

## BUDGET UPDATE 2017 SPEECH

### A NEW VISION TO BUILD A BETTER B.C.

It was clear in the results of the last election that the majority of British Columbians were frustrated about the direction our province was taking. They didn't see their priorities reflected in the decisions being made.

Now, along with our colleagues in the Green Caucus and across the floor with the Official Opposition, we have a real opportunity to do things differently. I look forward to working with all members of this Legislature on the plan we have to make life better for the people of this province.

We're a new government with a clear vision. You heard in the Throne Speech about our vision for a government that works for people. That makes life more affordable, delivers the services people count on, and creates a strong sustainable economy that works for everyone.

This budget update is a road map to support those priorities. It's a budget that puts people first. It takes important first steps to help meet some of the most urgent needs and sets a new course where a strong economy works for the many, not just the few.

For the past 16 years we've seen children and parents struggle to get supports, seniors who can't find care when they need it, families unable to afford housing, and businesses that can't find enough staff because people can't afford to live in the community they work in. We've seen increasing fees—people paying more, while getting less. B.C. has had one of the highest poverty rates in the country. These aren't just examples or statistics. These are real families, individuals, and businesses, struggling to get by because of the choices made over the past 16 years.

As Minister of Finance, I'm going to work with my colleagues to carve a new path where everyone benefits from our strong economy. Where economic growth goes hand in hand with investing in our greatest resource—people. Where reducing inequality, investing in the services people count on, and supporting a thriving, competitive, innovative economy are inextricably linked. Where addressing climate action is a tool for long term sustainable growth and jobs in every corner of our province.

A budget should benefit all the people of our province, not just the few at the top, and that's why we are committed to making choices that benefit everyone. We're committed to strengthening our economy. We want our province to be a place of strong industries, thriving entrepreneurship, flourishing small businesses, a well-educated work force, good jobs and sustainable economic growth. And most importantly, we're going to do this by investing in British Columbians.

A government's budget doesn't stand alone. A budget that invests in people, invests in a strong British Columbia. A province where people have the tools to thrive, provide for their families, develop skills, educate themselves and their children, and begin to give back to their community.

In this budget update, we present a strong, responsible fiscal plan that puts people first while helping to ensure the long run fiscal sustainability of our province. Our balanced budget for 2017-2018 includes:

Total spending of	\$51.9 billion
Total revenues of	\$52.4 billion
A forecast allowance of	\$300 million
A budget surplus of	\$246 million

And record levels of capital spending, while maintaining a debt-to-GDP ratio that's affordable.

B.C.'s economy is strong, and employment, retail sales, housing starts and exports have all exceeded expectations. The outlook in this budget for this year's real GDP growth is 2.9 per cent, which is prudent compared to the outlook provided by the independent Economic Forecast Council. Private-sector forecasters expect B.C. to rank near the top of the provincial rankings in economic growth in 2017 and 2018.

We're competitive as a province, a destination for investors, and we're committed to seeing that continue. We will also make the targeted investments British Columbians have been waiting so long for.

It's the people of B.C. who built this budget and who are responsible for our economic success. It's our entrepreneurs, our businesses, our workers, our teachers, our newcomers, our communities, and our citizens who built this province. And British Columbians should benefit from economic growth in tangible ways that make a difference in their lives, every day.

Now that doesn't mean we can make choices independent of the very serious challenges we face. Our government is very conscious of a number of issues that are impacting ... or have the potential to impact ... this province fiscally, socially, and environmentally.

Some of these come as a result of unexpected or unprecedented developments.

For example, this summer B.C. experienced the worst wildfire season ever in our history, consuming more than a million hectares of forest and forcing people in many communities out of their homes. We're helping people with the recovery process, including \$100 million in support being administered by the Red Cross for individuals and businesses who have been impacted by evacuation orders. This funding is in addition to contributions from the federal government.

Fighting the wildfires added more than \$600 million in cost pressure to B.C.'s budget—a critical expenditure because in these tough times British Columbians, and their government, stand with their communities and their neighbours.

And while we help manage the current crisis, we will prepare for future fire seasons so we can keep people safe and protect our communities. In this budget update, we're funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers, and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildlife habitat restoration.

The wildfire response this year involved more than 1,600 firefighters and support staff, as well as support from across the country and around the globe. It's a very real reminder of the vital work these men and women do on the front lines. So as a small gesture of acknowledgement and gratitude, we're moving forward with the implementation of the tax credit for volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers.

Thousands of volunteers across the province will soon be eligible for a \$3,000 non-refundable tax credit. This tax credit was broadly supported in the legislature last February and recognizes the hard work and dedication of B.C.'s volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers who donate their time, and often risk their lives, to protect British Columbians.

Another unprecedented challenge we face as a province is the fentanyl emergency. Already this year, opioid-related overdoses have taken the lives of too many people. This public health emergency has impacted families and communities. It's being tackled by health providers, first responders, non-profit agencies, front-line workers, law enforcement, and a whole host of other professionals. In this fiscal update, we're going to help with this fight.

We're making a \$290 million investment toward the health ministry and the establishment of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and another \$32 million to help law enforcement and coroners respond to the emergency, for a total investment of \$322 million over three years to help address this crisis.

We're committed to providing help quickly for people who need it, and this funding will go toward supporting prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery, as well as supporting law enforcement in their work to keep drugs off the street.

And while we face unexpected challenges at home, others are the result of uncertainty in the global and domestic economy.

That is most noticeable in our neighbour and largest international trading partner to the south as we deal with uncertainties around U.S. fiscal and trade policy, including the softwood lumber dispute and NAFTA. As well, there are ongoing economic challenges in Asia and Europe. Adding to these global challenges is the potential for a further tightening of Canadian monetary policy and rising interest rates.

And while the Province manages events that are unexpected and largely out of our control, we face other pressures that are the result of government choices that meant services were strained, leaving many people behind. There are issues that have been neglected over many years and need to be addressed as soon as possible.

Issues like housing affordability, poverty, rising fees, and all the other ways individuals and families have struggled over the past years to make ends meet. Funding for health, education, social programs, and other government services hasn't kept up with demand, meaning our front-line workers haven't been able to provide the level of service that people expect. Crown corporations like ICBC and BC Hydro are facing serious structural issues.

Addressing these complex problems won't happen overnight. But just because some of the issues we face are tough... just because they're going to take time to resolve... doesn't mean we shouldn't take first steps to address them.

This budget update is a start as we move towards our first full budget in February. It's a good start as we begin to address these issues in a way that benefits everyone. Because this is your money. You worked hard for it. This is your budget.

## **MAKING LIFE AFFORDABLE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIANS**

Our government's first priority is making life more affordable for people, because a sustainable economy needs to invest in the people that help build that economy. And too many people are struggling to get by.

Housing costs throughout B.C. have skyrocketed. People can't afford a home in the community where they work. Renters can't find a place to live. Families can't get into the housing market as they grow, and parents worry about their kids' future. This hurts people and the economy. Businesses can't attract and retain the talent they need to contribute to our growing industries. Families build up debt and are stuck living paycheque to paycheque.

Putting people first is our government's priority, and we're working on a comprehensive strategy to improve housing affordability, close speculation loopholes, and reduce tax fraud and money laundering in B.C. real estate. And in this budget update, we're taking first critical steps with two housing initiatives.

First, we'll be investing \$208 million over four years to support the construction of more than 1,700 new units of affordable rental housing in communities across the province. These units will help British Columbians who are finding that rent is taking up a disproportionate amount of their monthly income.

We also know that those without a home deserve and need our assistance, and we are committed to working with all levels of government—federal, municipal, Indigenous—to address homelessness. To get started on this work, we'll provide funding for 2,000 modular supportive housing units for people who are homeless.



That funding will include \$291 million in capital spending over two years to construct the units and another \$172 million over three years to operate them and provide 24/7 staffing and support services. These housing units are a step towards helping people who are homeless.

We're also providing immediate measures to ensure renters are treated fairly in this province and that the rights and responsibilities of both renters and landlords are clearly understood. This budget update provides an additional \$7 million over three years to the Residential Tenancy Branch to address existing backlogs and wait times for landlord-tenant disputes.

And as we begin to address the issue of affordable housing, there are other affordability challenges we're acting on because after 16 years of waiting for relief, the people of this province can't wait any longer.

We're starting that relief by reducing Medical Services Plan premiums by 50 per cent, starting January 1, 2018. Starting in the New Year, more than one million British Columbians won't pay any MSP premiums. And individuals will save up to \$450 per year, and families up to \$900 per year. This is just the start of our work as we move toward a complete elimination of this unfair cost over the next four years.

Those on income assistance and disability assistance also... quite literally... couldn't afford to wait any longer for meaningful increases to their rates because they've already waited more than 10 years. So, starting with the cheque that arrives in just over a week on September 20, people on income assistance and people on disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month. It's an immediate step to relieve some of the pressure, and that's just the start of our work.

We're committed to fighting poverty, and we've created a ministry and parliamentary secretary tasked with finding solutions to reduce poverty in B.C. After years of being the only province without a poverty reduction plan, I'm proud to say today's budget update includes the initial funding needed to develop a comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy. This will include designing a basic income pilot project that will test its effectiveness in reducing poverty and improving health and employment outcomes.

Reducing inequality is also why we are creating a fair wages commission as we move toward a \$15-an-hour minimum wage for British Columbia. The fair wages commission will help this province's lowest paid workers receive a fairer wage, while working with businesses on how to transition in a way that benefits both employees and businesses.

As well, to assist hard-working parents and guardians, to strengthen our economy, and to assist businesses with recruitment and retention, we're moving forward with plans to provide a quality, accessible, and affordable child care plan for families. Our first step is moving forward with \$20 million in new child care investments that will increase our spending on early childhood development and child care to \$330 million this year and support more than 4,000 new child care spaces.

And it's only the first portion of what's to come. We'll be working with parents and experts to develop and implement a long-term plan that will make quality, accessible, and affordable child care a reality for families in B.C.

Continuing our work to help British Columbians and their families, as promised, as of September this year, government has eliminated tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges. It's a change that will save families who regularly have to cross the Fraser River an average \$1,500 a year. Commercial drivers averaging one crossing a day will save \$4,500 a year or more. These savings mean tens of thousands of drivers who cross the bridge every day will have more money in their pockets and more to invest in British Columbia businesses.

### **INVESTING IN THE SERVICES BRITISH COLUMBIANS NEED**

And while we find ways to make life affordable for British Columbians and their families, we're also going to start to rebuild and strengthen the core services that people count on.

The previous government's approach of starving services undermines long-term, sustainable growth. Investing in programs and services benefits people, as well as the strong economy that people are then able to take part in.

And it starts with education. A strong education system is fundamental to a strong economy, healthy vibrant communities, and a bright future for this and future generations.

I'm proud to tell you today that we are confirming funding of \$681 million over three years to invest in children through smaller classes, more resources and the supports they need to succeed, including the hiring of approximately 3,500 teachers. As well, we're providing capital funding of \$50 million to ensure that space requirements for kids going back to school are addressed. This investment will go directly to fund the future of our province by finally starting to provide our school system with the resources it needs to help our kids succeed.

Health care is another area where we're going to begin to make the kinds of changes that people have been waiting for. We're going to start in this fiscal update with a \$603 million increase over three years to the base budget for the Ministry of Health, with \$265 million of that going to address the fentanyl emergency, and the remainder going to address other pressures in the health system.

Incremental to these amounts is \$25 million to establish the new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions that will provide strategic leadership in developing a seamless, coordinated mental health and addictions system. Also, \$32 million is added for law enforcement to help disrupt the drug supply chain, provide more naloxone training, and help protect police personnel from fentanyl exposure, as well as to address the pressures facing the B.C. Coroners Service as a result of this public health emergency.

We're also going to provide consistent funding to the Therapeutics Initiative, at \$2 million per year, to ensure the effectiveness of new drugs, better serve citizens and reduce costs to our health care system.

To help benefit our seniors, the Ministry of Health will receive \$189 million over three years through our B.C.-federal agreement to improve access to home and community care.

To help children from low-income families achieve good health outcomes, \$15 million over three years is provided for the Healthy Kids Program. This program already provides basic dental and optical care to children in low-income families. With this new funding, those children will now have access to hearing assistance benefits and improved access to dental services. This is important because the health and welfare of our children are important if we want all of B.C.'s children to have a level playing field to succeed in life.

That's why this budget update reconfirms the \$312 million over three years to the Ministry of Children and Family Development for critical services and supports, including additional front-line staff and youth mental health workers. We need to start the rebuilding process necessary to strengthen our child protection and support systems and begin responding to the recommendations from the Grand Chief Ed John Report, reducing the number of Indigenous children in care.

This government will work in partnership with families, Indigenous communities, and other levels of government to ensure we meet our responsibility to protect and support our most vulnerable children.

## **CREATING A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY FOR EVERYONE**

While investing in the services people count on, building a sustainable economy for everyone also means investing in our roads, schools, transit, housing, and hospitals.

Our budget includes \$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years. These investments will add critical infrastructure to our communities and create jobs in every corner of our province.

To benefit from those jobs, it's vital that we tap into the talent and success of every British Columbian. We'll help people thrive by removing the roadblocks toward success.

I'm proud that this budget update restores free English Language Learning and Adult Basic Education tuition with an immediate \$19 million commitment. When the previous government imposed fees for these programs, enrolment dropped almost 30 per cent on the post-secondary side alone. That's a real loss for our province because if people can go to school, it benefits all of us.

As of September 1 this year, all adults can now enroll in approved post-secondary and K-12 Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning courses without having to pay tuition. Because when we give individuals opportunity so they can advance in their workplace and better support their families, it's an economic advantage for all of British Columbia.

In that same way, it also makes good economic sense to increase how much you can earn while on Social Assistance, as we're doing in this budget update. Increasing the earnings exemption by \$200 a month will allow people to work more, build experience, better support their families, and find a way toward sustainable employment.

While we help people find their way into the workforce, we're going to keep helping businesses and industries thrive so the jobs are out there for them.

And we're going to start with the Innovation Commissioner and the Emerging Economy Task Force—exciting measures set forth by our colleagues in the Green Caucus. With the Commissioner, we're going to look at how we can best support the success of the technology sector. The Innovation Commissioner will be both advocate and ambassador for B.C.'s tech sector. The Emerging Economy Task Force will be charged with developing “made-in-B.C. solutions” and will look at how government can encourage innovative and sustainable industries to drive economic growth in B.C. in the 21st century.

As we work to build our sustainable economy, we're doing valuable work to make the tax system fairer, where everyone contributes and everyone benefits from the services we all rely on.

We will be following through with our commitment to raise the corporate income tax rate by 1 percentage point to an overall 12 per cent, comparable to Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. And we'll get rid of the tax break that the previous government gave to the top 2 per cent of income earners.

Supporting a sustainable economy also means recognizing our responsibility to address global climate change. Additional climate action measures will come over the next months as we work with our colleagues in the Green Caucus and in the Official Opposition, but we start in this budget update by following through on our commitment to increase the carbon tax by \$5 per tonne, starting April 1, 2018.

We're also ending the requirement for the carbon tax to be revenue neutral, and we will use carbon tax revenue to support families and fund green initiatives to address our climate action commitments. Our plan is an important step to get B.C. back on-track to meet our targets to cut carbon while investing the additional revenue in programs and services that help reduce emissions.

This budget update also takes steps to make our businesses more competitive.

Starting this fall, we're moving forward to phase out the provincial sales tax on electricity... a move businesses across B.C. have long asked for as a way to increase their competitiveness as they invest in new technologies and create more jobs. These savings will support businesses in every corner of the province, from forestry to construction, mining to agriculture. Not only is this a competitive move to help B.C. businesses—it will also encourage a transition to low-carbon energy sources like electricity, helping lower B.C.'s carbon footprint.

