



Speaking Notes  
for

**Hon. Scott Fraser**  
**Minister of Indigenous Relations**  
**and Reconciliation**

**Estimates**

**October 30 (TBC), 2017**

## Intro

- I'd like to recognize the territory of the Lekwungen [Luhkwun-gen], including the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations and thank them for allowing us to do our work here.
- With me today are (TBC):
  - Doug Caul, Deputy Minister
  - Neilane Mayhew, Associate Deputy Minister
  - Doug Scott, Assistant Deputy Minister
  - Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister
  - Wes Boyd, Assistant Deputy Minister
- As a government, we have a tremendous opportunity to do things differently, to build a strong future for all people in B.C.
- Our government has a vision of British Columbia that puts people first....
- One that will make life more affordable, improve public services, and kick-start an economy that works for everyone.
- Good jobs, and sustainable and shared prosperity can only be achieved if we take action on reconciliation.
- Our vision of reconciliation is being developed in partnership with First Nations and Indigenous peoples.

- Partnerships are vital – vital to the social and economic well-being of Indigenous people and vital to our economy.
- Bold and difficult conversations are starting to happen.
- Over two days in September, ministers and executive staff held 566 meetings with hundreds of First Nations leaders.
- We're listening and learning, and we've started building the respectful relationships we need to create real change.
- Each Indigenous community has unique interests and challenges.
- The common theme I hear is communities want government to respect the basic human rights outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- The right to self-determination, freedom from discrimination, access to education, good health care, and improved social and economic outcomes. And the principle of free, prior and informed consent.
- We must confront, together, the fear mongering that UNDRIP is a threat to development.
- UNDRIP is about human rights, and it's a path to unlocking opportunity and shared prosperity.
- It's about the opportunity for Indigenous people to be involved in every step of the development process.

- It's about engagement and partnership from the very beginning.
- Grand Chief Stewart Phillip described the declaration as a blueprint.
- I agree – it's a blueprint for reconciliation.
- Realizing that blueprint will take some challenging conversations and bold action.
- It's no less than a fundamental redesign of the Crown-Indigenous relationship.
- We're seeing similar efforts at the federal level.

(PAUSE)

### **MIRR's budget**

- The Budget 2017 Update supports the ongoing work of the ministry and enables us to start figuring out how we transform how government works with First Nations, Metis, and all Indigenous peoples.
- The budget supports the incredible work being done day in and day out by our staff and executive here in Victoria, and across the province.



- Ministry staff, including those with me today, work directly with Indigenous communities and leaders to create the government-to-government relationships that are the foundation of reconciliation.
- They are negotiating and implementing treaties, developing community benefit and resource agreements, and working with communities on clean energy projects and skills and employment training.
- They're starting to work with First Nations leaders on new approaches to how rights and title are addressed, how treaty negotiations can be revitalized, how social and economic outcomes can be improved.
- This is complex work that crosses all levels of government.
- This ministry has been very successful at creating connections that advance reconciliation.
- That means we're in a very good place to start building a clear cross-government vision for reconciliation, and how we're going to adopt:
  - The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
  - the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action;
  - and the Tsilhqot'in Supreme Court decision.
- These three pillars will guide our work to support stronger, healthier, Indigenous communities and self-determination.

- This work will take a discomfiting reckoning with our past and present.
- We know we can create a government-to-government vision of reconciliation that benefits all British Columbians.

### **Gaming revenue**

- I mentioned earlier that we are listening and learning.
- One thing Indigenous leaders have requested for a long time is access to government gaming revenue.
- We'll be negotiating with Indigenous leaders and communities on expanding opportunities for their share of gaming revenue in B.C.
- My ministry will be working closely with the ministries of Finance and Attorney General on this.
- We're still early in the process of determining a structure for revenue sharing.
- I know First Nations are eager to see results.
- This is a government priority that we will be seeking to advance as quickly as possible.

## **Resource revenue sharing**

- I know Indigenous leaders have been calling for a greater share of the benefits that come from resource development in their territories.
- Sharing revenue has been lauded as a powerful reconciliation tool that supports the spirit of the UN Declaration.
- Forestry, mining, and oil and gas are key job and business drivers for many First Nations across the province.
- We will be exploring options to broaden the scope of resource revenue sharing and continue working to ensure Indigenous people are partners in how resources are developed on their territories.

## **Clean energy**

- We know First Nations have a strong interest in the growing clean technology sector in B.C.
- Communities are exploring power generation through solar, hydroelectric, biomass and ocean thermal.
- We are supporting this through the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund.
- Money returned to the fund through land and water rents has significantly increased as projects have come on line.
- This has provided for a \$4.2 million increase in the fund.

- A portion of this additional funding, \$700,000 per year for three years, helps remote First Nations communities reduce reliance on diesel-powered generators.
- We're working on at least 10 projects with Indigenous communities, and I'm looking forward to announcing those in upcoming months.

### **First Citizens Fund**

- We're also ensuring we're supporting Indigenous social, educational and cultural integrity.
- Our ministry provides a number of outstanding Indigenous organizations funding through the First Citizens Fund.
- After an era of very low returns, the fund has shown improvement, and will provide approximately \$2.5 million to support programs this fiscal year.
- This fund supports Indigenous small business development, business loans, language preservation, bursaries for post-secondary education, and assistance for Elders.
- A number of these services are provided through Aboriginal Friendship Centres.
- Friendship centres provide critical cultural and social services to Indigenous people who live in urban areas.
- My ministry is working to provide them more reliable, dedicated funding and support.

- They are important hubs of their communities.
- We've seen this during the wildfire emergency where centres tirelessly fed and supported evacuees and people in need.
- I'm looking forward to working with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and Friendship Centres across B.C. on how we can better support them.
- We're also talking about directly supporting the revitalization of Indigenous language and culture.
- And this government is committed to providing the resources to do just that.

### **Skills training**

- Our ministry continues to support skills training, so Indigenous people can take advantage of jobs in their communities.
- Over the past two years, more than 2,700 people have accessed training supported by B.C.'s Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund.
- Of people trained last year, 52% have found jobs and at least 21% have gone on to further training or education.
- Over the past three years, 57 different skills training projects have received funding.

- 15 projects involving more than 20 First Nations communities are underway.

## **Conclusion**

- In conclusion, I want to highlight that we're talking to Indigenous leaders and communities about how to move forward in partnership on many issues – revenue sharing, rights and title, treaty, health and social well-being.
- This is going to require many conversations and sometimes those conversations may be challenging.
- We're not restarting everything that's come before us.
- We want to expand and enhance what is already in place:
  - The foundational Commitment Document developed with the First Nations Leadership Council;
  - The Multi-lateral report on the pace and cost of treaty negotiations;
  - The Métis Nation Relationship Accord developed with Métis Nation BC; and,
  - The Social Determinants of Health MOU developed with the First Nations Health Council.
- Great work has gone into these initiatives. So we're going to build on them, and make them better.

- We need to have conversations on how we implement the UN Declaration, and how that may reflect different meanings for different communities.
- Through this dialogue we can provide better certainty and increase economic development in important economic sectors, such as mining, forestry, and tourism.
- It's about being inclusive, with information on resource development flowing from the very beginning and with respect and recognition.
- As we go forward with Indigenous people, we want to ensure our work is understood and supported by communities, local governments, industry and other stakeholders.
- This means ensuring effective engagement with stakeholders – having discussions earlier and more often.
- Our approach will include increased emphasis on talking with local governments and industry stakeholders.
- I hope to see this work result in deeper relationships and partnerships built between Indigenous people, industry, stakeholders and all levels of government.
- Thank you.
- I'm happy to take your questions.

-END-



**Speaking Notes  
for**

**Hon. Scott Fraser  
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation**

**Victoria BCAFN Indigenous Business Forum:  
Turning the Page on First Nations Economic  
Development**

**Arbutus Ballroom  
Delta Ocean Pointe Victoria  
100 Harbour Rd  
Victoria, B.C.**

**Thursday  
October 5, 2017  
11:30 a.m. – noon**

**Word count: 1,442**



## Information for Minister

### Event:

- **Victoria BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) Indigenous Business Forum** and networking event on Oct. 5, 2017, at the Delta Ocean Pointe hotel in Victoria. The event is part of the Nation2Nation networking forums for Indigenous businesses/communities in B.C.
- Theme of the Forum: **Turning the Page on First Nations Economic Development**
- Event is co-hosted by **Nation2Nation and BCAFN**.
- The goal of the forum is to bring together First Nations, government, industry, and community leaders to continue the conversation about economic development and doing business with First Nations.
- This is the first N2N in Victoria. Previous forums have been held in Vancouver, Terrace, Haisla/Kitimat and Williams Lake.

### Audience:

- Approximately 150 people
- First Nations leaders, business and business, non-profit association leaders
- Known attendees:
  - Melanie Debassige, chief of staff – BC Assembly of First Nations
  - Chief Joe Alphonse - Tl'etinqox (Anaham) First Nation
  - Chief Aaron Sam – Lower Nicola Indian Band
  - Sheri Sellars, councillor – Soda Creek First Nation
  - Derek Orr, former chief – McLeod Lake Indian Band
  - Ellis Ross, MLA – Skeena (TBC)
  - Andrew Weaver, leader – BC Green Party
  - Catherine Lappe, regional director – Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
  - Brent Langlois, executive director – First Nations Emergency Services Society
  - Paul Seaman OR Maxime Faille, Trade Lawyer – Gowling WLG law firm
  - Domenico Lannidinardo, vice president of sustainability and chief forester– Timberwest
  - Ken Peacock, economist – Business Council of BC
  - Becky Row, manager - Red Cross
  - Stewart Muir, executive director – Resource Works
  - Jennifer M. Lewis-Botica – Kleanza Consulting Ltd.
  - Peter Martell – TECK
  - Lisa Mueller – Nation 2 Nation

**Media:** Open to media. Victoria media will be invited. N2N meetings are webcast:  
<http://nation2nation.ca/live/>

**Speakers:**

Emcee: Lisa Mueller (TBC)

- Honourable Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
  - Speaking points: New government's approach and innovations, reconciliation and economic development with Indigenous communities.

**Details and format:**

- Forum is in the ballroom of the Delta hotel in Victoria. **Ask for Lisa Mueller s.22** at the BCAFN Indigenous Business Forum registration desk.
- **Minister Fraser has up to 30 minutes to speak, including a Q&A. No Q&A required, minister can cut his speaking time to fit his schedule. The room will break for lunch at the end of his speech.**
- Room set up: Podium on a stage at the front of the room. Microphone is available.

**Speech theme:**

- Government's new path to reconciliation.

**What does audience want to hear?**

- Details of the government's priorities and new approaches to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities.
- How government's approach to reconciliation will affect economic development priorities with Indigenous communities.

**Agenda:**

<b>7:30 - 8:30 AM</b>	<b>REGISTRATION/NETWORKING &amp; LIGHT BREAKFAST</b>
<b>8:30 - 9:00 AM</b>	<b>(10 min)</b> Welcome & BCAFN Indigenous Business Forum Overview – N2N Rep <b>(10 min)</b> Welcome to Traditional Territory & Opening Song 10 minutes of spare time to play with
<b>9:00 - 9:15 AM</b>	<b>TOPIC: CHAMPIONS TABLE UPDATE AND 2018's OUTCOME</b> <b>KEYNOTE #1:</b> Melanie Debassige - chief of staff, BC Assembly of First Nations
<b>9:15 – 10:15 AM</b>	<b>PANEL SESSION 1: IMPACTS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE ON FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES</b> <b>MODERATOR:</b> Derek Orr – Former Chief of MLIB <b>SPEAKER:</b> Ellis Ross – MLA Skeena (TBC) <b>SPEAKER:</b> Paul Seaman OR Maxime Faille, Trade Lawyer - Gowling WLG <b>SPEAKER:</b> Domenico Lannidinardo, VP Sustainability and Chief Forester-Timberwest
<b>10:15 – 10:45 AM</b>	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b>
<b>10:45 – 11:30 AM</b>	<b>TOPIC: BC ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2018</b>

	<b>KEYNOTE #2:</b> Ken Peacock, Economist – Business Council of BC <b>Moderator:</b> Lisa Mueller
<b>11:30 – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>TOPIC: NEW PATH TO RECONCILIATION WITH BC FIRST NATIONS</b> <b>KEYNOTE #3:</b> Hon. Scott Fraser - BC Minister of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
<b>12:00 – 12:30 PM</b>	<b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b>
<b>12:30 – 1:00 PM</b>	<b>TOPIC: NEW PATH TO RECONCILIATION WITH BC FIRST NATIONS</b> <b>KEYNOTE #4:</b> Andrew Weaver – Leader of BC Green Party & MLA, Oak Bay-Gordon Head
<b>1:00 – 2:30 PM</b>	<b>PANEL SESSION 2: NATION READINESS – IMPACTS OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, MODERATOR:</b> Lisa Mueller SPEAKER: Chief Joe Alphonse - Tl'etinqox SPEAKER: Sheri Sellars - Soda Creek Council SPEAKER: Becky Row Manager, Northern and Indigenous Engagement BC & YT – Red Cross SPEAKER: Brent Langlois – First Nations Emergency Services Society SPEAKER: Catherine Lappe - Regional Director, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
<b>2:30 - 2:45 PM</b>	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b>
<b>2:45 – 3:00 PM</b>	<b>PANEL SESSION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON FN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MODERATOR:</b> Stewart Muir – Resource Works SPEAKER: Chief Aaron Sam – Lower Nicola Indian Band SPEAKER: Jennifer M. Lewis-Botica - Kleanza Consulting Ltd. SPEAKER: Peter Martell – TECK
<b>3:30 – 3:40 PM</b>	<b>Closing Remarks – BCAFN Team &amp; N2N Team</b>
<b>3:40 – 5:00 PM</b>	<b>NETWORKING RECEPTION, EVERYONE WELCOME (SAME ROOM)</b>

**Site contact:** Lisa Mueller – s.22

– CEO, All Nations Consulting, creator of Nation2Nation Forum

**Key messages (BCAFN strategy):**

- Reconciliation and economic partnerships with First Nations are about building a better future for everyone — when First Nations succeed, neighbouring communities succeed.
- The Province is committed to work with First Nations, community-by-community, to create positive economic and social change.

- The Province supports the BC Assembly of First Nations in its important work on a strategy for sustainable economic development to identify what First Nations need to be successful business partners, investors and entrepreneurs.

**Key messages (Agreements and skills):**

- The Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund is providing up to \$30 million over three years to support community-driven skills training and education, as identified by Indigenous communities.
- Over the past two years, more than 2,700 Indigenous people have accessed training through projects supported by B.C.'s Indigenous Skills Training Development Fund.
- Of the people trained in 2015/16, a total of 52 per cent have found employment and at least 21 per cent have gone on to further training or education.
- Ensuring that Indigenous people have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities is one part of the Province's effort to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **Victoria BCAFN Indigenous Business Forum**

**(Minister Fraser introduced by Lisa Mueller - TBC)**

### **Introduction**

- **Thank you Lisa.**
- **Thank you for inviting me to speak at the Indigenous Business Forum, here in the home of the Lekwungen [Luh-kwun-gen] peoples, including the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.**
- **I'd like to acknowledge (all TBC):**
  - **Gathered Elders and leaders**
  - **Specifically:**
  - **Tl'etinqox (kleh-deen-ko) Chief Joe Alphonse;**
  - **Lower Nicola Chief Aaron Sam;**
  - **Derek Orr, past Chief of the McLeod Lake Indian Band;**
  - **Councillor Sheri Sellars of Xatśūll (Hat-shool) First Nation;**
  - **Melanie Debassige, of the BC Assembly of First Nations;**
  - **And my colleagues from the legislature, Skeena MLA Ellis Ross and Green Party leader Andrew Weaver.**

- I bring warm regards from Premier Horgan.
- It is an honour to be here with you today.
- I want to thank Lisa Mueller for organizing this event in Victoria.
- These forums provide a valuable opportunity to build connections between government, business and Indigenous leaders.
- I'm going to speak today about government's new approach to reconciliation ... our priorities and the actions we're taking.
- And how this will support job creation, economic stability and a better BC for all people in our province.
- I'll be happy to take questions at the end (TBC).

### **New approach**

- We know policies of the past have created terrible historical wrongs that have not been made right.
- Indigenous people have been alienated from their lands, languages and cultures ... marginalized from the economy ... and traumatized by residential schools and the sixties scoop.
- These are the shameful legacies we are committed to addressing.

- **Our government is committed to transforming how the B.C. government works with First Nations and all Indigenous peoples.**
- **As Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, it's an honour for me to lead this effort.**
- **In my mandate letter, and in the mandate letter of every minister in government, is the need to embrace and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**
- **We need to ensure that we are meeting all of the calls to action within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.**
- **We need to respect Tsilhqot'in and other court decisions that recognize the existence of rights and title for Indigenous people.**
- **Each minister and ministry has a responsibility to bring the principles of the UN declaration to life in B.C.**
- **... And figure out how the declaration will be reflected in programs, policies and legislation.**
- **Discussions to make this happen are underway – with Indigenous leaders, at our negotiating tables, and within government.**
- **Our Cabinet met with hundreds of Indigenous leaders last month – some are in this room – to start those conversations.**

- **What does implementing the declaration mean to your community?**
- **What does a common vision of reconciliation look like?**
- **What are the practical steps we can take together?**
- **Each Indigenous community has unique interests and challenges.**
- **The common theme I hear is communities want government to respect the basic human rights outlined in the declaration.**
- **The right to self-determination, freedom from discrimination, access to education, good healthcare, and improved social and economic outcomes.**
- **Grand Chief Stewart Phillip described the declaration as a blueprint. I agree; it is a blueprint to reconciliation.**
- **Realizing that blueprint will take some challenging conversations and bold action.**
- **It is no less than a fundamental redesign of the Crown-Indigenous relationship.**
- **We're seeing this at the federal level.**
- **We're encouraged by our federal partner's review of federal laws and policies, guided by their 10 principles.**



- **We agree the Indian Act is outdated and can hold First Nations back from independence and real progress.**
- **Change must include Indigenous people as engaged and equal partners.**
- **This is how we can move forward – economically, socially, morally – as a province and a country.**

### **Background**

- **Before I was asked by the Premier to be minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, I was the critic for this ministry for 12 years.**
- **Over that time I made many friends and travelled to many First Nations communities.**
- **I'm excited to be on this side of government and working directly with Indigenous leaders for real change.**
- **It's a responsibility which I take very seriously.**
- **I started out in politics as mayor of Tofino in the late 1990s.**
- **And I sat on the Clayoquot Sound Central Regional Board.**
- **There were two co-chairs – one from Nuuchahnulth, and one from the Province.**
- **The board's role was to deal with resource management and land use planning in Clayoquot Sound.**

- This was not long after Clayoquot was at the epicenter of the largest civil unrest in Canada's history.
- The board was an attempt to bring peace back to the Sound.
- It allowed me to see first-hand how First Nations and government can and should work together.
- This experience impressed upon me the importance of maintaining respectful partnerships, of approaching challenges with an open mind.
- I came to understand and appreciate Nuu-chah-nulth spirituality and wisdom: hishuk'ish tsawalk, all things are connected. Everything is one.

