



**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

#TrueNorth Business Development Forum

Coast Inn of the North

770 Brunswick St., Prince George

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

12:00 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 15 mins.

**Location:**

Copyright

**Parking:**

Parking is available on site in four separate lots next to the hotel. Before parking, go to the front desk to get a pass for the day.

**Audience:**

Members of the Prince George and BC Chambers of Commerce, entrepreneurs, business owners and political representatives from northern B.C.

**Itinerary:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>
11:45 a.m.	Lunch served
12:00 p.m.	M.C. John Rustad introduces Joel McKay, CEO of NDIT
12:05 p.m.	Joel McKay introduces Min. Ralston
12:10 p.m.	Min. Ralston speaks (15 minutes)
12:25 p.m.	Joel McKay introduces Min. Donaldson
12:30 p.m.	Min. Donaldson speaks (15 minutes)
12:45 p.m.	Val Litwin thanks Ministers and gives gifts
12:47 p.m.	NDIT announcement – Min. Ralston, Min. Donaldson and Joel McKay
12:55 p.m.	Media scrum offstage
1:00 p.m.	Main stage – Economic Development panel begins

**VIP list:**

- Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- John Rustad, MLA, Nechako Lakes
- Val Litwin, President and CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce
- Joel McKay, CEO of Northern Development Initiative Trust
- Prof. Mark Colgate, Director of Corporate MBA Programs, UVic Gustavson School of Business
- Marsha Walden, CEO of Destination British Columbia
- Jim Allworth, Economist and Investment Strategist, RBC Dominion Securities

**Event description:**

Minister Ralston will speak to members of the Prince George Chamber of Commerce and other business and political leaders from northern B.C. for the annual #TrueNorth Business Development Forum. The minister will discuss his economic priorities and vision for business growth in B.C.'s northern communities.

**Background:**

The #TrueNorth event is co-hosted by the Prince George and BC Chambers of Commerce and was formerly called the Business Development Forum. The event is a one-day forum focused on building a more resilient, prosperous northern B.C. The forum aims to amplify a sense of optimism and prosperity in the North.

The event hosts business owners from small- and medium-sized enterprises and representatives from northern communities. Participants include Indigenous business leaders, economic development officers, regional mayors and councils, Chamber members, resource sector workers, among others.

Discussion topics focus on strategies and tools participants can leverage to grow their businesses and help community development. Experts will discuss a number of issues, including economic development, finance and First Nations partnerships.

**Featured speakers:**

- Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- John Rustad, MLA, Nechako Lakes
- Val Litwin, President and CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce
- Joel McKay, CEO of Northern Development Initiative Trust

**Attire:** Business

## INTRODUCTION

- Good afternoon and thank you for having me here with you today.
- It is an honour to be here and meet the leaders who are doing so much for B.C.'s economy and northern communities.
- Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the territory of the Lheidli T'enneh **[clayt-clay den-ay]** peoples.
- I would also like to thank both the Prince George and BC Chambers of Commerce for hosting today's event.
- It is truly inspiring to learn first-hand about the innovative business development going on in Northern B.C.
- Your efforts as entrepreneurs and community leaders are critical for our province as we build a sustainable and prosperous B.C. where good jobs and economic growth are shared by people throughout the province.

## **ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK**

- First, I would like to share with you some of your government's economic vision for the north, and the work we've done to lay the foundation for future sustainable economic growth.
- Supporting strong, sustainable prosperity throughout B.C. is our top priority.
- B.C.'s business community is vitally important to our province.
- The good news is that the business environment in British Columbia is healthy.
- Optimism is widespread among business owners.
- The BC Chamber's Collective Perspectives survey, which came out last month, showed that 94 per cent of business owners consider their businesses to be in either very good, good or acceptable shape.

- 95 per cent said they expect their businesses to be in positive shape in the next three to five years.
- Our economy, on the whole, is also in an excellent position.
- B.C. is expected to outperform the rest of Canada, according to independent experts at the Economic Forecast Council. For example:
  - Real GDP growth is forecast at 3.4 per cent for 2017.
  - Growth for 2018 and 2019 is expected to remain strong, at 2.4 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively.
- Exports continue to climb.
- As of November, they are up almost 14 per cent from the same time last year.

- We have fiscal stability, competitive tax rates and a triple-A credit rating – the only province rated that high by each of the international ratings agencies.
- We also have the fastest employment growth rate among all provinces and the lowest unemployment rate in the country.

### **ADDRESSING CHALLENGES THROUGH TRADE**

- These are all very positive signs.
- Yet we know these benefits are not always felt evenly throughout the province.
- There is often a divide between urban and rural prosperity...
- Not just between Metro Vancouver and the rest of the province, but also between cities like Prince George and the surrounding areas, for example.

- We know that the province depends on our traditional resource industries.
- And this dynamic presents both economic opportunities and challenges.
- When times are good – when commodity prices are high – we see incredible economic wealth generated by northern and interior communities.
- When global markets shift, however, we see the opposite effect.
- B.C. remains a relatively small, open economy on the world stage and we are significantly influenced by these types of factors that are beyond our control.
- That's why your government has put such a focus on standing up for B.C.'s interests at trade talks on NAFTA and softwood lumber.

