side roads annually.

2. **Improving Highway Safety**

Safety on B.C.'s highways and side roads is the ministry's number one priority and B.C. on the Move contains a number of initiatives aimed at improving safety. These include the launch of a new Road Safety Improvement Program and improvements to intersections in communities.

3. **Improving Highway Capacity and Reliability**

Government has budgeted almost \$1 billion over the next three years to ensure our transportation network has the capacity and reliability to meet the transport and trade needs of the province. Where possible, the Province will work with Canada to secure federal funding for highway expansion priorities.

4. **Delivering a Provincial Trucking Strategy**

Trucking supports our economy and helps to maintain a high quality of life for all British Columbians. Government is delivering a Provincial Trucking Strategy that will increase the economic efficiency and safety of the commercial trucking industry.

5. **Investing in Cycling**

72% of B.C. on the Move survey respondents agreed that enhancing cycling infrastructure and improving transportation choices was important. Priorities for action include allocating a budget of \$18 million over the next three years to partner with communities to build new bike lanes and trails across B.C. Government will also widen shoulders, double the frequency of sweeping and implement safety improvements on provincial highways in areas with a high volume of cyclists.

6. **Supporting Transit**

Public transit is an essential component of B.C.'s integrated transportation network, and 90% of British Columbians have access to transit. Government will maintain the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada by targeting \$312 million in operating contributions to BC Transit over the next three years. On the Lower Mainland, B.C. is reaffirming its commitment to fund 1/3 of the cost of new rapid transit projects, and the Pattullo Bridge, provided they can be accommodated within the provincial fiscal plan and

the investments are supported by a business case.

**7. Investing in Airports**

Aviation is critical to growing the B.C. economy. B.C. plans to invest \$24 million over the next three years in a new B.C. Air Access Program, so that community airports can access funding to improve infrastructure like runways, terminals and lighting.

**8. Enabling Efficient Ports and Rail**

Provincial investments which leverage private sector commitments to port and rail infrastructure improvements are key to expanding trade relationships through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway, as identified in the Pacific Gateway Strategy 2012-2020. Priorities for action through B.C. on the Move include determining potential infrastructure upgrades needed to support Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities, and investing in infrastructure that enhances access to ports and increases port bulk, break bulk and container capacity.

**9. Sustaining and Renewing Ferries**

Government will continue to pursue strategies to achieve its vision of an affordable, sustainable, and efficient coastal ferry service. This includes supporting BC Ferries' move to LNG, alternative technologies such as the new cable ferry to Denman Island, and its new reservation system. Government will also continue to renew inland ferry assets.

**10. Building Partnerships with First Nations**

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure builds positive relationships with First Nations by working together to identify ways for First Nations to benefit from related economic and employment opportunities, and to resolve issues and impacts from projects.

**11. Improving Accessibility**

B.C. on the Move contains priorities for action that support Accessibility 2024, a 10-year plan and shared commitment between government, businesses and communities to make B.C. the most progressive place in Canada for people with disabilities. A key goal of this plan is for B.C. communities to have the most accessible transportation options in Canada by 2024.

**12. Protecting the Environment**

B.C. is committed to taking action on environmental protection in the transportation sector. Safeguarding the environment and taking measures to reduce environmental impacts are key priorities in all the projects and programs delivered to improve transportation.

**Media Contact:**

Media Relations  
Government Communications and Public  
Engagement  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
250 356-8241





# **B.C. on the Move – 10-year Transportation Plan**

## **Questions and Answers**

### **Updated Mar. 24, 2015**

#### **1. What is government doing?**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Almost \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.

#### **2. How will this plan benefit British Columbians?**

- Along with getting us to where we need to go, an improved transportation network will enhance safety, improve trade and our Pacific Gateway and generate jobs.
- The priorities in B.C. on the Move support our high quality of life.

#### **3. Does this plan reflect the opinion of British Columbians surveyed during the engagement?**

- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014.
- This included meetings with key stakeholders including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.
- Government also conducted a public survey with over 12,500 responses.
- Our priorities were developed based on this input, along with consideration of known priorities and technical information from staff.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- That's why the plan includes more than \$800 million over the next three years dedicated to existing infrastructure, and almost \$1 billion toward new expansion of the transportation network.

**4. Why aren't all the projects listed in the plan?**

- The plan contains highlights of projects all around the province that will be planned, designed or carried out in the short and medium term.
- Many more projects will be announced as plans and funding are finalized.

s.13

**6. How much will all the projects in the plan cost, and how will the projects be funded?**

- The ministry operates on a three-year budget cycle consistent with its 3-year service plan.
- Almost \$2.5 billion has been committed for the first three years of the transportation plan.

**7. How does this compare to this past year's 3-year transportation budget?**

- While the numbers may be similar, the nearly \$2.5 billion committed in the plan will be invested moving forward according to the priorities now identified in the new plan.

**8. Will the Province be seeking funding partners to support any of these projects, such as the federal government or others?**

- Yes. Where partners come to the table wanting to cost-share on a mutual priority, we will actively pursue those projects.
- We're working with the federal government to identify priorities and agree on cost sharing for a number of major projects.
- We'll also work with First Nations, industry, the private sector and local governments where possible to implement mutual priorities.

**9. Are any projects conditional upon federal cost-sharing?**

- For sure there are some projects that we just couldn't tackle without federal support.
- For example, the final phase of the Kicking Horse Canyon Project is estimated at between \$440 and \$660-million.
- Federal support is needed to enable completion.

**10. Will any of the projects be considered as Public Private Partnerships?**

- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. The Province will actively pursue and invest in projects where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities.
- We're working with the federal government to identify priorities and agree on cost sharing for a number of major projects.
- We look at a variety of options for procuring major capital projects.
- Where the provincial investment exceeds \$100 million, the Province will look at the project as a P3 unless analysis shows another model to be preferential.

**11. Why are you including previously announced projects in this plan?**

- This is a 10-year plan, but we operate in three year budget cycles.
- So some projects announced last year or the year prior may just be at construction stage this year and so need to be captured in this plan.
- Examples include Highway 1 improvements at Malakwa and Highway 97 six-laning from Highway 33 to Edwards in Kelowna.

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**13. Does the \$2.5 billion include money for the new bridge to replace the George Massey tunnel or is additional funding needed for that?**

- There is funding for development of the George Massey Tunnel replacement project included within the ministry's capital plan over the next three years.
- Part of the project development is to determine how the project will be delivered and how it can be funded.

**14. How does this plan support government's goal to be a world leader in LNG production and export?**

- The successful construction and operation of LNG facilities will require continued investment in the transportation network, particularly in the north, including highways and side roads, rail, highways, ports and airports among others.
- There are multiple elements in the plan, from highway and side road upgrades, to the provincial trucking strategy to strategic actions being taken to enable efficient ports and rail that will support this key government goal.
- We will continue to work with First Nations, local and federal governments, ports and industry on land use planning, access and infrastructure needs for proposed LNG facilities in the Prince Rupert and Kitimat areas, and other parts of the province.

**Mayors' Council Plebiscite:**

**15. If Metro Vancouver taxpayers support the upcoming plebiscite, how do those projects fit with B.C. on the Move?**

- The government is fully committed and has made commitments to funding 1/3 of rapid transit projects and the Pattullo Bridge in the Mayors' plan.

**16. Why is the province the only ones who have committed their share?**

s.13

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**18. What transportation improvements will the province fund in the Lower Mainland if the vote is “no?”**

- BC on the Move identifies a number of priorities and projects for the Metro Vancouver and Lower Mainland regions. These priorities will not change.

s.13

## **Provincial Trucking Strategy**

### **20. What is the purpose of the new Provincial Trucking Strategy?**

- B.C. on the Move includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.

### **21. What does the strategy entail?**

- The strategy has a number of pieces to address safety and mobility.
  - We want to upgrade bridges and overpasses, particularly in the Northeast, to accommodate the heavier and larger loads transported by industry.
  - We will work with industry to expand the number of highways preapproved for 85 and 125 metric tonne loads.
  - We want to continue to streamline our permit process.
  - We'll expand the number of rest stops for commercial trucks and pullouts for inspections.
  - We will also explore opportunities to expand truck parking facilities in the Lower Mainland.

### **22. Was the trucking industry involved in developing the trucking strategy?**

- Government has a good working relationship with the BC Trucking Association and others in the industry.
- We've worked them to develop pieces of this strategy and will continue to do so as we take action on the plan.

### **23. How much funding is dedicated to the trucking strategy?**

- About 2.5 billion has been committed to the plan over the next three years. The trucking strategy will be funded from this overall allocation, as specific projects are planned and confirmed, in consultations with industry.

## **Airports**

### **24. What does the 10-year-plan include for B.C.'s aviation industry?**

- It establishes \$24 million over the next three years for the new B.C. Air Access Program
- The plan also supports development of the aviation industry near B.C. airports.
- It continues to engage the federal government to improve air access.

### **25. What is this new \$24-million B.C. Air Access Program?**

- This year, the Province will establish a new program to provide community airports with access to \$24 million in new funding over the next three years to invest in infrastructure improvements including:
  - runway extensions,
  - terminal building expansions
  - lighting and navigational system upgrades.
- These improvements will allow airports to accommodate larger aircraft and more frequent flights, supporting the continued growth of local and provincial economies.
- The program will encourage funding partnerships with the federal government, local and regional governments and agencies, and the private sector.

### **26. Does funding for rural airports include any commitments to the Revelstoke Airport?**

- The Province's new B.C. Air Access Program will provide community airports with access to \$24 million in new funding over the next three years to invest in infrastructure improvements.
- Program details are being finalized. No specific projects at community airports have been identified yet.

### **27. Didn't you just release an Aviation Strategy in 2012? What's new here?**

- The Province's Aviation Strategy, Connecting with the World, was released as part of the BC Jobs Plan, to develop a viable and globally-competitive aviation sector, enabling passengers and goods to connect with destinations around the world through B.C. airports.
- The aviation priorities in BC on the Move expand and build on Connecting with the World, including the new \$24 million B.C. Air Access Program.

**28. What will this program mean for smaller municipal and regional airports?**

- There will be a dedicated provincial funding program that they can apply to in order to help fund projects that will be of benefit to local and provincial economies.

**29. Was the aviation industry involved in the plan for aviation moving forward?**

- BC on the Move priorities for aviation were developed based on the input we heard throughout the public engagement process.

**30. How much funding is dedicated to B.C.'s aviation industry under this plan?**

- \$24 million will be invested over the next three years in the new B.C. Air Access Program

**Highway 1:**

**31. As far as four-laning from Kamloops to the Alberta border, is there any additional funding in this plan not previously announced in other plans? If so, how much?**

- The provincial funding commitment to invest \$650 million over 10 years is in place towards four-laning Highway 1 from Kamloops to the Alberta border.
- Under B.C. on the Move, the province will continue to advance four-laning projects between Kamloops and Golden.



- The province will work with Canada to leverage federal funding for priority projects.
- It is the province's goal to increase investment on this corridor to over \$1 billion with partners over 10 years.

**32. 2)As referenced in page 21 of the new transportation plan, the existing commitment is \$650 million over 10 years for four-laning projects from Kamloops to the Alberta border. How much of that has been spent on four laning projects, and how much is committed in the current budget?**

- Over the past 10 years, over \$700 million has been spent on improvements to Highway 1 between Kamloops and the Alberta border.
- For the current budget for Highway 1 Kamloops to Alberta, please see Page 17 of the Ministry's Service Plan at <http://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2015/sp/pdf/ministry/tran.pdf>

**33. What is the "Donald East" project? Please provide details (page 21):**

- Project details are online at [http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/highwayprojects/bchwy1/Donald\\_East/index.html](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/highwayprojects/bchwy1/Donald_East/index.html)

s.13

**35. Does the plan address the eastern and western access from the Trans-Canada Highway to Revelstoke? If so, please be as specific as possible.**

- As part of our BC on the Move 10-year transportation plan, four-laning is being planned in the Illecillewaet area along Highway 1, located approximately 40 kilometres east of Revelstoke.
- The scope of the project will be determined in the coming months, as planning and design work proceeds.
- Additional road network improvements in the Revelstoke area are being identified through planning work with the municipality. No specific projects have yet been finalized.

**36. When will variable speed signs be installed on the Trans-Canada between Revelstoke and Sicamous (page 16)? How many of these signs will be installed on this stretch?**

- Last summer, the ministry completed a Rural Highway Safety and Speed Review that involved extensive public consultation across the province.
- As part of that process, the ministry recognized that adverse weather conditions on corridors can be challenging for drivers, and proposed piloting a variable speed limit system to remind drivers of the safe maximum speed during adverse weather.
- The variable speed limit system to be piloted on Highway 1 will be located on the section of highway between Perry River Bridge (North Fork) and Revelstoke.
- The ministry is currently in the design stage the system.
- Installation is planned for 2015.

How the system works:

- A variable speed limit system uses a variety of sensors to measure weather, pavement condition and traffic flow.
- This information is then used by a qualified Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure employee, who would make decisions about changes to the variable speed limit.
- The adjusted speed limit is then posted real-time on LED speed signs along the corridor.
- Overhead changeable message signs placed at the start of the variable speed zone will alert drivers of upcoming road and weather conditions.
- The system will also react to congestion and can be used to manage vehicle speeds during incidents.

### **Vancouver Island:**

#### **37. Regarding the proposed Alberni route, is there any info of potential routes?**

- The ministry will be undertaking an updated business case to assess the costs & benefits of a new route connecting Highway 19 to the Alberni Valley.
- This business case will consider various impacts including: financial, customer service, environmental, social and economic.
- Port Alberni and area stakeholders requested government take a look at a proposed alignment identified in a route study report commissioned by the Port Alberni Port Authority.
- See document <http://www.portalberniportauthority.ca/files/12%2010%2009%2012-354%20Horne%20Lake%20Study%20FINAL%20Report%20OCT%2009%202012.pdf>
- Government has agreed and will undertake an updated business case which will consider various impacts including: financial, customer service, environmental, social and economic.

#### **38. What are the details of Belleville Terminal upgrades?**

- The Belleville Ferry Terminal Properties are important to our economy.
- We've extended the lease with the operators of the Clipper and the Coho to ensure these valuable services can continue.
- The ministry has been working with the operators and other stakeholders in developing a strategy to move forward. That will be in front of government soon for a decision.
- The Belleville Ferry Terminal properties are considered as part of BC On the Move, which will help us identify transportation priorities in British Columbia the next 10 years.

### **Lower Mainland:**

**39. The plan says 20 overpasses/interchanges may be replaced in the Lower Mainland. What work is being considered, and is Roger Pierlet overpass on Highway 15 is one of the projects that's being considered?**

- B.C. on the Move references planning and delivery of up to 20 new highway overpass and interchange projects in the Lower Mainland Region over the next 10 years.
- All Lower Mainland corridors are being reviewed as part of the new 10-year plan to ensure plans and designs for the new overpasses and interchanges are focused on those areas where safety and capacity upgrades are most needed.
- Repair work is currently underway on Roger Pierlet overpass on Highway 15 to repair and rehabilitate the structure. In 2008 the two lane structure was expanded to four lanes. Further expansion or replacement of this overpass is not planned within the next 10 years.
- As plans and designs for the other projects proceed, further announcements will be made.

**40. What specifically is proposed for 6-laning on Highway 1 between Langley and Abbotsford?**

- The ministry is undertaking a preliminary engineering study to determine the scope of six-laning on Highway 1 between Langley and Abbotsford.
- This builds on the \$3.3 billion dollar investment in Port Mann Highway 1 that is already realizing significant travel time savings for users of this corridor.
- The ministry will study the long term needs for the 30 km segment of the Highway 1 corridor between 216th St in Langley and Highway 11 in Abbotsford, including capacity and safety issues, while taking into consideration the condition of our existing infrastructure and the long range development plans of regional municipalities.
- Given the complexity and scope of the study, we anticipate having an updated plan by this winter.
- Once the study is completed we will be in a better position to discuss the scope of individual projects moving forward.

- The ministry will also be working with federal and local governments on possible partnership opportunities.

