

Minister of Labour
SPEAKING NOTES FOR LABOUR DAY
Confidential

Event: Labour Day Picnic

When: Monday, Sept. 4, 2017

- Minister requested to arrive at 11:30
- Minister will speak at 11:45 for 2-3 min

Where: Holland Park

13428 Old Yale Road, Surrey

PARKING – VIP parking is blocked-off in the lower King George entrance heading south, first right after Old Yale Rd and right before the sky train.

Contact: Janet Andrews | s.22

Key Participants:

- **Lori Mayhew, Pres. New Westminster & District Labour Council**
 - Holds a Bachelor of Commerce from UBC, lives in North Delta with her husband Keith and their children Sarah, Adam, and Grace. A member of MoveUP (Movement of United Professionals) for over 20 years, her first elected position in the union was as an executive councillor from ICBC in 1993. She is also sits on the executive council of the BC Federation of Labour and the executive board of the Working Opportunities Fund, and has been the president of the New West & District Labour Council since 2007.
- **Patty Hajdu, Fed. Minister of Employment, Workplace Development & Labour**
 - Elected MP of Thunder Bay-Superior North in 2015 (resident since the 80's), previously served as Minister of Status of Women from November 2015 until January 2017. Worked mainly in the field of harm prevention, homelessness, and drug addiction. Prior to politics she was head of the city's largest homeless shelter. She is an advocate for a more inclusive country that benefits everyone

and that everyone has a fair shot at success. She was born in 1966 a few months after New Westminster & District Labour Council was established.

- **Irene Lanzinger, BC Federation of Labour President:**
 - Irene is the first woman to be elected as President of the BCFED (2014), prior to that she served as secretary treasurer (2010-2014). Prior to BCFED she was a secondary science and math teacher in Abbotsford (started in 1978) where she became active in the BC Teachers Federation as a chief negotiator (2000) then VP (2002) and Pres (2007).

Event Details:

- Audience Composite: Was anticipating 700 members, but with Vancouver's cancellation of their event and the Premier and Minister attending, the audience is anticipated to be about 1500 members of affiliated unions and community partners.
- Media Attending: PO / TBD
- Event Context: The event will be opened by Lori Mayhew from the Movement of United Individuals and President of the New Westminster and District Labour Council. She will be followed by Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Labour, Irene Lanzinger of the BC Federation of Labour, then the Minister who precedes the Premier. The audience is comprised of union members and labour activists.
- Event Billing/Theme: Focus is on new workers and new immigrants.
- Speech Theme: Unity of Effort and Safe Work Conditions.
- Logistics notes: The staging of the event will take place by the large, 10ft. fountain with the permanent fixture mainstage in front and the sunken grass platform for audience seating in front.
- Clothing: Casual, outside venue, temperatures could be upwards of 30 degrees.
- Special Note: BC NDP tent onsite and the Minister's constituency pres., Darrell Causey, was instrumental in pulling off the Labour Day event. He and Yudon Garie are part of the Community Social Action Committee that is responsible for organizing it.

Itinerary:

Time	Details
11:30 a.m.	Aboriginal Greeting
11:30-Noon	Addresses begin: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NWDLC President: Lori Mayhew 2. Federal Minister of Labour: Patty Hajdu 3. BC Federation of Labour President: Irene Lanzinger 4. BC Minister of Labour: Hon. Harry Bains 5. BC Premier: Hon. John Horgan
12-12:30 p.m.	Left Coast Labour Choir will sing some Labour songs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQ hot dogs also being served – drinks, bannock, popcorn, cotton candy also available.
12:30-2 p.m.	Music by local band Common Ground, kid's activities including bouncy castle, face painting, bean bag toss, balloon twisting, etc.

