

DATE	PRIORITY	TOPIC	TITLE	REFERENCE	PROPOSED FOLLOW-UP	LINK
20-Jul-17	Affordability	Income & Disability Assistance	Premier Horgan announces \$100 increase to income assistance and disability rates	Starting with the cheque that arrives on September 20, people on income assistance and people in disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0065-001330
08-Aug-17	Sustainable Economy	ELL and ABE	Premier Horgan removes roadblocks to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs	This budget update restores free English Language Learning and Adult Basic Education tuition with an immediate \$19 million commitment.	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0071-001404
22-Aug-17	Services	Gang Violence	BC delivers \$500,000 to eliminate anti-gang program waitlist	As part of a strategy to address ganag violence and make communities safer, the British Columbia government will invest \$500,000 from civil forfeiture grants into anti-gang programming for youth in Surrey		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PSSG0047-001469.htm
31-Aug-17	Services	Healthy Kids	\$6 million in additional funding for BC Healthy Kids Program	To help children from low-income families achieve good health outcomes, \$15 million over three years is provided for the Healthy Kids' Program.	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/Default.aspx?qp=&style=em&qt=ubcm&Submit.x=0&Submit.y=0
01-Sep-17	Affordability	Elimination of Tolls	Toll-Free B.C.: Premier Horgan eliminates bridge tolls	As of September this year, government has eliminated tolls on the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0075-001508

01-Sep-17	Services	Child and Youth in Care	Premier Horgan expands tuition waiver for former youth in care	This budget update reconfirms the \$312 million over three years to the Ministry of Children and Family Development for critical services and supports, including additional front-line staff and youth mental health workers...reducing the number of indigenous children in care	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0076-001509
05-Sep-17	Services	Crown Corporations	B.C. government to limit rate increases for drivers, while repairing ICBC	Crown corporations like ICBC and BC Hydro are facing serious structural issues		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AG0018-001534
11-Sep-17	Affordability	Reducing MSP Premiums	Building a better B.C. for everyone	Reducing medical services plan premiums by 50 per cent, starting January 1, 2018...individuals will save up to \$450 per year, and families up to \$900 per year	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
15-Sep-17	Affordability	Reducing Inequality	Wage increase for B.C.'s lowest-paid workers effective today	We are creating a fair wages commission as we move toward a \$15-an-hour minimum wage for British Columbia	1st follow-up done on Oct. 6, 2017, FWC named, terms of reference released. Early to Mid January, announce FWC initial report out.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0003-001586.htm

15-Sep-17	Affordability	Wages	Wage increases for BC's lowest-paid workers effective today	BC's lowest-paid workers will see an increase to their hourly wage by 50 cents, bringing their wage up to \$10.10 for those who serve liquor.		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0003-001586.htm
18-Sep-17	Services	Election	New government ends era of "big money" in politics	The Government of British Columbia has introduced legislation to put an end to big money in politics and put people back at the heart of government decision-making		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0084-001592.htm
19-Sep-17	Sustainable Economy	Increased Earnings Exemption	British Columbia improving supports for people on assistance	Increasing the earnings exemption by \$200 a month will allow people to work more, build experience, better support their families, and find a way toward sustainable employment	s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017SDPR0057-001597
28-Sep-17	Services	Law Enforcement	Independent expert appointed to review B.C. anti-money-laundering policy	\$32 million is added for law enforcement to help disrupt the drug chain, provide more naloxone training, and help protect police personnel from fentanyl exposure, as well as to address the pressures facing the B.C. Coroners Service as a result of this public health emergency	Adapting relevant articles/reports from the news media to share and contextualize on social media	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017AG0025-001642.htm

01-Dec-17	Services	Mental Health	Province escalates overdose emergency response to save lives, support people with addictions	The British Columbia government is launching a new Overdose Emergency Response Centre to combat the continuing crisis and spearhead urgent action to save lives.		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MH0008-002003.htm
01-Dec-17	Services	Violence against women	Province stepping up support for women and children affected by violence	Community organizations working to prevent and respond to violence against women and children will receive immediate one-time funding of \$5 million to help reduce waitlists and better meet demand for vital services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0129-002002.htm
07-Dec-12	Services	Education	Bamfield getting lightning-fast internet access	The Government of British Columbia is contributing \$100,000 to improve internet access to better connect the remote, island community of Bamfield to more business opportunities to improve service delivery in areas such as health care, education and emergency response.		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017CITZ0033-002025.htm
07-Dec-17	Services	Education	Premier announces new school and more classrooms for Surrey students	Nearly 1,000 students in Surrey's Grandview Heights area will enjoy brand-new classrooms in the near future. The Province will fund a new, \$24-million elementary school in Grandview Heights, along with a 300-seat, \$9-million addition at Pacific Heights Elementary school		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0132-002024.htm
20-Dec-17	Affordability	Housing	More than 1,000 modular homes now confirmed throughout BC	People experiencing homelessness in Penticton will soon have access to new supportive housing, with the Province and City of Penticton entering into a partnership to provide up to 52 units of modular housing		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0026-002088.htm

27-Dec-17	Affordability	Medical Services Plan	MSP premium cut starts Jan 1, 2018	Medical Services Plan premiums will be cut by 50% on Jan 1, 2018, marking an important step toward improving fairness for all British Columbians		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0039-002105
				OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS		
	Affordability			We'll be investing \$208 million over four years to support the construction of more than 1,700 new units of affordable rental housing in communities across the province.	Events in benefiting communities.	
	Affordability	Poverty Reduction Strategy		The budget update includes the initial funding needed to develop a comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy to include designing a basic income pilot project that will test its effectiveness in reducing poverty and improving health and employment outcomes	Oct. 23, announcement of advisory council - RFP awarded	
	Affordability	Child Care Plan		Moving forward with \$20 million in new child care investments that will increase our spending on early childhood development and child care to \$30 million this year and support more than 4,000 new child care spaces	Childcare consultation	