### **Government priorities**

- As government, we are working to make life more affordable for all British Columbians.
- We want to ensure services are there, and that we address poverty.
- We need to lift people up, we need to do something more.
- And we are.
- We've removed fees for adult basic education.
- We're launching a poverty reduction strategy.
- Income assistance has increased by \$100 a month.

- **People on disability assistance will receive a supplement for their bus pass or other transportation.**
- **Post-secondary tuition fees have been waived for those who've aged out of the foster care system.**
- **We're launching a fair wage commission and have boosted minimum wage.**
- **I'm proud to say First Nations from my riding have led the way in terms of instituting fair wage policies.**
- **Almost three years ago Huu-ay-aht was the first in Canada to adopt a living wage.**
- **About \$17 or nearly \$7 more than the minimum at the time.**
- **You-thloo-ith-at (Ucluelet First Nation) was the second community to adopt this policy.**
- **They're at \$20.11 per hour, a wage based on the cost of living in Ucluelet.**
- **I understand Huu-ay-aht has expanded its policy to include all employees of businesses owned by the First Nation.**
- **They are a tremendous example of how to make a difference for their people.**

### **Priorities**

- **As I mentioned earlier, it's time to transform how government works with First Nations and all Indigenous peoples.**

- **We are eager to make change for the better, but we also respect the good work that has come before us.**
- **We are expanding and enhancing many initiatives already in place.**
- **Our government continues its day-to-day collaboration with Indigenous communities...**
- **...negotiating and implementing treaties, developing economic and resource agreements, helping develop clean energy projects and skills employment training.**
- **We're working with Indigenous leadership on designing new approaches to reconciling rights and title, how treaty negotiations can be revitalized, how social and economic outcomes can be improved.**
- **We want to move away from the previous transactional approach to reconciliation ... and move towards developing a true government-to-government relationship based on respect.**
- **We are listening and responding to what Indigenous leaders have been requesting for a long time.**
- **This includes negotiating expanded opportunities for a share of gaming revenue in B.C.**
- **Exploring options to broaden the scope of resource revenue sharing.**

- Exploring how to extend the scope of the Indigenous skills training fund.
- The Province and First Nations are continuing to partner on the Environmental Stewardship Initiative to support responsible resource management in northern B.C.
- This is one way we're ensuring First Nations are partners in how resources are developed in their territories. This supports certainty and jobs on the land base.
- A major commitment of ours is making substantive improvements to treaty.
- How treaties are negotiated, as well as government's own internal processes and mandates, must evolve to better reflect case law and the UN declaration.
- First Nations need paths to treaty which don't leave them burdened with debt.
- We know treaties aren't for every First Nation, but treaties are a powerful tool.
- The Nisga'a, Tsawwassen, Maa-nulth First Nations and the Tla'amin Nation are free of the Indian Act and charting their futures as independent nations.
- Here in Victoria, we've seen treaty negotiations open the door to powerful partnerships, one between Beecher Bay First Nation, Langford and Metchosin for an industrial park
- ...

- And an MOU between Songhees First Nation and Colwood related to a Royal Roads property.
- In all of our partnerships and negotiations, we'll be applying the lens of the UN Declaration.
- This is the message I have shared with all our ministry staff: begin having open and frank discussions at tables, inside or outside of treaty negotiations.
- I know First Nations are eager to see results.
- We'll be advancing government priorities as quickly as possible.

#### **BCAFN ec-dev strategy**

- I'll also mention that British Columbia continues to support the good work of the BC Assembly of First Nations and its economic development strategy.
- The strategy and government's priorities strongly align.
- I'll quote the Assembly: "We prefer economy building over economic development and meaningful partnerships over mere inclusion."
- I completely agree.
- We know the success of Indigenous-led businesses benefits the province as a whole.
- We've seen this in a number of business sectors, and especially in tourism.

- On the north of Vancouver Island, this spring the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw (Gwa-sala-nak-wah-da) opened the luxury Kwa'lilas (kwot-lee-lass) Hotel in Port Hardy.
- The nation saw opportunity to invest in its future, and is now providing training and good jobs for its people, and authentic cultural experiences for visitors.
- This hotel is one of more than 300 Indigenous tourism businesses in B.C., a 100% increase compared to a decade ago.
- More Indigenous-owned businesses are opening every day across the province ...
- ... but as the BCAFN outlined, many still face barriers unique to First Nations.
- Job creation, economic stability and lasting success can't be achieved without economic reconciliation.
- This means addressing rights and title and the legacy of colonialism.
- We know the cost of economic inequality: poverty, lower quality of life, uncertainty, conflict.
- We know the benefit of Indigenous participation in the economy: strong communities, improved social well-being, billions added to the provincial GDP, certainty on the land base.

## **Conclusion**

- **To wrap up, I can say that government is making a fundamental shift to integrate the UN declaration into how it works.**
- **Adoption and implementation may mean different things to different leaders and communities.**
- **What's reconciliation? What is consent?**
- **We need to talk about these things at forums like this, and in communities and with leaders.**
- **I can say the declaration is not a threat to development. It is not a veto.**
- **Rather, it is a path to unlocking opportunity and shared prosperity.**
- **It's about the opportunity for Indigenous people to be involved in every step of the development process.**
- **It's about being inclusive, with engagement and partnership from the very beginning.**
- **Thank you for the opportunity to talk about B.C.'s priorities and partnerships with Indigenous people.**
- **Because ultimately, we want to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous British Columbians...**
- **And live in a province where everyone has the opportunity to succeed.**



- I'm happy to take a few questions (TBC).

**-END-**

**Message from the Honourable Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation**

*Aboriginal Youth Internship Program Graduation – October 24, 2017*

- Good evening, I'm Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.
- I would like to acknowledge the traditional territory of Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations where you are gathered this evening.
- I send my greetings and regrets that I couldn't be there in person to celebrate with you today.
- Aboriginal youth are the fastest-growing demographic in British Columbia...
- Each and every one of you have a critical role to play in shaping this province's future.
- Over the past decade, many Aboriginal Youth Internship Program graduates have made significant contributions to the provincial government and other organizations throughout B.C.
- Your efforts now and in the years to come will strengthen the relationships between Indigenous communities and the provincial government.
- This is important work because stronger relationships will improve the quality of life for Indigenous people in B.C.

- I'm proud to say that this year was the first year that youth were invited to attend the annual B.C. Cabinet-First Nations Leaders' Gathering.
- It was a significant opportunity for young First Nation leaders to participate in important discussions between communities and the Province to advance reconciliation.
- I hope to see many of you attend this or other key gatherings in the coming years.
- This is a special year – celebrating the completion of the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program.
- I commend all of you for your achievements, your perseverance, and for your hard work throughout the program.
- I wish you all continued success and am looking forward to seeing how the program evolves over the next 10 years.
- Thank you!

**SPEAKING NOTES FOR**  
**THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM**  
*Minister of Agriculture*

**LAUNCH OF BC BEER - LUMBERJACKED**

*Tap and Barrel,  
CONVENTION CENTRE  
76-1055 Canada Place • Vancouver*

**Wednesday, October 12, 2017**

*12 PM for approx 3 minutes*

**Background:**

Victoria-based Phillips Brewery will be launching their new beer, Lumberjacked, brewed with BC malt sourced from the Island and BC Hops sourced from the BC Hops company in Abbotsford. The beer will be available on draft in limited supply through the Tap and Barrel locations.

The BC hop company received \$285,000 in fed-prov funding in 2016 to use innovative equipment to kiln dry the hops under controlled conditions. The technology is new to Canada, helps ensure the quality of the dried hops, and offers local options to brewers looking to use BC hops in their products.

### **Itinerary:**

- Daniel Frankel will speak first to welcome everyone as the host and owner of Tap & Barrel
- Matt Phillips will speak next about the beer as owner of Phillips
- Dwayne Stewart will speak about the Lumberjack hops and BC Hop Co
- Minister Popham speak about this excellent example of agriculture innovation
- Everyone gets a sample of beer to taste and we do a cheer to fresh beer and fresh collaboration
- Q & A and distribution of news release



### **Organizer Contact:**

Donna Dixon, BC Hop Co, s.22

## Introduction

- It is my great pleasure to be here with these B.C. entrepreneurs and all of you today, as we taste another milestone in B.C. beer, B.C. agriculture and B.C. businesses working together.
- As a British Columbian I feel great pride when I see local businesses grow and succeed, just like each of the three partners involved in Lumberjacked beer.
- Our hosts, the Tap and Barrel, go to great effort to serve B.C. products in all the sections of their menu;

- Victoria's Phillips Brewery has become a legend in craft beer circles for the success they have had in showcasing B.C. beer, spirits and soda;
- And the B.C. Hop Company is doing its part to help meet the demand our 140-strong craft brewing sector is creating for high quality, B.C. grown hops.
- As Minister of Agriculture I am incredibly excited to meet people who are beginning or expanding their operations because they've identified a good business opportunity.

- And I believe the government has a role to play in encouraging that success.
- The Ministry of Agriculture provides funding to support local companies trying new things, like helping the BC Hop Company develop a system to dry hops while preserving its quality.
- And we will be developing policies and programs that encourage British Columbians to Buy BC products,
- to encourage businesses and farmers to Grow BC products,



- and to help government institutions Feed BC by serving local products in their meals.
- Our efforts will help farmers and small businesses across our province.
- The craft beer industry is made up of entrepreneurs that they employ over 4,000 British Columbians.
- And what better way to recognize Craft Beer month in B.C. then by toasting a beer made with B.C. grains and hops, manufactured by British Columbians in a B.C. craft brewery, and served in a B.C. venue that specializes in west coast cuisine.

- My thanks to the partners for inviting me to attend today, my sincere congratulations to each of them for their role in creating a new B.C. product, and I look forward to seeing everyone enjoy Lumberjacked beer!

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**BC Museums Association's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Gala Dinner**

Thursday, Oct. 5, 2017  
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

s.15

Event contacts:

Alyssa Polinsky, Acting Executive Director, Cell: s.22  
Heather Jeliaskov: Marketing and Membership Services Manager,  
Cell: s.22

Please check against delivery

## Event Summary

- BCMA 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner and awards ceremony
- The minister will join Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon prior to the event to be brought in as part of the Vice Regal Party
- Official program will include greetings from the Honourable Judith Guichon and then the minister before breaking for dinner the awards portion of the event will take place after dinner,
- **Note:** Minister Beare will be asked to participate in a group photo with award winners at the end of the evening. (*See background notes following speech for more details*).

## **DIRECTIONS & PARKING**

- **Location:** s.15 : There is a covered parking lot at the Hotel. The organizers are unable to reserve or provide parking spaces.
- Alyssa Polinsky, BCMA Interim Executive Director, (Cell: s.22 ) will meet the minister upon arrival at the Conference Registration desk in the Hotel lobby at 6:30pm.

## Logistics

- Podium & mic available for remarks at approx. 7pm, following Hon. Judith Guichon

## Dress Code: Cocktail

**Audience:** 160 members of BC's museum and gallery sector, including senior directors and curators, managers and emerging professionals from large institutions like the Royal BC Museum to volunteer-run historic properties and First Nations heritage centres. Award recipients. *No children or media in attendance.*

## Key participants:

- Lieutenant Governor, Judith Guichon
- Minister Lisa Beare
- Tim Willis, emcee
- Chief Ron Sam, Songhees First Nation. (TBC)

## Other VIP included at the head table

- Ms. Tania Muir, President, BCMA
- Mr. David Alexander, Immediate Past President, BCMA
- Professor Jack Lohman, CEO Royal BC Museum
- Mr. Peter Ord, Managing Director of the Robert Bateman Centre
- Ms. Jessica Doig, Vice President, NGX Interactive
- Ms. Alyssa Polinsky, Interim Executive Director
- Ms. Jodi Simkin, BCMA Vice President
- Ms. Nataley Nagy, BCMA Council Secretary
- Kim Reid, Director, Arts and Culture, TAC will also be at the head table.

## Funding

The Province has provided financial support to the BCMA for five of its six decades. It is the only provincial arts service organization representing history and visual arts collecting institutions supported on an ongoing basis by the BC Arts Council.

The British Columbia Museum Association BCMA currently receives \$63,000 in Arts & Cultural Service Organizations Operating Assistance grant program support for its activities in 2017/18. In 2016/17 the BCMA received \$42,200 from Community Gaming Grants.

In 2017, to mark the 150th anniversary of Canada's Confederation, the Government of British Columbia launched a one-time funding program to create legacies in British Columbia communities: by investing \$7.6M (\$8M total) in museums and heritage sites throughout the Province.

- More than 220 projects in 150 communities throughout British Columbia were successful in receiving funding through this initiative.
- This project is a collaborative partnership, with the BCMA administering the program on behalf of the Province.

## Key Messages

- Founded in 1957, the British Columbia Museums Association (BCMA) is a provincial arts service organization representing British Columbia's museum, gallery, and related heritage communities.
- The BCMA delivers programs and services to the benefit of its members and the sector at large, acting as the cultural and heritage information hub for British Columbia; this includes the provision of networking, advocacy and professional development opportunities.
- The BCMA has over 400 members across the Province, most of who receive funding from Community Gaming Grants and/or the BC Arts Council.
- Arts and culture programs help make communities in every region of British Columbia great places to live, work and invest.
- British Columbia's world-class art, culture and creative industries improve our province's prosperity and global profile as a great place to live, work and play.

## Agenda

Executive Summary - Thursday, September 28, 2017	
6:30 pm –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Alyssa Polinsky will meet Minister Beare at the registration desk and bring her to s.15 to meet Lieutenant Governor, Judith Guichon</li><li>▪ Introductions to Heather Jeliazkov, Marketing and Membership Services Manager who will escort to s.15 and introduction to The Hon. Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of BC.</li><li>▪ The Minister will join the Vice Regal party in the procession to the head table when all other guests are seated.</li></ul>
7:00pm – 7:05 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Emcee welcomes everyone and asks all to rise for the entrance of Vice Regal Party and Head Table.</li><li>▪ Party enters and stands at table.</li><li>▪ All may sit once the LG is seated. Her Aide-de-Camp will remain standing in order</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to escort her to the podium.</li> <li>▪ Emcee – Thanks Minister and invites Head Table to proceed to buffet.</li> </ul>
7:05 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr. Tim Willis (Emcee) provides opening comments and introduces The Hon. Judith Guichon</li> </ul>
7:06 – 7:09 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Honourable Judith Guichon speaks (2-3 min.)</li> </ul>
7:10 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emcee – Thank Her Honour and wait until she and the Aide-de-Camp have been seated before introducing Minister Beare.</li> </ul>
7:11 – 7:14 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Minister Beare speaks (2-3 min.)</b></li> </ul>
8:00 – 8:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Buffet begins. Slideshow presentation plays on a continuous loop. BCMA reps will circulate the room to solicit donations.</li> </ul>
8:30 pm – 8:35 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Slideshow is paused.</li> <li>▪ Emcee – Invite everyone to visit the dessert buffet and refresh glasses.</li> <li>▪ Acknowledgement of awards committee and nominees have been highlighted on screen throughout dinner.</li> </ul>
8:35 pm – 9:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emcee intro Jill Baird and Hanna Cho of the Awards Committee for the award presentations.</li> <li>▪ Award Presentations and congratulations slides on screen</li> <li>▪ Six Award Winners - acceptance speeches (2 mins max each.)</li> </ul>
9:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Emcee – Thanks the presenters and offers congratulations</li> <li>▪ <b>Emcee will - Ask winners and council members and Her Honour and Minister Beare for a group photo on the stage.</b></li> <li>▪ Emcee – Closing remarks “hope to see you all next year in Kelowna”</li> </ul>



## **SPEAKING NOTES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Good evening... and thank you Tim for the warm greeting.
- I want to take a moment to recognize and respect the history, customs and culture of the Lekwungen - including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations – on whose traditional territory we are gathered.
- Offer greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the government.
- Thank you for including me today in this important moment in the history of the BC Museums Association. I particularly want to acknowledge:
  - LEF-tenant Governor Judith Guichon
  - The British Columbia Museums Association President, Council, staff and members
  - And tonight's award recipients

## **REMARKS**

- 60 years! Wow! I haven't hit that number yet myself – I hope I'm still going as strong as the BCMA at six decades.
- It's a huge accomplishment to mark 60 years of service. The BC Museums Association makes an enormous contribution to making our province a better place.
- With over 400 members, you serve communities across BC.
- Each of you here tonight helps to tell the story of our province – its rich history and culture.
- Through you, we understand ourselves better... and help others to know us.
- B.C. welcomes over 5.5. million international visitors each year.
- Many of them come to B.C. to experience and visit the museums, galleries and heritage sites that BCMA represents.
- I know that BCMA's work to support member organizations and represent B.C.'s culture extends far beyond these sites.
- BCMA provides opportunities to network, participate in professional development activities and celebrate members' contributions.
- And this year, you created the Indigenous Advisory Council, to guide and support you in your work.