Board Members:

Title/Position	Name and Affiliation
President	Lori Mayhew , Movement of United Professionals
Sec. Treasurer	Janet Andrews , Intern'l Assoc. of Machinists & Aerospace Workers
Executive Members	Amber Keane , BC Government and Service Employees' Union
	Pat Dyer , BC Teacher's Federation
	Toby Daniel , Canadian Union of Public Employees
	Stephen Gale , Canadian Union of Postal Workers
	Paul Pelletreau , Intern'l Assoc. of Machinists & Aerospace Workers
	Hermen Kailley , International Longshore & Warehouse Union
	Bryan Finstad , Movement of United Professionals
	Darrell Causey , United Food & Commercial Workers
	Yudon Garie , United Steelworkers

Speaking Notes

for the

Hon. Harry Bains
Minister of Labour
MLA for Surrey – Newton

New Westminster and District Labour Council
Labour Day Picnic

Holland Park
13428 Old Yale Road, Surrey

Monday Sept. 4, 2017

11:30 am to 2:30 pm
(Minister will speak at about 11:50 a.m.)

Speaking length – 3 minutes

- **At the initial 1966 NWDLC meeting Tommy Douglas told members that political decisions would be paramount to labour movement; 51 years his words still ring true, serving still as our guideposts.**
 - Whether it's ensuring safety for workers, giving workers a long overdue raise by increasing minimum wage, or bringing back the Human Rights Commission dismantled by our predecessors...
 - You can trust that your government is fighting for families on real issues like affordability, good paying jobs and improved public services, and an economy that works for everyone.
- **The theme of this year's picnic in inclusiveness, with a focus on new immigrants that are contributing to our BC economy and communities**
 - *I too came to Canada as a young, spirited immigrant worker, that worked on a farm and mill;*
 - *I worked my way up-and-out of the fields and production lines, but committed my life's work to fighting for those still in them.*
- **Many forget what Labour Day is about and think it's about the picnic or a day off of school/work**
 - *It's to recognize the social achievements and progress of the working class citizen*
 - *Back in 1872 when Labour Day was first declared, unions were still illegal, activists jailed.*
 - *But they continued to advocate for human, worker and equal rights to be recognized and fair working conditions and pay, as well as better worker health and safety standards.*
- **Labour Day was founded on these principles and despite the progress of the labour movement, the advances made for the working men and women and the successes we celebrate on Labour Day, the role of the union remains as relevant today as it was in the 1870s**
 - *Providing certainty of safe and fair working conditions in the workplace*
 - *Ensuring vulnerable workers are safeguarded*
 - *Making certain equality and diversity are valued*
 - *And enforcement, as well as swift actions and consequences are applied when necessary*
- **There is a bold contrast in governments; after 16 years it's time for change, it's what we – the BC NDP – committed to and what we've been called upon to provide for workers in BC**
 - *The previous government was neither focussed on workers nor worker conditions; we are.*
 - *We're focused on better employment standards and improved health and safety.*
- **Worker rights has always been my mission – today it's my mandate as Labour Minister, but I also wish to make it my legacy as a fellow citizen**
- **As Tommy Douglas said at the first Labour Council meeting: political decisions are paramount to the labour movement**
 - *Today I pledge to make these decisions count in favour of working class British Columbians*
 - *To help contribute to BC becoming the safest jurisdiction, with higher standards, rights and protections for all workers*
 - *And to stand with you in solidarity, with a promise to continue the social progress and collective achievements that marks the occasion of Labour Day – to keep building a better BC*

- **It feels good to be home amongst constituents and union colleagues**
 - *Special mention: my Constituency President Darrell Causey and his colleague Yudon Garie from the Community Social Action Committee for helping make today's event so successful.*
 - *I understand that they were originally planning for 700 attendees and had to purchase 1,500 hotdogs for the grill due to overwhelming success.*
- **I want to recognize the service of New West & District Labour Council**
- **At the initial 1966 meeting with Tommy Douglas when the Council was first established, he emphasized that political decisions would play a paramount role in labour**
 - *51 years later I can say with certainty that his words still ring true*
 - *They also serve as guide posts for what I – as your Labour Minister and what we – as your NDP government, still hold as true*
- **Our government is here to serve the people – the interests of the people**
 - Whether it's ensuring safety for workers, giving workers a long overdue raise to get the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, or bringing back the Human Rights Commission that was dismantled by our predecessors.
 - You can trust that your government is fighting for families facing real issues like affordability, good paying jobs and improved public services, and an economy that works for and includes everyone.