- International trade policies are critically important to our collective economic health.
- We want to make the most of our economic strengths and secure a fair and competitive environment to do business.
- We also want to diversify our export markets.
- That's why the Premier, myself, Minister of State for Trade George Chow and Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Lisa Beare will be leading a 10-day trade mission to Asia this coming weekend.
- We will be meeting with government officials and business leaders in China, Japan and South Korea with the goal of expanding our economic ties with three of our largest trading partners.

- It is difficult to overstate the opportunity that Asia's economies hold for our province.
- Instead of focusing on one sector, we will take a broader approach.
- We will be working to strengthen traditional industries like forestry, energy and mining, while supporting the small business, tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and tech sectors.
- Minister Donaldson recently led B.C.'s largest-ever forest-sector delegation to China and Japan with more than 30 senior forest company executives.
- I know he'll be speaking more about the opportunities we have to support jobs for forestry workers by showcasing our innovative engineered wood products to new markets.

- These are some of the actions we have taken and will be taking on the trade file to help improve our economic prospects and create more opportunities for B.C. exporters.

### **A CHANGING GLOBAL ECONOMY**

- Of course, there are other factors we know will continue to shape the global economy.
- These include the challenges of climate change, shifting demographics, urbanization and automation.
- Your government believes that to support continued economic growth, we need to identify ways to leverage our assets and strengths to become global leaders in emerging industries.
- The world has recognized the need to shift to a low-carbon economy.

- And that recognition is only going to grow and intensify as we move further into this century.
- There is enormous economic opportunity here.
- Already we have seen immense global interest in clean technologies, such as zero- or low-emission vehicles, wind and solar power.
- The manufacturing of these technologies will require natural resources, including copper, silver, zinc and molybdenum.
- And B.C.'s mining sector is well-positioned for growth in these sectors.
- We can see examples of this shift happening already in China where there has been huge growth in these industries – not only in wind and solar power, but in electric vehicles.

- China – which is the world’s largest auto-market – announced plans to phase-out the sale of gas and diesel vehicles last year.
- They join a growing list of countries with similar intentions, including India, United Kingdom, France, Germany and Norway.
- Global auto-makers have taken notice and are shifting investments dramatically towards electric vehicle production.
- China also launched what will become the world’s largest carbon trading market last month.

### **EMERGING ECONOMY AND INNOVATION IN B.C.**

- These are just a few examples to illustrate the types of opportunities ahead.
- We need to sharpen our existing competitive advantages and build new ones.

- That's why your government has put a clear focus on technology and innovation.
- We are creating an Emerging Economy Task Force to look at long-term at opportunities for innovative and sustainable industries in B.C. that will drive growth of the future.
- The Task Force will bring together senior business-, academic- and community-leaders who understand the global business environment and the rapidly evolving technological landscape in which we operate.
- They will provide a B.C.-centric perspective on how we can stay at the leading edge of these developments and build from our economic momentum.
- We will also be announcing an Innovation Commissioner very shortly who will act as B.C.'s tech-sector advocate and ambassador in Ottawa and abroad.

- The Commissioner will build strong relationships with senior leaders in industry, academia and accelerator partners.
- Once in place, he or she will work to level the playing field with other provinces and align B.C.'s efforts with federal funding for the tech and innovation sector.
- The recent federal budget included numerous program and funding initiatives for these sectors, and the Innovation Commissioner will ensure B.C. businesses are able to maximize these opportunities.
- In addition, Parliamentary Secretary for Technology Rick Glumac and I are working together to establish an Innovation Commission that will further support innovation and business development in the sector – with details to come in the coming months.

## **TECH AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

- All this may sound appealing, but you may be wondering what this will mean for northern communities.
- When I talk about tech and innovation, I want to be clear that I'm not just talking about the thousands of new job openings at Amazon, Fortinet or Microsoft in Metro Vancouver.
- To be successful in the global economy, we will also need to use technology to maximize the value of our natural resources.
- A clean economy will also mean jobs in smaller, rural communities throughout our province.
- The future of economic growth in this province will not see the tech and innovation sectors replacing the natural resource sector.
- The tech sector and the natural resource industries are intertwined in B.C.

- For example, 39 per cent of the spin-off jobs in the mining industry today come from professional, scientific and administrative services.
- The technology sector cuts across several industries in B.C. and fuels innovation and competitiveness.
- It includes companies manufacturing products in the aerospace, transportation, medical equipment and computer industries.
- It includes services in engineering, scientific consulting, and research and development.
- We have significant competitive advantages in this field.
- B.C. is a tech heavy-weight in Canada, and the industry is not isolated to Vancouver.

- The Okanagan has a vibrant and growing tech sector – sometimes called Silicon Vineyard.
- Prince George, too, has a growing tech-sector, with more than 100 tech firms employing hundreds of people.
- This city has significant assets, including two post-secondary institutions with tech-focused programs.
- Our provincial tech-accelerator, the Innovation Central Society, supports start-ups and entrepreneurs to turn their ideas into successful companies.
- Prince George and other northern communities are major contributors to B.C.'s bioenergy industry – the largest in North America.
- I know Minister Donaldson will speak more on this topic later.

