



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**Building Health and Prosperity in the Alberni Clayoquot
– Poverty Reduction Community Engagement 2.0**

**Port Alberni Friendship Centre
3555 4th Ave, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 4H3**

**January 19, 2018
5 PM to 9 PM**

Word count: 1,117

Information for Minister

Event: Building Health and Prosperity in the Alberni Clayoquot – Poverty Reduction Community Engagement 2.0

Approximately eight delegates including Member of Parliament Gord Johns; Regional mayors; Deanna Ogle, Living Wage Campaign; Tseshaht First Nation Chief Cynthia Dick; Darlene Leonew of the Port Alberni Friendship Centre; and Chris Martin, director, Food Bank on the Edge.

Additional regional program coordinators (TBC) will be participating in a panel discussion addressing poverty in the Alberni Valley. This is an opportunity for residents to come together and hear about it and, most importantly, provide feedback.

Audience:

General public

Media: Yes – there will be time for one-on-one interviews and networking post event.

Details and format:

- Long tables facing the crowd with portable mic.
- Each delegate will have a maximum of 10 minutes to speak
- No podium

Speech theme:

- Poverty is a complex issue which requires communication and commitment at many levels to see results.
- There is no one solution or band-aid but there is a lot of will and ways we can work on this issue.
- We all have a role to play.

What does audience want to hear?

- What is happening at the provincial and federal levels?
- Poverty Reduction plans and promising programs/initiatives
- How can we participate/what do you need from us locally?

Agenda: Date

Time	Details
5:00 PM	Welcome and Opening - Marcie Dewitt
5:30 PM	Dinner and Deeper Dive
6:00 PM	Panel Discussion
7:30 PM	Protocol Signing
8:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Open Space – Networking, Education and Exploration

Site contact: Jolleen Dick Cell s.22

Introduction

- Hello and thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today in the territory of the Hupacasath (who-patch-eh-set) and Tseshaht (say-shot) First Nations.
- Thank you to Elder Ray Samuel for the blessing.
- And thank you everyone for taking the time to be here with us today.
- On April 2, 2017, Member of Parliament Gord Johns and I signed the Alberni Clayoquot Working Together to Reduce Poverty Protocol Agreement.
- At that time, the former provincial government had made it clear this was not a topic they were interested in.
- How things have changed.
- Since this time the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network has been continuing this work...
- Approaching local leadership tables to endorse the protocol agreement.
- Today, we gather to widen the number of leaders committed to supporting this important work.
- And to discuss ways to increase education on poverty reduction and make a difference in our communities.
- We are here to provide feedback on the next steps and opportunities for addressing poverty in our region and supporting people to meet their basic needs.
- Port Alberni is making great strides toward reducing poverty through social innovation.

- For example, we know that food access is a determinant of health.
- Food security means having access to safe, culturally acceptable, and nutritious food.
- The principles of food security include sustainability, self-reliance and social justice.
- These principles improve the health of the community, environment and people over time.
- Many of you know we have a couple local food-related social enterprises here in Port Alberni:
 - Healthy Harvest Farm, which works to develop micro-business opportunities, help teach employment skills, and grow food for families and for sale.
 - And the Alberni Valley Food Hub, an extension of Island Health's community Food Hub initiative, which promotes local food security and community events.
- These great initiatives help build stronger, more self-sufficient communities – and they are just two of many social enterprises to be found in Port Alberni.
- There is a lot of important work happening here locally to reduce poverty and support families and people struggling to make ends meet – but there is more work to be done.
- In the Alberni Valley, two in five children live in poverty, and it is more than twice as likely that Indigenous children live in poverty.
- Part of being connected as a society is ensuring that everyone can prosper.
- As a government, we are working to make life more affordable for all British Columbians, to ensure the fruits of economic growth are shared by the many and don't just accrue to the few at the top.

- We are investing in public services, from housing to transit to education ...
- Services that have been underfunded and neglected.
- Services that are a bedrock for healthy, thriving, equitable societies.
- We are also tackling the province's shameful record on poverty.
- We've removed fees for adult basic education.
- Income assistance, including disability assistance, has increased by \$100 a month and we are committed to a comprehensive review of our social assistance programs.
- People on disability assistance will also 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.

Indigenous Relations

- These important are investments – investments that will benefit all British Columbians – they are not just “social policy.”
- All of these measures are fundamental to stable economic growth.
- And they are critical to the social and economic outcomes of Indigenous peoples.

- As MLA for Mid-Island Pacific Rim and Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, one of my key priorities is to work collaboratively and respectfully with Indigenous people to establish a clear cross-government vision of reconciliation...
- A vision based on implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and acting on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action.
- One of the key points in the United Nations Declaration is to provide minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous peoples of the world.
- This includes freedom from poverty.
- Fostering reconciliation is an important issue in the Alberni Valley and throughout British Columbia.
- This is obvious by the work that is already happening with the creation of the reconciliation committee established between the Tseshaht First Nation and the Port Alberni municipal government.
- Our provincial government is also working to improve the quality of life for Indigenous people...
- We are doing this by exploring new partnerships that will close the gaps in health, education, skills training, and employment.
- The reality is this:
 - While Canada ranks in the top 10 when it comes to the United Nations Human Development Index...
 - Indigenous people in Canada rank 63rd on the same index.

- That is a huge gap and it is NOT acceptable.
- B.C. is launching a fair wage commission and have committed to bringing in a \$15 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.
- 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.
- They are tremendous examples of how to make a difference and understand that living wages support thriving economies.
- Their leadership and your leadership here in this room is helping us build a way forward.
- My colleague Shane Simpson, minister of Social Development, is leading efforts to create a Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- And a 27-member Advisory Forum is providing guidance as we develop the plan.
- The forum members represent multiple sectors, including:
 - Poverty advocates, and people with lived experience;
 - Indigenous people, academics and experts, and...
 - Representatives of the labour and business communities.

- Wes Hewitt from Port Alberni is on the advisory forum. [Wes if you are here please put up your hand]
- Wes is the Executive Director of the Port Alberni Shelter Society and an active member of the community.
- He sits as a member of the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network, Port Alberni Advisory Planning Commission, and many others.
- The B.C. Aboriginal Friendship Association is also heavily involved in shaping this work.
- To develop the Poverty Reduction Plan, B.C. is holding public meetings in up to 20 communities between now and March 2018.
- These meetings give people an opportunity to share their ideas about how to reduce poverty in their community and across B.C.
- The Port Alberni session is coming up on Tuesday, January 23, at the Port Alberni Athletic Hall at 5 pm.
- I encourage everyone to participate.
- Your thoughts and ideas will help shape the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the future of our province.
- We expect to be able to share our Poverty Reduction Strategy this fall.

Conclusion

- I have been very fortunate in my career to work closely with Indigenous leaders and to learn from them.
- They tell me the history of this valley is one of abundance and shared prosperity.

- It's a story I hear again and again from Indigenous people across B.C.
- Growing income gaps and wealth inequality are issues of that have grown as we've established this country called Canada.
- It is a legacy that we cannot allow to continue...
- And a moral issue we must deal with – in Indigenous communities, and in all communities.
- We can work together to eliminate poverty. It can be a reality.
- It benefits every British Columbian if we work together to create the conditions for stronger, healthier, independent communities.
- Thank you.

-END-



Speaking Notes
for

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

FirstVoices relaunch
ŁÁU, WELNEW Tribal School
7449 West Saanich Road
Jan. 29, 2018

TIME: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Information for Minister

Event Summary:

- Minister Fraser offers remarks at the relaunch of the First Peoples' Cultural Council (FPCC), FirstVoices website.
- The relaunch is of a beta (preview) version of the website and FPCC is seeking feedback from users until the end of March 2018.
- FirstVoices is the flagship program of the First Peoples' Cultural Foundation and is administered by FPCC. FirstVoices was developed to empower Indigenous communities to curate and control their own language data.
- The website's architecture and front end of the site has been redeveloped over the last few years to align with modern technological practices. Current updates include moving the platform to the Cloud, adopting an open source model and developing additional integrated tools such as interactive learning applications.
- The event will occur at the ŁÁÚ, WELNEW Tribal School.

About FirstVoices:

- Launched in 2003, FirstVoices is a suite of web-based tools and services designed to support Indigenous people engaged in language archiving, language teaching and culture revitalization.
- The FirstVoices language archive contains thousands of text entries in many diverse Indigenous language writing systems, enhanced with sounds, pictures and videos.
- There are currently 47 B.C. First Nations archives and 22 archives from outside of B.C. on FirstVoices.com. FirstVoices also features several innovative apps, including FirstVoices Keyboards for use on mobile devices, and dictionary apps for several B.C. First Nations languages.

Pronunciations:

- FPCC confirm there is no expectation that the minister says the name of the ŁÁÚ, WELNEW Tribal School as it is complicated.
- Tracey Herbert will introduce the minister to Elder John Elliot prior to the event to go over the pronunciation of Mr Elliot's Indigenous title.

Letter of Greeting from Premier Horgan: The Premier has written a letter of greeting to FPCC, which will be projected on the screen and read out by Cynthia Callison.

Action/Visual: Minister Fraser with FPCC CEO Tracey Herbert, Chair Cynthia Callison and community members and FirstVoices language champions.

Notable guests:

- Elder John Elliot, Tsartlip First Nation, co-founder of FirstVoices
- Leslie Saxon, Professor of Linguistics, University of Victoria
- Sue Urbanczyk, Assistant Professor of Linguistics, University of Victoria
- Gordon Yusko, Assistant Director of Community Engagement, Irving K Barber Learning Centre, University of British Columbia
- Alissa Cherry, Research Manager, Audrey and Harry Hawthorn Library Archive, Museum of Anthropology
- Lucy Bell, Head of First Nations Department and Repatriation program, Royal BC Museum
- Catherin Larsen, Senior Program Advisor (Arts and Culture), Department of Canadian Heritage

- Hugh Braker, Chair, New Relationship Trust
- Leah Hayward, assistant to MP Elizabeth May [Elizabeth May is unable to attend]

Other attendees: FPCC staff and board members, FirstVoices administrators, community members and provincial government employees

Podium/microphone: Microphone confirmed, podium tbc

Event Start Time: 11:00 a.m.

Length of speech: 5 minute maximum

Attire: Business

Emcee: Tracey Herbert (CEO, First Peoples' Cultural Council)

Media attendance: No media is invited to the Tribal School, but FPCC will send out embargoed copies of the news release prior to the event and GCPE will follow up.

Other speakers:

- Cynthia Callison: FPCC Chair
- Tracey Herbert: FPCC CEO

Note: Following remarks, there will be a moderated panel and QA with four community members or language champions involved with FirstVoices. The minister will be part of the audience for this panel.

Biographies of panellists:

STOLØEL John Elliot

STOLØEL John Elliott is a respected Elder of the Tsartlip First Nation and has taught at ŁÁU,WELNEW Tribal School in Saanich for over 30 years. His dedication to the revitalization of First Nations languages began over 30 years ago, inspired by the efforts of his father, David Elliott, to preserve the SENĆOŦEN language.

Lois Joseph

Lois Joseph is from the Lil'wat Nation and is a member of the nation's council. She is also the manager of the Lil'wat Culture Centre and an administrator for FirstVoices in her community.

Jordan Williams

Jordan Williams is from Lake Babine First Nation and is a fluent speaker of the Ned'u'ten dialect of the Carrier language. Jordan is a language teacher in his community. He is also Jordan a Mentor in the Mentor-Apprentice Program through FPCC.

Youth panellist - tbd

Logistics:

- Tracey Herbert will meet the minister on arrival. The Minister should go to the cultural building of the Tribal School (directions in accompanying document)

Emergency contact: Shaylene Boechler: #250 213-6037

FPCC Funding:

- The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) is providing FPCC with \$1.5 million in 2017/18. s.13

FirstVoices funding:

- \$300,000: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- \$300,000: Ministry of Advanced Education:
- \$100,000: First Peoples' Cultural Foundation
- \$250,000: New Relationship Trust
- \$1M: Government of Canada

Key messages:

- **The FirstVoices website is a highly respected tool to help communities preserve and revitalize Indigenous languages.**
- **B.C. is committed to supporting Indigenous communities seeking to revitalize connections with their languages. It is part of my mandate from the Premier.**
- **There are words for unique Indigenous concepts and knowledge that do not exist in English or French. Those words are important tools for everyone as we build a shared vision of reconciliation.**

Time	Event Itinerary
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Minister Fraser arrives at ŁÁÚ, WELNEW Tribal School (Cultural building) and is welcomed by Tracey Herbert: CEO, First Peoples' Cultural Council Opening Prayer and welcome to territory: Elder John Elliot, Tsartlip First Nation
11:15 – 11:30 a.m.	Cynthia Callison will read out letter of greeting from the Premier Remarks by Minister Fraser (max. of 5 minutes) Remarks by Cynthia Callison, Chair, First Peoples' Cultural Council Remarks by Tracey Herbert First Voices Promotional Video
11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Moderated Panel session and short QA with FirstVoices users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STOLØEŁ John Elliot, WJØEŁP (Tsartlip First Nation) • Lois Joseph: FirstVoices Administrator (Lil'wat Nation) • Jordan Williams: Language teacher (Lake Babine First Nation) • Youth panellist - tbd
12:30 – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch
1:45 – 2:00 p.m.	Photos with Minister Fraser
2:00 pm	Minister Fraser departs

SPEAKING NOTES:

- Good morning. It's a pleasure to be here today.
- First, I'd like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the WSÁNEĆ peoples.
- And to thank Elder STOLZEŁ John Elliot from the Tsartlip First Nation for his welcome to this beautiful territory.

[John will coach the minister on pronunciation]

- I'd also like to thank Tracey Herbert, Cynthia Callison and all staff at the First Peoples' Cultural Council for the invitation to be here.

[Minister to acknowledge anyone else in the room that he wishes to mention]

- As you know, the Premier was sorry not be able to be with you today, as was my colleague Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.
- It's an exciting day – the relaunch of the FirstVoices website.
- **The FirstVoices website is a highly respected tool to help communities preserve and revitalize Indigenous languages.**
- Language is one of the key ways we define ourselves, the world around us, and how we relate to others.

- Teaching of language connects children to their heritage and the lands they come from.
- It grounds them in who they are and opens new pathways for who they might become.
- Teaching of language also strengthens the cultural and social health of a community.
- It allows children to move into the future, grounded in Indigenous worldviews that flow from their rich heritage.
- **B.C. is committed to supporting Indigenous communities to revitalize connections with their languages.**
- **It is part of my mandate from the Premier.**
- I sat in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's hearings when they were in B.C.
- I listened to the testimony of survivors of the residential school system.
- Time and time again, the Commission heard how survivors were made to feel ashamed...
- How they were punished for speaking their language and expressing their cultural identities.
- How the residential school system imposed cultural genocide and scarred generations.
- When it came time to make their recommendations to governments, the Commission recognized the importance of language and culture.

- It demonstrates how important the revitalization of language and culture is.
- Indigenous peoples are also traditional knowledge keepers and language is how that knowledge passes from generation to generation.
- There are words for unique Indigenous concepts and knowledge that do not exist in English or French.
- Those words are important tools for everyone as we build a shared vision of reconciliation.
- My riding and my home is in Nuu-chah-nulth territory.
- Many years ago, I learned an important phrase from Ahousaht First Nation Hereditary Chief Earl Maquinna George.
- ‘Hishuk ish tsawalk’ – ‘all things are one – everything is connected.’
- This concept has shaped how I think about my work, my riding and now, my work as Minister of Indigenous Relations.
- Everything is connected.
- Another Nuu-chah-nulth word that has guided me is ‘isaak’ – ‘respect’.
- A true vision of reconciliation starts with respect, for yourself, for your neighbours, for your history and culture.

- I have the greatest respect for the invaluable work of the First Peoples Cultural Council.
- B.C. is home to 60% of Indigenous languages in Canada.
- I am mindful of the urgency and scale of the important preservation and revitalization work you undertake.
- FirstVoices represents an important component of that work.
- As Indigenous language learning pathways have evolved, FirstVoices has evolved and grown.
- New integrated tools like the keyboard app for mobile devices, the iPad-based Language lab, the language tutor and interactive dictionaries...
- Each is a testament to that continued evolution and growth.
- Together with the work you do with language nests, with the Mentor-Apprentice program and all your arts programs – they are all connected.
- I said that this work is urgent and important, but I believe also there is room for optimism.
- As I said, one of my mandate priorities is to support Indigenous communities who want to revitalize connections with their languages.
- I want to work with the Council to find a path forward that will help that happen.

- There is already great work out there in individual communities.
- Including from Indigenous youth.
- For example, School District 70 is collaborating with the Nuu-chah-nulth communities on language classes in Port Alberni.
- A member of Nak'azdli Whut'en's [Nak-ah-dzlee Whu-ten] youth – Tessa Erickson – is developing an app and a summer camp to help other youth immerse themselves in the Dakelh [Da-kel] language.
- And students in School District 69 in Qualicum are learning Hul'qami'num [Hull-kah-me-num].
- These are just a few examples that demonstrate the enthusiasm of Indigenous youth to embrace their language, culture and heritage.
- Their time is now. We must help them achieve their goals.
- Congratulations on the relaunch of FirstVoices.
- This is a very exciting and I'm honoured to be with you here today.
- Klecko, klecko

-End-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**B.C.-Maa-nulth
Government-to-Government Agreement
signing ceremony**

**Thunderbird Building
(Uchucklesaht Tribe building)
Community Room
5251 Argyle St.
Port Alberni**

**Friday, January 12, 2018
1:30 – 3:15 pm**

Word count: 410

Information for Minister

Event: BC-Maa-nulth G2G signing ceremony:

- Location: Thunderbird Building Community Room, 5251 Argyle St., Port Alberni.
- Minister Fraser and the five Maa-nulth leaders will sign the B.C.-Maa-nulth Government-to-Government (G2G) Agreement.
- After signing the G2G, participants will have about five minutes each to say a few words, followed by informal discussions with coffee/snacks, and a tour of the Thunderbird Building.
- Media will be invited to attend near the end of the event.
- The G2G agreement provides for regular bilateral forums to discuss, prioritize and collaborate on topics of mutual interest, including land, resource management, and treaty implementation issues.

Audience:

- 45-50 people
- Eight Provincial government staff
- 40 Maa-nulth First Nations leaders, representatives, staff, including:
 - Robert J. Dennis Sr., Chief Councillor Huu-ay-aht First Nations
 - Charlie Cootes, Chief Councillor Uchucklesaht Tribe
 - Anne Mack, tyee ha'wilt'ha Toquaht Nation
 - Les Doiron, President Yuułu?í?at' Government
 - Peter Hanson, Legislative Chief Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations

Media: Yes, Port Alberni media will be invited to attend for interviews and photographs at the end of the event, approximately 3 p.m.

Details and format:

- Event will be catered with drinks and snacks.
- Event is largely informal. No podium or microphone. No gift exchange.
- Minister's executive assistant Jolleen Dick will emcee.
- Each leader has about 5 minutes to speak.

What does audience want to hear?

- B.C. is committed to a strong partnership with Maa-nulth First Nations.
- B.C. will work with Maa-nulth First Nations as equal partners to resolve issues of mutual concern.

Key messages:

- B.C. and Maa-nulth First Nations are strengthening and affirming their productive treaty partnership through a government-to-government agreement.
- The agreement provides B.C. and Maa-nulth First Nations a forum to efficiently and collaboratively address and prioritize matters of mutual interest.
- Reconciliation doesn't end when a treaty comes into effect – this agreement reflects B.C.'s strong, ongoing partnership with Maa-nulth First Nations.

- Maa-nulth First Nations are important contributors to the economic and cultural life of the west coast of Vancouver Island, and this is another way to explore new opportunities and ideas.
- Developing practical and flexible ways address natural resource, land management and treaty implementation issues benefits everyone – Maa-nulth citizens, industry and the greater region.

Pronunciations:

- **Huu-ay-aht** -Hoo-ay-at
- **Uchucklesaht** - U-chuck-le-sat
- **Toquaht** - Toe-kwat
- **Yuuluʔiʔath Government** - You-thloo-ith-at
- **Ka:ʔyu:ʔkʔtʔhʔ/Che:kʔtles7etʔhʔ First Nations** - Ky-yook-et/Chek-le-set
- **Hupacasath** - Who-pe-chess-it
- **Tseshaht** - Tsay-shaht

Agenda: Friday, January 12, 2018

Emcee: Jolleen Dick

1:30 pm		Event begins Thunderbird Building community room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emcee welcomes attendees and announces the event will open with a cultural celebration.
1:30-1:40 pm	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maa-nulth cultural component (singing and dancing)
1:40 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emcee thanks dancers and invites leaders to sign the G2G documents
1:40-1:50 pm	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maa-nulth leaders and Minister Fraser each sign six copies of the G2G agreement. - Opportunity for photos
1:50 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emcee invites participants to say a few words.
1:50-2:30 pm	40 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brief statements (5 minutes each, order TBD): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation - Chief Councillor Robert J. Dennis Sr., Huu-ay-aht First Nations - Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes, Uchucklesaht Tribe - tyee haʔwiltʔ Anne Mack, Toquaht Nation - President Les Doiron, Yuuluʔiʔath Government - Legislative Chief Peter Hanson, Ka:ʔyu:ʔkʔtʔhʔ/Che:kʔtles7etʔhʔ First Nations
2:30 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emcee thanks participants and announces the formal portion of the event is concluded, and there will be 30 minutes for coffee, mingling, photos and a tour of the building. Emcee reminds participants local media will be invited to the building at 3 pm.

2:30-3:00 pm	30 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group photos with G2G agreements - Coffee, snacks and mingling; - Tour of the Thunderbird Building
3:00-3:15 pm	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Port Alberni media will be invited to the Thunderbird Building at 3:00 pm. - Leaders will be requested to reassemble in the community room for a short media interviews, and for photos at locations TBD.
3:15 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Media portion concludes. - Emcee thanks everyone for attending. - Event ends with more coffee and mingling.