We're also supporting much-needed economic growth in small and rural communities in this budget update, with the restoration of the tax benefit for credit unions. Credit unions are a key part of communities, helping them thrive, while retaining profits in the hands of their members and allowing those dollars to be reinvested in local economies. That's why we're not only going to restore this benefit... we're going to make it permanent.

Small businesses are a critical part of B.C.'s economy, providing jobs and adding to sustainable, long-term economic growth throughout the province. To further help our small businesses thrive, we're lowering the small business corporate income tax rate from 2.5 per cent to 2 per cent.

## CONCLUSION

This budget update takes key steps, and we know there are many more pressures in the system that we need to address. In February, we'll table our government's budget where we'll continue to address these pressures to build a better B.C. for everyone.

We believe government should work for people—and that the budget needs to reflect that. This province belongs to all British Columbians. And when it comes to B.C.'s finances, this is your money—you worked hard for it. This is your government and this is your budget. We want the choices we make as a government to reflect your voices, needs, and priorities.

So how do we do that? We start by listening. We're listening to individuals and families who have told us for years that they need more help to make ends meet. We're listening to people who have struggled to access the services they need. We're listening to Indigenous communities and together charting a path towards reconciliation. We're listening to business owners, communities and post-secondary institutions that have said they need more help to ensure our economy is strong with people who have access to the training and education they need. We're going to listen in the upcoming budget consultations, and we'll keep listening as we move forward.

Today we're just starting by laying the foundation for a better B.C. In February, we're going to build it even further.

And to British Columbians, I want to say this: This is your province. We are your government. And today, I'm pleased to table a budget update that takes a first step towards your budget priorities.

Thank you.

### Introduction

- On September 11, we tabled our budget update, which sets out some first steps our government is taking as we continue to move toward a full budget next February.
- And what I can say is this: B.C.'s economy is strong.
- We're competitive as a province, a destination for investors, and B.C.'s new government is committed to seeing that continue.
- We're also carving a new path toward that success by maintaining a strong and responsible fiscal plan while strengthening our province by...  
... investing in people,  
...supporting programs and services that will help our province continue to thrive...  
...and making sure we have a sustainable economy into the future.

### B.C.'s Economic Position

- Let me begin by briefly outlining B.C.'s current fiscal landscape.
- British Columbia's government has a very strong income statement and balance sheet. We finished the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017, with:
  - A \$2.7 billion surplus; and
  - Very affordable debt: 15.8 % of GDP and 81.8% of revenues.
- We've retained one of the lowest overall tax burdens in Canada, and an affordable debt burden in keeping with a triple-A credit rating.
- In fact, B.C. is the only province rated triple-A by each of the international credit rating agencies, and we expect B.C. to continue to be one of the top economic performers in Canada thanks in part to that rating.
- Private-sector forecasters expect B.C. to rank near the top of the provincial rankings in economic growth in 2017 and 2018. The outlook in this budget for this year's real GDP growth is 2.9 per cent, which is prudent compared to the outlook provided by the independent Economic Forecast Council.
- We're in a strong fiscal and economic position, and as a government, we're committed to seeing that continue.
- As set out in my mandate as Finance Minister, I will ensure the 2017-18 budget is balanced and remains so over the three-year Fiscal Plan.

## **Budget Update 2017 – Economic Stump Speech**

- And we will ensure continued fiscal management flexibility while also leveraging that strong fiscal performance to deliver fair and affordable services to all British Columbians.
- Because we believe that when you invest in people, you're investing in a strong and sustainable economy.

### **Investing in people for a sustainable economy**

- The bottom line is that B.C. remains well-positioned for continued economic growth given our mature and diversified economy, including export markets.
- So how are we going to keep that economy thriving and sustainable into the future?
- We're going to start by focusing on people, particularly in the development of an educated and skilled work force.
- By 2025, we expect there will be 934,000 job openings in British Columbia – jobs that will help us build the sustainable economy, schools, hospitals, and rapid transit that B.C. needs.
- But if we're going to ensure B.C. has the talent needed to benefit from those jobs, we have to tap into the talent and success of every British Columbian.
- So we're going to focus on helping develop the skills and education of people across our province by creating opportunities for education and training, as well as by removing roadblocks toward success.
- For example, we have restored free English Language Learning and Adult Basic Education tuition with an immediate \$19 million commitment.
- All adults can now enrol in approved post-secondary and K–12 Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning courses without having to pay tuition.
- It may seem like a small budget item, but it's a good example of how small moves can become big economic advantages if you think ahead.
- When tuition was applied to these programs, B.C. saw a 30 per cent decrease in enrolment on the post-secondary side alone.
- Now those people will once again be able to increase their education and training, and will be better positioned to contribute to our economy.



## **Budget Update 2017 – Economic Stump Speech**

- Affordable housing is another good example of about the positive first steps this government is taking.
- This budget update provides \$208 million over four years to support the construction of more than 1,700 new units of affordable rental housing in communities across the province.
- Yes, affordable housing is an important social investment. But it also makes solid economic sense.
- Businesses in a booming economy need workers... workers with the right education and training... but also workers who are able to afford to live in the communities where they work.
- Affordable housing, just like education and training, is a measure that will help businesses and industries thrive.

### **Helping business and industry thrive**

- This budget update also includes measures to help create the conditions that will set businesses and industries up for success in British Columbia.
- For example, small businesses are a critical part of B.C.'s economy, providing jobs and adding to sustainable, long-term economic growth throughout the province.
- To further help our small businesses thrive, we're lowering the small business corporate income tax rate from 2.5 per cent to 2 per cent.
- We're also moving forward to phase out the provincial sales tax on electricity... a move businesses across B.C. have long asked for as a way to increase their competitiveness as they invest in new technologies and create more jobs.
- These savings will support businesses in every corner of the province, from forestry to construction, mining to agriculture.
- Not only is this a competitive move – it will also encourage a transition to low-carbon energy sources like electricity, helping lower B.C.'s carbon footprint.
- And that's another measure that makes B.C. an attractive place for investors who do business in a world that is increasingly conscious of climate change and carbon output.

### Innovation Commissioner

- And while we help current businesses and industries thrive, we're designing a plan that keeps an eye toward the future.
- One of our priorities as a government, along with our colleagues in the Green Caucus, is to support B.C.'s technology sector with an Innovation Commissioner as its advocate and ambassador in Ottawa and abroad.
- B.C. already has a strong technology sector, and this Commissioner will help that sector continue to grow by working to level the playing field with other provinces.
- The Commissioner will also establish strong relationships with senior leaders in the innovation and technology network, including industry, academia and accelerator partners.
- But diversification of an economy is vital, and while we boost the tech sector and support traditional industries, we're also creating an Emerging Economy Task Force.
- Our economic well-being is tied to the global economy, and what we know for sure is:
  - emerging technological advancements are changing the competitive landscape at an accelerating rate; and
  - our forestry, mining and other industries are strongly influenced by global drivers outside our control and influence.
- This task force is designed to bring the best, the brightest, and the most leading edge individuals together to work on how to move B.C. into its future economy.
- These are key individuals who understand the global environment and the rapidly evolving technological landscape in which we operate.
- These experts will offer a B.C.-centric perspective to provide us with future-focused advice on how we can stay at the leading edge of these developments to enable us to maintain our strong economic position.

### Conclusion

- B.C.'s economy continues to be strong and our commitment to building that economy, encouraging investment and attracting new industries is unwavering.
- And as a government, we're going a step further by also investing in areas to improve our workforce and attract skilled workers.

## **Budget Update 2017 – Economic Stump Speech**

- We're moving forward with the change British Columbians have long asked for.
- And while we carve a new path to prosperity, we want each of you to play a part.
- We want to hear from business experts, industries, other jurisdictions and partners. We want to hear what you have to say about what you're looking for, what you'd like to see and what you think the recipe for continued economic success is.

**Minister of Finance**  
***Event Details Checklist***

*Updated: 26/02/2018*

<b>Function Date</b>	Wednesday, September 27, 2017
<b>Name of Function</b>	Post-budget speech
<b>Number of attendees expected</b>	200
<b>Sponsor/Host</b>	Surrey Board of Trade
<b>Contact name and number</b>	Melissa Peel 604 634-0347
<b>Event Theme</b>	Budget Update 2017
<b>Speech topic</b>	Post-budget address and policy priorities for business
<b>Recommended arrival time</b>	10:30 a.m. (TBC depending on roundtable)
<b>Time Minister will be introduced</b>	12:15 p.m. (introductory greeting starts at 12 p.m.)
<b>Speech length</b>	25-30 minutes
<b>Q&amp;A time?</b>	Yes – 12:45-1:20 p.m.
<b>Anticipated departure time</b>	1:45 p.m.
<b>Appropriate Dress</b>	Business
<b>Address/ directions</b>	Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel, 15269-104 Avenue, Surrey BC
<b>Media anticipated</b>	Yes – 1:30 p.m. opportunity for media to scrum
<b>Audience</b>	Surrey Board of Trade member businesses (small, medium, and corporate businesses), community/regional businesses, government representatives.
<b>Achievements of note</b>	The Surrey Board of Trade (Chamber of Commerce), as a business organization, has been serving the community of Surrey since 1918.

### **Proposed Agenda:**

10:30-11:30 a.m. – proposed roundtable with CEO and board directors (TBC)

11:30 am – Registration and Lunch

12:00 pm – Opening Remarks

12:15 pm – Keynote Address

12:45 pm – Question & Answer Period

1:20 pm – Closing Remarks

1:30 pm – Media Scrum

## **Highlights from Surrey Board of Trade post-budget news release**

The new BC Government introduced the 2017 Provincial Budget today. The Surrey Board of Trade is aware that many of the specific details will be in the February 2018 Provincial Budget.

“It is clear that the new BC Government is focused on taxpayer-supported capital spending on hospitals, schools, post-secondary facilities, transit and roads,” said Anita Huberman, CEO, Surrey Board of Trade. “In addition, the BC Government needs to strategically focus on saving in a time of global economic uncertainty.”

### **Health Care:**

MSP Reductions: Good first step to see MSP Premiums cut in half. The Surrey Board of Trade’s policy is the elimination of the MSP.

### **Tax:**

The Surrey Board of Trade continues to call for a review or overhaul of the overly onerously administratively burden imposed by the PST and calls for government to revisit a Value Added Tax System in BC to harness further capital investments and business investments.

### **International Trade:**

We did not see any investments in this area.

### **Transportation:**

The Surrey Board of Trade didn’t observe anything specific to the overall Mayor’s Regional Plan for Transit and Transportation investments in this BC Budget,; however, are aware of the BC Government’s commitment to this plan.

### **Economy:**

The Surrey Board of Trade will look forward to hearing more about industry creation in partnership with the private sector to generate revenue.

### **Education:**

Good first steps.

### **Public Safety:**

Continued focus needs to be on investments and strategies for the Guns & Gang Strategy is good for Surrey, as the Surrey Board of Trade continues in collaboration with the City of Surrey to attract business and good quality jobs. Public Safety is important to ensure we have a livable city. The Surrey Board of Trade will be announcing business public safety initiatives later this year.

### **Child Care:**

This announcement did not provide any news with respect to additional child care spaces.

### **Environment (carbon tax)**

The Surrey Board of Trade will be watching for bottom line impact to businesses.

## Capital projects located in Surrey

Capital spending in *Budget 2017 Update* is expected to total \$23.1 billion over the three years of the plan (2017/18 to 2019/20), of which \$14.6 billion is for taxpayer-supported capital investments. The capital plan addresses key service and infrastructure priorities across the province and is built on the basis of affordable debt levels.

Provincial capital investments are made through school districts, health authorities, post-secondary institutions, Crown agencies and ministries. Capital funding is provided through a number of sources, including the provincial government, as well as the federal government, local governments and other third parties (e.g., private donors).

### Health

- Completion of Surrey Memorial Hospital Critical Care Tower Project –completion of the Support Services Connector Link and final renovation work. - \$512 million (\$492M provincial, \$20M foundation)

### Housing

- Surrey – BC Housing is providing capital funding for the development of 40 new units of affordable housing for low-to-moderate income single women with children in Surrey. (\$4.7 million from the Investment in Housing Innovation program).
- Surrey – BC Housing is providing capital funding for the re-development of the Hyland Farms Shelter. The new 12 unit transition house for men and women will be built next to the existing shelter, which is operated by the Options Community Services Society. The project is located at 17752 Colebrook Rd. (\$4.2 million provincial matching component of the Investment in Affordable Housing initiative).
- Surrey - BC Housing is providing \$15 million in capital funding for 50 transitional beds and 50 shelter beds for men and women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The project is located at 14150 Green Timbers Way in Surrey.
- Surrey - BC Housing is providing capital funding to new Aboriginal housing developments through the Provincial Investment in Affordable Housing program. Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Victoria is receiving \$1.3 million for a 15-unit project in Surrey, and Keginow Native Housing Society is receiving \$9.4 million for a 106-unit project in Surrey.

### Justice

- Surrey Courthouse Renovation and Addition – an addition for three new courtrooms and two hearing rooms - \$33.5 million (all provincial). Currently tendered with construction beginning in 2016 and completion estimated for winter 2017/18.

### K-12 Education

- Salish Secondary in Surrey (Formerly Clayton North Secondary) – a new secondary school to accommodate 1500 students in Surrey - \$55.2 million (\$45M provincial, \$10M School District)



- Clayton North Elementary in Surrey- a new elementary school to accommodate 605 students in Surrey -\$22.3 million (\$16.7M provincial,\$5.6M School District)
- Sullivan, Panorama Park and Woodward Hill Elementary schools in Surrey- 3 additions to provide up to 600 more student spaces in Surrey - \$11.9 million (\$8.9M provincial, \$3.0M School District)
- Clayton Village Northwest #2 Elementary (Site 218) – a new elementary school to provide 655 student spaces - \$26.0 million (\$21.7M provincial, \$4.3M School District)
- Grandview Heights Secondary Surrey- a new secondary school to accommodate 1500 students in Surrey -\$60.6 million (\$45.4M provincial,\$15.2M School District)

#### Post-secondary Education

- Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) – Strategic Investment Fund (SIF): Spruce Building - \$22M (\$14.7M Provincial, \$7.3M other)
- Simon Fraser University – Strategic Investment Fund (SIF): Sustainable Energy and Environmental Engineering (SE3P) Building - \$126M (\$45M Provincial, \$45M Federal, \$36M SFU and other)

#### Transportation

- Surrey Central Station – Expo Line station upgrade to improve capacity and accessibility. Cost: \$25M total cost (\$7M provincial, \$3M federal, \$15M local). Forecast completion late 2018.

#### Other

- Surrey Courthouse Renovation and Addition – an addition for three new courtrooms and two hearing rooms - \$33.5 million (all provincial). Currently tendered with construction beginning in 2016 and completion estimated for winter 2017/18.

**SPEAKING NOTES FOR**

**POST-BUDGET SPEECH: SURREY BOARD OF TRADE**

**HON. CAROLE JAMES  
MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2017  
Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel  
15269-104 Avenue  
Surrey BC**

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## INTRODUCTION

Thank you...

Good afternoon and thank you for the warm welcome.

I am pleased to join you today for the first time as Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier of British Columbia.

And I offer my congratulations to you and your organization as you approach 100 years of ongoing success... what an incredible milestone to celebrate next year.

The Surrey Board of Trade plays an important role in helping businesses in the region realize their full potential, and I look forward to collaborating with you and your members.

It's my pleasure to join you this morning to talk about Budget Update 2017 and B.C.'s economy.

Earlier this month, I tabled a budget update that sets out some of first steps our government is taking as we work to build a better B.C.

And what I can say is this: B.C.'s economy is strong.