- On top of that, we continue to support the BC Innovation Council and its Ignite program, which funds research that will accelerate the commercialization of new technologies in the natural resources and applied sciences sectors.

### **EXAMPLES OF OPPORTUNITIES**

- I want to emphasize that B.C.'s natural resource sectors are critical to a sustainable and prosperous economy.
- And both the Emerging Economy Task Force and the Innovation Commissioner will help our province build on our strengths in these fields.
- We need an economy that creates opportunities now, and in the future, for everyone in the province.
- Some of B.C.'s tech companies are already driving innovation in these areas and developing technologies used across the world.

- **West Fraser** has developed lignin-based [**lig-nin**] bio-adhesives that join layers of veneer in plywood panels.
- Innovative bio-products like these can help reduce fossil fuel use and cut CO2 emissions in the manufacture of sustainable wood products.
- **Dark Vision** has created an ultrasound-based imaging technology that can provide oil and gas operators with high-resolution 3D views of their wells.
- The technology can identify a variety of downhole problems including tubing defects, corrosion and cracks.
- Or look at **Ecoation**, which has developed an artificial intelligence platform that helps farmers improve crop management by using plant signals to predict crop stress.
- This is just a small selection of B.C. companies working in this space.

- Natural resources technology and innovation is happening here and it is creating economic opportunities and helping to support sustainable economic growth.

### **SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS**

- We want to build on that and that's why we're focusing our resources on tech and innovation.
- We will be seeking out B.C.'s best and brightest to help us develop our plans.
- And we want to hear from you – the business owner and community leader.
- That's why we are also creating a Small Business Task Force in the coming months.

- This task force will help us understand the needs of small businesses so they can continue to thrive in a healthy business environment.
- We recognize that small businesses are the backbone of our economy.
- And although small businesses throughout the province continue to show strong signs of growth, many were impacted by wildfires this year – especially in the interior and northern communities.
- We've partnered with the Red Cross to provide a second phase of financial assistance for business, non-profits and First Nations entrepreneurs who had uninsured losses as a result of interrupted business operations.
- This is on top of the emergency \$1,500 funds provided this summer.

- We continue to support small businesses through a number of targeted actions.
- Last year, we cut the small business corporate income tax rate from 2.5 to 2%.
- Small businesses in B.C. now benefit from the second lowest small business tax rate in Canada.
- That new rate is retroactive to April 1st of 2017.
- It will allow small-business owners to keep more of their hard-earned money and invest it back into their businesses and communities.
- We also cut the PST on non-residential electricity use to 3.5% from 7%, effective the first of this month, and will completely eliminate it on non-residential electricity by April 1, 2019.

- Eliminating the PST on electricity will translate into savings of more than \$150 million annually for B.C. businesses.
- These actions will help B.C. businesses stay competitive and grow our economy.

## **CONCLUSION**

- I've given a brief overview of some of the priorities of government and my ministry.
- I hope it has provided more clarity on the vision we have for economic development here in B.C.
- I think the future is bright in our province.
- We are committed to sustainable economic growth that creates good jobs for British Columbians in every corner of our province.

- The people and business innovators of northern B.C. are critical players in that vision.
- Thank you for your time and I look forward to your questions later.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**  
**Parliamentary Secretary Rick Glumac**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Expansion of Tech Programming  
Mezzanine, SFU Surrey Campus  
250-13450 102 Ave., Surrey

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018

9:00 a.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 9:20 a.m., 2 mins.

**Location:****Parking:**

Paid visitor parking is available on level P5 of the parkade for guests coming to SFU Surrey for lectures and special events.

**Audience:**

The audience will comprise post-secondary representatives, students, parents, technology representatives, community organizations, other industry associations and employers. Local Members of Parliament have also been invited.

## Itinerary:

Time	Expansion of Tech Programming Jan. 16, 2018 9:00 a.m.
8:45 a.m.	<b>Parliamentary Secretary Rick Glumac</b> arrives.
8:52 a.m.	<p>Pre-brief with speakers, led by Elena Banfield Location: Meeting room 2746</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parliamentary Secretary for Technology, Rick Glumac</b></li> <li>• <b>Melanie Mark</b>, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training</li> <li>• <b>Andrew Petter</b>, President, Simon Fraser University (EMCEE)</li> <li>• <b>Elder Margaret George</b>, SFU resident Elder</li> <li>• <b>Jill Tipping</b>, President, BC Tech Association</li> <li>• <b>XingLu Wang</b>, Mechatronic Systems Engineering student</li> </ul>
8:59 a.m.	Speakers escorted to podium area.
9:00 a.m.	<b>PS Glumac and Minister Mark</b> interact with students and faculty who will have projects on display around podium area.
9:09 a.m.	<b>PS Glumac</b> and speakers gather at podium area.
9:10 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter (EMCEE)</b> welcomes guests and invites <b>Elder Margaret</b> to the podium to offer opening blessing.
9:11 a.m.	<b>Elder Margaret</b> offers opening blessing and territorial acknowledgment.

