

Budget 2018 Response

KEY MESSAGES

- **Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to rise today and speak in support of Budget 2018.**
- **This is our government's first full budget—and it is the first genuinely progressive budget in this province in more than 16 years.**
- **It is a budget that delivers on the pledges we made:**
 - **To make life more affordable for hard-working British Columbians.**
 - **To improve the public services they rely on.**
 - **To tackle the crises of child care and housing.**
 - **To build a strong economy that works for everyone.**
 - **And to put people at the centre of the choices we make to build a better BC.**
- **Mr. Speaker we know that BC is a wealthy province.**
- **In fact, some communities in BC are among the richest in the country.**
- **But far too many British Columbians have been left behind in our province.**
- **Because they were ignored by the previous government.**

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- **These are families who work hard every day, who contribute to our economy—but who struggle just to find a home to raise their family.**
- **Who may have to juggle two or three gig jobs just to get by.**
- **Who search in vain for child care that they can trust—and that they can afford.**
- **That's why I'm so proud that our Finance Minister has tabled a budget that speaks to these British Columbians.**
- **That actually offers them support as they work to get ahead.**
- **Support like the largest investments in child care and housing in generations.**
- **We are laying the foundations of universal child care in BC with the largest investment ever.**
- **\$1 billion over three years to:**
 - **make child care cheaper**
 - **increase the number of child care spaces**
 - **ensure those spaces are of the highest standards for quality care.**
- **And parents don't have long to wait for the benefits of this progressive plan to kick in.**
- **As of April first, a child care fee reduction program will provide funding directly to licenced care providers.**

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- **It will mean up to \$350 a month for a child care space.**
- **These fee reductions will benefit about 50,000 families per year by 2020/21.**
- **It doesn't end there.**
- **In September, our government's new affordable child care benefit will provide up to \$1,250 each month per child.**
- **We will also work on the supply-side of the equation, creating more than 22,000 new licensed child care spaces all over BC.**
- **And we will work with all of our partners to educate and train the Early Childhood Educators who will be needed in the months and year ahead.**
- **I know my colleague the Minister of Children and Family Development will have more to say on this front...**
- **But I do want to acknowledge the great work she's done in kick-starting the investments in child care that the previous government simply refused to make.**
- **And I'm also pleased that Budget 2018 provides \$9 million to the Ministry of Education to support child care and new early learning initiatives.**
- **We know there is a strong connection between early learning and success in the K-12 education system.**

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- **This funding lift represents;**
 - **An initial investment in early learning initiatives, including the development of an early learning framework**
 - **Building capacity in school districts**
 - **And evaluating the existing early learning programs**

- **I'll turn now to one of the other priorities outlined in Budget 2018 – affordable housing.**
- **Mr. Speaker we've all seen how sky-rocketing housing values in Metro Vancouver have left so many people out in the cold.**
- **Renters who simply can't find a place to live.**
- **Seniors with fixed incomes who have to choose between buying groceries or paying the rent.**
- **Young families who have to leave their communities because they can't afford a home where they grew up.**
- **Young adults who can't find student housing while pursuing an education.**
- **And it's not just Metro Vancouver anymore.**
- **Here in Greater Victoria, finding a home that doesn't cost an arm and a leg is becoming a real challenge.**
- **We hear similar stories in Kelowna, the Fraser Valley, and Nanaimo.**

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- **That's why our government is taking action where the previous government feared to tread.**
- **As part of our comprehensive housing plan, we are tackling speculation—which has helped to drive prices out of reach.**
- **We are raising the foreign buyers' tax to 20%, and extending it to the Capital Regional District, the Fraser Valley, Central Okanagan, and Nanaimo.**
- **Our government will also introduce a new annual speculation tax as a disincentive to driving up prices simply to realize gains on investments.**
- **And we'll close the loopholes so well illustrated in the media lately to counter money laundering and tax fraud.**
- **Mr. Speaker, our \$7 billion dollar comprehensive housing plan does much more than that.**
- **We're taking action to ensure our province has diverse, inclusive neighbourhoods and safe affordable housing that meets everyone's needs.**
- **This will include supporting 34,000 units of affordable rental, supportive and student housing.**
- **Allowing colleges and universities to borrow in order to finance 5,000 new student housing beds.**

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- **And building partnerships to help build 114,000 affordable housing units.**
- **I'll turn now to the budget for my own ministry, the Ministry of Education.**
- **Budget 2018 is a real investment in our future- and our children.**
- **It provides \$1.8 billion over three years to replace aging schools, add more spaces in growing communities and fast-track seismic upgrades.**
- **This is an historic investment after years of underfunding.**
- **Now I've heard some of the comments by the member for Kamloops-South Thompson who has suggested we are spending less than the previous government on school construction.**
- **Frankly Mr. Speaker, that is ridiculous.**
- **First of all, Budget 2018 is real—unlike the previous government's last budget, which was never passed in this house.**
- **There is a small drop in year one of the capital plan compared to that document – but that budget was never actually a reality.**

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- **That budget did not fund new schools or seismic upgrades.**
- **Budget 2018 will do exactly that.**
- **And we are investing smarter.**
- **Unlike the previous government, we will actually spend the money that has been budgeted for new and better schools.**
- **Since 2012/13, the previous government underspent its capital budget by an average of 16% annually.**
- **That was money that could have been used to support students and keep them safer.**
- **Our government is working with school boards, municipal councils and other partners to speed the approval of projects.**
- **This will ensure our capital budget is actually spent on much-needed school construction and seismic upgrades.**
- **We will approve 50 seismic upgrades over 18 months-and we're already well on track.**
- **We have approved more than \$292 million for 18 seismic and expansion projects since Sept. 1 2017.**
- **Over the next three years we will invest:**
 - **\$541 million for seismic upgrades.**
 - **\$693 million in expansion and replacement projects**

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- **\$508 million to maintain and rehabilitate schools**
- **\$15 million in our new Playground Equipment Program**

- **And there is so much more to come.**
- **The budget for capital increases by \$139 million in 2019/20 – this reflects the ministry's plan to work with school districts to bring more projects forward from the planning stages where they are now.**
- **We are also providing for growing enrollment in communities across BC.**
- **Our government also wants to move students out of portables and into classrooms.**
- **Budget 2018 includes \$100 million over five years for an Enrolment Growth Program envelope to add more classrooms in districts with rapidly growing enrolments that are at or exceeding their student capacity.**
- **And on the continuing theme of affordability, we're taking some pressure off of hard-working parents by building playgrounds.**
- **I mentioned earlier our new \$5 million annual playground fund.**
- **We are fulfilling our campaign commitment to help districts build new playground that children across BC will enjoy for years to come.**

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- **This will free up parents advisory councils to focus on supporting student success instead of holding endless bottle drives and car washes to buy equipment.**
- **And Budget 2018 makes good on our promise to fully fund the Memorandum of Agreement with the BCTF.**
- **Government is now supporting the MOA with \$400 million annually to fund 3,700 full time equivalent teaching positions-up from 3,500-funded in Budget Update 2017.**
- **Budget 2018 also includes an additional \$24 million – or \$72 million over three years – for 200 more teachers.**
- **Government recognizes that the implementation of the MoA has put a strain on teacher on call lists across the province and has worsened a shortage of specialist teachers in many districts.**
- **Because of this, the Minister of Education appointed an expert task force whose mandate was to identify immediate actions that can be taken to address teacher workforce challenges.**
- **As a result, government has already invested over \$900,000 this year to train new specialist teachers and is continuing to work with sector partners to find the best ways to develop long-term solutions for addressing teacher recruitment and retention.**

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- **We have an ambitious agenda at the Ministry of Education.**
- **We've already launched our review of BC's out-dated school funding model.**
- **We'll have more details shortly, but I can tell you that we are delivering on our commitment to find a better, more stable way to fund schools....**
- **One that better supports vulnerable students, and recognizes the differences between rural, remote and urban school districts.**
- **One that drives better outcomes for our children.**
- **Mr. Speaker, we know we have a very good education system in BC.**
- **But we can make it a great one.**
- **One area where we need to improve—is educational outcomes for Indigenous students.**
- **It's true that young Indigenous people are starting to close the gap-high school completion rates are up in many areas of BC.**
- **But we know we can do better.**
- **Our government is committed to closing the gap in student achievement and improving outcomes for indigenous students.**
- **B.C. is implementing two major pieces -- the new curriculum with embedded Indigenous**

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content, and the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

- **We are ensuring content in B.C.'s curriculum accurately and fairly reflects the rich history and significant contributions of indigenous people.**
- **We're acknowledging the painful legacy of residential schools.**
- **We are working with Indigenous peoples, language experts and school districts to develop full-course offerings in Indigenous languages.**
- **We have approved 17 Indigenous language curricula to be taught in B.C. schools, and another six are under development.**
- **I am continuing to negotiate with the federal government to extend and expand our joint educational agreement with First Nations to help Indigenous youth do even better.**
- **It's a good start, but there is still much to do, both for Indigenous students and First Nations communities as a whole.**
- **That's why it is so inspiring to see this budget commits an historic \$50 million for the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages in BC.**
- **Of the 34 First Nations languages in our province, eight are severely endangered and 22 are nearly extinct.**

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- **This funding will be invested immediately because there simply is no time to lose.**
- **We also need to provide more support to children with special needs—to make sure their learning is supported.**
- **Funding for students designated as Special Needs has increased by \$30.6 million over school year 2016/17.**
- **We are looking at funding for students with diverse learning needs as part of the scope of our review of education funding.**
- **And we must do more for children in care.**
- **The student achievement gap for children and youth in continuing care is unacceptable.**
- **I have been working with our education partners to improve these outcomes.**
- **It's why our government moved quickly to waive post-secondary tuition fees for former youth in care.**
- **My ministry has also developed new guidelines for children and youth in care in partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development to improve the supports we provide for kids in care in our schools.**
- **The ministry has also developed training on trauma-informed practice to support districts in improving outcomes of children and youth and care.**

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- I can tell this house that training begins next week.
 - And our funding model review will also ensure funding is stable and equitable to ensure all students are successful.
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- Mr. Speaker, Budget 2018 also leaves more money in peoples' pockets.
 - We know British Columbians want a fair tax system.
 - That's why in September's Budget Update we cut MSP premiums in half as of January 1st of this year, reduced the small business tax, and cut PST on electricity for business.
 - Budget 2018 includes another big change to improve fairness.
 - We are eliminating all MSP premiums, effective January 1st, 2020.
 - That means families will save \$1,800 per year, and individuals will save \$900 per year.
 - And it will help make our tax system more fair and progressive.
 - Now obviously eliminating the MSP also cuts into government revenues.