- Our government is committed to true and lasting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia.
- The work of your association is an essential part of that reconciliation effort.
- I salute you for taking this step.

### **Conclusion**

- I want to personally thank the BCMA council, staff and member organizations...
- And recognize those involved and who have contributed to the organization over the past 60 years.
- It takes dedication, hard work and commitment to support the BCMA in becoming a cultural and heritage information hub for British Columbia.
- Thank you. Congratulations on your 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

## **BACKGROUND:**

The BCMA Conference 2017: Climate for Change will focus on best practices, innovations while exploring issues such as relationships with Indigenous communities, social justice and climate changes within museum, art gallery and cultural centre practices.

The BC Museums Association (BCMA) annual conference is only provincial conference for museum, gallery and history professionals from across the province.

The program consist of workshops and presentations that focus on best practices and innovations and explore issues and opportunities such as relationships with Indigenous communities, social justice, and climate change within museum, art gallery and cultural centre practices.

This year's conference will be honouring of BCMA's 60th anniversary.

### **BCMA Council Members**

- The BCMA Council is comprised of five members: David Alexander (President); Tania Muir (Vice-President); Peter Ord (Past President); Rebecca Clarke (Treasurer) and Natalay Nagy (Secretary). There are eight additional councillors.
- Alyssa Polinsky is acting as the Interim Executive Director of the BCMA.

### **BCMA Awards Categories**

BCMA Awards for Outstanding Achievement are divided into three categories, the awards recognize:

#### **The Distinguished Service Award**

This award recognizes an individual who has made a unique and outstanding contribution on a regional, provincial or national basis to the museum, gallery, archives or heritage field over an extended period of time.

#### **Museum Service & Stewardship Award**

This award recognizes an outstanding effort and contribution over an extended period, of an individual or organization that has donated funds, services or personnel to the museum, gallery, archives or heritage resources field. This award would encompass individuals such as volunteers or partners/organizations/associations such as corporate/donor, and in-kind, community partners.

#### **The Award of Merit**

**Excellence in Community Engagement** – for a recent outstanding success in community engagement, as demonstrated by ongoing participation of new audiences, new partnerships with community organisations, supporting needs of the community, etc through innovative programming. Programming may be exhibit-based, school-oriented, stand-alone, or focused on volunteer engagement, etc; it may be delivered on-

site, off-site, or both. New audiences and community partners should be defined by the nominated museum with respect to its own capacity, community, and audience history.

**Excellence in Exhibitions** – for a recent outstanding, innovative, and/or creative achievement in any and all aspects of exhibition development and design, including content and curatorial choices; presentation, organisation and format; interpretation (including exhibit-based signage, publications, live interpretation/performance, web-based interpretation, etc); community relevance; etc. Exhibitions may be permanent or temporary, on-site, off-site, or online; they may be of any size from a single display case to a collection of historic buildings. Creativity and innovation should be measured against the nominated museum's own capacity and exhibit history; it may reflect an all-new approach to museology in general, or it may reflect an individual museum doing something it has never done before.

**Excellence in Collections** – recognizing recent excellence in collections best practices, which may include innovative approaches to collecting, collections management, preservation (including preservation of sites and structures), repatriation, collections-based research, dissemination and accessibility, etc. Generally-accepted best practices are the benchmark; however, museums will be recognized for striving to reach that standard within the context of their own capacity, community, and collections history.

### **Innovation Award**

In 2017, BCMA announced a new Innovation Award sponsored by NGX Interactive. At the heart of our museum community are people who are actively pushing boundaries, challenging conventions, and exemplifying innovative ways of thinking, seeing, and doing. This new award recognizes individuals in the BC museum community whose work is driven by innovation and creativity. Nominees are welcome from any and all aspect of museum operations, from collections, programs and exhibitions to finance, marketing and administration—or anything in between. This award is generously sponsored for the next three years by NGX Interactive.

### **Honourable Mentions**

Honourable mentions are not available for nomination but may be awarded at the Awards Committee's discretion.

**Honourable Mention for Sustainability** – recognizes an exceptional achievement by a nominee/organization to engage in innovative climate-friendly, sustainable practice.

**Honourable Mention for Impact and Engagement** – recognizes exhibits, programming, and other projects that foreground relevance, engagement, and collaboration with community and stakeholders.

**Honourable Mention for Excellence** – recognizes nominees in the Merit categories where an Award was not bestowed, but the committee feels recognition is due for excellence.



## SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

## EVENT

### **LEED Announcement**

Tuesday Oct. 10, 2017

1:00 – 1:45 P.M.

Vancouver Convention Centre

City Foyer, Level 2

Vancouver, B.C.

Please check against delivery

Event contact:

Jinny Wu, Communications Manager,<sup>s.22</sup>

## **Event Summary**

- Minister Beare and Deputy Minister are greeted in the lobby of the convention centre and will be escorted to the green room for an informal lunch with the other speakers.
- Jinny Wu will provide an event briefing and the speakers will proceed to the City Foyer
- Ken Cretney will welcome guests and Minister Beare will provide greetings (2-3 minutes) from the Province at 1:03 p.m.
- At 1:20 p.m., Minister Beare will be invited to participate in a group photo.
- Media Scrum at 1:24 p.m. (optional for Minister Beare)
- 1:40 p.m. Event ends

## **Directions and Parking:**

Address: Vancouver Convention Centre West building, 1055 Canada Place

- Come through to the Burrard (at the intersection of Canada Place Way and Burrard) entrance lobby where there's a large globe suspended from the ceiling
- <http://www.vancouverconventioncentre.com/visiting/getting-here>

Parking: There's a parkade within our West building with plenty of parking

- Directions: <http://www.vancouverconventioncentre.com/visiting/parking>

## **Logistics**

Stage, podium & mic available for remarks

**Dress Code:** Business attire

## **Audience**

- PavCo Board members, employees, and stakeholders
- Media present – major media invited

## **Speakers**

6. Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
7. Raymond Louie, Acting Mayor, City of Vancouver
8. Stuart McLaughlin, Board Chair, BC Pavilion Corporation
9. Ken Cretney, President and CEO, BC Pavilion Corporation (HOST)
10. Thomas Mueller, President & CEO, Canada Green Building Council

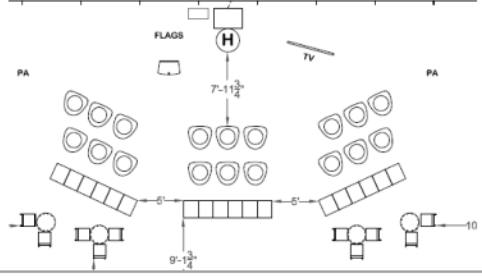
## **Other attendees**

- MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert
- Tourism Vancouver, Destination BC and City of Vancouver
- Board members and PavCo executive.
- See background information for names

## Key Messages

- PavCo generates over \$450m, and in the last year close to \$500 million in economic benefit for the province annually, PavCo has over the past 4 years created an economic impact of \$2B for the people of British Columbia.  
See background for KMs related to the Vancouver Convention Centre.

## Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
12:10 p.m.	Minister Beare and Deputy Minister Sandra Carroll are met in the lobby by Ken Cretney, Stuart McLaughlin and Craig Lehto, General Manager of the Convention Centre. Group proceeds to green room (West Administration large boardroom).
12:15 p.m.	Lunch is set up for all speakers in green room.
12:45 p.m.	Thomas Mueller and Acting Mayor Louie are met in the lobby by Ken Cretney, Stuart McLaughlin and Craig Lehto. Group proceeds to green room.
12:52 p.m.	Jinny Wu to provide event briefing.
12:58 p.m.	Speakers proceed to City Foyer, Level 2, taking elevator in the lobby. Seats will be reserved in the front row for the speakers. 
1 p.m.	Ken Cretney welcomes guests, gives brief remarks on behalf of the Vancouver Convention Centre. Then introduces Minister Beare.
1:03 p.m.	Minister Beare speaks.
1:05 am	Ken thanks Minister Beare and introduces Acting Mayor Louie.
1:06 p.m.	Acting Mayor Louie speaks.
1:08 p.m.	Ken thanks City Representative and introduces video.
1:09 p.m.	PLAY VIDEO
1:11 p.m.	Ken introduces Stuart McLaughlin.
1:12 p.m.	Stuart McLaughlin gives brief remarks.
1:14 p.m.	Ken thanks Stuart and introduces Thomas Mueller.
1:15 p.m.	Thomas Mueller gives brief remarks.
1:17 p.m.	Ken invites Stuart McLaughlin to join Thomas Mueller on stage to accept the LEED plaque on behalf of the Vancouver Convention Centre.
1:18 p.m.	Stuart and Thomas unveil the LEED plaque. Photo opportunity.
1:20 p.m.	Ken invites Minister Beare and Acting Mayor Louie for a group photo opportunity. Ken to join photo too.
1:22 p.m.	Ken advises that the plaque will be mounted at the entrance of the West building along with the original LEED Platinum award. Ken thanks invites guests to enjoy light refreshments; advises media that speakers are available for interviews; and thanks everyone for attending the announcement.
1:24 p.m.	Media scrum. Light reception.
1:40 p.m.	Event ends.



## **SPEAKING NOTES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Good afternoon and thank you Ken, for the warm greeting
- I would like to take a moment to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh (SLAY-wa-tooth) Nation.
- Provide greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan.
- I am delighted to be here today, along with my colleague MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert...

### **The Ministry**

- As the new Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture responsible for Sport, I am so pleased to have the BC Pavilion Corporation and the Vancouver Convention Centre under the umbrella of our ministry.
- I am impressed by the Convention Centre and how it serves not only the people of Vancouver, but the province.
- This convention centre truly puts BC on the world stage. Last year alone, VCC hosted more than three-quarters of a million people from around the world, and generated \$368 million.

## **LEED Certification**

- Today is another day of great accomplishment for the Vancouver Convention Centre. I am pleased to announce...
- That the Vancouver Convention Centre's iconic West building has been awarded L-E-E-D Platinum certification for the operations and maintenance of an existing building...
- Which... coupled with its 2010 Platinum certification for New Construction, makes the Vancouver Convention Centre the first DOUBLE L-E-E-D Platinum convention centre IN THE WORLD!

*[Lead applause]*

- Platinum is the highest level of LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
- LEED is a standard that speaks to a global audience.
- With local, national and international guests, it will be recognized by all visitors.
- Today's announcement means the Vancouver Convention Centre is not only *built* to the highest environmental standards, it is *operated* to meet the most stringent global standards in sustainability.

## **What this means to the province**

- I want to take a moment to talk about why this certification is important for the people of British Columbia.
- Meeting the highest international environmental standards is something that our government is proud of... and proud to promote.
- Our government is committed to protect the environment and take meaningful action on climate change.
- But we know that this type of action takes dedication, hard work and commitment across all ministries and crown corporations
- I salute the Vancouver Convention Centre for taking action and showing leadership.
- Together – with government, business, and individual action - we will build a strong, healthy and vibrant province for our children, grandchildren to enjoy for generations to come.

## **Conclusion**

- I want to thank and congratulate the entire team at the Vancouver Convention Centre.
- An achievement like this only happens when there is a committed team to make it happen. You're one of a kind – around the world! – today.
- Thank you and congratulations!

--30—

## **BACKGROUND:**

### **Q&As - Vancouver Convention Centre**

#### **LEED Existing Building: Operations and Maintenance Certification Announcement**

##### **7. What is LEED?**

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. LEED provides a framework to create healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings.

LEED certification is a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement.

##### **8. How much did it cost the Vancouver Convention Centre to obtain its LEED EBOM Platinum Certification?**

The Convention Centre implemented a wide range of initiatives to improve its sustainable performance as part of its pursuit of LEED Existing Building: Operations and Maintenance certification. While the facility spent approximately \$250,000 on its LEED certification efforts, it anticipates recouping this amount in up to five years based on implementing energy saving measures.

Apart from the tangible energy cost savings, the benefits of having an operating a complex facility like the Vancouver Convention Centre at highest sustainability standard are significant – from community benefits to inspiring the local community and a global meetings industry to be more sustainable.

##### **9. What are the energy savings?**

On average, the Convention Centre expects to save \$65,000 per annum as a result of energy saving measures implemented as part of the LEED certification efforts.

##### **10. What was required as part of LEED certification?**

This achievement was a result of a rigorous process to re-examine all areas of operation at the Convention Centre, including engagement with stakeholders, clients and retailers to identify opportunities for enhanced sustainable performance.

Specifically, the facility earned its Platinum certification for excellence in the areas of: waste management, energy efficiency, waste diversion, materials and resources among others.

##### **11. What is the difference between the USGBC and the Canada Green Building Council?**

The LEED rating system was created and maintained by the US Green Building Council. In Canada, the Canada Green Building Councils is the rights holder to the rating system.

##### **12. Does the Convention Centre need to re-certify in the future?**

Recertification for the LEED Operations and Maintenance certification take place every five years. The Convention Centre is committed to continually look for opportunities to enhance its environmental performance.

## **Key Messages - Vancouver Convention Centre**

- Welcoming and hosting nearly 800,000 guests in 2016/17, In 2016/17, the economic impact generated by the Vancouver Convention Centre from all spending from delegates outside Metro Vancouver was \$368 million, exceeding its target of \$345 million by \$14 million.
- The VCC achieved financial improvement from loss to profitability in 5 years and delivered on target of break-even in 2015 with positive income of \$3.2M; results have remained – and are expected to remain - profitable going forward.
- First facility in Canada - and only one of two facilities worldwide - to earn the Venue Level Four certification from the Convention Industry Council's Accepted Practices Exchange (APEX) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Level 4 Certification: Meeting Venue (2016)
- Best Convention Centre and Best Convention Centre Service in North America by Watkins Research (2015/16)
- VCC was recognized as the first Healthy Venue in the Americas by the World Obesity Federation (2016)
- APEX and ASTM certification: Venue and Food and Beverage Standards (2014)
- LEED® Platinum certification for new construction

## **Noted Attendees**

- Hon. Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, BC Government
- Spencer Chandra-Herbert, MLA
- Sandra Carroll, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Thomas Mueller, President and CEO, Canada Green Building Council
- Brad Doff, Chapter Specialist, Canada Green Building Council
- Stuart McLaughlin, Chair, PavCo Board
- Elizabeth Model, PavCo Board
- Raymond Louie, Councillor, City of Vancouver
- Michelle Collens, Manager, Sport Hosting Vancouver / City of Vancouver
- Ty Speer, President and CEO, Tourism Vancouver
- Gwendal Castellan, Energy Specialist, Tourism Vancouver
- Marsha Walden, CEO, Destination BC
- Clare Mason, Communications Manager, Destination BC
- Russ Cowan, Executive Director, VHDA
- Tom Corsie, Vice President, Real Estate Port of Vancouver
- Gillian Behnke, Manager, Community Relations & Communications, Port of Vancouver



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Hon. Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**Tourism Industry Association of BC  
AGM & Summit**

Thursday, October 12, 2017

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location:

Westin Wall Centre, Vancouver Airport Hotel  
3099 Corvette Way, Richmond, BC V6X 4K3

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Walt Judas: 778-953-0620 or  
Laura Plant: 778-788-3499

### **Event summary:**

- TIABC's annual general meeting will be held simultaneously with Aboriginal Tourism BC and BC Lodging and Campground Association's respective AGMs.
- Afterward, all AGM attendees and Summit delegates will attend a tourism Town Hall hosted by TIABC along with TIAC, Aboriginal Tourism Canada and Destination Canada.
- The remainder of the day will include presentations by federal and provincial elected officials, as well as a workshop and/or keynote presentation.
- Minister is the keynote speaker during lunch and will be introduced by Marsha Walden (might change to Walt Judas).
- Arlene Keis, CEO of go2HR will thank the Minister after the speech.

**Time:** Minister speaks at 12:30pm

### **Directions:**



#### **From East:**

- Follow the TransCanada Highway 1
- Take the Grandview Highway Exit
- Turn left on Rupert
- Turn right on east 41 Street
- Turn left on Knight
- Proceed onto W Bridgeport Road, L#3 Road
- Turn right Capstan Way
- Proceed to the hotel on Corvette Way



**From North:**

- Follow Highway 99 to Vancouver, Granville to W 70th
- Turn right on Oak
- Follow Sea Island Way to #3 Road
- Turn right on Capstan Way
- Proceed to the hotel on Corvette Way

**From South:**

- Follow Highway 99 to Bridgeport Rd/YVR Exit 39
- Turn left on Bridgeport Road
- Turn left on #3 Rd
- Turn right on Capstan Way
- Proceed to the hotel on Corvette Way

**Parking:**

Hourly self-parking and valet parking are available at The Westin Wall Centre, Vancouver Airport Hotel.

**Logistics:**

- There will be a podium at the front of the room with a microphone and screen behind.

**Audience:**

There will be key stakeholders from the tourism industry.  
No media invited.