	Services	Education		We are confirming funding of \$681 million over three years to invest in children through smaller classes, more resources and the supports they need to succeed, including the hiring of approximately 3,500 teachers.	Jan 3-7, 2018 - how many new teachers hired and new classroom sizes	
	Services	Health Care		We're going to start in this fiscal update with a \$603 million increase over three years to the base budget for the Ministry of Health, with \$265 million of that going to address the fentanyl emergency, and the remainder going to address other pressures in the health system	s.13	
	Services	Mental Health		\$25 million to establish the new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions that will provide strategic leadership in developing a seamless, coordinated mental health and addictions system.	End of year interviews, MJD	
	Services	Therapeutics		We're also going to provide consistent funding to the Therapeutics Initiative, at \$2 million per year, to ensure the effectiveness of new drugs, better serve citizens and reduce costs to our health care system	s.13	
	Services	Seniors' Health		To help benefit our seniors, the Ministry of Health will receive \$189 million over three years through our B.C. -federal agreement to improve access to home and community care	s.13	

	Sustainable Economy	Infrastructure & Job Creation		\$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years. These investments will add critical infrastructure to our communities and create jobs in every corner of our province		
	Sustainable Economy	Emerging Economy Task Force		We're starting with the Innovation Commissioner and the Emerging Economy Task Force to look at how we can best support the success of the technology sector. The Innovation Commissioner will be both advocate and ambassador for B.C.'s tech sector	Check	
	Sustainable Economy	Corporate Income Tax		We will be following through with our commitment to raise the corporate income tax rate by 1 percentage point to an overall 12 per cent, comparable to manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.		
	Sustainable Economy	Carbon Tax		Additional climate action measures will come over the next months...we start this budget updates by following through on our commitment to increase the carbon tax by \$5 tonne, starting April 1, 2018.	s.13,s.17	
	Affordability	Residential Tenancy		An additional \$7 million over three years to the Residential Tenancy Branch to address existing backlogs and the wait times for landlord-tenant disputes	SCH event. Highlight at housing conference.	

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PRIORITY	TOPIC	TITLE	REFERENCE	DATE	LINK
Affordability	Income Assistance & Disability Rates	Premier Horgan announces \$100 increase to income assistance and disability rates	Starting with the cheque that arrives on September 20, people on income assistance and people in disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month	20-Jul-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0065-001330
Affordability	ELL and ABE	Premier Horgan removes roadblocks to Adult Basic Education and English Language Learning programs	"We're committed to making it easier for British Columbians to get ahead," said Premier John Horgan. "By eliminating these fees, we're tearing down the roadblocks to the basic education and skills people need to improve their lives.	08-Aug-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0071-001404
Affordability	Tuition Waiver	Premier Horgan expands tuition waiver for former youth in care	"We want youth in our care system to know we are looking out for them and that we believe in their potential. That's why we are expanding access to post-secondary education for youth aging out of care so they can thrive, not just survive," said Premier Horgan.	01-Sep-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0076-001509
Affordability	Elimination of Tolls	Toll-Free B.C.: Premier Horgan eliminates bridge tolls	As of September 1, it's free to cross the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges	01-Sep-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0075-001508
Affordability	ICBC Rates	BC government to limit rate increases for drivers, while repairing ICBC	The British Columbia government is limiting ICBC rate increases for drivers, while embarking on a multi-year plan to fix the public insurer's financial crisis.	05-Sep-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AG0018-001534
Affordability	Increased Earnings Exemptions	British Columbia improving supports for people on assistance	Beginning Oct. 1, 2017, people on income assistance will be able to earn an additional \$200 a month without any impact on their payment. For those on disability assistance, the annual earnings exemption will increase by \$2,400 a year.	19-Sep-17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017SDPR0057-001597

Affordability	Disability Assistance Supplement	Annual bus pass available through new disability-assistance supplement	Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, annual bus passes will be available to people on disability assistance through a new transportation supplement.	02-Oct-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017SDPR0060-001661.htm
Affordability	BC Hydro	Province delivers on commitment to freeze BC Hydro rates	The British Columbia government is delivering on its promise to freeze BC Hydro rates, putting an end to the years of spiralling electricity costs that have made life less affordable for BC homeowners and renters.	08-Nov-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EMPR0021-001875.htm
Affordability	Child Care Spaces	New child care spaces will help families around BC	Families in 52 communities throughout British Columbia will benefit from 103 projects that will create more than 3,800 child-care spaces. This \$33-million investment is focusing on areas of greatest need, including infant and toddler spaces; spaces on school grounds or co-located in a community hub; inclusive spaces in child-development centres; Indigenous child-care spaces; and employer-based spaces.	04-Dec-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017CFD0023-002011.htm
Affordability	Rent Loophole	Province protects renters from geographic rent increases	The Government of British Columbia is beefing up protection for renters by closing a loophole that some landlords used to seek inflated and unfair increases in hot rental markets.	09-Dec-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0021-002036.htm
Affordability	Modular Homes	More than 1,000 modular homes now confirmed throughout BC	More than 1,000 units are now confirmed in communities throughout British Columbia. This drives the program past the halfway mark of the Province's goal to build 2,000 modular homes over two years in B.C. by working in partnership with interested communities.	20-Dec-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0026-002088.htm

Affordability

Reducing MSP Premiums	Medical Services Plan premium cut starts Jan 1, 2018	MSP premiums are unfair and place a significant burden on British Columbians," James said. "I'm proud that we are moving away from these regressive fees and creating a more equitable system by eliminating MSP premiums entirely within four years.	27-Dec-17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FIN0039-002105.htm

Affordability

Affordability

Economy

Economy

Economy

Economy

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Economy

Services

Services

**FUTURE
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRIORITY	TOPIC	TITLE	REFERENCE	TENTATIV	STATUS
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DATE	PRIORITY	TOPIC	REFERENCE	SOURCE TYPE	NOTES	LINK
20-Jul-17	Affordability	Increase in Income Assistance & Disability rates	Starting with the cheque that arrives on September 20, people on income assistance and people in disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0065-001330
04-Aug-17	Services	Human Rights Commission re-established	British Columbia will re-establish a human rights commission to fight inequality and discrimination in all its forms. The previous commission was dismantled in 2002 in favour of a complaint-driven tribunal.	News release	PS Ravi Kahlon to lead public consultations and make recommendations	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0069-001392
08-Aug-17	Affordability	Removing tuition on ELL/ABE	"We're committed to making it easier for British Columbians to get ahead," said Premier John Horgan. "By eliminating these fees, we're tearing down the roadblocks to the basic education and skills people need to improve their lives."	News release	Higher enrollment in language schools since announcement	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0071-001404
22-Aug-17	Services	Elimination of anti-gang waitlist	As part of a strategy to address gang violence and make communities safer, the British Columbia government will invest \$500,000 from civil forfeiture grants into anti-gang programming for youth in Surrey	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PSSG0047-001469
22-Aug-17	Economy	Increased access to trades training	The Province is supporting increased access to trades training with 562 additional seats at 13 public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that offer foundation and apprenticeship programs.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AEST0051-001465