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- **So we are making sure we can continue to deliver the services people count on and maintain fiscal responsibility.**
 - **That is why we will replace MSP revenue with an employer health tax similar to other provinces.**
 - **The tax will be levied on large businesses in B.C. that are benefiting the most from the elimination of MSP.**
 - **And it will be the lowest payroll tax rate in Canada.**
 - **Small businesses with payrolls less than \$500,000 will not pay any payroll tax.**
 - **Businesses with payrolls between \$500,000 and \$1.5 million will pay a lower portion.**
 - **And businesses with a payroll over \$1.5 million will pay the full rate of 1.95%.**
 - **The revenues raised will be invested in people and the services they count on.**
-
- **Mr. Speaker, Budget 2018 is not only progressive and compassionate.**
 - **It is also in the black.**
 - **Budget 2018 is balanced with a projected surplus of \$219 million in 2018-19.**
 - **Some key fiscal facts:**

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- **Fiscal prudence of \$900 million, made up of \$550 million in contingencies and a forecast allowance of \$350 million in 2018-19.**
- **Our debt-to-GDP ratio is expected to remain below 16% over the fiscal plan.**
- **And our debt-to-revenue ratio is forecast to stay below 90% over the fiscal plan.**
- **We remain the only province rated triple-A by each of the international credit rating**

- **Due to the poor choices and neglect at ICBC and unprecedented wildfire costs, we faced projected losses totaling nearly \$2 billion this year.**
- **Because of these pressures, we've had to face some tough choices to build a balanced budget and fiscal plan.**
- **With these pressures, it is more important than ever to focus on our priorities: making life more affordable for people, enhancing services, and building a strong, sustainable economy.**

- **I'm proud to say that this budget balances fiscal prudence with British Columbian's priorities.**
- **Budget 2018 puts people first.**
- **It makes a historic investment to take care of our children.**
- **It takes bold steps to tackle the housing crisis.**

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- **It invests in record levels of infrastructure to create jobs and spur economic growth in every corner of our province.**
- **And it adds value to our province and to our future as a progressive society.**
- **The investments we are making have been carefully considered with one thing in mind...**
- **What actions can we take today to build a better future for British Columbians?**
- **And that starts with putting people at the centre of the choices we make every day.**
- **Our government has charted a more affordable, balanced and hopeful vision for B.C. with Budget 2018.**
- **Because this is your province.**
- **We are your government.**
- **And we are working for you.**

Event Information / Emcee Notes / Minister Fleming



Event: Province provides \$35.1 million for new Lake Country middle school

When: Thursday, Feb. 1 at 1 p.m. (pre-brief at 12:45 p.m.)

Where: Davidson Road Elementary, 2115 Davidson Road, Lake Country

Length: 30 minutes

Speech: 2-3 minutes

Parking: Main Parking Lot

Key Participants:

- Premier John Horgan
- Rob Fleming, Minister of Education (MC)
- Janet Slaney, principal, Davidson Road Elementary
- Kevin Kaardal, superintendent, Central Okanagan School District
- Moyra Baxter, chair, Central Okanagan Board of Education
- Jill Nixon and Michele Killick, co-vice presidents, Davidson Road PAC

Other Attendees:

- Students, teachers and support staff
- Local government representatives
- CUPE and BCTF representatives

Audience Size: 20 – 25

Contact: Elena Banfield, GCPE Events

C: 604 842-0984

Background:

The Ministry of Education is providing \$35.1 million for the Central Okanagan School District to build a new, 600-seat middle school in the Winfield community of Lake Country. The district is contributing \$1.5 million to the project.

Construction on the new school is expected to begin in Spring 2019, and the school is scheduled to be open to students in September 2021.

It will be built on a district-owned property south of George Elliot Secondary School. The district has also purchased Aspen Grove Golf Course with the intention of creating playfields for both the new school and George Elliot Secondary.

The district has been planning for a new middle school since 2013. In 2016, the Ministry requested the district to proceed with a Project Definition Report for the design and construction of the new school.

Portables

There are 10 portables in the Lake Country area—two at Peter Greer Elementary, one at Oyama Traditional School, and seven at George Elliot Secondary.

There are 25-30 students in each portable. The new middle school will allow the District to move portables to other areas with capacity issues.

Capacity

Lake Country schools (three elementary, one secondary), are currently operating at 116% capacity. The new middle school was needed to address a coming shortfall of 800 student spaces by 2026, which would be 140% district-wide.

This will be addressed by the new student spaces and grade reconfiguration at other Lake Country schools, which furthers the district's goal of having consistent grade configuration district-wide.

Grade Reconfiguration

Once the new middle school is complete, Davidson Road Elementary, Peter Greer Elementary and Oyama Elementary will each reconfigure to be K-5 schools, while George Elliot Secondary will reconfigure to Grade 9-12.

Neighbourhood Learning Centre

The new middle school will also feature an 825 square metre Neighbourhood Learning Centre, which provides space for community organizations to offer programming.

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	Indoor podium event at Davidson Road Elementary School library. Premier John Horgan will make the announcement from the podium, standing with Minister Rob Fleming, speakers, and Davidson Road students. Following the announcement, Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming will be interviewed by a grade 5 students for “The Low Down” school broadcast. Premier and Minister will then proceed to a collaborative learning class to participate in activities with grade 4 and kindergarten students.
Contacts	Media relations: Sage Aaron, Director of Communications, Office of the Premier Photographer/Videographer: Andrew Snucins Event Coordinator: Elena Banfield, 604-842-0984
11:00 a.m.	Elena Banfield, Event Coordinator, and SW AV Specialists on site for technical setup.
12:30 p.m.	Speakers, media, and guests begin to arrive.
12:55 p.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Elena Banfield, Events Coordinator Location: TBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier John Horgan • Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, Emcee • Janet Slaney, Principal, Davidson Road Elementary School • Moyra Baxter, Chair, Central Okanagan Board of Education • Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent, Central Okanagan Public Schools • Jill Nixon and Michele Killick, PAC co-presidents
12:55 p.m.	Speakers led to event area and positioned at podium by Elena Banfield.
1:00 p.m.	Janet Slaney welcomes guests to the school and introduces Minister Rob Fleming .
1:01 p.m.	Minister Rob Fleming delivers introductory remarks, then invites Premier John Horgan to the podium.
1:03 p.m.	Premier John Horgan makes the announcement.
1:06 p.m.	Minister Rob Fleming thanks Premier John Horgan , invites Moyra Baxter to the podium.
1:07 p.m.	Moyra Baxter delivers remarks.
1:09 p.m.	Minister Rob Fleming thanks Moyra Baxter , invites Kevin Kaardal to the podium.
1:10 p.m.	Kevin Kaardal delivers remarks.
1:12 p.m.	Minister Rob Fleming thanks Kevin Kaardal , introduces Jill Nixon and Michele Killick .
1:13 p.m.	Jill Nixon and Michele Killick deliver remarks.
1:14 p.m.	Minister Rob Fleming thanks Jill Nixon and Michele Killick , delivers closing remarks and introduces student hosts of “The Low Down” who will interview Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming. Premier and Minister move to table set up for interview close to the podium.
1:16 p.m.	Students interview Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming.
1:21 p.m.	Interview concludes. Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming return to podium to take questions from media.
1:22 p.m.	Media availability, moderated by Sage Aaron.
1:32 p.m.	Media availability concludes. Sage informs media that Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming will be visiting collaborative learning class downstairs. Premier and Minister proceed to classroom.
1:34 p.m.	Visit to collaborative learning class – kindergarten and grade four students who are part of the “buddy” system will be at several stations around the room demonstrating collaborative learning through different activities.
1:50 p.m.	Event concludes.

Emcee Notes
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming
Minister of Education

New Lake Country Middle School
Funding Announcement

Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018
1 p.m. (30 minutes)

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

KEY MESSAGES:

- **We're working hard to build new schools and add more spaces in growing communities.**
- **Education is a top priority for our government, and we are committed to making sure that the use of portables to address growth pressures is not a long-term solution.**
- **Investments like this make life better for families and help build a better B.C.**

PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE IF PRESENT :

- **Norm Letnick**, MLA for Kelowna-Lake Country
- **James Baker**, Mayor of Lake Country
- **Susan Bauhart**, president, Central Okanagan Teachers' Association
- **David Tether**, president, Central Okanagan CUPE

TRADITIONAL TERRITORY:

- **Okanagan Nation**

INTRODUCTION:

- Thank you, Ms. Slaney for your introduction.
- And thank you everyone in the room for joining us.
- I first want to acknowledge the traditional territory of the Okanagan Nation.
- And introduce our speakers today.
 - Premier John Horgan
 - Moyra Baxter, chair, Central Okanagan Board of Education
 - Kevin Kaardal, superintendent, Central Okanagan School District
 - Jill Nixon and Michele Killick, co-vice presidents, Davidson Road PAC
- It's an honour for me to be here with Premier Horgan for an announcement that will make life better for students and families in Lake Country.
- As minister, I want every student in B.C. to go to school in a safe, positive environment.

- The population in Lake Country continues to grow at a rapid rate, and we need to invest in our schools and our students to make sure that happens.
- There are far too many children going to school in portables in Lake Country.
- If nothing is done, growth here will outpace our infrastructure.
- But we are going to change that, and that is why we are here today.
- Now, please welcome Premier John Horgan to the podium.

PREMIER HORGAN SPEAKS

- Thank you, Premier Horgan.
- It is so important to me that we accelerate funding to meet the demand for student spaces in fast-growing districts across B.C.
- I'm excited for middle school students in Lake Country to be able to spend their school days in a brand new school.

- Now, I would like to welcome Moyra Baxter, from the Central Okanagan Board of Education, to tell us what this means to this district.

MOYRA BAXTER SPEAKS

- Thank you.
- It is thanks to the work of your board and the school district staff, as well as the staff in my ministry, that these investments can be made a reality.
- I also want to recognize the foresight your board had to purchase the land for this new school, which has clearly paid off.
- I look forward to growing our relationship.
- Now, please welcome Central Okanagan School District superintendent Kevin Kaardal.

KEVIN KAARDAL SPEAKS

- Thank you, Kevin, for your words and your work in preparing the district for this new school.

- Now, please welcome Jill Nixon and Michele Killick, co-vice presidents of the Davidson Road PAC, who can tell us first-hand what this investment means for families in Lake Country.

PAC MEMBERS SPEAK

- Thank you, both.
- Families like yours are the reason our government is making investments in students and schools throughout the province.