**Dress Code:**

Business casual

**Key participants:**

Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture Staff:

Amber	Mattock	Director
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## Stakeholders Attending:

### **Organization**

Tourism Industry Association of Canada

BC Ferries

MP, Cloverdale-Langley City

AtBC Board of Directors

Aboriginal Tourism BC

Tourism Café

Synergy Enterprises

AtBC Board of Directors

Tourism Smithers

Deputy Mayor, City of Richmond

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Tourism Langley

AtBC Board of Directors

Nk'Mip Campground and RV Park

Seekers Media

Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD)

Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

TIAC

Wilderness Tourism Association

Aboriginal Tourism BC

Kekuli Cafe

Chemistry Consulting Group

BC Ferries

Bill Reid Gallery

Aboriginal Tourism BC staff

Talaysay Tours

Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture

BC Ferries

Kootenay Rockies Tourism

Rocky Mountaineer / TIABC Board

Tourism Richmond

BC Hotel Association

Tourism Richmond

City of Vernon - Tourism

Beachcomber RV Park

Destination British Columbia

Destination Canada

The Web Advisors / AGA-BC

Canadian Inbound Tourism Association - Asia Pacific

Noise Digital

City of Richmond

Living Forest Oceanside Campground

Mountain Bike Tourism Association

Fairleigh Dickinson University - student volunteer

Tourism Rossland

Destination British Columbia

British Columbia Hotel Association

Tourism Langley

Destination Canada

Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association

Vancouver Visitor TV

Destination British Columbia

Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Destination British Columbia

Moricietown Band

Hostelling International Canada

Tourism Vancouver Island Chair

Destination British Columbia

Northern BC Tourism

Tourism Langley

Tourism Interior

Tyax Lodge & Heliskiing

Munday Media & Design / TIABC Board

Vancouver's North Shore Tourism

Capilano University student

Copper Sun Gallery and Journeys

Lelem Arts and Cultural Centre

Tourism Abbotsford

Cumberland Lake Wilderness Society

Tourism Victoria

Tinhorn Creek Vineyards / TIABC Board

Tourism Richmond  
SunLund By-The-Sea  
Tourism Chilliwack  
Walter's Cove Resort  
Salmon n'Bannock Bistro  
Kootenay Rockies Tourism Association  
Air Canada

AtBC Board of Directors  
Gallagher Lake Resort  
Columbia Shuswap Regional District  
Northern Lights Café  
Tourism Kamloops

Canadian Camping & RV Council  
TasteFull Excursions  
Tourism Kamloops  
Beachcomber RV Park  
Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses - Pachena Bay  
Camping  
Lakeshore Resort and Campground  
Skwachays Lodge Hotel and Aboriginal Gallery  
Guide Outfitters Association of BC  
AtBC CEO  
Vancouver Visitor TV  
Gwaii Haanas - Parks Canada  
Destination British Columbia  
Northern BC Tourism  
Township of Langley  
Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses - Pachena Bay  
Camping  
City of Merritt  
Destination Osoyoos  
BC Lodging and Campgrounds Association  
AtBC Board of Directors  
Royal Roads University student  
Booking.com  
Sto:lo Nation / Sto:lo Tourism

Aboriginal Tourism BC  
Destination British Columbia

BC Lodging and Campgrounds Association  
Tourism Revelstoke  
BC Lodging and Campgrounds Association  
TIABC  
AtBC Board of Directors  
Musqueam Cultural Centre  
Simon Sees  
Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses - Pachena Bay  
Camping  
Business Development Canada  
MP, Banff-Airdrie  
Aboriginal Travel Services  
Black Tie Properties / Revelstoke Adventure Park  
Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Carden Consulting  
HaiCo  
War Room  
  
WorkSafeBC  
Tourism Sun Peaks  
Parksville Qualicum Beach Tourism  
AtBC Board of Directors  
Destination Canada  
Tourism Burnaby  
BC Ferries  
Société de développement économique de la C.-B.  
SunLund By-The-Sea  
Tourism Richmond  
  
Avenue PR - On Behalf of Klixin  
BC Ferries  
LAT Multilingual  
Fort Camping / Apex Lodge  
LAT Multilingual  
Tourism Revelstoke  
Wetsuweten matrilineal coalition  
AtBC Board of Directors  
Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development  
Canada  
Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association

Colwest Alpine Adventures  
Living Forest Oceanside Campground  
Fairleigh Dickinson University - student volunteer  
Heather Mountain Lodge & Cabins  
Tourism Kelowna  
WorkSafeBC  
Certified Folder Display Service, Canada  
Tourism Prince George  
Beaver Lake Resort  
AtBC Board of Directors  
Tourism Richmond  
Tourism Vancouver  
Skwachays Lodge Hotel and Aboriginal Gallery  
MEC  
BC Fishing Resorts and Outfitters Association  
MP, Courtenay-Alberni  
TIABC  
Sunshine Coast Tourism  
BC Taxi Association  
go2HR  
WhistlePunk RV Park / Eagle Vista RV Park  
Hotel Cristal  
Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association  
Deborah Kulchiski Consulting /TIABC Board

Royal Roads University student  
NCI Ferry Service  
Travel Penticton  
Expedia  
HeliCat Canada  
Aboriginal Tourism BC  
BlueStar Coachlines  
BC Ferries  
Van Dop & Associates  
Destination British Columbia  
Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association  
Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre  
McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Vancouver Airport  
Travel Penticton  
Tourism Squamish  
Spirit Bear Lodge  
Christina Pines Campground  
Aboriginal Tourism Association of Canada  
Quintry Management Consulting  
MP, Richmond Centre  
Carden Consulting  
Campertunity  
Inn on Long Lake  
St. Eugene Golf Resort Casino

**Media:**

Media has not been invited by TIABC.

## **Key Messages:**

- Tourism is an important economic driver in the province and the government is working to maintain the growth of this vital industry.
- British Columbia's natural beauty attracts people to the province allowing them to have unique experiences they couldn't have anywhere else on earth.
- Protecting our air, land and water is essential to keeping B.C. beautiful, for British Columbians and for those who choose to visit our province.
- B.C. welcomed 5.5 million international visitors in 2016 and further expanding tourism marketing into foreign markets will likely increase arrivals in 2017 and 2018.
- Creating more interest in B.C. internationally is why we plan to have B.C.'s tourism sector represented on trade missions.
- Indigenous tradition is imbedded in the fabric of British Columbia and government is working to ensure that B.C. remains a global leader in developing and marketing Indigenous tourism.

## **Tourism Impact**

In 2015, the tourism sector:

- Employed 127,000 British Columbians;
- Paid \$4.5 billion in wages and salaries;
- Supported nearly 19,000 tourism-related businesses in B.C.; and
- Contributed \$7.4 billion towards the Province's GDP.

Industry projects there will be more than 100,000 new jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector by 2020 - that's 10% of all expected job openings in B.C

## Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
8:15 a.m.	Registration Opens
9:00-10:00a.m.	Concurrent annual general meetings for TIABC and Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC
10:00 a.m.	Break and registration for TIABC Summit
10:30 a.m.	TIABC Town Hall with Destination Canada, Aboriginal Tourism Canada and TIABC to provide an opportunity to engage small and medium-sized business owners operators across Canada to better understand efforts being made on national tourism matters.
12:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch and Keynote Speaker- Hon. Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts &amp; Culture. Minister will speak during lunch followed by an opportunity for delegates to meet and take photographs with the Minister.</b>
2:00 p.m.	Break
2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	NDP Tourism Critic Gord Johns, Conservative Tourism Critic Blake Richards and Langley-Cloverdale Liberal MP John Aldag discuss and debate national tourism issues ranging from airport privatization and air access, to CRA assessments and temporary foreign workers. Panel moderated by TIABC.
3:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.	<p>Destination BC presents on their Destination and Industry Development programs and learn what their teams are doing now to address pivotal destination and industry trends and opportunities.</p> <p>Learn more about the Destination Development program that is creating a 10 Year Provincial Strategy focused at increasing our industry's long term global competitiveness.</p> <p>Hear about recent industry success stories from the Remarkable Experiences program, a hands-on, collaborative industry learning program, aimed enabling our industry to become savvy digital and social media marketers while delivering outstanding and exceptional experiences.</p> <p>Destination BC will be joined by tourism partners, such as AtBC and other local tourism leaders, who will share their stories of how – through these programs and their own – they are working alongside their communities to manage and grow local tourism for long-term, sustained prosperity.</p>
4:30 p.m.	Concluding Remarks

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

### **Introduction**

- Good afternoon and thank you for the kind introduction.
- It's a privilege to be here as your Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture.
- I thank and honour the Coast Salish people, and especially the Musqueam Nation, on whose traditional Territory we are gathered today.
- Thank you to Walt Judas, Laura Plant, Fiona Wray, Jim Humphrey and other members of the board of directors of the Tourism Industry Association of BC for hosting this annual summit and bringing all of us together.
- As I look around the room, I am excited to see representatives of the tourism industry from across the province.

- Suggest Minster say something here about her background in the travel industry and why tourism is important to her.

## **Wildfires**

- Before I speak about how vibrant our industry is....
- I would like to acknowledge the remarkable work that our firefighters and emergency responders have done, and are doing, in our province.
- This year's fire season has been unprecedented and during my visit to the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast region this summer, I saw first-hand the devastating effects of the wildfires.
- I want you to know that we're working side-by-side with the tourism industry during the recovery process.



- We were quick to respond to the emergency and announced a total of \$600,000 in funding to tourism associations in the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast, Kootenay Rockies and the Thompson-Okanagan.
- This funding will be used to stimulate interest in visiting these areas of B.C. this fall, next spring and summer.
- I'd like to recognize the tremendous work that Marsha Walden and the team at Destination BC did to keep business operators and travellers informed during the wildfires.
- Destination BC quickly moved to ensure that visitors were not canceling their travel plans to our province because of the fires, but continuing to visit safe destinations.

- Just before the Thanksgiving weekend, Destination BC CEO Marsha Walden and I encouraged British Columbians to visit destinations in the wildfire zone.
- Destination BC has reallocated \$500,000 in marketing to support the affected areas. With the money for the tourism associations – that's a total of \$1.1M in assistance from the province!
- This support – coupled with the work that all of you did to promote the province through your social media channels - really helped reduce the impact of the wildfires....
- And I sincerely thank you for that.

### **Tourism**

- As you know, tourism is one of the key contributors to our economy....

- The sector creates quality, well-paying jobs for British Columbians.
- In fact, the latest statistics show that:
- The industry employs 127,000 British Columbians;
- Pays \$4.5 billion in wages and salaries;
- Supports nearly 19,000 tourism-related businesses in B.C.; and
- In 2015, it contributed \$7.4 billion towards the Province's GDP.
- Tourism also generates spin-off revenue for other areas of the economy...
- Some of which include retail, hotel, restaurant and small businesses who rely on tourists.
- All of this is great news for the Province.

- The ability to travel has never been easier – and people are looking for unique, world-class experiences.
- And, British Columbia's diverse tourism sector provides a wide spectrum of experiences...
- From immersing yourself in the traditions of British Columbia's Indigenous peoples to sipping wine in one of the many wine regions to watching the perfect storm on the tip of Vancouver Island.
- Our Province is a destination of choice for local, national and international visitors.
- With the work that you all do, we are welcoming over 5.5 million international visitors each year!
- I am focussed on ensuring that the province's tourism sector, in each part of the province, continues to thrive.

- I am happy to publicly announce that the Province is providing 10.5 million dollars to 14 resort communities around the province through the Resort Municipality Initiative.
- This funding supports projects such as new trails, tourist amenities, signage and other improvements in 14 resort communities around the province.
- Another one of the ways we will achieve more growth for tourism is through the Destination Development work, taking place across the province.
- This planning process is essential to ensuring B.C. continues to provide compelling experiences, quality infrastructure, and remarkable service to our guests.

## **Conclusion**

- Growth in this sector is only possible with all of us working in partnership.

- Together, we will continue to champion and expand tourism marketing efforts to support the industry.
- As I learn more about this portfolio, there are several things that are clear me:
- We live in a beautiful province...
- That is rich in natural beauty and culture...
- And we are attracting people to our door step...
- When they come, YOU are there to welcome and provide them with the remarkable experiences that B.C. is known for.
- The people in this industry are resilient, hard-working and they are truly the driving force behind the tourism industry.

- Keeping this sector #1 in the Province!!
- Personally, I look forward to working with each of you so we can welcome even more travellers.
- Thank you for the invitation to join you today and I hope you have a productive Summit.

-END-

## **Background:**

### **TIABC**

TIABC has a long history of tourism advocacy - originally known as COTA (Council of Tourism Associations), it was started by a group of concerned industry leaders. The organization re-named itself the Tourism Industry Association of BC (TIABC) and today represents its members: sector organizations, destination marketing organizations and tourism businesses.

[www.tiabc.ca/about-tiabc](http://www.tiabc.ca/about-tiabc)

### **Summit**

TIABC hosts an AGM each year, and last year hosted an AGM & Summit in Sun Peaks (May 2016). Details/summary can be found at bottom of webpage: [www.tiabc.ca/tiabc-agm-summit](http://www.tiabc.ca/tiabc-agm-summit)

This year's AGM & Summit brings together several partner events, assisting industry to travel to one location for several events. Fall is a busy time for tourism industry events, so this partnership hopefully helps operators.

- Aboriginal Tourism BC (AtBC) is hosting a Forum on October 11th
- TIABC and AtBC are hosting their 1-hour AGMs simultaneously at 9am on October 12th followed by a full-day Summit, which includes the Tourism Industry Association of Canada (TIAC) Town Hall
- BC Lodging & Campgrounds Association (BCLCA) AGM & Dinner follows the Summit at 5pm on October 12th
- The BC Destination Marketing Organization Association (BCDMOA) is hosting a meeting with their members at the Summit venue on Friday October 13th

TIABC hosts an AGM & Summit in the fall and then the BC Tourism Industry Conference (BC TIC) in the early spring (February or March).

The next TIC is March 7 to 9th in Kelowna: [www.bctourismconference.ca](http://www.bctourismconference.ca)





SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Hon. Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association Reception  
Marking Rural Dividend Fund Grant**

Friday, October 20, 2017

1:30 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Location:

s.15

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Glenn Mandziuk, TOTA President & CEO

Cell: s.22

**Event summary:**

- Minister speaks to the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association (TOTA) and tourism stakeholders in the Thompson Region about the BC Rural Dividend Grants to the region, and particularly to TOTA.

**Time:**

1:30pm to 3:20pm

**Directions:**

s.15

**Logistics:**

There will be a podium and mic for the minister

**Audience:**

There will be key stakeholders from the tourism industry.  
Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association board members & staff.  
Mayors of Kelowna, Penticton, Summerland invited. Attendance TBC.

Media is invited.

**Dress Code:**

Business casual

**Key participants:****TOTA BOARD MEMBERS**

- Bryan Pilbeam – Chair
- Brad Pelletier – Vice Chair
- Christine Latimer – Secretary-Treasurer
- Michael J Ballingall – Past Chair
- Frank Antoine – Director
- Don Brogan – Director
- Gene Covert – Director
- Erik Fisher – Director
- Glenn Grant – Director
- George Hanson – Director
- Lyndie Hill – Director
- Kevin Howlett – Director
- Steve Rice – Director
- Andy Schwaiger – Director
- Kathrin VonAndrian – Director

**Stakeholders Invited:**

- Marsha Walden – DBC
- Grant McKay – DBC
- Peter Harrison - DBC
- Chris Shauf – Kelowna Tourism
- Jennifer Horsnell - Kelowna Tourism
- Should we include the Kelowna Tourism Board
- Thom Tischik – Travel Penticton
- Austin Weaver - Travel Penticton
- Should we include the Penticton Tourism Board
- Christine Petkau - Summerland Chamber
- Ezra Cipes – Summerhill Winery
- Gordon Fitzpatrick – Fitzpatrick Estate Winery
- Jonathan Rouse – Okanagan College
- Robert Fine – Kelowna Ec Dev
- Corie Griffiths – Central Okanagan Ec Dev
- Warren Carr – Telus

- Kevin Howlett – Air Canada
- Serge – Air Canada
- Sam Sammadar – YLW
- Karen Hill – Blackpress
- Jill Krop – Global Okanagan
- Colin Basran – Kelowna Mayor
- Andrew Jakubeit – Penticton Mayor
- Peter Waterman – Summerland Mayor
- Colin Basran - Kelowna Mayor
  
- Marie Claire Power – Southern Queensland Country
- Jane Summers – Southern Queensland Country
- Ellen Walker-Matthews - TOTA
- Howard Grieve – TOTA
- Rob Grifone – TOTA
- Simone Carlisle-Smith – TOTA
- Alison Stewart – TOTA
- Ingrid Tyler – TOTA
- Monica Miller – TOTA
- Shelby Campbell – TOTA
- Greg Hopf – TOTA
- Mike Overend – TOTA
- Stephanie Snelling – TOTA
- Meghan Reading – TOTA
- Niki Kennedy – TOTA
- Allen Jones – TOTA (FILMING ON LOCATION)
- Ginger Brunner – TOTA
- John Hawkins – RSTBC
- Tennessee Trent – RSTBC
- Kenn McLaren – FLNRORD
- Ed Kruger – Monashee Tours
- Ben Voos – Myra Canyon Rentals
- Gord Hotchkiss – Giro Okanagan
- Eileen Meehan – Sun n Sup
- Glenn Bond – Okanagan Trestles Tour
- Doreen Reed – Chute Lake Lodge
- Vicki Gee – Boundary Area E
- Ciel Sander – Trails to the boundary Society
- Justin Shuttleworth – RDOS
- Phil Young – Summerland ATV Club
- Doug Zorn – Grand Forks ATV Club
- Richard Cannings – MP
- Tom Matthews / Lisa Jaager – Summerland Waterfront Resort
- Dawn Rueckl
- Scott Boswell – OCCP
- Hannah McKinlay – Let's Go Transportation

- Sally Pierce – Hotel Eldorado
- David Prystay – Penticton Lakeside Resort
- Anthony Von Mandel – Mission Hill
- Tony Holler – Poplar Grove
- Hugh McClelland – Naramata Winery Association
- Christa-lee McWatters – BC Wine Institute
- Miles Prodan – B.C Wine Institute

### **Media:**

Media invited via Media Advisory by BC Government

### **Rural Dividend Key Messages**

#### **Provided by Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

#### **Rural Development**

- Rural development activities support the B.C. government's commitment to building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone – with well-paying jobs in every corner of the province.
- The Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is strengthening government's rural development mandate.
- That ministry now has responsibility for regional economic operations. With 20 experienced staff across B.C., they help facilitate community economic development at the regional level, specifically:
  - Promoting and strategically assisting business attraction and retention and sector development at the regional level.
  - Working closely with international offices and other ministries to identify and link investors with opportunities in the regions.
  - Supporting communities and regions to become investment ready and identifying potential investment initiatives.
  - Providing on-the-ground regional intelligence and expertise to inform the development and implementation of government programs, initiatives and tools related to economic development.
  - Helping build regional economic development capacity and promotes economic diversification, in particular to mitigate resource sector declines

and Mountain Pine Beetle impacts, by working closely with municipalities, regional economic trusts and Beetle Action Coalitions.