31-Aug-17	Services	BC Healthy Kids Program	On Friday, Sept. 1, 2017, the Province will increase funding by \$6 million annually for the BC Healthy Kids Program, bringing the current investment in the program to almost \$30 million a year.	Information bulletin		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017SDPR0054-001502.htm
01-Sep-17	Affordability	Tuition waiver for former Youth in Care	"We want youth in our care system to know we are looking out for them and that we believe in their potential. That's why we are expanding access to post-secondary education for youth aging out of care so they can thrive, not just survive," said Premier Horgan.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0076-001509
01-Sep-17	Affordability	Elimination of bridge tolls	As of September 1, it is free to cross the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges. We're putting money back into the pockets of commuters and families. It's about fairness and keeping our commitments.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0075-001508
07-Sep-17	Services	Making reconciliation a priority	The Co-Chairs of the Aboriginal Justice Council, Attorney General and Minister for Public Safety and Solicitor General have signed a B.C. Indigenous Justice Strategy Memorandum of Understanding at the B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leaders' Gathering	News release	On-going commitment to implement the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AG0020-001548
11-Sep-17	Services	K-12 Education Funding	A \$681-million increase for B.C.'s kindergarten-to-Grade 12 education system over three years, including \$521 million to improve classroom supports for children for up to 3,500 new teaching positions, \$160 million for enrolment growth and other pressures	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

11-Sep-17	Services	Health Care	Health care is another area where we're going to begin to make the kinds of changes that people have been waiting for. We're going to start, in this fiscal update, with a \$603 million increase over three years to the base budget for the Ministry of Health, with \$265 million of that going to address the fentanyl emergency and the remainder addressing other pressures in the health care system.	Presentation of estimates		https://www.leg.bc.ca/documents-data/debate-transcripts/41st-parliament/2nd-session/20170911pm-Hansard-n12#12B:1440
11-Sep-17	Economy	Capital Investments	We're funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildfire habitat restoration.	Presentation of estimates		https://www.leg.bc.ca/documents-data/debate-transcripts/41st-parliament/2nd-session/20170911pm-Hansard-n12#12B:1440
16-Oct-17	Services	Developing a made in BC solution for ride sharing	The Government of British Columbia has hired industry expert Dan Hara to consult with and help prepare the taxi industry for a made-in-B.C. solution to ride-sharing that will allow people to get around more easily	News release	On-going consultations with stakeholders	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TRAN0260-001759
11-Sep-17	Services	Fentanyl	\$322 million to provide an immediate and evidence-based response to the fentanyl emergency with prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery efforts, improved data collection and analysis, along with a new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and increased law enforcement to disrupt the supply chain	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

11-Sep-17	Services	Seniors' Health	A new investment of \$189 million over three years through a federal-B.C. agreement that helps seniors with improved home and residential care	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	UBC Therapeutics Initiative	The restoration of the UBC Therapeutics Initiative providing funding of \$2 million annually for the program, benefiting citizens with evidence based information on proposed prescription drugs, while saving health-care system costs	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	Residential Tenancy	\$7 million over three years in new funding for the Residential Tenancy Branch to ensure renters are treated fairly in this province and that the rights and responsibilities of both renters and landlords are clearly understood	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	Emerging Economy	The establishment of an innovation commissioner, emerging economy task force and the fair wages commission	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Economy	Carbon Tax	The Province will act to reduce carbon emissions by increasing the carbon tax rate on April 1, 2018, by \$5 per tonne of CO2 equivalent emissions, while increasing the climate action tax credit to support low and middle-income families.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

11-Sep-17	Economy	Infrastructure & Job Creation	\$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years. These investments will add critical infrastructure to our communities and create jobs in every corner of our province	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
15-Sep-17	Services	Province to work with communities on wildfire recovery	Even as firefighters continue to battle blazes throughout the province, the British Columbia government is already implementing a long-term plan to recover from this year's unprecedented wildfire activity and support affected British Columbians.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0291-001587
15-Sep-17	Economy	Wage increase for BC's lowest paid workers	B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will see an increase to their hourly wage by 50 cents, bringing their wage up to \$11.35 an hour and up to \$10.10 for those who serve liquor. Increasing the minimum wage is one way our government will help make life more affordable for hard-working British Columbians.	Statement		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0003-001586.htm
18-Sep-17	Services	Ending the era of "big money" in politics	The Government of British Columbia has introduced legislation to put an end to big money in politics and put people back at the heart of government decision-making.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0084-001592
19-Sep-17	Affordability	Increased earnings exemptions for people on disability assistance	Beginning Oct. 1, 2017, people on income assistance will be able to earn an additional \$200 a month without any impact on their payment. For those on disability assistance, the annual earnings exemption will increase by \$2,400 a year.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017SDPR0057-001597

21-Sep-17	Services	Literacy- \$500,000 to support readers	Children and families throughout B.C. will continue to benefit from innovative literacy programs in their community thanks to a provincial investment of \$500,000 to support this year's Raise-a-Reader campaign.	News release		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EDUC0100-001608.htm
21-Sep-17	Economy	Supporting credit unions' contributions to small businesses	To make commercial lending more viable for credit unions, Finance Minister Carole James has announced a reduction in the amount of capital a British Columbia-incorporated credit union must hold in relation to commercial loans and leases.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0025-001605
29-Sep-17	Services	Wildfire infrastructure	We are funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildfire habitat restoration.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm
29-Sep-17	Services	Fentanyl crisis	We're making a \$290 million investment toward the health ministry and the establishment of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and another \$32 million to help law enforcement and coroners respond to the emergency, for a total investment of \$322 million over three years to help address this crisis	News release	There's an associated video on social media by Min Judy Darcy.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm
29-Sep-17	Affordability	Modular Housing	People will soon have access to safe, affordable housing thanks to a province-wide program to help municipalities tackle homelessness. The program will provide hundreds of new modular housing units in communities	News release	Regional Media Events: Details about Surrey, s.13 and Smithers units when they become available.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0090-001649.htm