CONCLUSION:

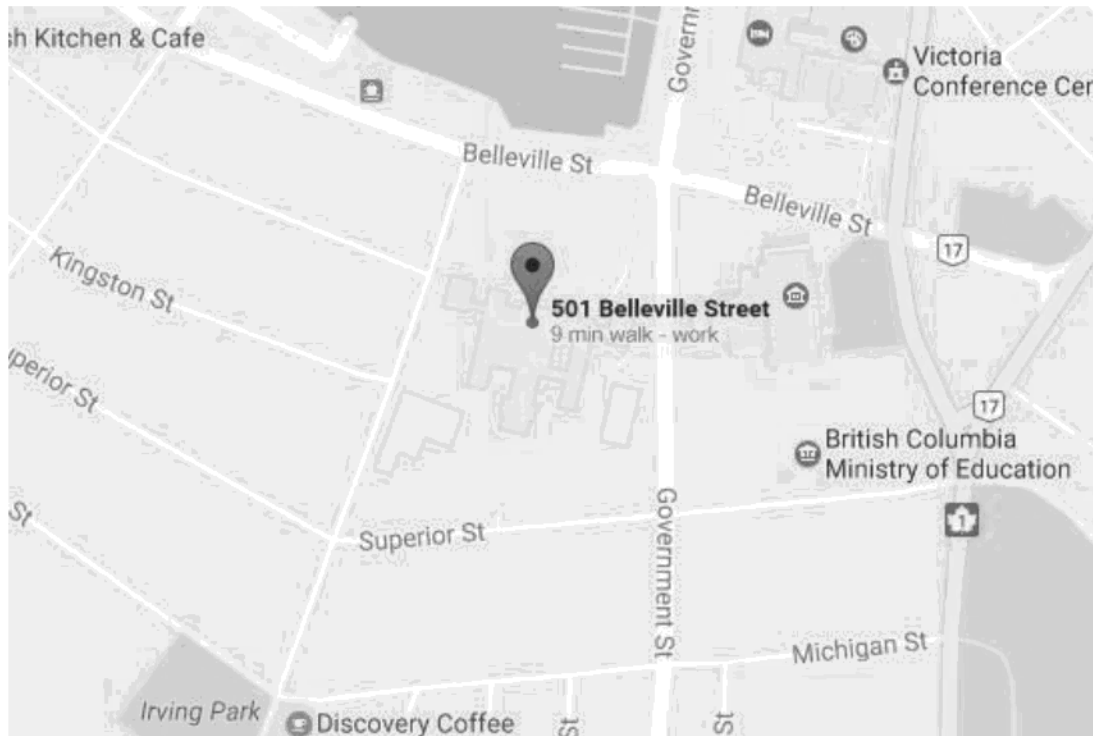
- That brings us to the end of our announcement.
- Thank you all for coming today, and joining us as we build a better province for families.
- Premier Horgan will take questions from the media from the podium.
- But first, we are going to take questions from a promising young journalist right here at Davidson Road.

STUDENT Q&A

MEDIA Q&A

- END -

Event Information / Emcee Notes for Minister Rob Fleming



Event: Pink Shirt Day 2018 - Cyberbullying

When: Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018, 12:15 p.m. (pre-brief at noon in Education Minister's Office)

Where: Front steps of the B.C. Legislature

Theme: The theme of Pink Shirt Day 2018 is cyberbullying, a reflection of the challenges inherent in today's digital world. Bullying can happen anywhere: in schools, communities and workplaces. It's important to ensure all spaces are safe, and that includes cyberspace.

Pink shirts have been purchased by the Ministry of Education and will be available to all MLAs, who are invited to participate.

Key Participants:

- Premier John Horgan
- Rob Fleming, Minister of Education
- Sam Jingfors, vice-president of Safer Schools Together
- Jen Mezei, president of B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils

- Carol Todd, mother and founder of Amanda Todd Legacy Society
- Reynolds Secondary and Cedar Hill Middle school students
 - Victoria Croden, Grade 12 student, Reynolds Slam Poetry
 - Reynolds Choir & choir teacher Katy Kerr

Other Attendees: Local students, teachers, MLAs, media and government workers from surrounding buildings

Audience Size: 100 approximately

Contact: Rick Devereux

C: 1 (250) 812-1207

Itinerar

Time	Event Itinerary
Event Summary:	This is an outdoor podium event on the steps of the Parliament Buildings in Victoria. Ministers and MLAs will stand amongst children from local Victoria schools and create the backdrop. Following the speeches, Ministers, MLAs and students can take photos using Instagram frames to post on social media.
Key contacts	Media relations: TBC Photographer/Videographer: Stephen Hargreaves Event Coordinator: Rick Devereux
10:15 a.m.	Rick Devereux, Event Coordinator, and AV Specialists on site for technical setup.
11:50 a.m.	Speakers, media, and guests begin to arrive.
12:00 p.m.	Pre-brief with speakers, led by Rick Devereux, Events Coordinator Location: Rattenbury Room TBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier John Horgan • Rob Fleming, Minister of Education • Katy Kerr, Reynolds Secondary choir teacher • Jen Mezei, BCCPAC • Sam Jingfors, Safer Schools Together • Victoria Croden, Grade 12 student, Reynolds Slam Poetry • Carol Todd, mother and founder of the Amanda Todd Legacy Society
12:13 p.m.	Speakers led to speaking area and positioned at podium by Rick Devereux
12:15 p.m.	Rob Fleming welcomes guests, and introduces a choral performance by Reynolds Secondary students
12:16 p.m.	Reynolds choir performs <i>This is Me</i> from The Greatest Showman (~5 minutes)
12:21 p.m.	Rob Fleming thanks choir, introduces Premier Horgan .
12:22 p.m.	Premier Horgan makes remarks.
12:25 p.m.	Rob Fleming makes funding announcement, invites Jen Mezei to the podium.
12:25 p.m.	Jen Mezei delivers remarks. (~2 minutes)
12:27 p.m.	Rob Fleming thanks Jen Mezei , invites Carol Todd to the podium.
12:28 p.m.	Carol Todd delivers remarks. (~2 minutes)
12:30 p.m.	Rob Fleming thanks Carol Todd , invites Sam Jingfors to the podium.
12:31 p.m.	Sam Jingfors speaks. (~2 minutes)
12:33 p.m.	Rob Fleming thanks Sam Jingfors , invites Victoria, Grade 12 student up
12:34 p.m.	Victoria performs slam poetry (~3 minutes)
12:37 p.m.	Rob Fleming thanks Victoria , delivers closing remarks and presents Bullying Awareness Day proclamations to students from Reynolds and Cedar Hill. (~3 minutes)
12:38 p.m.	Group photo with all students, MLAs and participants on the steps.
12:40 p.m.	Students and MLAs take photos with the Instagram frames Premier and Minister Fleming available to media at the side of the event
12:55 p.m.	Event Concludes.

Emcee Notes
for the

Hon. Rob Fleming
Minister of Education

Pink Shirt Day 2018
Front steps of the B.C. Legislature

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018
12:15 p.m.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

KEY MESSAGES:

- Today is the 11th annual Pink Shirt Day event in B.C. and this year we're bringing our attention to cyberbullying.
- Cyberbullying can be more severe than other types of bullying as it can happen around the clock and can follow victims everywhere.
- The Ministry of Education is investing \$100,000 to offer social media education sessions (entitled "Raising Digitally Responsible Learners") for parents in every school district across the province.

PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE:

- Premier John Horgan
- Sam Jingfors, Safer Schools Together vice-president
- Jen Mezei, president of B.C. Confederation of

Parent Advisory Councils

- Carol Todd, mother and founder of the Amanda Todd Legacy Society
- MLAs in attendance
- Reynolds Choir & choir teacher Katy Kerr
- Victoria Croden, Grade 12 student, Reynolds Slam Poetry
- Students from Reynolds Secondary and Cedar Hill Middle school

TERRITORY:

Acknowledge the territory of the Lekwungen people - Pronounced: La-kwung-en - including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.

INTRODUCTION:

- Hello everyone – and welcome to the 11th annual Pink Shirt Day!

[Introduce yourself]

- Thank you to all those who are joining us here today to take a stand against all types of bullying, but especially cyberbullying.
- We have a very exciting program for you today, starting off with a song by the Reynolds Secondary School choir.
- This group of students will be performing “This Is Me,” a song from the soundtrack of The Greatest Showman.
- Take it away, Reynolds!

[Reynolds choir performs]

OPENING REMARKS:

- Wow – thank you for the wonderful performance.
- Without further ado, I’d like to invite Premier John Horgan to say a few words.

[Premier speaks]

- Thank you Premier.
- I'm very excited about our government's plan to help educate parents about online safety.
- We are investing \$100,000 to offer social media education sessions for parents.
- These sessions – called Raising Digitally Responsible Youth – will be delivered in every school district across the province, giving parents the tools they need to help their children use the Internet safely.
- Government also supports students' safety through the ERASE strategy, which stands for Expect Respect and a Safe Education.
- ERASE provides training for school staff and community partners, resources and a confidential online reporting tool for students who've witnessed or experienced bullying.
- B.C.'s new curriculum is also helping to ensure our schools are inclusive, with a focus on valuing diversity and respecting differences.

- We want to ensure every child feels safe, accepted and respected, regardless of their race, culture, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity.
- I'd now like to invite Jen Mezei, president of the B.C. Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils to the podium.

[Jen Mezei speaks]

- Thank you Jen.
- And now, I ask Carol Todd, mother and founder of the Amanda Todd Legacy Society to speak to us.

[Carol Todd speaks]

- Thank you Carol.
- And now Sam Jingfors, vice-president of Safer Schools Together and cyberbullying expert...

[Sam Jingfors speaks]

- Now it's time to hear from Victoria Croden, a Grade 12 Reynolds Secondary student, and member of Reynolds Slam Poetry who has been

working very hard to write and prepare a spoken word poem for us.

[Victoria performs]

- Victoria, thank you so much for sharing that with us.

PROCLAMATION:

- Here in B.C., Bullying Awareness Day has been proclaimed for the past five years, highlighting our commitment to ensuring a safe and inclusive province for all.
- I'd like to present the 2018 proclamation to the students from Reynolds and Cedar Hill who are here today...
- Sharing their incredible talents with us and sending a strong message against bullying.
- Can I please have ^{s.22} and Victoria from Reynolds, and ^{s.22} from Cedar Hill come forward –

[pause to give one proclamation to student(s) from each school, take a photo]

CONCLUSION:

- I'd like to thank you all again for coming today and showing your support for Pink Shirt Day.
- Please, take some time to get photos with the Instagram frames and share the message – it takes all of us to stand up against bullying.
- Before we break, I'd like to ask everyone behind me to stay put for a group photo.
- Thank you.

UPDATED: FEB. 20 AT 10:30 A.M.

EMCEE SPEAKING NOTES FOR
MINISTER OF EDUCATION ROB FLEMING

BC Colleges Day

BC Legislature – Hall of Honour

Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018

12:15 p.m.

Speaking Time: 2 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

- GCPE Event Lead:
- Jennifer Fernandes, GCPE Communications: (250) 889-8370
- Lori Elder, BC Colleges: (250) 812-8209.

Audience:

- Post-secondary college presidents
- BC Colleges
- Ministry staff
- MLAs
- Media

Notable attendees:

- Minister of Education Rob Fleming - emcee
- John Bowman, chair of BC Colleges
- Colin Ewart, president of BC Colleges
- Jaimie Davis, Northwest Community college student in the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art.]

Event description:

This year Feb. 27 is proclaimed as BC Colleges Day. The event will take place at the B.C. Legislature and will include several college displays in the Legislative in the Hall of Honour.

Background:

BC Colleges is a consortium of 10 public post-secondary colleges throughout B.C. Douglas College is the 11th public post-secondary college and is not a member of B.C. Colleges. The role of the consortium is to advocate to government on matters of policy and funding, and to facilitate collaboration between the colleges so they can effectively fulfill their mandate to prepare and educate a highly skilled, job-ready workforce that is needed to give B.C. a competitive advantage.