9:14 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter</b> returns to podium, thanks Elder Margaret, and delivers introductory remarks. Following remarks, he introduces <b>Minister Mark</b> .
9:16 a.m.	<b>Minister Mark</b> delivers remarks.
9:19 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter</b> thanks <b>Minister Mark</b> , introduces <b>PS Glumac</b> .
<b>9:20</b> <b>a.m.</b>	<b>Parliamentary Secretary Rick Glumac</b> delivers remarks.
9:23 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter</b> thanks <b>PS Glumac</b> , introduces <b>Jill Tipping</b> .
9:24 a.m.	<b>Jill Tipping</b> delivers remarks.
9:27 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter</b> thanks <b>Jill Tipping</b> , introduces <b>XingLu Wang</b> .
9:28 a.m.	<b>XingLu Wang</b> delivers remarks.
9:31 a.m.	<b>Andrew Petter</b> thanks <b>XingLu Wang</b> delivers closing remarks, and invites questions from media.
9:32 a.m.	<b>Media availability</b> - Moderated by Shruti Joshi.
9:38 a.m.	Event concludes.

#### **VIP list:**

- Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
- Andrew Petter, president, Simon Fraser University
- Elder Margaret George, Simon Fraser University resident Elder
- Jill Tipping, president, BC Tech Association
- Lane Trotter, president, Langara College

- Clint Undseth, vice president, innovation, Stuart Olson
- Alan Davis, president, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- Kathy Denton, president, Douglas College
- Brent Hale, CAO, Seaspam
- Sujeet Kini, CFO, Hootsuite
- Don Wakefield, vice president, engineering, SAP Analytics, SAP
- Boris Wertz, founder and general partner, Version One Ventures
- Kegan Adams, regional director – BC, Cisco
- Igor Faletski, CEO, Mobify
- David Foster, COO, Conquer Mobile
- Josh Zoshi, co-founder, Saltworks Technologies
- Carl Anderson, president and CEO, BC Innovation Council (BCIC)
- Ken Hardie, Member of Parliament for Fleetwood-Port Kells
- Randeep Sarai, Member of Parliament for Surrey Centre

#### **Event description:**

Parliamentary Secretary Glumac gives remarks on behalf of the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology on the occasion of the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training's announcement of the expansion of tech programming in B.C. post-secondary institutions.

#### **Background:**

- British Columbia will add about 2,900 tech-related spaces that are expected to result in 1,000 additional grads per year by 2023.
- Total provincial start-up funding this year is \$4.4 million and is expected to increase to \$42 million.
- The 2,900 additional spaces are in new and expanded programs that include the following in the lower mainland:
  - 440 spaces in undergraduate and graduate-level sustainable energy engineering degrees at Simon Fraser University (SFU) Surrey

- 624 spaces in computer science and biomedical and manufacturing engineering degrees at the University of British Columbia (Vancouver campus).
- 300 spaces in information technology diplomas in cyber security, tech arts and new media at British Columbia Institute of Technology.
- 40 spaces in a mechatronics and advanced manufacturing technology diploma at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.
- About 83,400 tech-related job openings in B.C. are expected by 2027 – such as computer programmers, information system analysts and software engineers.

#### **Featured speakers:**

- Rick Glumac, Parliamentary Secretary for Technology
- Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
- Andrew Petter, President, Simon Fraser University (**EMCEE**)
- Elder Margaret George, Simon Fraser University resident Elder
- Jill Tipping, President, BC Tech Association
- XingLu Wang, Mechatronic Systems Engineering student

#### **Attire:**

Business

## **Introduction**

- Good morning. It is an honour and pleasure to be with you.
- I would like to thank Minister Mark, for inviting me to be here.
- And to extend greetings from my colleague, Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, who sends his regrets at being unable to attend.

## **Tech talent**

- Thanks to post-secondary institutions like Simon Fraser University and many others represented here today, our province has a strong reputation for developing highly skilled talent.
- The quality of our post-secondary schools, educational programs and the research that's underway helps encourage home-grown tech companies like Fortinet and Saltworks Technologies to remain in B.C. as they grow and develop...
- And it's attracting the attention of global companies like Microsoft and Amazon and, who are expanding their presence in B.C.

- Thanks to this globally recognized reputation for high-quality talent, our tech and innovation sector is thriving.
- Each year, the number of companies, jobs, and incredible innovation being spun out of our province continues to increase.
- But sometimes success can come at a cost.
- Because our sector is shining so bright, the number of tech jobs has eclipsed our sought-after talent.

### **Jobs and tech programming expansion**

- Which is why today's announcement is such an important investment for the future of our tech and innovation sector.
- These two-thousand-nine-hundred additional spaces will teach our students the skills that are needed to fill some of B.C.'s most in-demand jobs.
- Jobs that make a difference through their potential to find new ways to reduce our impact on the environment, improve cybersecurity, and advance medical research.