29-Sep-17	Services	Action on overdose prevention	The British Columbia government is launching a community crisis fund and scaling up rapid access to addiction treatment as part of a provincewide plan to stem the overdose emergency and help save lives	News release	New funding provided for support services in 2017. s.13, s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0089-001647
30-Sep-17	Services	Indigenous families, communities to benefit from investment	All B.C. First Nations, as well as Métis-serving agencies, will share \$6.4 million to help keep Indigenous families together and improve outcomes for children and youth.	News release	The funding is part of on-going preservation services	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017CFD0013-001654
11-Oct-17	Services	Seismic upgrade for schools	Hundreds of children in Vancouver will be learning in new, seismically safe schools, with the replacement of Sir Matthew Begbie and Bayview elementary schools	News release	On-going seismic upgrade projects in schools across BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0097-001714.htm
12-Oct-17	Economy	Project development grants to boost rural economies	The British Columbia government is distributing over \$528,000 in project development grants to help rural communities develop strong, stable economies and create long-term local employment	News release with backgrounder	Project grant has been successful in Kootenay, Quesnel and Comox Valley	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0328-001732
12-Oct-17	Economy	Investment in resort communities	The Province is investing a total of \$10.5 million for tourism infrastructure projects and programs in 14 resort communities. This funding includes the extension of the Resort Municipality Initiative program, from Dec. 31, 2017, to March 31, 2018.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TAC0084-001724

13-Oct-17	Economy	First Nations skills training	British Columbia is providing \$300,000 to the Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association (PGNAETA) to train up to 44 participants, from Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and McLeod Lake Indian Band, in driver education and foundational trades-training programs.	News release	The funding is part of a 3-year project to support Indigenous skills training	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017IRR0044-001730
02-Nov-17	Economy	Fighting for BC forestry jobs	We will continue to fight for the 60,000 British Columbians who depend on forestry. The reduction in rates by the U.S. Department of Commerce further indicates the strength of our appeal case and strengthens our resolve to fight for B.C.	News release with backgrounder	On-going negotiations with the US Department of Commerce	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0109-001851.htm
08-Nov-17	Affordability	Freeze on BC Hydro rates	The British Columbia government is delivering on its promise to freeze BC Hydro rates, putting an end to the years of spiralling electricity costs that have made life less affordable for BC homeowners and renters.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EMPR0021-001875.htm
09-Nov-17	Economy	Small business tax rate	Small-business owners in British Columbia will benefit from a cut to the small-business corporate income tax rate from 2.5% to 2%, retroactive to April 1, 2017. The tax cut is part of the Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2017, which passed on Nov. 2, 2017. The reduction makes B.C.'s small-business corporate income tax rate the second lowest in Canada.	News release	Small business task force to be created to provide recommendations on strengthening the small business sector	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017JTT0152-001884.htm

01-Dec-17	Services	Showing support to stop violence against women	Community organizations working to prevent and respond to violence against women and children will receive immediate one-time funding of \$5 million to help reduce waitlists and better meet demand for vital services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support.	News release	Increasing annual funding to support women who experience domestic violence, sexual assault	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0129-002002.htm
09-Dec-17	Affordability	Protecting renters from geographic rent increases	The Government of British Columbia is beefing up protection for renters by closing a loophole that some landlords used to seek inflated and unfair increases in hot rental markets.	News release	This follows a closed loophole in fixed-term leases to improve the rights of renters in BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0021-002036.htm
18-Dec-17	Services	BC government ends grizzly bear hunt	Through consultations this past fall, we have listened to what British Columbians have to say on this issue and it is abundantly clear that the grizzly hunt is not in line with their values.	News release	There was a consultation initiated with First Nations and other stakeholder groups	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0372-002065.htm
20-Dec-17	Affordability	More than 1,000 modular homes now confirmed throughout BC	People experiencing homelessness in Penticton will soon have access to new supportive housing, with the Province and City of Penticton entering into a partnership to provide up to 52 units of modular housing.	News release	On-going interactions with local government and community partners on homelessness action plan	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0026-002088.htm
27-Dec-17	Affordability	Reducing MSP Premiums	Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums will be cut by 50% on Jan. 1, 2018, marking an important step toward improving fairness for all British Columbians.	News release	The MSP task force is to make recommendations on replacing the MSP revenue	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FIN0039-002105.htm

18-Jan-18	Services	Faster internet for communities in coastal BC	Through a combined investment of \$45.4 million, the Government of Canada, in partnership with the Government of British Columbia, is bringing new or improved high-speed internet to 154 rural and remote communities, enabling residents to get online. Of these 154 communities, 44 First Nations will benefit.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018CITZ0001-000062.htm
18-Jan-18	Services	Community organizations get funding to challenge racism	People throughout British Columbia will be better equipped to challenge racism, hate and discrimination in their communities as a result of funding to 32 community organizations.	News release	s.13,s.17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018TAC0002-000063.htm
23-Jan-18	Economy	BC gets an "A" for improved services and regulations	The many service improvements and streamlining measures that the British Columbia government has made to save people time, hassle and unnecessary costs, have earned the province an 'A' grade from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.	News release	The rating is a result of the province's commitment to limit regulations, make regulatory changes and service improvements	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018JTT0003-000081.htm

DATE	PRIORITY	TOPIC	REFERENCE	SOURCE TYPE	NOTES	LINK
19-Jul-17	Services	Premier pledges support for people and communities affected by BC wildfires	The wildfires in the BC Interior have forced tens of thousands of people out of their homes and thousands more are fighting the fires. The Province extended the state of emergency in BC Interior to ensure a coordinated response to the wildfires.	News release	There are several grants and funding for communities affected by wildfires. There is a task force for wildfire preparedness	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0062-001324.htm
20-Jul-17	Affordability	Increase in Income Assistance & Disability rates	Starting with the cheque that arrives on September 20, people on income assistance and people in disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0065-001330
24-Jul-17	Services	Premier Horgan stands up for BC's interests in Ottawa and Washington	Premier John Horgan will stand up for B.C.'s interests in Ottawa, as he meets with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to discuss the wildfire state of emergency, softwood lumber and the opioid crisis.	News release		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0066-001339.htm
26-Jul-17	Services	Softwood lumber	He will also travel to Washington, D.C., to fight for B.C. jobs in the softwood lumber dispute.	Speaking notes	Premier is working to ensure a fair hearing on a finding of "material injury" on softwood lumber exports to the US	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0066-001339.htm