- Leading specialized rapid response community transition services for rural communities that are experiencing significant job loss impacts.
- In light of the unprecedented wildfires, the ministry is also leading cross-government support for wildfire recovery for affected people and communities.

### **Rural Dividend**

- The Rural Dividend Program provides funds to assist rural communities in economic diversification.
- Applications within the third intake have now been announced with almost \$11 million in funding awarded to successful applicants.
  - \$528,000 in \$10,000-project development grants
  - \$10.1 million in \$100,000 (single organization) and \$500,000 (partnership projects) project grants
- Under the special circumstances provision of the program, the B.C. government is providing \$758,000 to five projects in wildfire-impacted areas. Under the regular program stream, about \$1.7 million is going to communities affected by the 2017 wildfires.
- The Program is currently under review and it is being determined how best to distribute the remaining Rural Dividend funds, taking into account the community impacts of this year's wildfire season and other exceptional circumstances. At the conclusion of this review, updated information will be posted on our website: [www.gov.bc.ca/ruraldividend](http://www.gov.bc.ca/ruraldividend).

### **Tourism Key Messages:**

- Tourism is an important sector in the province and the government is working to maintain the growth of this industry.
- Tourism numbers continue to be strong in British Columbia. However we recognize the very difficult summer this has been for people in wildfire affected areas.
- B.C. welcomed 5.5 million international visitors in 2016 and further expanding tourism marketing into foreign markets will likely increase arrivals in 2017 and 2018.

- Creating more interest in B.C. internationally is why we plan to have B.C.'s tourism sector represented on trade missions.
- Indigenous tradition is imbedded in the fabric of British Columbia and government is working to ensure that B.C. remains a global leader in developing and marketing Indigenous tourism.

### **Tourism Impact**

In 2015, the tourism sector:

- Employed 127,000 British Columbians;
- Paid \$4.5 billion in wages and salaries;
- Supported nearly 19,000 tourism-related businesses in B.C.; and
- Contributed \$7.4 billion towards the Province's GDP.

Industry projects there will be more than 100,000 new jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector by 2020 - that's 10% of all expected job openings in B.C

### **Recent TOTA Initiatives**

As part of its fall campaign, TOTA launched the microsite Kettle Valley Railway (KVR Trail) <http://bcrailtrails.com> to promote rail trails of the Thompson Okanagan Region. This new portal will be the call to action for trail activities. The site features interactive maps highlighting trail conditions with photos and descriptions and links, popular access points and parking, business operators on the trail, where to eat and stay, related blog content, social wall of user-generated photos captured along the trail, links to additional resources and a link to a booking engine.

TOTA has signed a letter of commitment with the Responsible Tourism Institute of Madrid, Spain to obtain a Biosphere Designation Certificate. This certification is aimed at achieving sustainable behavior in international tourist businesses. Should TOTA meet the criteria for certification, the Thompson Okanagan would be one of 20 designated destinations in the world.



## **Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event Itinerary</b>
1:15 p.m.	s.15
1:30 p.m.	
1:45 p.m.	Minister has a safety briefing with helicopter pilot
2:00 p.m.	Minister departs via helicopter for Kettle Valley Rail Trail fly over. GLOBAL TV CAM
2:30 p.m.	s.15
2:45 p.m.	Media and stakeholder briefing where Minister delivers speech
2:50 p.m.	Meet & greet with stakeholders/media
3:20 p.m.	Minister departs for YLW airport
3:50 p.m.	Minister checks in to flight
5:00 p.m.	Flight departs for YVR

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

### **Introduction**

- Good afternoon and thank you for the kind introduction Glenn.
- I would like to acknowledge that are meeting today on the traditional Territory of the Okanagan Nation.
- Many thanks to the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association staff for organizing this great afternoon and bringing us all together.
- And, in particular I want to thank you all for coming. I'm excited to have this opportunity to meet you in person.
- I bring you greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the entire government of BC.

- It's a privilege to be here in beautiful Kelowna as your Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture.
- I'm proud to be your Minister. I think it says a lot that Premier Horgan decided to create a ministry with tourism at its centre. It shows our government's commitment to the tourism sector.
- Suggest Minster say something about her helicopter ride and what stands out for her.
- The Kettle Valley Trail is a spectacular tourism attraction.
- The trestles and tunnels of the Kettle Valley Rail Trail are what makes this part of the Trans Canada Trail truly unique...

- And part of what makes the Okanagan a special place to visit for Canadians and people from around the world.
- Glenn tells me that more than 330-thousand people visit the Myra Canyon section of the trail each year and I can see why!

\*\*\*bridge/segue\*\*\*

### **Floods & Wildfires**

- Back in 2003, wildfires devastated the Kettle Valley Rail trail. But you made it come back – stronger than ever.
- 2017 hasn't been an easy year.
- The floods in the spring and wildfires in the summer have been unprecedented. It's been a particularly hard time for the Thompson Okanagan.

- The firefighters and emergency responders have done remarkable work in protecting our Province.
- And we are going to work together to bring tourism back stronger than ever in the areas affected by this summer's wildfires.
- I know that businesses and regional tourism associations like yours have worked hard to keep people visiting this beautiful part of the province.
- Glenn and Destination BC were out there speaking... tweeting... and posting pictures to encourage visitors to come to available areas throughout this difficult period. As were many of you who own and operate hotels and attractions.
- I sincerely thank you for that.

- I'm happy to tell you that the August international visitor numbers are out – and show a 2.3% increase in comparison with the same month last year.
- That's terrific. We know, however, many tourism businesses here in the Thompson-Okanagan, and in the other wildfire affected areas of our province, were hard-hit this summer.
- The August numbers suggest that people did not cancel their travel plans to BC.
- They moved forward with their original itinerary or they chose a different destination in our Province instead.

### **Recovery**

- As difficult as things were during the summer, I've heard many stories about tourism businesses pulling together to get through the difficult times.

- I want you to know that our government will be there every step of the way in helping this region recover.
- In the first of many steps towards recovery, we announced \$200,000 in funding to the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association in late summer...
- Because we recognized the impact of the fires on you and the tourism industry, and how important it was that you get immediate support.
- That money is being used to attract people to visit this fall, next spring and summer.
- Already Glenn and his team at the Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association have completed a fall digital and social media campaign to get visitors back to this region.

- Glenn tells me he's busy crunching the numbers... and early figures show that fall campaign had results. Visitor numbers went up. Bravo Glenn and team!

### **Rural Dividend Grant**

- And I'm so thrilled to celebrate with you today that an additional HALF MILLION dollars is going to the Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association from the Rural Dividend Fund.
- (LEAD APPLAUSE)
- The money from the Rural Dividend Fund will upgrade the Kettle Valley Trail section of the national Great Trail.
- That \$500-thousand dollars will help establish a Rail Trails Trust – something which Glenn tells me will increase the engagement of local residents in supporting the trail and ensuring its long-term sustainability. ...



- It will fund the installation of state of the art trail gateway kiosks...
- And foster the further development of the trail system.
- As you know, the trail goes through the traditional territories of First Nations in this region. The Thompson-Okanagan Tourism Association has been working closely with these communities... and will be using some of the Rural Dividend Fund money to ensure that visitors have a full appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of those parts of the trail.
- We want to make this stretch of the Great Trail North America's number #1 destination for adventure travellers!
- With your help (look to Glenn and team), we're going to do that.
- And, of course, it isn't only the Kettle Valley Trail that is getting help from the Rural Dividend Grant. It will

support many more projects in the Thompson Okanagan. Your area will receive over \$1.8 million dollars, in total.

(LEAD APPLAUSE)

- This money will help:
  - Increase jobs;
  - Build new business opportunities;
  - Develop tourism; and
  - Encourage important partnerships with First Nations.
- These things matter to our government and to my ministry.
- We're committed to building a strong, sustainable and innovative economy for *all* British Columbians.
- And tourism is an essential part of that.

## **My Mandate**

- My mandate letter calls on me to be your champion, and I am honoured to do that.
- Having spent the past 20 years working in the tourism sector, I can tell you that I couldn't be more excited to work in partnership with all of you to build on your success.
- I'm focussed on ensuring that tourism in BC continues to thrive, in *every* part of our province.

## **Conclusion**

- Together, we will expand tourism and make it an even more successful part of our economy.
- Since becoming Minister, I have seen again and again how resilient, hard-working and innovative people are in this industry.

- You are truly one of the driving forces behind tourism in our province.
- Personally, I look forward to working with each of you so we can achieve great things together.
- Thank you for the lovely afternoon today.

-END-

## **Background:**

NEWS RELEASE: Oct. 20, 2017

### **Rural Dividend grants support communities in Thompson Okanagan**

KELOWNA – As part of its rural development mandate, the British Columbia government is providing \$500,000 to the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson announced today.

The funding is part of more than \$10.1 million being awarded to 90 eligible local governments, First Nations and not-for-profit organizations under the BC Rural Dividend program.

The Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association, in partnership with Aboriginal Tourism BC, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen, TELUS and Vicom Design Inc., will use the \$500,000 award to implement the strategy for Phase 1 of the Thompson Okanagan Regional Destination Trail Project.

Phase 1 of the destination trail project focuses on planning, investment and visitor attraction—as well as consulting with First Nations, heritage organizations and ecological experts.

The Rural Dividend program provides grants of up to \$100,000 each for single applicants, and up to \$500,000 for partnerships to help rural communities stabilize their economies and create long-term local employment.

The program is under review and it is being determined how best to distribute the remaining Rural Dividend funds, taking into account the community impacts of this year's wildfire season and other exceptional circumstances.

Rural development activities support government's commitment to building a strong sustainable and innovative economy that creates well-paying jobs for all British Columbians.

## **Quick Facts:**

- Projects were assessed and approved based on the following criteria:
  - Rural communities most in need.
  - Improved community resiliency and economic strength.
  - Partnership building and enhanced shared prosperity.
  - Project feasibility and sustainability.
  - Economic impact on rural communities.
  - Attracting and retaining youth.
  - Innovation in economic development.



## SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

### **Wine and Culinary Tourism Futures Conference**

Friday, Oct. 20, 2017  
12:10 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Manteo Resort & Waterfront Hotel  
3762 Lakeshore Road, Kelowna, B.C.  
Waterfront ballroom

Kelowna B.C.

Event contact:  
Christina Ferreira  
250 469-1958

Please check against delivery

## **Event Summary**

- Minister Beare has been invited to provide greetings at the Wine and Tourism Features conference.
- Minister Beare will arrive at Manteo Resort at 12:00 and be greeted by event contact Christina Ferreira, event Co-chairs John Hall and Donna Senese at the welcome desk.
- Debrief – staff room meeting with a rundown of the show
- The lunch event runs from 12:15 – 1:15
  - 12:15 – lunch
  - 12:30 – Minister Speaks
  - 12:33 – Key note speaker – Katerina Italy
  - 12:50 – Q & A
  - 1:15: event ends
  - Emcee: Donna Senese

## **DIRECTIONS & PARKING**

- 3762 Lakeshore Road, Kelowna, BC V1W 3L4
- Parking available at hotel
- Minister can park in the front area where it says 30min parking. The hotel has been informed by Christina Ferreira that the minister will be parking therefor 60min

## **Logistics**

- Stage Podium & mic available

## **Dress Code:**

- Business casual

## **Audience**

- 85 of attendees
- Background: Those that work in wine, tourism, hospitality (senior leaders, VP), international wine experts and reseachers
- 35 speakers representing 12 countries

## **Media**

- They will follow up to confirm – likely yes

## **Key Participants**

- **Government Reps:**
  - Minister Lisa Beare

### **Other VIP participants:**

- Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association has reserved 4 seats at this lunch.

### **Sitting at the round table with the Minister:**

- **Miles Prodan**, CEO/President BC Wine Institute, AND conference committee
- **Christa-Lee McWatters Bond**, President, BC Wine Institute and Marketing Director, Encore Vineyards
- **Jonathan Rouse**, Director - Food, Wine and Tourism Associate Dean - Okanagan School of Business AND Conference Committee
- **Jim Hamilton**, President, Okanagan College
- **Donna Senese**, Associate Professor, Geography AND Conference Committee Co-Chair
- **Deborah Buszard**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Principal. UBC - Okanagan
- **John Hull**, Associate Professor, Thompson Rivers University AND conference Co-Chair
- **Byron Marlowe**, Carson College of Business, Instructor, Hospitality Business Management AND Conference Committee

### **Tourism Key Messages:**

- Tourism is an important sector in the province and the government is working to maintain the growth of this industry.
- Tourism numbers continue to be strong in British Columbia. However we recognize the very difficult summer this has been for people in wildfire affected areas.
- B.C. welcomed 5.5 million international visitors in 2016 and further expanding tourism marketing into foreign markets will likely increase arrivals in 2017 and 2018.
- Creating more interest in B.C. internationally is why we plan to have B.C.'s tourism sector represented on trade missions.
- Indigenous tradition is imbedded in the fabric of British Columbia and government is working to ensure that B.C. remains a global leader in developing and marketing Indigenous tourism.



## **Tourism Impact**

In 2015, the tourism sector:

- Employed 127,000 British Columbians;
- Paid \$4.5 billion in wages and salaries;
- Supported nearly 19,000 tourism-related businesses in B.C.; and
- Contributed \$7.4 billion towards the Province's GDP.

Industry projects there will be more than 100,000 new jobs in the tourism and hospitality sector by 2020 - that's 10% of all expected job openings in B.C

## **Agenda**

Time	Event Itinerary
8:00 a.m.	Arrive in Kelowna, BC
12:00 p.m.	Minister arrives at Manteo Resort for the Wine & Culinary Tourism Features Conference and will be greeted by Co-chairs John Hall and Donna Senese at the welcome desk.
12:15 p.m.	Lunch is served
12:30 p.m.	Emcee Donna Senese will introduce the minister to provide greetings
12:30 p.m.	Minister delivers remarks
12:35 p.m.	Emcee introduces Caterina de Renzis Sonnino (key note speaker)
12:55 p.m.	Q & A with Caterina de Renzis Sonnino
1:15 p.m.	Lunch event ends
1:15 p.m.	s.15 y

Please see speaking notes for Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association event for next agenda and directions to <sup>s.15</sup>

## **SPEECH**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Good afternoon... and thank you Donna for the warm greeting.
- I want to acknowledge that we are meeting today on the traditional territory of the Okanagan Nation.
- I bring greetings to you all on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the government of British Columbia.
- It's a privilege to be BC's Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, and to have the opportunity to speak with you at this conference – a conference which gathers people with great ideas and people with great wine and food. Not only from around our province, but from around the world. This is august company.
- You are considering big issues for an industry that is enormously important for British Columbia:
  - What is the future of wine and food tourism?
  - What are the best practices to sustain and grow this important sector?
- Tourism and sustainability are issues that matter a great deal to our government.

- The fact that Kelowna is host to this conference makes me proud.
- I know many of you here today are from other parts of Canada and the world. Welcome to beautiful British Columbia! Here in BC we think of our province as one of the best destinations in the world for wine and food tourism. So I can't think of a better location for you to gather.

### **Wine Tourism in BC**

- With your dedication to this industry, wine and culinary tourism is thriving now... and can look forward to an even brighter future.
- In B.C. in 2015:
  - 1 MILLION tourists visited wineries in this Province
  - Generating \$245 million in tourism-related revenue related to the wine industry alone.
- This conference is an example of the important ways that industry and post-secondary institutions can collaborate to ensure innovation in a rapidly changing tourism environment.
- Over the past few days, you've had the opportunity to sip, savour and explore the Okanagan region.

- You have visited vineyards such as Mission Hill Family Estate and the Terrace Restaurant - which partner with local farmers to provide farm-to-table experiences.
- I know from speaking with your conference co-chairs that this kind of experience is particularly attractive to visitors. Here in BC, we want to continue to be in the forefront of that movement...
- And to stay in the forefront for the LONG-term.
- Which is why your conversations this week about sustainability for wine and food tourism are so essential.

### **The conference & natural disasters**

- We've had a tough time in British Columbia this year with natural disasters – fires and floods.
- It's hit some of our tourism partners hard – including wine and food operators.
- I represent a government which takes climate change seriously, and which has made addressing the issues arising from climate change a priority.

- So I'm very happy to see the tourism industry talking about how to address issues affecting food and wine tourism operators. We need to develop resilience to these challenges.
- During the summer wildfires, our government – in partnership with tourism associations and business owners – moved swiftly to address lost tourism business with funding and marketing support. So far, that support totals \$1.1 million to assist tourism in affected areas.
- You here in this room are looking ahead – looking at the next steps needed to adapt to climate impacts... to address disasters like these wildfires that have had such devastating impact on us here in BC this summer, and now are impacting our friends in California.
- You are the experts. We rely on you for guidance. And I'm looking forward to learning more about your deliberations this week.
- I want to thank you for your insight and your work. I know we'll be benefitting from it.
- Earlier this week, Marsha Walden, the CEO of Destination BC, spoke about how her organization, with government support, is working with you to promote wine and culinary tourism.