Site contact: Lynn Brunsdon, MIRR Implementation manager, 250-886-3170 cell

Maa-nulth G2G signing

Introduction

- Thank you so much for being here today.
- I'd like to thank the Uchucklesaht (U-chuck-le-sat) for hosting us in their beautiful building ...
- And I'd like to acknowledge our event today is being held within the territories of the Hupacasath [**Who-pe-chess-it**] and Tseshaht [**Tsay-shaht**] peoples.
- It's a great honor for me to be here with the Elders, leaders and members of the Maa-nulth First Nations.
- I have known many of you very well for a quite some time.
- This is the first time I've had the honor of signing an agreement in my home riding since becoming Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation.
- I know this agreement has been developed over a number of years, and you've been waiting a long time to bring it into effect.
- I'm very pleased that we've done so today. This is good news.
- The Province has a strong, ongoing partnership with Maa-nulth First Nations and our agreement reflects that.

- The fact is that reconciliation doesn't end when a treaty begins.
- Treaties are a powerful foundation, but it takes respectful and ongoing government-to-government relationships to make them effective.
- It takes a willingness to be creative and flexible.
- Our agreement is unique among First Nations with a treaty.
- It shows how treaties can evolve as relationships between the governments evolve.
- Partnering with Indigenous communities in innovative ways is a key priority of my ministry and my government.
- B.C. and the Maa-nulth Nations now have a path to work together more effectively.
- That is good for your citizens and your neighbouring communities.
- More effective and co-ordinated decision-making on treaty, land, and natural resource issues will benefit the economy, jobs and all people of the region.
- Our agreement is another avenue to expand on the good work you've been doing economically, politically and culturally throughout your territories.

- Your business ventures are creating jobs and opening new economic opportunities.
- Your leadership and guidance at the regional district here Alberni-Clayoquot and in Strathcona is helping shape a better future for all people of these regions.
- Councillor John Jack had it right when he said: “When it comes to First Nations rights and title, and treaty rights, it all comes down to good governance practices and good neighbour practices.”
- We want to be good neighbors and a strong partner of the Maa-nulth Nations.
- I know we’ll have a lot to talk about in the upcoming months and years.
- I’m eager to hear your ideas and to work together, government-to-government.
- Thank you.

-END-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**15th annual BC Natural Resource Forum
Ministers' Breakfast panel**

**Prince George Civic Centre
808 Canada Games Way
Prince George**

**Wednesday, January 17, 2018
6:30 – 8:30 am**

Word count: 600

Information for Minister

Event: BC Natural Resources Forum – Minister’s Breakfast panel

- Participating Ministers each have 3-4 minutes to speak, followed by 20-30 minutes of moderated discussion, followed by audience submission of written questions.
- The annual BC Natural Resources Forum provides attendees opportunities to learn about current approaches to managing natural resources in B.C.
- The breakfast panel provides a forum for natural resource sector ministries of the B.C. government to outline their priorities and approaches.
- Host: BC Natural Resources Forum Host Committee

Audience:

- Approximately 360 people (360 is maximum capacity of room; event is sold out)
- Delegates include First Nations leaders and staff; natural resource sector business leaders; local, federal and provincial government leaders and staff; union leaders; government agency leaders and staff; business association leaders; non-profit and NGO leaders.
- Listed speakers for the forum:
- Indigenous:
 - Perry Bellegarde, National Chief, Assembly of First Nations
 - Chief Dominic Frederick, Lheidli T’enneh First Nation
 - Dallas Smith, Nanwakolas Council
 - Derek Orr (McLeod Lake), Business Development Manager, Carrier Lumber Ltd.
 - Karin Hunt, Executive Director, PG Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association (PGNAETA has delivered many Indigenous Skills Training projects in partnership with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations over past three years.)
- Government:
 - Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia
 - Hon. George Chow, B.C. Minister of State for Trade
 - Mayor Lyn Hall, City of Prince George
 - Mike Morris, MLA Prince George Mackenzie
 - Todd Doherty, MP Cariboo-Prince George
- Government agency:
 - Gary Herman, Chief Executive Officer, Industry Training Authority
 - Ken Veldman, Director, Public Affairs, Port of Prince Rupert
 - Dr. Pascal Spothelfer, President & CEO Genome BC
- Non-profit:
 - Megan Leslie, President & CEO World Wildlife Fund
 - Stewart Muir, Executive Director, Resource Works Society
 - Val Litwin, President & CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce
 - John Leech, CEO, Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC
- Industry:
 - Dan Jepsen, President & CEO, C3 Alliance Corp.
 - Dr. John Thompson, Chair, Resources for Future Generations
 - Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council for Forest Industries

- Byng Giraud, VP Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG
- Gareth Manderson, General Manager BC Works, Primary Metal, Rio Tinto,
- Dr. Lyn Anglin, Chief Scientific Officer & VP Environmental Affairs, Imperial Metals
- TJ Rosengarth, President & CEO, Northwest Hardwoods
- Karen Brandt, Brant Strategy Inc.
- Mark Feldinger, Senior VP, energy, environment, transportation and sourcing, Canfor
- Gareth Manderson, General Manager BC Works, Primary Metal, Rio Tinto
- Unions:
 - Wayne Prins, Executive Director, Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC)

Media: Yes, event is open to media. CKPG TV/radio expected to attend (parent company is a sponsor)

Speakers for Ministers' Breakfast (in this order):

Moderator: Byng Giraud, VP Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG

- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade & Technology
- Hon. Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- Hon. Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources
- Hon. George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Details and format (all TBC):

- Ministers will be seated on stage on couches and chairs.
- Each minister will have 3-4 minutes to speak from their seats (they'll have lapel mikes) on issues, challenges, opportunities each of their ministries face.
- 20-30 minutes of discussion moderated by Byng Giraud
- Remaining time – audience members can submit questions via a comment card to the moderator. Questions will be vetted.

Speech theme:

- British Columbia's new path to reconciliation and approaches to resource development with First Nations and industry.

What does audience want to hear?

- Details of the government's priorities and new approaches to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities.
- How B.C. is implementing UNDRIP, and how that applies to private sector natural resource companies.

Agenda: Wednesday, January 17, 2018

6:30am	<p>Minister and staff arrive.</p> <p>Check-in is at the registration desk where directions will be provided to the Speakers' pre-brief.</p>
6:45-7:00am	<p>Ministers requested to greet guests, mix n'mingle</p>
7:00 - 8:20am	<p>Ministers' Breakfast Each minister speaks for 2-3 minutes 20-30 minutes of moderated discussion Written questions submitted by audience Moderated by Byng Giraud, VP Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade & Technology • Hon. Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development • Hon. Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources • Hon. George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change • Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
8:30 - 8:45am	<p>Conference Blessing and Welcome Emcee: Dan Jepsen, President & CEO, C3 Alliance Corp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Dominic Frederick, Lheidli T'enneh First Nation • Mayor Lyn Hall, City of Prince George • Mike Morris, MLA Prince George Mackenzie • Todd Doherty, MP Cariboo-Prince George • Gareth Manderson, General Manager BC Works, Primary Metal, Rio Tinto, Patron Sponsor
8:45 – 9:15am	<p>Opening Keynote Address National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Assembly of First Nations</p>
9:15 - 10:25am	<p>Panel 1: Balancing Socio-Economic, Cultural and Environmental Values Moderator: Dr. John Thompson, Chair, Resources for Future Generations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Megan Leslie, President & CEO World Wildlife Fund • Dr. Lyn Anglin, Chief Scientific Officer & VP Environmental Affairs, Imperial Metals • Dr. Pascal Spothelfer, President & CEO Genome BC • Dallas Smith, Nanwakolas Council
10:25 - 10:45am	<p>Morning Nutrition Break</p>
10:45 - 11:55am	<p>Panel 2: Forestry and Forest Products Moderator: Susan Yurkovich, President & CEO, BC Council of Forest Industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TJ Rosengarth, President & CEO, Northwest Hardwoods • Karen Brandt, Brant Strategy Inc. • Derek Orr, Business Development Manager, Carrier Lumber Ltd. • Mark Feldinger, Senior VP, energy, environment, transportation and

	sourcing, Canfor
12:20 - 1:40pm	Keynote Luncheon Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia
2:00 - 3:00pm	Panel 3: International Trade Moderator: Val Litwin, President & CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. George Chow, B.C. Minister of State for Trade • Stewart Muir, Executive Director, Resource Works Society • Ken Veldman, Director, Public Affairs, Port of Prince Rupert
3:00 - 3:20pm	Afternoon Nutrition Break
3:20 - 4:30pm	Panel 4: Training and Employment Moderator: John Leech, CEO, Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Herman, Chief Executive Officer, Industry Training Authority • Karin Hunt, Executive Director, PG Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association • Gareth Manderson, General Manager BC Works, Primary Metal, Rio Tinto • Wayne Prins, Executive Director, CLAC
4:30 - 6:30pm	Wine & Cheese Reception (open to all delegates)

Site contact: Dan Jepsen, Forum Host Committee Chair, President & CEO, C3 Alliance Corp.

Key messages (in bold in speaking notes):

- We are committed to working respectfully with Indigenous people and all partners to design a cross-government vision for reconciliation.
- Many First Nations want to be more engaged with government and industry on natural resource development and to benefit equitably from resources in their territories.
- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is not a threat to development. Free, prior and informed consent provides a just path forward for the development of this province's incredible natural resource wealth.
- Companies wanting to develop resources in British Columbia must have partnerships with First Nations and Indigenous people from the beginning.
- By working on opportunities in an environmentally sustainable and inclusive manner – we all benefit.

Ministers' Breakfast

(Minister will be introduced by Byng Giraud, VP Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG)

Introduction

- I am grateful to be here in the territory of Lheidli T'enneh (Clayt-clay den-ay).
- I would like to recognize Lheidli T'enneh (Clayt-clay den-ay) Chief Dominic Frederick, Regional Chief Terry Teegee of the BC Assembly of First Nations, as well as National Chief Perry Bellegarde of the Assembly of First Nations.
- And I'd like to acknowledge Elders, chiefs and matriarchs who may be with us.

Ministry mandate

- **My Ministry is committed to working respectfully and in true partnership with Indigenous people – and indeed, all partners – to design a cross-government vision for reconciliation.**
- It's a vision guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, and the Supreme Court of Canada's Tsilhqot'in decision.
- Reconciliation requires deep transformation and change.
- We must not just talk differently. We must think and act differently.

- Our government's vision for reconciliation will require time and guidance from Indigenous people to determine the precise direction we are going.
- Cabinet held a record number of meetings at a gathering in Vancouver in September, and we are continuing those discussions with individual First Nations and Indigenous organizations as we plan our path forward...
- ...A path that promises to go beyond mere legal obligations to consult.

Resource Development

- **Many First Nations want to be more engaged with government, and industry, on natural resource development – and to benefit equitably from resources in their territories.**
- Government's commitment to transforming its relationship means deep and meaningful engagement with Indigenous people throughout the decision-making process, right from the beginning.
- We are committed to an approach that is equitable, fair and respectful of the values of Indigenous people and authority of First Nation governments.
- Our relationships cannot be merely transactional, driven solely by the bottom line.
- We must strive to ensure that Indigenous people have access to the fruits of economic development and consent to development in their territories.
- On that, I want to take this opportunity to speak out against the fear being spread with respect to the United Nations Declaration.

- The suggestion that it is reducible to a veto on development is disingenuous and inaccurate.
- The UN Declaration is a holistic human rights document.
- **Far from a threat to development, free, prior and informed consent provides a just and equitable path forward for the development of this province's incredible natural resource wealth.**

Role of Business:

- **Our government is committed to helping companies wanting to develop resources in British Columbia to pursue partnerships with First Nations from the very beginning.**
- We believe this partnership-based approach will benefit industry.
- Indigenous communities bring important knowledge and perspectives about potential resource-development projects.
- I take to heart what I often hear from Indigenous peoples – “nothing about us, without us.”
- For example, we understand the concerns of First Nations for the safety of vulnerable members of their communities related to industrial work camps, and are working on a plan to address that.
- We encourage industry to recognize First Nations' rights and their vital role in shaping appropriate resource development within their territories.
- Stronger relationships based on partnerships with First Nations will create a stronger B.C.

Conclusion:

- Resource industries and the jobs they support are important to B.C. and many First Nations.
- They are vitally important in my constituency of Mid-Island Pacific Rim, including to the Nuu-cha-nulth Nations, in whose territory I live.
- By working together on opportunities in an environmentally sustainable and inclusive manner, by upholding and respecting Indigenous rights – we can all benefit.
- Snachalhya [*Sna-chal-ya*].

-END-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**Association for Mineral Exploration's Roundup 2018:
B.C. Government Mineral Exploration
and Development Industry Forum**

**Vancouver Convention Centre, West Building
1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, B.C.
West Ballroom A**

**Monday, Jan. 22, 2018
2-4:30 p.m.**

Word count: 1,400

Information for Minister

Event – B.C. Government Mineral Exploration and Development Industry Forum

- This forum will provide a platform for elected officials to address the areas of specific interest to Association for Mineral Exploration's (AME) members and mineral explorers in B.C.
- Each panelist will have a 10-minute opportunity to introduce their ministry's mandate and views on mineral exploration and development in B.C., followed by a one-hour facilitated question-and-answer period between panelists and the audience. Each panelist will be given five minutes for closing remarks.
- Hosted by Edie Thome, AME president and CEO, and Diane Nicolson, AME board chairwoman

Audience:

- All delegates are welcome. As many as 300 expected.

Media:

- Open to accredited media. No questions.

Speakers:

- Hosts Edie Thome, AME president and CEO, and Diane Nicolson, AME board chairwoman
- Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson
- Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser
- Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman
- Yukon Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Minister and Deputy Premier Ranj Pillai
- Northwest Territories Minister of Mines Wally Schumann
- Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources

Details and format:

- Panel members give 15-minute opening statement.
- Moderated question-and-answer period with AME delegates, industry representatives. Questions will be written and passed to moderator. No open microphone.
- Panel members give five-minute closing statement.
- Panelists seated at table with lapel microphones.
- Podium for responses, as well as opening and closing statements.

Speech theme:

- British Columbia's new path to reconciliation and approaches to resource development with First Nations and industry.

What does audience want to hear?

- Any initiatives the B.C. government is taking to engage Indigenous people in ways that support mineral exploration and development.
- Details of the government's priorities and new approaches to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous communities.

- Examples of how government's new approach is already making a difference.
- Why this approach will be successful in providing certainty on the land base and promoting successful partnerships between First Nations and industry.
- B.C.'s approach to resource revenue sharing.
- How B.C. is implementing UNDRIP, and how that applies to private sector natural resource companies.

Site contact:

- AME BC vice-president Glen Wonders, 604-689-5271
- Will greet Minister Fraser and show him to his seat.

B.C. Government and Mineral Exploration and Development Industry Forum Monday, Jan. 22, 2018 – 2-4:30 p.m.	
2 p.m.	Introductions from Edie Thome, president and CEO
2:05 p.m.	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources
2:15 p.m.	Yukon Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources Minister and Deputy Premier Ranj Pillai
2:30 p.m.	Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson
2:45 p.m.	Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser
3 p.m.	Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman
3:15 p.m.	Northwest Territories Minister of Mines Wally Schumann
3:30 p.m.	Facilitated question period for delegates and all ministers
3:45 p.m.	Closing remarks from all panelists
4:05 p.m.	Thank you and closing from Diane Nicolson, AME board chairwoman
4:15 p.m.	End

Key messages (in bold in speaking notes):

- We are committed to working respectfully with Indigenous people and all partners to design a cross-government vision for reconciliation.
- Many First Nations want to be more engaged with government and industry on natural resource development and to benefit equitably from resources in their territories.
- UNDRIP is not a threat to development. Free, prior and informed consent provides a just path forward for the development of this province's incredible natural resource wealth.
- Companies wanting to develop resources in British Columbia must have partnerships with First Nations and Indigenous people from the beginning.
- By working on opportunities in an environmentally sustainable and inclusive manner – we all benefit.

B.C. Government Mineral Exploration & Development Industry Forum

(Minister introduced by Edie Thome)

Introduction

- I am grateful to be here today in the territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Musqueam, Tsleil Wautauth (Sail-wa-tooth), and Squamish Nations.
- I'd like to acknowledge Elders, chiefs and matriarchs who may be with us. Thank you for bringing your voices to this event.
- I'd specifically like to acknowledge:
 - Chief Dr. Robert Joseph of Reconciliation Canada,
 - Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane of the BC Treaty Commission, and
 - Chief Robert Chamberlain, vice president of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs... all of whom will be joining you during this conference.

Mandate

- **My Ministry is committed to working respectfully and in true partnership with Indigenous people and, indeed, all partners to design a cross-government vision for reconciliation.**
- This vision will be guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, and the Supreme Court of Canada's Tsilhqot'in decision.

- The United Nations Declaration is a human rights document with 46 articles. I encourage you to read it.
- It's about ensuring basic human rights that we take for granted but aren't always available to Indigenous peoples, such as . . .
- . . . being able to speak your own language or practising your culture or raising your children in safe communities.
- Society, industries and non-Indigenous communities all need to participate in reconciliation and take on bias and racism where it exists.
- We must not just talk differently. We must think and act differently.
- Our government's vision for reconciliation will require time and guidance from Indigenous people to determine the precise direction we are going.
- Within my Ministry, however, our work began in earnest in September.
- Cabinet held a record 566 meetings with more than 620 First Nations leaders at a gathering in Vancouver.
- We are continuing those discussions with individual First Nations as well as Indigenous organizations as we plan our path forward...
- ...A path that promises to go beyond mere legal obligations to consult.
- Other priorities for my Ministry include working on the unique opportunity to truly transform the fundamentals of the treaty process.

- Treaties cannot be the end of a relationship. They must establish enduring intergovernmental relationships - **forever relationships** - between the three levels of governments.
- We have strong alignment with the Federal Government and we are working more closely with federal Ministers and departments than has occurred in a very long time.
- Our government is also:
 - Reviewing laws and policies to bring them in line with the UN declaration;
 - Negotiating expanded opportunities for a share of gaming revenue in B.C.;
 - Exploring options to broaden the scope of resource revenue sharing between government and First Nations in areas such as mining and forestry, and;
 - Exploring how best to invest in Indigenous language revitalization and Aboriginal Friendship Centres.

Resource Development

- **Mining in B.C. is an important part of our economic development and growing the economy to meet the needs of our citizens.**
- **Many First Nations want to be more engaged with government and industry on natural resource development and to benefit equitably from resources in their territories.**
- Having vibrant natural resource development is important to many First Nation communities' socio-economic prosperity.

- Government's commitment to transforming its relationship means deep and meaningful engagement with Indigenous people throughout the decision-making process.
- We are committed to an approach that is equitable, fair and respectful of the values of Indigenous people and the authority of First Nation governments.
- Our relationships cannot be merely transactional, driven solely by the bottom line.
- We must strive to ensure Indigenous people have access to the fruits of economic development and consent to development in their territories.
- I want to take this opportunity to talk out against the fear being spread with respect to the United Nations Declaration.
- The suggestion that it is reducible to a veto on development is disingenuous and inaccurate.
- **Far from a threat to development, free, prior and informed consent provides a just and equitable path forward for the development of this province's incredible natural resource wealth.**
- We are working with the First Nations Leadership Council on these very topics.
- The leadership council includes the Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs.
- We need to work harder and more effectively up front with First Nations.

- This includes:
 - Looking at the type of information being used to support decisions;
 - The process for making those decisions, and;
 - How we engage in dialogue.
- This is about approaching “consent” in a much different and collaborative way.
- If we do this, we will reach a deeper understanding between First Nations and the Province of our respective interests.
- We are confident that understanding will lead to approaches to project development that are in everyone’s interests.

Role of Business:

- **Our government is committed to helping companies wanting to develop resources in British Columbia to pursue partnerships with First Nations from the very beginning.**
- We believe this partnership-based approach will benefit industry.
- The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers agrees with our approach, as does the B.C. Business Council and B.C. Chamber of Commerce.
- Working with Indigenous communities can be an opportunity to bring important knowledge and perspective about potential resource-development projects.
- It’s important for companies to share their experiences and learn from each other.

- I take to heart what I often hear from Indigenous peoples – “nothing about us, without us.”
- For example, we understand the concerns of First Nations regarding the safety of vulnerable members of their communities related to industrial work camps.
- The Province has created a working group of several ministries and Indigenous representatives to undertake engagement and develop a provincial action plan to address the impacts of industrial work camps.
- We encourage industry to recognize First Nations’ rights and their vital role in shaping appropriate resource development within their territories.
- You will often hear me say “engage early and often” with First Nations.
- As we go forward with Indigenous people, B.C. also wants to ensure our work is understood and supported by communities, local governments, industry and other stakeholders.
- This means ensuring we also have effective engagement with stakeholders - having discussions earlier and more often as well.
- Our approach will include increased emphasis on talking with local governments and industry stakeholders.
- It’s through respectful dialogue founded on the recognition of the important role Indigenous communities play within their traditional territories, that we can improve certainty...
- ... and increase economic development in important economic sectors, such as mining, forestry, and technology.

- Stronger relationships based on partnerships with First Nations will create a stronger British Columbia, with a larger economic investment base, by creating an attractive investment climate.
- We need to think about First Nations as partners bringing important equity to the table – equity in terms of local knowledge, local employment, and project stability.
- Strong partnerships with First Nations are an investment that will grow the size of our provincial economy and natural resource sector.
- Examples of good relationships between government, First Nations and industry include our work with the Talhantan Central Government and Red Chris Mine.
- Also, B.C.'s agreements with the Nlaka'pamux [ent-la-cap-um] Nations and Teck's Highland Valley Copper.
- In both these cases, we have collaboration and revenue-sharing arrangements with the Nations...
- ... The Nations in turn have various agreements with industry that cover areas such as employment and business opportunities and environmental and cultural heritage planning.
- Stronger relationships based on partnerships with First Nations will create a stronger British Columbia.
- We will create a larger economic investment base by supporting an attractive investment climate.
- Thank you. I look forward to taking your questions.

[15-minute question-and-answer session - concluding notes follow]

Conclusion:

[Minister to add his thoughts on what he has heard.]