04-Aug-17	Services	Human Rights Commission re-established	British Columbia will re-establish a human rights commission to fight inequality and discrimination in all its forms. The previous commission was dismantled in 2002 in favour of a complaint-driven tribunal.	News release	PS Ravi Kahlon to lead public consultations and make recommendations	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0069-001392
08-Aug-17	Affordability	Removing tuition on ELL/ABE	"We're committed to making it easier for British Columbians to get ahead," said Premier John Horgan. "By eliminating these fees, we're tearing down the roadblocks to the basic education and skills people need to improve their lives."	News release	Higher enrollment in language schools since announcement	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0071-001404
22-Aug-17	Services	Elimination of anti-gang waitlist	As part of a strategy to address gang violence and make communities safer, the British Columbia government will invest \$500,000 from civil forfeiture grants into anti-gang programming for youth in Surrey	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PSSG0047-001469
22-Aug-17	Economy	Increased access to trades training	The Province is supporting increased access to trades training with 562 additional seats at 13 public post-secondary institutions throughout British Columbia that offer foundation and apprenticeship programs.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AEST0051-001465
31-Aug-17	Services	BC Healthy Kids Program	On Friday, Sept. 1, 2017, the Province will increase funding by \$6 million annually for the BC Healthy Kids Program, bringing the current investment in the program to almost \$30 million a year.	Information bulletin		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017SDPR0054-001502.htm

1-Sep-17	Affordability	Tuition waiver for former Youth in Care	“We want youth in our care system to know we are looking out for them and that we believe in their potential. That’s why we are expanding access to post-secondary education for youth aging out of care so they can thrive, not just survive,” said Premier Horgan.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0076-001509
01-Sep-17	Affordability	Elimination of bridge tolls	As of September 1, it is free to cross the Port Mann and Golden Ears bridges. We’re putting money back into the pockets of commuters and families. It’s about fairness and keeping our commitments.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0075-001508
07-Sep-17	Services	Making reconciliation a priority	The Co-Chairs of the Aboriginal Justice Council, Attorney General and Minister for Public Safety and Solicitor General have signed a B.C. Indigenous Justice Strategy Memorandum of Understanding at the B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leaders’ Gathering	News release	On-going commitment to implement the recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017AG0020-001548
11-Sep-17	Services	K-12 Education Funding	A \$681-million increase for B.C.’s kindergarten-to-Grade 12 education system over three years, including \$521 million to improve classroom supports for children for up to 3,500 new teaching positions, \$160 million for enrolment growth and	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

11-Sep-17	Services	Health Care	Health care is another area where we're going to begin to make the kinds of changes that people have been waiting for. We're going to start, in this fiscal update, with a \$603 million increase over three years to the base budget for the Ministry of Health, with \$265 million of that going to address the fentanyl emergency and the remainder addressing other pressures in the health care system.	Presentation of estimates		https://www.leg.bc.ca/documents-data/debate-transcripts/41st-parliament/2nd-session/20170911pm-Hansard-n12#12B:1440
11-Sep-17	Economy	Capital Investments	We're funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildfire habitat restoration.	Presentation of estimates		https://www.leg.bc.ca/documents-data/debate-transcripts/41st-parliament/2nd-session/20170911pm-Hansard-n12#12B:1440
16-Oct-17	Services	Developing a made in BC solution for ride sharing	The Government of British Columbia has hired industry expert Dan Hara to consult with and help prepare the taxi industry for a made-in-B.C. solution to ride-sharing that will allow people to get around more easily	News release	On-going consultations with stakeholders	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TRAN0260-001759

11-Sep-17	Services	Fentanyl	\$322 million to provide an immediate and evidence-based response to the fentanyl emergency with prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery efforts, improved data collection and analysis, along with a new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and increased law enforcement to disrupt the supply chain	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	Seniors' Health	A new investment of \$189 million over three years through a federal-B.C. agreement that helps seniors with improved home and residential care	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	UBC Therapeutics Initiative	The restoration of the UBC Therapeutics Initiative providing funding of \$2 million annually for the program, benefiting citizens with evidence based information on proposed prescription drugs, while saving health-care system costs	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Services	Residential Tenancy	\$7 million over three years in new funding for the Residential Tenancy Branch to ensure renters are treated fairly in this province and that the rights and responsibilities of both renters and landlords are clearly understood	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

11-Sep-17	Services	Emerging Economy	The establishment of an innovation commissioner, emerging economy task force and the fair wages commission	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Economy	Carbon Tax	The Province will act to reduce carbon emissions by increasing the carbon tax rate on April 1, 2018, by \$5 per tonne of CO2 equivalent emissions, while increasing the climate action tax credit to support low and middle-income families.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Economy	Infrastructure & Job Creation	\$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years. These investments will add critical infrastructure to our communities and create jobs in every corner of our province	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
15-Sep-17	Services	Province to work with communities on wildfire recovery	Even as firefighters continue to battle blazes throughout the province, the British Columbia government is already implementing a long-term plan to recover from this year's unprecedented wildfire activity and support affected British Columbians.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0291-001587
15-Sep-17	Economy	Wage increase for BC's lowest paid workers	B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will see an increase to their hourly wage by 50 cents, bringing their wage up to \$11.35 an hour and up to \$10.10 for those who serve liquor. Increasing the minimum wage is one way our government will help make life more affordable for hard-working British Columbians.	Statement		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0003-001586.htm