We're competitive as a province and as a destination for investors... and we are committed to seeing that continue.

We're committed to maintaining a strong and responsible fiscal plan while strengthening our province by...

... investing in people...

...supporting programs and services that will help our province continue to thrive...

...and making sure we have a sustainable economy into the future.

## **BUDGET UPDATE 2017**

[start powerpoint]

## **CONCLUSION**

B.C.'s economy continues to be strong and our commitment to strengthening our economy, encouraging investment and attracting new industries is unwavering.

We're committed to investing in areas to improve our workforce and attract skilled workers.

We're moving forward with the change British Columbians have long asked for.

And while we carve a new path to prosperity, we want each of you to play a part.

I look forward to hearing what you have to say about what you're looking for, what you'd like to see and what you think the recipe for continued economic success is.

And I believe we'll have a chance to start that engagement process in just a few moments with the Question and Answer session.

Thank you for taking the time to be here today.

**Minister of Finance**  
**Event Details Checklist**  
*Updated: 26/02/2018*

<b>Function Date</b>	Friday, September 22, 2017
<b>Name of Function</b>	Post-budget speech
<b>Number of attendees expected</b>	200
<b>Sponsor/Host</b>	Host: Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Sponsor: Port of Vancouver
<b>Contact name and number</b>	Jessica Fletcher, event manager, 604-640-5464
<b>Event Theme</b>	Budget Update 2017
<b>Speech topic</b>	Post-budget address and policy priorities for business
<b>Recommended arrival time</b>	7:15 a.m.
<b>Time Minister will be introduced</b>	7:55 p.m.
<b>Speech length</b>	25-30 minutes
<b>Q&amp;A time?</b>	8:17-8:47 a.m.
<b>Anticipated departure time</b>	9 a.m. (TBC – depends on decision about media avail)
<b>Appropriate Dress</b>	Business
<b>Address/ directions</b>	Fairmont Waterfront Hotel, Waterfront Ballroom, 900 Canada Place, Vancouver
<b>Name and title of person introducing Minister</b>	Anne Giardini, Chancellor Simon Fraser University, Chair of Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
<b>Media anticipated</b>	Yes – media arrive starting at 7:30 a.m.; possible media avail at 9 a.m. when the event ends
<b>Name and title of other notable guests</b>	Head table includes: 1. Anne Giardini: O.C., Q.C., Chancellor, Simon Fraser University and Chair, Greater Vancouver Board of Trade 2. Bill Good: veteran journalist 3. David Crawford: Vice-President, Greater Vancouver Board of Trade 4. Janet Austin: CEO, YWCA Metro Vancouver 5. Plus 3 guests TBC
<b>Audience</b>	Vancouver Board of Trade member businesses (small, medium, and corporate businesses), community/regional businesses, government representatives.

<b>Recent special achievements to acknowledge</b>	<p>Organization is in its 130th year</p> <p>Became first business association in North America to achieve full gender parity on board of directors last year.</p>
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Itinerary		
Event	Time	Details
<b>Speaker Arrival</b>	7:15 am 7:35 am	<b>Minister James Arrival at Fairmont Waterfront Hotel lobby entrance</b> Minister and staff are greeted by GVBOT staff, who leads to HOLD room TBC room name. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Option: Lapel mics affixed in hold room by AV tech</li> </ul> Minister and staff position to Waterfront Ballroom on foot (2 minutes)
<b>Breakfast Keynote Address</b>	7:00 am 7:05 am 7:30 am 7:40 am 7:45 am 7:55 am 8:15 am 8:17 am 8:47 am 8:47 am 8:49 am 8:52am 8:55 am 9:00 am	<b>General Registration Opens</b> Doors open to Waterfront Ballroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guests position to assigned table seating or open seating</li> </ul> Media arrival and registration with GVBOT Communications Manager <b>Minister Arrives and Positions to Head Table</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table introductions</li> <li>Option: Lapel mics affixed at table by AV tech</li> </ul> <b>PROGRAM BEGINS: Opening remarks by Anne Giardini, Chancellor Simon Fraser University, Chair GVBOT (10 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome, thank you to sponsors, invitation to engage through social media, announce upcoming events</li> <li>Introduction of Head Table and special guests</li> <li>Introduction of keynote speaker, the Hon. Carole James</li> </ul> <b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS: The Honourable Carol James, B.C. Minister of Finance (20 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the address, the Minister positions to her seat on stage (marked with name) for moderated Q &amp; A session.</li> </ul> <b>Anne Giardini introduces Q &amp; A moderator (2 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following keynote, Anne returns briefly to podium to remind audience of Slido interactive Q&amp;A format and introduce veteran journalist Bill Good, the moderator.</li> </ul> <b>Moderated Q &amp; A begins (30 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderator starts Q&amp;A off with a few of his own questions</li> <li>Moderator turns to Slido for audience top voted questions</li> <li>With 5 minutes remaining, moderator announces final question</li> </ul> <b>End of moderated Q &amp; A session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minister and moderator remain seated on stage for thank you and purdys gift</li> <li>Speakers exit stage after receiving gift baskets</li> </ul> <b>Anne Giardini returns to podium to thank special guests (2 minute)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speakers given a Purdys chocolate gift basket on stage as a thank you gift</li> </ul> <b>Final closing remarks from Anne Giardini (3 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thank you to sponsors, membership opportunities, thank you to guests</li> </ul> <b>Head table photo on stage</b> <b>End of Program</b> Media availability subject to Minister's office



**SPEAKING NOTES FOR**

**POST-BUDGET SPEECH: GREATER VANCOUVER BOARD OF TRADE**

**HON. CAROLE JAMES  
MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**Friday, Sept. 22, 2017  
Fairmont Waterfront Hotel, Waterfront Ballroom  
900 Canada Place, Vancouver**

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## Capital projects located in Vancouver

Capital spending in *Budget 2017 Update* is expected to total \$23.1 billion over the three years of the plan (2017/18 to 2019/20), of which \$14.6 billion is for taxpayer-supported capital investments. The capital plan addresses key service and infrastructure priorities across the province and is built on the basis of affordable debt levels.

Provincial capital investments are made through school districts, health authorities, post-secondary institutions, Crown agencies and ministries. Capital funding is provided through a number of sources, including the provincial government, as well as the federal government, local governments and other third parties (e.g., private donors).

### Health

- Joseph and Rosalie Segal Family Health Centre – a new 100 bed mental health treatment facility to replace and consolidate specialized mental health services at Vancouver General Hospital - \$82 million (\$57M provincial, \$25M foundation)
- Children and Women's Hospital Redevelopment – including the new Teck Acute Care Centre to replace 179 acute care beds and expand service to 221 beds, plus expand the emergency department, maternity, pediatric operating rooms and diagnostic imaging and procedures areas; and relocate Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children into repurposed space at the CWH campus - \$676 million (\$532M provincial, \$144M foundation toward capital costs)
- Vancouver General Hospital Operating Room Renewal (Phase 1) – Construct 16 new state-of-the-art operating rooms in the Jim Pattison Pavilion, and 40 pre and post op surgery beds, plus upgraded infrastructure - \$102.4 million (\$34.8 million provincial; \$47.6 million VCHA internal funds, \$20 million VGH and UBC Hospital Foundation).
- University of British Columbia Hospital – Thermal Energy Supply - \$6.9 million (all provincial)

### Housing

- BC Housing is providing capital funding and construction financing for the Salsbury Community Society's 26 unit project that will see co-residents – low-to-moderate-income individuals, couples, and families – living alongside people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The project is located at 1723 Victoria Dr. (\$3.5 million through the Investment in Affordable Housing initiative, and \$1 million in construction financing.)
- BC Housing is providing capital funding of \$5 million to the Covenant House Vancouver expansion project, to assist vulnerable homeless youth. The funding will augment \$10 million raised privately by CHV and enable of a new building at 530 Drake St, the first phase of CHV's capital expansion project. CHV acquired the land

and building site, formerly occupied by the Immigrant Services Society of BC, with help of an interest-free loan from BC Housing. Once complete, the building will accommodate administrative spaces, 14 temporary crisis beds and a drop-in health care centre.

- BC Housing is providing \$9 million in capital funding for 109 units of affordable housing for low to moderate income individuals, seniors and families. The project is located at 3175 Riverwalk Avenue in Vancouver and will be operated by S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (Contributions include \$9 million from the Investment in Housing Innovation initiative, and land valued at \$8.5 million from the City of Vancouver).

#### K-12 Education

- Kitsilano Secondary – a seismic upgrade and partial replacement - \$65 million (\$61M provincial, \$4M School District)
- Lord Strathcona Elementary – a seismic upgrade - \$25.6 million (all provincial)
- Lord Nelson Elementary – a seismic replacement - \$18.4 million (all provincial) plus \$6.4 million from City of Vancouver for childcare.
- Sir Charles Kingford-Smith – a seismic upgrade - \$11.6 million (all provincial)
- Sir Sanford Fleming Elementary – a seismic replacement- \$19.6 million (all provincial) plus \$6.3 million from City of Vancouver for childcare.
- Dr. Annie B. Jamieson Elementary – a seismic upgrade - \$13.1 million (all provincial)
- Lord Tennyson Elementary – a seismic replacement - \$24.5 million (all provincial)
- Maple Grove Elementary – a seismic replacement – \$24.4 million (all provincial)
- Magee Secondary – building envelop remediation - \$4.8 million (all provincial)

#### Post-secondary Education

- Emily Carr University of Art and Design – a new campus at Great Northern Way in Vancouver will include a state-of-the-art visual, media and design art facility, with capacity for approximately 1,800 students - \$123 million (\$102 M Provincial, \$21M donors)
- University of British Columbia – Strategic Investment Fund (SIF): Life Sciences Teaching Laboratories Redevelopment (Vancouver) – redevelopment of the undergraduate life sciences laboratories to provide an upgraded learning environment for approximately 2,157 existing and 445 new students – \$80 million (\$11.8M Provincial, \$32.5M Federal, \$35.6M UBC and Other)

- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Genomic Approaches to Personalizing Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment – \$14.2 million (\$5.7M Provincial, \$5.7M Federal, \$2.8M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: emSyscan - Embedded Systems Canada - \$5.5M (\$2.1M Provincial, \$2.1M Federal, \$1.4M Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Immune System polymorphism and host/pathogen interactions - \$5.6M (\$2.1M Provincial, \$2.1M Federal, \$1.4M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Centre for Research on Ultra-Cold Systems - \$6.6M (\$2.6M Provincial, \$2.6M Federal, \$1.4M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Centre For Biointerface Characterization: From Molecular To Cellular And Macroscopic Properties - \$6.7M (\$2.6M Provincial, \$2.6M Federal, \$1.5M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Co-APTing Precision Oncology Adaptive Pathways targeting with Precision Oncology - \$7.4M (\$2.8M Provincial, \$2.8M Federal, \$1.7M Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Structural analysis of dynamic macromolecular complexes at the post-pathogen interface - \$7.6M (\$2.3M Provincial, \$2.3M Federal, \$3.1M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Molecules to Human: Enhanced Phenotyping for discovery, prevention and treatment of heart, lung and blood vessel disease - \$7.9M (\$2.5M Provincial, \$2.5M Federal, \$2.9M Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Systems Analysis for Single Stem Cells - \$8.3M (\$3.0M Provincial, \$3.0M Federal, \$2.4M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Childhood Diabetes Laboratories - \$8.4M (\$3.2M Provincial, \$3.2M Federal, \$1.9M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Three Tesla MRI Scanner and Electrophysiology and Neuromodulation laboratory for the UBC Multimodal Neuroimaging Centre - \$9.0M (\$2.5M Provincial, \$2.5M Federal, \$4.1M UBC and Other)

- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Centre For Understanding And Preventing Infection In Children- \$9.6M (\$3.2M Provincial, \$3.2M Federal, \$3.1M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Centre For High Through-Put Phenogenomics - \$11.9M (\$3.8M Provincial, \$3.8M Federal, \$4.4M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Expansion Of ICICS Facilities In Biomedical Technologies, Emergency Design-Support And Global Communications Systems - \$14.5M (\$5.2M Provincial, \$5.2M Federal, \$4.2M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: The Quantum Materials Spectroscopy Centre At The Canadian Light Source - \$16.2M (\$6.5M Provincial, \$6.5M Federal, \$3.2m Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Brain Research Centre: A Platform For Basic And Translational Neuroscience - \$20.5M (\$6.8M Provincial, \$6.8M Federal, \$6.9M UBC and Other)
- University of British Columbia – BC Knowledge Development Fund: Canada's Genomics Enterprise (CGEn): A National Genomic Tools Network for Transforming Life Science Research - \$20.9M (\$8.4M Provincial, \$8.4M Federal, \$4.2M Other)

#### Transportation

- Joyce-Collingwood Station – Expo Line station upgrade to improve capacity and accessibility. Cost \$27M total (\$11.6M provincial, \$5.8M federal, \$9.6M local). Forecast completion late summer 2017.
- Commercial-Broadway Station – Expo Line station upgrade to improve capacity and accessibility. Cost \$82M total (\$19M provincial, \$9M federal, \$54M local). Forecast completion summer 2018.

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you Anne.

Good morning and thank you for the warm welcome.

I've been here a number of times over the years... today marks my first time joining you as Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier of British Columbia.

And I offer my congratulations to you and your organization for 130 years of ongoing success.

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade plays an important role in helping businesses in the region realize their full potential, and I look forward to collaborating with you and your members.

It's my pleasure to join you this morning to talk about Budget Update 2017 and B.C.'s economy.

Earlier this month, I tabled a budget update that sets out some of first steps our government is taking as we work to build a better B.C.

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...supporting programs and services that will help our province continue to thrive...

...and making sure we have a sustainable economy into the future.

## **BUDGET UPDATE 2017**

[start powerpoint]

## **CONCLUSION**

B.C.'s economy continues to be strong and our commitment to strengthening our economy, encouraging investment and attracting new industries is unwavering.

We're committed to investing in areas to improve our workforce and attract skilled workers.

We're moving forward with the change British Columbians have long asked for.

And while we carve a new path to prosperity, we want each of you to play a part.

I look forward to hearing what you have to say about what you're looking for, what you'd like to see and what you think the recipe for continued economic success is.

And I believe we'll have a chance to start that engagement process in just a few moments with the Question and Answer session.



Thank you for taking the time to be here today.

**Minister of Finance**  
**Event Details Checklist**  
*Updated: 26/02/2018*

<b>Function Date</b>	Wednesday, September 27
<b>Name of Function</b>	UBCM provincial cabinet town halls
<b>Number of attendees expected</b>	
<b>Sponsor/Host</b>	UBCM
<b>Contact name and number</b>	Rick Devereux
<b>Event Theme</b>	Infrastructure and Economic Development Town Hall
<b>Speech topic</b>	BC economy
<b>Recommended arrival time</b>	
<b>Time Minister will be introduced</b>	3 p.m.
<b>Speech length</b>	2 minutes
<b>Q&amp;A time?</b>	Town hall format is all open dialogue
<b>Anticipated departure time</b>	4:15 p.m.
<b>Appropriate Dress</b>	Business
<b>Address/ directions</b>	Room 2, Vancouver Conference Centre
<b>Media anticipated</b>	
<b>Name and title of other notable guests</b>	Minister Claire Trevena Minister Selina Robinson Minister Harry Bains Minister Lisa Beare
<b>Additional info:</b>	This year's UBCM AGM theme "Roots to Results" considers the increasing leadership of local government in matters of federal and provincial jurisdiction.

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**SPEAKING NOTES FOR**  
**INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOWN HALL**

**HON. CAROLE JAMES**  
**MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**Wednesday, September 27**  
**3:30 pm to 4:15 p.m.**

**Room 2, Vancouver Conference Centre**  
**Vancouver, BC**

## INTRODUCTION

Good afternoon and thank you for the warm welcome.