- We have a unique opportunity. B.C. is committed to having important conversation with Indigenous people.
- We need to set aside fears and old rhetoric in order to develop a new vision for reconciliation that will guide government.
- It benefits every British Columbian if we work together to create the conditions for stronger, healthier, self-determining Indigenous communities.
- I know that mining and mineral exploration is important to B.C. and many First Nations.
- I believe together we can move forward in a way that benefits everyone.
- This holistic and pragmatic approach will make life more affordable and provide improved services to Indigenous people and all British Columbians.
- Thank you.

END



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**Association for Mineral Exploration's Roundup 2018:
AME Lunch**

**Vancouver Convention Centre, West Building
1055 Canada Place, Vancouver, B.C.
West Ballroom D**

**Monday, Jan. 22, 2018
Noon to 1:30 p.m.**

Word count: 275

Information for Minister

Event – AME Lunch

- The panel presentation at the AME Lunch during Roundup on Jan. 22 will focus on a keynote presentation for Finger Food Studio CEO Ryan Peterson.
- Ryan will outline a proposed partnership between the Province, AME BC and Finger Food Studios to create a “strategic engagement tool” that will apply virtual reality and augmented reality to resource development on First Nations territory during the exploration and proposal stage.
- The proposal suggests using Finger Food technology to interact with data as an immersive experience, allowing First Nations to see how resource development will affect their communities and the steps industry is taking to ensure shared benefits.
- A representative of the St’at’imc Government Services will talk about their involvement with the project before Minister Fraser is invited to speak for five minutes.
- A moderated 15-minute question period will follow.
- Hosted by Edie Thome, AME president and CEO.
- s.13,s.17

Audience:

- This event requires a ticket.
- 150-200 expected.

Media:

- Open to accredited media.
- No questions.

Speakers:

- Ryan Peterson, CEO and co-founder, Finger Food Studios
- Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser
- Brian Krieger, ADM, Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Diane Nicolson, president, HDI Amarc
- David Gale, chairman, Roundup organizing committee, SSR Mining
- Kim Rudd, Parliamentary Secretary, Natural Resources Canada
- Peter Robb, ADM, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
- Rod Louie, general manager, St’at’imc Eco Resources

Details and format:

- Speakers seated at head table.
- Introduction by emcee, AME president and CEO Edie Thome.
- Speakers will have a podium if they wish. During Q&A, panelists will be seated with lapel mics.
- Minister Fraser will speak third after introduction of panelists. He will have five minutes.
- Immediately after Minister Fraser speaks, there will be a moderated question period, lasting 15 minutes. Questions will be written and passed to moderator. No open microphone.

Speech theme:

- Government perspective on the benefit of this projects and technology.

What does audience want to hear?

- High-level Government planning for co-operation and innovation between First Nations and industry.
- How First Nations and industry can co-design projects in partnership using new technology.

Site contact:

- AME BC vice-president Glen Wonders, 604-689-5271, 778-772-4410 (cell)
- Wonders will greet Minister Fraser and show him to his seat.

B.C. Government and Mineral Exploration and Development Lunch

Monday, Jan. 22, 2018 Noon – 1:30 p.m.

10:45 - 11:15 a.m.	Finger Food Studios technology demonstration for Minister Fraser Location: At Finger Food Studios booth at Innovation Hub on trade show floor
Noon	Welcome from Edie Thome, AME BC president and CEO
Noon-12:02 p.m.	Opening remarks from AME board chairwoman Diane Nicolson
12:02-12:05 p.m.	Presentation of Outreach Education Fund from AME board chairwoman Diane Nicolson
12:05-12:15 p.m.	Ministry of Jobs, Technology and Training ADM Brian Krieger
12:15-12:40 p.m.	Lunch
12:40-12:42 p.m.	Emcee Edie Thome introduces panelists
12:42-1 p.m.	Keynote presentation from Ryan Peterson, Finger Food Studios
1-1:05 p.m.	Rod Louie, General Manager, St'at'imc (Stat-lee-um) Eco Resources
1:05-1:08 p.m.	Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser
1:08-1:25 p.m.	Moderated questions for panelists
1:25-1:30 p.m.	Thanks and gifts from Edie Thome

Government perspective
on strategic engagement through technology

(Minister introduced by Edie Thome, president and CEO, AME BC)

- I am pleased to be here today in the territory of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Musqueam Indian Band, Tsleil Wautauth (Sail-wa-tooth) Nation, and Squamish Nation.
- I'd also like to acknowledge any Elders, chiefs or matriarchs who may be with us today.
- And thank you to:
 - Ryan from Finger Food Studios, and
 - Rod from St'at'imc (Stat-lee-um) Eco Resources . . . for your presentations today.
- I'd like to add my voice to the chorus of those excited about the possibilities of this new technology.
- The promise of new technology brings an increased understanding and respect of First Nations traditional use of the land.
- It allows for early engagement and a deeper understanding of Indigenous interests.
- That may be achieved by trying out new tools that can help us work together on the land base.
- I was fortunate to witness a presentation today of the remarkable things that can be done using augmented and virtual reality.

- You can see from the demonstration how this technology has the potential to help change the way we do things and give First Nations a lead role when working with industry.
- And it could help industry more easily understand the effect of resource-development proposals on First Nations territory.

[Minister's comments on presentation he witnessed.]

- It is important to engage early with First Nations and share information to understand the effects of development within their territory.
- That will lead to better, stronger relationships.
- These are exciting possibilities.
- Thank you.

END

Scope:

A copy of all speaking notes/speech records including all final speeches prepared for and/or delivered by the following Ministers or anyone representing the Ministers: Indigenous Relations; Agriculture; Advanced Education; Children and Family Development; Tourism, Arts and Culture.

(Date Range for Record Search: From 01/01/2018 To 01/31/2018)

Jan. 24, 2018 – Agri-Food Industry Gala

Jan. 28, 2018 – Islands Agriculture Show

SPEAKING NOTES FOR

THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM

Minister of Agriculture

16TH ANNUAL AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY GALA
Ballroom
Quality Inn Hotel and Conference Centre
36035 N Parallel Road
Abbotsford

Wednesday, January 24, 2018
Speaking Notes
6:45 PM Arrival

Speaking at 7:10 PM for 2 minutes

Speech Time: 2 minutes maximum

Rollout:

Time	Event Itinerary
6:45 p.m.	Minister Popham meets outside the Ballroom along with Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon, the LG's HADC, Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun, and Rhonda Driediger, Board Director, BCAC. They will be met by: Ms. Danielle Synotte, BC Agriculture Council (Event Contact). Those guests not in the official party proceed to their seats inside. The HADC forms the procession: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> LG Guichon Minister Popham </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> HADC Mayor Braun </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> Ms. Driediger </div>
6:50 p.m.	Cliff Prang, Director of Ceremonies, asks the guests to please rise for the entrance of the official party. The official party enter and go to their seats at the head table and remain standing.
6:55 p.m.	The Director of Ceremonies asks the guests to be seated and calls on Ms. Rhonda Driediger, Board Director, BC Agriculture Council, to give welcome remarks. Ms. Driediger delivers welcome remarks and introduces LG Guichon, Minister Popham and other guests. Ms. Driediger ends her remarks by inviting LG Guichon to speak.
7 p.m.	LG Guichon's remarks. (3 minutes)
7:05 p.m.	The Director of Ceremonies thanks LG Guichon and then introduces Minister Popham.
7:10 p.m.	The Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture delivers her remarks (2 minutes).
7:15 p.m.	The Director of Ceremonies thanks Minister Popham and then introduces Mayor Braun to deliver his remarks and give grace.
7:17 p.m.	Remarks & Grace by Abbotsford Mayor Henry Braun.
7:20 p.m.	Dinner program commences with pre-plated starter salads.

NUMBER OF GUESTS:

480

- Thank you for that introduction.

- Your honour, ladies and gentlemen, it is great to be gathered here on the territory of the Sto:lo Nation celebrating our agriculture and food sector!
- Before I begin I do want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- I know I am standing between you and your dinner...so I'm going to keep things short.
- The main thing I want to say to each of you in this room – is thank you!
- You are the real story of B.C. Agriculture.
- It is honour to be here at the Gala, for the first time, as your new minister!

- The last time most of us were gathered together was at the legislature in November at for B.C. Agriculture Day.
- The Premier and I were joined by the BC Agriculture Council, and many of you here tonight.
- Together we celebrated you. A sector that proudly puts food on our tables and brings jobs to our communities.
- I look forward to working with all of you and continuing to grow our sector this year through Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC.
- And with working together in mind, I want to provide you with an invitation.
- In a few weeks, an independent committee will start their public engagement work.

- They will be looking into the revitalization of the ALR and the ALC.
- I encourage you to attend one of the stakeholder meetings or provide your input through the public engagement website.
- Now is the time to have your voice heard!
- Together, we are going to make B.C. better for farmers, ranchers and processors.
- Thank you for the invite and enjoy your evening.

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

7TH ANNUAL ISLANDS AGRICULTURE SHOW
Welcome Reception
Cowichan Exhibition Park
7380 Trans Canada Highway
Duncan

Friday, February 2, 2018
Speaking Notes
4:30 PM for approx 10 minutes

Background:

The Islands Agriculture Show is a two-day event that celebrates agriculture on Vancouver Island, Coast and the Gulf Islands. It is governed by a non-profit society made up of agricultural representatives from all over Vancouver Island. It includes a trade show and conference and attracts farmers and would-be farmers from across Vancouver Island and the Coast region. The event provides a regional forum for education, information sharing and networking between farmers, rural landowners interested in new ventures in small-scale production, farm organizations, industry suppliers, government agencies, and the general public.

Anticipated Size:

Approximately 150 people in attendance including conference delegates, exhibitors and invited dignitaries. The organizers have requested Minister Popham to speak for 10 minutes.

The Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon will be in attendance, along with Jon Lefebure, Cowichan Valley Regional District Chair and Mayor of the District of North Cowichan, plus Cowichan Tribes Chief Chip Seymour.

Organizer Contact:

Geoff Millar, Islands Agriculture Show, 250 709-1677 (cell), s.22

**Itinerary for Islands Agriculture Show
Cowichan Exhibition Centre
Friday, February 2, 2018**

3:50 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Official Party gathers in Exhibition office for entrance parade

(Lieutenant-Governor, Minister Popham, Chair Lefebure, Chief Seymour IAS Pres.
Vanderhorst & EDO Melmock)

4:01 p.m.

Entrance Parade led by L-G's piper

4:02 p.m. to 4:04 p.m.

Welcome from Geoff Millar, Master of Ceremonies

Introduction of CVRD Chair Jon Lefebure

4:04 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.

**Remarks from Chair Jon Lefebure
Introduction of Chief Seymour**

**4:10 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.
Remarks from Chief Seymour
Introduction of Tzinquaw Dancers**

**4:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Performance by the Tzinquaw Dancers**

**4:30 p.m. to 4:32 p.m.
Welcome and Introduction (Geoff Millar)**

**4:32 to 4:40 p.m.
Remarks from Lieutenant-Governor Judith Guichon**

**4:41 p.m.
Thank You to Lieutenant-Governor and Introduction of Minister Popham
(Geoff Millar)**

**4:42 p.m. to 4:52 p.m.
Remarks from the Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture, Province of British Columbia**

**4:55 p.m.
Thank you to Minister Popham and final comments
From Economic Development Cowichan
Amy Melmock**

**4:56 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Catered Reception and Networking**

Introduction

- Thank you for that introduction.
- And thank you to the dancers for that wonderful performance.
- Your honour, Chief Seymour, Chair Lefebure (lef-eh-bur), ladies and gentlemen...
- It is great to be gathered on the territory of the Cowichan Tribes and the Hul'qumi'num (hull-qui-mee-num) ...here in the warmland!
- Before I begin I do want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- And thank Cory Vanderhorst for the invitation.

- I'm truly excited to be joining you here at the Islands Agriculture Show!
- There is a lot of work that goes into organizing such a big event.
- Congratulations to the show organizers and volunteers for putting together another great show, now in its 7th year.
- You provide an excellent opportunity to showcase, celebrate and learn about agriculture on Vancouver Island, the Coast, and the Gulf Islands.
- I was lucky enough to be raised on Quadra Island, and I can truly say agriculture in this region is extremely close to my heart.
- From a young age, I learned the importance of growing your own food and raising animals.

- When I was older, I took those skills into operating my own business, the first certified organic vineyard on Vancouver Island.
- My love of farming is what prompted me to enter into politics.
- And now my journey continues.
- I am absolutely honoured and excited to be your Minister of Agriculture.

Vancouver Island Tours

- Although being appointed minister is a great personal achievement, it is not about me, it is about you!
- You are the face of BC agriculture.

- There is one thing that all of the hard working people that make up our province's Agriculture sector share, and that is – passion.
- I've been able to meet with many of you on your farms and orchards on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands over the past few months.
- People like Jennifer and Ian from Farmer Ben's Eggs, second generation farmers right here in the Cowichan Valley.
- Or how about Dan Ireland, from Ireland Farms who I visited with while picking up my fresh B.C. Turkey before Christmas.
- I've also been meeting with producers and processors, like Dennis and Harry at Gunter Bros Meats in Courtenay. We had a great chat about skills training and the local meat sector.
- Or the community members that encompass the Salt Spring Island Farmland Trust.

- They are developing The Root, an innovative, community-based food processing hub that is focused on increasing local food production and food accessibility in their community.
- As you can see, the Island agriculture industry is diverse.
- That is passion – that is B.C. agriculture.

Revitalization of the ALR

- My goal as Minister is to help create opportunities for B.C. farmers and food producers.
- People like Dan, Dennis, Harry, Jennifer and Ian.
- This opportunity includes revitalizing our Agricultural Land Reserve.

- With this in mind, I've invited an independent committee to lead an authentic and meaningful public engagement process that will look at how we can revitalize the ALR.
- It was an amazing legislative decision that we made in the 1970's to protect our farmlands.
- But we couldn't have foreseen the pressures that were to come that would shape and influence our fields.
- In the coming weeks, the committee wants to hear from you.
- They will be looking at ways to make it easier and more efficient for the Agricultural Land Commission to fulfill their

mandate of protecting farmland and encouraging farming.

- This is about you.
- You are the future of farming and the reason why we need to revitalize the ALR for the 21st century.

Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC

- I know a lot of you remember Corky Evans.
- He used to say with the ALR that we protected the farmland but forgot about the farmer.
- While the revitalization of the ALR is about the farmland, I have other mandate commitments that support the farmer.

- Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC.
- These programs are just some of the ways our government is supporting the sector.
- Grow BC will encourage new farmers and help young people access land and start farming.
- One of the barriers to farming is the cost of land in B.C. – we are going to be looking at co-op models and leasing systems as a way of getting people on the land.
- The previous government put a heavy focus on the export of our agricultural products.
- While it has been an important market to access, I feel they did so at the cost of the domestic market here in British Columbia.
- That's where Feed BC comes in.

- It is our hope that one day when you visit your loved one in the hospital or a long-term care facility...
- ...they will have a B.C. food product on their plate.
- It is common sense – we have an incredible local food sector and they produce an amazing product. Let's get it into the hands of British Columbians!
- I would like to see our government facilities purchasing up to 30% on food grown and processed right here in B.C.
- Finally, Buy BC.
- I mentioned Dan Ireland earlier.
- He is a proud B.C. turkey farmer.

- So proud that when I visited his farm he still had a Buy BC sign on his barn.
- I say still – because this sign was from the 1990's when our government launched Buy BC.
- We are bringing this popular marketing program back, and I know our sector is super excited!
- When a consumer picks up a product with the Buy BC logo at their local grocery store or farmers market, the message will be clear.
- The product they are purchasing was produced or processed by the passionate people in our B.C. agriculture sector.

- I look forward to continuing to build on Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC with you this year.

Conclusion

- In closing, I want to encourage everyone to check out the trade show next door.
- There is a lot of great information available here this weekend.
- Many of our fine Ministry staff will be presenting at the conference.
- You can get up to speed on the Army Worms that were affecting the Alberni Valley this summer with Tracy, one of our renowned entomologists....

- Or hear the lessons that were learned from this summer's unprecedented wildfires from our regional agrologist team from the Interior.
- Those of you interested in organic growing should definitely check out Emma and Susan's presentation on the upcoming organics certification that will be mandatory this fall.
- And make sure you drop by our Ministry of Agriculture booth for great information on how we can support your efforts to farm in B.C.
- We have staff on hand who will be able to answer your questions.
- Thanks again for the invitation and enjoy the show!



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Hon. Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

14th Annual PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Debrief: 1:00 p.m.

Speaking time: 1:30 p.m.

Location:

CBC STUDIO 700
700 Hamilton Street
Vancouver, B.C.

Event Contact on site:

Heather Lamoureux

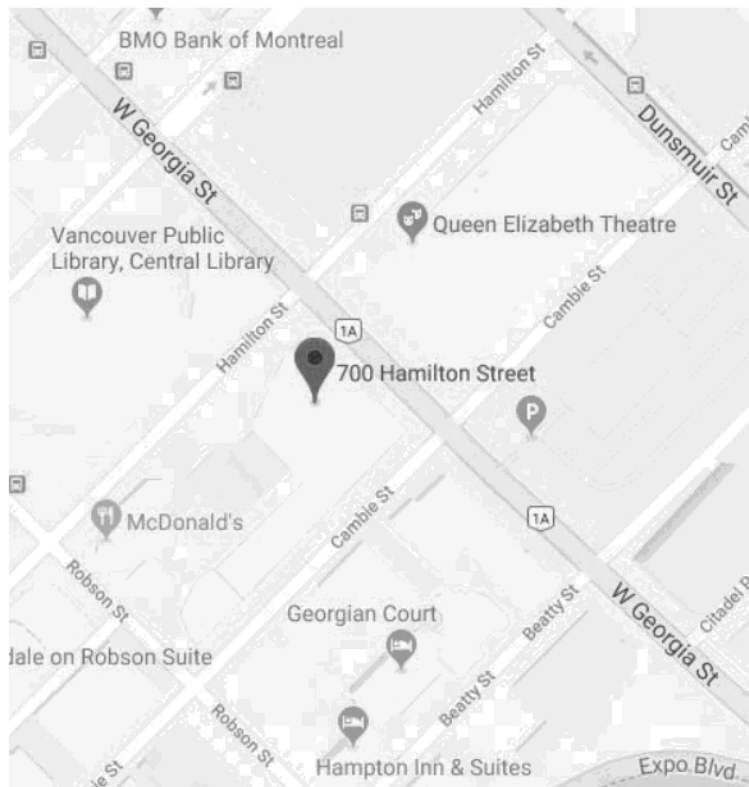
Cell: 778-918-4081

Event summary:

- Minister Beare has been invited to provide opening remarks (2-3 minutes) for keynote speaker, Marcus Youssef at the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival. This event is part of PuSh's Assembly – a component of the festival's Industry Series. Attendees pay to attend these sessions where ideas are shared and there are opportunities to hear from prominent industry figures.
- Checking with PuSh event organizers re: time for media availability (TBD)

Address:

The event is being held CBC STUDIO 700 - 700 Hamilton Street.



Parking: There will not be a designated parking space for Minister Beare when she arrives.

Event Onsite Contact: Heather Lamoureux - 778-918-4081

Dress Code: Business Casual

Logistics: The venue will have a mic and a small stage, but it will be fairly casual.

Audience:

There will be about 100-120 people in the audience. This will include international and Canadian festival directors, curators, presenters and artists. Many will know Marcus but some will have never met him before.

Key Messages:

- British Columbia is proud to be the home of the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival.
- This festival is an amazing opportunity for emerging B.C. artists to showcase their talents in front of an international audience and an incredible chance to meet and hear from prominent industry representatives from around the world.
- The B.C. government highly values international festivals like PuSh which provide B.C. artists with opportunities to raise their profile on a global stage.
- Earlier today, the Government of B.C. announced it is investing \$350,000 in the International Presence Program.
- This investment is part of our commitment to help enhance opportunities in the global market for B.C. artists and assist them in building international connections and relationships.
- B.C.'s arts community plays a significant role in our provincial economy and in the health, strength and vitality of our communities.

Itinerary:

Key participants

- Emcee: Norman Armour, Artistic & Executive director of the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival.
- Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Marcus Youssef, artistic director of Newworld Theatre and one of PuSh's most esteemed "alumni."

Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
1:00 PM	Meet at CBC STUDIO 700 Arrival of dignitaries for a debrief with Heather Lamoureux (<i>This will be a run-through of how the event will proceed, when they speak, etc.</i>)
1:30 P.M.	EVENT BEGINS Sharply at 1:30 p.m. Emcee, Norman Armour welcome guests and introduces Minister Beare (3 min.)
1:33 PM	Minister Beare provides greetings from the Province and an introduction of Marcus Youssef. (2-3 min)

1:36 PM	Marcus Youssef's Keynote (45 -50 mins)
2:30 PM	Completion of Marcus Youssef's Keynote

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good afternoon.
- Thank you, Norman for the kind introduction...
- I want to acknowledge the history, customs and culture of the Coast Salish people – including the Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh (Sail-wa-tooth) Nation – on whose traditional lands we meet today.
- I'm excited to be here with you as BC's Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, and to bring you greetings from Premier John Horgan and our government.
- Norman - you, your staff, and volunteers have once again produced a spectacular festival. Congratulations.

>>LEAD APPLAUSE<<

PuSh FESTIVAL

- British Columbia is proud to be the home of the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival...
- And I am HONOURED to be standing in front of such an esteemed audience.
- Many of you here today have come many miles to see what PuSh is doing this year. We're thrilled to have you with us. Welcome to BC.
- PuSh Festival is special – not only here in BC, but in our nation. For nearly 15 years, it's been delivering edgy, ground-breaking live performances that redefine the boundaries of contemporary theatre.
- We're proud of the work that PuSh does and are delighted that you will help shine a global spotlight on our diverse, dynamic arts community.
- PuSh gives emerging artists the chance to showcase their talents in front of an international audience...

- And the Assembly sessions bring creative minds together to connect and learn about new industry projects and trends.

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

- The B.C. government values international festivals like PuSh for the incredible opportunities they provide for B.C. artists and creative professionals.
- My government cares about the arts, and about the important role they play in making the lives of our citizens better and richer. The arts are what help us know ourselves. And each other. The arts build community.
- And I also know that the richness of BC's creative sector is something that attracts visitors to our province, and businesses to invest here.
- Art matters. That's why my government is investing in it. Yesterday, I announced \$350,000 in funding for the International Presence Program...