- Helping keep B.C. on the map as a global tech and innovation leader.
- In short, jobs that are helping diversify and modernize our economy.
- So that people can benefit from good-paying, family supporting jobs today and tomorrow.
- Thank you.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Northern Development Initiative Trust – new program  
announcement

at the #TrueNorth Business Development Forum

Coast Inn of the North

770 Brunswick St., Prince George

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018

Noon – 1 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 12:47 p.m., 2-3 mins.

**Location:**

Copyright

**Parking:**

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**Audience:**

Members of the Prince George and BC Chambers of Commerce, Northern Development Initiative Trust, entrepreneurs, business owners and political representatives from northern B.C.

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**VIP list:**

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- Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- John Rustad, MLA, Nechako Lakes (emcee)
- Val Litwin, president and CEO, BC Chamber of Commerce
- Joel McKay, CEO of Northern Development Initiative Trust
- Prof. Mark Colgate, Director of Corporate MBA Programs, UVic Gustavson School of Business
- Marsha Walden, CEO of Destination British Columbia

- Duncan Wilson, Vice President of Corporate Social Responsibility, Port of Vancouver representative

### **Event description:**

As part of the #TrueNorth Business Development Forum, the Northern Development Initiative Trust announces two new funding programs – the Northern Industries Innovation Fund and the Strategic Initiatives Fund. Minister Ralston will speak in support of the NDI Trust and economic development in central and northern B.C.

### **Background:**

The Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) is an independent, non-profit corporation that stimulates economic growth in central and northern B.C. through investments in grassroots, community-led projects. NDIT was established through provincial legislation. On Oct. 6, 2004, the Province of B.C. introduced Bill 59, the Northern Development Initiative Trust Act. On Sept. 21, 2005, the Province introduced Bill 6, the Northern Development Initiative Trust Amendment Act, 2005. Established through these acts of legislation and infused with \$185 million from the Province, NDIT is a regionally operated economic development funding corporation for central and northern B.C. To date, NDIT has committed \$167.5 million in funding to more than 2,770 projects, driving more than \$1.3 billion of investment by communities, First Nations, business and government into the region's economy.

### **Featured speakers:**

- Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- John Rustad, MLA, Nechako Lakes (emcee)
- Joel McKay, CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust

**Attire:** Business

## Introduction

- Thank you, Joel
- It's a privilege to be here both the TrueNorth Business Forum and for the launch of two exciting new funding programs by the Northern Development Initiative Trust.
- As Joel mentioned – the Strategic Initiatives Fund and the Northern Industries Innovation Fund are the latest chapter in the trust's impressive economic development legacy throughout central and northern B.C.

## NDI Trust

- “By northerners, for northerners” — is the foundation on which the Northern Development Initiative Trust was built.
- It’s a conviction that says decisions on economic development in northern B.C. should be made here, by the people of northern B.C....
- ...And that’s exactly what it has done.
- Since its founding in 2005, the Trust has issued over 170 million dollars in development funding: That’s more than 28-hundred projects in 13 years.

- These projects have created jobs, sparked community growth and improved quality of life for people from Lillooet to the Yukon border, and from Haida Gwaii to the Alberta border.
- The work being done by Joel and the Trust board, and by Joel's predecessor Janine North and her team, continue to make life better for people in communities across this region.

### **Government's vision**

- So much of our province's wealth is generated in central and northern B.C.
- I think we can all agree here today that the returns from this wealth don't flow back to local communities to an adequate degree.

- Your provincial government is committed to attracting investments that support resilient rural and regional communities.
- We are also creating an Emerging Economy Task Force that will focus on bringing technology and our traditional resource industries together to capitalize on emerging opportunities in the global market.
- The goal of the Task Force is to enable every region of B.C. to stay at the forefront of global economic developments and maintain our strong economic position.
- We are supporting B.C.'s technology sector by establishing an Innovation Commissioner as its advocate and ambassador – in B.C., in Ottawa and around the world.

- First Nations are an increasingly important part of our province's economic success.
- Under my ministry, the Indigenous Business and Investment Council works to better equip businesses and governments to work with Indigenous communities...
- ... And foster greater participation of First Nations in the economy.
- Because B.C.'s economy is strong when everyone is contributing to it.

- Our goal is to create a business environment in B.C. that generates good paying jobs in every corner of B.C. and invests in training the workforce of tomorrow.
- We are building a sustainable economy that puts people and communities first.
- We will continue to help attract trade and investment to the Interior and northern B.C., such as Sumitomo Corporation's 48% purchase of Pacific BioEnergy here in Prince George...
- ... And DP World, which recently opened its Fairview Terminal expansion at the Port of Prince Rupert with an investment of \$200 million dollars.