18-Sep-17	Services	Ending the era of "big money" in politics	The Government of British Columbia has introduced legislation to put an end to big money in politics and put people back at the heart of government decision-making.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0084-001592
19-Sep-17	Affordability	Increased earnings exemptions for people on disability assistance	Beginning Oct. 1, 2017, people on income assistance will be able to earn an additional \$200 a month without any impact on their payment. For those on disability assistance, the annual earnings exemption will increase by \$2,400 a year.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017SDPR0057-001597
21-Sep-17	Services	Literacy- \$500,000 to support readers	Children and families throughout B.C. will continue to benefit from innovative literacy programs in their community thanks to a provincial investment of \$500,000 to support this year's Raise-a-Reader campaign.	News release		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EDUC0100-001608.htm
21-Sep-17	Economy	Supporting credit unions' contributions to small businesses	To make commercial lending more viable for credit unions, Finance Minister Carole James has announced a reduction in the amount of capital a British Columbia-incorporated credit union must hold in relation to commercial loans and leases.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0025-001605

29-Sep-17	Services	Wildfire infrastructure	We are funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildfire habitat restoration.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm
29-Sep-17	Services	Fentanyl crisis	We're making a \$290 million investment toward the health ministry and the establishment of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and another \$32 million to help law enforcement and coroners respond to the emergency, for a total investment of \$322 million over three years to help address this crisis	News release	There's an associated video on social media by Min Judy Darcy.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm
29-Sep-17	Affordability	Modular Housing	People will soon have access to safe, affordable housing thanks to a province-wide program to help municipalities tackle homelessness. The program will provide hundreds of new modular housing units in communities	News release	Regional Media Events: Details about Surrey, s.13 and Smithers units when they become available.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0090-001649.htm
29-Sep-17	Services	Action on overdose prevention	The British Columbia government is launching a community crisis fund and scaling up rapid access to addiction treatment as part of a provincewide plan to stem the overdose emergency and help save lives	News release	New funding provided for support services in 2017. s.13	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0089-001647

30-Sep-17	Services	Indigenous families, communities to benefit from investment	All B.C. First Nations, as well as Métis-serving agencies, will share \$6.4 million to help keep Indigenous families together and improve outcomes for children and youth.	News release	The funding is part of on-going preservation services	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017CFD0013-001654
11-Oct-17	Services	Seismic upgrade for schools	Hundreds of children in Vancouver will be learning in new, seismically safe schools, with the replacement of Sir Matthew Begbie and Bayview elementary schools	News release	On-going seismic upgrade projects in schools across BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0097-001714.htm
12-Oct-17	Economy	Project development grants to boost rural economies	The British Columbia government is distributing over \$528,000 in project development grants to help rural communities develop strong, stable economies and create long-term local employment	News release with backgrounder	Project grant has been successful in Kootenay, Quesnel and Comox Valley	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0328-001732
12-Oct-17	Economy	Investment in resort communities	The Province is investing a total of \$10.5 million for tourism infrastructure projects and programs in 14 resort communities. This funding includes the extension of the Resort Municipality Initiative program, from Dec. 31, 2017, to March 31, 2018.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TAC0084-001724
13-Oct-17	Economy	First Nations skills training	British Columbia is providing \$300,000 to the Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association (PGNAETA) to train up to 44 participants, from Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and McLeod Lake Indian Band, in driver education and foundational trades-training programs.	News release	The funding is part of a 3-year project to support Indigenous skills training	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017IRR0044-001730

02-Nov-17	Services	Softwood lumber duties	Premier John Horgan re-affirmed his commitment today to stand-up for British Columbia workers, families and communities in light of the latest development in the softwood lumber dispute.	News release	Premier is seeking a fair hearing on the finding of "material injury" on Canadian softwood lumber exports to the US	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0109-001851.htm
02-Nov-17	Economy	Fighting for BC forestry jobs	We will continue to fight for the 60,000 British Columbians who depend on forestry. The reduction in rates by the U.S. Department of Commerce further indicates the strength of our appeal case and strengthens our resolve to fight for B.C.	News release with backgrounder	On-going negotiations with the US Department of Commerce	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0109-001851.htm
08-Nov-17	Affordability	Freeze on BC Hydro rates	The British Columbia government is delivering on its promise to freeze BC Hydro rates, putting an end to the years of spiralling electricity costs that have made life less affordable for BC homeowners and renters.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EMPR0021-001875.htm
09-Nov-17	Economy	Small business tax rate	Small-business owners in British Columbia will benefit from a cut to the small-business corporate income tax rate from 2.5% to 2%, retroactive to April 1, 2017. The tax cut is part of the Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2017, which passed on Nov. 2, 2017. The reduction makes B.C.'s small-business corporate income tax rate the second lowest in Canada.	News release	Small business task force to be created to provide recommendations on strengthening the small business sector	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017JTT0152-001884.htm

01-Dec-17	Services	Showing support to stop violence against women	Community organizations working to prevent and respond to violence against women and children will receive immediate one-time funding of \$5 million to help reduce waitlists and better meet demand for vital services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support.	News release	Increasing annual funding to support women who experience domestic violence, sexual assault	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0129-002002.htm
09-Dec-17	Affordability	Protecting renters from geographic rent increases	The Government of British Columbia is beefing up protection for renters by closing a loophole that some landlords used to seek inflated and unfair increases in hot rental markets.	News release	This follows a closed loophole in fixed-term leases to improve the rights of renters in BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0021-002036.htm
18-Dec-17	Services	BC government ends grizzly bear hunt	Through consultations this past fall, we have listened to what British Columbians have to say on this issue and it is abundantly clear that the grizzly hunt is not in line with their values.	News release	There was a consultation initiated with First Nations and other stakeholder groups	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0372-002065.htm
20-Dec-17	Affordability	More than 1,000 modular homes now confirmed throughout BC	People experiencing homelessness in Penticton will soon have access to new supportive housing, with the Province and City of Penticton entering into a partnership to provide up to 52 units of modular housing.	News release	On-going interactions with local government and community partners on homelessness action plan	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0026-002088.htm
27-Dec-17	Affordability	Reducing MSP Premiums	Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums will be cut by 50% on Jan. 1, 2018, marking an important step toward improving fairness for all British Columbians.	News release	The MSP task force is to make recommendations on replacing the MSP revenue	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FIN0039-002105.htm