- Which will provide grants to support B.C. artists in raising their profiles on the world stage.

>>PAUSE FOR POSSIBLE APPLAUSE<<

INTRODUCTION OF MARCUS YOUSSEF

- Marcus Youssef is a British Columbian who is already building a considerable reputation internationally.
- He is one of B.C.'s creative leaders – a prestigious alumnus of the PuSh festival...
- An actor, playwright and artistic director of Newworld Theatre.
- His long list of achievements include Canada's prestigious national theatre award... the Siminovitch Prize... and numerous awards and honours here in BC.
- His work has been featured on CBC broadcasts and presented to audiences across North America, Australia and Europe.

- He has been described as a formidable writer, thinker and activist whose work investigates questions of difference and otherness. His work is political, but also unflinchingly human.
- I am delighted and honoured to present your keynote speaker, Marcus Youssef.

--30--

Background:

International Presence Program

The international presence program offers project grants from \$25-100K in the following categories:

- International Arts Promotion, Representation and Exposure
- Incoming Presenters and Curators
- Artistic and Cultural

An open application process is managed internally by Ministry staff; BC Arts Council is also able to make recommendations for funding from the Touring Initiatives Program, as appropriate.

- The intake will run from the date of the announcement to March 2, 2018.
- The objectives of these grants are to support expansion into new markets, to increase the capacity of the sector to work internationally and to create opportunities for promising relationships between B.C.'s arts and culture sector and international counterparts.

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival

PuSh International Performing Arts Festival takes place Jan. 14 – Feb. 2 with shows from several countries. Every year the festival presents three weeks of live performing arts. PuSh was a major participant in the 2010 Cultural Olympiad and the City of Vancouver's 125th anniversary celebrations.

The PuSh Festival has grown into one of Vancouver's signature cultural events with an established international profile. PuSh Festival performances are innovative, contemporary and multi-disciplined. The festival gives artists from around the world and across Canada, including home-grown B.C. talent, opportunities to maximize their creativity and present original work. The festival has developed its own culture as a meeting place for creative artists and audiences appreciative of originality and experimentation.

Marcus Youssef

Youssef has recently been named the recipient of the 2017 Siminovitch Prize, and was among 2017 Mayor's Arts Award winners

Actor and playwright Marcus Youssef was born in 1969 in Montreal to Egyptian parents and graduated from the National Theatre School of Canada (Acting, 1992) and the University of British Columbia (M.F.A., 2002). He currently lives in Vancouver British Columbia with his partner Amanda and their sons Oscar and Zak.

In 1999-2000 he was Playwright-in-Residence at Touchstone Theatre in Vancouver, where his play, *Otherwise Occupied* premiered in 2001.

His other plays include *True Lies* (with Guillermo Verdecchia), a multi-media play produced in 1993 by Rumble Theatre and Zababwa Theatre; *The Adventures of Ali & Ali and the Axes of Evil* (Newworld Theatre and Cahoots Theatre Projects 2004 (with Guillermo Verdecchia and Camyar Chai), and *A Line in the Sand* (with Guillermo Verdecchia) for the Playwrights Theatre Centre in Vancouver. It was also produced at the Tarragon Theatre and the World Stage Festival in Toronto in 1996, directed by Verdecchia, and won the Chalmers Award for best new play in 1997.

In 2010, he again collaborated with Verdecchia and Chai on an Ali sequel: *Ail & Ali: The Deportation Hearings* (Newworld and Factory Theatre). In a post-Bush Obama era, there should be some hope for change. Critic Christopher Hoile concludes however, that "when the real point of the show surfaces — the continued deaths of Canadians in Afghanistan and the detention of five men without trial in Kingston Penitentiary — all pretense of comedy drops." (Eyeweekly.com, 1 Oct 2010).

In 2012, he developed *Winners and Losers* with his friend, James Long. It pursues the ruthless logic of modern-day capitalism, and tests its impact on close personal relationships. Youssef and Long play an improv game in which they name things and people and debate whether, from a personal perspective, these things are winners or losers. It premiered at Gateway Theatre in 2012 in a co-production by Newworld, Theatre Replacement and Crow's Theatre (dir. Chris Abraham), then toured to Britain and Ireland, returning to Canada with a production in Toronto by Crow's at the Berkeley St. Theatre (Canadian Stage). The play was nominated for a Governor General's Award in 2015.

In 2013, in the highly personal work which included his son, Zak, entitled *How Has My Love Affected You?* (Arts Club Theatre), he read from the journals his mother left to him, effecting an exploration of their fraught relationship before her death.

Youssef has created installation performance events for HIVE's I and II, and the Vancouver Art Gallery. His works have been presented or produced across North America, Australia and Europe, translated into Czech and Italian, and are published by Talonbooks and Playwrights Canada Press.

For the CBC he has written and broadcast sketches, plays, commentaries and documentaries. He also writes for publications such as the *Georgia Strait*, and his short stories have been published in journals and anthologies.

As an actor he has worked with the Green Thumb Theatre.

Marcus Youssef is co-Artistic Director of Newworld Theatre in Vancouver, where he continues his work with community-based advocacy programs that use writing and/or theatre as tools for effecting political and social change. In 2009, he co-founded Progress Lab 1422, a collaboratively managed rehearsal and production centre in East Vancouver. He is also Western Artistic Associate of Magnetic North Theatre Festival. He teaches and lectures across Canada: in 04/05, he was an Assistant Professor of Theatre and Community Development at Concordia University in Montreal. He currently is on the faculty at Capilano University; and sits on the advisory board of the *Canadian Theatre Review*. He is Chair of the City of Vancouver's Arts and

Culture Advisory Council, where he advocates for the centrality of culture to Vancouver's urban future. He is senior playwright-in-residence at the Banff Centre for the Arts



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Ravi Kahlon

Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism

OPENING CEREMONY

**SKATE CANADA – 2018 CANADIAN TIRE NATIONAL SKATING
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Friday, January 12, 2018

CEREMONY:

2:13 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

PRE-BRIEF

1:45 p.m.

Location:

UBC Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre
6066 Thunderbird Blvd, Vancouver

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Shannon Youmelle^{s.22}

Samantha White

Event summary:

- PS Kahlon has been invited to bring greetings (2-3 mins) on behalf of the B.C. Government at the opening ceremony of Skate Canada: 2018 Canadian Tire National Skating Championships.
- The ceremony will be followed by a photo-op and possible media interviews.
- PS Kahlon is invited to remain following the Opening Ceremony with his guests to watch the event; seats will be provided in the VIP seating section along with access to our VIP lounge for light refreshments.

Time: Ceremony: 2:13 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (**Pre-brief: 1:45 p.m.**)

Directions:

- Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre on the campus of the University of British Columbia (6066 Thunderbird Blvd, Vancouver – see separate document of stadium map).

Parking:

- A parking pass will be provided. Upon arrival, contact Shannon Youmelle – s.22 – who will meet PS Kahlon at the South Gate Entrance. She will provide the event tickets and parking pass.

Logistics:

- There will be a podium and microphone in our Kiss and Cry where the Opening Ceremony will be situated.

Key Participants:

- **Honourable Judith Guichon** - Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia
- **Ravi Kahlon**, Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism
- **Gregor Robertson** - Mayor of Vancouver (TBC)
- **Ms. Leanna Caron** - Skate Canada President
- **Shae-Lynn Bourne** (Athlete Ambassador): Ten-time Canadian Ice Dance Champion and three-time Olympian (no speaking role at the event, but Shae-Lynn will handle speaking engagements, media interviews over the course of the weekend – see bio in Skate Canada factsheet).
- **Local Competitors:** The Lower Mainland will be represented by six senior team members: Coquitlam's Kevin Reynolds and Larkyn Austman, Burnaby's Haley Sales and Sarah Tamura, Langley's Nikolas Wamsteeker and North Vancouver's Shane Firus.

Dress Code: Business Casual

Audience:

- It is estimated that the event will bring approximately 4,000 spectators, five international coaches and 785 athletes from across the country to Vancouver.

Media:

- The Canadian Tire National Skating Championships will be broadcast on CTV/TSN/RDS.

Key Messages

- The Government of B.C. is a strong supporter of sport in this province, investing close to \$50 million in sport every year.
- This is sixth time Vancouver has hosted Skate Canada – National Skating Championship.
- The Province has awarded \$100,000 to this prestigious event through the Tourism Events Program in addition to \$10,000 from Hosting BC through viaSport.
- Our investment is helping to build B.C.'s reputation as a premier sport hosting destination.
- B.C. hosts numerous national and international events across the province. These events bring residents together, draw visitors into communities and boost local economies, benefiting both sport and British Columbians.

Agenda:

Time	Event Itinerary
1:45 p.m.	Arrival of dignitaries for a debrief with Samantha White <i>(The debrief takes approximately 15 minutes. They will be given a run-through of how the Opening Ceremony will proceed, when they speak, etc.)</i>
2:13:p.m.	Start of Opening Ceremony <i>There will be a fanfare, the flags will go out and the dignitaries will enter the podium at the Kiss and Cry. (1-2 mins)</i>
2:15 p.m.	Welcome Video <i>(2 mins)</i>
2:13 p.m.	Emcee invites Lieutenant Governor to speak <i>(2-3 mins)</i>
2:16 p.m.	Emcee invites Mayor Robertson to speak (TBC), <i>(2-3 mins)</i>
2:19 p.m.	Emcee invites PS Ravi Kahlon to speak <i>(2-3 mins)</i>
2:22 p.m.	Emcee invites Leanna Caron Skate Canada President to speak <i>(2-3 mins)</i>
2:25 p.m.	O Canada is sung
2:27 p.m.	Emcee makes closing remarks. <i>(2-3 mins)</i>
2:30 p.m.	Media Questions/Photo-op
PS Kahlon is invited to remain following the Opening Ceremony with his guests to watch the event; seats will be provided in the VIP seating section along with access to our VIP lounge for light refreshments	

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good afternoon! And thank you for the warm welcome. It's a pleasure to be here with you today.
- Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Musqueam (*mus-kwee-um*), Squamish, Stó:lō (*staw-low*) and Tsleil Waututh (*sail-wha-tooth*) Nations.
- As Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism, I am thrilled to bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.
- I would like to welcome all of the participants, fans and supporters . . . particularly those of you who have travelled to attend this event.
- I hope you enjoy your time in Vancouver and have the opportunity to experience our world-class amenities and attractions.

SPORT HOSTING

- It is a great honour to once again host the Canadian Tire National Skating Championship in Vancouver.
- The Government of B.C. is a strong supporter of sport in this province...
- This year, we'll contribute nearly \$50 million to help sporting events shine in communities throughout B.C.
- And we are especially proud to award \$100,000 to this event through the Tourism Events Program...
- ...as well as an additional \$10,000 from Hosting BC through viaSport.
- Our support makes it possible for British Columbia communities to host a variety of national and international events...
- And helps to build our reputation as a premier sport hosting destination.

- We also know that events such as this one bring everyone together and attract visitors from outside our province, benefitting not only sport, but families, people and communities.
- And with Canada's impressive record in figure skating, it's no wonder THIS event has drawn a crowd.
- Our performances at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games and at the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympic Games were spectacular.
- I know I'll never forget the image of the entire Canadian team taking the podium to receive the silver medal in Sochi. That was a proud moment for sport in Canada.

ATHLETES

- And now we get to cheer on some of our best skaters, as they vie for the opportunity to represent Canada in the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in South Korea:
 - **Shae-Lynn Bourne** (*Shay-lynn Born*)
 - **Patrick Chan**
 - **Meagan Duhamel** (*Do-ham-el*) and **Eric Radford**
 - **Tessa Virtue** and **Scott Moir**. (*M-oi-er*)

- These are just a few of the talented Canadian skaters here today.
- And there are emerging stars present as well who – I know – have big dreams of one day being Olympians.
- I remember being in your place.
- I was tremendously proud to represent Canada at the 2000 and 2008 Olympic Summer Games.
- It was an amazing experience that has stayed with me throughout my life.
- So I encourage you to pursue your dreams...continue to challenge yourself, but above all – have fun.

CONCLUSION

- To each of the athletes competing here today: your accomplishments are a source of pride for many, and stand as a testament to the success of this sport in Canada.

- I would like to acknowledge the Vancouver City Council for its work in bringing this event here ... and the organizing committee who have worked tirelessly to ensure its success.
- Thank you, also, to Skate Canada for everything you do to support sport participation in our communities and to enhance opportunities for our athletes to excel on the national and international stage.
- Finally, I want to applaud the coaches, officials, organizations, volunteers and families who have given their time to support our athletes in the figure skating community.
- None of us travel the road of success alone and our athletes are quick to acknowledge that their achievements are the result of those who have encouraged and fostered their talents along the way.
- Best of luck to all athletes, I hope you all exceed your personal records in your competitions.
- Thank you.

Appendix provided by the organizers.

- **Factsheet:** event summary, Athletes' bio's and storylines (including Athlete Ambassador – Shae-Lynn Bourne)
- **Event Schedule:** re: skating competitions
- **Event Venue Map:** re: Stadium layout



CTNSC18 Fact
Sheet.pdf



2018 CTNSC
Schedule.pdf



2018 CTNSC - Event
Venue Map.pdf

Background / Facts: 2018 Canadian Tire National Skating Championship

The 2018 Canadian Tire National Skating Championship is a qualifier event for the 2018 Olympic Winter Games team, being held in Vancouver from January 8 to 12, 2018. The pre-eminent all-Canadian sporting event will feature approximately 250 skaters in the men, women, pair, and ice dance disciplines, competing in three levels: senior, junior, and novice. Athletes will vie for spots on the Skate Canada National Team and the Canadian teams that will compete at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea; the 2018 ISU World Figure Skating Championships; the 2018 ISU Four Continents Figure Skating Championships; and the 2018 ISU World Junior Figure Skating Championships.

Funding:

- The Province is investing \$110,000 in the 2018 Canadian Tire National Skating Championship.
- The Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture awarded the event \$100,000 through the Tourism Events Program in addition to \$10,000 from Hosting BC through viaSport. The anticipated economic activity generated by the event is \$6 million.

Tourism Events Program:

The Tourism Events Program supports events that raise awareness nationally and internationally of British Columbia's tourism experiences and motivates Canadians and people from other countries to travel and experience British Columbia. The program also supports events that generate tourism and economic activity in communities and regions across the province.

Hosting BC:

The Province of BC invests and funds event hosting through the Hosting BC grant program to facilitate economic and community development brought forth through notable sporting events.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Ravi Kahlon

Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism

EVENT

Scotties Tournament of Hearts

Friday, January 27, 2018
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

South Okanagan Events Centre
853 Eckhardt Ave, West
Penticton, B.C. V2A 9C4

Please check against delivery

Event contact:

Neil Houston, Event Manager
778 822-7198

Event summary: High energy event that will begin with athletes, coaches and spectators coming together prior to the Opening Ceremonies for the opportunity for athletes to win \$20,000 and spectators to win a car from Ford Canada.

Event Contact: Neil Houston, Event Manager, 778 822-7198

When: Arrive by 12:00 p.m.. Please contact Neil when you arrive and he will arrange for the CEO of Curling Canada to meet you upon arriving.

Speaking time: 12:35 p.m.

Dress Code: Business

Parking: The arena is the South Okanagan Events Centre, 853 Eckhardt Avenue West and the entrance is at Gate #3 (will have a 2018 Scotties sign) on the north side of the arena. The TSN/Dome mobile truck is a good landmark for the entrance. There will be reserved parking spots for the Minister, Mayor and Chief(s).

Audience:

- Approximately 2,500 – 3,000 in attendance including athletes, support staff, volunteers and curling fans.
- Media Present – yes.

Event Participants:

- Emcee: Stuart Brown.
- Provincial Rep: Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism .
- Community Rep: Mayor of Penticton, Andrew Jakubeit
- First Nations: From the Penticton Indian Band, Chief Chad Eneas, along with, from the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Grand Chief Stewart Phillip.
- Corporate Vice President of Marketing for Kruger Products, Nancy Markus and liaison to the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts, Maureen Miller.
- Chair of the Curling Canada Board of Governors, Resby Coutts.
- Curl BC Executive Director and CEO, Scott Braley.
- Host Committee Vice Chair, Michelle Pratt.
- Sponsor: Kruger Products mascots... Scotties Little Softie and Purex Pillow Person.

Background: The ministry has provided \$100,000 in funding to support the event. This is the first time Penticton has hosted the tournament. It has previously been held in other B.C. locations: Victoria 2009, Prince George 2000 & 1983, Vancouver 1997 & Kelowna 1989.

This is the National Championship with the winning team representing Canada in the 2018 Ford World Women's Curling Championship in North Bay, ON in March. This year will see 16 teams competing for the privilege to represent Canada.

Curling Canada is the not for profit National Sport Organization that governs curling in Canada. The Canadian Women's Curling Championship began in 1961 and Kruger Products has been the title sponsor since 1982.

Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
12:00 p.m.	PS Kahlon arrives and contacts Neil Houston, Event Manager, 778 822-7198. Neil will arrange for the CEO of Curling Canada to meet you and bring you to meet the other speakers prior to the event starting.
12:30 p.m.	<p>Emcee provides opening greeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcomes the Summerland Pipes and Drums Band - Welcomes the Kruger mascots - Welcomes the distinguished guests - Introduces the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts Vice Chairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Kim Kirkham, Vice Chair of Hosting; o Charlie Colhoe, Vice Chair of Facilities; and o Michelle Pratt, Vice Chair of Special Events <p>Introduces the flag bearers and teams. The last team to enter is the B.C. home team from the Nanaimo Curling Club.</p> <p>The Scotties Tournament of Hearts trophy is brought in by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police</p>
12:45 p.m.	<p>Emcee welcomes the following guests to provide greetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism. - From the Penticton Indian Band, Chief Chad Eneas. - From the City of Penticton, His Worship Mayor Andrew Jakubeit. - Corporate Vice President of Marketing for Kruger Products, Nancy Markus. - Chair of the Curling Canada Board of Governors, Resby Coutts. - From the Host Committee, Vice Chair, Michelle Pratt.
12:55 p.m.	<p>Emcee highlights special guests including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renee Simons and Sasha Carter, Scotties alumni and champions in 2006 and 2007.

1:00p.m.	Emcee introduces Jaelyn Cotter, a local youth and competitive curler since the age of 7, to throw the first rock.
1:02 p.m.	Singing of the National anthem
1:04 p.m.	Emcee will introduce Resby Coutts, Curling Canada Board of Governors Liaison, to proclaim the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts open.
1:05 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies close

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good afternoon and thank you for the warm welcome. It's a pleasure to be here today at the start of the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts.
- I want to take a moment to recognize and respect the history, customs and culture of the Penticton Indian Band and of the Okanagan Nation – on whose traditional lands and home we gather today.
- I am thrilled to be here with you in Penticton for this event. As BC's Parliamentary Secretary for Sport and Multiculturalism, it's my good fortune and honour to join you for the start of this great Canadian tournament.
- I bring you greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture...
- And welcome all of the athletes, fans and supporters . . . particularly those of you who have travelled from out of province to attend this event. Welcome to British Columbia!

SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

- It is great to see the Scotties Tournament of Hearts return to B.C....
- And to welcome Canada's top female curlers to Penticton in this beautiful region of our province.

THE BENEFIT OF SPORT

- The benefits of participating in sport last a lifetime and extend beyond the individual athlete...
- From improving physical and mental health to gaining important teamwork skills...
- And from making lifelong friends to creating close community ties.
- I can offer a first-hand account of the benefits of sport.
- I represented Canada at the 2000 and 2008 Olympics and participating in sport taught me: *[Insert personal story]*
 - ...
 - ...
 - ...

- Through my own involvement with sport as an athlete and coach – and now, as the provincial champion of sport in the Province of British Columbia...
- I've seen how being involved in sport can impact the lives of people and the communities where they live.
- And I believe everyone should have the chance to experience these benefits.

INVESTING IN SPORT

- Our government recognizes that sport contributes to healthy, vibrant communities, and supports local economies.
- That is why our government provides nearly \$50 million annually to...
 - Help communities host local, provincial, national and international events, like this one...
 - Make sport accessible, so that everyone has the opportunity to participate...
 - and support high performance athletes to pursue their dreams of representing our province and country at national and international competitions.

- And today, we are incredibly proud to support this event with \$100,000 in funding through our major events program.

CONCLUSION

- To the athletes competing today...
 - You have worked incredibly hard to be here.
 - What you have accomplished up until now is something to be very proud of...
 - You are all champions.
- When you step out on the ice this week, remember that you have the strength of your communities and provinces standing behind you and cheering you on.
- To the coaches, officials, volunteers, families and fans...
 - Thank you for being there to stand behind, encourage and cheer on the athletes.
- To the City of Penticton and the local organizing committee...
 - Without the support of the cities, towns and community volunteers these events simply couldn't take place. I salute you and all the work that you have done to make this tournament possible.

- And finally, to Curl Canada and Curl BC...
 - Thank you for bringing this event to our province and promoting the sport of curling...
 - And supporting these athletes as they pursue excellence
- Enjoy the tournament and thank you for having me here today.

--30--



SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Hon. Lisa Beare
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Asia Mission
WeChat Signing

Monday, January 22, 2018
1:10 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Location:
White Swan Hotel, Silver Jade Room 4
No. 1 Shamian South Street,
Guangzhou, China

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Jodie Hu, event coordinator
Cell: ^{s.22}

Event summary:

- Destination BC will sign a promotional agreement with international business group Tencent Ltd., a leading provider of Internet services in China and owner of social media giant WeChat.
- The agreement is the first with a tourism marketing agency in Canada. It will give B.C. a preferred marketing platform on the social media messaging application WeChat, which attracts nearly 1 billion monthly active users. More than 90% of WeChat's customers are in the company's homebase, China.
- The partnership will allow greater access to Chinese consumers. This access will allow Destination BC and the Province of B.C. to connect with WeChat users to share content and promote tourism to B.C.
- The Minister will announce the agreement, with consecutive translation provided throughout (about 2-3mins speaking/2-3 mins translation); then a Tencent representative (TBD) will provide remarks.
- This will be followed by a signing ceremony, with DM Sandra Carroll signing the ceremonial agreement on behalf of Destination BC with Minister Beare witnessing the signing.
- A group photo op will follow. Premier John Horgan will arrive at the end of the WeChat signing ceremony for a photo-op and hand-shake with DBC/Tencent. The Premier will be escorted in and out, to ensure everything stays on time (Premier Horgan leaves by 1:40).
- Media will attend (30 Chinese travel media).