The goal of BC Colleges Day is to:

1. Raise the profile of BC colleges among orders of government.
2. Promote key goals as identified by college presidents.
3. Further the relationship between each college and their respective MLAs.
4. Provide an opportunity for legislative and ministerial staff to learn about BC colleges

Itinerary/agenda:

	Tuesday, February 27th
TBC	Audio Visual Specialists on site for technical setup
9:30-10 a.m.	BC Colleges on site to set up booths and podium
11:45 a.m.	GCPE media and visual leads on site: GCPE photographer: TBC
12 p.m. Pre-brief	Pre-brief with guest speakers led by GCPE Events Lead [TBC] Location: Rattenbury Room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education • Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, EMCEE • John Bowman, chair, BC Colleges (TBC) • Jaimie Davis, student from Northwest Community College in the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art.
12:14 p.m.	Speakers move to podium area in the Hall of Honour
12:15 p.m.	MC Minister Fleming goes to podium welcomes everyone, introduces the guest speakers and invites Minister Mark to give remarks
12:17 p.m.	Minister Mark delivers her remarks and then presents BC Colleges chair John Bowman with the framed Proclamation PHOTO-OP
12:22 p.m.	MC Minister Fleming thanks Minister Mark and invites John Bowman to give remarks
12:23 p.m.	John Bowman gives his remarks
12:26 p.m.	MC Minister Fleming thanks John Bowman and invites Jaimie Davis, Northwest Community College student to the podium
12:27 p.m.	Jaimie Davis, Northwest Community College student gives her remarks
12:30 p.m.	MC Minister Fleming thanks Jaimie Davis, gives closing remarks and invites all parties to join in a group photo PHOTO-OP
12:35 - 12:45 p.m.	Media availability
12:45 p.m.	Mix & Mingle – light refreshments served
1:00 p.m.	Event concludes

- Good afternoon everyone. Welcome to the B.C. Legislature.
- It is a pleasure to be here with you today, on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen people [**La-kwung-en**], including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- My name is Rob Fleming and I am the MLA for Victoria-Swan Lake, and the Minister of Education.
- Please allow me to introduce our stage guests:
- **Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training Melanie Mark**
- BC Colleges chair, **John Bowman**.
- Northwest Community College student Jaimie Davis.
- I would now like to invite **Minister Mark** to the podium.

[Minister Mark speaks]

[Minister Mark presents John Bowman with the official proclamation at the end of her remarks. Photo-op to follow.]

- Thank you, **Minister Mark**.

- And I echo your thoughts and support for BC Colleges.
- Our two ministries work closely together in delivering a world-class education from early years, to K-12, to post-secondary.
- We know that BC Colleges are a key part of our education system-and of our economy.
- Certainly here in Victoria, students have great choices when it comes to post-secondary education including the two beautiful campuses of Camosun College.
- Now, please welcome BC Colleges chair **John Bowman** to the podium.

[John Bowman speaks]

- Thank you, **John**. Our final speaker today will be Jaimie Davis, a Northwest Community College student in the Freda Diesing School of Northwest Coast Art.

[Jaimie Davis]

- Thank you, **Jaimie**.
- Thank you to everyone for coming today and participating in this special announcement.
- I would now like to invite our stage guests for a group photo, after which there will be an opportunity to ask questions and enjoy some light refreshments.

[Podium party gathers for photo with media availability to follow.]

Event Information / Renewable Cities

**Event: PUBLIC DIALOGUE: British Columbia's climate plan and the urban opportunity:
A conversation with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
for BC**

When: Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2019

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

**Where: Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue; Asia Pacific Hall
580 W Hastings Street**

Length: 10-15 minutes

Audience: The public event hosted by Renewable Cities draws mostly urban professionals, a large share of whom are in diverse energy and climate fields, as well as interested members of the public and students.

It is very likely that a few members of Minister Heyman's Climate Solutions Council will be in attendance including Nancy Olewiler, Matt Horne, Karen Tam Wu.

The online audience is diverse and overwhelmingly from B.C.

Event summary: Hosted by Renewable Cities, this public event is fully subscribed (sold out), accommodating 200 people plus at least 150 people registered online.

12:15 pm: Minister arrives 15 minutes prior to the event

12:30 pm: Event Starts (we will start promptly at 12:30pm)

- Introduction (<5 mins) by Alex Boston, ED of Renewable Cities
 - Formalities
 - Climate Plan and Urban Agenda – intro context
 - Minister introduction
- Minister's presentation (10-20 minutes – **optimally 10-15 minutes**)
- Facilitated discussion (35-40 minutes)
 - Questions and recommendations on urban opportunities in Climate Action Plan
 - We emphasize discussion + Q&A, including questions from online audience

1:30 pm: Event Wrap Up (Alex to deliver closing formalities)

B.C.'s Climate Plan and the Urban Opportunity

Introduction:

Territorial Acknowledgement: the Hulquimum (hull-qui-mee-num) speaking people.

Key people to recognize and thank:

- Alex Boston, ED of Renewable Cities
- Members of the Climate Solutions and Clean Growth Advisory Council will be in attendance including Nancy Olewiler, Matt Horne, Karen Tam Wu. (check against attendance)

Top message: To outline how the new B.C. government will meet its climate targets, despite GHG emissions virtually unchanged ten years after B.C. launched its first climate plan.

- **Framing comment: How quickly world is changing ie. extreme weather, fires, hurricanes, displacements.**

- **3 themes: - - challenge, choices, opportunity (trends - phase out, how; plan, imagine and implement the alternatives and the future)**

COP 23 in Bonn – What we heard, saw, and who we met

- Talked Zero-emission vehicles with the governors of Oregon, California, and officials from Quebec and Norway
- We met with our counterparts in the Pacific Northwest region who are participating in the Pacific Coast Collaborative:
- Met with industry representatives from Suncor, Altagas, Enbridge and Schneider Electric.
- ... they support B.C.'s measures to protect jobs and the economy as we reduce emissions.
- Specifically, those industries support our goal to ensure emissions intensive, trade exposed industries to remain competitive as they work to reduce carbon pollution.
- While in Germany, we shared success stories and learned from the actions that other governments are taking.
- by being open to innovation and ensuring industry is on board with government policy, it means a stronger economy - including more jobs and minimizing costs we face with climate change.

1st round subs to CLT (from cities - Vancouver, etc)

- All levels of government have roles to play in addressing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate change. Community level governments are on the front lines of both.

- Many local governments provided written submissions over the consultation periods in development the CLP
- In general, they were supportive of the CLT recommendations including the Climate Action Charter; carbon tax increase; and funding for transit, active transport and other actions
- The submissions noted the importance of increased capacity to prepare for and adapt to climate impacts, and the need for provincial leadership and resources to support efforts.
- They were also supportive of important initiatives such as net zero energy ready buildings, energy efficiency retrofit programs, community and renewable energy, and waste management

Rise of EVs - change in demand scenarios

- Currently, just over 1 % of new vehicles in B.C. are zero emission.
- B.C.'s goal with the CEV Program's is to have 5% of new light-duty vehicle purchases in B.C. be zero emission vehicles by 2020.
- B.C. is a leader in clean-energy vehicles with one of the largest public charging infrastructure networks in Canada and one of the highest per capita adoption of electric

vehicles in the country with close to 7000 vehicles registered.

Demand reduction:

- With world economies like China, India, France, and Britain moving to ban gas-powered vehicles ...
- And world manufacturers like GM and Ford announcing major shifts to electric vehicle production ...
- Our commitments to lower our carbon emissions are continuing to pay off ... both for our economy and for our environment.

Cities committing to 100% renewables:

- Our Ministry is pleased to lend support to the National Zero Waste Council through participation on its working groups that include circular economy and food waste prevention.
- Ministry has several programs to support waste reduction:
- Residential Food Waste Prevention Toolkit as a resource for local governments or non-governmental organizations.
- B.C. is a leader in creating industry-led Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) recycling programs. BC currently has more programs than any other jurisdiction in North America and the environmental and financial benefits are substantial.

Transit

- Building on our shared vision, and as part of our commitment to lower GHGs and reduce traffic congestion our government continues to invest in infrastructure to support the expansion of public transit systems across the province.
- All B.C. communities with populations over 10,000 are being served by public transportation.

Net zero housing targets – ZEV targets,

- BC recently adopted a voluntary step code to encourage increased energy efficiency – such that new buildings will be net zero ready by 2032 - and is actively pursuing opportunities for large scale building retrofit programs.
- BC has taken regulatory action to allow utilities to increase incentives for high-efficiency building equipment, and to enhance standards for gas fireplaces and heat pumps.
- BC continues its commitment to be a carbon neutral government and has also launched a Wood First Act, and a LEED Gold equivalent requirement for public sector buildings.
- The CEV Program is targeting 5,400 new ZEV purchases or leases with the \$40 million in funding (\$27 million of which is for vehicle incentives) over three years (announced Feb. 3, 2017).

- The CEV Program's vision is to stimulate the market such that by 2020, 5 per cent of new light-duty vehicle purchases in B.C. are ZEVs.

Kinder Morgan

- We made a commitment to use every tool available to defend B.C.'s interests - and we are approaching the situation thoughtfully and deliberately.
- We will continue to explore other legal ways to defend the interests of British Columbians against this unnecessary project.

Event Information / Association of B.C. Forest Professionals Annual Conference

Event: MANAGING FORESTS: Expectations vs. Realities

When: Friday Feb 23, 2019

Time: 08:15 am – 9:30 am

Where: Victoria Conference Centre, Salons B & C (Level 2)

Length: 10-15 minutes

Moderator: Christine Gelowitz, RFP, ABCFP CEO

Audience: Approximately 375-400 attendees: the largest ABCFP conference in last 5-10 years. ABCFP Membership:

- 30 % - work for the provincial government
- 25-28% - work for private industry (forestry companies)
- 42 – 45% - private consultants, academics, or work for indigenous communities/ organizations.
- 75% - male
- Majority – over 40 years of age

Event summary:

- 8:15 am Christine Gelowitz to introduce minister
- 8:20 am (approx.) Minister speaks for 20-30 minutes
- 8:50 am (approx.) Plenary Q&A: conference attendees will be asked to submit questions to the moderator via their smart phones. Questions are projected on screen and attendees vote on them. Moderator chooses the ones that are voted up.

Conference organizers have asked Minister to speak on the status on Prof Reliance review: what prompted it, where the government wants to go with it, any updates or insights, particularly as they concern registered foresters and the forestry sector.

A Q&A specific to this audience is appended to the Key Messages below.

Plenary: Professional Reliance under the Microscope

Introduction:

Territorial Acknowledgement: the Esquimalt and Songhees nations

Key people to recognize and thank:

- **Christine Gelowitz** for the invitation to speak
- **Every forest professional:** whether private sector or government, academic or consultant or First Nations, who took the time to complete the Qualified Professional Survey as part of the Professional Reliance Review.

Top message: Reviewing the professional reliance model is a top priority for this government because the public wants to be assured that a strong, transparent process is in place that upholds the public interest and the highest environmental, safety and resource-use standards.

Professional Reliance Review Key Messages

- The B.C. government is conducting a review of the province's professional reliance model to ensure the highest professional, technical, environmental and ethical standards are being applied to resource management in British Columbia.

- Many people are wondering if more could have been done to pre-empt the situations they've faced recently.
- Mount Polley and the Hullcar Aquifer contamination are two examples.
 - Lakes and aquifers that are people's drinking water source, lakes and streams valued for their high tourism and recreational use, waste management treatment technologies which result in low impacts to the environment ...
 - Managing forests for watershed protection, ecosystem values as well as fibre.
 - These are areas where we as government have asked qualified professionals to contribute sound science and expert opinion.
- In the forestry sector, there are people concerned that the Professional Reliance model is inadequate – has too narrow a focus on “ticking boxes” – and doesn't take into account the larger picture needed for protecting valuable and sensitive ecosystems.
- People are wondering where the responsibility lies for making regulatory decisions; and how to ensure there are systems in place for ensuring public interest and the environment are appropriately monitored and protected by government.