I am pleased to join you today for the first time as Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier of British Columbia.

I want to thank all of you for your dedication to public service.

As municipal leaders you are key partners as we work together to build a better B.C.

Earlier this month, I tabled a budget update that sets out some of first steps our government is taking.

Our vision is one in which government works for everyone in our province – and that starts with investing in people.

Choosing to invest in people means we're investing in a strong, sustainable British Columbia.

That's why we're making investments to make people's lives more affordable and build better services for the people that need them.

B.C.'s economy continues to be strong and our commitment to strengthening our economy, encouraging investment and attracting new industries is unwavering.

We're committed to investing in areas to improve our workforce and attract skilled workers.

We're moving forward with the change British Columbians have long asked for.

And while we carve a new path to prosperity, we want each of you to play a part.

I look forward to hearing what you have to say about what you're looking for, what you'd like to see and what you think the recipe for continued economic success is.

We'll have a chance to start that dialogue in just a few moments.

Thank you for taking the time to be here today.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
HONOURABLE MICHELLE MUNGALL  
**MINISTER OF ENERGY, MINES & PETROLEUM  
RESOURCES**

**Clean Energy BC – Government Caucus Luncheon**

**North Pender Island Ballroom,  
Hotel Grand Pacific, 463 Belleville Street  
Victoria**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017**

**12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m.**

Please check against delivery

**Event Profile:**

Event provides an opportunity for Clean Energy B.C.'s Board of Directors to introduce themselves to the NDP Caucus and provide a briefing.

Eighteen MLAs are confirmed.

Podium and mic will be set up.

**Speaking Time:** 2-3 minutes - welcome

**Audience:**

- 18 NDP Caucus members
- Brian MacLeod, Manager Clean Energy Development and Operations, Clean Energy BC
- Four Clean Energy BC Board members including:
  - Martin Mullaney, Chair
  - Alistair Howard, Vice Chair (Director, Project Development, Western Canada, Boralex Inc.)
  - Ron Percival, Vice Chair (Vice President, Avro Wind Energy)
  - Dr. Judith Sayers, Board Member (Strategic Adviser to First Nations)

**On-site Contact:** Brian MacLeod<sup>s.22</sup>



- Thank you everyone for making the time to join us today and thank you to Clean Energy BC's Board for providing this opportunity to get to know you better.
- The last couple of months have been busy getting up to speed on our portfolios but we are excited about what lies ahead.
- We are off and running...last week we unveiled a budget that really invests in people and ultimately a stronger and sustainable province.
- One of the highlights was that we are making it a priority to fight climate change by increasing the carbon tax by \$5 per tonne, starting next April.

- We're also phasing out the provincial sales tax on electricity, which will help B.C. businesses compete while also encouraging a transition to low-carbon energy sources.
- One of my priorities, as outlined in my Minister's mandate letter, is to make substantive progress on creating a roadmap for the future of energy in BC that will generate new energy responsibly and sustainably.
- We are committed to renewable, modern energy sources and ensuring we are including communities and First Nations in the benefits of these projects.

- We will also reinvigorate the Innovative Clean Energy Fund to boost investments in new energy technologies and climate change solutions and create sustainable jobs for British Columbians.
- The clean power industry has attracted a lot of investment, established valuable First Nations and community partnerships, and supported thousands of construction jobs in every region of the province.
- It's a compelling story...and one that makes sense now and into the future.
- We look forward to working with you - thank you again for hosting us today.

**END**

**Northeast Coal and Energy Forum  
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources  
Minister Michelle Mungall  
Video Welcome  
September 8, 2017**

**Good morning.**

**On behalf of the Government of British Columbia I want to welcome all of you to the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Northeast Coal and Energy Forum.**

**Regrettably, I am not able to join you in person today.**

**I want to recognize the tremendous work by the communities of Chetwynd and Tumbler Ridge, the co-hosts of this event.**

**I had the pleasure last month of sitting down with a number of elected officials from the region, including Tumbler Ridge Mayor Don McPherson and Chetwynd Mayor Merlin Nichols.**

**In our discussions, the mayors and other elected officials stressed the important role natural resource development has in our economy.**

**Northeast Coal and Energy Forum  
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources  
Minister Michelle Mungall  
Video Welcome  
September 8, 2017**

**Our government recognizes this and we know mining and the energy sector provide thousands of jobs for people all over British Columbia.**

**That's why we committed to revitalize traditional industries like forestry and mining, and to invest more in clean energy...**

**...so we can bring more of those good jobs here for British Columbians and help strengthen our economy.**

**I am personally mandated to work with the mining industry and mining communities to address a challenge that I know many of you are unfortunately familiar with...**

**...the cyclical boom and bust that impacts mining communities when commodity prices fluctuate.**

**Work is already underway in my ministry to establish a BC Mining Jobs Task Force.**

**Once established, the task force will work with the mining industry and mining communities to find ways to make jobs secure and keep mines viable during those periods when commodity prices decline.**

**One of our mandate commitments to British Columbians was to build a strong, innovative economy that works for everyone.**

**We recognize that to do this, we not only need traditional industries like mining, the oil and gas sector...**

**We also need to focus on clean energy development in B.C.**

**The importance of the clean energy sector as an economic driver is certainly apparent in this region.**

**The Meikle Wind Energy project north of Tumbler Ridge came on line this year as the largest wind energy project in the province, generating enough clean, renewable power to serve the annual needs of 54,000 B.C. homes.**

**The Moose Lake wind project, also north of Tumbler Ridge, will be completed in late 2017 and created approximately 40 jobs during construction.**

**That said, this government also understands the importance of continuing to work with industry and communities on natural resource development sectors like mining.**

**It's also important for people to remember the critical link between B.C.'s mining sector and clean energy.**

**The mining industry in this province provides the minerals, metals and steelmaking coal needed for electric cars, wind turbines and transit systems to support a global movement towards a low carbon future.**

**As for me, being from the Kootenays, I have a first-hand understanding of the importance of mining, particularly coal mining, to our communities.**

**Coal mining built communities throughout this province...**

**...communities like Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd.**



**On that point, I want to recognize Conuma Coal Resources Limited and its president Mark Bartkoski.**

**The positive impacts of Conuma Coal's investment and the restart of the Brule and Wolverine coal mines are evident throughout the region, especially in Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd.**

**This is why I am committed to working with your communities and industry to strengthen mining in our province...**

**...to create secure jobs for British Columbians, jobs that support and build great communities.**

**And, as we can see in Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd, traditional resource industry projects and clean energy projects alike are key to creating those jobs.**

**Northeast Coal and Energy Forum  
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources  
Minister Michelle Mungall  
Video Welcome  
September 8, 2017**

**I look forward to working with all of you in the weeks and months ahead to strengthen and improve natural resource development in this province so that we can build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for all British Columbians.**

## Event Information/Speaking Notes

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**Event:** Human Rights Commission Engagement Launch

**When:** Wed. Sept. 20, 2017

**Start time:** 12 p.m.

**Where:** Legislature Reception Hall

Briefing room: Minister's Office, Room 232

**Contact for AG:** Megan Harris – 250 882-8013

**Logistics:** Podium to the left (facing audience) with screen to the right showing engagement website.

**Key Participants:**

David Eby – Attorney General

Ravi Kahlon – Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism

**Other attendees:** See guest list, attached separately

**Audience size:** Approx. 20 with media

**Agenda:** Provided separately

**Media attending:** Yes

## Speaking Notes

for the

Hon. David Eby  
Attorney General

Human Rights Commission Public Engagement Launch

B.C. Legislature  
Reception Hall  
Victoria, B.C.

Wed. Sept. 20, 2017  
12-12:30 p.m.

## **INTRO**

- Good afternoon, thank you for joining us today.
- I would first acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen peoples, and of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.
- It's a pleasure to welcome you here today as we announce the next steps for B.C.'s new Human Rights Commission.
- Our government is energized and determined to build a better B.C. for us all.
- That means affordable housing, enhancing classroom resources, creating jobs, tackling the opioid crisis epidemic, providing increases to welfare and disability rates, and so much more that I was proud to support at our budget update last week.

- Building a better B.C. also means ensuring we foster a society in which every person is treated with respect and dignity, regardless of race, gender, religion, or social condition.
- That's why Premier Horgan has asked my Ministry to re-establish a Human Rights Commission for B.C.
- As you may be aware, my colleague Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism, has been tasked with spearheading this important work.
- I would like to invite Ravi to the podium now to announce the next steps and speak to you about this important work.

*PS Kahlon come to the podium and offers remarks, gives demonstration of engagement website.*

*PS Kahlon concludes remarks. Minister Eby returns to podium.*

- Thank you, Ravi.

- I would also like to ask that you have your say in this important engagement and encourage your friends and loved ones to participate as well.
- Together we will create the Human Rights Commission that this province needs and deserves.
- That concludes today's announcement. Ravi and I are happy to take your questions.

-END-

## Event Information/Speaking Notes

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**Event:** 2017 ICBC Rate announcement

**When:** Tues., Sept. 5, 2017

**Speaking time:** 1 p.m.

**Where:** Hyatt Regency, Vancouver

Briefing room: Seymour Room

Presser room: Grouse Room

**Parking:** TBD

**Contact for AG:** Megan Harris – 250 882-8013

**Logistics:** Podium with lav. mic.

**Key Participants:**

David Eby, Attorney General and Minister responsible for ICBC

**Other attendees:** Joy MacPhail, Chair, ICBC

**Audience size:** Media only

**Agenda:** 12:40 p.m. – briefing  
1 p.m. – Attorney General to speak immediately followed by Q/A  
1:45 p.m. – Close of presser

**Media attending:** Yes



## Speaking Notes

for the

Hon. David Eby  
Attorney General

2017 ICBC rate increase announcement

Hyatt Regency  
655 Burrard St.  
Vancouver, B.C.

Tues., Sept. 23, 2017  
1– 1:45 p.m.

## **Introduction**

- Thank you for joining me today.
- I would first like to acknowledge the traditional territory of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh First Nations where we gather today.
- I would also like to acknowledge ICBC Chair Joy MacPhail for joining me today.
- ICBC is one of British Columbia's most important public assets.
- That said, there are deep and profound issues at ICBC that need to be addressed immediately to keep rates affordable for British Columbians over the long term.
- We need to take drastic action to fix ICBC's devastating financial outlook.

- But B.C. drivers should not be made to pay for years of mismanagement of this critical public asset.
- I will begin by giving you some context about ICBC's current financial state. I will then explain to you how we got here, and the short term measures we are implementing at a structural level. We need to get costs under control at the insurer so that we can get rates under control for BC drivers.
- However, I recognize you are anxious to hear the Basic Rate information, so I'll start with that before going into the background.
- ICBC will be seeking a 6.4% increase in its 2017 Basic Rate application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission, an increase in annual cost of \$57 for the average driver, or \$4.75 per month.
- The optional rate will also be adjusted.

- For optional, on November 1, 2017, the aggregate optional rate will increase 3.1% to a maximum of approximately 2.2% for each remaining quarter, based on market conditions, to a total of 9.6% on average.
- It is important to note that the aggregate optional rate increase is an average across many diverse categories of drivers. For example, at the end of the implementation of these rate changes, 300,000 drivers will actually have lower optional rates.
- Because most drivers get optional and basic insurance coverage, the best measurement to understand the impact on the average driver of the basic and optional rate changes is the so-called “blended rate”.
- The average driver can expect an annual blended rate increase between optional and basic insurance of 8%, or \$130 annually.

- The report we received on taking over government, a report commissioned by the previous government, recommended a 20% basic rate increase. This blended rate increase, which includes optional, is 12% lower than this report's recommended rate.
- I'll begin today's overview with the context of today's rate announcement.
- ICBC's finances have been on a downward trajectory in recent years with the root of the problem dating back to 2010.
- These problems have been growing more alarming and must be addressed urgently through both necessary rate adjustments, and more critically, through strategic reforms to reduce crashes, reduce claims and reduce ICBC's costs.
- The previous government failed to take the structural steps necessary to make ICBC financially stable, and reduce the need for rate increases.

- As a result, the report commissioned by the previous administration recommends basic rate increases of 20% this year, and 30% by 2019.
- Last year alone, ICBC lost over half a billion dollars in just twelve months. That loss is the largest annual loss in ICBC's history.
- ICBC's annual losses are projected to increase to \$1 billion in the coming years if we don't take action now.
- Our government will take action starting today to solve the fundamental problems at ICBC to ensure affordable rates, because 30% rate increases are not an option for BC families, and losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars at ICBC are not sustainable for even a short period of time.
- Because the deep crisis facing ICBC will surely be taking many British Columbians by surprise, I would like to take some time to outline how we got to this place, and why it appears ICBC is so suddenly in deep financial difficulty.

- First, it is my opinion that British Columbians were deceived about the true state of finances at our public auto insurer before the election.
- For example, the Budget 2017 documents projected next year's losses at ICBC to be \$25m. The revised projection for next year's losses in the base case, with existing rates, is \$454m. That's a loss that is 18 times higher than projected in the Budget 2017 documents.
- Even with today's announced rate increases, which are significant increases, the projected loss at ICBC is still \$360m. That's 14 times the original loss projected in the Budget 2017 documents that were released before the election. There is simply no excuse for the previous government's projections being so wrong.
- Second, the previous government raided ICBC for its savings, savings that could have been used to offset this year's rate increases while we wait for systemic reforms to begin to show some impact. Between 2010 and 2016, the previous government took a total of \$1.2 billion from ICBC's savings to help balance provincial budgets.

- Less money in the ICBC savings account as a result of these actions means significantly lower investment income which would have been used to reduce rates today.
- Third, an August 2012 ICBC cost cutting exercise resulted in ICBC deferring legitimate claims that were supposed to be paid out.
- This meant that ICBC's claims costs were reduced in the short term, but in the long term there was a significant backlog of claims that has now come home to roost and must be paid. This backlog of unpaid claims is part of the explanation of a sudden spike in claims costs.
- Fourth, there was a cavalier and reckless attitude towards ICBC's financial stability within the previous government.



- For example, in a video recording of remarks to an auto body repair industry group by the former minister responsible for ICBC, the minister surprised the group by attempting to give them a \$3 million ICBC building for free.
- He boasts in the same video about reducing speeding enforcement by 60%.
- In the same video he committed to a review of the industry association's rates under a review where the industry writes the terms of reference.
- The report that exercised produced was, in ICBC's words, quote "deficient in that many of the conclusions are based on insufficient data...[with] factual errors that have not been corrected and findings based upon incomplete information."
- The former government knew years ago that the issues at ICBC were spiralling rapidly out of control, yet they completely failed to look out for the drivers and road users of our province.

- We are paying for those short sighted decisions today.
- Half billion dollar annual losses at ICBC must end, but to turn ICBC around after years of neglect will require difficult measures.
- A blended premium increase of 8% for the average driver will have a major impact on many families. However, 20% increases would put many families over a financial tipping point, and that cannot be allowed to happen.
- Unfortunately, insurance rates must be adjusted in the short-term while we implement changes that will take at least a year, and in some cases longer, to begin to show significant effect on costs.
- We wish that structural changes had been made sooner at ICBC and in BC to make roads safer. These changes were not made, so drivers are forced to pay today for the mistakes and negligence of yesterday's government.

- I am assuming responsibility to get ICBC back on the right track, along with my colleagues in related Ministries. We will fix this problem.
- I will now outline what we are doing to get ICBC back on track in the short term in order to avoid similar rate increases as we're announcing today, in the future.
- Getting ICBC back into long-term financial sustainability, delivering affordable rates for BC residents will be an ongoing project over the next several years, and I will have regular updates for you in the months and years to come on additional steps.
- In short, these steps are just the beginning of what will be a complex and aggressive reworking of ICBC back to financial stability.