SCRIPT SEGUE

- **I'm grateful to be here as the new Labour Minister**
 - *As most know, my career includes over 15 years as a union activist*

- *But perhaps you don't know how and why that came to be, or what made me want to stand-up and stand-out as an advocate for others*
- **I got involved in politics the same way I got involved in unions**
 - *As a young man I experienced discrimination and the sting of injustice*
 - *I gave voice to it and someone said "put your words into action"*
- **Unions do just that, they demand action; good politics does too**
- **Unions are about combined and collective strength, about unity of effort**
- **And likewise, governments should be about strengthening those efforts and supporting actions like providing better worker protections**
 - *Good governance makes unions a partner in labour and the economy*
 - *It recognizes that unions are not the enemy*
 - *And it treats workers as the drivers that help move the economy, versus back seat occupants in a vehicle with no safety features*
- **The theme of this year's picnic is inclusiveness, with a focus on new immigrants that are contributing to our BC economy and communities**
 - *I too came to Canada as a young, spirited immigrant worker*
 - *I worked on a farm, then in a mill*
 - *I worked my way up-and-out of the fields and production lines, but committed my life's work to fighting for those still in them*
- **I put my words and my convictions, into action and that's what I will continue to do as your new Minister of Labour.**
- **That is what Labour Day all about**

- *It's not about the picnic or BBQ, not about a day off of school or work*
- *It's about celebrating social progress and collective achievements*
- *It's recognizing the strength and success borne by unity of effort*
- **Back in 1872 when Labour Day started, the collective came together in the streets of Toronto to demand and demonstrate against unfair working conditions**
 - *Unions were still illegal in Canada, union activists had been jailed*
 - *They advocated that human, worker and equal rights be recognized*
 - *That fair working conditions and pay, as well as better worker health and safety standards be put in place*
- **Labour Day was founded on these principles back to the 1870s**
 - *The relevance of unions remains as important today as it was then*
 - *Today providing certainty of safe and fair working conditions in the workplace – minimums enshrined in legislation over time*
- **And the principles of a government that serves the people and the people's interest includes**
 - *Providing certainty of safe and fair working conditions in workplaces*
 - *Ensuring vulnerable workers are protected and have a voice*
 - *Making certain equality and diversity are valued and implemented*
 - *And enforcement, as well as swift actions and consequences are applied when necessary*

CONCLUSION

- **Worker rights has always been my mission – today it's my mandate as Labour Minister, but I also wish to make it my legacy as a fellow citizen**

- **As Tommy Douglas said at the first Labour Council meeting: political decisions are paramount to the labour movement**
 - *Today I pledge to make these decisions count in favour of working class British Columbians*
 - *To help contribute to BC becoming the safest jurisdiction, with higher standards, rights and protections for all workers*
 - *And to stand with you in solidarity, with a promise to continue the social progress and collective achievements that mark the occasion of Labour Day – to keep building a better B.C.*
- **Thank you.**

-30-

Tues., August 15th at 2 p.m.

**HON. HARRY BAINS, MINISTER OF LABOUR
MEDIA CALL STATEMENT**

s.15,s.17

Minimum-wage earners to see 50-cent hike as we set sights on a \$15 hourly rate

Good morning and thank you for joining the call.

Today's announcement is about helping everyday workers make ends meet.

It's not always easy to do, and it's even harder when you're making minimum wage.

Increasing minimum wage is only one way that the new government will help make life more affordable for British Columbians... but it's an important start.

It's a start that makes B.C. the third-highest minimum wage province in Canada – up from seventh.

It will put a little more money into the wallets of almost 94-thousand people.

And with more money in the wallets of B.C. workers, it will help fuel our province's economy.

The increase is 50 cents an hour.

That means minimum wage in B.C. will increase to \$11.35 per hour beginning September 15th.

At the same time, the liquor servers' wage will also rise by 50 cents to \$10.10 per hour.