- Is it appropriate for someone who is hired by a proponent of a natural resource project (whether it is a mine, forestry, or waste disposal) to make regulatory decisions in the public interest?
- Currently, approximately 27 natural resource sector regulatory regimes rely on qualified professionals.
- Besides foresters, these include:
 - ☐ biologists,
 - ☐ applied science technicians and technologists,
 - ☐ agrologists,
 - ☐ and engineers and geoscientists.

Foresters, the Forestry Sector, and Professional Reliance

- Most people on all sides of that issue agree the discussion foresters are professionals, that you do the best job you can with the best of intentions.
- This review is about ensuring good decision making and proper oversight for the public interest to ensure social license.

- There are a couple of examples in the forestry industry where the Professional Reliance model might be in need of clarification.
- The submission from the Forest Practices Board summarizes those examples:
 - First, regulatory decisions have been left to Qualified Professionals, and District Managers have virtually no discretion to adjust or override those decisions for a range of public policy reasons: “The Forest Practices Board has seen situations where forestry development was putting environmental and community values at risk, yet district managers could do little to affect the development and protect the public interest. The Board has also encountered situations where conflicts between resource users could have been avoided if district managers had the authority to intervene to ensure operations would meet local management objectives and respect tenured interests.”
 - Secondly: “...there is ambiguity about what responsibility individual professionals have when more than one licensee operates on the same landbase. Under the current legislative framework, one licensee may design access and harvesting to achieve certain results, including retention of wildlife habitat, only to have a subsequent licensee undermine these results by

harvesting the retention areas. The Board has seen numerous examples of this.”

- Actions flowing from this review are intended to help restore public confidence and ensure the public interest is protected when it comes to resource management. It’s that simple.
- BC residents must have confidence that the experts proposing, constructing, and monitoring projects and sites have the tools, and direction to put the public interest first and foremost, no matter who employs them.

Public and stakeholder engagement

- Feedback collected from citizens, stakeholders, qualified professionals, and users of qualified professionals are being considered in our review.
- Public engagement began December 1, and closed January 19, 2018
- Stakeholder engagement launched at the same time and continues into February.

- Government received over 2,400 feedback forms from the public, 102 stakeholder submissions, and over 1,500 surveys of qualified professionals. Again, thank you.
- Stakeholder submissions can be read online at the GovTogetherBC web site (search for Professional Reliance).
 - Web address: engage.gov.bc.ca/professionalreliance
- This feedback will be considered along with findings from a a legislation review, interviews with professional associations, and best practices in other jurisdictions.
- Government is committed to ensuring Indigenous Peoples' concerns and interests are represented in this review, and an invitation has been sent to every nation in the province to share their experience of professional reliance in natural resource decisions in their traditional territories.
- A final report with recommendations will be completed and publicly released in the spring, 2018.

Professional Reliance Review Questions and Answers:

1. What are the preliminary findings?

- The Ministry is still in the research phase of the Review, and the final report is due in the spring 2018.
- The ministry is in the process of completing a jurisdictional review, as well as targeted interviews with stakeholders, and consultation with First Nations.

2. What differences have you noticed in the responses you've received between Forest Professionals versus, say mining or other professionals?

- The differences in feedback have been focused on where the responsibility lies for making regulatory decisions; and how to ensure there are systems in place for ensuring public interest and the environment are protected.
- There is a difference of opinion amongst respondents as to whether it is appropriate for someone who is hired by a proponent of a natural resource project (whether it is a mine, forestry, or waste disposal) to make regulatory decisions in the public interest.
- Most people on all sides of that issue agree that foresters are professionals, and are doing the best job they can with the best of intentions.

3. There was initially some confusion as to who the QP survey was aimed at. Can you please clarify who the survey was meant for and how it was administered?

- The public engagement phase of the review was aimed at three audiences: 1) the general public, 2) Qualified Professionals, and 3) those who use Qualified Professionals.
- Citizens (individuals) and users of Qualified Professionals (QPs) could complete an online survey. The public survey and the QP survey were different.
- Stakeholders were invited to submit a formal submission.
- QPs were invited to complete a survey through their member associations.
- The survey for the general public and those who use QPs opened on Dec 1, 2017 and closed on Jan 19, 2018, and received 2,400 responses.
- In addition, we received 300 emailed submissions from members of the general public.
- The survey for Qualified Professionals also opened on Dec 1, 2017 and closed Jan 27, 2018.
- We intended for the survey to apply to all QPs, no matter where they worked: for government, public entities, or private industry.
- Unfortunately, there was some miscommunication about this, and some members of professional associations who work for government were under the impression, at first, that they were not invited to take the QP survey.

- As soon as this was brought to our attention, we contacted all the professional associations, including the ABCFP, to assure their members that government professionals were invited to participate in the PR Review.
 - We also sent word to all public servants through the leadership teams in the Resource ministries.
 - We received over 1,800 completed surveys from QPs from all sectors.
- 4. It appears, from the submissions posted publicly, the vast majority of PR submissions are dealing with forestry – can you comment on why that might be?**
- We haven't analysed all the data yet, but yes, many of the submissions were from people concerned about how our forests are managed.
 - We also received submissions on the PR system in other sectors: watersheds, waste disposal, and mining for example.
 - Forestry has for all of British Columbia's history been our primary economic driver; so it's perhaps not surprising so many people would have an interest in how our forests are managed.
- 5. The Forest Practices Board released a bulletin on Professional Reliance and its shortcomings recently (2013). How will this report factor into the Professional Reliance Review being conducted by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change strategy?**
- The FPB has made a submission to the PR review and we will be considering that submission carefully as part of the process.
- 6. Among the ABCFP membership are many opinions on the Forest Practice Code: some say it is too prescriptive, others think it provides a lot more clarity. Is the government now looking at going back to the previous model?**
- This review is about ensuring good decision making and proper oversight.
 - The review is intended to protect and uphold public trust while ensuring the environment and human health are protected, and there is sound management of B.C.'s natural resources.
 - Qualified professionals assist government in delivering efficient, transparent, evidence-based permitting and approvals processes for natural resource management.
 - The public needs to have confidence in the decisions made by qualified professionals in assessing and approving resource management activities in BC.
- 7. The ministry just did a compliance audit of QPs in ABCFP. What are the results of that audit, and will the ABCFP have a chance to respond?**

- The ABCFP will have an opportunity to review the audit report and respond before it is finalized.
 - *(The ministry is intending to send them the report on Feb 19 so they'll have it when Minister is there).*

8. How has the ABCFP been involved in the professional reliance review?

- Your executive director - Christine Gelowitz – met with the Deputy Minister and has been meeting with the Ministry leads on the project, as have the other association leaders. These regular meetings have been to ensure that the associations are informed of the review process and active in the review.

9. Will the Professional Reliance review result in legislation changes?

- The review includes a review of the effective use of qualified professionals in a number of legislative acts and regulations (over 30). As this review is still underway, it is not clear yet what, if any, changes will be required.

10. Can you give some examples in the forestry industry where the Professional Reliance model might be in need of clarification?

- **Two examples from the Forest Practices Board submission, which were echoed in several other submissions:**
 - i. "The Forest Practices Board has seen situations where forestry development was putting environmental and community values at risk, yet district managers could do little to affect the development and protect the public interest. The Board has also encountered situations where conflicts between resource users could have been avoided if district managers had the authority to intervene to ensure operations would meet local management objectives and respect tenured interests."
 - ii. "... there is ambiguity about what responsibility individual professionals have when more than one licensee operates on the same landbase. Under the current legislative framework, one licensee may design access and harvesting to achieve certain results, including retention of wildlife habitat, only to have a subsequent licensee undermine these results by harvesting the retention areas. The Board has seen numerous examples of this."

11. Is the government going to lead by example and hire or have appropriately qualified professionals within government making decisions and overseeing submitted QP work?

- The provincial government has qualified professional staff within the public service; the use of professionals in natural resource decision making is within the scope of this review.
- I am awaiting the final report with recommendations from the Professional Reliance review.

12. Will government change the framework of FRPA and other legislation highly dependent upon professional reliance?

- The Review will assess the effectiveness and appropriateness of the professional reliance model, and will identify where there could be amendments to legislation.
- Our aim is to ensure that roles, responsibilities and expectations of QPs are clear, and the public can see who is informing or making various decisions. This clarity will help improve public trust in the professional reliance model.

Event Information/Speaking Notes

Event: Indigenous Justice Centre Model Meeting

When: Friday, Feb. 16, 2018
9:00 a.m.

Where: Coal Coast Hotel
1180 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C.

Parking: Valet parking in front, they are expecting you and will keep your car close for 9:30 a.m. departure

Contact: Chastity Davis
(778) 251-0444

Length: 5 minutes

Key Participants:

- Chastity Davis, event facilitator
- Doug White, President, Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC, and Co-chair, Aboriginal Justice Council
- Sharon McIvor, BC Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society
- Wayne Robertson, Law Foundation of BC
- First Nations Health Council (3 participants) Matthew Kinch/Grand Chief Doug Kelly/2 technicians
- Kristy Bell, BC Aboriginal Justice Council
- Colleen Spiers, BC Aboriginal Justice Council
- Darla Rasmussen, Through an Aboriginal Lens Program, NCCABC
- Heather Wojcik, Ending Violence Association (EVAABC)
- Marjorie White, Elder
- Lillian Howard, past Co-Chair Aboriginal People's Advisory Committee, City of Vancouver, BC Women's Hospital
- Indigenous Community Legal Clinic (3 participants) Co-Director, Mark Gervin, ICLC's articulated student, research assistant

- Larissa Rutquist, A/Regional Coordinator, BC, Indigenous Justice Directorate, Dept. of Justice Canada
- Mary Brown, Heiltsuk First Nations (restorative justice program)
- [Representative], First Nations Health Authority

Backdrop: Podium and mic

Audience

Description: Attendees will include legal community representatives, Indigenous community leaders, health sector representatives, civil liberties leaders, and others.

Media invited No

Number of Participants: **Approximately 15**

DRAFT Agenda:

8:15am-9:00am	Arrival and Breakfast
9:00am-9:30am	Elder Welcome, Opening Prayer, Land Acknowledgement Attorney General speaks. Attorney General leaves
9:30am-10:15am	Introductions
10:15am-10:45am	Overview of Session and Review Minister Eby's Letter
10:45am-11:00am	Refreshment Break
11:00am-12:00pm	Design for Indigenous Justice Centres in Urban, Rural, Remote, On-Reserve, Off-Reserve communities
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm-2:15pm	Identify and Define Key Elements of Indigenous Justice Centres
2:15pm-2:30pm	Refreshment Break
2:30pm-3:15pm	Identify Key Partners/Service Providers and Potential Roles (Who else to engage and consult with on design of Indigenous Justice Centres)
3:15-4:00pm	Establish Task Groups for Design of Indigenous Justice Centres
4:00pm-4:30pm	Wrap-up, Identify Next Steps, and Closing

Speaking Notes
for
Attorney General David Eby
Indigenous Justice Centre
Model Meeting
Friday, Feb. 16, 2018
Event runs 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.
Minister speaks at approximately 9:15 a.m.