### **Northwest:**

#### **41. What will be some of the first regions in the Northwest targeted by BC on the Move?**

- One of the first priority projects announced under the new plan last week was for the community of Terrace - the safety improvements for the intersection of Sande Ave. and Keith Ave (Highway 16). These improvements are now in design and work is expected to start later this summer.
- Other priorities for the northwest will be announced down the road.

#### **42. With regards to Prince Rupert, two main issues are Highway 16 upgrades and better access to the airport, will those be addressed in the near future?**

- B.C. on the Move identifies the construction of seven new passing lanes over the next three years on Highways 16 and 37 as a priority.
- Investments in infrastructure that enhances goods movement, improves access to and from provincial highways and traffic flow through communities are priorities in the plan.
- Projects specific to the Prince Rupert area are still under consideration and further details will be announced as planning proceeds.

### **Kootenays:**

#### **43. What wildlife detection systems are being proposed in the East Kootenays?**

- The system to be piloted will use sensors to identify large wildlife approaching the shoulder of the highway.

- When the detection system determines a large animal is present, it will trigger flashing lights on a warning sign to alert drivers of the potential hazard ahead. Drivers will also be advised to lower their speed to reduce the potential conflict with wildlife.
- Typically, these systems use radar, infrared camera, or breaking beam to detect wildlife approaching and crossing the highway.
- B.C.'s choice of technology has not yet been made.
- Two sites are being considered for the pilot, one near Elko and the other east of Sparwood.

## **Cariboo**

### **44. What work is happening on Highway 97 between Quesnel and 100 Mile?**

- Priorities for action in B.C. on the Move include completing the final four projects announced under Phase 2 of the Cariboo Connector program, including four-laning south of Williams Lake.
- The ministry will initiate planning for future priority projects on the Highway 97 corridor.
- This includes working with local governments in Quesnel and Cache Creek to identify priorities to improve safety and reduce congestion through their communities.

## **Ferries**

### **45. Why doesn't the plan include more funding for BC Ferries?**

- The Province will continue to pursue strategies to achieve the vision of an affordable, sustainable and efficient coastal ferry service.
- Since 2012, the Province has undertaken a broad set of initiatives including adding an additional \$86.6 million in taxpayer funding to 2016.
- Our efforts were intended to address concerns about the affordability of fares and ensure that coastal communities could be connected in a sustainable manner.

- We'll wait to see what the Ferry Commissioner has to say about the next performance term when he comes out with his preliminary ruling before the end of March.

**46. Why wasn't BC Ferries considered as part of the public review?**

- The transportation system in B.C. is highly integrated and this plan considers the connections among different modes: road, rail, air and sea - including connections to ferry terminals.
- BC Ferries has developed plans for their services, which will be considered as the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure develops B.C. on the Move.
- I know it's tough to talk about coastal British Columbia's transportation issues without talking about BC Ferries.
- However, the public has been thoroughly canvassed about BC Ferries over the last number of years, and changes to the service have been made.
- The Province is now pursuing strategies to achieve a system that is affordable, efficient and sustainable while protecting basic services.

**47. The ferries are our highways; shouldn't BC Ferries should be part of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and part of this plan?**

- BC Ferries are not part of the highways system; they are two completely different systems and come with their own operational challenges.
- With respect to the coastal ferry system, the public has been thoroughly canvassed about it over the last number of years, and changes to the service have been made.
- The Province is now pursuing strategies to achieve a system that is affordable, efficient and sustainable while protecting basic services.
- This 10-year transportation plan will identify a selection of multi-modal transportation and infrastructure priorities that will, over the next 10 years, support the safe and reliable movement of people and goods.

s.13



Lower Mainland /Fraser Valley/Sunshine Coast			
Question	Name of Project	Description / Location	Riding
<b>What are you doing to ease Congestion on Highway 1 East of Langley?</b>	Highway 1 - Langley to Abbotsford 6 laning	<b>Announcing design work for future 6 laning Highway 1 between Langley to Abbotsford</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will build on the success of the Port Mann/Highway 1 improvement project, that widened 37 kilometers of Highway 1 from Vancouver to Langley.</li> <li>This project will be key to addressing the needs of the growing Metro Vancouver population, estimated to grow by 1 million by 2030.</li> <li>Planning and design is still underway, so the project length has not been determined.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Abbotsford West/Abbotsford South/Fraser Valley Aldergrove</b>
<b>During consultations, you heard that better connections to Abbotsford Airport were important. Are you addressing those?</b>	Mt. Lehman Road	<b>Announcing design work for future upgrades on Mt. Lehman Rd between Highway 1 and the Abbotsford Airport</b> s.13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These improvements are needed to accommodate the growing population and regional needs, and to improve safety.</li> </ul>	<b>Abbotsford West</b>
<b>What work is being done at the Mountain Highway intersection on Vancouver's north shore?</b>	Highway 1 - Mountain Highway interchange in North Vancouver	<b>Re-announcing design work for new Mountain Highway interchange on Highway 1, with construction to begin in 2016</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project involves converting the existing Mountain Highway Overpass at Highway 1 into a full interchange.</li> <li>This new interchange will increase safety by helping to reduce congestion and travel times on this busy stretch of roadway, and will provide an alternative to the east-west and north-south routes on the North Shore, thereby providing additional capacity for travelers in these Vancouver communities.</li> <li>The Federal Government is contributing up to \$12.5 million for this project through the Building Canada Fund - Major Infrastructure Component. The</li> </ul>	<b>West Vancouver Capilano (announced)</b>

		Province of British Columbia is providing up to \$23.5 million for this project.	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total project cost is \$36 million.</li> </ul>	
<b>Will the ministry be piloting variable speed zones, as noted in the Safety and Speed review?</b>	Variable Speed Zone	<b>Announcing the installation of a variable speed zone pilot location on Highway 99, north of Squamish</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variable speed zones will use sensors and radar technology to monitor road conditions</li> <li>Test areas include sections of the Trans-Canada between Revelstoke and Sicamous, the Coquihalla near the snowshed and parts of the Sea-to-Sky Highway.</li> </ul>	<b>West Vancouver Sea to Sky</b>
<b>The Hope-Princeton is an important trade and tourist corridor. What's being done to improve safety and reliability?</b>	Highway 3 Passing Lanes – Hope to Princeton	<b>Announcing design work for future passing lanes between Hope and Princeton on Highway 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More passing lanes will improve safety and reduce travel times on this key southern BC east-west corridor.</li> <li>Several communities have identified the need for more passing lanes in this stretch of Highway 3.</li> <li>s.13</li> </ul>	<b>Chilliwack Hope / Fraser Nicola</b>
<b>Vancouver Island</b>			
<b>Question</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Description / Location</b>	<b>Riding</b>
<b>Will government build a new interchange at the Highway 1 McKenzie-Admirals intersection in Saanich?</b>	Highway 1 Admirals/MacKenzie	<b>Announcing that preliminary engineering work is underway to assess the potential for a future interchange on Highway 1 at MacKenzie Avenue in Victoria – with partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will be key to reducing congestion and expanding capacity for greater traffic volumes on Highway 1 close to Victoria.</li> <li>There is significant support for the project from residents and communities in south Vancouver Island – as demonstrated through the public engagement process for BC on the Move.</li> <li>The project will be designed in conjunction with partners, such as local governments and BC Transit.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Saanich South/Victoria Swan Lake</b>
<b>Does Victoria figure in BC on the Move?</b>	Victoria Approaches Bus Lane	<b>Announcing that design work is underway to extend the northbound Douglas Street bus lane from Tolmie to Uptown – with partners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ministry will work with key partners such as the Capital Regional District, local governments and BC Transit on the design</li> </ul>	<b>Saanich South/Victoria Swan Lake</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This work is important to reducing congestion and enhancing mobility on Highway 1, close to Victoria, by encouraging greater transit use.</li> <li>• The project will work in conjunction with other projects such as the preliminary design work on a potential interchange at Admirals and MacKenzie to reduce congestion and expand capacity of the highway.</li> </ul> <p>s.13</p>	
<b>Is government looking at an alternate route from the Island Highway to Port Alberni?</b>	Alberni Connector review	<b>Announcing a business case review to assess an alternate connection between the Island Highway and Port Alberni</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City and Port of Port Alberni have long advocated for an alternative highway to be constructed from Port Alberni to the Island Highway.</li> <li>• Highway 4 currently connects Port Alberni and western Vancouver Island to Highway 19 on eastern Vancouver Island.</li> <li>• A distance of about 45 kilometers.</li> </ul> <p>s.13,s.17</p>	<b>Alberni Pacific Rim</b>
<b>Highway 4 is an important route to the west coast. What is being done to improve it?</b>	Highway 4 Kennedy Lake	<b>A</b>	<b>Alberni Pacific Rim</b>
<b>Highway 4 is an important route to the west coast. What is being done to improve it?</b>	Highway 4 Kennedy Lake	<b>Announcing planning and design work for future re-alignment and widening improvements on Highway 4 near Kennedy Lake</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Kennedy Lake area of Highway 4 is a windy, narrow stretch of highway.</li> <li>• Future improvements may include widening and realigning key sections to improve safety, s.13</li> </ul> <p>s.13</p>	<b>Alberni Pacific Rim</b>
<b>Any more improvements planned for the Malahat?</b>	Malahat Village improvements	<b>Announcing planning and design work for more median barrier and safety improvements on Highway 1 Malahat corridor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This project will build on the \$33 million invested in the Malahat over the last 3 years, and will involve safety and access enhancements to the Malahat Village area.</li> </ul>	<b>Cowichan Valley / Juan De Fuca</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Malahat village area is located about 30 km north of Victoria on Highway</li> </ul>	
<b>What highway improvements are planned for cyclists?</b>	Highway 14 Cycling	<b>Announcing shoulder widening on Highway 14 east of Sooke on Vancouver Island</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will enhance safety for cyclists using this important corridor on eastern Vancouver Island.</li> </ul>	<b>Juan De Fuca</b>
<b>Is there any work planned for the North Island ?</b>	Sayward Road Cycling	<b>Announcing a multi-year rehabilitation project to add shoulders to Sayward Road from the junction of Highway 19 to the Village of Sayward</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiating a multi-year rehabilitation project to add shoulders to Sayward Road from the Junction of Highway 19 to the Village of Sayward a distance of approximately 10 km.</li> </ul>	<b>North Island</b>
<b>Prince George/Central Interior</b>			
<b>Question</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Description / Location</b>	<b>Riding</b>
<b>Is the Cariboo Connector still a priority for government?</b>	Highway 97 Williams Lake South	<b>Announcing the planning and design work for future additional 4 laning of Highway 97 – south of Williams Lake</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project will involve re-alignment and 4 laning of about 5 kilometers of Highway 97 south of Williams Lake, from Williams Lake IR to Lexington.</li> <li>Project is currently in design, with discussions occurring with key stakeholders, including First Nations.</li> <li>This project is part of the \$200-million committed for Phase 2 of the Cariboo Connector program that will add 30 kilometres of new four-lane sections to Highway 97. This builds on the \$240 million already invested through Phase 1 of the program.</li> </ul>	<b>Cariboo North</b>

<b>What is being done to improve the safety of Highway 97 through communities like Quesnel?</b>	Cache Creek and Quesnel Priority projects	<b>Announcing that the Ministry will work with Cache Creek and Quesnel to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion through their communities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This work will build in the needs identified by these communities to examine options to reduce traffic congestion in their communities.</li> <li>Options will be examined to reduce congestion and improve safety.</li> <li>Discussions and analysis are in the preliminary stages.</li> </ul>	<b>Cariboo North/Cariboo South</b>
<b>Any improvements planned for Highway 5 North?</b>	Highway 5 - Camp Creek Passing Lane	<b>Announcing construction of new south bound passing lane on Highway 5 near Camp Creek</b> s.13,s.17	<b>Kamloops North Thompson</b>
<b>Is the Cariboo Connector still a priority for government?</b>	Highway 97 - Stone Creek to Williams	s.13 <b>the Stone Creek to Williams project, part of the Cariboo Connector Phase 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highway 97 about 25 km south of Prince George, the project involves 3 km of 4 laning between Stone Creek Bridge and Red Rock Weigh Station</li> </ul> s.13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project is part of the \$200-million committed for Phase 2 of the Cariboo Connector program that will add 30 kilometres of new four-lane sections to Highway 97. This builds on the \$240 million already invested through Phase 1 of the program.</li> </ul>	<b>Prince George Valemount</b>
<b>Northwest</b>			
<b>Question</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Description / Location</b>	<b>Riding</b>
<b>What improvements are planned for highways in the Northwest?</b>	Highways 16 and 37 Passing Lanes	<b>Announcing design work for 7 new passing lanes on Highways 16 and 37</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These passing lanes will increase the capacity of Highway 16 and 37 to accommodate the growing industrial traffic in the north and the transport of very large and heavy loads throughout B.C.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Nechako Lakes/Stikine</b>

s.13,s.17			<b>Nechako Lakes</b>
<b>What improvements are planned for highways in the Northwest?</b>	Highway 37 - Nass River Bridge	s.13	<b>Stikine</b>
<b>The Sande-Keith intersection in Terrace was identified locally as a priority during consultations. What work is being done?</b>	s.13	<b>Announcing the resurfacing of the Sande Bridge Deck Overpass at the intersection of Highway 16 and Keith Avenue in Terrace</b> s.13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will improve the ridability and prolong the lifespan of key piece of infrastructure within the community of Terrace.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Skeena</b>
<b>The Sande-Keith intersection in Terrace was identified locally as a priority during consultations. What work is being done?</b>	Sande Intersection	<b>Announcing the design and construction of intersection improvements at the Sande Overpass and Keith intersection in Terrace</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic signals will be installed at the intersection making it safer for drivers to turn.</li> <li>A new eastbound left turn lane and improvements to the right turn lanes will improve traffic flow and the intersection's ability to handle greater traffic volume in the future.</li> <li>These improvements will also increase safety and accessibility for pedestrians.</li> </ul>	<b>Skeena</b>