## **1. RED LIGHT CAMERAS**

- Over the next several months, existing red light cameras at intersections in the Lower Mainland will be activated 12 hours a day, and then 24 hours a day.
- Currently, the cameras are only on in six hour per day shifts. The phased roll out will enable administration to keep up with increased processing volumes.
- Accidents at city intersections are a major driver of costs and misery, and we need to stop people from running red lights and causing fatalities and serious injuries.
- I note that this was one of the recommendations of the Ernst and Young report to reduce accident costs.

## **2.DISTRACTED DRIVING TECHNOLOGY PILOT**

- I have instructed ICBC to pilot several new technologies for limiting cell phone use by high risk drivers, and to start that pilot as soon as possible.
- Our aim is to restrict high risk drivers, like new drivers or repeat distracted driving offenders, from using cellphones through technological interventions.
- We'd also like to offer improved rates to drivers who adopt these technologies voluntarily.
- There are a number of ways this can be done including stand-alone applications, which use the motion detection sensors within a phone, and hardware supported applications that plug directly into a vehicle.
- These are only two examples and I look forward to hearing from ICBC about the cutting edge firms that submitted their new technologies for consideration.

### **3.DISTRACTED DRIVING CAMPAIGN**

- We have asked ICBC to increase public awareness about the costs and impacts of distracted driving.
- To that end, ICBC's annual distracted driving campaign launches tomorrow, with ICBC and police announcing their latest enforcement blitz on distracted driving, supported by new educational materials and advertising.

### **4.DANGEROUS ROADS INITIATIVE**

- ICBC reports on the 10 top crash intersections annually. In the Lower Mainland in 2015, the top 10 crash sites were responsible for 2,253 crashes.
- We are working with ICBC and the Ministries of Transportation and Infrastructure, and Public Safety and Solicitor General and local governments to update and expand work identifying the areas with the highest number of collisions and to make urgent improvements to the speed limits, signage, and infrastructure in these areas to reduce collisions, and the injuries and costs these preventable accidents can bring.

## **5.ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND EFFICIENCY**

- We are currently issuing an RFI to approved senior management consulting firms for an immediate and comprehensive business audit of ICBC's operations and practices.
- The review will examine targeted elements of ICBC's operations, including an audit of a random sample of 100 claim files, a full review of ICBC salvage and material-damage payment processes, ICBC's settlement and litigation strategies, and the backlog of claims at ICBC.
- It should be noted that the Ernst and Young report specifically did not address internal processes at ICBC, nor did it examine in detail the reasons that may be internal to ICBC behind increasing litigation costs, material damage costs, and injury settlement costs it reported on.

- I have seen internal documents from ICBC that lead me to believe there is significant room for improvement in costs at the insurer through revised internal policies and procedures.
- We are not satisfied with the lack of detail behind the alarming trends identified by the E&Y report, so we are doing a full internal business audit.

## **CLOSE**

- The previous government's Ernst and Young report recommended a 20% rate increase for Basic insurance this year alone. We promised British Columbians that would not happen.
- ICBC will instead be seeking a 6.4% increase in its 2017 Basic Rate application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission, an increase in annual cost of \$57 for the average driver, or \$4.75 per month.
- Even with this rate change, ICBC will not be covering the costs of the increase in crashes and claims.



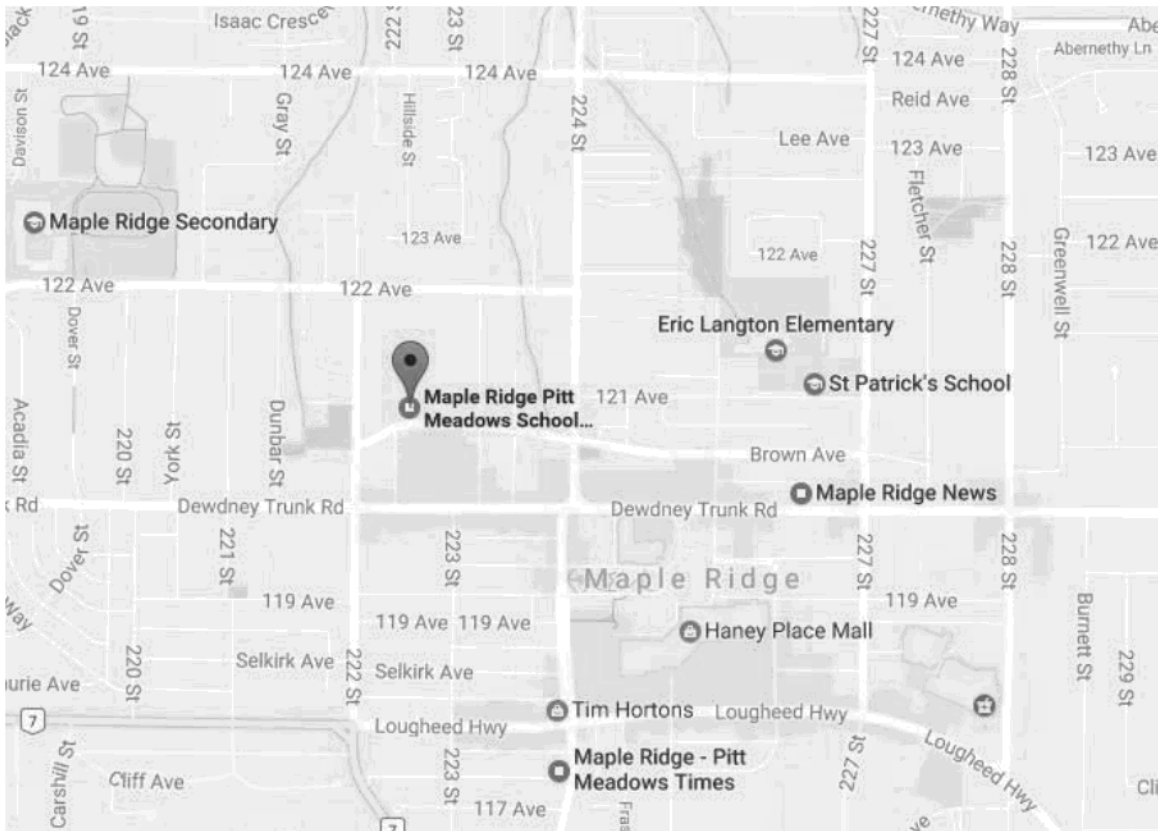
- To actually cover the costs at ICBC of providing insurance, every customer would need to pay close to an additional \$15 per month or the equivalent of a 20% rate increase.
- The rising number of crashes, injuries and the cost of these claims are also putting pressure on ICBC's optional insurance rates.
- As I mentioned earlier, the optional rate will also be adjusted.
- On November 1, 2017, overall optional rates will be increased in the first quarter at 3.1% with subsequent quarterly increases of 2.2%, based on market conditions, to a maximum of 9.6%.
- This number is an average for the entire optional category. Individual policy rates will depend on age, value, and use of a vehicle and where it is being driven, with hundreds of thousands of drivers actually receiving lower optional rates, or seeing no increase at all.

- The most comprehensive assessment of what this means for the average British Columbian driver is the blended rate, which combines average increases between optional and basic. The blended rate tells us that the average driver will see an increase of 8% or \$130.
- I ask for British Columbian's patience and understanding as we implement the long overdue changes that need to be made. I will be announcing more to come in the months and years ahead.
- Thank you, I will now take your questions.

-END-

## Event Information / Speaking Notes / Minister Bernier

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**Event:** Fairview Elementary and Westview Secondary seismic mitigation funding announcement

**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** Fairview Elementary 12209 206 St., Maple Ridge

**Length:** 30 minutes

**Speech:** 2-3 minutes

**Parking:** xx

**Key Participants:**

- Premier Horgan (TBC)
- Rob Fleming, Minister of Education
- Cathie Watkins, principal, Fairview Elementary – emcee
- Susan Carr, vice-chair, Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
- PAC parent (TBC)
- Student speaker (TBC)

**Other Attendees:**

- Wayne Chow, vice-principal, Westview Secondary
- Fairview Elementary and Westview Secondary students
- School district officials

**Audience Size:** 20 – 25

**Contact:** xx, GCPE Events

**C:** xx

**Itinerary:**

Speaking Notes  
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Education

Fairview Elementary and Westview Secondary  
Funding Announcement  
Fairview Elementary School

Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017  
11:30 a.m. (30 minutes)

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

## **KEY MESSAGES:**

- Government is committed to accelerating B.C.'s Seismic Mitigation Program to make schools safer for students and teachers.
- We're investing \$3 million to seismically upgrade Fairview Elementary and Westview Secondary schools for Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows students.
- This investment will ensure the last two high risk schools in the district are seismically upgraded.
- A key priority for this government is to make significant investments in B.C.'s education system.
- These investments will create safe schools for students, strengthen communities and create a sustainable and strong economy.

**PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

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**TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:**

- Acknowledge traditional territories of the Coast Salish people and the Katzie (kate-zee) and Kwantlen (kwant-len) First Nations.

## INTRODUCTION:

- Acknowledge the traditional territories of the Coast Salish people and the Katzie (kate-zee) and Kwantlen (kwant-len) First Nations.
- Government is committed to accelerating B.C.'s Seismic Mitigation Program to make schools safer for students and teachers.
- There are far too many schools left to be seismically upgraded – only 164 out of 346 have been completed.
- We are going to change this.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

- \$3 million to seismically upgrade Fairview Elementary and Westview Secondary.
- Last two high risk schools in the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows school district

**[Invite event participants to join in unveiling the two project boards]**



- Both schools will see their gym and classroom wings seismically upgraded.
- The change rooms and multipurpose room at Fairview will also be seismically upgraded.
- Work will start in the summer of 2018 and finish for the beginning of the school in September.

## SEISMIC/CAPITAL PLAN

- Government is focused on expediting the backlog of seismic projects in the province.
- Work with school boards to meet an ambitious timeline, so we can get schools upgraded quickly.
- Work with local government and school districts to cut wait times for new school construction – we all have a role to play in this.
- Work to speed up funding approvals for capital project
- Cut wait times for school construction by speeding up funding approval.
- Work with the Seismic Mitigation Program experts, including the Association of Professional

Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C., to look for ways to more efficiently and cost-effectively meet and exceed the building code for seismic safety.

## ECONOMY

- Our government is committed to building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone.
- Our goal is to make significant investments in B.C.'s education system.
- These investments will create safe and modern schools for students, strengthen communities and create a sustainable and strong economy.

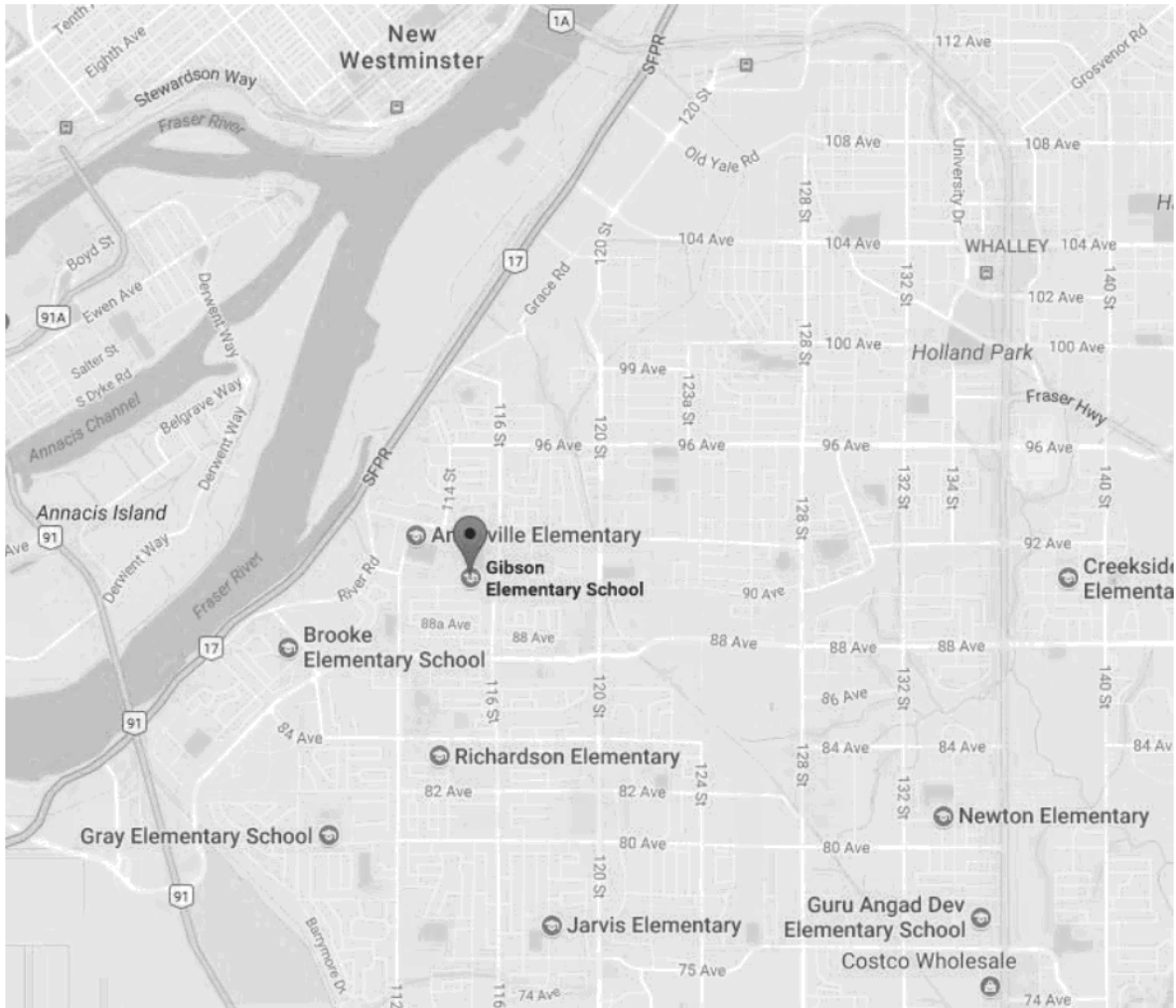
## CONCLUSION:

- These two projects will ensure the students at Fairview and Westview have safe schools to learn in and be successful.
- I'd like to thank the school district, the community, parents for their patience's.
- I look forward to seeing you again soon to make more education announcements in Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows.



## Event Information / Speaking Notes / Minister Fleming

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**Event:** Gibson Elementary seismic mitigation funding announcement

**When:** Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 11:00 a.m. (pre-brief at 10:45)

**Where:** Gibson Elementary school library, 11451 90 Ave, Delta B.C.

**Length:** 35 minutes

**Speech:** 2-3 minutes

**Parking:** A parking space will be reserved in the staff parking lot

**Key Participants:**

- Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North (emcee)
- Laura Dixon, chair, Delta School Board
- Warren Zerbe (pronounced Zer-bee), principal, Gibson Elementary
- Gurpreet Sanghera, Gibson Elementary PAC member

### Other Attendees:

- Lois Jackson, mayor of Delta (TBC)
- Gibson elementary students
- Delta School Board trustees
- Delta School District staff
- Gibson teachers and staff
- Parents

**Audience Size:** approx. 20 – 25

**Contact:** Jarrett Hagglund, GCPE Events

**C:** (604) 817-1458

### Itinerary:

<b>Event Summary</b>	<b>Indoor Event with podium. Backdrop: Elementary school library and students Minister of Education to make announcement</b>
<i>Time</i>	<b>Event Itinerary</b>
9:00 am	AV Setup
10:30 am	Speakers and Stakeholders arrive
10:45 am	Pre-brief with guest speakers led by Jarrett Hagglund
10:50 am	Speakers in place
11:00 am	Event Begins
11:01 am	MC Ravi Kahlon, MLA makes introductions, introduces Minister Fleming
11:04 am	Minister Fleming makes announcement (3 minutes of speaking time)
11:08 am	MC introduces next speaker
11:09 am	Board Chair Dixon speaks (2 minutes)
11:12 am	MC introduces next speaker
11:13 am	Principal Warren Zerbe speaks (1 minute)
11:14 am	MC introduces next speaker
11:15 am	Parent Validator Gurpreet Sanghera speaks (2 minutes)
11:17 am	MC ends event and gets speakers together for a photo opportunity
11:20 am	Media Availability
11:35 am	Event concludes
12:15 am	A/V and event staff depart

Speaking Notes  
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Education

Gibson Elementary School  
Funding Announcement

Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017  
11:00 a.m. (35 minutes)

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Making schools safer for our kids is one of government's top priorities
- We're investing \$1.6 million for a much needed seismic upgrade at Gibson Elementary.
- This is the last high-risk seismic mitigation project for the Delta School District.
- A key priority for this government is to make significant investments in B.C.'s education system.
- We will work with School Districts to speed up the pace of seismic upgrades in B.C.

**PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Ravi Kahlon, MLA for Delta North (emcee)
- Laura Dixon, chair, Delta School District (speaker)
- Warren Zerbe (pronounced Zer-bee), principal, Gibson Elementary (speaker)

- Gurpreet Sanghera, Gibson Elementary PAC member (speaker)
- Lois Jackson, mayor, Delta
- Delta School Board trustees and vice chair
- Delta School District staff

**TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:**

- Coast Salish territory, includes the Tsawwassen (Sah-wa-sen) First Nation.



## INTRODUCTION:

- Thanks to my new colleague Ravi for the introduction.
- It is great to be here at Gibson Elementary to celebrate the first day of school.
- We are going to kick off the school year with some exciting news for the students, staff and families of this community.

## ANNOUNCEMENT:

- We are committed to making schools safer for students and teachers.

### **[Invite event participants to join in unveiling the project board]**

- That is why we're investing \$1.6 million to make Gibson Elementary seismically safe for students, teachers and staff.
- This greatly-needed upgrade will ensure the safety of our kids here at Gibson for many years to come.

- The gym and classroom wing will be seismically upgraded.
- There will be no disruption for kids and staff here at Gibson Elementary.
- Work will start in the summer of 2018 and finish in time for back to school next September.

## DELTA:

- I'd like to congratulate the dedicated staff at the district and also at the Ministry of Education for their hard work expediting this very important project.
- This is the last school remaining to be upgraded in Delta.
- The district has successfully completed seismic projects at 8 other high-risk schools...
- ... and is a leader in the province at completing projects on time and on budget.

## SEISMIC/CAPITAL PLAN:

- It is very important to me that we ensure all of our schools are safe for students.

- We are going to increase investments in school capital and find ways to speed up important seismic projects like this one.
- We are going to find ways to cut wait times for school construction by speeding up funding approval.
- And we will work with the Seismic Mitigation Program experts, including the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of B.C., to more efficiently and cost-effectively meet and exceed the building code for seismic safety.
- Our goal is to get every B.C. school district to the position this district is in, with all schools completed...
- ...so that every student gets to go to a seismically safe school.

## CONCLUSION:

- We have a very exciting school year ahead of us.
- Our government is getting to work to ensure our kids get the quality education and opportunities they deserve.

- It's time to put our kids first and invest in schools, classrooms, and a better future for our children.
- I am looking forward to seeing what a sustainable, strong, properly resourced education system can deliver for all British Columbians.
- Thank you.

## Event Information / Speaking Notes

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**Event: UBCM – Investing in People Townhall**

**When: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 @ 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.**

**Where: Room 11/12, VCC**

**Length:** 35 minutes

**Opening remarks:** 2 minutes

**Key Participants:**

Honourable Rob Fleming, Minister of Education

Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

Honourable Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development

Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care

**Speaking Notes  
For  
Minister Rob Fleming**

**UBCM – Investing in People**

**Wednesday, September 27, 2017**

**3:00-4:15 p.m.**

## INTRODUCTION:

- Good afternoon, thank you for joining us today.
- It's 's been a great week so far being able to connect with our partners in local government to discuss how together we can address the issues that matter to people.
- Early in my mandate, I made a point to reach out to all of B.C's 60 school district board chairs -- to find out what issues are impacting people most in their communities.
- I heard about the difficulties people face in rural and remote areas, as well as the enormous pressures for new schools in BC's growing communities..
- It's time we work together to fix the problems facing British Columbians.
- It starts by investing in people.
- By investing more in schools, classrooms and for a better future for our children.
- We know that the best way to build a strong economy is to invest in the success of our kids.
- Our first priority has been to make sure students are getting the support they need in classrooms this fall.
- Thousands of new teachers are now in classrooms and districts are continuing to recruit.

- Hiring up to 3,500 professional teachers all at once is unprecedented and we continue to work closely with districts to make the transition as seamless as possible.
- At the same time, this is great news as smaller classes mean more one-on-one time for learners and more specialty teachers to support them.
- We also know that enrollment is growing and our government is ready to meet demands by ensuring school districts have the funding they need.
- We are investing an extra \$681 million in the education system over the next three years.
- Equal access and opportunity are key to a better education system.
- We will continue to focus on student success and achievement but we also want to ensure that no matter their personal circumstances all children get the best possible start.
- That's why we're committed to lifting individuals out of poverty through stronger social programs.
- We can make sure students have a strong start by investing more in early childhood education and by making childcare more affordable and accessible.
- We can also make sure that students have the skills they need to move on successfully after school.

- New curriculum focuses on core competencies and helping students learn and adopt new skills as they progress through school and life.
- We'll upgrade our graduation program so learners have the relevant skills and resources to succeed in work and further education.
- Our government also wants to ensure that parents and students can have peace of mind that their children are learning in safe classrooms.
- We will increase the pace of investments in school capital, speed up repairs and replacements, and fast-track seismic upgrades to keep our kids safe.
- We are also committed to reducing the number of portables, to make sure our children are learning in proper classrooms.
- Where needed, we will work with local municipal officials and school boards so we can meet an ambitious timeline to get schools upgraded as quickly as possible.
- I have also made a commitment to build a better relationship with educators in B.C. -- This relationship needs to be built on respect.
- It's now time to work together. By working together, we will give our children the education they deserve.
- Thank you and I look forward to our conversations this afternoon.



## **Bayside Middle School Unveiling of new Outdoor Indigenous Classroom**

### **Minister Fleming Speaking Notes**

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**Event:** Bayside Middle School Unveiling of new Outdoor Indigenous Classroom

**When:** Thursday, September 21 at 5:30 p.m. (Minister could arrive for 5 p.m. if time permits; there is a free BBQ before the event.)

**Where:** Bayside Middle School – 1101 Newton Place, Brentwood Bay

**Directions:** There will be two reserved parking spots blocked off with cones for the Minister's arrival at the front of the school. Superintendent Eberwein will meet Minister Fleming just before the event at the front of the school.

**Length:** Event is one hour - Minister may speak up to 3 minutes.

**Key Participants:**

- Local First Nations
- Wendy MacDonald, Principal, Bayside Middle School
- Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Education
- Trustee Nancy Borden
- Ivy Seward, Bayside SENĆOTEN language teacher

**Other Attendees:**

- Chief Harvey Underwood, Tsawout FN
- Chief Rebecca Harris, Pauquachin FN
- Chief Don Tom, Tsartlip FN
- Chief Tanya Jimmy, Tseycum FN
- Elsie McMurphy, Board Vice-chair, Saanich Board of Education
- Nancy Borden, zone trustee, Saanich Board of Education
- Tim Dunford, zone trustee, Saanich Board of Education
- Ryan Windsor, Mayor, Central Saanich
- Dave Eberwein, Superintendent, Saanich School District
- Mark Fraser, Assistant Superintendent, Saanich School District
- Don Peterson, President, Saanich Teachers' Association
- Les Sylven, Police Chief, CSPA
- Students
- Bayside school staff
- School district staff
- Community partners

**Audience Size:** There may be as many as 30- 50 people attending or more.

**Contact:**

Dave Eberwein  
Superintendent / CEO - School District #63 (Saanich)  
**C:** 250-812-2156  
**E:** [deberwein@sd63.bc.ca](mailto:deberwein@sd63.bc.ca)

**What's happening at the event:**

- Students, parents and guests will unveil the new outdoor indigenous classroom, peace pole and peace friendship garden.

- Event will be held before the school's annual open house and Meet-the-Teacher evening.
- This is the first outdoor indigenous classroom garden with a peace pole in Saanich School District.

**Itinerary:**

Time	Itinerary
5:00 p.m.	<b><u>Optional:</u></b> Barbecue for parents, teachers and dignitaries.
5:30 p.m.	Wendy MacDonald, Bayside Principal - Welcome, acknowledgement of traditional land and invited dignitaries.
5:35 p.m.	Parent - Tamara Lorincz - Unveiling of Peace Pole.
5:40 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeches and Blanketing Ceremony</li> <li>• Trustee Nancy Borden (speech, 3 min)</li> <li>• Minister Rob Fleming (speech, 3 min)</li> <li>• Ivy Seward, Bayside SENĆOTEN language teacher (Blanketing ceremony - approximately 10 people)</li> </ul>
6:30 p.m.	Closing comments by Wendy MacDonald.

Speaking Notes  
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Education

**Bayside Middle School Unveiling of new Outdoor  
Indigenous Classroom**

Bayside Middle school – 1101 Newton Place,  
Brentwood Bay

Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>  
5:30 p.m. Time (1 hour)

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- One of our highest priorities is improving outcomes for Indigenous students.
- We are focusing on recognizing First Nations significant contributions to our country and helping Indigenous educators use their knowledge and teaching methods in our classrooms.
- While the graduation rate in B.C. is about 84%, our results for Aboriginal students still lag behind by 20% at 64%. We are committed to closing that gap.

**PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Local First Nations
- Wendy MacDonald, Bayside Principal
- Dave Eberwein, Superintendent, Saanich School District
- Trustee Nancy Borden and Trustees in attendance
- Ivy Seward, Bayside SENĆOTEN language teacher
- Ryan Windsor, Mayor, Central Saanich
- Don Peterson, President, Saanich Teachers' Association

- Les Sylven, Police Chief, CSPA
- Students, teachers and school staff
- Community partners

**Comment [RKG1]:** Kerri to find out what this is?

#### **TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:**

Acknowledge the First Nation Territory of the WSANEC (WUH – SANIC) people and the Malahat First Nation. (confirmed with MARR).

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- Acknowledge:
  - Today is United Nations International Day of Peace,
  - Local First Nations,
  - Wendy MacDonald, Principal of Bayside Middle School,
  - Dave Eberwein, Superintendent/CEO - School District #63 – Saanich,

- Saanich School Board Trustee Nancy Borden and other staff in attendance
- Ivy Seward,  
Bayside SENĆOTEN language teacher
- Ryan Windsor, Mayor, Central Saanich
- Don Peterson, President, Saanich Teachers' Association
- Les Sylven, Police Chief, CSPA
- Students, teachers and school staff
- Community partners

**Comment [RKG2]:** Kerri to find out what this is?

## OPENING REMARKS:

- I'm honoured to be here tonight at this very exciting event as your new Minister of Education.
- Congratulations to everyone that played a part in creating this inspiring project.
- The project is a great example of the local school and Saanich community joining together to create a true work of art.
- The pole, classroom and garden are a true reflection of your unique Indigenous heritage.
- I would like to say congratulations on being the first public school in B.C. to offer the SENCOTEN First Nations Language program.
- SENCOTEN is one of XX First Nations languages offered throughout the

**Comment [RKG3]:** Pronunciation please and thanks.



province.

**Comment [RKG4]:** How many first Nations languages are offered in schools throughout the province?

- From what I've seen here tonight your school is definitely paving the way to success for all its students.

## **WE ARE COMMITTED TO FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS:**

- I want you all to know that government supports projects like this and we're committed to supporting you further.
- We will make significant investments in education and make sure students are getting the supports they need to thrive.
- Our public education system must be a place where we liberate First Nations students.
- And we know that we must do better to respect the First Nations culture in our school system.

- We shouldn't ever be complacent about First Nations students not achieving their very best in our schools.
- We must strive to do better and with partners like you here tonight I believe that we can work together to achieve this.
- Our new government will continue to implement BC's new school curriculum, that contains first Nations content at all grade levels.
- Going forward:
  - we will implement new First Nations history curriculum;
  - develop full course offerings in Aboriginal languages, and;
  - implement the educational calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

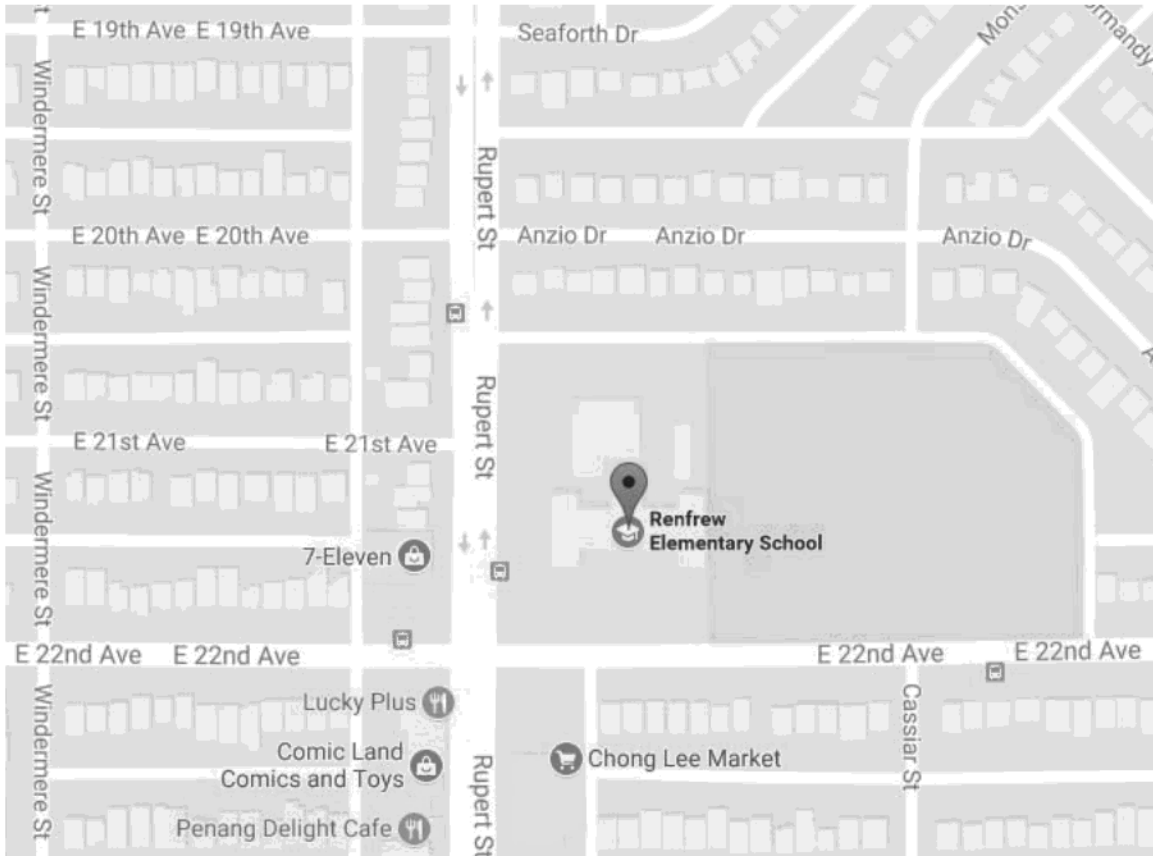
- With more than 64,000 Aboriginal learners in B.C., we know that First Nations education should embrace and reflect the unique heritage and help strengthen and preserve the culture.
- We are committed to working closely with the First Nations Education Steering Committee and First Nations groups throughout the province.
- Going forward, we will continue to focus on recognizing First Nations significant contributions to our country...
- ... and helping Indigenous educators use their knowledge and teaching methods in our classrooms.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- Our new government lots of exciting plans for the future and we're excited that students and staff here at this school will get to be a part of these big changes.