Introduction

- Thank you, Chastity, for that kind introduction.
- I would like to acknowledge we are on the territory of the Hulquimum (*hull-qui-mee-num*) speaking people of Musqueam (*mus-kwee-um*), Squamish, and Tsleil-waututh (*sail-wha-tooth*) First Nations.
- I also want to thank the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of BC for organizing this meeting.
- I'm honoured to be a part of it.
- As Attorney General I believe that reason, fairness and justice are the keys to building a society that is inclusive, caring and encourages prosperity.

- Our government is committed to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous people that have lived on these lands since time immemorial.
- We as a government have committed to incorporating the principles of the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples across all aspects of our work and will adopt the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- When Mr. Doug White and the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of B.C. brought a report to me last November,
- it quoted that, “the devastating history of colonization and the harsh treatment of Indigenous people of BC and elsewhere have been perpetuated ‘under the shield of law and in the name of justice.’”

- Today's meeting represents one of the ways that we can make vital improvements in this area –
- By working to achieve better outcomes for Indigenous people involved in the justice system.
- Justice is an indivisible part of reconciliation.
- I am very excited about the idea of an Indigenous Justice Centre ...or Centres.
- This initiative is important for many reasons.
- One that I have not lost sight of is that it is being designed and built from the ground up with Indigenous people taking a leadership role.
- The “principle of nothing for us, without us” is being turned into action in this room.

- While I value my role in bringing about reforms in B.C.'s justice system,
- I'm looking to those of you here today to apply your knowledge and experience to jointly develop a model and business plan to turn the idea of an Indigenous Justice Centre into reality.
- We must work hard to advance alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and integrated services in order to end the overrepresentation of Indigenous adults and children in jails, prisons and foster homes.
- I look to the Native Courtworkers and Counselling Association of British Columbia to take a primary role in the design and eventual delivery of this initiative.
- My hope is that the Legal Services Society will provide key supports to make this project a success.

- And I look to the Law Foundation and the others in this room to come together to help ...as you are all doing today.
- This initiative will form part of the Indigenous Justice Strategy that is being developed with the Aboriginal Justice Council.
- I recognize that this model will be a starting point, and will evolve over time.
- But it is my hope that this project ...
- And this partnership ...
- Will play a big role in ensuring the next generation of Indigenous children will have a brighter future in the beautiful province we share with you.

- I look forward to hearing more about this initiative's progress in the coming weeks and months,
- And once again, thank you very much for your contributions to this initiative.
- I wish you all a productive and successful day
- Thank you.

-END-

Speaking Notes for the

Hon. David Eby
Attorney General

ICBC product change announcement

Press Theatre – Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.

Tues., Feb. 6, 2018
11 a.m.

Event Information/Speaking Notes

Event: ICBC Product Changes
When: Tues., Feb. 6, 2018
Speaking time: 11 a.m.
Where: Press Theatre, Parliament Buildings, Victoria
Contact for AG: Shawn Robins, cell phone TBC
Logistics: Flags, podium, mics, dial-in Q&A with media

Key Participants:

- Attorney General Eby
- Joy MacPhail, ICBC Chair

Other attendees:

- Nicolas Jimenez, ICBC interim President and CEO – leading technical briefing
- Jane Dyson, OBC, Executive Director, Disability Alliance BC
- Shannon Salter, Chair, Civil Resolution Tribunal
- Giovanna Boniface, National Director of Professional Affairs and Managing Director Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists

Audience size: Media only, in person and over the phone provincially

Agenda: Provided separately

Introduction

- Thank you for joining me today.
- I would first like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the territories of the Lekwungen-speaking people, and of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.
- Last week, the Insurance Corporation of BC announced its third-quarter fiscal results.
- It included a staggering projected net loss of \$1.3 billion for the full year.
- Years of mismanagement by the old government have undermined ICBC's ability to deliver low-cost insurance to drivers throughout our province.
- It is unacceptable that we find ourselves in this situation today.

- We now know the former government had received clear recommendations in 2014 from independent auditors that could have saved the corporation hundreds of millions of dollars.
- Yet they did not act, they rejected the recommendations and they hid them from a report presented to the public.
- Now, due to their inaction, B.C. drivers are facing at least \$400 more in premium hikes... if we don't act now.
- ICBC must become financially sustainable to keep rates affordable for British Columbians.
- The dumpster is on fire, and today we take the first steps to put it out.
- Today, we are announcing major reforms to the ICBC product itself.

- The focus is on directing more care to those injured in crashes, to reducing legal expenses and to keeping insurance rates affordable for British Columbians.
- First, and for the first time in 25 years, major changes will be made to ICBC's accident benefits to dramatically increase the care available for anyone injured in a crash, regardless of fault.
- Second, as of April 1, 2019, a new limit of \$5,500 on pain and suffering for minor injury claims will be in effect, redirecting costs currently spent on legal fees, courts and litigation towards direct care of those injured in crashes.
- And third, certain ICBC injury claims disputes will be directed to the Civil Resolution Tribunal to be decided quickly and affordably by independent adjudicators.
- You can expect to see legislation introduced this spring that will put us on track to ensure these changes, with some exceptions, are effective April 1, 2019.

- Together, we expect these changes to reduce ICBC's claims costs by more than \$1 billion each year.
- Let me provide more detail now on these changes now.

Increased Care

- As part of this move to a care model, ICBC will increase accident benefits for those injured in crashes.
- The enhanced accident benefits will be available for all injury claims, which means any British Columbian injured in a crash will benefit.
- These proposals mean more money for treatments and that more types of treatments will be covered.
- Here are examples of these changes and how customers will benefit.
- There will be a 100 per cent increase for the overall allowance for medical care and recovery costs to \$300,000, up from \$150,000.

- This change is intended to help those people who are most catastrophically injured in a crash on our roads.
- And our intention is to set out in legislation that this change will be retroactive to January 1, 2018, so that we can immediately start helping those most seriously injured in crash.
- Changes that will be effective April 1, 2019 include:
- ICBC will pay the fair market rate for necessary treatments, and these will apply whether the driver is at-fault or not.
- With this change, customers are less likely to have to pay out-of-pocket costs and more likely to seek the care they need to recover from injuries.
- ICBC will add coverage for new treatment providers such as kinesiology, acupuncture, counselling and massage therapy to the list of treatments pre-approved for payment.

- There will be a 147 per cent increase in wage loss payments while injured and unable to work, to \$740 per week, up from \$300 per week
- A 93 per cent increase in homemaking benefits to assist with household tasks such as cooking, cleaning and other activities inside the home if the primary provider is unable to do these tasks after a crash to \$280 per week, up from \$145 per week
- A 200 per cent increase for funeral costs to \$7,500, up from \$2,500 and
- An increase in death benefits to \$30,000, up from \$17,580 to \$20,080
- These are substantial changes that will make an enormous difference to British Columbians who are injured and in need of care and recovery.

Limit on payouts for pain and suffering

- Our second change is to implement a \$5,500 limit on payouts for pain and suffering for minor injuries.
- This change will move the focus away from maximizing compensation and will reduce legal costs so that more funds can be allocated to the care, treatment and support that customers need to get better.
- B.C. is the last province to take this kind of action.
- We will be establishing in legislation a definition for minor injury that includes will include things like sprains, strains, mild whiplash, cuts and bruises, anxiety and stress from a crash.
- It will not include things like broken bones, brain injuries (concussions) or other more serious impairments.
- And it will recognize that, if you don't get better after a certain period of time, your injury is not considered minor.

- We will also be leaving the diagnosis of these injuries to the medical professionals.
- And in the weeks and months to come, ICBC will be working directly with those medical providers to determine appropriate guidelines that can be put in place so that we can work together and help people get better as quickly as possible.

Civil Resolution Tribunal

- As part of these changes, we will be introducing legislation to enable the Civil Resolution Tribunal help resolve certain motor vehicle injury disputes.
- The CRT is an important part of these changes because I am interested, as much as possible, in protecting the rights of British Columbians to sue and to recover damages through an independent decision-maker to have their damages adjudicated.

- We know that the CRT is making access to justice faster, less complex and more affordable, while helping people resolve their disputes earlier.
- These CRT adjudicators are independent of ICBC and will provide fair, fast resolution, without requiring the involvement of a lawyer.
- Currently, the CRT aims to resolve claims in 60 to 90 days, on average, whereas the average legal claim with ICBC can take up to 30 months.
- The CRT has been successful in resolving disputes for strata and small claims and freeing up court time.
- As a result of these three changes, we expect ICBC will save about \$1 billion each year in claims costs.
- We have much work yet to do to ensure these changes will become effective April 1, 2019, including the introduction of legislation and filings with the B.C. Utilities Commission.

Close

- These changes are the result of several months of tough conversations that I've had with a variety of stakeholders – and I thank them for their input.
- Fixing problems of this magnitude means there will have to be compromises on all sides.
- In the next few days, we expect to release a final report from PwC Canada on the effectiveness of ICBC's operations...
- And I anticipate there will be recommendations on finding further savings by working with the auto body industry.
- Making changes to how injuries are treated and compensated under B.C.'s auto insurance system is the single biggest action we can take to both provide improved benefits and make rates more affordable for British Columbians.

- It will not be easy, and it will be a long-road ahead but strong and decisive action is needed, and that is what we have announced today.
- We will have more to say in the weeks and months ahead.
- Thank you.

Note: Joy MacPhail, Jane Dyson and Giovanna Boniface will speak before the event is open for questions.

-END-

Event Information/Speaking Notes

Event:	A Celebration of Ted Hughes
When:	Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Where:	Fraser Building, Room 159 University of Victoria
Parking:	Parking will be complimentary by providing license plate number to event staff.
Contact:	Katharine Waring, Assistant to the Dean, Faculty of Law 250-721-8147
Length:	5 minutes
Key Participants:	Jeremy Webber, Dean of Law, UVic Laura Lynch, CBC journalist Maureen Maloney, former B.C. Deputy AG, former Uvic Dean of Law, and current member of School of Public Policy at Simon Fraser University.
Speaking Backdrop:	Podium and handheld mic
Audience Description:	Event is free and open to the public. Attendees will include students, faculty and members of the B.C. bar.
Media invited	Yes
Number of Participants:	The lecture theatre can accommodate up to 275 people.

Agenda:

4:30 p.m.	Guests begin to arrive
5:00 p.m.	Event begins
	Minister arrives
5:05 p.m.	Jeremy Webber, Dean of Law, provides welcome remarks
	Mr. Webber introduces Minister Eby
5:10 p.m.	Minister Eby provides remarks
5:20 p.m.	Ted Hughes is interviewed by Laura Lynch, CBC Journalist and UVic alumnus
6:15 p.m.	Interview concludes.
	Mr. Webber provides closing remarks
	Maureen Maloney, former UVic Dean of Law, former Deputy AG, current member of the School of Public Policy at SFU, provides closing remarks
6:25 p.m.	Event concludes

Speaking Notes
for
Attorney General David Eby
A Celebration of Ted Hughes
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018
Event runs 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Minister speaks at 5:10 p.m.