Northeast			
Question	Name of Project	Description / Location	Riding
<b>What work is being done as part of the Provincial Trucking Strategy?</b>	Highway 97 Salmon River Bridge	<b>Announcing design work for the Salmon River bridge replacement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located 28 km North of Prince George BC and was built in 1954.</li> <li>The re-design will address the need to replace this bridge due to its age and condition, but will increase its width and height to enable larger loads to move to and from the Peace Region.</li> </ul>	<b>Prince George – Mackenzie</b>
		s.13	
<b>What work is being done as part of the Provincial Trucking Strategy?</b>	Highway 97 Parsnip Bridge	<b>Announcing design work for the Parsnip bridge replacement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Located 156 km north of Prince George BC and was built in 1953.</li> <li>The re-design will address this structure's current height and width restrictions, which limit the size of loads moving to and from the Peace Region.</li> </ul>	<b>Prince George – Mackenzie</b>
		s.13	
<b>Peace Region highways are shared by residents and industry. What's being done to improve their safety?</b>	Alaska Highway Passing Lane	<b>Announcing a new passing lane north of Fort St. John on Highway 97 near Mile 63 (Alaska Highway), with design work underway for a second one</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct a new passing lane near Mile 63 – north of Fort St. John.</li> <li>With increasing industrial traffic North of Fort St John, this project will improve safety, mobility and efficiency of traffic and support economic development.</li> </ul>	<b>Peace River North</b>
		s.13	
			<b>Peace River South</b>

s.13

s.13

Thompson-Shuswap-Nicola			
Question	Name of Project	Description / Location	Riding
What improvements are planned for Highway 1 between Kamloops and Alberta?	Highway 1 Illecillewaet	<b>Announcing the planning and design work for four laning east of Revelstoke – by Illecillewaet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key project to meet the goal of four laning the Trans Canada Highway 1 between Kamloops and Golden.</li> </ul> s.13	Columbia River Revelstoke
What improvements are planned for Highway 1 between Kamloops and Alberta?	Highway 1 Donald East	<b>Announcing design work for future 4 laning from Donald to Forde Station Rd west of Golden</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key project to meet the goal of four laning the Trans Canada Highway 1 between Kamloops and Golden.</li> </ul> s.13	Columbia River Revelstoke
What improvements are planned for Highway 1 between Kamloops and Alberta?	Highway 1 – Hoffman's Bluff to Jade Mountain	<b>Announcing planning and design work for future 4 laning between Hoffman's Bluff to Jade Mountain (by Chase)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key project to meet the goal of four-laning the Trans Canada Highway 1 between Kamloops and Golden.</li> </ul> s.13	Kamloops South Thompson
Salmon Arm West was a	Highway 1 - Salmon	Announcing the planning and design for 4-laning west of Salmon Arm including	Shuwap



project noted in the Highway 1 consultation from a couple years ago. Is it moving ahead in BC on the Move?	Arm West	<b>replacement of the Salmon River Bridge</b> s.13,s.17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The traffic volumes in this area are some of the highest of any remaining 2-lane sections of the TCH between Kamloops and Alberta.</li> </ul> s.13,s.17	
Will the ministry be piloting variable speed zones, as noted in the Safety and Speed review?	Variable Speed Zone	<b>Announcing installation of a pilot variable speed zone location on Hwy 5 on Snowshed Hill</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Snowshed hill on Highway 5, Coquihalla, will be a pilot location for a variable speed zone.</li> <li>Variable speed zones will use sensors and radar technology to monitor road conditions.</li> <li>Test areas include sections of the Trans-Canada between Revelstoke and Sicamous, the Coquihalla near the snowshed and parts of the Sea-to-Sky Highway.</li> </ul>	<b>Chilliwack Hope</b>
Will the ministry be piloting variable speed zones, as noted in the Safety and Speed review?	Variable Speed Zone	<b>Announcing the installation of a variable speed zone pilot location on Hwy 1 between Sicamous and Revelstoke</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variable speed zones will use sensors and radar technology to monitor road conditions.</li> <li>Test areas include sections of the Trans-Canada between Revelstoke and Sicamous, the Coquihalla near the snowshed and parts of the Sea-to-Sky Highway.</li> </ul>	<b>Shuwap</b>
<b>Okanagan Valley</b>			
<b>Question</b>	<b>Name of Project</b>	<b>Description / Location</b>	<b>Riding</b>
<b>When will work to 6-lane Highway 97 from Highway 33 to Edwards in Kelowna get underway?</b>	Highway 97 - Highway 33 to Edwards	<b>Re-announcing (already announced) six laning 4.5 km of Highway 97 from Highway 33 to Edwards Road in Kelowna</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project includes urban widening from 4 to 6 lanes of Okanagan Highway 97 in Kelowna from Highway 33 to Edwards Road (4.5KM) and will also consist of consolidating accesses and intersection improvements.</li> <li>The project will improve safety, mobility and efficiency of the highway.</li> </ul>	<b>Kelowna Lake Country (announced)</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction has been announced as starting summer 2015, with a project cost of s.13,s.17</li> </ul>	
Are there any immediate projects planned for the Vernon area?	Silverstar resurfacing	<b>Announcing pavement resurfacing of the Silverstar Road and other sideroads in the Silverstar area</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project has gone to tender, closes March 19, 2015.</li> <li>Silverstar road is located close to Vernon, and overall project involves about 10 km of resurfacing.</li> <li>The project will contribute to rehabilitating these important roads s.13,s.13,s.17</li> </ul>	Vernon Monashee
s.13	Kalamalka rest Area	s.13,s.17	Vernon Monashee
s.13	Highway 97 at Birnie Rd	s.13	Vernon Monashee
Will there be additional improvements to Westside Road?	Westside Road	<b>Re-announcing safety improvements to Westside Road (previously announced by Premier Clark in October 2014)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Province is investing \$45 million over the next five years to make Westside Road safer for local families and tourists by improving some of the most challenging sections of Westside Road.</li> <li>Since 2008, over \$20M has been invested on Westside Road to improve safety.</li> </ul>	Westside Kelowna (announced)
s.13	Highway 97 at Daimler Road	s.13	Westside Kelowna

Kootenays			
Question	Name of Project	Description / Location	Riding
What highway and safety improvements are planned for the Kootenays?	Fording Rd	<b>Announcing the resurfacing of portions of Fording Rd near Elkford</b> s.13	<b>Kootenay East</b>
What highway and safety improvements are planned for the Kootenays?	Wildlife detection system	<b>Announcing the installation of a wildlife detection system on Hwy 3 east of Cranbrook</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new high-tech wildlife detection system will be tested on Highway 3 between Fort Steele and the Alberta border to better warn motorists about the potential for collisions.</li> <li>Announced project cost of \$1.5 million.</li> </ul>	<b>Kootenay East</b>
What highway and safety improvements are planned for the Kootenays?	Highway 3 Passing Lanes - Cranbrook to Alberta Border	<b>Announcing design work for future passing lanes between Cranbrook and the Alberta border on Highway 3 over the next 10 years</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More passing lanes will improve safety and reduce travel times on this key southern BC east-west corridor.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Kootenay East</b>
When will work start in Creston to improve the Pine and Railway intersection?	Highway 3 at Pine and Railway	<b>Announcing intersection improvement project at Pine and Railway in Creston</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project has been awarded.</li> <li>Work will start in March of 2015 – s.13</li> <li>Re-aligning streets of Pine Street and Railway Avenue into one signalized intersection to improve safety for local road users.</li> <li>Project cost is about \$5 million.</li> </ul> s.13	<b>Nelson Creston</b>

## Event Information / Speaking Notes – Draft

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**Event:** Launch of B.C. on the Move  
**When:** Friday, March 20, 2015 – 11:30 to 1:30  
**Where:** Kamloops Chamber of Commerce Luncheon  
Hotel 540  
540 Victoria Street, Kamloops  
**Contact:** **Craig Chambers – TRAN GCPE – 250-387-5798**  
**Length:** Keynote – 20 minutes

**Key Participants:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Todd Stone

**Audience Size: 50**

**Audience:**

- Kamloops Chamber of Commerce members and guests (mostly from Kamloops but several from Barriere and Sun Peaks).

**Key messages:**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Over the next three years, up to \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government intends to invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

**Media attending: yes**

**NOTES:**

The Kamloops Chamber of Commerce is a member – driven organization comprised 820+ businesses. The chamber offers services in three key areas:

- Marketing and networking opportunities
- Money-saving benefits
- Advocacy for business to all levels of government.

**Mission:**

The Kamloops Chamber of Commerce is driven to connect its members to business, education, benefits and all levels of government.

**Aleece Laird – President**

**Deb McClelland – Executive Director**

- **Ryan Scorgie, 1st Vice President of the Kamloops Chamber Board and with Forward Law will be introducing Minister Stone (as well as emceeing the lunch and facilitating the Q&A period).**

Head Table with Minister Stone:

Chantelle Stone

Neil Robers

Terry Lake

Ryan Scorgie (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President / Forward Law)

David Hughes (Partner, Forward Law – attending with Ryan Scorgie)

Deb McClelland (Kamloops Chamber Executive Director)

Bryan Pilbeam (Vice President & General Manager, Hotel 540)

Time	Event Itinerary
11:30 a.m.	Minister arrives - networking
12 noon	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Minister Stone's presentation
12:50 p.m.	Q&A from the floor
1 p.m.	Luncheon ends
1 p.m.	Media availability

Speaking Notes  
for the  
Hon. Todd Stone  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and  
MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson  
Launch of B.C. on the Move

Kamloops Chamber of Commerce  
Hotel 540  
540 Victoria Street, Kamloops

Friday, March 20, 2015  
12:30 p.m.

## **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE**

- Dr. Terry Lake, MLA for Kamloops-North Thompson and Minister of Health.

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- Thank you for inviting me today.
- I would like to acknowledge that we are in the traditional territory of the Secwepemc (sec wep mik)

## **WHY HERE TODAY:**

- Here to talk about new & exciting 10-year plan for transportation in our province - *BC on the Move*

## **THE PLAN – *BC on the Move***

- Everyone knows how challenging the past few years have been financially
- As you all know our government has made balancing the books a key priority
- Has meant sacrifice....has meant good number of NO's from government
- But commitment to balancing budget...to being a government that controls its spending also has helped get us to today – likely only province in CAN to balance budget...and we're doing it for 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, all the while maintaining amongst lowest personal & business taxes in CAN and protecting our AAA credit rating
- Today, still dealing with challenging economic outlook...not lots of extra \$\$

- But.....as you know...BC is shining example in Canada of how to manage your finances...and if you manage finances as we have, among other things it means you can continue to have robust transportation investment
- Today, at the Kamloops Chamber of Commerce, I'm proud to stand here and present British Columbia's new 10 year transportation plan
- *BC on the Move* is our vision.....it outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians
- *BC on the Move* will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure & support trade for BC's expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway

### **IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS:**

- To date, transportation priorities have largely been determined first and foremost based on safe movement of people and goods – that will continue
- Secondly...and new to transportation planning in BC...transportation priorities will also be determined based on economic opportunity / jobs / industrial activity / final investment decisions
- Finally, priorities in *BC on the Move* will also be driven by partnerships
- I can't stress enough the importance of working with local governments, with the federal government, with First Nations and the private sector.
- Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in such projects

### **FIRST NATIONS:**

- Building partnerships with First Nations is an important part of our plan.



- In *BC on the Move*, one of our priorities for action to partner with First Nations on projects that support economic development on their lands.
- My ministry works every day to build positive relationships with First Nations by working together to identify ways for First Nations to benefit from related economic and employment opportunities, and to resolve issues and impacts from projects.
- We are especially proud of the relationship we have developed with the First Nations here in Kamloops, where we have reached historic agreements to facilitate four laning of Highway 1 while respecting the spiritual and cultural values in the incredible sensitive area along the Thompson River

### **OUR LAST 10-YEAR PLAN:**

- The entire province is benefitting from the success of our last 10-year transportation plan – called *Opening Up BC* – launched in 2003.
- Resulted in major projects like:
  - 4-lane improvements on Highway 1, including in the Kicking Horse Canyon
  - Cariboo Connector improvements
  - New William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna
  - New Port Mann Bridge
  - South Fraser Perimeter Road
  - Sea-to-Sky Highway
  - Port & Rail projects
  - Dozens of investments in regional airports
- Resulted in
  - More rapid bus service such as Kelowna Rapid Bus
  - A new Transit Maintenance facility in Kamloops
  - And in the Lower Mainland, more SkyTrain & West Coast Express cars

- Expanded stations
- New seabus
- Resulted in rapid transit expansions like Canada Line & Evergreen Line...
  - ...which when opened in 2016 will mean that Metro Vancouver will have longest rapid transit system in CAN
- Resulted in significant expansion of BC Transit across the province
  - Including here in Kamloops, where the service has increased by 30% over the last decade
  - And, we shared in the cost of a new transit operating and maintenance facility
- AND, BC spends more per capita on transit than any other province
- Since 2001, over \$17 billion has been invested in transportation infrastructure to increase safety and reliability....to improve the quality of life for BC families....and to strengthen the provincial economy.
- Planning never stops for government.....so with the vast majority of priorities in the last plan implemented, time was right to move forward and develop new 10-year plan - *BC on the Move*

### **CONSULTATION:**

- Opportunity for British Columbians to join in the conversation and let government know about their most pressing transportation needs.
- Face-to-face meetings, an online survey, and use of social media.

- Meetings with First nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.
- All in all, senior ministry staff met with over 550 representatives from these organizations, at over 100 meetings.
- Using social media, we promoted the survey. And I hosted a Twitter Town Hall, during which time ministry staff logged over 180 ideas from the public.
- Online, our *BC on the Move* website was visited over 44,000 times.
- And our public survey was a tremendous success. We received almost 13,000 responses from British Columbians.
- I want to thank everyone who took the time to provide input.

## **OVERVIEW OF PLAN:**

- *BC on the Move* sets out a series of short, medium and longer-term priorities for government
- Priorities will be focused on:
  - Growing the economy
  - Moving people and goods safely & reliably
  - Connecting and strengthening communities,
  - Maximizing collaboration and investment with partners including First Nations, federal government, local governments, and private sector.

- *BC on the Move* supported by **\$2.5 Billion** investment over next 3 years alone

## **HIGHWAYS / ROADS / BRIDGES**

- As I mentioned earlier, plan includes **more than \$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure – highways, bridges, side roads
  - To take care of the existing infrastructure first
- During public consultation, this was identified by British Columbians as number one priority
- This commitment will include:
  - **\$380 million** over next three years to resurface provincial highways:
    - That's **1,000 kilometres** of highway resurfaced annually
    - That's **1 million tonnes of asphalt** per year for re-hab
  - **\$180 million** over the next three years to repair & replace bridges:
    - That's a **50% increase** over previous years
  - **\$270 million** to improve side roads connecting rural communities:
    - That's as many as 30 projects totalling over 500 kilometres/year
    - That's a **33% increase** over previous years
    - This means an additional 150 km per year
- Before I go on, one of the side road projects we're gearing up for this year is resurfacing of about 25 km of Paul Lake Road. This will be important work for residents, ranchers and recreational users, that we expect to tender in the next month or two.

- This builds on work we completed last fall on Lac Le Jeune Road, on Westsyde Road and on the TransCanada through Valleyview, a total investment of \$7.8 million– I know local residents were happy about this work.
  - **\$60 million** over the next three years to upgrade roads in Northeastern BC in support of the natural gas industry
  - **\$9 million** over the next three years for new and upgraded rest areas
- We are creating new **\$25 million** per year Roadside Safety Program - this level of investment represents a **100% increase** over previous years.
  - Highlights will include:
    - Snow avalanche infrastructure
    - Variable speed zone projects
    - Wildlife detection and warning systems
    - Dedicated annual funding for livestock fencing
    - Road marking strategies
    - Guardrail program.
- This builds on the work we've completed on Highway 5A between Kamloops and Merritt where we:
  - Resurfaced the highway and add more guardrail
  - Installed speed activated LED signs
  - Added special pavement markings to slow traffic
  - And increased CVSE patrols including using a ghost car
- And has resulted in less crashes and no fatalities for almost 3 years

- A good example of our investment in the Roadside Safety Program going forward is a project I just announced this morning at Monte Lake.
- We're investing **\$125,000** on safety improvements to Highway 97 in the Monte Lake area, including vehicle-activated LED arrow signs to slow down and warn drivers, along with new pavement markings near Paxton Road.
- A new **\$10-million** / year Intersection Safety Program will also be established.
- We're also going to develop additional strategies to improve roadside worker safety, work with stakeholders to reduce duration of highway closures, and implement strategies to get left lane hogs out of left lane when not passing.
- About **\$1 Bill** over next three years – or **\$1 Mill per day** - will be invested in expanding provincial highways and side road network to add capacity needed to improve safety for people and meet goods movement needs to grow economy
- This investment includes:
  - Upgrades to major provincial highways across BC:
    - Trans-Canada Kamloops to Alberta border, including:
      - Completion of Phase 2 of Monte Creek to Pritchard.
      - Completion of Phase 1 of Pritchard to Hoffman's Bluff.
      - Start of construction on the final phase of Pritchard to Hoffman's Bluff.
      - Design work on four laning from Hoffman's Bluff to Jade Mountain and on the western approach to Salmon Arm as well as two more projects between Revelstoke and Golden
      - Over the past 10 years we've invested more than \$700 million
      - And, our plan calls for up to \$1 billion in funding over the next 10 years

- On the TransCanada Highway west of Kamloops
    - Initiating design for a new left turn lane at Garde Road
  - Cariboo Connector – Highway 97 Cache Creek-Prince George
  - Highways 3 & 5 including
    - a new passing lane at Camp Creek on Highway 5 south of Valemount, with more to come
  - Okanagan Valley
  - Highways 97 North and 2
  - Highway 16
  - Lower Mainland Highways, such as initiating design for future construction of 6-laning on Highway 1, Langley to Abbotsford, and advancing development of **George Massey** Replacement Project
- What this all means is better, safer highways for those who rely on them – like the visitors who come to Kamloops and the beautiful Thompson Region to golf, to boat, to camp and to ski.
  - Like you – taking your sons and daughters and grandchildren to hockey games and field trips and family visits.
  - And, like our commercial truckers, who deliver the goods you buy and the equipment needed by industry.
  - Speaking of Trucking

## **TRUCKING:**

- For first time ever, your government has included a Provincial Trucking Strategy in our 10-year plan

- Trucking critical to our economy – over **\$3 Bill** in goods are trucked between our gateway ports & rest of CAN every year.
- Trucking industry has **23,000 companies & 33,500 employees**
- So, increasing the economic efficiency, while enhancing safety of the commercial trucking industry, is a top priority for our government
- Our Trucking Strategy will:
  - Upgrade & replace structures such as bridges and overpasses so they can accommodate increasingly heavy & large loads
    - This includes bridges like the Malakwa Bridge on Highway 1 east of Sicamous
    - and the Salmon River and Parsnip Bridges on Highway 97 north of Prince George
  - Construct **10 new truck inspection pullouts** throughout BC and least **2 new truck parking areas** in the Lower Mainland
  - **Streamline permitting** and **reduce number of truck permits required** all the while ensuring commercial vehicle safety
  - Review BC's pilot-car requirements

## **TRANSIT:**

- As I said earlier, there is no question that public transit is an essential component of British Columbia's integrated transportation network.