Time: Minister speaks at 1:18 p.m.

Logistics:

- The ceremony will take place in a meeting room and the room set-up will include classroom style for the Minister, Deputy Minister and WeChat representatives, and theatre style for the media representatives.

Jodie Hu (DBC staff) will confirm if there is a podium or individual mics.

Audience: There will be approximately 40 people attending this event.

- Travel trade media (the 30 media from the luncheon event will be invited to walk over to the WeChat signing event)

Dress Code:

- Business

Key participants:

- Ms. Xin, LI, a well-known host with Guangzhou Radio.

- Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Sandra Carroll, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Mr. Norman Tam, Vice General Manager of Tencent International Business Group
- Premier John Horgan (will drop in at the end for photo op, but is not speaking)
- Media: local Chinese travel media (30)
- Stakeholders:
 - Destination BC staff (Monica Leeck and Jodie Hu)

WeChat Key Messages:

- Today, the Province of British Columbia and Destination BC are forming an exciting strategic partnership with Tencent Ltd., a leading provider of internet services in China and the owner of social media giant WeChat.
- This two-year partnership will allow Destination BC greater access to Chinese consumers using the WeChat social media messaging platform – one of the largest in the world with nearly 1 billion users.
- Destination BC is the official tourism marketing organization for the government in British Columbia.
- Destination BC will be able to connect with WeChat users to share tourism information and promote tourism in British Columbia.
- The agreement is the first of its kind in Canada – Destination BC will be the only Canadian tourism marketing agency with a deal with WeChat.
- This agreement will maximize visibility of B.C.'s tourism brand in the Chinese market and will help support steady growth in tourism to B.C.

Agenda-

Time	Event Itinerary
1:10 p.m.	Minister Beare is escorted to Silver Jade Room 4
1:15 p.m.	Emcee announces signing ceremony start, and invites Minister Lisa Beare to give remarks
1:18 p.m.	Minister Beare gives remarks with translation
1:25 p.m.	Emcee introduces Tencent rep, and invites Tencent rep to give remarks
1:32 p.m.	Emcee starts the signing session by welcoming British Columbia's Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Sandra Carroll and Tencent representative to sign the official agreement.
2:35 p.m.	Signing and taking group-photos. Premier in attendance for group photo.
1:40 p.m.	Signing ceremony concludes
1:40 p.m.	Tencent reps and some media leave
1:45 p.m.	Group interview starts
2:15 p.m.	Group interview concludes

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Hello! Nee-how!
- Thank you for the warm welcome.
- It's an honour and a pleasure to be here today with you, as British Columbia's Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Thank you for joining us for this very special announcement; I'm very excited to be a part of it.
- China is a world leader in innovation and technology.
- During the short time I've been here, I have already noticed that people here love their phones – and they love WeChat!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

WeChat Announcement

- WeChat is one of the largest social media messaging platforms in the WORLD!
- And it's a fabulous way to connect with people in China.
- WeChat can also be used as a marketing tool for the tourism industry to promote special deals and offers.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- That's why I'm so pleased to announce that British Columbia is forming a strategic partnership with Tencent Ltd. – owner of social media giant WeChat.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

>>LEAD APPLAUSE<<

- This partnership means:
- B.C.'s tourism marketing agency, Destination BC, will be able to connect directly with Chinese travel customers through WeChat...

- And tell them about the world-class travel adventures waiting for them in British Columbia.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- China and Canada have committed to growing tourism. This agreement will be important for attracting more Chinese to visit our province.
- It will also provide economic benefits for both organizations and both of our countries.
- This is good news for tourism operators in both countries.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- You know, this agreement is very special.
- It's WeChat's first collaboration with a tourism marketing agency in Canada. We couldn't be more thrilled that they have chosen us!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- British Columbia has an abundance of activities for visitors to enjoy – from the Pacific Ocean to magnificent mountain ranges – vibrant cities to rural landscapes.
- There is something for everyone.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

CONCLUSION

- I'm excited for the year ahead.
- I'd like to thank Tencent, and all the people in our ministry who worked hard to put this agreement in place.
- I love that we are signing this agreement in 2018...
- The Canada-China Year of TOURISM!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- With 1 Billion monthly active users, WeChat is a great platform to promote tourism between China and Canada's west coast.

- I invite you to check us out on WeChat – and come and visit us in British Columbia!
- Thank you.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

--30—

BACKGROUND

- WeChat is a Chinese multi-purpose social media mobile application developed by Tencent.
- It was first released in 2011, and by 2017 it was one of the largest stand-alone messaging apps based on monthly active users.
- It has over 980 million monthly active users (902 million daily active users).
- WeChat provides text messaging, hold-to-talk voice messaging, broadcast (one-to-many) messaging, video conferencing, video games, photograph and video sharing, and location sharing. In addition, WeChat provides convenient payment services for consumers.
- As part of Destination BC's corporate strategy, it has been cultivating partnerships with platforms that have broad reach to consumers to maximize visibility for tourism to BC. In the last two years, Destination BC has partnered with Google, Facebook, Trip Advisor, Expedia, Ctrip (China) and in 2017 approached Tencent (WeChat) as new partners.
- To date, Destination BC has 52,528 followers on its consumer WeChat channel, which has been in operation for over a year. Destination BC also has 3298 followers on its Travel Trade WeChat and 122,658 followers on its other China-based social media platform, Weibo.
- Tencent currently has partnership agreements with Tourism Australia, Singapore and Dubai.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Hon. Lisa Beare
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

**Asia Mission
Beijing Luncheon**

Wednesday, January 24, 2018
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location:
The Westin Beijing Chaoyang
Wood Room for Pre-brief (3rd Floor)
Jinmao Ballroom AB for Luncheon (3rd Floor)
No. 7 North Dongsanhuan Road,
Chaoyang District, Beijing, China

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Event Coordinator- Jodie Hu

s.22

Event summary:

- Showcase B.C.'s tourism opportunities via a Ski B.C. themed lunch to key Chinese travel trade, industry and travel media.
- Promoted by B.C.'s Premier and Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.
- Minister shares remarks with translation provided (total time is 10 minutes, with Minister speaking for 2 – 3 points, followed by translation).
- Minister introduces Premier Horgan after her remarks.

Time: Minister speaks at 12:35p.m.

Directions and Parking:

Minister will have her own car and driver.
JTT program staff is taking care of travel logistics.
Final transportation plan will be shared by JTT closer to the date of travel.

Logistics:

{eg. podium, stage, microphone, set-up}

Audience:

- There will be approximately 140 guests attending this event.
- Tourism partners - Destination Canada, tour operators, travel agents and airlines.
- Travel Media.

Dress Code:

- Business

Key participants:

- XX (EMCEE)
- Additional Provincial reps
 - Premier John Horgan
 - Sandra Carroll, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Stakeholders:
 - Destination BC

Key Messages:

- B.C. is excited to participate in promoting 2018 as the Canada-China Year of Tourism – an initiative announced by the governments of Canada and China.
- Destination BC will partner with Destination Canada to capitalize on awareness of the Canada-China Year of Tourism. Specific joint activities and tactics will be reviewed in early 2018.
- Destination BC is leading a Chinese New Year promotion for February 2018, with the goal of bringing up to 1000 Chinese consumers on travel packages to B.C. and capitalizing on the awareness created by the Canada-China Year of Tourism.
- More and more Chinese are taking up skiing as a sport. B.C. has many spectacular ski resort options, including the world-famous site of the 2010 Olympics...Whistler.
- It is easy to visit B.C. from China. Vancouver International Airport has more mainland Chinese carriers (7) than any airport in North America, South America or Europe. In the 2017 summer season there were 57 weekly flights to YVR connecting 11 mainland Chinese cities. In the 2017 winter season, there were 51 weekly flights.
- With the recent advent of the 10-year multiple entry visa (2015), and Approved Destination Status (ADS) (2010), Chinese tourists are able to visit Canada more frequently. Over 50% of Chinese visitors to Canada visit B.C. at some point during their travels.

Agenda – as of January 9, 2018

Proposed Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
XX:00 a.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with guest speakers, led by XXXXX Location: XXXX Participants XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX
11:20 a.m.	Minister Lisa Beare is escorted to Wood Room for CNTA meeting Attendant list (6 people): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minister Lisa Beare - Deputy Minister Sandra Carroll - Mr. Xilong ZHANG, Deputy Director General of Marketing and International Cooperation Department of CNTA - Mr. Gai LIU, staff of Marketing and International Cooperation Department of CNTA (Mr. Xilong ZHANG's escort and interpreter) - Monica Leeck, Manager Market Development Manager, Asia, DBC - Jodie Hu, Manager China, DBC
12:00 p.m.	Registration starts. Program proposed for 30-min registration time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each guest will collect name badge at registration - Interactive programs experiences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arc'teryx gear try-on and photo moments with in-room "ski-slope" area. - Premier Horgan and MLB put on Arc'teryx gear and try the VR ski slope as a photo opportunity. - DBC 360 corner experiences (10 mobile set-up showcasing DBC 360 ski video with Google cardboard glasses) - Ski interactive video game - Loop videos to be shown on the in-room LED screen, and the suggested videos include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017NEW-SKI_ROUNDUP_MIX_90s_16x9 • COASTAL_VANCOUVER_MIX_IO_16x9 • INTERIOR_RESORT_MIX_IO_16x9 • POWDER_HIGHWAY_MIX_IO_16x9 • Ski The Skeena(Full-res) • 48Hrs in Prince George(Full-res) • Whistler Blackcomb-FY16_WB_50 Years of Going Beyond_Fill Trailer_VIDEO_HD_1080p • Whistler Blackcomb-FY17_WB_Brand_BigPicture_MEA_VIDEO_H264

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun Peaks Resort-SKI_IN_SKI_OUT_2015 • Big White Resort-20131114_BC_Big+White+Overview • Revelstoke Mountain Resort -Revelstoke Resort NEW SONG FINAL-HD • ExploreBC-A blind ski • Vancouver Winter Lights Video • CTC 2016 Winter Millennial Love BC v016 480p • CTC 2017 BC winter 1 • CTC 2017 BC winter 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wine and soft drinks provided; Food stays wrapped til speeches are done. - Guest free mingle time - “Cloud” photo service starting from 11:30 through the luncheon and signing ceremony (guests could scan the QR code provided on spot with their mobile, and access their photos via online library)
12:30 p.m.	Emcee welcomes guests, and invites Minister Lisa Beare to give remarks(LED screen show the key image with the event headlines)
12:35 p.m.	Minister gives remarks with translation (Matching PPT or loop image PPT is shown during the speech)
12:46 p.m.	Minister introduces and invites Premier to give remarks (LED screen show the key image with the event headlines)
12:47 p.m.	Premier gives remarks with translation (Matching PPT or loop image PPT is shown during the speech)
12:58 p.m.	Emcee thanks Premier, and announces lunch start (Loop videos during the meal, and key video is Magnetic Whistler Blackcomb new ski video) During lunch hour, Premier and Minister will be introduced to top VIP guests – TBA
1:30 p.m.	Event concludes, and Emcee could suggest guests stay longer enjoying the interactive programs. Reminder to guests to collect their collateral bag before they leave. The DBC bag includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 copy of DBC Chinese itinerary brochure - 1 copy of DBC flat sheet - 1 DBC scarf - 1 bottled beer from BC supplier - Collaterals from BC food sponsors

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Hello. (Mandarin greeting: -- Nee-how)
- Thank you for the warm welcome.
- It's an honour and a pleasure to be here today as British Columbia's Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Thank you for joining us. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to meet and talk with you today.
- I'm excited to be here in Beijing, and to be learning more about your country and culture.

- >>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- 2018 is an important year for all of us in this room.
- It's the Canada-China Year of Tourism.

- This is an opportunity for tourism industries in both our countries to showcase what we EACH have to offer.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

>>LEAD APPLAUSE<<

- Many of you here today play a direct role in encouraging Chinese citizens to travel to British Columbia. I am excited to work with you and our tourism partners at home to make the Canada-China Year of Tourism a success!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

BRITISH COLUMBIA

- We know that 2018 is about inviting Chinese travellers to visit *all* of Canada.
- But I believe that British Columbia is special.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- And, it seems a lot of Chinese tourists already do too. More than 50% of Chinese tourists who visit Canada come to B.C.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- That's because we have a global reputation for being a top destination.
- Tourism is the NUMBER ONE economic sector in our province.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- People come from all over the world to visit B.C. because we offer unique experiences that travelers are looking for and can't find anywhere else.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Many people come to visit our world-class ski resorts.

SKIING IN B.C.

- We have a fantastic virtual reality ski experience set up here in this room this room for you to try.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- But let me tell you – the real thing is even MORE fun!
- Millions of people travel to British Columbia each year to have the REAL experience.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- We have 13 major ski resorts – each offering spectacular scenery and world-class facilities.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- You’ve probably heard about Whistler.
- That’s where we had *our* Winter Olympics in 2010.
- But it isn’t just for Olympic skiers! Whistler offers programs for kids, families, and people at all levels in the sport.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Whether you're just learning or are an experienced skier – Whistler has ski instructors who speak your language and can help you to achieve your goals.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- And, when you're done skiing, the picturesque village has award-winning restaurants, luxury shops and an exciting nightlife.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Whistler really offers the ultimate vacation – for people who love outdoor sports and for those who love to shop or lounge at the spa.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- But, it doesn't end there. B.C. has 12 other great mountain resorts. There's Big White, Silver Star, and Sun Peaks.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- In addition to those alpine resorts, there's the opportunity for back-country skiing in the Cariboo and Kootenays.
- Each one is just a short flight from our main city Vancouver.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

TRAVEL TO CANADA/BC

- People from YOUR great country want to vacation in Super Natural, Beautiful British Columbia. Visits from China to B.C. in 2016 were up nearly 20% from the year before.
- And in 2018 the numbers are expected to grow. Additional flights are making it easier to reach Vancouver directly from almost a dozen cities in China.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- We *want* Chinese visitors to come see us.
- Travelling to Canada is easy. There are 7 new visa approval centres now open in China.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Visitors can also apply for a 10-year, multi-entry visa to Canada, which is a great way to enable return visits.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

MARKETING/WECHAT

- I'm excited to meet you and speak with you about your ideas for the Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018.
- And I have some exciting news to share with you.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- British Columbia has just become the first tourism marketing location in Canada to sign a partnership with WeChat!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

>>LEAD APPLAUSE<<

- With 1 Billion monthly active users, WeChat is a great platform to promote tourism between China and British Columbia.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

CONCLUSION

- I would like to say that when you vacation with us, you get the best of everything.
- In Vancouver, you can often ski in the morning, then golf or sail in the afternoon.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Most importantly, when travellers come to visit us, we welcome them with a warm Canadian smile and treat them like family.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- The Lunar New Year is a special time.

- We honour this holiday in B.C.
- I would like to wish you an early Happy New Year.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- The government of British Columbia supports a number of events and celebrations taking place across our province.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- I'd like to extend an invitation to all of you to enjoy Lunar New Year in B.C.
- It's an experience that you'll never forget!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Thank you ALL for spending your time with us today.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- At this point, I'd like to introduce the next speaker...

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Someone who LOVES the province of British Columbia...
- And works hard every day to make it an EVEN better place to live and visit.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- I'd like to introduce the Premier of British Columbia, John Horgan.

BACKGROUND-

- China is Canada's fastest growing tourism market, with China representing the 2nd largest international tourism market to B.C.
- In 2016 year-over-year growth in visits to B.C. from China was nearly 20%. Year-to-date (Jan-Oct), China has continued to be the second largest source of international visitors to B.C. (after the US).
- Total inbound tourism to B.C. in 2016 totalled 5,532,226, with the majority from the U.S. overnight visitors (3,621,136).
 - Inbound tourism to British Columbia from residents of China in 2016 was 312,668 overnight customs entries (5.6% of total).
 - This has more than tripled since 2009 and China is now B.C.'s second largest market after the U.S.
- Destination British Columbia has had representation in Beijing since 2010, co-located with Destination Canada, to market British Columbia as a year-round destination. Destination B.C. attends the Destination Canada Showcase marketplaces in China annually in October to meet with key tour operators that are currently promoting travel packages to B.C., or have an opportunity to start or increase their B.C. tourism product offerings to consumers.
- In 2015, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Li declared 2018 as the Canada-China Year of Tourism. The federal government and Destination Canada are engaging provinces and their destination marketing organizations on details on promotional activities.
- Vancouver International Airport has more mainland Chinese carriers (7) than any airport in North America, South America or Europe. In the 2017 summer season there were 57 weekly flights to YVR connecting 11 mainland Chinese cities. In the 2017 winter season, there are 51 weekly flights.
- There are 18 flights weekly between Beijing and Vancouver alone into YVR.
- China and Canada have yet to negotiate additional air access to Canada from China. The maximum number of weekly flights into Canada (76) from China has been reached under the current air transportation agreement.
- Chinese tourists are able to visit Canada frequently with Approved Destination Status (ADS) in 2010 and the advent of 10-year multiple-entry visas in 2015. Over 50% of Chinese visitors to Canada visit B.C. at some point during their travels.

- Canada has opened seven new visa application centres (VACs) in China in addition to those already open in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chongqing. These application centres are in so-called secondary cities (Chengdu, Wuhan, Shenyang, Jinan, Nanjing, Kunming and Hangzhou) that will support further travel growth to Canada.
- The 2022 Winter Olympic Games will be held in Beijing. As part of its Olympics planning, the Chinese government has committed to encouraging more of its citizens to take up winter sports, including skiing.
- Destination B.C.'s 2017/2018 annual plan for China market includes:
 - Introducing new tourism products to tour operators to promote longer length of stays, dispersion in the province and seasonality.
 - Supporting marketing initiatives through Destination Canada by participating in content marketing campaigns, featuring key B.C. experiences in digital, media and social media channels.
 - Seeking unique media trips to B.C. for key influencers, celebrities, media outlets and events to showcase areas of British Columbia with a focus on generating awareness of and interest in B.C.
 - Supporting Destination Canada on the Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018 promotions.
 - Undertaking a campaign that builds on B.C. ski products available for the China market.
 - Launching a Chinese New Year initiative to capitalize on Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018. The objective is to inspire and motivate Chinese visitors to travel to Vancouver during Chinese New Year by showcasing B.C. winter experiences, Chinese New Year festivals and multi-cultural events.
 - Maximizing the partnership signed in June 2017 with China's largest online travel agency, CTrip, and increasing the awareness of B.C. tourism products through this influential distribution channel.
 - Actively promoting B.C.'s winter ski experiences in China market for the past four years, through the travel trade and social media platforms.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Hon. Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Post Asia Mission Press Conference

Friday, February 2, 2018

XX:00 a.m. – XX:00 a.m.

Location:

Pan Pacific Hotel

300-999 Canada Place

Vancouver, B.C.

V6C 3B5

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:

Rick Devereux, Director, GCPE Events Services

Cell: 250-812-1207

Event summary:

- From January 20-30, 2018, Premier John Horgan led the new government's first mission to Asia with Minister Ralston, Minister of State Chow and Minister Beare to strengthen ties with governments, business partners and the broader community, as a means to bring economic benefits to people throughout B.C.
- This trip to China, South Korea and Japan has demonstrated that B.C. is "open for business" with the intention of expanding economic ties with the province's second, third and fourth largest trading partners respectively.
- At the event, the Premier and ministers will discuss the outcomes and highlights of the mission. The Premier will lead and the ministers will follow with brief (1-2 minute) speeches about mission outcomes relevant to their economic sectors.
- Minister Beare is the 3rd speaker after Premier Horgan and Minister Ralston.

Time: Minister speaks at {time}

Directions and Parking:

Directions: The event is being held in XX room at the Pan Pacific Hotel.

Parking: Suggest Minister use underground parking at the hotel. If that is full, then valet parking is available.

Logistics: Premier Horgan and ministers seated at a table, in news conference setting (Premier in the centre with ministers to his left and right), {eg. podium, stage, microphone, set-up}

Audience: {e.g. There will be approximately [number] people attending this event, consisting of stakeholders, students/children, First nation reps. Media will/not be present.}

Dress Code: {e.g. formal / business causal / sport attire}

Key participants:

- Additional Provincial reps
 - Premier John Horgan
 - Minister Bruce Ralston
 - Minister George Chow
- Media will attend.

DESIRED SOUNDBITE / KEY NEWS RELEASE SOUNDBITE

“This trip to Asia helped facilitate many opportunities for attracting investment and creating good jobs for people in B.C.”, said Premier John Horgan. “We learned a lot over our 10 days in Asia, and meeting face-to-face with government and business leaders in China, South Korea and Japan will take our economic relationship with these countries to the next level, and will help create jobs and prosperity for hardworking people here at home.”

Key Messages

- Building a strong, sustainable economy means working with trade partners around the world to expand markets and create good jobs for people in B.C.
- We’re making sure B.C. is connected and competitive, and we’re working hard to attract more investment to our province.
- B.C.’s trade and investment relationships in Asia are vital to our economic prosperity.
- We have a long-standing connection with Asia, and we are taking every opportunity to deepen cultural, family and business connections to strengthen our trade relationships with B.C.’s second, third and fourth largest trade partners respectively.
- This mission to China, South Korea and Japan has been about establishing new government-to-government relationships and building on existing relationships to create more opportunities for B.C. businesses in priority markets.
- Instead of looking to one sector to create jobs, we’re working to strengthen traditional industries like forestry, energy and mining, while supporting small business, tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, technology and innovation.
- We’re also tackling the challenges of climate change and working with international climate leaders to cut carbon pollution while stepping up efforts to get more electric vehicles on roads, make buildings more energy efficient, advance renewable energy technology to help spur innovation, attract investment, create jobs, and make our communities more resilient for the future.
- B.C. is open for business. Together, we can create good-paying jobs in every corner of the province, and make sure everyone benefits from B.C.’s economy, resources and environment.
- Because our economy should work for everyone, not just the few at the top.