## Conclusion

- These and other investments are a signal of economic stability, job growth and a bright future for northern B.C.
- And these encouraging signs are bolstered by the work of the Northern Development Initiative Trust, which is launching two great new funding programs.
- The two funds announced today will go a long way in providing Northern municipalities, First Nations and businesses with the capital they need to deliver innovation and economic development projects in their communities.
- I urge all eligible businesses, First Nations, local governments and non-profit organizations to consider applying for funding and help build a better northern B.C.
- Thank you very much.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

15<sup>th</sup> Annual B.C. Natural Resources Forum

Ministers' Breakfast

Prince George Conference and Civic Centre

808 Canada Games Way

Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018

7 a.m.-8:30 a.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 7:40 a.m., 2-3 minutes

## Location:



## VIPs:

- National Chief Perry Bellegarde, Assembly of First Nations
- Hon. Jim Carr, Minister, Natural Resources Canada
- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Hon. Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Hon. George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

- Hon. Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
- John Thompson, chair, Resources for Future Generations International Conference
- Gareth Manderson, general manager, BC Works, Rio Tinto (patron sponsor)
- Greg D'Avignon, president, Business Council of BC
- Byng Giraud, vice-president, Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG
- Sarah Weber, CEO, C3 Alliance Corp.

**Featured speakers:**

- Byng Giraud, vice-president Corporate Affairs, Woodfibre LNG (moderator)
- Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
- Michelle Mungall, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
- Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

**Event description:**

The B.C. Natural Resources Forum is one of northern B.C.'s largest and most important annual gatherings and offers a neutral, non-partisan and positive arena to discuss and learn first-hand the latest news, trends and opportunities linked to the resource sector in B.C. No other gathering provides this diversity of speakers, delegates, exhibitors and leaders under one roof to discuss issues and explore the challenges and unprecedented opportunities unfolding in the province.

**Audience:**

Approximately 900 delegates are expected, including First Nations, government, the resource sector and business.

**Attire:**

Business

**Itinerary:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>
6:30 a.m.	Ministers arrive for pre-brief
6:45 a.m.	Doors open. Ministers meet and greet guests
7 a.m.	Everyone asked to take their seats
7:04 a.m.	Welcoming remarks by Emcee Kevin Brown and C3 Alliance Corp. CEO Dan Jepsen, followed by video and presentation
7:17 a.m.	Breakfast is served
7:35 a.m.	Ministers brought on stage
7:40 a.m.	Program begins. Moderator Byng Giraud is introduced. <b>Mr. Giraud introduces Minister Ralston.</b> Minister Ralston delivers opening remarks and is followed by the other Ministers
7:55 a.m.	After all five Ministers have given opening remarks, moderated Q&A session begins
8:15 a.m.	Q&A session ends. Ministers thanked and receive tokens of appreciation from emcee Kevin Brown. On-stage photo session, followed by off-stage photos with Breakfast Club of Canada
8:20 a.m.	Ministers' Breakfast concludes. All guests asked to move to Auditorium 101 for opening ceremonies beginning at 8:25 a.m.

## Introduction

- Thank you, Byng, and good morning everyone. I want to thank you all for joining us this morning.
- It's early, so I hope your coffee cups are full.
- I would first like to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Lheidli T'enneh [**clayt-clay den-ay**] peoples.

***[Minister: You are listed first among the speakers but the order may change. If you are not first, this acknowledgment is not needed]***

- I would like to acknowledge my cabinet colleagues who have joined us today:
  - Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Doug Donaldson,
  - Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Michelle Mungall,
  - Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Scott Fraser, and
  - Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman

- I would also like to thank Woodfibre LNG for sponsoring this morning's event – and thank patron sponsor Rio Tinto and all the sponsors and organizers of the Natural Resources Forum.

### **Ministry mandate**

- As Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, I lead a large, busy ministry that has a vital role to play in helping your government meet its commitment to make life more affordable for British Columbians.
- ...and build a strong, sustainable, innovative economy that works for everybody.
- I'd like to touch on a few examples of how my ministry is delivering on these commitments.

- First, we will soon be creating an Emerging Economy Task Force, which will focus on bringing technology and our traditional resource industries together to capitalize on emerging opportunities in the global market.
- The goal of the Task Force is to enable every region of B.C. to stay at the forefront of global economic developments and maintain our strong economic position.
- Another of my priorities as Minister is to support B.C.'s technology sector by establishing an Innovation Commissioner as its advocate and ambassador—in B.C., in Ottawa and abroad.
- The Commissioner will serve to level the playing field with other provinces and co-ordinate alignment with federal funding programs in support of B.C.'s tech and innovation sector.

- The Commissioner will also establish strong relationships with senior leaders in B.C.'s innovation and technology network, including industry, academia and accelerator partners.
- Your government will also soon create a Small Business Task Force, which will bring together key people who understand the global environment, and can advise government on strengthening the small-business sector.
- We are also working toward reaching our goal of helping B.C. businesses grow. In order to do this, we are:
  - Implementing new policy to make it easier for businesses to succeed and improve the competitiveness of B.C.'s business climate.
  - This means lowering the small business corporate income tax rate from 2.5% to 2% retroactive to April 1, 2017 – which will allow business owners to invest more money into the growth of their companies.

- We are also making it easier for businesses in smaller, regional communities to export their goods overseas and expand their reach. We are doing this by:
  - Extending the Export Navigator pilot program to the end of March.
  - This means more regional B.C. businesses – including here in the Cariboo and Prince George region – can get help accessing new markets for their goods and services.
  - When we help companies reach new markets, we give them the power to grow and create new, good-paying jobs in their communities.