- Every single community in BC with over 10,000 people has transit service today. That's a level of access unparalleled in Canada.
- Through *BC on the Move*, the Province will continue its support for transit.
  - We will maintain the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada, with the Province providing BC Transit **\$312 million** in operating contributions over the next three years alone.
  - We will replace half of BC Transit's fleet over the next 5 years – that's **500 buses**.
  - We will continue to deploy compressed natural gas (CNG) buses in communities throughout the province,
    - including 25 new CNG here in Kamloops which are due to be delivered this spring
  - And, the Province stands ready to fund 1/3 of the cost of new rapid transit projects and a replacement for Pattullo Bridge in Metro Vancouver. We're just waiting for the region to make its decision on its funding contribution.

## **AIRPORTS:**

- We all know the massive economic & social impacts a thriving airport can have on communities. We saw these positive impacts after the over 30 investments the Province made in regional airports during the mid-2000's.
- Government heard loud and clear during the *BC on the Move* consultation that support for smaller, regional airports is a priority for British Columbians.

- In the northern part of the province for example, BC's rapidly expanding resource sector is driving rapid growth in traffic at airports, including the Terrace-Kitimat and Prince Rupert airports.
- Therefore, to support BC's aviation sector, the Province is establishing a **new BC Air Access Program** – with provincial investment of **\$24 Mill** over the next three years alone - to make funding available to community airports for infrastructure improvements, such as runways, terminal buildings and lighting.
- This is an important program and builds on previous investments we've made in regional airports, like the over **\$4 Mill** invested in the Kamloops Airport since 2008 for the runway extension, airport improvements and upgrades to the navigation system.
- We also believe there's tremendous opportunity in aerospace development.
- To tap that opportunity, we will work with airports, various government ministries and local partners to facilitate aerospace development near BC airports, as part of a renewed focus on manufacturing.

## **PORTS & RAIL**

- Port and rail infrastructure also play a key role in BC's competitive advantage since BC is Canada's Pacific Gateway, the preferred gateway for Asian trade to North America and the world.
- In *BC on the Move*, we'll continue to support development of LNG industry.
- We'll also continue to work with partners, such as those in the Pacific Gateway Alliance, to ensure continued infrastructure investment to maximize the value of BC ports.

- As part of *BC on the Move*, we will also act to address road and rail conflicts to enhance safety and community connectivity.

## **CYCLING:**

- Our *BC on the Move* consultations also showed that the public supports enhanced infrastructure for cycling and other transportation choices.
- As a result, Government will increase the cost-shared funding available to communities to improve local cycling infrastructure.
- We are committing **\$18 million** over the next three years to this program – that's a **50% increase** over previous years.
- This will help fund municipal and regional projects such as multi-use paths, bike lanes, overpasses and shoulder bikeways.
- With shared funding from local communities, that's potentially **\$36 million** in cycling infrastructure improvements in communities across BC.
- A good example is the pedestrian / cycling pathway and overpass at the Valleyview Interchange, where the province contributed \$2.7 million
- In addition, to make travel safer and more enjoyable, we're also going to consider opportunities for improvements focused on widening highway shoulders.
- And on main cycling corridors, we will double the frequency of sweeping to improve the ride and safety for cyclists.

- There are also great opportunities for cycling tourism in our province.
- To support that, we're going to develop and implement new **Cycling Tourism Signage and Marketing Strategy** to promote some of our Province's beautiful cycling routes. We're going to pilot this strategy in **Okanagan**.

## **ACCESSIBILITY:**

- *BC on the Move* also contains priorities for action that support Accessibility 2024.
- Accessibility 2024 is a 10-year plan and shared commitment between government, businesses and communities to make BC the most progressive place in Canada for people with disabilities.
- A key goal of this plan is for BC communities to have the most accessible transportation options in Canada by 2024 and *BC on the Move* supports that goal.

## **ENVIRONMENT:**

- As well, BC is committed to taking action on environmental protection in the transportation sector.
- As an example, we will be promoting the use of cleaner fuel alternatives such as natural gas for heavy duty commercial vehicles, CNG for buses and LNG for ferries
- Safeguarding the environment and taking measures to reduce environmental impacts is a key priority in all the projects and programs
- And, it's a priority of *BC on the Move*.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- British Columbia has one of the most resilient economies in Canada and the world, and transportation investments have been vital to BC's success.
- *BC on the Move* is our plan to address our transportation challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities in the years ahead.
- We are rolling up our sleeves and going to work...
- ...to improve the movement of goods to communities and markets.
- ...to better connect people to services and jobs.
- ...to enhance access for the natural resource and tourism sectors.
- ...and to generate international trading opportunities.
- *BC on the Move* is built on a foundation of priorities for action, and sets us on a continued path of economic growth and prosperity over the coming decade.

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- It is my privilege to represent the hard working people of Kamloops South Thompson in the BC Legislature.
- It is equally my privilege to be here with all of you today.

**THANK YOU**

## Event Information / Speaking Notes – Draft

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**Event:** B.C. on the Move – Vancouver Island

**When:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 8 a.m.

**Where:** Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Breakfast  
Vancouver Island Conference Centre – Mount Benson Ballroom  
101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo

**Contact:** **Craig Chambers – TRAN GCPE – 250-387-5798**

**Length:** Keynote – 20 minutes

**Key Participants:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Todd Stone

**Audience Size:** 50

**Audience:**

- Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce members and guests

**Key messages:**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Over the next three years, almost \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government intends to invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

**Media attending:** yes

## NOTES:

### Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce representatives:

- Marianne Turley, Chair
- Kim Smythe, Chief Executive Officer

Time	Event Itinerary
7:30 a.m.	Minister Stone arrives
7:55 a.m.	Introduction of Minister Stone by Parksville-Qualicum MLA Michelle Stillwell
8 a.m.	Minister Stone speaks
8:20 a.m.	Q&As
8:35 a.m.	Media availability
8:45 a.m.	EVENT ENDS

Speaking Notes  
for the  
Hon. Todd Stone  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and  
MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson  
Launch of B.C. on the Move

Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Breakfast

Vancouver Island Conference Centre  
Mount Benson Ballroom  
Wednesday, March 18, 2015  
8 a.m.



## **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE**

- Parksville-Qualicum MLA Michelle Stillwell
- Marianne Turley, Chair – Greater Nanaimo Chamber
- Kim Smythe, Chief Executive Officer – Greater Nanaimo Chamber

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- Thank you for inviting me today

## **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

- Lots of respect for Chamber of Commerce, what you do, what you represent...
  - Initiative ... risk taking ... creating opportunity, for yourselves & others
- Member of Kamloops Chamber – 15 years – on board
- I myself came from the business sector
- Small business owner – founder CEO software company
- Know what it takes to start/grow business, how hard it is / how rewarding
- Know sacrifices put into your businesses, ups and downs – esp starting out
- Remember hiring my first employee - **EVERY** story

## **WHY HERE TODAY:**

- Here to talk about new & exciting 10-year plan for transportation in our province - *BC on the Move*

## **THE PLAN – BC on the Move**

- Everyone knows how challenging the past few years have been financially
- As you all know our government has made balancing the books a key priority
- Has meant sacrifice....has meant good number of NO's from government

- But commitment to balancing budget...to being a government that controls its spending also has helped get us to today – likely only province in CAN to balance budget...and we're doing it for 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, all the while maintaining amongst lowest personal & business taxes in CAN and protecting our AAA credit rating
- Today, still dealing with challenging economic outlook...not lots of extra \$\$
- But.....as you know...BC is shining example in Canada of how to manage your finances...and if you manage finances as we have, among other things it means you can continue to have robust transportation investment
- Today, at the Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce, I'm proud to stand here and present British Columbia's new 10 year transportation plan
- *BC on the Move* is our vision.....it outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians
- *BC on the Move* will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure & support trade for BC's expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 – more on that in a moment
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition
  - We agree.....the plan includes more than **\$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure
- Also includes almost **\$1 Bill** over next 3 years toward expansions of major highways & side roads
- *BC on the Move* includes new Provincial Trucking Strategy – 1<sup>st</sup> time ever

- Will involve working together with industry on how best to improve safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in BC – more on that later

### **IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS:**

- To date, transportation priorities have largely been determined first and foremost based on safe movement of people and goods – that will continue
- Secondly...and new to transportation planning in BC...transportation priorities will also be determined based on economic opportunity / jobs / industrial activity / final investment decisions
- Finally, priorities in *BC on the Move* will also be driven by partnerships
- I can't stress enough the importance of working with local governments, with the federal government, with First Nations and the private sector.
- Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in such projects

### **BACK TO THE 10-YEAR PLAN:**

- The entire province is benefitting from the success of our last 10-year transportation plan – called *Opening Up BC* – launched in 2003.
- Resulted in major projects like:
  - New Port Mann Bridge
  - South Fraser Perimeter Road
  - Sea-to-Sky Highway
  - 4-lane improvements on Highway 1 in the Kicking Horse Canyon
  - Cariboo Connector improvements
  - New William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna
  - Port & Rail projects
  - Dozens of investments in regional airports

- Resulted in
  - More rapid bus service such as Kelowna Rapid Bus
  - And in the Lower Mainland, more SkyTrain & West Coast Express cars
  - Expanded stations
  - New seabus
- Resulted in rapid transit expansions like Canada Line & Evergreen Line...
  - ...which when opened in 2016 will mean that Metro Vancouver will have longest rapid transit system in CAN
  - AND, BC spends more per capita on transit than any other province
- Since 2001, over \$17 billion has been invested in transportation infrastructure to increase safety and reliability....to improve the quality of life for BC families....and to strengthen the provincial economy.
- Planning never stops for government.....so with the vast majority of priorities in the last plan implemented, time was right to move forward and develop new 10-year plan - *BC on the Move*

### **CONSULTATION:**

- Opportunity for British Columbians to join in the conversation and let government know about their most pressing transportation needs.
- Did that through combination of face-to-face meetings, an online survey, and use of social media.
- Here on Vancouver Island, my Parliamentary Secretary Jordan Sturdy kicked off our B.C. on the Move consultations.
- He met with over 70 stakeholder groups in early September, hearing first-hand the transportation needs of Island communities.

- During Fall, we travelled around the province to talk face-to-face with key stakeholders.
- Met with First nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.
- All in all, senior ministry staff met with over 550 representatives from these organizations, at over 100 meetings.
- Using social media, we promoted the survey. And I hosted a Twitter Town Hall, during which time ministry staff logged over 180 ideas from the public.
- Online, our *BC on the Move* website was visited over 44,000 times.
- And our public survey was a tremendous success. We received almost 13,000 responses from British Columbians.
- I want to thank everyone who took the time to provide input.

## **OVERVIEW OF PLAN:**

- *BC on the Move* sets out a series of short, medium and longer-term priorities for government
- Priorities will be focused on:
  - Growing the economy
  - Moving people and goods safely & reliably
  - Connecting and strengthening communities,

- Maximizing collaboration and investment with partners including First Nations, federal government, local governments, and private sector.
- *BC on the Move* supported by \$2.5 Billion investment over next 3 years alone

## **HIGHWAYS / ROADS / BRIDGES**

- As I mentioned earlier, plan includes **more than \$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure – highways, bridges, side roads
- During public consultation, this was identified by British Columbians as number one priority
- This commitment will include:
  - **\$380 million** over next three years to resurface provincial highways:
    - That's **1,000 kilometres** of highway resurfaced annually
    - That's **1 million tonnes of asphalt** per year for re-hab
  - **\$180 million** over the next three years to repair & replace bridges:
    - That's a **50% increase** over previous years
  - **\$270 million** to improve side roads connecting rural communities:
    - That's as many as 30 projects totalling over 500 kilometres/year
    - That's a **33% increase** over previous years
  - **\$60 million** over the next three years to upgrade roads in Northeastern BC in support of the natural gas industry
  - **\$9 million** over the next three years for new and upgraded rest areas

- We are creating new **\$25 million** per year Roadside Safety Program - this level of investment represents a **100% increase** over previous years.
  - Highlights will include:
    - Snow avalanche infrastructure
    - Variable speed zone projects
    - Wildlife detection and warning systems
    - Dedicated annual funding for livestock fencing
    - Road marking strategies
    - Guardrail program.
- A new **\$10-million** / year Intersection Safety Program will also be established.
- And, we're going to develop additional strategies to improve roadside worker safety, work with stakeholders to reduce duration of highway closures, and implement strategies to get left lane hogs out of left lane when not passing.
- About **\$1 Bill** over next three years – or **\$1 Mill per day** - will be invested in expanding provincial highways and side road network to add capacity needed to improve safety for people and meet goods movement needs to grow economy
- This investment includes:
  - Upgrades to major provincial highways across BC:
    - Highway 1 on the Island, and in the Interior between Kamloops and Alberta border
    - Highway 4.
    - Cariboo Connector – Highway 97 Cache Creek-Prince George
    - Okanagan Valley
    - Highways 3 & 5
    - Highway 16
    - Highways 97 North and 2

- Lower Mainland Highways, such as initiating design for future construction of 6-laning on Highway 1, Langley to Abbotsford
- Advancing development of **George Massey Replacement Project**

## **TRUCKING:**

- For first time ever, your government has included a Provincial Trucking Strategy in our 10-year plan
- Trucking critical to our economy – over **\$3 Bill** in goods are trucked between our gateway ports & rest of CAN every year.
- Trucking industry has **23,000 companies, 40,000 trucks & 33,500 employees**
- So, increasing the economic efficiency, while enhancing safety of the commercial trucking industry, is a top priority for our government
- Our Trucking Strategy will:
  - Upgrade & replace structures such as bridges and overpasses so they can accommodate increasingly heavy & large loads
  - Construct at least **2 new truck parking areas** in the Lower Mainland and **10 new truck inspection pullouts** throughout BC
  - **Streamline permitting and reduce number of truck permits required** all the while ensuring commercial vehicle safety
  - Review BC's pilot-car requirements
  - Support the office of the independent Container Trucking Commissioner



- On this last point, allow me to offer a few comments:
  - Smooth day-to-day operations at Port Metro Vancouver are vital to B.C.'s economy (largest port in Canada - \$184 billion annually)
  - One year ago (in March 2014) Port Metro Vancouver was shut down for roughly four weeks = equivalent of \$3.5 billion goods did not move through the port.
  - Shutdown was bad for business. It was bad for our reputation with our trading partners. It was bad for shippers and trucking companies. It was also bad for truckers.
  - Root of the shutdown was found in legitimate concerns raised by truckers relating to their compensation, and specifically rampant under-cutting of trucker wages.
  - Truckers work hard. They have families. They need to put food on their tables. They deserve to earn fair wages, and to get paid wages they have rightfully earned.
  - That's why Province worked so hard to implement all 14 points of the Joint Action Plan – including higher wages for truckers.
  - That's why Province went beyond Joint Action Plan and enacted legislation to set and enforce minimum rates for container trucking, and to create office of independent Container Trucking Commissioner to oversee rate regulation, compliance & licensing.
  - Now I know there have been impacts to everyone in the supply chain – I thank you for your patience and sacrifice. By working together, we are providing not only better working conditions for truckers, but also ensuring goods continue to move through our port – critical to the economies of both BC and CAN.