Tourism Key Messages

- Thousands of B.C. families rely on jobs in tourism. The government is working hard to maintain the growth of this vital industry in our province.
- Tourism from Asia – specifically Chinese tourism – is growing exponentially.
- Overnight visits from China to B.C. increased by 22% in 2016 over the prior year – making China B.C.'s second largest market after the U.S.
- In 2016, the province welcomed 151,535 overnight customs entries from Japan – making it B.C.'s third largest market.
- In the same year, the province welcomed 108,903 overnight customs entries from South Korea – making it the fourth largest market.
- These statistics present a great opportunity for our tourism industry, and British Columbia is working to attract more tourists from these important markets.
- To build on the success of the Asia trade mission, Destination BC has developed a tactical plan, in collaboration with Destination Canada, for these countries that will market British Columbia as year-round destination.
- B.C.'s tourism industry matters to this government. That's why we're ensuring that B.C.'s tourism sector is represented on all trade missions.
- Tourism industry experts project that more than 100-thousand new jobs will be created in the tourism & hospitality sector by 2020.

Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
XX:00 a.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with guest speakers, led by XXXXX Location: XXXX Participants <ul style="list-style-type: none">• XXXXX• XXXXX• XXXXX
XX:XX a.m.	Dignitaries escorted to XXXX
XX:XX a.m.	Emcee welcomes guests, provides remarks and introduces Provincial Rep.
XX:XX a.m.	Provincial rep provides remarks (usually the first to speak unless there is a federal rep)
XX:XX a.m.	Emcee thanks Provincial rep for remarks, introduces XXXXX
XX:XX a.m.	XXXX provides remarks
XX:XX a.m.	Emcee thanks guests for attending and invites participants to the stage for unveiling/presentation. <i>PHOTO-OP</i>
XX:XX a.m.	Speaking portion complete, speakers are free to tour showcase and media interviews.
XX:XX a.m.	Event concludes.

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good afternoon.
- Thank you for joining us today.
- It's a pleasure to be here as the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.
- And it's an honour to join Premier Horgan, Minister Ralston and Minister Chow for this press conference.

MISSION

- The tourism sector is a key part of the economy in British Columbia.
- And our government sees the value of having it championed on ALL trade missions.

- For me, this mission was about fostering new relationships and strengthening existing ones with the travel industry.
- I promoted B.C.'s dynamic, year-round tourism industry and identified opportunities to promote the Canada-China Year of Tourism.
- I engaged with hundreds of travel agents, airlines, travel media and tourism operators.
- The work we accomplished on this mission will increase visits to our province.
- And that's good news for the travel industry – both here at home and in Asia.

WeChat

- Premier Horgan shared the exciting partnership we formed with China's largest social media platform – WeChat.
- The agreement is WeChat's FIRST tourism marketing collaboration in Canada – and one of very few in North

America!

- This access will allow Destination BC to promote our province to the nearly ONE BILLION monthly WeChat users.
- I used the app while I was in China and it's very impressive!
- The agreement is instrumental in building on the success of the mission as it will increase tourism to our great province.

Lunar New Year Celebration

- One of the current promotions is a Lunar New Year special which offers travel packages to enjoy the New Year festivities in B.C.
- Over 300 tourists have already booked this deal!
- When they arrive, they will be treated to a Lunar New Year celebration dinner hosted by Destination BC.

- I will attend the event and I look forward to speaking about the world-class travel adventures all over the province.
- So they can experience the true beauty of every region.
- And then go home and tell everyone!

CONCLUSION

- We know that tourism from Asia is growing exponentially.
- And, our government is successfully expanding marketing efforts to draw those travellers to British Columbia.
- All of this will bring jobs and economic growth to our communities.
- I'd like to note my warm appreciation to Destination BC, members of the tourism industry and my colleagues for their part in this successful trade mission.

- I look forward to building on the momentum of this trip in the months ahead.

--30—



SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Hon. Lisa Beare
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Asia Mission
Guangzhou Luncheon

Monday, January 22, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location:
White Swan Hotel, Shamian Room (2nd Floor)
No. 1 Shamian South Street,
Guangzhou, China

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Event Coordinator- Jodie Hu
s.22

Event summary:

- Showcase B.C.'s tourism opportunities with an Explore B.C. themed lunch. Audience includes key Chinese travel trade, industry and travel media. Promoted by B.C.'s Premier and Minister of Tourism Arts and Culture. Minister shares remarks with translation provided (total time is 10 minutes: approx. 5 minutes speaking; approx. 5 minutes translation).

Time: Minister speaks at 12:47p.m.

Directions and Parking:

- Minister will have her own car and driver.
- JTT program staff is taking care of travel logistics.
- Final transportation plan will be shared by JTT closer to the date of travel.

Logistics:

{eg. podium, stage, microphone, set-up}

Audience: There will be approximately 120 people attending this event.

- Tourism partners (tour operators, travel agents and airlines. (70)
- Travel media (30)
- Premier's delegation (12)
- JTT guests (10)

Dress Code:

- Business

Key participants:

- XX (EMCEE)
- Additional Provincial reps
 - Premier John Horgan
- Stakeholders:
 - Destination BC representatives
- VIP:
 - Mr. LI Jian, Deputy Director General of Guangdong FAO
 - Mr. Tom Cumming, Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner, Government of Canada

Key Messages:

2018 Canada-China Year of Tourism Key Messages:

- 2018 is the Canada-China Year of Tourism, as announced by both Canada and China.
- In addition to the key strategies identified for this market, Destination BC will partner with Destination Canada to capitalize on awareness of the Canada-China Year of Tourism. Specific joint activities and tactics will be reviewed in early 2018.
- Destination BC is leading a Chinese New Year promotion for February 2018, with the goal of bringing up to 1000 Chinese consumers on travel packages to B.C. and capitalizing on the awareness created by the Canada-China Year of Tourism.
- China is Canada's fastest growing tourism market, with China representing the 2nd largest international tourism market to BC.
- In 2016, year-over-year growth in visits to BC from China was nearly 20%. Year-to-date (Jan-Oct), China has continued to be the second largest source of international visitors to BC (after the US) in 2017.
- Vancouver International Airport has the most mainland Chinese carriers of any airport in North America, South America and Europe. In the 2017 summer season there were 57 weekly flights to YVR connecting 11 mainland Chinese cities. In the 2017 winter season, there were 51 weekly flights.
- With the recent advent of the 10-year multiple entry visa (2015), and Approved Destination Status (ADS) (2010), Chinese tourists are able not only to visit Canada, but to visit frequently. Over 50% of Chinese visitors to Canada visit BC at some point during their travels.

Agenda – as of January 9, 2018

Time	Event Itinerary
XX:00 a.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with guest speakers, led by XXXXX Location: XXXX Participants XXXXX XXXXX XXXXX
XX:XX a.m.	Dignitaries escorted to XXXX
11:30 a.m.	Registration starts. Program proposed for 30-min registration time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each guest will collect their name badge at registration - DBC 360 corner experiences at the entrance area (10 mobile set-up showcasing 6 DBC 360 videos with Google cardboard glasses) - Loop videos to be shown on the in-room LED screen, and the suggested videos include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild_Within_Destination_Video_180sec-Chinese subtitle • Trekker 29 videos • Explore BC With Harbour Air Seaplanes • Explore British Columbia: The Chilcotin by Horseback • Explore British Columbia: Kayaking on Northern Vancouver Island • Fly Fishing on the Skeena River: Explore British Columbia • Explore British Columbia: Adventures on the Fraser River • Explore British Columbia: A Road Trip in BC's West Kootenays • Explore British Columbia: The Winter Within • YOLO BC promotion video • Welcome to Vancouver • Tourism Victoria CH sub. • TourismKelowna_Destination • Kamloops-LWP-TKVideo-FINAL - Blueberry wine and soft drinks served; food will be wrapped till speeches are done. - Guest free mingle time - “Cloud” photo service starting from 11:30 through the luncheon and signing ceremony (guests could scan the QR code provided on spot with their mobile, and access their photos on online library)
12:00 p.m.	Emcee welcomes guests, and invites Minister Lisa Beare to give remarks (LED screen show the key image with the event headlines)
12:05 p.m.	Minister gives remarks with translation (Matching PPT or loop image PPT is shown during the speech)
12:16 p.m.	Emcee thanks Minister, and invites Premier John Horgan to give remarks (LED screen show the key image with the event headlines)

12:17 p.m.	Premier gives remarks with translation (Matching PPT or loop image PPT is shown during the speech)
12:28 p.m.	Emcee thanks Premier, and announces lunch start (Loop videos during the meal, and key video is DC new video) During lunch hour, Premier and Minister will be introduced to top VIP guests – TBA
1:30 p.m.	Event concludes, and Emcee invites media to Silver Jade Room 4. Also reminds other travel trade guests to collect the DBC collateral bags at the registration before leaving. The bag includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 copy of DBC Chinese itinerary brochure - 1 copy of DBC flat sheet - 1 DBC scarf - Collaterals from BC food sponsors

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Hello! Nee-how!
- Thank you for the warm welcome.
- It's an honour and a pleasure to be here today with you, as British Columbia's Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Thank you for joining us. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to meet you and talk with you.
- Guangzhou is a beautiful city – earlier today I visited the Chen Clan Ancestral Hall and the Guangdong Museum.

>>insert PERSONAL ANECDOTE<<

- 2018 is an important year for all of us in this room.
- It's the Canada-China Year of Tourism.

- This is an opportunity for the tourism industries in both our countries to showcase what we EACH have to offer.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

>>LEAD APPLAUSE<<

- It's a real opportunity – as sister provinces to forge an even stronger relationship by encouraging our citizens to explore new cultures and develop new friendships.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Many of you here today play a direct role in encouraging Chinese citizens to travel to British Columbia. I am excited to work with you to make the Canada-China Year of Tourism a success!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

BRITISH COLUMBIA

- British Columbia has a global reputation as a top travel destination.
- Tourism is the NUMBER ONE economic sector in our province.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- That's because British Columbia offers immense natural beauty, a welcoming people, and unique experiences that travelers are looking for.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- British Columbia is Canada's outdoor playground, offering year-round adventures. In BC, you can go whale watching in the Pacific Ocean... ski on our mountains... and take a dip in the most spectacular hot springs.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- People love BC for our mountain destinations. You've probably heard of Whistler Resort. It's where we had *our* Olympics in 2010! Winter or summer, it's a fantastic place to holiday, with lots to do.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Beautiful Vancouver offers five-star hotels, spas, restaurants and shopping for top luxury brands.
- It's also home to Stanley Park – named the best park in the world by TripAdvisor in 2014.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Your clients can visit the Okanagan Valley – a short distance from Vancouver, it offers wine tours, world-class farm-to-table dining, and beautiful lakes and rolling hills to explore.
- Something really unique for visitors – BC's Indigenous tourism experiences. They offer everything from tours in canoes... to museum experiences... to traditional dance and other cultural activities you won't find anywhere else.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- And for those interested in learning more about our very young province... I recommend visiting Barkerville, a charming place to experience the frontier days of our province, where you can find out more about our rich Chinese-Canadian history.

- (NOTE: THERE WILL BE LARGE DBC PHOTOS OF BC AROUND THE HALL. If wanted, you could reference them here.)
- (Every region of British Columbia offers a grand adventure – some that I see featured in this very room.)

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- There is something for everyone in British Columbia...for every age, taste and budget.
- When travellers come to visit us, we greet them with a warm Canadian smile and treat them like family.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

Travel to Canada/BC

- People from YOUR great country want to vacation in beautiful British Columbia. Visits from China to B.C. in 2016 were up nearly 20% from the year before!

- And in 2018, the numbers are expected to grow. Additional flights are making it easier to reach Vancouver directly from almost a dozen cities in China.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- There are 10 flights from Guangzhou to Vancouver each week!
- We want Chinese visitors to come see us. And to make travel to Canada even easier, there are 7 new visa approval centres now open in China, including one right here in Guangzhou.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Visitors can also apply for a 10-year multi-entry visa, which is a great way to enable return visits.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

Destination BC

- In February there's a Lunar New Year promotion which offers special travel packages to enjoy the festivities in B.C.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- All of this is good news for people working in the tourism industry.
- Together, we are going to champion the Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

CONCLUSION

- I'm excited for the year ahead.
- Tourism contributes to the growth and prosperity of both our nations.
- Most importantly, it builds the warm friendship between us.
- That's why we're here today.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- The momentum we start today will result in many incredible, memorable vacations... and in lasting friendships.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- I'd like to thank
- The Lunar New Year is a special time.
- We honour this holiday in B.C.
- I'd like to wish you an early Happy New Year.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- The Government of British Columbia supports a number of events and celebrations taking place across the province.
- I'd like to extend an invitation to all of you to enjoy the Lunar New Year in B.C. It's an experience that you'll never forget!

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- I hope you'll come see us soon.
- At this point, I'd like to introduce the next speaker...

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

- Someone who LOVES the province of British Columbia...
- And works hard every day to make it an EVEN better place to live and visit.
- It's my pleasure to introduce the Premier of British Columbia, John Horgan.

>>PAUSE FOR TRANSLATION<<

--30--

BACKGROUND-

- Inbound tourism to B.C. in 2016 totalled 5,532,226, with the majority from U.S. overnight visitors (3,621,136).
 - Inbound tourism to British Columbia from residents of China in 2016 totalled 312,668 overnight customs entries (5.6% of total).
 - This has more than tripled since 2009, making China B.C.'s second largest market, after the U.S.
- Destination BC has had representation in Beijing since 2010, co-located with Destination Canada, to market British Columbia as a year-round destination. Destination BC attends the Destination Canada showcase marketplaces in China annually in October to meet with key tour operators that are currently promoting travel packages to B.C., or have an opportunity to start or increase their B.C. tourism product offerings to consumers.
- In 2015, Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Li declared 2018 as the Canada-China Year of Tourism. The federal government and Destination Canada are engaging provinces and their destination marketing organizations on details of promotional activities.
- Vancouver has become the most connected city with China in North America and Europe, with over 50 flights to YVR connecting 11 mainland Chinese cities in the 2016-2017 winter/spring seasons, and 61 flights per week to YVR during the peak summer 2017 season. YVR currently hosts more Chinese airlines (7) than any other airport in North America.
- Between Guangzhou and Vancouver there are 10 flights weekly into YVR and 7 flights per week into Toronto.
- China and Canada have yet to negotiate additional air access to Canada from China. The maximum number of weekly flights into Canada (76) from China has been reached under the current air transportation agreement.
- Chinese tourists are able to visit Canada frequently with Approved Destination Status (ADS) in 2010 and the advent of 10-year multiple-entry visas in 2015. Over 50% of Chinese visitors to Canada visit B.C. at some point during their travels.
- Canada has opened seven new visa application centres (VACs) in China in addition to those already open in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chongqing. These application centres are in so-called secondary cities (Chengdu, Wuhan, Shenyang, Jinan, Nanjing, Kunming and Hangzhou) that will support further travel growth to Canada.
- Destination B.C.'s 2017/2018 annual plan for the China market includes:
 - Introducing new tourism products to tour operators to promote longer length of stays, dispersion in the province and seasonality.
 - Supporting marketing initiatives through Destination Canada by participating in content marketing campaigns, featuring key B.C. experiences in digital, media and social media channels.
 - Seeking unique media trips to B.C. for key influencers, celebrities, media outlets and events to showcase areas of British Columbia with a focus on generating awareness of and interest in B.C.

- Supporting Destination Canada on the Canada-Year of Tourism 2018 promotions.
- Undertaking a campaign that builds on B.C. ski products available for the China market.
- Launching a Chinese New Year's initiative to capitalize on Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018. The objective is to inspire and motivate Chinese visitors to travel to Vancouver during Chinese New Year by showcasing B.C. winter experiences, Chinese New Year festivals and multi-cultural events.
- Maximizing the partnership signed in June 2017 with China's largest online travel agency, CTrip, and increasing the awareness of B.C. tourism products through this influential distribution channel.

UPDATED: JAN. 15 AT 320PM

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

Simon Fraser University, Surrey Campus

250-13450 102 Ave, Surrey

January 16, 2018

9am

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

GCPE-HQ: Elena Banfield 604-842-0984 Elena.Banfield@gov.bc.ca

SFU: Marianne Meadahl 778-782-9017; 604-209-5770 Marianne_Meadahl@sfu.ca

Getting there and parking:

- Parking will be reserved in the main lot of the campus and marked with the Minister's name. The lot is behind the building, and the entrance to the building from there leads right into the Mezzanine area where the event will take place.
- Minister Mark will be met by Elena Banfield and SFU representatives at entrance to Mezzanine area off parking lot. Tour party proceeds to Environmental Engineering Building construction site.
- Tour party will be outfitted with hardhats and footwear upon arrival at site.

Audience:

- Post-secondary institutions
- Tech sector / employers
- Students / parents

Notable attendees:

- Minister Melanie Mark
- Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and for Port Moody-Coquitlam MLA Rick Glumac
- SFU president Andrew Petter
- BC Tech Association president Jill Tipping
- Elder Margaret George, SFU resident Elder
- XingLu Wang, second-year Mechatronic Systems Engineering student, graduate of Surrey's Fraser Heights Secondary and president of Team Phantom, a student team working to build an all-electric race car.

Event description:

Government is rolling out an expansion of new and expanded tech-related programming in public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia to support increased demand for talent in the growing tech sector.

Event in the morning to announce 440 new seats in sustainable energy engineering at the sustainable energy engineering building at SFU Surrey that is under construction in addition to tech-related programming throughout the Lower Mainland – UBC, KPU, BCIT. A total of 2,900 spaces that will produce 1,000 additional tech grads a year by 2023.

Background:

- Announce a total of 2,900 additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that will produce a steady stream of 1,000 additional grads a year by 2022-23.
- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector. The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.
- A new sustainable energy engineering building is under construction at SFU Surrey. However, while capital funding was announced in 2016, there was never any announcement around the operating funding to support student spaces.
- The plan is a mixture of expanded and new seats in tech-related programs. The credentials range from graduate and undergraduate degrees through to diplomas and certificates. Over 83,400 tech-related job openings are expected by 2027.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training will fund \$4.4 million in 2017-18. This is expected to ramp up to \$42 million a year.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank you President Petter for the introduction.
- I'd like to acknowledge that we're on the territory of the Coast Salish people.
- People in attendance:
 - Other MLAs (TBC).
 - Elder Margaret George.
 - Mayor or other notable people (TBC).
- I would also like to thank the students and faculty that took the time to share their projects with me.
- You inspire me - keep up the great work!

Introduction:

- It's great to be here at SFU's Surrey campus.
- It's also great to see the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building under construction.
- The Sustainable Energy Engineering Building is a symbol of what's to come South of the Fraser.
- This structure is a \$126 million collaborative effort between the Province, SFU, the Government of Canada and private donors.
- When the building is finished, it's going to be five stories high and packed with 15,000 square meters of excited students finding their futures in tech.

Announcement:

- For the students and researchers in the Sustainable Energy Engineering Building, tech means researching energy and hydrogen and electricity.
- The tech sector in B.C. is one of the fast growing sectors of our economy.
- It generates \$29 billion in revenue, supports over 106,000 good-paying jobs and it is home to more than 10,200 businesses.
- Over 83,400 tech-related jobs openings are expected by 2027. Jobs like computer programmers, engineers, information system analysts and software designers.
- That's why, today, I'm announcing the addition of 2,900 technology spaces at institutions throughout B.C.
- This will produce an additional 1,000 tech graduates a year by 2023.
- At SFU Surrey, we will be adding 320 undergraduate and 120 graduate-level spaces by 2022-23.
- When the Premier appointed me as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, he mandated that we expand technology related post-secondary education programs.
- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector.

- The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.
- Premier John Horgan and our government will invest \$4.4 million throughout the province this year to start planning.
- As more seats come online, this is expected to increase to \$42 million.
- There's still work to do but with this announcement, we are taking a big step towards making education more accessible for people throughout B.C.

It's About People:

- Creating more home-grown tech talent is good news for businesses and employers. It helps them grow and succeed.
- For me, it's about people and giving them the opportunity to thrive.
- Education has the power to transform lives.
- It means a chance for a bright future.
- Together we are going to build a strong, sustainable and innovative community that works for everyone.
- We are going to tackle poverty and inequality and make sure that British Columbians in every corner of the province have the opportunity to succeed.
- So keep innovating, programming, engineering and building a better British Columbia for all of us.
- You are the innovators whose dedication and hard work will lead to 21st century solutions that shape, improve and transform our future.
- Keeping reaching for the stars and shining.

UPDATED: JANUARY 14 AT 730PM

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

Thompson Rivers University
805 TRU Way, Kamloops, BC

Jan. 16, 2018

2:30pm

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

GCPE-HQ: Elena Banfield 604-842-0984 elena.banfield@gov.bc.ca

TRU: Kelly de Chantal 250-852-7271;s.22 kdechantal@tru.ca

Getting there and parking:

Minister Mark arrives at TRU, met by Alan Shaver. Minister Mark proceeds to Campus Activity Centre, Alpine Room.

Audience:

- Post-secondary institutions
- Tech sector / employers
- Students / parents

Notable attendees:

- Minister Melanie Mark
- Tom Dickinson, Dean of Science TRU (EMCEE) TBC
- TRU president Alan Shaver
- Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop, Tshimshian and Heiltsuk Elder
- Dan De Palma, Vice-President Sale and Marketing, Streamline Transportation Technologies
- TRU engineering student Lorelei Guidos

Event description:

Government is rolling out an expansion of new and expanded tech-related programming in public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia to support increased demand for talent in the growing tech sector.

Afternoon event at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops to announce tech-related seats at TRU supported by regional news releases for Kamloops, Kelowna, Victoria, and Prince George..

This event is to follow a morning event at SFU Surrey campus to announce tech-related seats in the Lower Mainland, including programming at SFU, UBC, Kwantlen and BCIT.

Background:

- Announce a total of 2,900 additional tech-related spaces at public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that will produce a steady stream of 1,000 additional grads a year by 2022-23.