And other minimum-wage provisions, like the daily rate for live-in home support workers and camp leaders, as well as monthly rates for resident caretakers and piece rates for farm-worker harvesters will increase on a proportionate percentage basis.

All of these serve as a measure to help us move toward a \$15-an-hour minimum wage by 2021.

The 50 cent increase was a commitment made by the previous government that we, as the new government, will honour and legally implement, thereby creating a stepping stone towards our \$15-an-hour goal.

We have just four years to meet that \$15 mandate and we'll do it by making incremental, predictable increases starting with today's announcement.

We have listened to business and industry, to manufacturers and hospitality owners, and to those representing the interests of workers...

We recognize the need for a gradual, phased-in strategy for increasing minimum wages...

A timeline that allows employers to plan, budget and adapt their payroll...

That's why the B.C. government is also creating a Fair Wages Commission that will set the pathway to a \$15 minimum wage.

The Fair Wages Commission was another commitment by our government, a mandate of mine set-out for me as the new Minister of Labour, and I look forward to offering more details on the commission next month.

But for today, the message is clear:

We set out clear goals for helping families, including low-paid workers, make ends meet...

For making life more affordable and public services more accessible...

For growing B.C. and making the B.C. economy more sustainable...

Increasing the minimum wage is good for working families and good for our economy.

It is a good start, a stepping stone, to how we meet our \$15 an hour minimum wage commitment by 2021.

Now, with that, operator, I suggest we move to open-up the call for questions.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

The Honourable Shane Simpson

Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

And

MLA for Vancouver-Hastings

**Surrey Advanced Manufacturing and Innovative
Economy Labour Market Partnership**

Main Atrium
Surrey City Hall

2:30 p.m.

August 14, 2017

About the announcement:***Surrey Advanced Manufacturing and Innovative Economy Labour Market Partnership Project***

Minister Shane Simpson will announce \$125,823 in funding to the City of Surrey to carry out a research project that will identify and address labour market and human resource challenges in the Advanced Manufacturing and Innovative Economy in the Lower Mainland, with a focus on the Surrey area. The study, when completed, will design strategies to address development, growth and job creation in this emerging sector.

The research project is the second phase of a City-led plan to grow the advanced manufacturing and innovation sector. The first phase of the project, funded by the City, found that many talented local university graduates were leaving the region for employment opportunities.

The project aligns with government's plan to support the creation of good jobs in a sustainable economy.

The City of Surrey is using the funding to hire a consultant to carry out the research and create a report that is to be completed by April 2018. The project began on Feb. 20, 2017.

Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Simon Fraser University and the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters Association are also partners in the project providing in-kind support.

Funding for the project is from the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction's Community and Employer Partnerships fund, under the Labour Market Partnerships stream.

About Community and Employer Partnerships (CEP):

The Community and Employer Partnerships fund was established under the ministry's Employment Program of BC in April 2012. It has an annual budget of \$10 million and provides funding to community organizations for projects that increase employability for British Columbians and share labour market information.

This is done through skills training, work experience and labour market research through five separate streams: Labour Market Partnerships, Job Creation Partnerships, Project-Based Labour Market Training, Research & Innovation, and Social Innovation.

Other Speakers/Key Participants:

- MLA Jagrup Brar (emcee), MLA for Surrey-Fleetwood
- Linda Hepner, Mayor of Surrey
- Dan Reader, President, Murray Latta Progressive Machine
- Dr. Norbert Haunerland, Associate VP Research, Simon Fraser University
- Carolyn Robertson, Dean, Wilson School of Design, Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Audience:

- Media
- Business community
- General public

Event Details

Date and Time: August 14, 2017, 2:30 p.m.

Location: Main Atrium, Surrey City Hall,

Start Time: 2:15 p.m.