- Everyone here should feel so proud of your amazing accomplishments on this project.
- Thanks again for having me here this evening as a part of your special event.

## VPD Back to School Traffic Awareness Campaign/ Minister Fleming Speaking Notes



**Event:** Vancouver Police Department's Back to School Traffic Awareness Campaign

**When:** Tuesday, September 5 at 9:00 a.m. (Minister to arrive at 8:45 a.m.)

**Where:** Renfrew Elementary school – 3315 East 22nd Ave., Vancouver

**Directions:** There will be reserved parking for Minister Fleming in the staff parking lot at the north-west corner of the school. Please access the parking lot by driving north on Rupert Street from East 22nd Avenue.

**Length:** Event 15 minutes, Minister speaking 1-2 minutes max.

**Key Participants:**

- Hon. Rob Fleming, Minister of Education
- Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Warren Lemcke, Deputy Chief, VPD
- Constable Jason Doucette, VPD
- Raymond Louie, Deputy Vancouver Mayor
- Dianne Turner, Vancouver School Board Official Trustee

**Other Attendees:**

**Note:** Students and teachers will just be starting classes at this time so will not be outside for the announcement. VPD has not made arrangements for media release forms for kids.

- School staff
- Community partners

**Audience Size:** Approximately 25 people

**Contact:**

Constable Jason Doucette

Media Relations Officer, Public Affairs, Vancouver Police Department

**C:** s.22

**E:** [jason.doucette@vpd.ca](mailto:jason.doucette@vpd.ca)

**Itinerary:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Itinerary</b>
7:45 a.m.	Event set up
8:15 a.m.	VPD motorcycles and volunteers set up.
8:15 – 8:45 a.m.	Photo/video opportunity for media of enforcement/education, students arriving/safety patrol in place.
8:45 a.m.	Chief and guests arrive
8:55 a.m.	Guests assemble
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Event begins</b> - Cst. Doucette introduces event format.
9:02 a.m.	Speeches <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deputy Chief VPD (1-2 minutes)</li><li>• Minister of Education (1-2 minutes)</li><li>• Minister of Public Safety (1-2 minutes)</li><li>• Vancouver School Board (1-2 minutes)</li><li>• Raymond Louie, Deputy Vancouver Mayor</li><li>• Question/Answer</li></ul>
9:15 a.m.	Event concludes

Speaking Notes  
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming  
Minister of Education

**Vancouver Police Department's Back to School  
Traffic Awareness Campaign**

Renfrew Elementary school – 3315 East 22nd Ave.,  
Vancouver

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. Time (15 minutes)

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**



**KEY MESSAGES:**

- Today more than 600,000 students are heading back to school in B.C.
- Student safety is a top priority as our students return to school.
- We can all do our part by slowing down and being aware in school zones.

**PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Deputy Chief Warren Lemcke, VPD
- Constable Jason Doucette, VPD
- Raymond Louie, Deputy Vancouver Mayor
- Dianne Turner, Vancouver School Board Official Trustee
- VPD staff
- Teachers and school staff
- Community partners

**TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:**

- Acknowledge the First Nation Territory of the Coast Salish People (confirmed with MARR).

## INTRODUCTION:

- Thank you all for joining us today at Renfrew Elementary School, on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish People.
- Acknowledge:
  - Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General;
  - Warren Lemcke, Deputy Chief, VPD;
  - Constable Jason Doucette, VPD;
  - Other Vancouver Police Department staff and volunteers here today;
  - Raymond Louie, Deputy Vancouver Mayor;
  - Dianne Turner, Vancouver School Board Official Trustee; and

- Teachers and school staff.
- Thank you for inviting me to be here today at the Vancouver Police Department's Back to School Traffic Awareness Campaign.
- Today is a very exciting day for me as I get to be here as the new Minister of Education on the first day of school.
- Today, more than 600,000 students throughout the province are heading back to school.
- As parent of 2, I understand firsthand that the first day of school is always busy as families get back into routine after the summer.
- I know my two children were both very excited to be starting school today.

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY:**

- Keeping students safe is a concern everywhere in B.C. – from the busy streets here in Vancouver, to the many rural communities in our province.
- I am pleased to see the police out today making sure everyone slows down in school zones, and students get to school safely.
- Now that schools are in full swing, our message to drivers is simple:
- Please slow down in school zones.
- DO NOT talk or text on your cell phones while driving.
- We all know that kids get excited and distracted and can dart out into the street without checking for cars first.

- That's why drivers need to be alert when they are near schools.
- We want to make sure everyone arrives safe to school.

## **UPCOMING YEAR:**

- It's a great time to be heading back to school in B.C.
- Our new government has big plans for our K-12 system.
- It's time to put our kids first.
- And our government is getting to work to ensure our kids get the quality education and opportunities they deserve.

## **HOW OUR GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO MAKE EDUCATION BETTER:**

- Our top priority is to improve B.C.'s education system and ensure a successful start to the school year.
- We will make significant investments in education.
- Our first priority is to make sure students are getting the support they need to thrive in classrooms this fall.
- We will review the funding formula and provide additional annual funding to ensure students have everything they need to succeed.
- Create an ongoing capital fund for school playgrounds – something I personally think students will be very excited about.

- Make schools safer by accelerating the current seismic upgrade program and upgrading schools all over B.C.
- And finally, we will continue to implement BC's new school curriculum, that contains first nations content at all grade levels, as well as providing additional resources for students and teachers
- We have lots of exciting plans for the future and we're excited that students here at this school today will get to be a part of these big changes.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- So let's keep safe out there and working together so our students can succeed.
- Our kids are our future.
- That's just another reason why we all need to slow down and be safe.

## Event Information / Opening Remarks

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**Event: 2017 Liveable Cities Forum – Victoria – Opening Plenary**

**When: Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Time: 9:05am speaking timeslot (event starts at 8:30am)**

**Where: Lecture Theatre, Victoria Conference Centre**

**Length: 8-9 minutes of speaking (short discussion to follow with panel – including Minister Heyman, after opening remarks)**

**Audience: Conference participants, media**

### **NOTES:**

#### **PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Lekwungen people, Songhees and Esquimalt Nations
- Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna
- Mayor of Victoria, Lisa Helps
- Director of ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) Megan Meaney
- Executive Director of Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, Sybil Seitzinger
- President The Co-operators, Rob Wesselling



Speaking Notes  
for  
George Heyman  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

**Communities advancing low carbon resilience**

Victoria Conference Centre

Monday, Sept 18, 2017  
Time: 9:05am speaking timeslot

# **Minister Heyman Speaking Points**

**Introduction from host, ICLEI Canada  
Director, Megan Meaney:**

- **Thank-you Megan.**
- **Good morning everyone.**
- **I'm George Heyman – B.C.'s new  
Minister of Environment and Climate  
Change Strategy.**
- **I'd like to acknowledge that we are  
gathered on the traditional territory of  
the Lekwungen [La-kwung-en]people  
and the Songhees and Esquimalt  
Nations.**
- **What a treat it is to be here with so  
many of you from across Canada.**

- **This conference is a great opportunity to bring together colleagues that work in a diverse range of settings...**
- **... from all levels of government and public sector organizations to NGOs, planners, engineers and other sustainability leaders.**
- **Climate change is THE critical issue for the entire country and of course for this province.**
- **We recognize that our communities and local governments are often at the forefront of climate action.**
- **B.C.'s Government is committed to a Better B.C. for British Columbians and this includes taking real action on climate change.**

- **When I was the executive director of Sierra Club BC, confronting climate change was a top priority.**
- **Now I am in a position where I can help to put B.C. at the forefront of a world that is moving towards a lower carbon future, reducing GHG emissions and growing our economy...**
- **... and help our province become resilient to the impacts of climate change.**

### **Importance of a Low Carbon Economy**

- **Canada is 2% of global GHG emissions. BC is 6% of Canada. That makes BC's contribution to global GHGs very small.**
- **However, our actions in BC are vitally important.**

- **I think of BC as a global demonstration site, where we show how climate action and economic growth go hand in hand.**
- **By demonstrating by our actions, we're outlining a path other economies can and will follow.**
- **To help us, this fall we will renew the Climate Leadership Team.**
- **The team will include First Nations, labour, industry, environmental and academic leaders and local governments.**
- **Together they will help to shape our strategic direction – crafting the policies and actions government, industry and individuals can take to reduce our carbon footprint and grow the economy.**

- **We will put the province on a path to meeting B.C.'s legislated 2050 greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 80 per cent below 2007 levels - and will set a new legislated 2030 reduction target.**
- **As an important step to reducing more carbon emissions, we are implementing an increase of the carbon tax by \$5 per tonne per year, beginning April 1, 2018.**
- **This helps spur innovation and allows us to invest in green initiatives to address our climate action commitments.**
- **And it is consistent with our goal of providing families with a rebate cheque so the majority of households are better off as a result of paying the carbon tax than they are now.**

- **B.C. has also made investments in clean technology through such mechanisms as B.C.'s Innovative Clean Energy (ICE Fund), and community and First Nations clean energy funds.**
- **We want to build on that while driving change through improved standards for our buildings, equipment and low carbon fuels.**
- **It's important we encourage the development of solutions that could make an even bigger impact in the fight against climate change.**
- **For example, we are now working with the Federal Government on opportunities to invest in innovative programs and clean technology.**

- **Together with the renewed Climate Leadership Team, we will work on a comprehensive strategy that meets our greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets while growing B.C.'s economic prosperity.**

## **Importance of Resilience**

- **Our Government also understands that B.C. needs to prepare for, and adapt to climate change.**
- **B.C. is already seeing the impacts:**
  - **temperatures are increasing,**
  - **sea levels are rising, and**
  - **variable and extreme weather is becoming more frequent.**



- **You have no doubt heard about or been affected by the record-breaking summer we have had in B.C. with wildfires; the worst fire season in our province's history.**
- **We know we will continue to see more of these kinds of extreme weather risks.**
- **This is a big reason why our Province will do whatever it can to deal with the effects of climate change.**
- **Managing these risks now is essential to protect our well-being, improve our prosperity and lower costs for generations to come.**

## **Collaboration and Climate Change**

- **Collaboration against climate change is key...all of us need to do our part.**
- **It requires every level of government working alongside communities, First Nations, the public sector, non-profits, industry, labour and other climate leaders.**
- **Fighting carbon pollution, and adapting to climate change together, can help spur economic growth and create good family supporting jobs that last.**
- **It will also help build a better future for our families and generations to come.**
- **Collaboration is something many of you already understand and support.**

- **It's obvious by seeing the great turnout today from so many diverse groups.**
- **Planning for climate change transforms organizations and communities for the better.**
- **I understand you'll get a chance to see examples of this first-hand today.**
- **There is a panel discussion showing how the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium has worked with three regional districts.**
- **This group has developed climate projection reports that local governments and the public sector are using for infrastructure planning, building design and school curriculums.**

- **Another example of great collaboration is the Bowker Creek restoration community project right here in the Capital Region.**
- **It involves Oak Bay Secondary School, the school district, the municipality and others, which led to restoration of the Bowker Creek through the school grounds plus a unique outdoor classroom.**
- **Planning proactively together allows us to take advantage of opportunities.**
- **For example, when buildings are upgraded and retrofitted we can incorporate clean technology and adaptive design to create resilient low-carbon communities.**

- **We need to work closely at all levels to continue making progress.**
- **Working collaboratively with local governments is key, especially on improving transit and transportation infrastructure and refreshing work under the current Charter.**
- **We have a tremendous opportunity in the next few days to learn from each other.**

### **Closing:**

- **Once again, thank you for attending such an important conference.**
- **We are at the forefront of a low carbon economy where economic prosperity and a healthy planet really will go hand in hand.**

- **I am eager to hear about the discussions and outcomes resulting from this conference.**
- **Meantime, enjoy your time in Victoria. I look forward to speaking with some of you today.**

**(Meaney thanks Minister Heyman and introduces President of The Co-operators, Rob Wesselling)**

**(Short discussion to follow Rob Wesselling with Mayor of Victoria Lisa Helps, Minister Heyman, Minister McKenna)**

#### **DRAFT QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- **[To Mayor Helps]** What do you feel Canadian cities (and local governments) need from other orders of government, or from the international community, to better support them in preparing for a changing climate?
- **[to BC Minister]** How can we work together to enable local

level leadership on low carbon resilience? Who else do we need to have around the table to help foster that leadership?

- As mentioned, this fall we will renew the Climate Leadership Team. It will include local governments in addition to First Nations, labour, industry, and other leaders. The team will provide an effective sounding board and strategic direction as BC continues to work on its climate strategy.
- In order to determine the next steps for advancing adaptation in British Columbia, the team will also be looking at the upcoming Auditor General's report on Government's management of risks posed by climate change expected later this year.
- We already work closely with local governments on climate action – and look forward to building on this important work.
  - i. We have the Climate Action Rebate Incentive Program and Infrastructure Funding to support climate goals, while providing guidance, methodologies and data that is often critical for ongoing progress.
  - ii. The Energy Step Code is another good example on how we can support communities in being leaders in creating a low carbon future.. This is a voluntary provincial standard – developed after wide consultation - that allows communities to work towards energy-efficient buildings beyond the requirements of the base BC Building Code.
  - iii. And we will also be looking at the recommendations that come out of the Joint UBCM –Provincial working groups to refresh the BC Climate Action Charter in areas related to land use, infrastructure, and adaptation.
- B.C.'s universities, schools, hospitals and government entities have also been leading the way to reduce emissions and achieve carbon neutrality. Collaboration across provincial organizations, local governments and the many other groups providing solutions – like we're doing today – is important to share solutions and knowledge.
- **[to Minister McKenna]** What, in your view, are the top 3 challenges or barriers to success?
- **[to anyone on panel]** How can we measure success when resilience (to a changing climate, to extreme weather, etc..) is such a moving target? To rephrase this question even, what are

possible measures of success when “success” is often seen as the avoidance of an impact or disaster?

- **[to anyone on panel]** Lastly, what keeps you energized and motivated to keep driving forward in your work towards advancing low carbon resilience?



## Event Information

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**Event:** UBCM: Climate and Energy Action Awards

**When:** 4:15 to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 27, 2017  
(Immediately follows the Cabinet Town Hall for Jobs, Resources and Green Communities)

**Where:** Room 1, Vancouver Convention Centre - East

**Length:** 5 minute break between sessions; 15 minutes of speaking; 20 minutes for photos.

**Audience:** Local government elected officials and senior staff, and senior staff from utilities.

**Anticipated Size:** 40-60 people

## Program Rundown

Minister Heyman's presentation of the Climate and Energy Action Awards will immediately follow the conclusion of the Cabinet Town Hall in Room 1 in the Vancouver Convention Centre - East.

Cabinet Town Hall Moderator will close the Cabinet Town Hall at around 4:15 p.m. and note that there will be a five-minute break before the awards ceremony begins. At the end of five minutes, **Director Wendy Booth, Regional District of East Kootenay**, will introduce Minister Heyman.

**4:20 p.m.** **Wendy Booth** introduces Minister Heyman.

Minister Heyman presents the Climate and Energy Action Awards.

Community Energy Association Chair Mayor Darrell Mussatto (City of North Vancouver) will hand plaques and the trophy to the Minister as the Minister announces winners.