- B.C. under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector. The last significant investment in tech programs was more than 10 years ago.
- The plan is a mixture of expanded and new seats in tech-related programs. The credentials range from graduate and undergraduate degrees through to diplomas and certificates. Over 83,400 tech-related job openings are expected by 2027.
- TRU will receive \$400,000 in start-up funding from the B.C. Government in 2017-18, which will allow the institution to increase the number of student spaces and to offer a full software engineering degree program. The university is expected to ramp up to a total of 140 spaces in undergraduate software engineering by 2022-23, which will produce 35 additional graduates a year by 2023.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank you for the introduction, Dr. Dickinson.
- I would first like to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Secwepemc peoples [She-whep-m], specifically the Tk'emlups [Tay-come-loops] Indian Band.
- Thank Elder Dr. Margaret Vickers Hyslop of the Tismshian [sim-she-an] and Heiltsuk [helts-uk] Nations for the blessing.
- Acknowledge those in attendance:
 - Other MLAs (TBC).
 - Mayor or other notable people (TBC).
- I'd also like to give a big shout out to all of the students that are gathering with us this afternoon.

Introduction:

- It's always great to be able to visit Kamloops.
- Just last week, I was in Kamloops meeting with tech business leaders.
- As many of you know, I visited Thompson Rivers University in August as part of a three week tour of all 25 B.C. public post-secondary institutions.
- That was a whirlwind tour, visiting all 25 schools in just 21 days.
- It was a great start to kick off my job as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.
- Today, I'm here to announce an investment that shows that our government is continuing to improve student access to post-secondary education and training.
- We're continuing to break down barriers to education and training that can transform lives and let students reach their full potential.

Details

- It is important that students in Kamloops have options right here at home to complete their education.
- That's why I'm excited to announce funding that will support more student spaces in engineering at TRU, including funding for a new, full software engineering degree program.
- For the first time, students in the Kamloops area are going to be able to study for some of the most in-demand engineering careers without having to leave their community.
- TRU attracts students from B.C., Canada and around the world.
- It is critical we invest in relevant and dynamic programs that will enrich both students and their communities.
- This is part of our government's addition of 2,900 technology spaces at institutions throughout the province.
- Our province desperately needs these tech graduates.
- We're going to need thousands of engineers, programmers and software developers as more than 80,000 tech related openings come available in the next decade.
- When the Premier appointed me as Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, he mandated that we expand technology related post-secondary education programs.

- B.C. currently under-produces engineering and computer science degrees in comparison to other provinces in Canada despite a growing tech sector.
- The last significant investment in technology programming at public post-secondary institutions was more than 10 years ago.
- Premier John Horgan and our government will invest \$4.4 million throughout the province this year to start planning.
- As more seats come online, this is expected to increase to \$42 million.
- There's still work to do but with this announcement, we are taking a big step towards making education more accessible for people throughout B.C.

Investing in Thompson Rivers University

- Our government was elected on three pillars: making life more affordable, delivering services people count on and building an economy that works for everyone.
- For years, students have been burdened with increasing costs and debt.
- At Thompson Rivers University we are opening doors that had previously been closed for thousands of students
- That's why we are funding a full software engineering program.
- Our immediate focus has been on reducing costs for students and addressing student debt:
- We cut the rate of interest on provincial loans by 2.5%. This benefited around 200,000 people as well as future borrowers.
- We eliminated tuition for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs. Students and educators told us that unfair tuition fees blocked ordinary people from advancing their opportunities.
- September's budget update included \$18.5 million for tuition-free ABE and ELL. Thompson River's University will receive a portion of the funding based on student enrolment.
- We expanded tuition-waivers for former young people in care at all 25 public post-secondary institutions including Thompson Rivers University.

- And there's much more to come in the years ahead with completion grants and graduate scholarship fund.
- Thompson Rivers University is a respected and valued university that provides quality education for thousands of students.

It's About People:

- Creating more home-grown tech talent in Kamloops is good news for businesses and employers. It helps them grow and succeed.
- For me, it's about people and giving them the opportunity to thrive.
- Education has the power to transform lives.
- It means a chance for a bright future.
- Together we are going to build a strong, sustainable and innovative community that works for everyone.
- We are going to tackle poverty and inequality and make sure that British Columbians in every corner of the province including the Thompson region have the opportunity to succeed.
- So keep innovating, programming, engineering and building a better British Columbia for all of us.
- You are the innovators whose dedication and hard work will lead to 21st century solutions that shape, improve and transform our future.
- Keeping reaching for the stars and shining.

UPDATED: JAN. 25, 6 P.M.

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

BC Chamber of Commerce
Cabinet Ministers Breakfast Series

Chambar Restaurant
568 Beatty Street
Vancouver B.C.

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Speaking Time: 20 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Rosalind Chan, Director, Finance and Administration. BC Chamber of Commerce.
Cell. s.22

Getting there and parking:

Paid parking for the minister is available across the street at a parking garage at Lot 2 - 150 West Pender Street (\$2.50 per half-hour) or on the street at meter parking.

Audience:

Approximately 70 individuals, including members of the BC Chamber of Commerce and guests. No members of the media will be attending this event.

Event Description:

Minister Mark to address members of the BC Chamber of Commerce.

Background: BC Chamber of Commerce

The BC Chamber of Commerce drives business advocacy for its member network. Most municipalities have a local Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade. The chamber advocates for business-friendly public policy and makes recommendations to provincial ministries.

The BC Chamber of Commerce is the largest and most broadly-based business organization in British Columbia. Representing more than 125 Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade, and 36,000 businesses of every size, sector and region of the province, the BC Chamber of Commerce considers itself as the 'The Voice of Business' in B.C.

Itinerary

8 am	BC Chamber (Sharon Hong) to staff registration desk. Business card draw box. Photographer to arrive.	
8 – 8:15 am	Minister Melanie Mark to arrive.	
8:30 am	Guests to be seated. Breakfast orders taken.	
8:40 am	Waffles served.	
8:40 am	Val Litwin (BC Chamber) to emcee. Welcome, thank sponsors (BC Translink and Port of Vancouver) and introduce VIPs.	
8:50 – 9:00 am	Minister Mark to give keynote.	
9:00 – 9:10 am	Questions and answers. Val Litwin will moderate.	
9:10	Duncan Wilson with Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to thank Minister Mark and present a letter indicating a donation will be made to a charity of her choice.	
9:30 am	End of breakfast event.	

Three Key Messages:

1. Investing in people leads to the best British Columbia.
2. We are leaning on partners like BC Chamber of Commerce members.
3. I am listening and engaging with students, employers and industry.

Speaking Notes Framework

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

1. Traditional territory of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation.
2. Over one million British Columbians are employed by a small business and most businesses are small businesses
3. Education has the power to transform people.

The Three Pillars of Government:

1. Our government was elected on making life more affordable, delivering services people count on, and building an economy that works for everyone.
2. I am proud to be part of a government that is making life more affordable and accessible

Ministry Mandate Letter – Nine Priorities:

1. Premier John Horgan and our government want a B.C. that works for everybody.

Indigenous Learners – TRC and UNDRIP:

1. Adopt and implement TRC Calls to Action and UNDRIP.
2. Our Indigenous population is growing at more than triple the rate of the non-Indigenous population, with nearly half under the age of 25 years old.

Investing in People – Affordability and Accessibility:

1. Students are our future workforce as well as future employers and entrepreneurs.
2. We are giving people access to the skills to succeed including single parents, Indigenous peoples and people with disabilities as well as unemployed and under-employed.
3. We are in the final stages of negotiating a new generation of Labour Market Transfer Agreements worth \$2.7 billion over six years.

Post-Secondary Institutions – Investing in Education:

1. I toured all 25 public post-secondary institutions in 21 days last August.
2. We are investing in education to make it affordable and accessible.
3. Last month, we announced 2,900 tech related student spaces throughout the province.

Trades Training – Building the Best B.C.:

1. We are creating a world-class training and apprenticeship system for British Columbians.
2. Working with industry, employers, labour, training providers, the ITA to build the trades that will build the best B.C.

Labour Market – Evidence Based Decisions:

1. We will make informed divisions based on data in partnership with industry, employers and post-secondary institutions.
2. For example, the Ministry provided \$275,000 to help small independent restaurants explore ways to improve recruitment and retention.

Conclusion:

1. It has been a busy and exciting six months as Minister.
2. We can all look forward to Budget 2018 on February 20th.

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good morning, and thank you Val Litwin for the introduction.
- I'm proud to be the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training as well as the MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant, home to hundreds of small businesses.
- I'd like to acknowledge we are on the territory of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation.
- I appreciate the opportunity to speak to members of the B.C. Chamber of Commerce.
- You are advocates, champions and drivers of our economy.
- Over 1 million British Columbians are employed by a small business.
- I was amazed to learn that 98% of businesses are small businesses.
- I would like to start by telling you a little bit about myself.
- I grew up in the projects of East Vancouver. I had to overcome adversity but it shaped my own beliefs and career.
- After graduating from SFU with a degree in political science I wanted to make a difference.
- I spent eight years in BC's Office of the Representative for Children and Youth, advocating for our most vulnerable population.
- I am proud to be the first female First Nations Member of the Legislative Assembly and Cabinet Minister.
- Education transformed my life and it's important these opportunities are available to everyone.

The Three Pillars:

- As you know, our government was elected on three pillars.
- First, making life more affordable. For example:
 1. Cutting MSP premiums in half.
 2. Removing tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges.
 3. Increasing disability and income assistance rates.
- Second, delivering services people count on. For example:
 1. Fast-tracking seismic upgrades to keep students safe in school.
 2. Taking province-wide action to stem the overdose emergency and help people with mental health and addictions.
 3. Opening the door to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning.
- Third, building an economy that works for everyone. For example:
 1. Cutting taxes for small businesses from 2.5% to 2%.
 2. Adding more than 500 trades training spaces.
 3. Welcoming 1,000 more good-paying tech jobs.
- I am proud to be part of a government that is investing in people and giving them the opportunity to succeed and thrive.
- The common foundation tying the three pillars together is a strong relationship with people, businesses and communities.

Advanced Education Mandate – Nine Priorities:

- In July 2017, I received my mandate letter from Premier John Horgan, which outlined nine priorities for my ministry:
 1. Provide greater access to Adult Basic Education and English Learning programs by eliminating fees.
 2. Reduce the financial burden on students by eliminating interest on provincial student loans and establish a \$1,000 completion grant.
 3. Encourage excellence in our graduate school programs by introducing a new graduate student scholarship fund.
 4. Work with the Ministry of Education to support co-op, apprenticeship and work-experience programs for high school and undergraduate students.
 5. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to implement effective apprenticeship ratios on government funding infrastructure projects and increase participation of equity seeking groups in the skilled workforce.
 6. Work with the Ministry of Children and Family Development to improve the education success of former youth in care by expanding the tuition fee waiver program.
 7. Expand tech-related post-secondary programs, co-op programs and work to advance technology and innovation centres in key areas of our economy.
 8. Develop more degree and certificate programs to increase the number of skilled workers in B.C.'s forestry sector focusing on growing innovation in the manufactured wood products sector.
- I will need your help to achieve all these priorities.

Indigenous Learners – TRC and UNDRIP:

- All of our mandate letters include the commitment to true, lasting reconciliation with First Nations in British Columbia.
- Our government will be fully adopting and implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- We will be adopting the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- This places the responsibility on the shoulders of all cabinet ministers to move forward on the calls to action and bring the principles of the declaration into action.
- Our Indigenous population is growing at more than triple the rate of the non-Indigenous population, with nearly half under the age of 25.
- We want Indigenous British Columbians to be supported to achieve their post-secondary goals.
- Indigenous people need to be able to fulfil their dreams and participate in the social, cultural and economic life of their communities and the province.
- We are encouraging post-secondary institutions to work with Indigenous communities to improve programming and better meet the needs of Indigenous learners.
- It is essential that Indigenous peoples, including youth, are engaged so they can contribute to and enjoy the new and exciting opportunities.

Investing in People:

- Premier John Horgan and our government want to create a B.C. that works for people.
- We want everyone to have the opportunity to reach their full potential at home, in the community and in the workplace.
- Yes, we are fortunate to have a strong economy. But we need to ensure everyone benefits. This hasn't been happening.
- We want to give people who are unemployed the opportunity to find work.
- We want to give people who are underemployed the chance to move up.
- Our students are just the future workforce.
- They are future employers, entrepreneurs and innovators.
- We are in the final stages of negotiating a new generation of Labour Market Transfer Agreements worth \$2.7 billion over six years in skills training.
- These agreements will help improve the lives of all British Columbians and help meet employer demand for skilled workers.
- We will target investments in skills training to support priority areas such as technology, manufacturing and forestry.
- Affordable and accessible education and skills training will ensure people have the opportunity to take advantage of opportunities in a B.C. that works for people.

Post-Secondary Institutions:

- We have an ecosystem of post-secondary education and skills training.
- In August last year, it was important for me to get out and tour all of our public post-secondary institutions.
- I visited all 25 in 21 days.
- This gave me the opportunity to hear directly from students, faculty and staff about trades, health care, Indigenous, culinary and quantum physics programs to name a few
- Students also told me about the challenges they are facing.
- The common themes I heard were around student debt, housing and mental health.
- These are pressure points our government is committed to addressing.
- Our government's immediate priority was to address affordability and accessibility.
- We cut the interest rate on provincial loans, eliminated tuition for ABE and expanded the tuition waiver program for former youth in care.
- Last month, I announced 2,900 tech-related student spaces. This means 1,000 additional tech-grads a year by 2023.
- You asked us for more tech talent and we listened.
- I will continue to listen and engage with students, faculty and staff as well as employers, business and industry.
- Our government is leaning in to make sure we invest in Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts and Math. Also known as STEAM.

Trades Training – Building the Best BC:

- It has been inspiring for me to meet and listen to trades students.
- I'm impressed by the range of trades.
- From culinary arts and horticulture through to the construction trades, we need it all.
- Apprenticeships in the skilled trades are essential to the development of the future workforce.
- It's no secret that our government wants to:
 - Boost the number of apprentices and help them complete their training.
 - Make sure women, Indigenous groups and other equity seeking groups have a fair opportunity in the skilled trades.
 - Promote local hiring for government projects.
- We are working with apprentices, labour, employers, industry, training providers and the Industry Training Authority to create a world-class training and apprenticeship system for British Columbians.
- Currently, our government is engaging industry, union associations and people in the construction sector to gather advice and guidance on developing an apprenticeship ratio strategy.
- We want to get the best value possible from our planned \$14.6 billion in infrastructure spending over the next three years.
- An apprenticeship ratio policy for government projects will help build up British Columbians as we build the best B.C.

Labour Market Outlook and Evidence Based Decisions:

- We launched an updated Labour Market Outlook in November.
- It forecasts 917,000 job openings by 2027.
- These jobs are the result of a retiring workforce as well as new jobs created by economic growth.
- As we know, most job openings will require post-secondary education or training.
- With every challenge, there's an opportunity.
- Our government will use the Outlook in consultation with employers, industry and post-secondary institutions to make informed decisions about new services, investments and initiatives to lift up all citizens.
- For example, small, independent restaurants in Vancouver and Victoria are facing a challenge recruiting and retaining workers.
- My ministry provided \$275,000 so that the industry can explore ways to improve recruitment and retention issues.
- Owners need to explore different ways of doing business such as hiring single parents, newcomers to Canada and people with disabilities, providing benefits and offering more flexibility.
- We will continue to put British Columbians at the heart of our decision making so that everyone can share the prosperity of our strong, sustainable and innovative economy.
- Working together can make a positive difference for all of us.

Conclusion

- It has been a busy and exciting six months as Minister.
- People are better off because of our decisions to create the best B.C.
- No doubt, all of you are looking ahead to the Budget that will be presented by my colleague, Finance Minister, Carole James on February 20th.
- It will continue to support the three pillars.
- I'm excited about the opportunities for students and I'm excited about what's to come.
- Thank you for having me today.

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

SPEECH TO 36TH B.C. FEDERATION OF STUDENTS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Ballroom A
Executive Airport Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre
7311 Westminster Hwy
Richmond, BC
V6X 1A3

Date Jan. 12, 2017

10:45am

Speaking Time: 10 minutes

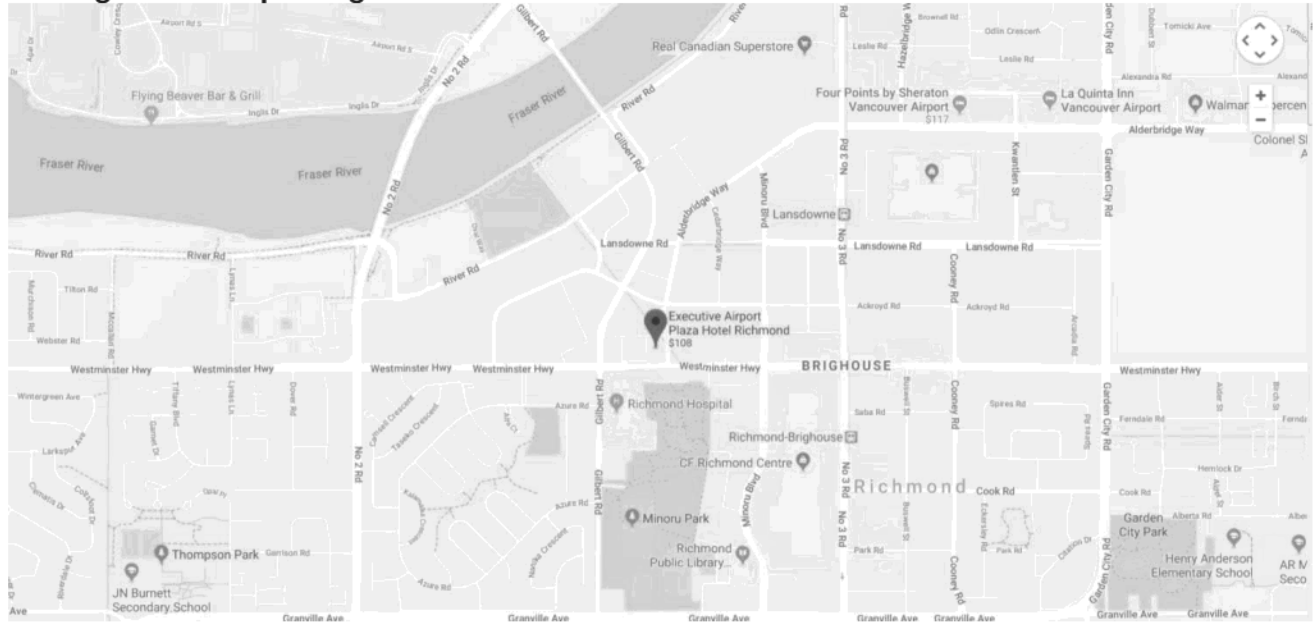
CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Simka Marshall:

Office: 604 733-1880

Mobile: s.22

Getting there and parking:

Parking is pay parking. The plate needs to be registered at the front desk. There is both underground and outdoor parking.

Audience:

Post-Secondary students

Notable attendees:

Simka Marshall, Chairperson B.C. Federation of Students

Phoebe Patigdas, Secretary-Treasurer B.C. Federation of Students

Denise Moffat from the B.C. Federation of Labour is giving the talk preceding the Minister's remarks.

Event description:

Annual General Meeting of the B.C. Federation of Students

Background:

Members of the British Columbia Federation of Students meet twice a year to discuss the post-secondary education system, formulate policy, and establish the general direction for the Federation for the six months to follow. In addition to work undertaken in the plenary sessions and subcommittee meetings, several workshops will be held addressing issues that affect students and their families.

Itinerary/agenda:

Simka Marshall will meet the Minister in the lobby.

10:45 – Phoebe Patigdas introduces Minister Mark

10:47 – Minister Speaks

Break immediately following minister's speech.

Key issues

- Student loan interest rates
- Affordable tuition
- Affordable housing
- Accessibility of post-secondary education

Proactive Communications Rollout Plan			
Date/Timing	Communications Materials	Details	Responsibility
January 5, 2018	Speaking Notes	10 minutes, bullets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB
January 5, 2018	QA	Short, high level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

Acknowledgements:

- I'd firstly like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples including the Musqueam First Nation.
- Thank you, Pheobe, for that wonderful introduction.
- I'd also like to thank the board of the B.C Federation of Students for the invitation to speak to such a phenomenal group of people.

Introduction:

- And thank you all so much for being here, today.
- I'm grateful to be here with so many who care so deeply about the well-being of your fellow students. That passion is what true leaders are made of.
- I've already had a chance to meet some of you during my summer tour of each and every B.C. public post-secondary institution.
- 25 schools in just 21 days. It was a whirlwind introduction to so many great places.
- And I'm looking forward to returning to every one of them during the course of my time as minister.
- On my tour, I was inspired by the passionate staff and faculty I met and by the work they are doing.
- I also had a chance to talk to a lot of your fellow students over the three weeks I spent on the road.
- As the days went by it became clear to me that B.C. students come from all walks of life and from all backgrounds. You are all so unique in your interests, your goals and your dreams.
- At every institution I listened to students talk about the high-quality of their education, the dedication of their instructors and their excitement about the future.
- But I also heard about the difficulties they were facing.

- Difficulties in accessing education, difficulties in finding housing and difficulties in affording post-secondary education and training.
- These difficulties should not be business as usual.
- Students should not be in a situation where they fight a constant battle against these barriers to get the education they need to fulfill their dreams.
- When I think about the future of Post-Secondary education...
 - I see campuses where students from all walks of life and from all backgrounds are welcome, safe and supported.
 - I see students studying for their exams in safe, affordable housing.
 - And I see students finishing their studies and thinking about starting families and buying houses, not wondering how they will ever get out from under crippling debt.
- That's my vision and my guiding star as minister.
- Making a vision a reality is hard work, though – and it takes a team.
- So I am proud to be part of a government that wants everyone to have access to the education and training they need to make their dreams a reality.

- More, I'm proud to be a part of a team that is already making life more affordable,
 - is already delivering the services people count on,
 - and is already building a sustainable, innovative economy that works for everyone – including students.