## TRANSIT:

- Back to *BC on the Move*....
- As I said earlier, there is no question that public transit is an essential component of British Columbia's integrated transportation network.
- Every single community in BC with over 10,000 people has transit service today. That's a level of access unparalleled in Canada.
- Through *BC on the Move*, the Province will continue its support for transit.
  - We will maintain the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada, with the Province providing BC Transit **\$312 million** in operating contributions over the next three years alone.
  - We will replace half of BC Transit's fleet over the next 5 years – that's **550 buses**.
  - We will continue to deploy compressed natural gas (CNG) buses in communities throughout the province.
  - And, the Province stands ready to fund 1/3 of the cost of new rapid transit projects and a replacement for Pattullo bridge in Metro Vancouver. We're just waiting for the region to make its decision on its funding contribution.

## AIRPORTS:

- We all know the massive economic & social impacts a thriving airport can have on communities. We saw these positive impacts after the over 30 investments the Province made in regional airports during the mid-2000's.
- Government heard loud and clear during the *BC on the Move* consultation that support for smaller, regional airports is a priority for British Columbians.
- In the northern part of the province for example, BC's rapidly expanding resource sector is driving rapid growth in traffic at airports, including the Terrace-Kitimat and Prince Rupert airports.
- Therefore, to support BC's aviation sector, I am pleased to announce that the Province is establishing a **new BC Air Access Program** – with provincial investment of **\$24 Mill** over the next three years alone - to make funding available to community airports for infrastructure improvements, such as runways, terminal buildings and lighting.
- We also believe there's tremendous opportunity in aerospace development.
- To tap that opportunity, we will work with airports, various government ministries and local partners to facilitate aerospace development near BC airports, as part of a renewed focus on manufacturing.

## PORTS & RAIL

- Port and rail infrastructure also play a key role in BC's competitive advantage since BC is Canada's Pacific Gateway, the preferred gateway for Asian trade to North America and the world.

- In *BC on the Move*, we'll continue to support development of LNG industry.
- We'll also continue to work with partners, such as those in the Pacific Gateway Alliance, to ensure continued infrastructure investment to maximize the value of BC ports.
- As part of *BC on the Move*, we will also act to address road and rail conflicts to enhance safety and community connectivity.

### **BC FERRIES:**

- I'd be remiss if I didn't mention BC Ferries.
- This morning, the independent BC Ferry Commissioner will deliver preliminary price cap ruling for next performance term, which takes effect in April 2016.
- I'll be in Victoria this afternoon to respond.
- I'm optimistic that we've turned the corner.
- I'm optimistic because I know we've come a long way since the BC Ferry Commissioner released his report in 2012.
- In November 2013, I introduced the Province's vision to connect coastal communities in an affordable and sustainable manner.
- To enact this vision, Province undertook broad set of initiatives including:
  - Record level of provincial investment in BC Ferries – **\$180 Mill/year**
  - Service reductions of **\$18 Mill** – eliminated sailings with major underutilization, often with more staff than passengers on board

- Reduction of **seniors discounts on passenger fares by 50%** with savings re-directed to reduce the pressure on fares for all users
- Feasibility study on potential bridge to Gabriola Island
- For BC Ferries part, company was challenged to find **\$54 million** in efficiencies to 2016 and they are on track to exceed this target.
- BC Ferries is also being more innovative:
  - Developing new reservation & point of sale system
  - New cable ferry for Denman Island this summer – will save **\$2 Mill/year**
  - After much encouragement from our Government, they're moving forward with plans to have 5 vessels on LNG fuel propulsion. Once 3 new intermediate vessels delivered with LNG fuel propulsion, and 2 Spirit Class vessels converted – will save **\$12 Mill/year for 27 years**
- All these efforts were intended to address concerns about the affordability of fares, and specifically to get fare increases roughly in line with inflation.
- We'll wait to see what the Ferry Commissioner says today about ferry fares for the next four year term starting April 2016.
- However, we've made progress in addressing the challenges facing the coastal ferry system, and we will continue to do whatever we can to further reduce pressure on fares to ensure that our coastal ferry service is there for generations to come.

### **CYCLING:**

- Our *BC on the Move* consultations also showed that the public supports enhanced infrastructure for cycling and other transportation choices.

- I'm pleased to announce that Government will increase the cost-shared funding available to communities to improve local cycling infrastructure.
- We are committing **\$18 million** over the next three years to this program – that's a **50% increase** over previous years.
- This will help fund municipal and regional projects such as multi-use paths, bike lanes, overpasses and shoulder bikeways.
- With shared funding from local communities, that's potentially **\$36 million** in cycling infrastructure improvements in communities across BC.
- To make travel safer and more enjoyable, we're also going to consider opportunities for improvements focused on widening highway shoulders.
- And on main cycling corridors, we will double the frequency of sweeping to improve the ride and safety for cyclists.
- There are also great opportunities for cycling tourism in our province.
- To support that, we're going to develop and implement new **Cycling Tourism Signage and Marketing Strategy** to promote some of our Province's beautiful cycling routes. We're going to pilot this strategy in **Okanagan**.

### **FIRST NATIONS:**

- Building partnerships with First Nations is an important part of our plan.
- In *BC on the Move*, one of our priorities for action to partner with First Nations on projects that support economic development on their lands.

- My ministry works every day to build positive relationships with First Nations by working together to identify ways for First Nations to benefit from related economic and employment opportunities, and to resolve issues and impacts from projects.

## **ACCESSIBILITY:**

- *BC on the Move* also contains priorities for action that support Accessibility 2024.
- Accessibility 2024 is a 10-year plan and shared commitment between government, businesses and communities to make BC the most progressive place in Canada for people with disabilities.
- A key goal of this plan is for BC communities to have the most accessible transportation options in Canada by 2024 and *BC on the Move* supports that goal.

## **ENVIRONMENT:**

- As well, BC is committed to taking action on environmental protection in the transportation sector.
- Safeguarding the environment and taking measures to reduce environmental impacts is a key priority in all the projects and programs delivered to improvement transportation and it's a priority of *BC on the Move*.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- British Columbia has one of the most resilient economies in Canada and the world, and transportation investments have been vital to BC's success.
- *BC on the Move* is our plan to address our transportation challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities in the years ahead.

- We are rolling up our sleeves and going to work...
- ...to improve the movement of goods to communities and markets.
- ...to better connect people to services and jobs.
- ...to enhance access for the natural resource and tourism sectors.
- ...and to generate international trading opportunities.
- *BC on the Move* is built on a foundation of priorities for action, and sets us on a continued path of economic growth and prosperity over the coming decade.

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- It is my privilege to represent the hard working people of Kamloops South Thompson in the BC Legislature.
- It is equally my privilege to be here with all of you today.

**THANK YOU**

-30-



## Event Information / Speaking Notes – Draft

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**Event:** Launch of B.C. on the Move

**When:** Thursday, March 19, 2015

**Where:** Rotary Club of Prince George Yellowhead  
Esther's Inn, 1151 Commercial Crescent, Prince George

**Contact:** **Craig Chambers – TRAN GCPE – 250-387-5798**

**Length:** Keynote – 20 minutes

**Key Participants:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Todd Stone

**Audience Size:** 50

**Audience:**

- Rotary Club of Prince George Yellowhead members and guests

**Key messages:**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Over the next three years, up to \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government intends to invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

**Media attending:** yes

**NOTES:**

## Background of host organization

The Rotary Club of Prince George Yellowhead has been serving Prince George, B.C. and beyond since its charter in 1977. Its name was taken from the Yellowhead Highway which runs through the city.

President: Janine Fraser

Past President: Leslie Gilchrist

Secretary: Marnie Hamagami

Treasurer: Valerie Eberherr

Sergeant at Arms: Erik Jancicka

Directors: Tracy McCall, Kim Gill, Laura Hansen, Brenda Bell, Jay Lazzarin, Paul Madill

Time	Event Itinerary
12 noon	Minister Stone arrives
12:20 p.m.	Lunch served
12:45 p.m.	Minister Stone introduced
12:45 p.m.	Minister Stone speaks
1:05 p.m.	Q&A from floor
1:15 p.m.	EVENT ENDS
1:15 p.m.	Media availability

Speaking Notes  
for the  
Hon. Todd Stone  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and  
MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson  
Launch of B.C. on the Move

Rotary Club of Prince George Yellowhead  
Esther's Inn  
1151 Commercial Crescent

Thursday, March 19, 2015  
12:15 p.m.

## **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE**

- Shirley Bond, MLA for Prince George-Valemount and Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training.
- Mike Morris, MLA for Prince George-Mackenzie

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- Thank you for inviting me today.

## **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

- Lots of respect for Rotary, what you do, what you represent...
  - Service... initiative ... creating opportunity, for yourselves & others
- Member of Kamloops Chamber – 15 years – on board
- I myself came from the business sector
- Small business owner – founder CEO software company
- Know what it takes to start/grow business, how hard it is / how rewarding
- Know sacrifices put into your businesses, ups and downs – esp starting out
- Remember hiring my first employee - **EVERY** story

## **WHY HERE TODAY:**

- Here to talk about new & exciting 10-year plan for transportation in our province - *BC on the Move*

## **THE PLAN – *BC on the Move***

- Everyone knows how challenging the past few years have been financially
- As you all know our government has made balancing the books a key priority
- Has meant sacrifice....has meant good number of NO's from government

- But commitment to balancing budget...to being a government that controls its spending also has helped get us to today – likely only province in CAN to balance budget...and we're doing it for 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, all the while maintaining amongst lowest personal & business taxes in CAN and protecting our AAA credit rating
- Today, still dealing with challenging economic outlook...not lots of extra \$\$
- But.....as you know...BC is shining example in Canada of how to manage your finances...and if you manage finances as we have, among other things it means you can continue to have robust transportation investment
- Today, at the Rotary Club of Prince George Yellowhead, I'm proud to stand here and present British Columbia's new 10 year transportation plan
- *BC on the Move* is our vision.....it outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians
- *BC on the Move* will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure & support trade for BC's expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 – more on that in a moment
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition
  - We agree.....the plan includes more than **\$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure
- Also includes almost **\$1 Bill** over next 3 years toward expansions of major highways & side roads
- *BC on the Move* includes new Provincial Trucking Strategy – 1<sup>st</sup> time ever

- Will involve working together with industry on how best to improve safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in BC – more on that later

### **IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS:**

- To date, transportation priorities have largely been determined first and foremost based on safe movement of people and goods – that will continue
- Secondly...and new to transportation planning in BC...transportation priorities will also be determined based on economic opportunity / jobs / industrial activity / final investment decisions
- Finally, priorities in *BC on the Move* will also be driven by partnerships
- I can't stress enough the importance of working with local governments, with the federal government, with First Nations and the private sector.
- Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in such projects

### **BACK TO THE 10-YEAR PLAN:**

- The entire province is benefitting from the success of our last 10-year transportation plan – called *Opening Up BC* – launched in 2003.
- Resulted in major projects like:
  - Cariboo Connector improvements
  - 4-lane improvements on Highway 1 in the Kicking Horse Canyon
  - New William R. Bennett Bridge in Kelowna
  - New Port Mann Bridge
  - South Fraser Perimeter Road
  - Sea-to-Sky Highway
  - Port & Rail projects
  - Dozens of investments in regional airports

- Resulted in
  - More rapid bus service such as Kelowna Rapid Bus
  - And in the Lower Mainland, more SkyTrain & West Coast Express cars
  - Expanded stations
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- Resulted in rapid transit expansions like Canada Line & Evergreen Line...
  - ...which when opened in 2016 will mean that Metro Vancouver will have longest rapid transit system in CAN
  - AND, BC spends more per capita on transit than any other province
- Since 2001, over \$17 billion has been invested in transportation infrastructure to increase safety and reliability....to improve the quality of life for BC families....and to strengthen the provincial economy.
- Planning never stops for government.....so with the vast majority of priorities in the last plan implemented, time was right to move forward and develop new 10-year plan - *BC on the Move*

### **CONSULTATION:**

- Opportunity for British Columbians to join in the conversation and let government know about their most pressing transportation needs.
- Did that through combination of face-to-face meetings, an online survey, and use of social media.
- During Fall, we travelled province to talk face-to-face with key stakeholders.
- Met with First nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.

- All in all, senior ministry staff met with over 550 representatives from these organizations, at over 100 meetings.
- Additionally, my Parliamentary Secretary Jordan Sturdy met with over 70 stakeholder groups on Vancouver Island in early September, hearing first-hand the transportation needs of Island communities.
- Using social media, we promoted the survey. And I hosted a Twitter Town Hall, during which time ministry staff logged over 180 ideas from the public.
- Online, our *BC on the Move* website was visited over 44,000 times.
- And our public survey was a tremendous success. We received almost 13,000 responses from British Columbians.
- I want to thank everyone who took the time to provide input.

## **OVERVIEW OF PLAN:**

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- Priorities will be focused on:
  - Growing the economy
  - Moving people and goods safely & reliably
  - Connecting and strengthening communities,



- Maximizing collaboration and investment with partners including First Nations, federal government, local governments, and private sector.
- *BC on the Move* supported by \$2.5 Billion investment over next 3 years alone

## **HIGHWAYS / ROADS / BRIDGES**

- As I mentioned earlier, plan includes **more than \$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure – highways, bridges, side roads
- During public consultation, this was identified by British Columbians as number one priority
- This commitment will include:
  - **\$380 million** over next three years to resurface provincial highways:
    - That's **1,000 kilometres** of highway resurfaced annually
    - That's **1 million tonnes of asphalt** per year for re-hab
  - **\$180 million** over the next three years to repair & replace bridges:
    - That's a **50% increase** over previous years
  - **\$270 million** to improve side roads connecting rural communities:
    - That's as many as 30 projects totalling over 500 kilometres/year
    - That's a **33% increase** over previous years
    - Good examples of this kind of work are the improvements we made in partnership with the city last year to portions of Tyner Boulevard, Westgate Road and Gauthier Road, which improved these roads for local residents.
  - **\$60 million** over the next three years to upgrade roads in Northeastern BC in support of the natural gas industry

- **\$9 million** over the next three years for new and upgraded rest areas
- We are creating new **\$25 million** per year Roadside Safety Program - this level of investment represents a **100% increase** over previous years.
  - Highlights will include:
    - Snow avalanche infrastructure
    - Variable speed zone projects
    - Wildlife detection and warning systems
    - Dedicated annual funding for livestock fencing
    - Road marking strategies
    - Guardrail program.
- A new **\$10-million** / year Intersection Safety Program will also be established.
- Just this morning, we announced improvements under this program for an important intersection in Terrace.
- Traffic signals and a new left turn lane will be added at the Sande Ave. and Keith Ave. intersection with Highway 16, making it safer for drivers to turn.
- We're also going to develop additional strategies to improve roadside worker safety, work with stakeholders to reduce duration of highway closures, and implement strategies to get left lane hogs out of left lane when not passing.
- About **\$1 Bill** over next three years – or **\$1 Mill per day** - will be invested in expanding provincial highways and side road network to add capacity needed to improve safety for people and meet goods movement needs to grow economy
- This investment includes:
  - Upgrades to major provincial highways across BC:

- Highways 97 North and 2
- Highway 16
- Cariboo Connector – Highway 97 Cache Creek-Prince George
- Trans-Canada Kamloops to Alberta border
- Okanagan Valley
- Highways 3 & 5
- Lower Mainland Highways, such as initiating design for future construction of 6-laning on Highway 1, Langley to Abbotsford
- Advancing development of **George Massey** Replacement Project
- Just this morning I visited the Red Rock Weigh Scale
  - As part of Cariboo Connector Phase 1, we built this state of the art weigh scale and four-laned Highway 97 around the weigh scale site to Williams Road.
  - Today I had the pleasure of announcing that we are proceeding to tender with the four-laning of Highway 97 between Stone Creek Bridge and Williams Road
  - This work will complete the previous work done in Phase 1, by joining the Red Rock Weigh Scale and the Highway 97 Plett Road to Stone Creek Bridge four-laning projects.
- What this all means is better, safer highways for those who rely on them – like the visitors who come to Prince George and the beautiful Central Interior to fish and camp.
- Like our commercial truckers, who deliver the goods you buy at market or the equipment needed by industry.
- Like you – taking your sons and daughters and grandchildren to hockey games and field trips and family visits.