## **Conclusion**

- I would like to close by saying that we, as a government, are committed to ensuring B.C. has an economy that works for everyone.

- That means helping to spark investment in our province so we can all prosper, fostering a favourable climate for job creation, and building a better future for our children, our families and the people of this great province.
- Thank you very much.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**  
**Carole James, Minister of Finance**

Alacrity Cleantech Scale-Up Program Announcement

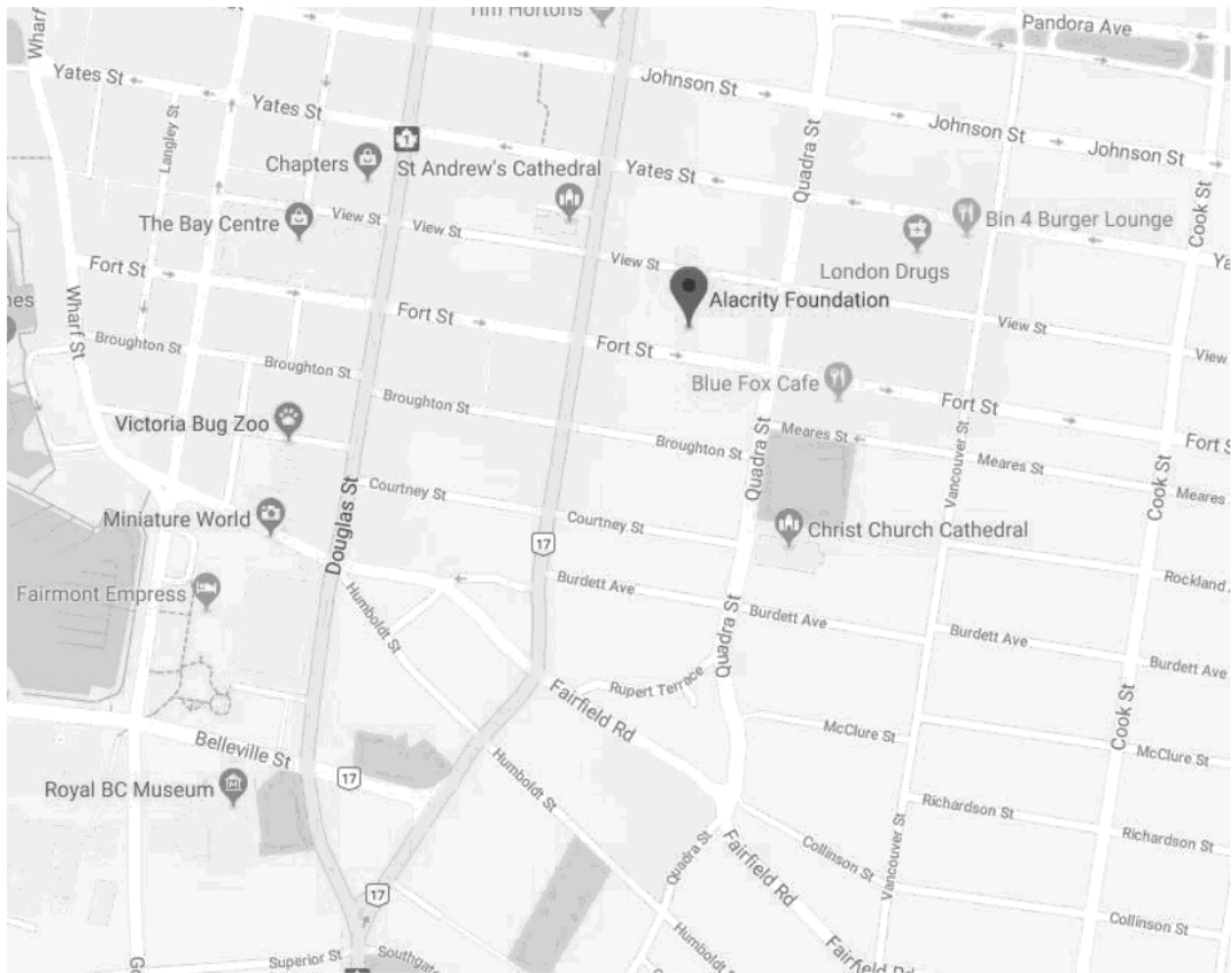
Alacrity Foundation

838 Fort St., Victoria

Jan. 22, 2017

2:15 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 2:38p.m., 5 mins

**Location:****Parking:**

Paid parking is available on street.

**Event contact:** Amanda Costa, senior communications advisor, Western Economic Diversification Canada    cell: 604-603-9480    [amanda.costa@canada.ca](mailto:amanda.costa@canada.ca)

**Audience:**

The event will be attended by approximately 25 guests, including staff from the Alacrity Foundation, its board of directors and clean tech stakeholders.