UBCM's photographer will take a photo of each recipient receiving their award from Minister Heyman (during handshake).

Each recipient receives a plaque and the winner of the Community Planning and Development category receives a trophy.

**4:35 p.m.** Minister Heyman closes the session.

**4:35-5:00** Group photo of all recipients with Minister Heyman, CEA representatives and sponsors).

## UBCM event onsite contact

Patricia Bell, Head of Planning & Director of Education, Community Energy Association.  
Cell: s.22

## UBCM event onsite alternative contact

Dale Littlejohn, Executive Director, Community Energy Association  
Cell: (604) 785-5130

## GCPE contact

Dave Crebo  
Cell: (250) 812-5747

Speaking Notes  
For

The Honourable Minister Heyman  
Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

**UBCM:  
Climate and Energy Action Awards**

Room 1, Vancouver Convention Centre - East

Wednesday, September 27, 2017

4:15 to 5:00 p.m.

(Immediately following the Cabinet Town Hall in Room 1)

**PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:**

- Coast Salish traditional territory of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Wauthuth [sail-wha-tooth] and Squamish peoples.
- **Darrell Mussatto**, Mayor of North Vancouver and Community Energy Association Chair
- **Additional to be determined....**

## **Introduction**

- Good afternoon.
- Thank you, **Wendy**, for your introduction.
- I would like to acknowledge that we're gathered on the Coast Salish traditional territory of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Wauthuth [sail-wha-tooth] and Squamish peoples.
- I am so pleased to be here today helping to put some well deserving communities in the spotlight.
- They are shining examples as to what can be done at a local level to reduce the carbon footprint and promote climate resilience, making a positive impact on B.C.'s environment.
- To make a difference, it really takes all British Columbians doing their part.
- While local governments are focussed on reducing their environmental impact, our new Government is also making climate change a priority.

- We are committed to a Better B.C. for British Columbians.  
This includes taking real action to reduce our emissions.
- We will regain the climate leadership mantle B.C. once held.
- Some of our actions include:
  - As promised during our first 100 days in office, by mid-October we are going to bring back the Climate Leadership Team.
  - They will include a broad range of members from First Nations, industry, environmental academics and local governments.
  - They will be instrumental in shaping our comprehensive climate-action strategy going forward.
- We will also be increasing the carbon tax by \$5 per tonne per year, beginning April 1, 2018.
- To support those least able to afford the increase, we will create a new climate action rebate cheque for low and middle income families.
- This cheque will go to a large percentage of B.C. households. A majority will receive back more from this rebate than they pay in new carbon taxes.
- The higher price on carbon will help to put the province on a path toward meeting B.C.'s legislated 2050 greenhouse gas

emission (GHG) reduction target of 80 per cent below 2007 levels, and a new legislated 2030 reduction target.

- Those are just a few of the plans that we have in the works to take real action on climate change for a Better B.C.
- Climate change is such a critical issue – it requires every level of government working together, alongside industry, communities and other climate leaders.
- We recognize the important leadership role that local governments play in reducing B.C.'s overall emissions through action taken at the community level.
- Once again, I thank-you for your hard work!
- So, I am very happy to be here today to celebrate with community leaders who are developing the solutions we all need.
- I'd like to take a moment to thank the sponsors of the awards:
  - the Community Energy Association

- UBCM
- BC Hydro
- FortisBC
- the Real Estate Foundation of BC, and
- the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- ...for making these awards possible.
- I would like to note that my own Ministry, the Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy is also a co-sponsor of the awards.

### **Introduction of Co-Presenters**

- At this time, I invite the following individuals to join me on stage...
- **Darrell Mussatto**, Mayor of North Vancouver and Chair of the Community Energy Association Board.
- And representatives of this year's award sponsors:
  - **Brian Bedford**, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing
  - **Lawrence Pillon**, Corporate Affairs Manager, BC Hydro



- **Siraz Dalmir**, Key Account Manager for Local Government with FortisBC
- **Ramona Faust**, representing the Board of Directors for Real Estate Foundation of B.C.

*[As CEA and sponsor representatives approach the platform the following comments can be made. The representatives will stand near Minister Heyman]*

- For those of you who don't know...
- The Community Energy Association (CEA) is an inter-agency collaboration founded by the Province and UBCM.
- The association serves as the first stop for local governments looking to address energy sustainability and climate actions.
- CEA has been working with B.C.'s local governments on energy planning and implementation for over 20 years.

## **Outline of the Awards**

This year, the Climate and Energy Action Awards are recognizing excellence in three categories:

- Corporate operations
  - Public sector collaboration, and
  - Community planning and development
- Winners are selected for each category, and honourable mentions are awarded in situations where other applicants are a very close second.
- I'm pleased to note that, in recent years, applications have focused on the successful implementation of programs and projects and the impressive results achieved.
- This is a strong indicator of the progress local governments are making in meeting their Climate Action Charter commitments and their community greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

- It was a real challenge for the independent judging panels to select this year's award winners from among the 15 outstanding applications submitted.
- But since this is a time to celebrate, let's get to the presentations!

### **Awards – Corporate Operations – Honourable Mention**

- Two Honourable Mentions were selected in this category.
- The first Honourable Mention has been awarded to the City of Cranbrook for energy efficiency upgrades to their multi-purpose recreation centre.
- The purpose of this retrofit project was to update the pool dehumidification system by adding a heat recovery system, to offset natural gas consumption for pool heating and eliminate the use of outdoor air.
- This project is expected to significantly reduce natural gas consumption, reducing GHG emissions by 231 tonnes each year.

- Co-benefits from the project include increased comfort for users and energy cost savings as high as \$38,000 per year.
- This GHG reduction project, the largest completed so far in Cranbrook, will reduce the City's corporate annual GHG emissions by approximately 10%.
- The project was supported through grants from FortisBC and the provincial Community Energy Leadership Program
- Would Mayor Lee Pratt please come up to receive an honourable mention on behalf of the City of Cranbrook

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to the recipient and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform...]*

- Congratulations to the Cranbrook Council and staff.

### **Awards – Corporate Operations – Honourable Mention**

- A second Honourable Mention has been awarded to the Township of Langley for the Municipal Green Investment Fund.
- In April 2017, Township of Langley Council adopted new policies to establish a unique self-sustaining municipal green initiative fund supported by utility savings and CARIP funds.
- Facility energy consumption in the Township currently generates over 5,000 tonnes of GHG emissions each year.
- With a projected population growth of 18% over the next 5 years, the Township of Langley is faced with energy cost increases of almost 40%.
- The fund will allow the Township to improve corporate building energy performance and implement larger GHG reduction and sustainability projects in the community.
- This innovative investment program will allow the Township to minimize the impacts of population and service growth

while continuing to provide the community with the amenities it requires by providing funds for essential studies and capital projects.

- Projects supported by the fund, including energy audits, biodiesel pilots, electric vehicle charging and renewable energy studies, are already underway.
- Would Mayor Jack Froese please come up to receive an honourable mention on behalf of the Township of Langley

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to the recipient and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform...]*

- Congratulations to Township Council and staff.

**Awards – Corporate Operations - Winner**

- Now, I am pleased to announce that the Climate and Energy Action Award for Corporate Operations goes to...
- The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine for the Terrace Area Integrated Solid Waste Management Program
- The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine includes the northwestern BC communities of Kitimat, Terrace, Stewart, Hazelton and New Hazelton.
- The Terrace Area Integrated Solid Waste Management Program represents a major shift in solid waste management for the Terrace area.
- The Regional District engaged the community extensively over several years to overcome resistance to behavioural change, cost increases, waste sorting and mandatory curbside collection in this rural area.
- Key components of the program are
  - the new waste management facility and transfer station

- a three-stream residential curbside collection program, and
  - two bylaws that ban cardboard and paper products, metals, other materials and organic waste from the landfill.
- In less than a year, this project has reduced residential organic waste by 473 tonnes and commercial organic waste by 313 tonnes, leading to an overall reduction of 852 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e greenhouse gas emissions from organics.
- Organics diversion could generate future GHG offset credits of an estimated value of \$15 million throughout the life of the landfill.
- Future landfill gas extraction and collection at the landfill will reduce the quantity of methane released by up to 80%, providing a further estimated \$7.7 million worth of credits.
- I would now like to ask Board Chair Philip Germuth to come up and receive the Climate and Energy Action Award for



corporate operations on behalf of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine.

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to the recipient, and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform...]*

- Congratulations to regional district board and staff.

### **Award – Public Sector Collaboration**

- The next Climate and Energy Action Award is for Public Sector Collaboration
- I am pleased to announce that the Climate and Energy Action Award for public sector collaboration goes to the City of North Vancouver and the North Vancouver School District (NVSD)
- ...for the Safe and Active School Travel program.

- The City of North Vancouver's 2008 Long Term Transportation Plan identified the need to work with parents and students to improve pedestrian safety and encourage walking to school.
- In 2013, North Vancouver City Council established the Safe and Active School Travel Program in collaboration with the NVSD, the District of North Vancouver, ICBC, the RCMP and other community partners.
- This program, initiated at 1-2 schools per year, encourages safe and healthy school travel habits through outreach and improvements to the transportation infrastructure around schools.
- Action Plans for each school include education, encouragement, enforcement, and engineering interventions.
- These efforts have resulted in significant increases in walking and cycling rates, and an average decrease in driving rates to school of 25%. One school showed an 80% increase in students walking to school.

- Consultation with students, parents, and community stakeholders during plan development helps broaden the reach of the program beyond individual schools and builds collective support for active and sustainable travel across the North Shore.
- Collaboration with the school district allowed the program to successfully reach school children and their families, and helped create strong buy-in for the program within schools.
- The City's willingness to invest in infrastructure improvements around the schools provided a strong incentive for active participation and support from school principals.
- I would now like to ask...
  - **Mayor of North Vancouver, Darrell Mussatto, and**
  - **Nevasha Naidoo, Chair of the North Vancouver School District**
- ...to come up and receive the Climate and Energy Action Award for Public Collaboration.

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with recipients, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to each recipient, and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform...]*

- Congratulations to City of North Vancouver's council and staff and the North Vancouver School District.

### **Award – Community Planning & Development – Honourable Mention**

- The next Climate and Energy Action Award is for Community Planning and Development.
- An Honourable Mention has been awarded to the District of West Vancouver for the *Better Climate, Better Community* plan.
- The development of West Vancouver's *Better Climate, Better Community* plan was directed by a citizen-led Working Group

focused on actions that can be taken at the local government level.

- This group worked considered best practices across the spectrum of emission sources and solutions over a period of two years to develop a plan that responds directly to the opportunities and challenges specific to the community.
- The Plan was deliberately created to provide a foundation for a scheduled Official Community Plan review, effectively integrating energy and emissions planning into land use and related policy development.
- Plan deliverables already underway, include:
  - the recently adopted Marine Drive Local Area Plan
  - accelerated investment in cycling and walking infrastructure, and
  - creation of a senior sustainability planner position to coordinate plan implementation

- The District will also continue engagement with the Working Group to support the successful implementation of the Plan.
- The Plan anticipates a 40% GHG reduction by 2040 with co-benefits arising from increased housing choice, forest protection, reduced vehicular traffic, avoided new infrastructure spending, and around \$5,500 energy cost savings annually per household.
- I would now like to ask Mayor **Michael Smith** to come up and receive Honourable Mention for Community Planning and Development on behalf of the District of West Vancouver

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to the recipient, and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform...]*

- Congratulations to West Vancouver's council and staff.

## **Award – Community Planning and Development**

- Now I am pleased to announce that the Climate and Energy Action Award for Community Planning and Development goes to...
- The City of Richmond for the EnergySave program.
- In the last several years, the City of Richmond has implemented many policies and programs to increase community energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions from corporate operations and throughout the community.
- In 2014, the City further adopted its Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) and has made consistent progress in implementing many of its measures.
- To help achieve its community GHG emission reduction targets of 33% below 2007 levels by 2020, and 80% below 2007 levels by 2050 and to support its energy reduction targets of 10%, the City created the EnergySave Program.

- The EnergySave Program actively engages Richmond-based businesses, institutions and residents to take action against climate change.
- EnergySave uses an accessible common branding platform to provide a range of sustainability initiatives including:
  - The Building Energy Challenge,
  - the Efficient Water fixtures program
  - the Richmond Carbon Marketplace, and
  - the Climate Smart Program.
- This suite of programs engages the community and while making energy conservation programs easy for residential, institutional, industrial and commercial building owners to access and understand.
- EnergySave programs are funded by leveraging the City of Richmond's Climate Action Rebate Incentive Program



(CARIP) funds with utility, FCM and other sources of grant funding, so that there is no net cost to the taxpayer.

- Richmond has achieved a 6% reduction in overall community greenhouse gas emissions since 2007, despite a 7% growth in population.
- This progress towards greater energy efficiency has allowed Richmond residents to save \$13M in energy spending in 2014 alone.
- The success of the EnergySave Program is partly the result of extensive engagement strategy, which includes a dedicated website, social media outreach, workshops and training and partnerships with utilities, the public sector and non-profit organizations.
- I would now like to ask **Mayor Malcolm Brodie** to come up and receive the Climate and Energy Action Award for Community Planning and Development on behalf of the City of Richmond.

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with each recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to each recipient and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform]*

- Congratulations to the Richmond's Council and staff.

### **Special Award – Multi-Sectoral Collaboration for BC Energy**

#### **Step Code**

- Now, it is highly unusual for the independent judges of the Climate & Energy Action Awards to nominate a community or initiative for special recognition.
- However, the judges unanimously agreed that the two-year multi-sectoral collaboration that led to the successful adoption of the BC Energy Step Code deserved a unique award.
- The BC Energy Step code is the result of a collaborative process between associations representing industry

professions and trades, local government and public sector organizations, and utilities and consumer interests.

- Representatives of three departments at the Province of British Columbia provide guidance.
- The BC Energy Step Code is built on energy efficiency performance metrics for heating demand, total energy demand, and airtightness.
- The regulation groups these metrics into multiple sets of “steps” for different types of buildings, in different regions around the province.
- Over the course of two years, the Council collaborated to find a common language and province-wide approach that local governments could use to require better-than-code energy performance to support community GHG emission reduction targets.
- The Council now serves as a “bridge” between the province, utilities, local governments, and the design, building,

development, and construction sectors, to ensure local and orderly adoption of the Code.

- The most exciting aspect of the BC Energy Step Code may be that other provinces and territories can adopt it in the pan-Canadian fight against climate change.
- This code could potentially play a leading role in the growing national movement to dramatically reduce energy demand in new buildings.
- I would now like to ask **the Members of the BC Energy Step Code Council** to come up and receive a special Climate and Energy Action Award for Collaboration Leading to the Development of the BC Energy Step Code.

*[Minister Heyman shakes hands with each recipient, receives plaque from Mayor Mussatto, presents it to each recipient and poses for photo.]*

*[As they walk across the platform]*

- Congratulations to the BC Energy Step Code Council.

### **Awards – Final wrap-up**

- I am very proud of B.C.'s local governments and their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through such a wide variety of innovative projects.
- These projects are increasing local energy resiliency, reducing energy costs, and freeing funds to be spent elsewhere in the community.
- We know that B.C. communities are key partners in the fight against climate change.
- These awards highlight the innovative actions that communities and partners are taking to achieve a sustainable future.
- As these awards have demonstrated today, together, we can address climate change, protect our ecosystems and improve our quality of life.

- The communities and partners recognized here today have demonstrated outstanding leadership and innovation, and I know their actions will inspire others.
- Once again, congratulations to you all.
- I hope you enjoy the rest of your afternoon.
- Thank you.

*[Minister Heyman joins recipients for a group photo if time allows.]*

-END-