## **TRUCKING:**

- For first time ever, your government has included a Provincial Trucking Strategy in our 10-year plan
- Trucking critical to our economy – over **\$3 Bill** in goods are trucked between our gateway ports & rest of CAN every year.
- Trucking industry has **23,000 companies, 40,000 trucks & 33,500 employees**
- So, increasing the economic efficiency, while enhancing safety of the commercial trucking industry, is a top priority for our government.
- We recognize Prince George is the gateway to the North and Northeast.
- And we understand the importance of Highway 97 North – known as the Pine Pass area - to the trucking industry here.
- Which is why, as part of our trucking strategy, we are committing to upgrade & replace structures such as bridges and overpasses so they can accommodate increasingly heavy & large loads in BC
- In the immediate future, we are going to undertake design work for the replacement of the Salmon River Bridge and Parsnip Bridge on Highway 97 North so that they can handle the higher, wider loads needed by industry.
- Our Trucking Strategy will also:
  - Construct at least **2 new truck parking areas** in the Lower Mainland and **10 new truck inspection pullouts** throughout BC

- **Streamline permitting and reduce number of truck permits required** all the while ensuring commercial vehicle safety
- Review BC's pilot-car requirements
- Support the office of the independent Container Trucking Commissioner
- On this last point, allow me to offer a few comments:
  - Smooth day-to-day operations at Port Metro Vancouver are vital to B.C.'s economy (largest port in Canada - \$184 billion annually)
  - One year ago (in March 2014) Port Metro Vancouver was shut down for roughly four weeks = equivalent of \$3.5 billion goods did not move through the port.
  - Shutdown was bad for business. It was bad for our reputation with our trading partners. It was bad for shippers and trucking companies. It was also bad for truckers.
  - Root of the shutdown was found in legitimate concerns raised by truckers relating to their compensation, and specifically rampant under-cutting of trucker wages.
  - Truckers work hard. They have families. They need to put food on their tables. They deserve to earn fair wages, and to get paid wages they have rightfully earned.
  - That's why Province worked so hard to implement all 14 points of the Joint Action Plan – including higher wages for truckers.
  - That's why Province went beyond Joint Action Plan and enacted legislation to set and enforce minimum rates for container trucking, and to create office of independent Container Trucking Commissioner to oversee rate regulation, compliance & licensing.

- Now I know there have been impacts to everyone in the supply chain – I thank you for your patience and sacrifice. By working together, we are providing not only better working conditions for truckers, but also ensuring goods continue to move through our port – critical to the economies of both BC and CAN.

## **TRANSIT:**

- Back to *BC on the Move*....
- As I said earlier, there is no question that public transit is an essential component of British Columbia's integrated transportation network.
- Every single community in BC with over 10,000 people has transit service today. That's a level of access unparalleled in Canada.
- Through *BC on the Move*, the Province will continue its support for transit.
  - We will maintain the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada, with the Province providing BC Transit **\$312 million** in operating contributions over the next three years alone.
  - We will replace half of BC Transit's fleet over the next 5 years – that's **550 buses**.
  - We will continue to deploy compressed natural gas (CNG) buses in communities throughout the province.
  - And, the Province stands ready to fund 1/3 of the cost of new rapid transit projects and a replacement for Pattullo bridge in Metro

Vancouver. We're just waiting for the region to make its decision on its funding contribution.

## **AIRPORTS:**

- We all know the massive economic & social impacts a thriving airport can have on communities. We saw these positive impacts after the over 30 investments the Province made in regional airports during the mid-2000's.
- Government heard loud and clear during the *BC on the Move* consultation that support for smaller, regional airports is a priority for British Columbians.
- Here in northern half of the province, for example, BC's rapidly expanding resource sector is driving rapid growth in traffic at airports, including the Terrace-Kitimat and Prince Rupert airports.
- Therefore, to support BC's aviation sector, I am pleased to announce that the Province is establishing a **new BC Air Access Program** – with provincial investment of **\$24 Mill** over the next three years alone - to make funding available to community airports for infrastructure improvements, such as runways, terminal buildings and lighting.
- This will build on our previous investments in regional airports - like the **\$14 Mill** the Province provided the Prince George Airport between 2004 and 2010 for terminal and runway expansions needed to support economic growth in Central and Northern B.C.
- We also believe there's tremendous opportunity in aerospace development.
- To tap that opportunity, we will work with airports, various government ministries and local partners to facilitate aerospace development near BC airports, as part of a renewed focus on manufacturing.

## PORTS & RAIL

- Port and rail infrastructure also play a key role in BC's competitive advantage since BC is Canada's Pacific Gateway, the preferred gateway for Asian trade to North America and the world.
- In *BC on the Move*, we'll continue to support development of LNG industry.
- We'll also continue to work with partners, such as those in the Pacific Gateway Alliance, to ensure continued infrastructure investment to maximize the value of BC ports.
- As part of *BC on the Move*, we will also act to address road and rail conflicts to enhance safety and community connectivity.

## CYCLING:

- Our *BC on the Move* consultations also showed that the public supports enhanced infrastructure for cycling and other transportation choices.
- I'm pleased to announce that Government will increase the cost-shared funding available to communities to improve local cycling infrastructure.
- We are committing **\$18 million** over the next three years to this program – that's a **50% increase** over previous years.
- This will help fund municipal and regional projects such as multi-use paths, bike lanes, overpasses and shoulder bikeways.
- With shared funding from local communities, that's potentially **\$36 million** in cycling infrastructure improvements in communities across BC.



- A good example of the kind of project this will support is the Tyner Boulevard Cycle Trail here in Prince George. The Province contributed \$100,000 to the City for this work back in 2011/12 to improve connections to UNBC.
- To make travel safer and more enjoyable, we're also going to consider opportunities for improvements focused on widening highway shoulders.
- And on main cycling corridors, we will double the frequency of sweeping to improve the ride and safety for cyclists.
- There are also great opportunities for cycling tourism in our province.
- To support that, we're going to develop and implement new **Cycling Tourism Signage and Marketing Strategy** to promote some of our Province's beautiful cycling routes. We're going to pilot this strategy in **Okanagan**.

### **FIRST NATIONS:**

- Building partnerships with First Nations is an important part of our plan.
- In *BC on the Move*, one of our priorities for action to partner with First Nations on projects that support economic development on their lands.
- My ministry works every day to build positive relationships with First Nations by working together to identify ways for First Nations to benefit from related economic and employment opportunities, and to resolve issues and impacts from projects.

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

- *BC on the Move* also contains priorities for action that support Accessibility 2024.

- Accessibility 2024 is a 10-year plan and shared commitment between government, businesses and communities to make BC the most progressive place in Canada for people with disabilities.
- A key goal of this plan is for BC communities to have the most accessible transportation options in Canada by 2024 and *BC on the Move* supports that goal.

## **ENVIRONMENT:**

- As well, BC is committed to taking action on environmental protection in the transportation sector.
- Safeguarding the environment and taking measures to reduce environmental impacts is a key priority in all the projects and programs delivered to improvement transportation and it's a priority of *BC on the Move*.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- British Columbia has one of the most resilient economies in Canada and the world, and transportation investments have been vital to BC's success.
- *BC on the Move* is our plan to address our transportation challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities in the years ahead.
- We are rolling up our sleeves and going to work...
- ...to improve the movement of goods to communities and markets.
- ...to better connect people to services and jobs.
- ...to enhance access for the natural resource and tourism sectors.
- ...and to generate international trading opportunities.

- *BC on the Move* is built on a foundation of priorities for action, and sets us on a continued path of economic growth and prosperity over the coming decade.

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- It is my privilege to represent the hard working people of Kamloops South Thompson in the BC Legislature.
- It is equally my privilege to be here with all of you today.

**THANK YOU**

## Event Information / Speaking Notes – **BCOTM TOUR: Speaking engagement at the Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce**

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Event: Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce Luncheon (Part of BC on the Move Tour)

Date: June 15, 2015

Time: 12-1:30 pm

Where: Revelstoke Regent Inn (Begbie Room), 112 1st Street East, Revelstoke, BC

Parking: Parking available outside the Regent Inn

Contact (for the Chamber): Judy Goodman, Executive Director for the Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce, 250-837-5345, cell 250-814-7231, [executive@revelstokechamber.com](mailto:executive@revelstokechamber.com)

Ministry contacts: Leslie Elder, Acting District Manager, Rocky Mountain District Office, desk: 250 426-1509; cell: 250 919-2444; Mike Lorimer, Regional Director, Southern Interior Region, desk: 250 828-4220; cell: 250 318-4000.

Length of speech: Approximately 10 minutes/ open up to QA afterwards

Key Participants:

- Minister Todd Stone
- Judy Goodman, Executive Director for the Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce (Emcee)

The Minister should recognize:

**Revelstoke Mayor - Mark McKee**



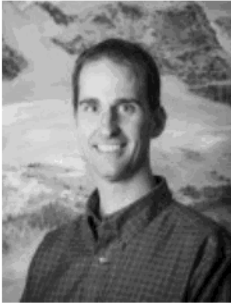
**Chamber President - Randy Driediger – (RCU Insurance)**



**Chamber Vice-President - Peter Neilsen – (Sutton Place Hotel)**



**Chamber Past President - Steve Bailey - (Revelstoke Mountain Resort)**



Room set-up: Podium/ no microphone

Audience Size: 40-50 people

Audience: Chamber of Commerce members, members of the business community

s.13

**Speech Outline:**

- BC on the Move – introduction/ overview
- Update on the Trans-Canada Highway 4-laning – Revelstoke portion in particular
- Local announcements – Revelstoke (avalanche mitigation system, Automax, digital speed limit signs)
- BC on the Move – more detail
- Conclusion

## **Key messages:**

### **BC on the Move:**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province.
- Over the next three years, up to \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government intends to invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.

### **Avalanche mitigation system:**

- Through our BC on the Move stakeholder consultation process, we've heard the concerns expressed by the local communities along this corridor – regarding the frequency and duration of highway closures when there is a risk of avalanche.
- We want to shorten the time that people are stuck in their vehicles during a road closure - and open up the highway as quickly as possible, to get vehicles and goods moving again.
- This is part of the commitment we have made in BC on the Move.
- That's why we are bringing in the new avalanche mitigation system – which will significantly reduce road closure periods.
- Using our current technology (helicopters and dropping explosives), avalanche control is effective, but can only be done when daylight and weather allows. Many times, this means long closures.
- This new remote control explosives technology can be done any time of day or night, and will not be weather dependant.
- This will mean that we can re-open the highway much quicker, to get traffic moving again.

**Automax:**

- The ministry has implemented a new traffic light signal timing system called Automax to help get traffic moving more efficiently through Revelstoke and Golden after a highway closure has occurred.
- If an intersection gets a long line-up of vehicles, Automax will detect it, using loops installed in the pavement.
- Through Automax, traffic signal timing will be adjusted automatically to relieve congestion – by increasing the time the light is green – to get highway travellers on their way more quickly.

**Digital Speed Limit Signs:**

- 20 new digital variable speed limit signs will be installed along Highway 1 between Revelstoke and the Perry River Bridge near Malakwa.
- The signs will be installed this fall, followed by a testing period before becoming fully operational.
- Along this section of Highway 1, weather conditions can switch from rain to snow very quickly.
- The signs will be linked to sensors in the road surface and automatically calculate a suggested speed limit.
- Ministry staff will use this information to adjust the speed limits and let drivers know what speed they should be travelling during winter weather conditions, to help them get to their destination safely.
- This is a part of the ministry's \$25-million-per-year Roadside Safety program, as announced in B.C. on the Move.

**Media invited? Yes (media availability to be held following the speech)**

Time	Event Itinerary
11:45	Attendees begin to arrive and take their seats
11:50	Minister Stone arrives and is greeted by Judy Goodman, Executive Director for the Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce
12:05	LUNCH SERVED
12:30	PROGRAM STARTS - Judy Goodman (Emcee) welcomes attendees and invites Minister Stone to the podium to speak.
12:35	Minister Stone gives keynote speech/ QA session
12:50	Judy Goodman thanks the Minister, concludes program, invites the media to join the Minister in meeting room for media availability
12:55	MEDIA AVAILABILITY – in meeting room
1:05	Minister meets one on one with Mayor of Revelstoke Mark McKee (ten minute meeting)
1:15	Meeting concludes – Minister departs

Speaking Notes

for the

**Honourable Todd Stone**  
**Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and**  
**MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson**

Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce Luncheon  
June 15, 2015  
Noon (12 pm)

Revelstoke Regent Inn (Begbie Room)  
112 1st Street East, Revelstoke, BC



## **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Mayor of Revelstoke - Mark McKee
- Chamber President - Randy Driediger (Dred-i-ger)
- Chamber Vice-President - Peter Neilsen
- Chamber Past President - Steve Bailey
- Judy Goodman, Executive Director for the Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce (Emcee)

## **OVERVIEW- B.C. on the Move**

- B.C. on the Move is the Province's new 10-year transportation plan.
- It outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- B.C. on the Move will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- B.C. on the Move is supported by a \$2.5 billion investment over the next 3 years alone.
- Government intends to invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- And we have budgeted almost \$1 billion over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.

### **Consultation:**

- BC on the Move was developed through discussions with people and organizations from communities across the province.
- During the fall 2014, we travelled the province to talk face-to-face with key stakeholders and met with First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.
- This included meetings with your Chamber of Commerce in November of 2014.

- Senior staff from Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure met with over 550 representatives from these organizations, at over 100 meetings.
- Online, the BC on the Move website was visited over 44,000 times.
- I conducted a Twitter Town hall with over 180 unique ideas that were added to the consultation.
- The public survey was a tremendous success. We received almost 13,000 responses from British Columbians.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition – and we have developed a plan that delivers.

### **TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY 4-LANING:**

- The Trans-Canada Highway (Highway 1) is the primary east-west connection through British Columbia.
- It's our main gateway to the rest of Canada, and a vital route for travel, tourism and trade.
- The Province is committed to improving the safety and reliability of, and the movement of goods on, the Trans-Canada Highway.
- Upgrading the highway to a modern, four-lane standard will allow traffic to move more safely and efficiently along this important corridor. I have heard from Revelstoke and other communities along the corridor that improving reliability is a key objective for you.
- Communities will be better connected, and businesses will be better able to move their products throughout B.C., through our ports and beyond our borders.
- We know the section between Kamloops and the Alberta border requires particular attention. Between 2001 and 2013, the provincial and federal governments invested \$700 million in Highway 1 improvements including 45 kilometers of new 4-laning.
- Despite all of this important work, there are still many two lane sections with sharp curves, steep grades and narrow bridges.

- That's why the BC government is continuing with the 10-year \$650 million commitment to increase the number of four-lane sections on the Trans-Canada Highway between Kamloops and the Alberta border.
- This year's provincial budget contains \$151 million for four-laning Highway 1 over the next three years.
- We continue to work with the Government of Canada to leverage federal funding to modernize our highways. Our goal is to work with our partners to increase investment on this corridor to over \$1 billion over the next 10 years.
- This funding includes the projects that are already underway, as well as planning and design for additional four-laning projects that were listed in BC on the Move: at Donald East, Illecillewaet, Salmon Arm West and Hoffman's Bluff to Jade Mountain .
- I can assure you the Revelstoke stretch of the Trans-Canada is a **high priority** for the ministry.
- I know you are very interested on where we are at with some of the projects ...and I wanted to give you some updates on a few more projects which may be of keen interest to you...
  - Kicking Horse Canyon (West Portal to Yoho Bridge) – preliminary engineering is complete
  - Donald to Forde Station Road –final design is underway
  - Illecillewaet – planning and design is underway
  - North Fork Bridge – design is complete
  - Bruhn Bridge and Old Spall Road – planning is underway
- The ministry is working with the Federal Government to pursue further contributions from them for projects within this important program.
- Once we have agreements in place with the federal government, we'll have a better understanding of costs and on construction timelines.
- However, I can assure you that the Trans-Canada Highway four-laning program from Kamloops to Alberta is a high priority, and we will carry on with these improvements, to make highway travel safer for all motorists along this key corridor.