- To enhance tourism experiences, I encourage British Columbian tourism business owners to take part in the destination development planning sessions offered through Destination BC.
- Our government is committed to building a strong, sustainable and innovative economy. Conferences like this are exactly what we need to support that vision

### **Conclusion**

- I want to personally thank the organizers, including the co-chairs of the conference John Hull and Donna Senese (SayNAYSay)
- I also want to thank the conference presenters, sponsors and the University of British Columbia and Thompson Rivers University.
- During this conference you've had the opportunity to collaborate with each other and discuss ways to expand this industry and address challenges facing it.
- I look forward to hearing about the best practices that this conference reveals, and gaining your valuable insights.
- Thank you.

## **BACKGROUND: FACTS & NEWS COVERAGE**

### **Quick Facts – British Columbia Wine & Grape Industry**

- The British Columbia Wine Industry's \$2.8 billion economic impact is a significant driver to the BC economy.
- The British Columbia wine and grape industry contributed to the British Columbia economy business revenue of \$1.95 billion, tax revenues of \$312 million, and wages of \$512 million.
- An average bottle of wine produced in British Columbia generates \$33.84 of business revenue, \$5.42 of tax revenue and \$8.91 of wages
- For every \$1.00 spent on Canadian wine in British Columbia, \$3.40 in GDP is generated across the province.
- In 2015, there were approximately 929 grape growers operating in British Columbia with a combined acreage of 10,260 grape-bearing acres.
- 12,000 full time jobs are created in British Columbia as a result of the wine and grape Industry.
- In 2015, there were 275 wineries in British Columbia that sold nearly 4.8 million nine-litre equivalent cases of wine.
- British Columbia wine industry tourism generated \$246 million in revenue for the broader British Columbia economy in 2015.
- Approximately one million tourists visited British Columbia wineries in 2015.

CBYK (CBC Kamloops)  
CBC Daybreak Kamloops  
17-Oct-2017 07:21  
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SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Lisa Beare**  
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**EVENT**  
Motion Picture Production Industry Association of BC  
MLA RECEPTION

Friday, October 30, 2017  
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

s.15

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:  
Name: XXX  
Cell: XXX

**Event summary:**

- The "BC Creates Community" event is the annual highlight of the Motion Picture Community Initiative (MPCI), established to pay tribute to the unique collaboration of key government, community and industry partners who together ensure our industry's ongoing success.
- Minister Lisa Beare will deliver greetings on behalf of the Province and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture with a focus on "partnerships" and their importance to the continued growth and prosperity of B.C.'s motion picture production sector.
- Character Guys will once again bring their talent to this evening's event. <http://thecharacterguys.com/>

**Time:** Minister speaks at 8:11pm

**Directions and Parking:**

s.15

**Directions:**

- Suggest that Minister takes a cab.
- **Parking:**  
Parking is available at the hotel but to save time we suggest taking a cab.

**Logistics:** Stage/podium/microphone

**Audience:**

MLA's

70% industry and other 30% are the partners are in the municipal film offices, in the provincial parks etc.

**Dress Code:**

Business casual

**Key participants:**

**Key Facts:**

**Need to add something specific to the event....**

**Motion Picture Community Initiative (MPCI)**

- In 2016, the Motion Picture Community Initiative (MPCI) developed a community appreciation strategy to build ties with local government partners and other key stakeholders whose little known contributions are vital to the success and sustainability of film and television production in BC.

**BC Motion Picture Industry**

- With 338 film and television productions, and direct spending of \$2.6 billion in 2016-17, B.C. is one of the top production centres in North America.
- British Columbia's motion picture industry supports quality jobs that make up a talented, highly experienced and knowledge-driven workforce.
- With over 60 studio facilities and over 2.75 million square feet in stage space, B.C.'s motion picture industry can service over 50 productions at once and accommodate all sizes and types of production.

## Agenda:

Program Participants (in order of appearance):

**Emcee Peter Leitch**, Chair, Motion Picture Production Industry Assn. of BC;

**Liz Shorten**, Senior Vice President, Operations & Member Services - Canadian Media Producers Association

**Brian Hamilton**, Principal and Executive Producer, Omnifilm Entertainment

**Margaret Mardirossian**, Founder and Executive Producer Anaid Productions

**Rob Simmons**, Director of Business Affairs, Atomic Cartoon

**Michelle Grady** Senior Vice President Production Sony Pictures Imageworks

**Suzanne Thompson**, Vice President Sales, Encore Vancouver

**Phil Klapwyk**, Business Representative IATSE 891

**Kendrie Upton** Executive Director, Directors Guild of Canada

**Pete Mitchell**, President and COO, Vancouver Film Studios

**Honorable Lisa Beare**, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

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**6:00 pm**                      **Meet at s.15 to review “Run of Show” and discuss messaging & role of Mike & Character Guys. The Common Message is Collaboration**

**7:00 pm**                      **Guests arrive.**

**7:00–7:35pm DJ & Saxophone Set #1 (35 mins).**

Guest arrivals continue, hospitality begins,  
Character  
Guys mingle; gags; red carpet arrivals, step &  
repeat  
photo opps.

**7:39pm**                      **Character actors call for the Chair and Vice Chair of The Motion Picture Production Industry Association come up. Character Guys prep Pete and Liz for the scene**

7:40–7:45pm **Peter Leitch and Liz Shorten do welcome/introductory remarks: “BC’s Industry and the importance of Collaboration & working together”; Information from MPA/Abacus Report;**

(Liz introduces her members Brian Hamilton, Margaret Mardirossian and Rob Simmons)

(Character Guys bring the mic and Boom over to the next speaker and yell “Action”)

7:45- 8:01pm **Brian Hamilton, Margaret Mardirossian & Rob Simmons all provide their remarks: BC Producers landscape and importance to arts film and television ecosystem**

(Rob Simmons intro’s Michelle Grady, SVP Production for Sony Imageworks and Suzanne Thompson, Vice President Sales, Encore Vancouver

Character Guys bring the microphone and boom over to the next speaker yell “Action”

8:01-8:05pm **Michelle Grady & Suzanne Thompson**

(Suzanne intro’s Phil Klapwyk, Business Representative IATSE 891 and Kendrie) Upton, Executive Director for the Directors Guild of Canada

(Character Guys bring the microphone and boom over to the next speaker yell “Action”)

8:05-8:09pm **Phil Klapwyk & Kendrie Upton**

(Kendrie Upton introduces Pete Mitchell, President and COO of Vancouver Film Studios)

Character Guys bring the microphone and boom over to the next speaker yell “Action”

8:09-8:11pm **Pete Mitchell- Speaks about the REEL Green Initiative, Community Relations and Growth and Sustainability**

(Pete Mitchell introduces the Honourable Minister Lisa Beare)

Character Guys ask Minister Beare to come up to the front and get her ready for the scene

8:11-8:14pm **Minister Beare: Minister Lisa Beare, greetings on behalf of the Province of BC and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture.**

8:14pm Peter thanks everyone and encourages them to stay and enjoy the evening

Character Guys that’s a wrap!

8:15pm Photo opp

8:30pm-9:30pm DJ & Saxophone Set #2 (60 mins).

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

- Good evening and thank you for the kind introduction Peter.
- I would like to acknowledge that are meeting today on the traditional Territory of the Lekwungen [La-kwung-en] people and the Songhees and Esquimalt
- Many thanks to Motion Picture Production Industry Association staff for organizing this great evening and bringing us all together.
- I bring you greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the entire government of BC.
- It's a privilege to be here as your Minister of Tourism, Arts & Culture.



- My mandate letter calls on me to be your champion, and I am honoured to do that.

## **SPEECH**

- I'd like to start by congratulating the Motion Picture Community Initiative for creating this celebration.
- Tonight is dedicated to honouring the contributions of key municipal and provincial government stakeholders, who contribute passionately to the success of BC.'s motion picture industry.
- As I hope you've heard – this sector contributed 2-point-six BILLION dollars to the economy last year. A huge achievement!
- Our province is one of the top centres for screen-production excellence in North America...

- ....with a long history of producing award winning feature films, television series, documentaries and commercials.
- And really, our success comes from your hard work and dedication.

## **PARTNERSHIP**

- One of our key strengths is that British Columbia is known around the world as being a film-friendly -- full service production centre.
- BC's "production friendly" reputation extends from our cities, to local residents and businesses, and to municipal film offices and provincial agencies that welcome production activity.
- Given increasing global competition, it is essential that we work in partnership with industry stakeholders,

Creative BC, and all levels of government....

- This is to ensure the sustainability and continued success of BC's creative industries.

## **CONCLUSION**

- The government of British Columbia is committed to strengthening a sustainable and competitive Creative economy....
- One that will thrive well into the future;
- Since becoming Minister, I have seen again and again how resilient, hard-working and innovative people are in this industry.
- And, personally, I look forward to achieving great things together.

- Once again, thank you so much for inviting me to share this beautiful evening with you.
- On behalf of the Province, thank you.

-END

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Event:**

The Motion Picture Community Initiative (MPCI) is a taskforce of industry representatives established in 2016 specifically to recognize, appreciate and mitigate the pressures on municipal and provincial government partners whose resources are often stretched by the demands of B.C.'s thriving location production activity. In its short history, the Initiative has honored industry's municipal partners, delivered locally based appreciation events and communications, and evolved into an ambassador of community appreciation for all industry partners contributing to BC's reputation for excellence in motion picture production.

### **Key Participants**

- Peter Leitch, Chair of the Motion Picture Production Industry Association of B.C.: Peter was honoured with a Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal and an honorary doctorate degree from Capilano University. The Motion Picture Production Association works towards a fully integrated production centre, internationally recognized; a technically sophisticated infrastructure; vibrant domestic and service production activity; a diverse and skilled work force; and a competitive business environment with the ability to embrace change.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Hon. Lisa Beare**

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**Vancouver Gallery: Fall Season Leadership Circle Reception**

Saturday, Oct. 27, 2017

Tour & Pre-meeting with VAG Director: 5:00 p.m.

Leadership Circle Reception: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location:

750 Hornby Street Vancouver BC

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Johanie Marcoux,

Director of Marketing, Communications and Public Affairs

Cell: s.22

**Event summary:****TOUR & MEETING: 5:00-6:00PM**

- The Minister will meet with Gallery director Kathleen Bartels, Board Chair David Calabrigo and one other board trustee to discuss the Gallery's new building project. The Gallery closes at 5pm, so the tour and meeting will take place after the public has left.

**This meeting will include:**

- a brief tour of the Gallery, including the vault (where art is stored), the Annex and other parts of the working areas of the Gallery
- a discussion about the Gallery's forthcoming new building and requests to the Province.

**PUBLIC EVENT w SPEECH: 6:30-7:00pm**

- Following the tour & meeting, MLB speaks to a large group at the Fall Season exhibition opening and Leadership Circle Reception. More than 400 attendees expected, including staff, high-end donors, artists, and members of the visual arts community. A list of attendees will be provided Thursday.

**Time:** Minister speaks at 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** The speech will take place at the Vancouver Art Gallery in the lobby area.

**Parking:** Paid parking available at Hotel Vancouver. Vancouver Art Gallery has no parking facility.

**Logistics:** Upon arrival, Gallery director of marketing, communications and public affairs Johanie Marcoux will meet the Minister. (Cell: s.22 ).  
Podium & microphone will be set-up in lobby for speech.

**Audience:** There will be approximately 400 + people attending this event, consisting of donors in the VAG Leadership Circle, VAG curators, artists, corporate sponsors as well as other stakeholders. Media will not be present.

**Dress Code:** Business attire

**What the audience wants to hear:**

- What is the Government's commitment to supporting the arts in British Columbia?
- What is the Government's stance on further support for the Gallery's new building campaign?

**Key Messages:**

- Our government is committed to building a better life for British Columbians, and support for the arts plays a key role in that.
- The Government of British Columbia recognizes the significant contribution that arts and culture makes to both our provincial economy and to the health and vitality of our communities.

- Artists and arts and culture organizations make our communities more desirable places to live, work and visit. They provide inspiration and enjoyment to residents, beautify shared public spaces, and strengthen the social fabric of our communities.
- The arts community is important to our government and that's why we earmarked \$60M for the sector
- The Vancouver Art Gallery is a vital institution in our province, providing more than a half million local and international visitors with opportunities to experience art, as well as educational programs for children and adults, and research publications which make the work of BC and other artists better known and understood.
- Artists and arts and culture organizations contribute to the national and provincial economies and are vital in the promotion of British Columbia as a prime location to visit, work, live and invest.
- In addition to contributing to the richness of our society, art fosters economic development by attracting businesses, creating new jobs, increasing tax revenues and promoting tourism.
- Cultural tourism is also a significant an economic driver, playing a role in positive contributions to local economies, building social capital and remaining a cornerstone of our tourism industry.
- The Government of British Columbia invested \$60 million in arts and culture in 2016-17, including about \$17.5 million through community gaming grants.
- In 2016-17, the BC Arts Council has received \$24 million from the Province of British Columbia to help artists and cultural organizations flourish in more than 200 communities throughout the province.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **New Gallery Funding Issue: (From TAC Issues Note)**

- The VAG is seeking \$100 million in federal government funding and an additional \$50 million from the Province to build an iconic \$350-million art gallery at 688 Cambie Street in downtown Vancouver.
- The VAG has already received \$50 million in a one-time grant in 2008 from the B.C. Government to support a new or refurbished site. In 2006 the Province provided the City of Vancouver with \$5 million to plan a cultural district, which is yet to be determined.
- At about 300,000 square feet, the proposed new **facility** would more than double the space of the current gallery.
- It's important to note that in VAG document "The Transformation of the Vancouver Art Gallery", it states: *Province of British Columbia: a leadership gift of \$50 million by the Province, with an understanding that additional future financial support would be provided once all levels of government have signed onto the project with financial support.* (pg. 5)
- The document also states: *We are requesting that Budget 2017 include a federal contribution of \$100 million over the next three years toward the capital costs of the new Vancouver Art Gallery related to the project's construction phase.* (pg. 6)

**Full Document Attached as embedded PDF in Background following the Speaking points:  
The Transformation of the Vancouver Art Gallery**



**BACKGROUND ON VANCOUVER ART GALLERY:**

- For more than 85 years, the Gallery has played a vital role in sustaining and developing the visual arts in British Columbia. Its permanent collection numbers 12-thousand works of art, a repository of the visual art history of British Columbia, held in trust for the people of Vancouver and British Columbia. The collection includes noted works by Emily Carr, the Group of Seven (including Lawren Harris, AY Jackson, Jock Macdonald and others), EJ Hughes, Jack Shadbolt, contemporary First Nations artists (including Jim Hart, Sonny Assu, Susan Point, Beau Dick and Brian Jungen), and the internationally renowned Vancouver photoconceptual school (including Jeff Wall, Rodney Graham, Stan Douglas and Ken Lum).
- The Gallery operates on a budget of about \$20M, of which it raises about \$16M (or 80%).
- The Province of BC provides about a million dollars in funding to the Gallery each year, via the BC Arts Council and BC Gaming grants.
- For more than a decade, the Gallery has been pursuing construction of a new building with more space for exhibitions, display of the permanent collection, and education. In 2013, the City of Vancouver provided a lot in downtown Vancouver, contingent on certain fundraising goals being met. In 2015, the Gallery hired international architects Herzog & De Meuron to design a new \$350M gallery.
- The Vancouver Art Gallery was granted \$50M by the Province of BC in 2008 for its new building project. It is now seeking an additional \$50M from the Province, as well as \$100M from the federal government.

**Key participants in FALL EXHIBITION EVENT:**

- David Calabrigo (Emcee)
- Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Kathleen S. Bartels, director of the Vancouver Art Gallery

**VIP Guests:**

- Nicole Davison, British Consul General to Vancouver
- MP Dr. Hedy Fry (Vancouver Centre – Liberal)
- Swedish Ambassador to Canada Per Sjögren
- Swedish Honorary Consul Thomas Gradin

**Other Attendees**

To come

## Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<p><b>Minister Beare will meet with Gallery director Kathleen Bartels, Board Chair David Calabrigo, and one other Trustee.</b></p> <p><b>This meeting will include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a brief tour of the Gallery, including the vault (where art is stored), the Annex and other parts of the working areas of the Gallery</li> <li>• a discussion about the Gallery's forthcoming new building and requests to the Province.</li> </ul> <p><b>Location: Kathleen Bartels' office.</b></p> <p>Participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kathleen Bartels,</li> <li>• Board Chair David Calabrigo,</li> <li>• and one other Trustee</li> </ul>
6:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.	<i>Minister Beare will use as preparation time before the speaking opportunity at the LEADERSHIP CIRCLE EVENT. Alternatively, if the Minister wishes to get a preview of the exhibitions before the speech, that can also be arranged.</i>
6:30 p.m.	Minister Beare will be escorted to reception in the gallery's forecourt to give her greetings to the other members and guests
6:31p.m.	D. Calabrigo (emcee) welcomes guest, provides remarks (including acknowledging the traditional territory) and introduces <b>Minister Beare. (2-3 mins.)</b>
<b>6:34 p.m.</b>	<b>Minister Beare provides remarks (2-3 mins.)</b>
6:35 p.m.	Emcee thanks <b>Minister Beare</b> for remarks, introduces Kathleen Bartels (1-2 mins.)
6:37 p.m.	Kathleen Bartels provides remarks (2-3 mins.)
6:40 p.m.	Emcee thanks Kathleen Bartels for remarks, wraps up formal presentations and invites the guest to mingle and look at the art on display. Refreshments will be available.
9:30 p.m.	Event concludes.