Introduction

- Thank you, Jeremy [*Webber, Dean of Law, UVic*], for that kind introduction.
- I would like to acknowledge the territory of the WSÁNEĆ (*wh-say-nuch*), Lkwungen (*La-kwung-en*), and Wyomilth peoples of the Coast Salish Nation.
- I want to thank the University of Victoria for organizing this fitting tribute to one of our country's most celebrated and distinguished legal minds, Mr. Ted Hughes.
- I certainly appreciate the invitation to be a part of it.
- For me, and for many others, Mr. Hughes is a legendary investigator, adjudicator, judge and public servant.

- His career spanned decades, and included many pivotal accomplishments in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and here in B.C.
- Ted has worked tirelessly on such fundamental social issues as human rights, child protection and sexual discrimination,
- And made substantial contributions to strengthening ethical standards for those who hold public office.
- *[Minister to insert personal insights as required]*

On public service

- Mr. Hughes' legacy teaches us a lot about how to serve the public good, regardless of politics.
- His achievements show that reason, fairness and compassion are the real keys to building a

society that is inclusive, caring and encourages prosperity.

- Whether it's about civil liberties, advocacy for Indigenous people and marginalized groups, or improving access to justice,
- Mr. Hughes is one of our heroes, and I think his enduring reputation is testament to that.

As Deputy Attorney General

- Since he served as the Deputy Attorney General,
- I am certain Mr. Hughes has quite a few insights of his own to share on the role of government in shaping the legal parameters for the province.
- I, certainly, am honoured by the nature and the responsibilities of this work.

- Just as the Attorney General has responsibility of protecting the integrity of our justice institutions, they are also responsible for ensuring that the justice system is relevant to the public it serves.
- The fundamental goal of my ministry is that every citizen in B.C. experiences equal access to justice and that increasing access to justice and legal services remains at the centre of everything we do.
- Over the past months, I have been actively engaging with our many stakeholders, partners, other ministries, and all levels of government to move forward on many of my ministry's key accountabilities.
- We are supporting electoral reform ...
- Striving to enhance our legal aid system ...

- Addressing overrepresentation of Indigenous people in the justice and child welfare systems ...
- And working to establish B.C.'s new Human Rights Commission ...
- These are weighty topics,
- And along with them come challenges to tackle – things like poverty, mental illness, addiction, corruption ...
- And stories about real people who face real barriers when they interact with the justice system.
- Tonight, in honour of Ted's legacy, I want to reinforce to all of you the importance of having sharp, principled minds in government, working behind the scenes to get this very important work done, and done right.

- There are lawyers and experts who work with me today that I am immensely proud of,
- Like the ones who had the pleasure of working with Mr. Hughes over the years,
- And no doubt, some of you in attendance here tonight will also one day apply your skills and knowledge to government service.
- That is my hope.
- If during your studies, or your work, you ever need a renewed sense of purpose, you can look to Mr. Hughes' body of work and his unflinching quest for truth and fairness over the span of his career ...
- I think you'll require no greater inspiration than that.
- I want to thank you [*gesture to Ted Hughes*] for your superb contributions,

- And I'd like to thank the University of Victoria for hosting this wonderful tribute to you.
- I appreciate the opportunity to share a few words on such an inspiring figure in Canada's legal landscape,
- And I hope you all enjoy tonight's interview session with Laura Lynch, which is coming up very shortly.
- Thank you.

-END-

Video Script for ICBC Rate Fairness Engagement

Draft 1 – length 1:05

FADE IN to head-and-shoulders shot of Hon. David Eby

SUPER (bottom of screen for first five seconds):

Hon. David Eby

Attorney General and Minister Responsible for ICBC

AUDIO (text for teleprompter):

You may have heard that ICBC is in financial trouble . . . it is . . . and it's serious.

ICBC is on track to lose \$1.3 billion this year.

In early February, our government announced reforms aimed at saving ICBC a billion dollars a year, changes that will reduce legal expenses and use those savings to get ICBC back on its feet and dramatically improve accident benefits for those hurt in crashes. These benefits have not been increased in 25 years. We want to ensure that those who are injured in crashes have access to the care they need, and we want our public insurer to deliver affordable insurance rates for B.C. families.

But we can do more . . . and we will.

Car insurance rates in our province aren't fair. Low-risk drivers with perfect records are paying more than they should. High-risk drivers who are driving costs up for everyone aren't paying enough.

We want to fix this problem.

We'll do this by making changes to the current auto insurance rating system, changes that will hold all drivers more accountable for their decisions and their driving behaviour. This means low-risk drivers will be rewarded by paying less and high-risk drivers will help offset the costs they're increasing by paying more.

We'd like your thoughts on these changes. We have questions about:

- How ICBC should use accident claims, or driver experience, in determining how much someone should pay for basic insurance
- How much things like speeding tickets, or other driving convictions, should influence insurance costs, both optional and basic
- How much of a discount low-risk drivers should enjoy, and how much of an additional premium high-risk drivers should pay, and,
- How insurance pricing should be set to reflect risk due to where in the province you're driving, or how often you're driving

I hope you'll take some time to learn about these changes, and then let us know what you think by taking part in this important survey.

Your feedback will help us improve auto insurance for British Columbians.

FADE OUT to BC logo and engage.gov.bc.ca/ratefairness

Minister of Finance
Event Details Checklist
Updated: 18/12/2018

Function Date	February 7, 2018
Name of Function	Airbnb Announcement
Number of attendees expected	10-15 media and government representatives
Sponsor/Host	Province of British Columbia
Contact name and number	Rick Devereux 250-812-1207
Event Theme	Affordability
Speech topic	Airbnb Announcement
Recommended arrival time	11:00 a.m.
Time Minister will be introduced	11:32 a.m.
Speech length	4 mins
Q&A time?	11:43 a.m.
Anticipated departure time	11:55 a.m.
Appropriate Dress	Business Attire
Address/ directions	Hall of Honour, BC Legislature Building
Parking arrangements	N/A
Contact meeting Minister at location/ cell number/phone	David Currie s.17
Name and title of person introducing Minister	Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Selina Robinson
Media anticipated	Press Gallery and local media
Name and title of other notable guests	Alex Dagg, Public Policy Manager for Airbnb
Recent special achievements to acknowledge	N/A
Presentation details	N/A
Staff attending event	Paul Flanagan, Special Advisor

SPEAKING NOTES FOR

AIRBNB ANNOUNCEMENT

**HON. CAROLE JAMES
MINISTER OF FINANCE**

HALL OF HONOUR, BC LEGISLATURE

**11:30 AM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018
VICTORIA, B.C.**

AUDIENCE: Press gallery and local media, government officials and industry representatives.

TIME: 11:30 a.m.

WORD COUNT: 457

KEY MESSAGES:

- The Province has come to an arrangement with Airbnb that Airbnb will collect the 8% PST and the up to 3% MRDT on all of its accommodation in B.C.
- These additional revenues will help the Province and local governments ease housing affordability.
- We appreciate Airbnb coming to the table.
- This sets Airbnb on an even footing with other short-term accommodation providers across B.C.
- The Province will be looking to move forward with similar arrangements with other online platforms in the near future.

INTRODUCTION

- Good morning.
- I would like to acknowledge that we are in the territory of the Lekwungen people - including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- Thank you all for coming today.

TIME FOR ACTION

- In British Columbia, we are fortunate to have vibrant communities and a strong economy.
- An economy where our traditional industries like forestry and mining exist side by side with emerging industries in tech and the sharing economy.

- For these industries to continue to thrive and for our communities to benefit, we need to adapt to ensure we all share in that prosperity.
- Around the world, the sharing economy is growing rapidly.
- Apps and platforms that let people sell and share services have developed from the ground up.
- But through global offices and online transactions, these companies have taken root outside of our traditional tax system.
- As the sharing economy grows, we need to adapt.
- That's why we were pleased when Airbnb came to the table, offering to negotiate an arrangement with the province.

- As a government, our role is to make sure everyone is playing by the same rules.
- To do that we need to look at new ways of doing business and new tax models.
- Governments need to keep up with our growing and changing economy.
- We need to ensure that businesses and people taking part in the sharing economy are paying their fair share of taxes.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- I came into my role as Finance Minister with a mandate to take action to improve tax fairness.
- To ensure that our tax system works for all British Columbians.
- Today, I am proud to announce that the Province has negotiated a **tax arrangement** with Airbnb.
- Airbnb has agreed to **collect the 8% provincial sales tax (PST) and the up to 3% municipal and regional district tax (MRDT)** on all accommodation provided in B.C. through its website.
- This is the first arrangement of its kind in B.C.
- We are going to use the revenues raised from Airbnb to fund affordable housing measures for people in our province.

LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

- This arrangement is good for B.C.'s municipalities who receive municipal and regional district tax revenue.
- It supports our province and local governments' efforts to fund affordable housing.
- It's good for people, who will see more money flowing into affordable housing programs.
- And this is good for B.C.'s hospitality industry, ensuring tax fairness in the sector.

OTHER PLATFORMS

- We appreciate Airbnb coming to the table.
- With this arrangement they have proven themselves leaders in their sector.

- This is just the start.
- The Province will be looking to work with similar companies to come to the table and also register to collect the tax in B.C.

CONCLUSION

- Today's announcement is one step towards improving tax fairness.
- One small step towards addressing housing affordability.
- I can tell you my work over the last few months has been focused on exactly these kinds of actions.
- As Finance Minister, I will have much more to share on both these matters in *Budget 2018*.
- Thank you. **[END]**

Minister of Finance
Event Details Checklist
Updated: 18/12/2018

Function Date	Monday, February 26, 2018
Name of Function	University of Victoria – Indigenous Law Program
Number of attendees expected	Approximately 20 attendees, students mostly
Sponsor/Host	Jamie Cassels, UVic President
Event Theme	Reconciliation
Speech topic	Reconciliation, <i>Budget 2018</i> highlights for students
Recommended arrival time	12:25pm
Time Minister will be introduced	12:32
Speech length	10 minutes
Q&A time?	Begins at 12:45pm, for 15 minutes
Anticipated departure time	1:00pm
Appropriate Dress	Business casual
Address/ directions	Student Union Building lounge
Parking arrangements	TBC
Contact meeting Minister at location/ cell number/phone	Rick Devereux, GCPE Events 250 812-1207
Name and title of person introducing Minister	Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Educations, Skills and Training
Media anticipated	Media are invited.
Set up	Stage, podium and mic. Will Facebook Live this event and have social content. Videographer Stephen and photographer Don will also be there.
Event Plan	12:30 The President of UVic to introduce everyone to the event 12:31 Minister Mark to introduce Minister James 12:33 MCJ will speak for 10 min to approximately 20 students 12:45 The VP of Student Affairs will read pre-selected questions for QA 01:00 Event concludes

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SPEAKING NOTES FOR

**UVic address: *Budget 2018* and
Indigenous Law Program**

**HON. CAROLE JAMES
MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**Student Union Building
University of Victoria**

**Monday, February 26, 2018
12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Victoria, B.C.**

INTRODUCTION

- Thank you Minister Mark.
- Good afternoon everyone.
- Thank you for joining us over your lunch break.
- This time last week I was eagerly anticipating the delivery of my first full budget as Minister of Finance.
- It felt a little like beginning a new semester at school.
- I was excited, but also anxious.
- Had I prepared enough?
- Was I going to get a decent grade?
- A week later, most of my anxiety is gone because *Budget 2018* puts people at the centre of every decision we made.
- Those decisions chart a path to what we want our province to look like in 10, 20 and even 50 years.
- Because a budget is about more than revenues and expenses.
- It's about people.
- We live in a province rich in resources, natural beauty and opportunity.
- Yet that opportunity has become further out of reach for so many.
- Families can't get ahead.
- Young people like you can't find affordable housing.