## **LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS – REVELSTOKE**

- Next, I want to share some details on some highway announcements made this morning, regarding the Trans-Canada through Revelstoke and Golden.
- Today, I went to Woodenhead Park, where I met with Mayor Mark McKee and Mayor Ron Oszust, as well as various other important stakeholders, including RCMP, Parks Canada, and some of your Chamber of Commerce leaders, **to make 3 important safety and mobility announcements for the Trans-Canada Highway.**
- The first announcement is about avalanche mitigation efforts...and shortening the long duration of highway closures that can occur when these efforts are underway at Three Valley Gap.
- Highway 1 travels through some of B.C.'s most challenging avalanche terrain. In an average year, the highway can be closed for nearly 200 hours. During high snow years, this can increase to nearly 400 hours.
- That's over two and a half weeks when cars are not moving and the highway is closed.
- Your community has told me of your concerns. You told me that improvements are needed at Three Valley Gap – to shorten the duration of closures in the winter due to high avalanche risks.
- I travelled to Revelstoke on February 2nd, and I met with both of the mayors.
- I also did a helicopter tour with ministry avalanche technicians to see the Three Valley Gap area first-hand.
- Using our current technology (helicopters and dropping explosives), avalanche control is effective, but can only be done during daylight and when weather allows.
- Many times, this means long closures - sometimes 16 hours or more.
- We recognize that people and goods need to get to their destinations in a timely way.
- We want to shorten the time that people are stuck in their vehicles and delayed in their travels during a road closure - and open up the highway as quickly as possible, to get vehicles and goods moving again.

- This is part of the commitment we have made in BC on the Move – to deliver projects that make highways more reliable, with a specific focus on improving avalanche infrastructure.
- That’s why we are bringing in a new **avalanche mitigation system at Three Valley Gap**.
- It will use remote control explosive devices – the devices will be used by trained avalanche technicians, to remotely trigger avalanches.
- The devices will not depend on good weather conditions or daylight to operate. They can be used any time – day or night.
- We anticipate the new system will significantly reduce the duration of highway closures for avalanche control – especially during times of poor weather and at night, when our current control system cannot be deployed.
- There will still be short closures to remotely trigger an avalanche and clean it up, but this system will significantly cut down the length of closures.
- This technology has proven to be very effective in triggering avalanches, stabilizing the snowpacks, and keeping the highways safe for travellers.
- We have now begun the planning stage for this new technology and are issuing an Expression of Interest to find avalanche engineering experts to identify the most effective technology for this unique set of avalanche paths.
- We expect to begin installing the new devices in the winter of 2016.
- This new avalanche mitigation system will benefit the communities of Revelstoke and Golden, the commercial trucking industry and all other highway users.
- Once again, the new system will significantly reduce the time that people are delayed in their travels or stuck in their vehicles during a road closure, and get traffic on the highway moving again.

### **Automax:**

- The second announcement was introducing a new traffic light signal timing system in Revelstoke and Golden – called Automax.
- This system will help get traffic flowing more efficiently through Revelstoke and Golden after a highway closure has occurred, by intelligently monitoring traffic.

- When there's a long line-up of vehicles, Automax will detect it, using loops installed in the pavement.
- Through Automax, traffic signal timing will be adjusted automatically to relieve congestion – by increasing the time the light is green – to get highway travellers on their way more quickly.
- This system has been installed at all three signalized intersections along the Trans-Canada in Revelstoke (Hwy 23 North, Hwy 23 South and Victoria) and two intersections in Golden (Frontage Rd West, Frontage Rd East).

## **20 new digital variable speed signs:**

- The third ministry announcement for the Trans-Canada is about improving safety for motorists.
- As a part of our Rural Highway Safety and Speed Review, we looked at how we could reduce the frequency of weather-related crashes, when drivers are travelling in snowy or icy conditions, and need to adjust their travelling speed according to road conditions.
- One of the ideas was to introduce new **digital variable speed limit signs**, in areas where the weather can change quickly, and sometimes catch drivers off guard.
- The electronic signs will adjust the speed limit to let drivers know what speed they should be travelling during winter weather conditions, to help drivers get to their destination safely.
- 20 new variable speed signs will be installed along Highway 1 from Perry River to Revelstoke this fall, and then after a testing period, they will become fully operational.
- The testing will help us to ensure that the system is effective in all sorts of weather conditions that could be encountered.
- Whether it's extreme cold, freezing rain or heavy snowfall, the extensive system of sensors will be calibrated to detect the conditions, and make appropriate recommendations for speed limits.
- We also have pilots of these new systems going up on the Coquihalla and on Highway 99.

- There will also be overhead message signs at the entrance to each corridor to inform drivers that they are entering a variable speed zone, and to be aware of changing weather conditions.
- The combined cost estimate for these three pilot systems is \$12.5 million.
- This is part of the ministry's \$25-million-per-year Roadside Safety program, as announced in B.C. on the Move.

### **B.C. on the Move – MORE DETAIL**

- Now, I want to outline more details on B.C. on the Move, that relate to highways, bridges, and roads, right across B.C.
- The plan includes more than \$800 million over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure – highways, bridges, side roads.
- This year alone, we'll deliver over 40 resurfacing projects across B.C.
- About \$1 billion over next three years will be invested in expanding the network, including highways and side roads, to add the capacity needed to improve safety for people and improve the movement of goods.
- This investment includes upgrades to major provincial highways across B.C.:
  - Trans-Canada Kamloops to Alberta border 4-laning
  - Cariboo Connector: Highway 97 Cache Creek to Prince George
  - Okanagan Valley
  - Highways 3 & 5
  - Highway 16
  - Highways 97 North and 2
  - Lower Mainland Highways, such as initiating design for future construction of 6-laning on Highway 1, Langley to Abbotsford
  - Advancing development of George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project

### **PROVINCIAL TRUCKING STRATEGY:**

- For the first time ever, the government has included a Provincial Trucking Strategy in our 10-year plan.
- Trucking is critical to our economy – over \$3 billion in goods are trucked between our gateway ports and rest of Canada every year.

- B.C.'s trucking industry has 23,000 companies, 40,000 trucks & 33,500 employees.
- So, increasing the economic efficiency, while enhancing safety of the commercial trucking industry, is a top priority for our government.
- Our Trucking Strategy will -
  - Upgrade and replace structures such as bridges and overpasses so they can accommodate increasingly heavy and large loads
  - Build at least 2 new truck parking areas in the Lower Mainland and 10 new truck inspection pullouts throughout B.C.
  - Streamline permitting and reduce number of truck permits required all the while ensuring commercial vehicle safety
  - Review BC's pilot-car requirements
  - Support the office of the independent Container Trucking Commissioner
- Andy Smith took on the role of Container Trucking Commissioner at the start of February and since then he's been busy reaching out to key players in the sector—identifying challenges and possible solutions.
- By working together, we are providing better working conditions for truck operators, and also ensuring goods continue to move through our port – critical to the economies of both B.C. and Canada.

## **AIRPORTS/ PORTS & RAIL/ CYCLING/ TRANSIT**

- Government heard during the B.C. on the Move consultation that support for smaller, regional airports is a priority for British Columbians.
- To support B.C.'s aviation sector, the Province has established a new B.C. Air Access Program – with a provincial investment of \$24 million over the next three years. This will make funding available to community airports for infrastructure improvements, such as runways and terminal buildings.
- I look forward to seeing the new B.C. Air Access Program help grow our communities and economy through upgrades to our regional airports.
- Port and rail infrastructure also play a key role in B.C.'s competitive advantage since B.C. is Canada's Pacific Gateway, the preferred gateway for Asian trade to the world.



- In B.C. on the Move, we'll continue to support development of LNG industry, and we'll keep on working with our partners to ensure continued infrastructure investments to maximize the value of B.C. ports.
- We are investing the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada, by providing B.C. Transit \$312 million in operating contributions over the next three years.
- We also want to boost cycling opportunities across B.C. and continue to improve safety for avid cyclists, so we are investing \$18 million over three years for cycling infrastructure.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- Over the coming weeks, I'll be travelling throughout the province in support of B.C. on the Move. (Visiting communities, touring projects, and visiting with ministry staff and highways crews)
- I know that you in this room today understand the importance of long-term planning, and you recognize the importance of our transportation infrastructure to your economy.
- You also have a high interest in the Trans-Canada Highway Kamloops to Alberta 4-laning program – particularly near Revelstoke.
- I can assure you that upgrading the Trans-Canada Highway to a modern, four-lane standard to allow traffic to move more safely and efficiently is a high priority for this government.
- We will continue to work with our federal partners to leverage funds to carry on with this important safety upgrade to the Trans-Canada.
- We are rolling up our sleeves and going to work...to improve the movement of goods to communities and markets...to better connect people to services and jobs...to enhance access for the natural resource and tourism sectors...and to generate international trading opportunities.
- It is my privilege to represent the hard working people of Kamloops South Thompson in the BC Legislature.
- It is equally my privilege to be here with all of you today.
- Thank you.



## Event Information / Speaking Notes – Draft

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**Event:** Launch of B.C. on the Move

**When:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 – Minister speaks at 12:40 p.m.

**Where:** Vancouver Board of Trade  
The Fairmont Waterfront – Waterfront Ballroom  
900 Canada Place Way, Vancouver

**Length:** Keynote – 20 minutes

**Key Participants:**

- Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Todd Stone

**Audience Size:** 150

**Audience:**

- Vancouver Board of Trade members and guests
- Event sponsored by Port Metro Vancouver

**Key messages:**

- B.C. on the Move is a 10-year transportation plan that outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians.
- Over the next three years, almost \$2.5-billion will be invested to grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure and support trade for B.C.'s expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway.
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 that included meetings with key stakeholders throughout B.C., including First Nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities. Government also conducted a public survey with almost 13,000 responses.
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition.
- Government will invest more than \$800 million over the next three years in highway and bridge rehabilitation and safety improvements.
- Almost \$1 billion is budgeted over the next three years to ensure our network has the capacity to meet the transport and trade needs of the province – a key to growth and prosperity.
- B.C. on the Move, also includes a new Provincial Trucking Strategy that will involve industry to work together on how best to improve the safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in B.C.
- Other highlights of B.C. on the Move:
  - Partnering with First nations on projects that support economic activity
  - Improving accessibility for persons with limited mobility by upgrading rest areas
  - New investments in bike lanes and trails through partnerships with local communities
- The foundation of B.C. on the Move is partnerships. Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in projects.

**Media attending: yes. Media availability following Q&A**

## NOTES:

### Background of host organization

For 127 years, The Vancouver Board of Trade has helped businesses of all sizes to grow and prosper.

Its mission is to work in the enlightened interest of its members to promote, enhance and facilitate the development of the region as a Pacific centre for trade, commerce and travel. The Board strives to enable and empower its members to succeed, grow and prosper in the global economy.

#### Chair: Janet Austin

Chief Executive Officer

YWCA Metro Vancouver

#### President and CEO: Iain Black

The Vancouver Board of Trade

### Vancouver Board of Trade Itinerary

TIME	WHAT	WHO
11:10 am	Arrival of Minister Todd Stone to the Fairmont Waterfront Hotel	Minister Todd Stone and staff
11:15 am (35 mins)	Private Round Table begins <i>Location: Princess Louisa room (2nd floor)</i>	
11:50 pm	Private Round Table Concludes -all guests walk downstairs to Waterfront Ballroom	
11:55 pm (3 mins)	Opening remarks / housekeeping / Upcoming Events	Janet Austin
12:00 pm (35 mins)	Luncheon service	Catering Tech/Amelia  Amelia
12:31 pm (2 mins)	Introduction of Head Table and special guests	Janet Austin
12:34 pm	Janet invites Port Metro Vancouver representative to give formal introduction of keynote speaker <i>(PMV rep and Minister Stone shake hands at podium, Janet returns to head table)</i>	Janet Austin
12:35 pm (3 mins)	PMV formally introduces keynote speaker <i>(PMV rep and Minister Stone shake hands at podium, David</i>	Port Metro Vancouver representative (Name & title to be confirmed)

	<i>returns to head table)</i>	
12:39 pm (20 mins)	Minister Todd Stone delivers keynote address	Minister Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and B.C. Deputy House Leader
1:00 pm	Janet takes to stage (unannounced) to begin audience Q & A	Janet Austin
1:01 pm (15 mins)	Move into audience Q & A  <b><i>Janet asks guests to hold up Q &amp; A cards to be collected by staff/volunteers. Starts with seed question(s) in script</i></b>	Janet Austin Minister Todd Stone
1:16 pm	Audience Q & A concludes	
1:17 pm	Janet thanks Minister Todd Stone and presents Thank You gift (Purdy's gift basket)  <i>Minister Todd Stone <u>departs immediately</u> (via side door) to Media Availability</i>	Janet Austin Minister Todd Stone

# Speaking Notes

for the

Hon. Todd Stone

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure and  
MLA for Kamloops-South Thompson

Launch of B.C. on the Move

Vancouver Board of Trade

The Fairmont Waterfront – Waterfront Ballroom  
900 Canada Place Way, Vancouver

Tuesday, March 17, 2015

12:40 p.m.

## **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE**

- **Chair: Janet Austin**  
Chief Executive Officer  
YWCA Metro Vancouver
- **President and CEO: Iain Black**  
The Vancouver Board of Trade

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- Thank you for inviting me today

## **ST. PATRICK'S DAY – Great Day to Launch BC on the Move**

- 10 year-old daughter – school project – fun facts about St. Patrick's Day
  - Did you know – St. Patrick is not actually Irish? Born in Roman Britain & captured. Brought to Ireland as slave at age 16.
  - Female leprechauns don't exist
  - Nobody sure where the Leprechaun's green hat and green outfit came from – originally, they wore red sweater and a cocked hat. Should be pinching your pals for not having red sweater on
  - Due to very small numbers, Leprechauns are protected species in Europe – perhaps we should consider similar protections here in BC for plebiscite YES voters?

## **BOARD OF TRADE:**

- Lots of respect for Board of Trade, what you do, what you represent...
  - Initiative ... risk taking ... creating opportunity, for yourselves & others
- Member of Kamloops Chamber – 15 years – on board
- I myself came from the business sector
- Small business owner – founder CEO software company
- Know what it takes to start/grow business, how hard it is / how rewarding
- Know sacrifices put into your businesses, ups and downs – esp starting out
- Remember hiring my first employee - **AVERY** story

## **WHY HERE TODAY:**

- Being here in Vancouver, let me just start by saying I will get to the plebiscite
- Suspect a few of you will be interested to hear my thoughts on it
- Here to talk about new & exciting 10-year plan for transportation in our province - *BC on the Move*

## **THE PLAN – *BC on the Move***

- Everyone knows how challenging the past few years have been financially
- As you all know our government has made balancing the books a key priority
- Has meant sacrifice....has meant good number of NO's from government
- But commitment to balancing budget...to being a government that controls its spending also has helped get us to today – likely only province in CAN to balance budget...and we're doing it for 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row, all the while maintaining amongst lowest personal & business taxes in CAN and protecting our AAA credit rating
- Today, still dealing with challenging economic outlook...not lots of extra \$\$
- But.....as you know...BC is shining example in Canada of how to manage your finances...and if you manage finances as we have, among other things it means you can continue to have robust transportation investment
- Today, at VBOC, I'm proud to stand here and launch British Columbia's new 10 year transportation plan
- *BC on the Move* is our vision.....it outlines critical investments and improvements throughout the province that will improve the daily lives of British Columbians



- *BC on the Move* will grow the economy, improve safety, maintain and replace aging infrastructure & support trade for BC's expanding resource sectors through Canada's Asia-Pacific Gateway
- Development of the plan included input from an extensive engagement process in fall 2014 – more on that in a moment
- British Columbians made it clear they want their highways, roads, bridges and side roads kept in good condition
  - We agree.....the plan includes more than **\$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure
- Also includes almost **\$1 Bill** over next 3 years toward expansions of major highways & side roads
- *BC on the Move* includes new Provincial Trucking Strategy – 1<sup>st</sup> time ever
  - Will involve working together with industry on how best to improve safety, efficiency and economics of trucking in BC – more on that later

### **TRANSITION TO PLEBISCITE:**

- To date, transportation priorities have largely been determined first and foremost based on safe movement of people and goods – that will continue
- Secondly...and new to transportation planning in BC...transportation priorities will also be determined based on economic opportunity / jobs / industrial activity / final investment decisions
- Finally, priorities in *BC on the Move* will also be driven by partnerships
- Where partners are committed to sharing costs and providing resources to mutual priorities, the Province will actively pursue and invest in such projects
- Which brings me to the elephant in the room.....the plebiscite.....