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Good evening.
- Thank you, David for the kind introduction.
- I would like to acknowledge we are on the traditional territories of the Musqueam, SLAY-wa-tooth and Squamish.
- TENTATIVE, TBC: I also want to acknowledge Member of Parliament Dr. Hedy Fry, British Consul General Nicole Davison, His Excellency the Ambassador to Canada for Sweden Per Sjögren and Honorary Swedish Consul Thomas Gradin.
- I'm excited to be here tonight as your Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, and to bring you greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and our government.
- I'm proud to be your Minister. I think it says a lot that Premier Horgan decided to create a ministry with tourism, arts and

culture at its centre. It shows our government's commitment to these sectors.

- Our government has big challenges in front of us as we work to make British Columbians' lives better. We're already working hard to make basic services more affordable...
- ...to make more affordable housing available...
- ... and to take action on important priorities like protecting the environment, addressing the opioid crisis, and providing debt relief to BC students.
- The arts are very important to our government. They play a significant role in both our provincial economy and in the health and vitality of our communities.
- Artists and arts and culture organizations make our communities more desirable places to live and work.

- They provide inspiration, beautify community spaces, and strengthen the social fabric of our communities by contributing to the national and provincial economies.
- That's why in my mandate letter, I have commitments to promoting art, culture and the creative economy.
- I'm aware of the struggles the art community faces to find affordable space to work and create. Our government is committed to working on this issue, to make it easier for BC artists to continue to work and live here.
- Our province's success in the arts is greatly supported by the tremendous work of cultural institutions – like the Vancouver Art Gallery.
- The Vancouver Art Gallery plays an especially important role in our province's visual arts community – not only providing exhibitions which open our eyes to art and new ideas, but educational opportunities for kids and adults.

- More than 20-thousand young British Columbians benefit from school programs here each year. I'm especially happy to see that. An important part of my mandate is to develop the creative economy. And we need to be sure we're building skills which will enable our citizens to lead BC in this important sector in the future.
- I also want to commend the Gallery on restoring the regional touring exhibitions. The "Across the Province" program brings the Vancouver Art Gallery's incredible collection to many more British Columbians.
- Just before this gathering, I learnt a lot about the challenges the Gallery faces, and gained a better understanding of the work that goes into operating this world-class art gallery.
- Thank you Kathleen, David (\*name others who were on the tour) for the personal tour of the gallery.
- We're here tonight to celebrate the opening of the Gallery's fall exhibitions.

- I'm lucky – as part of my tour, I got an early look at the *Gordon Smith* and *Carol Sawyer* exhibitions.
- The exceptional works of these local artists speaks to the incredible talent present in British Columbia's arts and culture.
- (add personal comments regarding the art. Note: Vancouver artist Carol Sawyer will be in the crowd.)
- I know we also have a number of curators from Europe with us here tonight as part of the *True Nordic* exhibition – welcome to British Columbia.
- I'm happy to see so many of you here tonight to celebrate these artists, curators and their work.



## **CONCLUSION**

- Thank you once again for inviting me to be a part of this special evening.
- And thank you, Vancouver Art Gallery, for being a leader in B.C.'s vibrant arts and culture community and for supporting – in all the work that you do – the artistic excellence of British Columbia.

—30—

**Background:** (See also separate information note prepared by TAC staff)

**From the VAG website**

Founded in 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery is recognized as one of North America's most respected and innovative visual arts institutions. The Gallery's innovative ground-breaking exhibitions, extensive public programs and emphasis on advancing scholarship all focus on the historical and contemporary art of British Columbia and international centres, with special attention to the accomplishments of First Nations artists and the art of the Asia Pacific region—through the Institute of Asian Art founded in 2014. The Gallery's programs also explore the impacts of images in the larger sphere of visual culture, design and architecture.

**Vancouver Art Gallery Foundation**

<i>Board of Trustees</i>	
Kathleen S. Bartels	Garth Thurber
Michael O'Brian	David Calabrigo

**Supporting the Gallery's future, year after year**

The Vancouver Art Gallery Foundation was established in 1998 with the goal of creating a permanent fund to offer a steady base of operating support for the Gallery in perpetuity. These crucial funds support the long-term objectives and operations of the Vancouver Art Gallery. The Foundation's endowment fund is guided by a Board of Directors. A percentage of the income earned from the endowment fund is distributed to the Gallery each year to support its exhibitions and programs. Gallery staff and the Board of Directors of the Foundation are committed to ensuring that the intent and value of donor contributions are preserved in perpetuity. The Foundation's Directors serve on a volunteer basis.

**Leadership Circle (renewal of membership is required on an annual basis)**

Kathleen Bartels, Director and Leadership Circle Member

Gift Information Amount: (gifts of \$1,500 plus/year)

Benefactor \$1,500.00

Ambassador \$3,000.00

Collector \$5,000.00

Leadership Circle donors provide significant funding for exhibitions, public programs, and a growing and important collection of art for our generation and generations to come. The Leadership Circle program also ensures the Gallery's ability to continue offering access to exceptional art programs for everyone."

**See THE TRANSFORMATION DOCUMENT here<<<<**



VAG New Bldg Fed  
Proposal.pdf

**Current and upcoming exhibitions: See following pages.**

The Vancouver Art Gallery presents exhibitions of work by artists ranging from historic masters to leading-edge contemporaries. These include major thematic exhibitions, presentations of solo artists and smaller, more focused showcases. In a typical year, 2 to 3 exhibitions are borrowed from other institutions and 10 to 12 exhibitions are developed in-house, drawing on our permanent collection and loans of works from around the world. In addition, the Gallery tours a few of its exhibitions each year.

## **Highlights of some of the Current & Upcoming Exhibitions**

**B.C. Artist Gordon Smith: The Black Paintings** (October 21, 2017 to February 4, 2018)

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Page 145 to/à Page 160

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s.13



**SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
HON. KATRINA CHEN, MINISTER OF STATE  
FOR CHILD CARE**

**Federation of Community Social Services of BC General  
Meeting**

**9:15 a.m.  
Friday, October 13, 2017**

**Minoru Room  
Vancouver Airport Sheraton Hotel  
7551 Westminster Hwy  
Richmond**

**Event:** Federation of Community Social Services of BC Annual General Meeting

**Time:** 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** **Minoru Room**  
Vancouver Airport Sheraton Hotel  
7551 Westminster Hwy  
Richmond

**Parking:** Please go to the front/check in desk inside the Sheraton to ask for the discounted parking of \$10/day; do not pay at the station, as the hotel cannot refund this.

**On-site Contact:** Tisha Card, FCSSBC Executive Coordinator, s.22  
Rebecca Lang, FCSSBC, Director of Programs and Services:s.22

**Key Participants/Program:**

- Hon. Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care
- David Young, Federation President
- Hon. Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
- Hon. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

**Audience:** Representatives from social-service organizations across B.C., including children, youth and family services, community services, anti-violence organizations and others.

**Speaking Time:** 20-30 minutes, plus a Q&A/discussion

**Background:**

The Federation of Community Social Services of BC represents over 140 agencies who provide support to individuals and communities in B.C. Members span the entire province and offer a broad range of services to communities, people living with physical and mental challenges, vulnerable children, youth and seniors, new immigrants, people living with addictions or mental health issues, and those living in poverty.

### **Itinerary (Timing Approximate):**

<b>7:30 a.m.</b>	Registration and Breakfast
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Start of Meeting  Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories  Welcome and Opening Remarks: David Young, Federation President
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Ratification of New Federation Members: Ann Kutcher, Federation Board Director
<b>9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Guest Speaker: Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care</b>
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Coffee Break



## Introduction

- Thank you, and good morning everybody.
- It's wonderful to be here with you.
- I'd like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish people and the Musqueam Nation.

*[Thank emcee/introducer – Ann?]*

- Thank you to the Federation for inviting me to be here today to talk about the Ministry of Children and Family Development.
- I will talk a bit about the ministry in general – and cover some of Minister of Children and Family Development Katrine Conroy's mandate items – before I talk about my key focus – child care.
- But before I begin, I would like to thank you all for the work that you do.

- The services and supports that you provide are helping people across B.C. every day.
- My colleague, Minister Conroy, and I look forward to working with you as we chart a path towards a Better B.C.
- When I first came to Canada as a student, I realized that I wanted to make a difference in the lives of people who needed help.
- I still have the same goal – like you do – and I’m honoured to be part of a team that is working hard to make lives better for children, parents and families...
- ...a government that works for people and values what is most important to them.
- We are committed to making life in B.C. more affordable and making sure that services are available to people when they need them.

- These goals have helped to shape the ministry's mandate, and will drive the work that we do.
- As Minister of State for Child Care, I work closely with the Ministry of Children and Family Development.
- I know I can speak for both myself and the Minister when I say that we're honoured – and humbled – to have the opportunity to stand up for kids and families from every background.
- We're excited to challenge the status quo and to make positive changes that will benefit people throughout the province.
- To make these changes a reality, we need to build strong relationships with organizations in multiple sectors...
- ...including education, health and social services like yours.

## Child Protection

- A big part of the ministry's mandate is to enhance and improve child-protection services to ensure that all children grow up in safe and nurturing environments.
- Protecting the almost 7,000 children and youth who are in government care is an incredible responsibility.
- And – as October is Foster Family Month – I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to thank the dedicated men and women throughout B.C. who open their hearts and homes every day to children in need.
- While we will always have a role to step up and care for children who need our protection, we know we can do more to keep children safely with their families, friends and communities and connected with their culture.

- In moving the child protection system forward, government is taking the advice of experts and feedback from those who have been in the system themselves.
- Ministry planning is influenced by recommendations from the Representative for Children and Youth, and I know Minister Conroy appreciates the role of this office and is already establishing a respectful working relationship with the independent Representative.

## **Social Workers**

- Another priority is to better support the social workers who are on the front lines, working directly with the vulnerable kids and families who need our help most.
- Investing in child protection means investing in staff.

- Minister Conroy's mandate letter from the Premier makes hiring more social workers – and staff to support social workers – a key priority.
- Working with families can be emotional and difficult at times.
- But it can also be tremendously rewarding.
- Many of you have first-hand experience with this.
- You know it, and live it every day.
- And you see the benefit of your work in a very real way.
- Recruiting qualified staff is a consistent challenge for the Ministry of Children and Family Development.
- We need more social workers to connect vulnerable families to the services they need.

- Our recent Budget Update reflects that need, with funding specifically targeted to cover staffing costs.
- My ministry is hiring more front-line and support staff throughout the province.
- And we have incentives to attract social workers to rural and under-served regions.
- We're also looking at ways we can better support new hires so we can keep them with us for longer.

## Indigenous Services

- Minister Conroy's mandate letter is also very clear that changing government's approach to Indigenous child welfare is fundamental, including:
  - Improving services to indigenous people in our province;
  - Implementing the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report;
  - And providing better supports to keep Aboriginal children at home, with their families and communities, and out of care.
- True and lasting reconciliation is a priority for this government.
- Every day, we're working with Indigenous and Métis partners and communities to understand what they need most, and how we can work together to improve outcomes for children and families.



- We need to truly listen to their voices – their wisdom – and do our work with them, not *to* them or *for* them.
- Our focus in the Ministry of Children and Family Development is to keep families together whenever possible.
- Towards this goal – and in the spirit of the Grand Chief Ed John report and our commitment to reconciliation....
- ....we recently announced \$6.4 million in funding for all B.C. First Nations, as well as Métis-serving agencies, to focus on projects that help keep Indigenous families together and improve outcomes for children and youth.
- Each First Nations and Métis organization is invited to apply for up to \$30,000 by October 20<sup>th</sup>.

- The application must include a proposal outlining their community's prevention and family-support needs, and how the funding can help them address those needs.
- This is part of our commitment to providing resources directly to Indigenous communities so Indigenous children and youth can increasingly get culturally sensitive support and more opportunities to meet their full potential.

## **Tuition Waiver**

- Our government also wants to see young people continue to thrive after they are no longer in our care.
- That's why one of our big announcements as a new government was our expansion of the tuition waiver program.

- As of September 1, all 25 of B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions now grant tuition waivers to young people who spent two or more years in government care.
- This helps lift a massive barrier for young people who may not have had the family stability and consistent support they need.
- Putting college and university in reach for the first time opens a world of opportunity for these young people.
- We know there's still more work to do in this area.
- Post-secondary education may not be the first and only path after leaving care.
- So, our services need to be tailored to individual need.

- Our goal is to help all the youth aging out of care who need it, not just a few.

## **Child and Youth Mental Health**

- Another area where we need to provide better support is around child and youth mental health.
- We need to look at prevention and early intervention so issues can be dealt with before they become critical.
- We need an “Ask Once, Get Help Fast” approach.
- Our kids deserve that.
- Minister Conroy and our colleague, Judy Darcy, the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, recently made a commitment to developing a comprehensive, coordinated mental health strategy for children and youth.

- This will help address gaps in the current system so that children, youth and their families have better access to better care when and where they need it.
- There's a lot of work to be done, but we're committed to doing what it takes to make life better for those who are struggling.

## **Child Care**

- My focus, though, is on solving B.C.'s child-care crisis.
- Evidence shows that a child's first six years can have a major impact on their personality, brain and future prospects.
- In fact, about 90% of brain development happens in those important first years of life.

- Investments in early learning and quality child care are vital to keeping kids healthy – emotionally, physically and mentally.
- These programs and services help prepare children for success, not just in school but in life.
- And, connected to the work of two of my colleagues here today, these investments can also help reduce poverty and involvement in the criminal justice system later in life by setting kids on a healthy path early on.
- But for years in B.C., despite all the evidence, the crisis in affordable, accessible child care has been growing.
- As Minister of State for Child Care, I have the opportunity to hear stories from the front lines.
- I met with parents recently at Vancouver Public Library, and it was heartbreaking to hear their struggles.

- There was Julia, who told me about her search for care for her eight-month-old daughter.
- The family is currently on waitlists for 14 different daycares.
- She has been told by some child-care operators that there is little chance of a space becoming available in the next four months.
- She has been on one waitlist since she was four months pregnant.
- That provider has recently told her that they might have a spot in July 2018 – two years after Julia first applied for child care.
- And then there's Laetitia, who has child care for her two children, but is shocked by rising costs.
- If the current fees remain, she will have spent around \$100,000 on child care by the time her youngest child is in kindergarten.

- And they're not the only ones who are having trouble.
- I recently spoke to one parent in Burnaby who is coming to the end of her maternity leave.
- Her employer is waiting for her to return to work, but she hasn't been able to find affordable care for her child...
- ... and may not be able to go back to work after all.
- Nobody should be placed in that position.
- No family should have to pay the same for child care as they do for their rent or mortgage.
- These are just a few of the parents I've heard from.



- Still, whether in the Lower Mainland or in rural parts of B.C., the message we're hearing is clear:
- There aren't enough licensed child-care spaces, and many families are unable to afford quality child care for their children.
- That's why we're committed to quality, affordable, accessible child care.
- For families who are struggling now with child care, I know that the move to universal child care can't come fast enough.
- Life has become unaffordable.
- Child care and other costs are out of reach.
- But my government is committed to changing that.
- Premier Horgan outlined three key areas in my mandate.

- As Minister of State for Child Care, I will:
  - Implement a universal child-care plan.
  - Invest in the Early Childhood Educator workforce through training, education and fair wages to enhance and ensure quality.
  - And speed up the creation of new licensed child-care spaces in B.C. communities.
- It's impossible to look at these goals separately: they go hand in hand and form the centrepiece of the \$10-a-day child-care plan...
- ... a plan that is accessible and affordable, and works for every B.C. family – because it's the right thing to do.
- Our plan will, ultimately, lead to one of the most significant new social programs in B.C.'s history.
- It's important to remember, though, that changing an entire system won't happen overnight.

- It may take up to 10 years to fully implement, but we're taking steps to do just that.
- There are many things to consider, like how do we support low-income families?
- When we look around the world to other universal child-care systems, we see that vulnerable families don't always get access to the quality child care they need.
- This is important, because it's our most vulnerable children and families who will benefit most from high-quality, early childhood programs.
- This is linked to the work my colleague, Minister Simpson, is doing.
- Having access to quality, affordable child care allows parents to return to the workforce, knowing that their children are being looked after in a nurturing, safe environment.

- It can make their lives better.
- And not having quality child care can have the reverse effect, too.
- If a parent is worrying about finding child care and wondering whether their child is being looked after properly, how can they focus fully on their job?
- Conversely, if parents are confident in the care their child is receiving, they will be more invested in their work, and will be happier overall.
- Happy parents mean happy children...
- And reliable, quality child care isn't just good for kids and their parents, it's also important for employers and crucial to our economy.
- We also need to make sure that there are enough Early Childhood Educators to care for all of the children who need child care.

- Child-care providers are already having trouble recruiting and retaining Early Childhood Educators because of low pay.
- We need to find ways to encourage more people to enter the early childhood education field.
- We already have an ECE bursary for students, but we need to do more to build the ECE workforce in B.C.
- And how do we support providers to create new licensed child-care spaces across the province?
- Because the reality is that in order to meet the needs of B.C. families, we need *far more* quality, licensed spaces than we have today.
- Those are just a few of the things we need to get right.

- We're having discussions – and launching a more formal, targeted engagement with our key education and child-care partners later this fall – not to see *if* we can introduce the plan, but to understand *how* we should do it.
- Our engagement will happen via an in-person session, as well as online and phone interviews for child-care providers, parents and other partners.
- This process will help us gather the information we need so we can create a solid implementation plan.
- There will be more details about our plan in the February 2018 budget – the first full budget that this government will deliver.
- But in the meantime, we're taking important steps to help shape the implementation plan and start the important shift towards universal child care in B.C.

- Thank you again for inviting me to be with you today.
- I look forward to working with you and your organizations to help build a better B.C. for every family.



**SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
HON. KATRINE CONROY, MINISTER OF CHILDREN AND  
FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**

**8:55 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.**

**Date: Friday, October 6, 2017**

s.15



**Event:** **BC Federation of Foster Parent Associations AGM**

**Time:** 8:55 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

**Location:** s.15

**Parking:** on-site – drive up to the front door of the hotel and valet parking.

**On-site Contact:** Jayne Wilson, Executive Director, BCFFPA s.22

**Key Participants/Program:**

- Foster Parents in B.C. and Canada who made the trek to Whistler.
- Executive Director – Jayne Wilson, BC Federation of Foster Parent Associations
- President, BCFFPA – Marcy Perron [*pronounced “Pear-on”*]
- Vice President Russell Pohl [*“Poll”*]. Russell is also the event chair and has been campaigning to host this joint conference for a few years.
- Canadian Foster Family Association

**Audience:** Foster caregivers from across B.C. and Canada

**Speaking Time:** 8:55 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

**Background – Event:** BCFFPA Annual General Meeting

**Stats/Facts –Event:**

- BCFFPA is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year
- Members of the Canadian Foster Family Association will be in attendance as well

**Itinerary (Timing Approximate):**

- 8:30 a.m. – Minister welcome to join the breakfast buffet Friday morning, mingle with foster parents.
- 8:55 a.m. – Minister speaks - s.15
- 9:30 a.m. – 50 years of Fostering Panel attended by foster youth who have aged out of care, foster caregivers who have been fostering for 50 years and social workers.
- 11:30 a.m. – Leave to drive to airport.

## Event

- Hello! Thank you for inviting me to speak with you this morning.
- I'm delighted to be here in beautiful Whistler and to say a few words during **Foster Family Month** to honour and acknowledge the very important work you do as foster parents.
- Congratulations as well, to you, the BC Federation of Foster Parent Associations on your 50th Anniversary this year!
- I understand that we also have special guests from across Canada, including members of the **Canadian Foster Families Association**.
- Welcome to BC!
- I'm sure this will be a wonderful opportunity for networking, learning from each other and making new friends in this beautiful setting.

- I'm also was impressed with your agenda for the conference. An incredible array of workshops, events and as I said those important opportunities to network. I was also happy to see the scheduled "wellness times". So critically important for the work you do. We all know if we don't take care of ourselves we can't take care of others.
- A lesson that can be hard to learn because I know as caring people we usually put our own needs last. I was a wee bit jealous when I saw tonight's events. I'm sure you will all have fun! I do need to get home today though and won't be able to join you.
- I'm going to tell you a little bit about myself first for those of you who don't know me.
- I had a number of different careers before I entered politics.

- I was one of BC's first female Power Engineers and the first woman to work in the local pulp mill in my home town, Castlegar. It was a man's world in those days and women weren't particularly welcomed, especially at 17! I persevered though and it did help me to become tough when I needed to be.
- I then spent 20 years as an early childhood educator...
- ...I taught program planning in the Early Childhood Education department in our local College, Selkirk College.
- ...and I worked for a non-profit multi-service organization that provided services to children, youth and families.
- I'm also a mother of four – all of whom are now grownups...
- ...and granny to nine wonderful grandkids...

- So, I know – from both professional and personal experience – what it takes to raise a family and just how challenging that can be.
- As foster parents, you’ve embraced that challenge.
- You do this work out of the goodness of your hearts, but that shouldn’t mean you do this work unsupported.
- As government, we need to do a better job of being there for you...
- ...and I can tell you we are working to find ways to better recognize the crucial services you deliver for vulnerable kids and teens in our province.

*[pause]*

- I've only been in this role for a few months now and there is, as you can imagine, a lot to accomplish as our ministry looks to the future.
- We've taken on an ambitious mandate and with work already underway to:
  - reduce the number of Indigenous children entering the care system;
  - improve our child-protection services;
  - hire additional social workers and attract them – in particular, to rural and under-served regions;
  - and expand services so that we can offer support to *all* youth aging out of care who need it, not just a few.

- Like you, our priority is on making life better for the young people we serve.
- As I look out across this room, I see in your faces the caring and the commitment that goes hand-in-hand with making the important decision *you've* made to **put children and youth first**.
- You are setting the example.
- You've decided to step up and be there for a child or teen who really needs someone to count on and who, for so many reasons, may not have had that in their lives.
- Thank you for making "room in your heart and room in your home" as a caregiver to these young people.

[*pause*]

- We know that not everyone is suited for such a role.
- Recruiting enough new parents and families who can do what you do remains a constant struggle.
- That's why we are so grateful to those of you who have taken on what is a considerable commitment.
- I'm sure you'd be the first to agree that being a caregiver is a mutually life-changing experience — for the children and youth you've welcomed into your lives, and for you and your families.
- I well know there is no more demanding, yet rewarding experience than to be a caregiver for children.
- You have the rare chance to help shape a more positive future, one that every child deserves.



- Kids count on you to be the caring presence, to provide guidance, to set boundaries, and to offer that soft place to land at the end of each day.
- Just by being there and offering them the stability and safety they may never have known, you can dramatically improve their lives in the long-term.

[*pause*]

- It's been said that "it takes a village to raise a child."
- Your actions exemplify that.
- And we, as a society, should take our cues from you.
- We have a collective responsibility to do all we can to support vulnerable kids in B.C. and help them live life to the fullest.

- Meeting that responsibility means truly listening to and learning from the kids who have experienced foster care.
- We have a Youth Advisory Council in our ministry that is beyond helpful in their collaboration and the input that they provide.
- These youth come from across BC and all have experience being kids in care. Their contribution is invaluable and truly making a difference to how policies are developed in BC.
- I've also had the opportunity, though, Ignite Your Spirit, an event I attended shortly after becoming Minister, to hear specifically from Indigenous youth about their experiences in care.
- They had heart-wrenching stories to tell, but they also showed me incredible courage and resilience.

- They were willing to step up and work with us to make things better – not for themselves, but for their younger siblings and the kids after them.
- I'm happy to say I've taken a pledge – through Fostering Change – to meet with young leaders from care and hear their ideas on what more we can do help all of them on the road to success after they leave our care.
- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, Fostering Change is hosting a rally at the legislature – and I'll be there to hear from them.
- Grassroots campaigns like this help to raise awareness about our kids and caregivers...
- ...not just at the Ministry for Children and Families level, but in all ministries and throughout the private and non-profit sectors.

- You deserve that recognition from the public and so do the kids you care for.
- I had the opportunity earlier this week to meet with Foster Parents from the Lower Island and host them for tea in my office in Victoria.
- I introduced them in the Legislature and they all stayed to watch Question Period, and for any of you who have seen Question Period in Victoria, you know it's not for the faint of heart.
- It was really important and heartwarming for me to meet not only with the foster parents, but also the children and youth they care for.
- In their faces, I saw the hope and optimism that has the chance to flourish because of the tremendous support their foster parents provide.

- Two of the youth made sure to tell me they were sister and brother and how happy they were to be able to be together. Their foster mom beamed with pride and it reinforced for me what a critical issue it is for kids with siblings. To maintain that family unit.
- Meeting these families face-to-face was inspiring and makes me even more dedicated to doing all I can to support our caregivers and our kids.
- On behalf of the people of British Columbia, I am so grateful for the work you do to support B.C.'s foster kids.
- And know that we deeply appreciate your service and that we are dedicated to working with you to build a better, stronger child welfare system – for those young people *and* for you.
- Thank you.

SPEAKING NOTES FOR  
MINISTER MELANIE MARK  
MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND  
TRAINING

Bill 3 – Election Amendment Act 2017

October 3, 2017

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

- British Columbians deserve a government that works hard for everyone, not just the few at the top.
- By banning political donations we are sending a message to British Columbians that businesses and individuals will not receive special treatment based on their status and wealth.
- We believe in equal opportunities for citizens from every background, in all corners of the province.
- Part of B.C.'s identity is to lead by example, and I believe the Election Amendment Act will align with our values.
- The Election Amendment Act will put B.C. ahead of most provinces in Canada, with the second lowest annual limit for political contributions.
- It's about time we ban corporate, out-of-province and union political donations, and I'm not surprised our government is making it happen.
- However, we know that this is not a permanent solution to the problem.
- That's why each year the transitional allowance will be decreased, and we will be working hard to come up with a permanent solution in the meantime.

- Bill 3 will also lower campaign spending limits, which enables motivated citizens to serve their communities and run for office.
- British Columbia is a hub for innovative ideas, transformative movements and vibrant peoples.
- Our core values of innovation and affordability are reflected in the Election Amendment Act, which is a good solution to a long-standing problem.
- People are at the heart of our government's values, not big money, which is why I support Bill 3.



SPEAKING NOTES FOR  
MINISTER MELANIE MARK  
MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND  
TRAINING

UBC Earthquake Engineering Research Facility  
2235 East Mall, University of British Columbia

Oct. 10, 2017 - 10 a.m.

Speaking Time: 3 min.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

## Contact at the event:

Eerik Ilves  
UBC Office of Government Relations  
Mobile: s.22      Office: s.22  
[eerik.ilves@ubc.ca](mailto:eerik.ilves@ubc.ca)

## Getting there and parking:

A parking spot (red arrow) is reserved in front of the Michael Smith Labs (2185 East Mall):



**Audience:**

Approximately 20-30 individuals, including media, industry, UBC students, faculty and staff.

**Notable attendees:**

- Dr. Santo Ono, UBC President and Vice- Chancellor
- Dr. James Olson, UBC Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Industrial Partnerships [not speaking; only attending]
- Dr. Nemy Banthia, UBC Professor of Civil Engineering
- Salman Soleimani-Dashtaki, UBC Civil Engineering student

**Event description:**

UBC is hosting a media event to highlight a product developed at UBC's Earthquake Engineering Research Facility by Dr. Banthia that is now approved for use for the seismic upgrading of buildings in Canada, and is approved for use in seismic retrofits of schools in British Columbia. The product will be first used for seismic safety upgrades to Dr. Anne B. Jamieson Elementary in Vancouver in fall 2017

The event will include remarks from Minister Mark, Dr. Banthia, Salman Soleimani-Dashtaki, President Ono and Dr. James Olson (TBC); as well as a lab tour featuring examples of Dr. Banthia's spray-on seismic safety materials, video projection of experiments demonstrating the effectiveness of Dr. Banthia's innovation and a tour of the lab where the experiments took place within the Earthquake Engineering Research Facility.

**Itinerary:** Provided by UBC

## Acknowledgements

- I'd like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.
- I'd like to acknowledge several people including:
  - Dr. Santo Ono, UBC President and Vice- Chancellor
  - Dr. James Olson, UBC Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Industrial Partnerships
  - Dr. Nemy Banthia, UBC Professor of Civil Engineering
  - Salman Soleimani-Dashtaki, UBC Civil Engineering student
- And, of course, a big shout-out to all of the students, faculty and staff here.
- It's great to be back at UBC in my capacity as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.
- I got to visit the quantum physics building in August as part of my tour of all 25 of our public post-secondary institutions.

## Applied Research

- Today is a wonderful opportunity for me to learn more about the inspiring work of UBC's civil engineering students, faculty and staff.
- It is a privilege to come out and see the Earthquake Engineering Facility first-hand.
- I am looking forward to having an opportunity to hear from Dr. Banthia about his work.
- The research conducted here at UBC has real life applications that are important to future innovation in our post-secondary education system.
- The technology being developed at the UBC Earthquake Engineering Research Facility has the potential to save lives and improve health and safety standards in our province and around the world.
- I understand that Dr. Banthia's innovation has been approved for use to retrofit B.C.'s public schools – that's B.C. innovation protecting B.C.'s future, our school children.
- Applied research also helps develop our upcoming innovators – UBC graduate students.
- Standing alongside researchers like Dr. Banthia, students learn how to conduct cutting-edge research and take their discoveries through conception to product development to professional application.

- The technology being unveiled today embodies government's commitment to championing the next generation of life-changing innovators.

## Innovation

- Technology, innovation and entrepreneurship in our public post-secondary education system are critically important.
- It's vital to UBC and to our modern economy.
- Innovation supports all sectors of B.C.'s economy including natural resources, biotechnology and information and communications technology.
- UBC alone has spun-off more than 100 life sciences companies, creating more than 2,500 jobs and raising more than \$2 billion in private investments.
- We need to keep up with the times while staying ahead of the pack.
- Technology and innovation can improve the health and safety for citizens here in Vancouver, throughout our province and across the country.
- The benefits are immense and have far reaching consequences for our economy, our society and our culture.
- And, of course, the work of our research universities is reflected in their international standing.
- UBC consistently ranks among the 40 best universities in the world and the top three in Canada.
- It's exciting to be an advocate for a post-secondary education system that embraces innovation.

## Conclusion

- Thank you for inviting me to be part of the event today.
- It's always great to get out and see examples of research, innovation and entrepreneurship in action.
- Students have told me how they feel education and training can transform them.
- Not only can it change lives, but communities, and even the world.
- To all the students, staff and faculty: I encourage you to keep on thinking boldly, challenging convention, leading discovery and exploring new ways of learning.
- Thank you for sharing your work with me here today.



SPEAKING NOTES FOR  
MINISTER MELANIE MARK  
MINISTRY OF ADVANCED EDUCATION, SKILLS AND  
TRAINING

Community Adult Based Literacy funding for Surrey

Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society  
Unit #205, 12725 - 80th Avenue  
Surrey, BC  
V3W 3A6

Oct. 13, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Speaking Length: 3 min.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**Contact at the event:**

Marlene Behrens, GCPE events coordinator: (cell) s.17  
Marlene.Behrens@gov.bc.ca

**Getting there and parking:**

Free parking is available outside of the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society.

**Audience:**

Approximately, 20 individuals including the media, and students and staff from the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society.

**Notable attendees:**

- Rachna Singh, MLA for Surrey – Green Timbers (emcee)
- Satbir Singh Cheema, Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society CEO (speaker)
- Aimee Begalka, READ Surrey/White Rock Society board chair (speaker)
- Gita Matthews, Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society literacy instructor (speaker)
- Hon. Harry Bains, Minister of Labour and MLA for Surrey – Newton
- Jagrup Brar, MLA for Surrey - Fleetwood
- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology and MLA for Surrey - Whalley
- Hon. Jinny Sims, Minister of Citizens' Services and MLA for Surrey - Panorama

**Event description:**

A proactive media event to announce funding for two community literacy programs in Surrey:

- The Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society received \$20,393 in adult literacy funding for 2017-18. They did not receive any funding in 2016-17 but did receive funding of \$26,659 in 2015-16.
- The READ Surrey/White Rock Society received \$14,149 in 2017-18, \$15,286 in 2016-17, and \$10,633 in 2015-16.

The funding for the two Surrey programs is part of a total \$2.4 million in funding for 93 community adult literacy programs, which will help more than 9,000 adult learners within 89 communities in 2017-18. This funding will be announced

The event will include staff, teaching leads and students from the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society.

## Acknowledgements

- Good morning, everyone. I would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.
- Thank you **Rachna Singh** for the introduction and being emcee.
- I'd like to acknowledge **Satbir Singh Cheema**, CEO of the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society.
- And also, **Aimee Begalka**, the board chair of the READ Surrey/White Rock Society.
- Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society literacy instructor Gita Matthews.
- My colleagues:
  - **Harry Bains**, Minister of Labour and MLA for Surrey – Newton.
  - **Jagrup Brar**, MLA for Surrey – Fleetwood.
  - **Bruce Ralston**, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology and MLA for Surrey – Whalley.
  - **Jinny Sims**, Minister of Citizens' Services and MLA for Surrey – Panorama.
- And, of course, I'd like to give a big shout out to the all the staff and students with us today.

## **Early accomplishments:**

- I'm proud to be part of a government that is committed to tackling poverty and inequality by providing British Columbians with the services they need to lift themselves up.
- We acted quickly to provide British Columbians with relief on B.C. student loan interest.
- Effective August 1st, 2017, we reduced student loan interest rates by 2.5%, to the prime rate as part of our commitment to scrap interest entirely.
- The reduced provincial interest rate for B.C. student loans will benefit approximately 200,000 people immediately, as well as future borrowers.
- On August 8th, we announced that tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs delivered by public post-secondary institutions would be eliminated.
- We also expanded the tuition-waiver program for former young people in care to all our public post-secondary institutions.
- In the coming months, we will continue to work on removing even more barriers to education and training because it has the power to transform people's lives.

## Announcement

- The staff and students at the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society can attest to the fact that literacy skills can change people's lives.
- Many people take literacy for granted.
- But over 500,000 British Columbians have challenges with literacy.
- Literacy and numeracy skills allow people to connect with their community, balance household budgets, and explore higher education opportunities.
- Literacy and numeracy programs are a great starting point for an educational path that ends with a diploma, certificate or a degree.
- The literacy skills provided here at the society are fundamental game changers.
- That's why I'm glad to be part of a government that is breaking down barriers.
- I am excited to announce our government is investing:
  - \$20,393 to the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society to deliver the Learn with a Friend program, and
  - \$14,149 to the READ Surrey/White Rock Society to provide the Partners Adult Literacy Tutoring program.
- These community-based programs are delivered in partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

- Literacy providers and post-secondary institutions collaborate to support improved learner outcomes and encourage transition from community-programs to post-secondary studies.
- Through these programs, local volunteers are trained to provide small group or one-on-one tutoring once a week for two hours.
- These literacy sessions are adapted to the needs of the individual learner.
- The fact that the programs are delivered locally in the community makes a huge difference.
- Community-based programs allow adult learners to develop literacy and numeracy skills in an environment that is welcoming and familiar.

## Conclusion

- I'd like to thank the volunteers and staff at the Progressive Intercultural Community Services and the READ Surrey/White Rock Society for supporting community literacy.
- You're making an incredible difference to people's lives.
- You're helping adult learners gain the ability and the confidence to access services that support their goals; improve the health of their families; and, start their journey toward post-secondary education.
- Literacy and numeracy skills are life changers.
- Thank you for your passion for education and training.
- And to the learners here today, keep striving, keep dreaming and keep reaching for the stars.
- Your hopes and dreams are within your grasp.
- Thank you.