Inclusive Spaces:

- One of the ways to make this vision a reality is to ensure everyone has the potential to access our post-secondary institutions.
- As you all know from personal experience, every student takes a different pathway to advancing their education.
- For some, the path leads straight from high school to post-secondary and then out into the world.
- For others, like myself, the pathway twists and turns but eventually leads to the right place.
- And for still others, there are barriers that can prevent them from accessing the training and skills they need to build a bright future.
- Our government wants to break down those barriers and open doors to opportunities that have been locked for thousands of students.
- And we've made a good start.
- In just a few short months we've created or expanded programs that will help British Columbians transform their lives.
- For example, students like yourselves told us that tuition fees for Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs blocks adults who want to improve their lives from advancing their opportunities, increasing their chances of success and participating in the workforce.
 - So, we eliminated tuition for those programs at our public post-secondary institutions.

- ABE and ELL programs bring adult learners to our campuses and can be the stepping stones to further post-secondary education and good careers.
- This change also means many new Canadians, refugees and underrepresented groups now have a better chance to fulfill their potential.
- Our government also expanded the tuition fee waiver program for former youth in care to all 25 public post-secondary institutions
 - We are taking our responsibility as former guardians seriously and supporting these youth in reaching for the stars.
- Access to education isn't just about being accepted into a school, though. It's also about feeling safe and supported while you're there.
- My ministry is committed to supporting all students while they pursue their education.
- For example, we will be collaborating with our Indigenous and post-secondary partners to support the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
 - This will improve the relevance and responsiveness of our post-secondary institutions to Indigenous students and communities.
- My Ministry also supports services for students with disabilities so they can complete the education they need to succeed.

- Supports include financial aid, assistive services programs and making course materials available in accessible formats.
- And the institutions themselves are committed to continually improving access and academic accommodations, enabling those with a disability to not just participate but to excel.
- Our government is also committed to doing everything it can to make our campuses safe.
 - In May last year, all public post-secondary institutions in B.C. were required by legislation to have a policy to address sexual misconduct.
 - Policies that not only focus on prevention but on effective and compassionate responses when incidents do occur.
 - By law, these policies need to be reviewed – in consultation with students – at least once every three years.
 - And last month we launched an initiative to further raise awareness among students.
 - You may have seen the Prevent Sexual Violence posters at your institution and I hope you'll encourage your fellow students to submit feedback on our website.
- So, in only 6 months, I think this is a pretty good beginning.
- But make no mistake, it will take time and effort to fully open the doors to post-secondary education for many groups that have historically been or have felt excluded.

- And, of course, a huge part of making B.C.'s post-secondary institutions accessible is ensuring they are affordable for all British Columbians.

Affordability - Tuition:

- Our government has committed to keeping a cap on tuition to ensure tuition rates stay affordable and predictable for students and their families.
- One of the very first acts we took after being sworn in was to reduce student loan interest rates by 2.5% to Prime.
- This reduced rate for B.C. student loans will benefit approximately 200,000 current and former students as well as future learners.
- This is just the first step in our commitment to eliminate interest on B.C. student loans.
- And stay tuned because there is more to come with a new \$1,000 completion grant and a new graduate scholarship fund.
- But having accessible post-secondary education and affordable tuition is only effective if students have safe, affordable and reliable housing.

Affordability – Housing

- I know students like yourselves are being squeezed out of affordable housing, particularly in areas like Vancouver and Victoria.
- We're facing this crisis because of a long-term lack of action on building affordable housing – including student residences.
- But help is coming.
- My Ministry is working closely with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Our government has committed to 114,000 new housing units that will include student housing.
- We are also working to remove barriers that prevent post-secondary institutions from building affordable places for students to live.
 - A good example is the University of Victoria's proposal to redevelop property in downtown Victoria to be used in part for student housing.
- This government knows that housing is a fundamental concern for British Columbians and we are taking action to make safe, affordable housing available to individuals, families and students.

Conclusion

- Post-secondary institutions that are accessible; tuition that is affordable; and safe, available housing – that's my vision for post-secondary education in British Columbia.
- It's a vision where students are change makers and future agents of change.
- Where students come to our campuses to get the education and training they need to build brighter futures for themselves and their families.
- And where they leave our campuses as citizens who are capable of bringing social change to communities throughout B.C. and the world.
- Post-secondary education is an opportunity for prosperity.
- Everyone deserves the chance to reach their full potential at home, in their communities and in their workplaces.
- There's lots left to do but I believe we're off to a good start.
- Thank you for listening. Keep reaching for the stars!

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

Official ribbon-cutting for the Wilson School of Design at
Kwantlen Polytechnic University

KPU – Richmond Campus
8771 Lansdowne Road
Richmond V6X 3X7

Wednesday, Jan. 3

9 AM

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

- Marlyn Graziano, VP External Affairs at KPU, (604) 653-8226
- GCPE Event Services, Jarrett Hagglund (604) 817-1458

Getting there and parking:

- Parking is available in the KPU parking lot off Kwantlen Street.

**Audience:**

- Approximately 75 guests are expected including students, parents, design employers and industry in B.C., KPU staff and faculty, media, aboriginal leaders.

Notable attendees:

- AEST Minister Melanie Mark
- Chip and Shannon Wilson
- KPU president Alan Davis – emcee
- Dean, Wilson School of Design, Carolyn Robertson
- KPU design student TBC
- KPU's Elder in Residence Lekeyten

Event description:

- Event to mark the official ribbon-cutting of the \$36-million Wilson School of Design at the Richmond campus of KPU.
- The building will expand training capacity at the KPU Richmond campus by an additional 140 full-time seats for a total of 681 student spaces. New facilities will include innovative teaching studios and labs, a testing centre, gallery space and a student study space.
- The building will provide a space for a range of design programs at KPU such as the bachelor of design in fashion and technology, bachelor of interior design, continuing and professional education. It will also house the product design and technical apparel design programs, which help students to develop products for performance-based uses such as performance, technical, medical and protective apparel and gear.
- British Columbia's apparel industry is the fourth largest component of B.C.'s manufacturing sector with \$3.8 billion in sales revenue and more than 400 businesses employing over 7,600 people in the province.
- The B.C. apparel sector is poised for strong growth over the next decade, with the potential to increase current levels of employment by 50%. Key in-demand occupations include e-commerce professionals, product designers, and apparel quality professionals.

Acknowledgements:

- Thanks for the introduction president Davis.
- I would like to recognize the territory of the Coast Salish.
- I'm Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training and I'm happy to be here, see your smiling faces, and celebrate the growth of post-secondary institutions in B.C.

Announcement:

- We're here to celebrate the opening of this beautiful new facility for the Wilson School of Design.
- This \$36 million dollar building is going to open doors for design students in our province with:
 - innovative learning facilities
 - gallery space to showcase their talent
 - and room for 140 more full time students
- This development will help KPU educate the future visionaries of:
 - Fashion
 - Technology
 - Interior design and
 - Product design.
- Over the next three years, our government is investing a total of \$1.03 billion to improve and create quality facilities like the Wilson School of Design building.

Government

- Our government is investing in our post-secondary institutions.
- We want to ensure British Columbians can access the education and training they need to build a promising future for themselves.
- We've already been quick to break down barriers by:
 - Reducing provincial student loan interest rates as part of a commitment to scrap interest all together.
 - Waiving tuition fees for former youth-in-care.
 - And, eliminating tuition for Adult Basic Education and English Language learning courses.
- And it doesn't stop there, we are committed to building a strong, sustainable and innovative economy.
- The kind of economy that can't wait for KPU students to graduate and secure high-demand apparel jobs like:
 - Product Designers
 - Apparel quality professionals,
 - And Merchandisers

Conclusion

- I want to thank Chip and Shannon Wilson for their generous support towards this achievement.
- Partners like Chip and Shannon Wilson help us realize our goal to make education and training more affordable and accessible for British Columbians.
- I would also like to thank Kwantlen Polytechnic University for generously supporting the construction of this fine new building.
- To all the students and educators here today and throughout B.C., please know that we are working to ensure you have all the tools you need to build success.
- Keep shooting for the stars and thank you.



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

**“Planting Seeds of Connection”
Custom Adoption Advisory Circle
First Meeting**

**1 p.m.
Thursday, January 18, 2018**

**Galiano Room,
Hotel Grand Pacific
Victoria, B.C.**

Event:

- The two-day event (Jan. 17-18) is the first meeting of the Custom Adoption Advisory Circle.
- Once all the representatives have accepted ministry's invitation to participate, the Advisory Circle will have 10 members (currently at seven) and guide ministry engagement with Indigenous communities in a culturally safe way.
- The two-day facilitated meeting will focus on building relationships within the Advisory Circle members, draft terms of reference and establish context for the work ahead.
- Minister Conroy will provide brief remarks following lunch on Jan. 18th, day two of the event. The minister will be seated, and speak, in a circle with the other members.

Time: 1 p.m.
Thursday January 18, 2018

Location: Galiano Room
Hotel Grand Pacific
Victoria

On-site Contact: Christine Massey, ADM, ^{s.22}

Key Participants:

- Minister of Children and Family Development, Katrine Conroy
- Christine Massey, ADM, Policy and Provincial Services
- Janet Donald and Lise LeLievre – Custom Adoption project co-leads
- Advisory Circle members (seven of 10):
 - Dr. Sandrina De Finney, Siem Smun'eem Indigenous Child Well-Being Research Network and Indigenous Academic Community
 - Jason Simmonds, Métis Nation British Columbia
 - Debra Fisher, Métis Commission for Children and Families of BC
 - Carole Brown, Inuit Community
 - Addie Price, Lalum'utul' Smun'eem
 - Dr. Sharon McIvor, BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
 - Olivia Reynolds, Youth Advisory Council
- Facilitators: Debra Foxcroft, Nene Kraneveldt and Kelly Poirier
- Bradley Dick acting Program Lead for the BC Public Service's Aboriginal Youth Internship Program. Bradley is of Lkwungen, Mamalilikulla and Ditidaht ancestry and will be doing the opening prayer, acknowledgment of territory and protocols.

Background:

- Custom adoption is a cultural practice in which a child is raised, according to the customs and values of the child's Indigenous community, by a person persons who are not the child's birth parents.
- The ministry has invited an Advisory Circle of 10 representatives – including a youth, an Elder and members of First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities – to guide collaboration with B.C.'s diverse Indigenous communities in order to better understand their cultural practices around custom adoptions.
- Over the next year, the Advisory Circle will provide guidance to ensure the ministry collaborates with Indigenous communities across the province in culturally safe ways.
- The findings from these gatherings will help the ministry identify ways to better support custom adoption as one of the ways to reduce the number of Indigenous children in government care.
- The community gatherings will take place in nine B.C. communities during the spring and early summer of 2018.

Itinerary (Day two - Timing Approximate):

9-9:15 a.m.	Opening ceremony– Bradley Dick
9:15-9:30 a.m.	Summary of Day One
9:30-10:30	Opening Circle: Deeper introductions (names/roles) Circle Question: "Can you tell us about times when your communities' traditions and family connections have been strongest? What does that look like or feel like?"
10:30-10:45 a.m.	Health Break
10:44 – noon	Bigger Picture Context & Landscape: Discussions on Custom Adoption and Customary Care – what is the context? What does it mean? Why are we calling this custom adoption?
Noon-1 p.m.	Lunch
1-1:15 p.m.	Visit & Words from the Minister - Honourable Katrine Conroy
1:15-2 p.m.	World Café/Small Groups: (15 minute rounds) Round #1 – Elders, culture and before and after care in community Round #2 – What would make a strong Terms of Reference for our work? What is needed? Round #3 – What are important ideas and considerations to connect and work respectfully in community? Round #4 – Report back to the larger group – Bring it
2-3 p.m.	Next Steps & Closing Activity

Greetings, acknowledgment and stating intention

- Good afternoon.
- It's a privilege to join you on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen [La-kwung-en] speaking people, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.
- Thank you for generously sharing your time, your knowledge, your experience and your intentions to help us all do our work in a 'good way'.
- As the Minister of Children and Family Development, I am grateful to you for helping me and my ministry to make a fundamental shift in our relationship with B.C.'s Indigenous people...
- We want to build relationships with Indigenous peoples based on respect, and this government is committed to working with communities towards real and lasting positive change.

Acknowledge the past history and current problems

- Indigenous communities know what's best for their children.
- But for too long, government has not been listening.
- The history of colonialism, residential schools, and the 60s scoop have affected Indigenous children, families and communities for generations.
- And as you will know, today more than half of the children in government care are Indigenous.
- This overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in care is unacceptable and needs to change.

Government commitment to UNDRIP and TRC – way forward

- Our government is serious about that change and has adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- In fact, the Premier has clearly stated in my mandate letter that he expects me to make a fundamental shift in our ministry's approach to child welfare.
- One critical way to put this commitment into action is to reunite Indigenous children and youth with their communities and their cultures...

Custom Adoption and role of Advisory Circle

- When it comes to Indigenous children in care, we are very grateful for the work of Grand Chief Ed John and his ideas about how government can improve outcomes for Indigenous children in care.
- Implementing an easier and more effective way for custom adoptions to be legally recognized by government was among the many important recommendations in Grand Chief Ed John's report.
- We have taken that recommendation to heart.
- We want to do it right and the only way to do it right is to make sure that the views of Indigenous communities are reflected – not only in our decisions, but in every step along the way.

- Your role is invaluable in helping us engage with Indigenous communities – your communities – in a culturally safe and appropriate way.
- We want to learn about the custom adoption practices and how we can help Indigenous children grow up within their traditional teachings and cultures.
- We want to understand what custom adoption looks like for the different communities.
- Working with you, and with Indigenous communities, will help us support children in ways that understand their past, honour their present and support their future.

Conclusion

- Having the opportunity to make things better is what motivates me both personally and as a minister.
- A child connected to their community and culture is a child growing in a safe, healthy and loving environment.
- That is my hope for Indigenous children.
- That is my hope for all children.
- I know you share that hope with me and I am grateful for your support on this journey towards positive change.
- Thank you.



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

**7 p.m.
Monday, 22nd January, 2018**

**Caesar's Forum (Main Ballroom)
Harrison Hot Springs Resort
100 Esplanade Avenue**

Check Against Delivery

Event: Speech – Canadian Labour Congress Pacific Region Winter School

Time: 7 p.m.
January 22, 2018

Location: Caesar's Forum (Main Ballroom)
Harrison Hot Springs Resort
100 Esplanade Avenue
Harrison Hot Springs

Parking: Valet parking is available at the hotel.

Note: Ron Stipp suggests that you may wish to arrive around 4 p.m. in order to check in and relax for a bit before dinner, which is served at 5:30 p.m. All students eat together.

On-site Contact: Ron Stipp, Regional Representative for the Canadian Labour Congress (Pacific Region), 604 603-4611

Key Participants/Program:

- Hon. Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care
- Orion Irvine, Canadian Labour Congress Regional Director.

Audience: The audience will include approximately 200 students from the Canadian Labour Congress Pacific Region Winter School – representing unions from across Canada.

Speaking Time: 10-15 minutes, followed by a student-led Q&A

Background – Canadian Labour Congress (from their site: <http://canadianlabour.ca/about-clc>):

Unions are a positive force for democratic social change. Here's how we work to improve Canada for everyone:

Advocacy

We advocate politically for policies and programs that improve the lives of all Canadians, such as the creation of better and more secure jobs, better public pension plans and retirement security, a stronger public health care system and affordable and accessible child care.

Check Against Delivery

We advocate in Parliament and in the courts to advance legislation that improves the day-to-day lives of all Canadians, such as workplace safety and collective bargaining rights and employment equity.

Education

Our education programs feature state-of-the-art courses in workplace health and safety, fighting racism and discrimination, media and public relations, economics, campaign management, human rights and global solidarity, as well as workplace representation and union steward training.

Research and analysis

Our economists and researchers are nationally recognized for their skills and expertise, and produce in-depth analysis on issues such as working conditions, health and safety, wages and benefits, healthcare, pensions and retirement security, immigration, training, employment insurance and social and economic equality.

Event

- Thank you, Orion, and good evening, everyone.
- Before I begin, I'd like to acknowledge that we are here tonight on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples.
- As you know, we have a new government in this province. . . . and in a few weeks, we will launch our first full budget.
- One of our biggest goals is to make life more affordable for British Columbians.
- Affordability affects every aspect of people's lives and yet the crisis of affordability in B.C. has been getting worse – not better – for years.
- More than a third of British Columbians are only \$200 away from being unable to pay their monthly bills.

- ...and nearly half of British Columbians expect to go deeper into debt in order to pay their bills in 2018.
- That's why I'm here today – to talk about a major cost facing young families.
- Child care costs some families more than their monthly rent.
- And rent's not cheap in British Columbia.
- Many families can't find licensed child care, even if they can afford it.
- And if they do find child care, it may not be licensed so they aren't always sure if it's a safe place to leave their little ones.
- This leaves a lot of parents choosing to stay home, even when they would rather be working.

- As the Premier has said, no parent should ever feel pressured, because of either a lack of available spaces or information, to go without licensed care when that is their preferred option.
- The Province is committed to making it easier for parents to check on the licensing status of their prospective child-care provider.
- This will also help ensure that child-care providers who are acting outside of their legal operating mandate – including those who are unlicensed – are identified and held accountable.
- As directed by the Premier, I can assure you that this important work is underway and will be featured in the upcoming legislative session.
- The lack of quality, affordable child care is a big part of what led me to seek office.
- Like too many parents, my husband and I couldn't find child care that made sense for our family.

- So we ended up cutting back on work and hitting pause on our shared financial goals.
- This doesn't just hurt families, it hurts businesses.
- Highly trained and skilled workers are staying home because they can't find affordable, quality child care in their communities.
- Last year the Vancouver Board of Trade named child care as one of their biggest priorities saying...
- "The high cost of child care hampers our province's affordability, makes it difficult for businesses to attract labour, and prevents many from entering the work force."
- That's why we will be taking major strides towards affordable, accessible, quality child care in the next budget.

- It's is about making life more affordable for British Columbians.
- And making our province a better place to do business.
- In my travels around the province, I've met with many parents.
- I've heard stories about their struggles to find child care they can depend on.
- Parents are giving up their jobs because they can't find a space for their child.
- I heard from a parent who put her child on more than a dozen wait lists before they were born...
- ... and has recently been told that a space may be available next year – a full two years after they first applied.

[Minister, feel free to mention other stories here]

- This needs to change.
- And we are changing it – starting with next budget.
- We aren't going to get there overnight.
- It will take up to ten years to create the kind of public child care supports parents are looking for.
- We have to train the workers to create the high-quality early learning environment that our kids deserve.
- And we have to work with child care providers to expand the number of licensed spaces – so parents can feel confident their children are safe.
- Our health care system and our education system weren't built overnight – and our child care system will take time to build, too.

- We have to do it right – and we have to do it quickly.
- Our first budget will deliver major action on child care – because it’s a priority for families – and a priority for government.
- We’re also in the process of finalizing an Early Learning and Child Care agreement with the federal government, this will accelerate and amplify provincial investments.
- I hope to be able to say more about that in the coming weeks.
- But I can tell you that every detail of our child-care plan is rooted in three fundamental principles...
- Accessibility, Affordability and Quality.

- We will deliver care that:
 - Improves outcomes for children
 - Supports child-care providers and those working in the child-care field
 - And leverages partnerships to deliver quality child care when and where parents need it.
- You'll hear more about the first three years of our plan on budget day.
- I look forward to your support.



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

**UBC Early Years Conference: “Strengthening
Resilience in Today’s World – Leading with Kindness
and Understanding.”**

a.m. – Timing and order of presenters TBD

Friday, January 26, 2018

**The Hyatt Regency, 655 Burrard Street,
Vancouver**

Speaking Time: 5 minutes, Opening Remarks and Welcome

- Thank you and good morning everybody.
- It's wonderful to be here with you, I can feel the excitement in the room this morning.
- Before I begin, I'd like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish peoples and the Musqueam [MUSS-quee-um] Nation.
- I have the honour today of welcoming you to the 11th bi-annual Early Years Conference:
"Strengthening Resilience in Today's World – Leading with Kindness and Understanding."
- On behalf of Minister Conroy and myself, I would like to thank the 2018 Early Years Conference planning committee and UBC Interprofessional Continuing Education for inviting us to give opening remarks and welcome for the 2018 Early Years Conference.

- I would also like to thank you all for being here today. The work that you do makes a difference in the lives of young children and their families every day.
- Whether you work one-on-one with children, conduct research to help us better understand how a child's brain develops, or work to build and support the system of services in your community, everyone in this room has an important role to play.
- Many of you have travelled from other parts of Canada and even from other countries, and I thank you for being so willing to take time out of your busy schedules to participate in a conference on such a worthy topic.
- The theme of "resilience" for this year's conference is an important one.

- We know that social emotional development in the early years is linked to children's health and well-being across their life.
- Promoting individual and family resilience is foundational to strengthen communities and building a Better BC.
- I have seen the benefits of creating communities of care for families– communities that include quality child care and wrap-around family supports.
- I know how valuable the first six years are for both children and their families. I live this reality everyday – as the Minister of State for Child Care – but more importantly, as a mother to my beautiful 3 year old son.
- I see how his early experiences - sharing time with my husband and I, meeting and engaging with other children, and experiencing our community, shape who he is and who he will grow to become.

- Research shows that these kinds of early experiences and relationships will impact his wellbeing over a lifetime.
- I don't need to tell this group of professionals how important quality child care is in promoting healthy child development and nurturing family wellbeing...
- And I am proud that BC is now moving toward a system of universal child care to support families in having accessible, affordable, quality child care.
- I look forward to Budget 2018, and sharing with you our plans to begin the journey towards this system of child care that we know families want and need.
- In addition to our commitments to begin to implement a universal child care system in BC, our

Ministry has identified strategies specific to the early years that we intend to focus on over the next three years – including

1. Enhancing access, effectiveness and coordination of services for children;;
 2. Supporting mental health and wellness for children and youth; and
 3. Working with partners to expand Indigenous early learning and child care programs and services across BC
- We are excited about the work that lies ahead for our ministry. I firmly believe we can make improvements that will foster lifelong resiliency for families in our province.
 - And with that, I would like to close by wishing you well in your learning and sharing over the next two days.