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18-Jan-18	Services	Community organizations get funding to challenge racism	People throughout British Columbia will be better equipped to challenge racism, hate and discrimination in their communities as a result of funding to 32 community organizations.	News release	s.13,s.17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018TAC0002-000063.htm
23-Jan-18	Economy	BC gets an "A" for improved services and regulations	The many service improvements and streamlining measures that the British Columbia government has made to save people time, hassle and unnecessary costs, have earned the province an 'A' grade from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.	News release	The rating is a result of the province's commitment to limit regulations, make regulatory changes and service improvements	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018JTT0003-000081.htm

Rural dividend grant

https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0346-001794.htm

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20-Jul-17	Affordability	Increase in Income Assistance & Disability rates	Starting with the cheque that arrives on September 20, people on income assistance and people in disability assistance will receive an additional \$100 a month	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0065-001330
24-Jul-17	Services	Premier Horgan stands up for BC's interests in Ottawa and Washington	Premier John Horgan will stand up for B.C.'s interests in Ottawa, as he meets with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to discuss the wildfire state of emergency, softwood lumber and the opioid crisis.	News release		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0066-001339.htm
26-Jul-17	Services	Softwood lumber	He will also travel to Washington, D.C., to fight for B.C. jobs in the softwood lumber dispute.	Speaking notes	Premier is working to ensure a fair hearing on a finding of "material injury" on softwood lumber exports to the US	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0066-001339.htm

03-Aug-17	Services	Wildfire committee	BC Cabinet Task Force and Federal Government Ad-Hoc Committee set up on wildfire contingencies	Social media/Corp cal		https://hub.gcpe.gov.bc.ca/Legacy/Calendar/Activity.aspx?ActivityId=81660
04-Aug-17	Services	Human Rights Commission re-established	British Columbia will re-establish a human rights commission to fight inequality and discrimination in all its forms. The previous commission was dismantled in 2002 in favour of a complaint-driven tribunal.	News release	PS Ravi Kahlon to lead public consultations and make recommendations	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0069-001392
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15-Aug-17	Services	Grizzly bear trophy hunt	We're taking the first steps towards ending the grizzly bear trophy hunt in BC by beginning consultations with First Nations and stakeholder groups.	News release	Follow-up effective Nov 30, after consultations with First Nations and stakeholder groups. See... Dec 8 Regs consultation	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0232-001442.htm
15-Aug-17	Economy	Fair Wages Commission	The provincial government is making its first move toward a \$15-an-hour minimum wage for British Columbia by announcing a 50-cent increase for September and renewing its commitment to a fair wages commission.	Social media	Commission starts consultation with public and stakeholders on pathway to \$15-an-hour minimum wage	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0001-001443.htm

22-Aug-17	Services	Elimination of anti-gang waitlist	As part of a strategy to address gang violence and make communities safer, the British Columbia government will invest \$500,000 from civil forfeiture grants into anti-gang programming for youth in Surrey	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PSSG0047-001469
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31-Aug-17	Services	BC Healthy Kids Program	The Province will increase funding by \$6 million annually for the BC Healthy Kids Program, bringing the current investment in the program to almost \$30 million a year.	Information bulletin	Took effect Sept 1, 2017 as part of the previous March 22, 2017 announcements of \$24million to help low-income earners	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017SDPR0054-001502.htm
01-Sep-17	Affordability	Tuition waiver for former Youth in Care	"We want youth in our care system to know we are looking out for them and that we believe in their potential. That's why we are expanding access to post-secondary education for youth aging out of care so they can thrive, not just survive," said Premier Horgan.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0076-001509

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11-Sep-17	Services	Emerging Economy	The establishment of an innovation commissioner, emerging economy task force and the fair wages commission	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Economy	Carbon Tax	The Province will act to reduce carbon emissions by increasing the carbon tax rate on April 1, 2018, by \$5 per tonne of CO2 equivalent emissions, while increasing the climate action tax credit to support low and middle-income families.	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557
11-Sep-17	Economy	Infrastructure & Job Creation	\$14.6 billion in capital spending over three years. These investments will add critical infrastructure to our communities and create jobs in every corner of our province	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0024-001557

15-Sep-17	Services	Province to work with communities on wildfire recovery	Even as firefighters continue to battle blazes throughout the province, the British Columbia government is already implementing a long-term plan to recover from this year's unprecedented wildfire activity and support affected British Columbians.	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0291-001587
15-Sep-17	Economy	Wage increase for BC's lowest paid workers	B.C.'s lowest-paid workers will see an increase to their hourly wage by 50 cents, bringing their wage up to \$11.35 an hour and up to \$10.10 for those who serve liquor. Increasing the minimum wage is one way our government will help make life more affordable for hard-working British Columbians.	Statement	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017LBR0003-001586.htm
18-Sep-17	Services	Ending the era of "big money" in politics	The Government of British Columbia has introduced legislation to put an end to big money in politics and put people back at the heart of government decision-making.	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0084-001592
19-Sep-17	Affordability	Increased earnings exemptions for people on disability assistance	Beginning Oct. 1, 2017, people on income assistance will be able to earn an additional \$200 a month without any impact on their payment. For those on disability assistance, the annual earnings exemption will increase by \$2,400 a year.	News release	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017SDPR0057-001597

21-Sep-17	Services	Literacy- \$500,000 to support readers	Children and families throughout B.C. will continue to benefit from innovative literacy programs in their community thanks to a provincial investment of \$500,000 to support this year's Raise-a-Reader campaign.	News release		https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EDUC0100-001608.htm
21-Sep-17	Economy	Supporting credit unions' contributions to small businesses	To make commercial lending more viable for credit unions, Finance Minister Carole James has announced a reduction in the amount of capital a British Columbia-incorporated credit union must hold in relation to commercial loans and leases.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FIN0025-001605
29-Sep-17	Services	Wildfire infrastructure	We are funding capital investments of \$15 million over three years to upgrade wildfire infrastructure, including buildings, trailers and air tanker bases. We're also providing \$140 million for projects focused on wildfire risk reduction, reforestation and wildfire habitat restoration.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm
29-Sep-17	Services	Fentanyl crisis	We're making a \$290 million investment toward the health ministry and the establishment of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and another \$32 million to help law enforcement and coroners respond to the emergency, for a total investment of \$322 million over three years to help address this crisis	News release	There's an associated video on social media by Min Judy Darcy.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0088-001646.htm