- And people can't get the services they rely on.
- It's time for a different approach.
- It's time everyone in B.C. is part of our prosperity.

[PAUSE]

- *Budget 2018* makes record investments in every corner of B.C., and in the people who make it such a great place to live, work and study.
- I'm looking at all of you!
- That's why *Budget 2018* made investments in affordable student housing so that you have a safe place to study.
- We also made historic investments towards universal child care for those of you who start a family one day.
- And we put \$1.6 billion dollars into a comprehensive housing strategy to help temper the market to one day help you buy a home in the community you want to live in.
- Ultimately, we are doing everything we can to make your life more affordable.
- B.C. has a high standard of healthcare that we all enjoy, but unfair MSP premiums are affecting the bottom line for families.
- In less than two years, MSP premiums will be eliminated, saving you \$900 dollars a year.
- Many of you came to study at UVic from the lower mainland, the interior or from up north.

- You travel on BC Ferries to see your families, attend concerts or explore the province.
- And those ferry rides can be expensive.
- Ferries are part of our highway system, and we islanders are at a disadvantage.
- That's why government has frozen ferry fares, avoiding an increase that would have come into effect this April.
- And we reduced fares on smaller routes.
- When you get sick, we don't want you to have to forgo a dinner out with friends, or a night at Felicitas in order to pay for your medication.
- That's why we invested in B.C.'s Fair Pharmacare program so more people are covered, and pay less for the medications they need.
- And once you graduate, you will want to find fulfilling work.
- That's why *Budget 2018* makes record levels of investment in every corner of our province to create stable economic growth and well-paying jobs.
- These are just a few highlights from *Budget 2018*, and I encourage you to go online and see what other investments we are making to make life more affordable for people.

Reconciliation

- I want to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Lekwungen speaking peoples, including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- I'm honoured to be part of a government that is committed to learning from, and working with, Indigenous peoples as we build a path towards reconciliation.
- That means fully adopting and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.
- Addressing reconciliation is our shared responsibility.
- *Budget 2018* invests in housing, child care and skills training with more than \$200 million dedicated to Indigenous priorities over the fiscal plan.
- That includes funding to expand culturally-based Indigenous child care.
- It includes 1,750 new units of supportive housing for Indigenous people — developed in partnership with Indigenous housing societies and First Nations.
- It invests in Indigenous Skills Training and Development.
- It invests in organizations like Aboriginal Friendship Centres which do incredible outreach work in communities across B.C.
- By investing in Aboriginal Friendship Centres, we are investing in the kinds of relationships our government wants to cultivate with First Nations.

- One based on respect, partnership and a shared commitment to lifting people up.

Language Revitalization

- Part of government's commitment to working with Indigenous peoples is through Indigenous language revitalization.
- There is a strong link between language and cultural identity...
- Between positive cultural identity and social, mental and physical well-being.
- Language is fundamental to who we are, where we come from, how we relate to others and what will live on after we are gone.
- And it connects the next generation with those of the past.
- UVic understands the importance of keeping Indigenous language alive, offering Indigenous language revitalization programs and diplomas for their students.
- For more than 40 years, UVic has worked with Indigenous organizations, Elders, researchers, language-revival specialists, community language experts and educators to ensure Indigenous languages are preserved and celebrated.
- B.C. is home to 60% of First Nations languages in Canada, with more than 30 unique languages and 61 dialects.
- But these languages are in a state of crisis.

- Eight are severely endangered, and 22 are nearly extinct.
- That's why government committed \$50 million dollars this fiscal year to support the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages in B.C.
- This funding will flow immediately to the First Peoples Cultural Council, because there is no time to lose.
- It will go on to support the language, arts and culture of Indigenous communities, organizations and language groups in every corner of our province.

Indigenous Law program

- Lastly, I want to talk about the new Indigenous Law program government is supporting through UVic.
- This is the first of its kind in Canada, and the world.
- It uniquely blends the study of Indigenous and non-Indigenous law, allowing students like to you to learn, and later to work, across the two realms.
- Students will graduate with two professional degrees, one in Canadian Common Law and one in Indigenous Legal Orders.
- Their education will go on to benefit areas that are of paramount importance to the Province, as well as to Indigenous peoples.

- These include environmental protection, Indigenous governance, economic development, housing, child protection and education.
- *Budget 2018* provides \$2.2 million over two years as the program gets underway.
- But our investment goes beyond dollars and cents.
- It's an investment in a program that builds on UVic's longstanding commitment to, and unique relationship with, the First Peoples of Canada.

CONCLUSION

- The Indigenous Law Program supports government's commitment to lasting reconciliation with First Nations.
- It directly answers the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action "to fund the establishment of Indigenous law institutes for the development, use, and understanding of Indigenous laws and access to justice in accordance with the unique cultures of Aboriginal peoples in Canada."
- And it is a program that government is proud to support through *Budget 2018*.
- Much like a strong educational foundation, such as the one you are all receiving here at UVic...
- A budget needs to positively impact your life, as well as your future.

- That's why the investments we made in *Budget 2018* were carefully considered with one thing in mind:
- What actions can we take today to build a better future for everyone in our province?
- Thank you.



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

2017 Mine Safety Awards

**Hotel Grand Pacific
Vancouver Island Ballroom
Victoria, B.C.**

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Please check against delivery

Event Profile:

Attendees: Mining industry occupational health and safety committee co-chair persons, mine management and industry executives, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources senior inspectors. Expecting about 65 people.

Speaking Time: five minutes

What would they like to hear:

- MJTF highlights
- Importance of safety to industry
- Making progress on two mining industry specific items under Minister's mandate: improving how mining applications are processed, and establishing an independent oversight unit.
- Reviewing current processes, policies and resources in ministry to ensure any changes we make are fully-informed
- Recognize companies for ensuring mining continues to be one of safest heavy industries

Media:

- N/A – closed event

Location:

- Hotel Grand Pacific, Vancouver Island Ballroom

Date and Time:

- Tuesday, February 27, 2018 – 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Itinerary:

6:00 p.m.	Reception
7:00 p.m.	Welcome by emcee Cheryl Pocklington (Senior Inspector of Mines, Investigations Lead)
7:05 p.m.	Minister's speech
7:10 p.m.	Speech by Al Hoffman (Chief Inspector of Mines)
7:15 p.m.	Speech by Brian Cox (President & CEO, Mining Association of B.C.)
7:18 p.m.	Meal blessing by Rolly Thorpe (Deputy Chief Inspector of Mines, Health & Safety)
7:20 p.m.	Buffet dinner
8:05 p.m.	Awards presentation and photographs Minister to hand out awards and have photographs taken with award winners
9:00 p.m.	End of scheduled events

Contacts: Suntanu Dalal (GCPE) - s.17
Caroline Nakatsuka (MEMPR organizer of event) - s.17

Speaking Points:

Introduction/Welcome

- Good evening.
- Recognize Chief Inspector of Mines Al Hoffman and his team for hosting the event.
- Welcome to 56th Annual Mine Safety Awards.
- Awards reflect dedication, diligence and hard work of people working in B.C.'s mining industry...
- ...who have made mining the safest heavy industry in the province.

Acknowledge Recent Fatality

- Want to take a moment to acknowledge a serious accident near the Brucejack Mine that unfortunately resulted in the tragic loss of a worker.
- While the incident occurred outside of the mine boundary, this person was working in a support role for a mining company.
- Our hearts go out to this person's family, friends and co-workers.
- We can all agree that one life lost at a workplace is one too many.
- It's why safety must be paramount for each of us every single day.

Mining Day /B.C. Mining Jobs Task Force

- Mineral exploration and mining key to creating sustainable, inclusive economy with good-paying jobs in B.C.
- Mining Day yesterday - announced Mining Jobs Task Force.
- Twelve-members.
- Includes representatives from industry, First Nations, municipal government, environmental non-governmental organizations, labour, post-secondary/training, and the financial sector.

- Task force will develop recommendations on possible actions to bring more certainty to the mining sector.
- One key goal is to find ways to ensure mines in B.C. remain viable when commodity prices fluctuate.
- Task force will examine B.C.'s competitiveness and approach to attracting investment.
- Among other priorities, task force will also look at best practices in mining jobsite health and safety...
- ...such as those exemplified by those of you here today.

- Final report due November 21, 2018.
- It's a big job – believe the task force is up to the challenge.
- Excited about potential for industry moving forward.

Conclusion

- Safety of people working in mining industry is a government priority.
- Looking forward to presenting 2017 Mine Safety Awards after dinner.
- Thank you.

END



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

Mining Jobs Task Force

Front Steps, B.C. Legislature

Monday, Feb. 26, 2018

10AM

Please check against deliver

Recognize:

- Territory of the Lekwungen people, including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- Mining Association of BC President Bryan Cox
- United Steelworkers rep

Mining/Mining Day

- Mining Day in British Columbia.
- Industry building a sustainable, inclusive economy - with good-paying jobs.
- More than 30,000 British Columbians employed; more than 1,100 businesses involved.
- B.C. mining flow-through share tax credit was just extended in Budget 2018.

Vehicle Display

- Mining Association displaying electric vehicle here.
- Worldwide electric vehicle sales hit 1.2 million units last year.
- These cars require B.C. copper, steelmaking coal and numerous other metals and minerals.
- Importance of mining is clear.

Mining Jobs Task Force

- Twelve members, including representatives from industry, First Nations, municipal government, environmental non-governmental organization, labour, post-secondary/training, and the financial sector.
- Chair: Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Assistant Deputy Minister Peter Robb.

Other members:

- Association for Mineral Exploration President and CEO Edie Thome.
- Mining Association of B.C. President Bryan Cox.
- Mayor of Tumbler Ridge Don Mcpherson.
- First Nations Energy and Mining Council Senior Advisor Mark Podlasly.
- Northwest Community College Regional Director Regina (*pronounced 'Regeena'*) Saimoto.
- Materials Efficiency Research Group Director Alan Young.
- Ktunaxa Nation council member, Codie Morigeau.

- Teck Resources Limited Director of Government Affairs Tom Syer.
- Taseko Gibraltar Mine Vice President and General Manager Richard Tremblay.
- United Steelworkers Staff Representatives Michelle Laurie and Earl Graham.
- Deloitte and Touche LLP Partner Neil Pogany.

Over the coming months...

Task force will:

- Work with industry, communities and First Nations.
- Provide recommendations around industry's geoscience needs – to strengthen mineral exploration.
- Review our competitiveness and approach to attracting investment.
- Identify best practices in mining jobsite health and safety.
- Evaluate skills training and development so British Columbians can enter and grow careers in mining.
- Find ways to address the boom and bust cycles of the industry – to sustain jobs.
- ...and more.

Conclusion

- Task force will submit a final report and recommendations to me on November 21.
- It's a big job, but I know each of the task force members is up to the challenge.
- Thank you.

END