- I hear from lower mainland residents all the time...
  - ....drivers who are stuck in traffic on a daily basis, trying to get to work or get their kids to soccer practice
  - ....companies that are frustrated with their trucks mired in traffic jams as they try to move goods and supplies reliably across the region
  - ....or people who are trying to get to school or work on time, but suffer bus pass-ups as they wait 2 or 3 buses before there is room to hop on
- We need transit & transportation system that keeps region moving & growing
- We need system that supports growth we expect to see over next 30 years
- Mayors' Council has developed a vision for transportation and transit expansion across Metro Vancouver
  - We compliment Mayors for working hard and achieving consensus
  - It's a vision we believe the region can get behind
  - It's a vision that provides benefits to communities across the region:
    - Rapid transit in Surrey and Vancouver
    - More rapid bus & sea bus service
    - More buses & HANDY-DART across the region
    - \$36 Mill more per year, region-wide for major road network
    - Replacement Pattullo bridge
- Mayors' Council has identified 0.5% sales tax as most equitable source of new funding to generate revenues needed to pay for expansion
  - Our government has accepted this recommendation

- Mayors' Council has announced Jimmy Pattison will head up blue ribbon public accountability committee, a concrete mechanism to monitor and ensure funds raised by the regional sales tax will be used for the transportation & transit expansion they are meant to pay for.
  - We think this is a very good step as the public has every right to expect accountability and transparency with respect to the collection & expenditure of revenues raised by this regional sales tax
- AND, as we promised, we're proud we've delivered on commitment to ensure voters have final say over any new revenue measures Mayors Council feels are needed to support their plan
- NOW, let me be clear:
  - Our Premier supports a YES vote
  - I support a YES vote
  - Our government supports a YES vote
- Voting YES will:
  - Strengthen our economy
  - Improve region's quality of life
  - Ensure continued investment in future growth of Lower Mainland
- So ..... I mentioned earlier that priorities in *BC on the Move* will in part be driven by partnerships
- I want to remind every person in this room...with respect to Mayors' Council transportation & transit expansion plan for Lower Mainland, our government is your partner

- Our money is on the table....BC Government is committed to providing 1/3<sup>rd</sup> capital required for rapid transit projects and Pattullo replacement
- We've also committed to strongly encouraging Fed Gov't to invest
- We're waiting to see if Lower Mainland's residents approve region's share of funding required to move forward...this is why a YES vote is critical.
- So I encourage you to:
  - Participate in this unique opportunity to help shape the region's growth for generations to come – make sure you vote
  - Familiarize yourself with the Mayors' Council vision and plan
  - Support a YES vote....as you recall the words of Jimmy Pattison when he said: *"I know how important our transportation & transit system is, both to our needs now, and to the needs of our children & grandchildren."*

### **BACK TO THE 10-YEAR PLAN:**

- Now back to our new 10-year transportation plan
- The entire province is benefitting from the success of our last 10-year transportation plan – called *Opening Up BC* – launched in 2003.
- Resulted in major projects like:
  - New Port Mann Bridge
  - South Fraser Perimeter Road
  - Sea-to-Sky Highway
  - 4-lane improvements on Highway 1 in the Kicking Horse Canyon
  - Cariboo Connector improvements
  - New William R. Bennett Bridge
  - Port & Rail projects
  - Dozens of investments in regional airports

- Resulted in
  - More SkyTrain & West Coast Express cars
  - Expanded stations
  - New seabus
  - More rapid bus service such as Kelowna Rapid Bus
- Resulted in rapid transit expansions like Canada Line & Evergreen Line...
  - ...which when opened in 2016 will mean that Metro Vancouver will have longest rapid transit system in CAN
  - AND, BC spends more per capita on transit than any other province
- Since 2001, over \$17 billion has been invested in transportation infrastructure to increase safety and reliability....to improve the quality of life for BC families....and to strengthen the provincial economy.
- Planning never stops for government.....so with the vast majority of priorities in the last plan implemented, time was right to move forward and develop new 10-year plan - *BC on the Move*

### **CONSULTATION:**

- Opportunity for British Columbians to join in the conversation and let government know about their most pressing transportation needs.
- Did that through combination of face-to-face meetings, an online survey, and use of social media.
- During Fall, we travelled province to talk face-to-face with key stakeholders.
- Met with First nations, local governments, chambers of commerce, and port and airport authorities.

- All in all, senior ministry staff met with over 550 representatives from these organizations, at over 100 meetings.
- Additionally, my Parliamentary Secretary Jordan Sturdy met with over 70 stakeholder groups on Vancouver Island in early September, hearing first-hand the transportation needs of Island communities.
- Using social media, we promoted the survey. And I hosted a Twitter Town Hall, during which time ministry staff logged over 180 ideas from the public.
- Online, our *BC on the Move* website was visited over 44,000 times.
- And our public survey was a tremendous success. We received almost 13,000 responses from British Columbians.
- I want to thank everyone who took the time to provide input.

## **OVERVIEW OF PLAN:**

- *BC on the Move* sets out a series of short, medium and longer-term priorities for government
- Priorities will be focused on:
  - Growing the economy
  - Moving people and goods safely & reliably
  - Connecting and strengthening communities,

- Maximizing collaboration and investment with partners including First Nations, federal government, local governments, and private sector.
- *BC on the Move* supported by \$2.5 Billion investment over next 3 years alone

## **HIGHWAYS / ROADS / BRIDGES**

- As I mentioned earlier, plan includes **more than \$800 Mill** over next 3 years dedicated to renewing existing infrastructure – highways, bridges, side roads
- During public consultation, this was identified by British Columbians as number one priority
- This commitment will include:
  - **\$380 million** over next three years to resurface provincial highways:
    - That's **1,000 kilometres** of highway resurfaced annually
    - That's **1 million tonnes of asphalt** per year for re-hab
  - **\$180 million** over the next three years to repair & replace bridges:
    - That's a **50% increase** over previous years
  - **\$270 million** to improve side roads connecting rural communities:
    - That's as many as 30 projects totalling over 500 kilometres/year
    - That's a **33% increase** over previous years
  - **\$60 million** over the next three years to upgrade roads in Northeastern BC in support of the natural gas industry
  - **\$9 million** over the next three years for new and upgraded rest areas

- We are creating new **\$25 million** per year Roadside Safety Program - this level of investment represents a **100% increase** over previous years.
  - Highlights will include:
    - Snow avalanche infrastructure
    - Variable speed zone projects
    - Wildlife detection and warning systems
    - Dedicated annual funding for livestock fencing
    - Road marking strategies
    - Guardrail program.
- A new **\$10-million** / year Intersection Safety Program will also be established.
- And, we're going to develop additional strategies to improve roadside worker safety, work with stakeholders to reduce duration of highway closures, and implement strategies to get left lane hogs out of left lane when not passing.
- About **\$1 Bill** over next three years – or **\$1 Mill per day** - will be invested in expanding provincial highways and side road network to add capacity needed to improve safety for people and meet goods movement needs to grow economy
- This investment includes:
  - Advancing development of **George Massey** Replacement Project
  - Upgrades to major provincial highways across BC:
    - Trans-Canada Kamloops to Alberta border
    - Cariboo Connector – Highway 97 Cache Creek-Prince George
    - Okanagan Valley
    - Highways 3 & 5
    - Highway 16
    - Highways 97 North and 2
    - Lower Mainland Highways, such as initiating design for future construction of 6-laning on Highway 1, Langley to Abbotsford



## **TRUCKING:**

- For first time ever, your government has included a Provincial Trucking Strategy in our 10-year plan
- Trucking critical to our economy – over **\$3 Bill** in goods are trucked between our gateway ports & rest of CAN every year.
- Trucking industry has **23,000 companies, 40,000 trucks & 33,500 employees**
- So, increasing the economic efficiency, while enhancing safety of the commercial trucking industry, is a top priority for our government
- Our Trucking Strategy will:
  - Upgrade & replace structures such as bridges and overpasses so they can accommodate increasingly heavy & large loads
  - Construct at least **2 new truck parking areas** in the Lower Mainland and **10 new truck inspection pullouts** throughout BC
  - **Streamline permitting** and **reduce number of truck permits required** all the while ensuring commercial vehicle safety
  - Review BC's pilot-car requirements
  - Support the office of the independent Container Trucking Commissioner
  - On this last point, allow me to offer a few comments:

- Smooth day-to-day operations at Port Metro Vancouver are vital to B.C.'s economy (largest port in Canada - \$184 billion annually)
- One year ago (in March 2014) Port Metro Vancouver was shut down for roughly four weeks = equivalent of \$3.5 billion goods did not move through the port.
- Shutdown was bad for business. It was bad for our reputation with our trading partners. It was bad for shippers and trucking companies. It was also bad for truckers.
- Root of the shutdown was found in legitimate concerns raised by truckers relating to their compensation, and specifically rampant under-cutting of trucker wages.
- Truckers work hard. They have families. They need to put food on their tables. They deserve to earn fair wages, and to get paid wages they have rightfully earned.
- That's why Province worked so hard to implement all 14 points of the Joint Action Plan – including higher wages for truckers.
- That's why Province went beyond Joint Action Plan and enacted legislation to set and enforce minimum rates for container trucking, and to create office of independent Container Trucking Commissioner to oversee rate regulation, compliance & licensing.
- Now I know there have been impacts to everyone in the supply chain – I thank you for your patience and sacrifice. By working together, we are providing not only better working conditions for truckers, but also ensuring goods continue to move through our port – critical to the economies of both BC and CAN.

## TRANSIT:

- Back to *BC on the Move*....
- As I said earlier, there is no question that public transit is an essential component of British Columbia's integrated transportation network.
- Every single community in BC with over 10,000 people has transit service today. That's a level of access unparalleled in Canada.
- Through *BC on the Move*, the Province will continue its support for transit.
  - We will maintain the highest level of operating support for transit in Canada, with the Province providing BC Transit **\$312 million** in operating contributions over the next three years alone.
  - We will replace half of BC Transit's fleet over the next 5 years – that's **550 buses**.
  - We will continue to deploy compressed natural gas (CNG) buses in communities throughout the province.
  - And, as I said earlier, the Province stands ready to fund 1/3 of the cost of new rapid transit projects and a replacement for Pattullo bridge in Metro Vancouver. We're just waiting for the region to make its decision on its funding contribution.

## AIRPORTS:

- We all know the massive economic & social impacts a thriving airport can have on communities. We saw these positive impacts after the over 30 investments the Province made in regional airports during the mid-2000's.
- Government heard loud and clear during the *BC on the Move* consultation that support for smaller, regional airports is a priority for British Columbians.
- In the northern part of the province for example, BC's rapidly expanding resource sector is driving rapid growth in traffic at airports, including the Terrace-Kitimat and Prince Rupert airports.
- Therefore, to support BC's aviation sector, I am pleased to announce that the Province is establishing a **new BC Air Access Program** – with provincial investment of **\$24 Mill** over the next three years alone - to make funding available to community airports for infrastructure improvements, such as runways, terminal buildings and lighting.
- We also believe there's tremendous opportunity in aerospace development.
- To tap that opportunity, we will work with airports, various government ministries and local partners to facilitate aerospace development near BC airports, as part of a renewed focus on manufacturing.

## PORTS & RAIL

- Port and rail infrastructure also play a key role in BC's competitive advantage since BC is Canada's Pacific Gateway, the preferred gateway for Asian trade to North America and the world.

- In *BC on the Move*, we'll continue to support development of LNG industry.
- We'll also continue to work with partners, such as those in the Pacific Gateway Alliance, to ensure continued infrastructure investment to maximize the value of BC ports.
- As part of *BC on the Move*, we will also act to address road and rail conflicts to enhance safety and community connectivity.

### **BC FERRIES:**

- I'd be remiss if I didn't mention BC Ferries.
- Before the end of March, independent BC Ferry Commissioner will deliver preliminary price cap ruling for next performance term, which takes effect in April 2016.
- I'm optimistic that we've turned the corner.
- I'm optimistic because I know we've come a long way since the BC Ferry Commissioner released his report in 2012.
- In November 2013, I introduced the Province's vision to connect coastal communities in an affordable and sustainable manner.
- To enact this vision, Province undertook broad set of initiatives including:
  - Record level of provincial investment in BC Ferries – **\$180 Mill/year**
  - Service reductions of **\$18 Mill** – eliminated sailings with major underutilization, often with more staff than passengers on board
  - Reduction of **seniors discounts on passenger fares by 50%** with savings re-directed to reduce the pressure on fares for all users

- Feasibility study on potential bridge to Gabriola Island
- For BC Ferries part, company was challenged to find **\$54 million** in efficiencies to 2016 and they are on track to exceed this target.
- BC Ferries is also being more innovative:
  - Developing new reservation & point of sale system
  - New cable ferry this summer – will save **\$2 Mill/year**
  - After much encouragement from our Government, they're moving forward with plans to have 5 vessels on LNG fuel propulsion. Once 3 new intermediate vessels delivered with LNG fuel propulsion, and 2 Spirit Class vessels converted – will save **\$12 Mill/year for 27 years**
- All these efforts were intended to address concerns about the affordability of fares, and specifically to get fare increases roughly in line with inflation.
- We'll wait to see what the Ferry Commissioner about ferry fares for the next four year term starting April 2016.
- However, we've made progress in addressing the challenges facing the coastal ferry system, and we will continue to do whatever we can to further reduce pressure on fares to ensure that our coastal ferry service is there for generations to come.

### **CYCLING:**

- Our *BC on the Move* consultations also showed that the public supports enhanced infrastructure for cycling and other transportation choices.
- I'm pleased to announce that Government will increase the cost-shared funding available to communities to improve local cycling infrastructure.

- We are committing **\$18 million** over the next three years to this program – that’s a **50% increase** over previous years.
- This will help fund municipal and regional projects such as multi-use paths, bike lanes, overpasses and shoulder bikeways.
- With shared funding from local communities, that’s potentially **\$36 million** in cycling infrastructure improvements in communities across BC.
- To make travel safer and more enjoyable, we’re also going to consider opportunities for improvements focused on widening highway shoulders.
- And on main cycling corridors, we will double the frequency of sweeping to improve the ride and safety for cyclists.
- There are also great opportunities for cycling tourism in our province.
- To support that, we’re going to develop and implement new **Cycling Tourism Signage and Marketing Strategy** to promote some of our Province’s beautiful cycling routes. We’re going to pilot this strategy in **Okanagan**.

## **FIRST NATIONS:**

- Building partnerships with First Nations is an important part of our plan.
- In *BC on the Move*, one of our priorities for action to partner with First Nations on projects that support economic development on their lands.
- My ministry works every day to build positive relationships with First Nations by working together to identify ways for First Nations to benefit from related economic and employment opportunities, and to resolve issues and impacts from projects.

## **ACCESSIBILITY:**

- *BC on the Move* also contains priorities for action that support Accessibility 2024.
- Accessibility 2024 is a 10-year plan and shared commitment between government, businesses and communities to make BC the most progressive place in Canada for people with disabilities.
- A key goal of this plan is for BC communities to have the most accessible transportation options in Canada by 2024 and *BC on the Move* supports that goal.

## **ENVIRONMENT:**

- As well, BC is committed to taking action on environmental protection in the transportation sector.
- Safeguarding the environment and taking measures to reduce environmental impacts is a key priority in all the projects and programs delivered to improvement transportation and it's a priority of *BC on the Move*.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- British Columbia has one of the most resilient economies in Canada and the world, and transportation investments have been vital to BC's success.
- *BC on the Move* is our plan to address our transportation challenges and to take advantage of the opportunities in the years ahead.
- We are rolling up our sleeves and going to work...
- ...to improve the movement of goods to communities and markets.
- ...to better connect people to services and jobs.



- ...to enhance access for the natural resource and tourism sectors.
- ...and to generate international trading opportunities.
- *BC on the Move* is built on a foundation of priorities for action, and sets us on a continued path of economic growth and prosperity over the coming decade.

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- It is my privilege to represent the hard working people of Kamloops South Thompson in the BC Legislature.
- It is equally my privilege to be here with all of you today.

**THANK YOU**

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