29-Sep-17	Affordability	Modular Housing	People will soon have access to safe, affordable housing thanks to a province-wide program to help municipalities tackle homelessness. The program will provide hundreds of new modular housing units in communities	News release	Regional Media Events: Details about Surrey, s.13 and Smithers units when they become available.	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0090-001649.htm
29-Sep-17	Services	Action on overdose prevention	The British Columbia government is launching a community crisis fund and scaling up rapid access to addiction treatment as part of a provincewide plan to stem the overdose emergency and help save lives	News release	New funding provided for support services in 2017 s.13, s.13,s.17	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017PREM0089-001647
30-Sep-17	Services	Indigenous families, communities to benefit from investment	All B.C. First Nations, as well as Métis-serving agencies, will share \$6.4 million to help keep Indigenous families together and improve outcomes for children and youth.	News release	The funding is part of on-going preservation services	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017CFD0013-001654
11-Oct-17	Services	Seismic upgrade for schools	Hundreds of children in Vancouver will be learning in new, seismically safe schools, with the replacement of Sir Matthew Begbie and Bayview elementary schools	News release	On-going seismic upgrade projects in schools across BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0097-001714.htm
12-Oct-17	Economy	Project development grants to boost rural economies	The British Columbia government is distributing over \$528,000 in project development grants to help rural communities develop strong, stable economies and create long-term local employment	News release with backgrounder	Project grant has been successful in Kootenay, Quesnel and Comox Valley	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0328-001732

12-Oct-17	Economy	Investment in resort communities	The Province is investing a total of \$10.5 million for tourism infrastructure projects and programs in 14 resort communities. This funding includes the extension of the Resort Municipality Initiative program, from Dec. 31, 2017, to March 31, 2018.	News release		https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017TAC0084-001724
13-Oct-17	Economy	First Nations skills training	British Columbia is providing \$300,000 to the Prince George Nechako Aboriginal Employment and Training Association (PGNAETA) to train up to 44 participants, from Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and McLeod Lake Indian Band, in driver education and foundational trades-training programs.	News release	The funding is part of a 3-year project to support Indigenous skills training	https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017IRR0044-001730
02-Nov-17	Services	Softwood lumber duties	Premier John Horgan re-affirmed his commitment today to stand-up for British Columbia workers, families and communities in light of the latest development in the softwood lumber dispute.	News release	Premier is seeking a fair hearing on the finding of "material injury" on Canadian softwood lumber exports to the US	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0109-001851.htm
02-Nov-17	Economy	Fighting for BC forestry jobs	We will continue to fight for the 60,000 British Columbians who depend on forestry. The reduction in rates by the U.S. Department of Commerce further indicates the strength of our appeal case and strengthens our resolve to fight for B.C.	News release with backgrounder	On-going negotiations with the US Department of Commerce	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0109-001851.htm

08-Nov-17	Affordability	Freeze on BC Hydro rates	The British Columbia government is delivering on its promise to freeze BC Hydro rates, putting an end to the years of spiralling electricity costs that have made life less affordable for BC homeowners and renters.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017EMP0021-001875.htm
09-Nov-17	Economy	Small business tax rate	Small-business owners in British Columbia will benefit from a cut to the small-business corporate income tax rate from 2.5% to 2%, retroactive to April 1, 2017. The tax cut is part of the Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2017, which passed on Nov. 2, 2017. The reduction makes B.C.'s small-business corporate income tax rate the second lowest in Canada.	News release	Small business task force to be created to provide recommendations on strengthening the small business sector	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017JTT0152-001884.htm
01-Dec-17	Services	Showing support to stop violence against women	Community organizations working to prevent and respond to violence against women and children will receive immediate one-time funding of \$5 million to help reduce waitlists and better meet demand for vital services such as counselling, outreach and crisis support.	News release	Increasing annual funding to support women who experience domestic violence, sexual assault	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017PREM0129-002002.htm
09-Dec-17	Affordability	Protecting renters from geographic rent increases	The Government of British Columbia is beefing up protection for renters by closing a loophole that some landlords used to seek inflated and unfair increases in hot rental markets.	News release	This follows a closed loophole in fixed-term leases to improve the rights of renters in BC	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0021-002036.htm

18-Dec-17	Services	BC government ends grizzly bear hunt	Through consultations this past fall, we have listened to what British Columbians have to say on this issue and it is abundantly clear that the grizzly hunt is not in line with their values.	News release	There was a consultation initiated with First Nations and other stakeholder groups	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0372-002065.htm
20-Dec-17	Affordability	More than 1,000 modular homes now confirmed throughout BC	People experiencing homelessness in Penticton will soon have access to new supportive housing, with the Province and City of Penticton entering into a partnership to provide up to 52 units of modular housing.	News release	On-going interactions with local government and community partners on homelessness action plan	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017MAH0026-002088.htm
27-Dec-17	Affordability	Reducing MSP Premiums	Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums will be cut by 50% on Jan. 1, 2018, marking an important step toward improving fairness for all British Columbians.	News release	The MSP task force is to make recommendations on replacing the MSP revenue	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FIN0039-002105.htm
18-Jan-18	Services	Faster internet for communities in coastal BC	Through a combined investment of \$45.4 million, the Government of Canada, in partnership with the Government of British Columbia, is bringing new or improved high-speed internet to 154 rural and remote communities, enabling residents to get online. Of these 154 communities, 44 First Nations will benefit.	News release	s.13	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018CITZ0001-000062.htm
18-Jan-18	Services	Community organizations get funding to challenge racism	People throughout British Columbia will be better equipped to challenge racism, hate and discrimination in their communities as a result of funding to 32 community organizations.	News release	s.13,s.17	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018TAC0002-000063.htm

23-Jan-18	Economy	BC gets an "A" for improved services and regulations	The many service improvements and streamlining measures that the British Columbia government has made to save people time, hassle and unnecessary costs, have earned the province an 'A' grade from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.	News release	The rating is a result of the province's commitment to limit regulations, make regulatory changes and service improvements	https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2018JTT0003-000081.htm
		Rural dividend grant				https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2017FLNR0346-001794.htm
		Grizzly Bear...Dec 8, Nov				