Length of Speech: Three minutes

Parking: Main Parking Lot

Event Contact: Elena Banfield, Event Co-ordinator, 604 842-0984, Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca

Event itinerary

Emcee: **MLA Jagrup Brar**

Time	Event Itinerary
12:30 p.m.	Elena Banfield and City staff on site for technical setup.
Event Summary:	This is an indoor podium event in the Main Atrium of Surrey City Hall. Media Relations: Maryann Anderson
2:20 p.m.	Pre-brief with guest speakers, led by Elena Banfield Location: Off to the side of the podium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and MLA for Vancouver-Hastings • Jagrup Brar, MLA, Surrey-Fleetwood (TBC) • Linda Hepner, Mayor, City of Surrey • Dan Reader, President, Murray Latta Progressive Machine • Carolyn Robertson, Dean, Wilson School of Design, Kwantlen Polytechnic University • Dr. Norbert Haunerland, Associate VP Research, Simon Fraser University
2:29 p.m.	Speakers move to staging area.
2:30 p.m.	Jagrup Brar goes to podium, welcomes everyone, introduces himself, the guest speakers, and invites Minister Shane Simpson to podium to say a few words.
2:33 p.m.	Minister Shane Simpson delivers remarks, invites Mayor Hepner to podium
2:37 p.m.	Mayor Linda Hepner delivers remarks. Invites Dan Reader to say a few words.
2:40 p.m.	Dan Reader delivers remarks, invites Carolyn Robertson to say a few words.
2:41 p.m.	Carolyn Robertson delivers remarks, invites Dr. Norbert Haunerland to say a few words.
2:42 p.m.	Dr. Nortbert Haunerland delivers remarks.
2:44 p.m.	Jagrup Brar thanks Dr Haunerland, gives closing remarks and invites speakers to join him for a group photo at the front. PHOTO-OP .
2:46 p.m.	Media availability – scrum setting.
2:50 p.m.	Event concludes

SPEAKING POINTS:

- \$125,000 to City of Surrey
- Research project – focus on Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation companies
- Identify and address labour market shortages
- Help local manufacturing companies expand
- Great success stories – Delta Controls, Surtek Industries, Columbia Plastics
- Talented grads finding jobs elsewhere
- Businesses need good people to grow
- Funding will close that gap
- Keep more talented people in BC
- Supports goal to build a better BC
- Good jobs, sustainable economy
- Thank partners SFU, Kwantlen, Canadian Manufacturers and Exports Association
- Introduce Mayor Linda Hepner

SPEAKING NOTES

- Good afternoon, everyone.
- Thank you for your warm introduction, and for welcoming me to your community.
- And thank you all for being here.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- I'm here today to make an announcement that will have a positive impact on the manufacturing and innovation sector here in Surrey and across the Lower Mainland.

- As many of you know, advanced manufacturing and innovation companies provide a great benefit to this community, and there have been some great success stories...
- ... such as Surtek Industries, Delta Controls and Columbia Plastics to name a few, which employ hundreds of people who make their living south of the Fraser.
- With great educational institutions on our doorstep like Simon Fraser University and Kwantlen Polytechnic University, there are also many talented graduates eager to make a living in the sector.

- But without the right opportunities, many of them have had to leave home to advance their careers – leaving companies scrambling to find talent to support their own growth.
- To help close this gap, we will give the City of Surrey \$125,000 to lead a research project that will benefit these businesses.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

- Funded by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction under the Community and Employer Partnerships program ...

- ... a program that supports skill training, work experience and labour market research.
- ... the Surrey Advanced Manufacturing and Innovative Economy Labour Market Partnership Project will find, and address, ways for businesses in the sector to overcome the labour market and human resources challenges they face as they look to grow their operations.
- It will help businesses expand, and ultimately, provide more opportunities for local graduates to stay home and help contribute to a sustainable economy in B.C.

- Part of our goal to build a better B.C. is to support the creation of good jobs and a sustainable economy.
- And by funding this project and partnering with the City of Surrey, we are moving toward that goal.

CONCLUSION

- I want to thank everyone here again for being here, as well as the City of Surrey for welcoming us today.
- My thanks to the partners: Simon Fraser University, Kwantlen, and the Canadian

Manufacturers and Exports Association, who have generously offered in-kind support.

- I look forward to seeing the results.
- Thank you.
- And now, please join me in welcoming Mayor Linda Hepner to the microphone.

- END -