## Itinerary:

2:15 p.m.	<b>Alacrity Cleantech Scale-Up Program Announcement</b> <b>Jan. 22, 2018</b> <b>2:15 p.m.</b>
2:15 p.m.	Ministers James and Chagger arrive and are greeted by Amanda Costa, Western Economic Diversification Canada
2:16 p.m.	Ministers escorted to “green room”
2:18 p.m.	Event briefing led by Amanda Costa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bardish Chagger, federal Minister of Small Business and Tourism</li> <li>• Carole James, Minister of Finance</li> <li>• Owen Matthews, chairman, Alacrity Foundation</li> <li>• Richard Egli, managing director, Alacrity Foundation <b>(EMCEE)</b></li> </ul>
2:28 p.m.	Speakers escorted to event location
2:30 p.m.	Emcee Richard Egli, welcomes guests and introduces Minister Chagger
2:32 p.m.	Minister Chagger delivers remarks
2:37 p.m.	Emcee Introduces Minister James
<b>2:38 p.m.</b>	<b>Minister James delivers remarks</b>

2:43 p.m.	Emcee introduces Owen Matthews
2:44 p.m.	Owen Matthews delivers remarks
2:49 p.m.	Emcee delivers closing remarks
2:52 p.m.	Media Availability and Photo Ops with all speakers
3:00 p.m.	Media availability and event conclude

### **Event description:**

Minister James will speak on behalf of the provincial government during the announcement of funding from Western Economic Diversification Canada to the Alacrity Foundation of B.C. The money will be used to launch Alacrity's new Cleantech Scale-Up Program.

### **Background:**

- Victoria-based non-profit Alacrity Foundation's Cleantech Scale-Up Program will help B.C.'s clean tech companies get investment-ready, connecting them to potential investors and accessing foreign markets.
- The B.C. government is providing \$75,950 to fund the first few months of the program as a pilot, to assess its success and suitability for additional funding.
- The federal government has committed to fully fund the program through to 2020, providing \$787,115 from Western Economic Development.
- Alacrity ran a similar program from 2015-2017 that was supported by WD and the Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program. The program was designed to showcase high performing B.C. technology companies to investors around the world with a focus on Silicon Valley and China.
- The previous program achieved:

- 39 B.C. companies participated
- 11 of those companies were funded, with an average of 3 investors per company
- 100+ new jobs created
- \$205 million in foreign investment attracted to B.C. (\$90 million was related to one company Recon Industries, which was bought by Intel.)

**Featured speakers:**

- Carole James, Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier
- Richard Egli, managing director, Alacrity Foundation **(EMCEE)**
- Bardish Chagger, Canada's Minister of Small Business and Tourism
- Owen Matthews, chairman, Alacrity Foundation

**Attire:**

Business

## Introduction

- Thank you, Richard.
- Good afternoon. It is an honour and pleasure to be with you.
- Before I begin, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Coast Salish First Nations.
- Allow me to extend greetings from our Premier John Horgan and from my colleague Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology who sends his regrets for not being here today.
- He has embarked on the new government's inaugural trade mission to Asia with Premier Horgan to promote technology and innovation, tourism and a host of other industries here in B.C.
- I would like to formally welcome Canada's Minister of Small Business and Tourism Bardish Chagger, to British Columbia on behalf of our government.
- And to thank Owen Matthews and the Alacrity Foundation for inviting our provincial government to help celebrate this wonderful news today.

- I am grateful for the opportunity to see one of Victoria's tech co-working spaces firsthand, with so many unique companies represented under one roof.

### **Alacrity Foundation and BC Cleantech Scale-Up program**

- Congratulations Owen, and your entire team at Alacrity, for launching your newest venture – the BC Cleantech Scale-Up program.
- Indeed, your previous success and experience in helping mentor and guide B.C. tech companies has already added many new jobs to our province and contributed to our economy,
- And I have no doubt that this new program will continue to bring similar results for B.C.'s clean tech sector.
- Which is why our government is proud to provide Alacrity with nearly \$76-thousand in funding to help launch this program...
- Complementing the investment that the Government of Canada and Alacrity are making in B.C.'s clean tech future.

- Although B.C. is becoming better known across Canada and around the world for our technology innovators every day,
- Many of the ideas and companies in our sector are still quite new and young.
- They need to be nurtured, guided and honed to be able to grow and compete globally. While a large market, clean tech is ripe for innovation.
- I am so pleased that Alacrity will provide innovators with support to take on opportunities they might have never had to face before...
- Opportunities such as navigating the patent process, finding out how to appeal to investors, or seeking professional services like accounting.
- As B.C.'s finance minister, I may be biased, but I can assure you that the value of meeting with an accountant early on is immense for a new enterprise.
- Alacrity's newest program will help fill these gaps for B.C.'s clean tech innovators.

- So they can create new jobs for British Columbians, and grow into very profitable businesses that are changing how we do business while saving the planet.

## **Clean tech in B.C.**

- B.C. boasts approximately 270 clean tech companies, made up of companies who are well established and others that could benefit greatly from this kind of help to scale themselves up.
- And with the global market for clean tech and services expected to grow to \$3 trillion by 2020, there is certainly room for this sector to expand.
- Growing B.C.'s clean tech presence isn't just good for the economy, it's an investment in our future.
- These companies are reducing harmful environmental impacts to the planet and revolutionizing our mining, forestry and agriculture industries.
- Whether thinking of companies like Saltworks, which was recently recognized for its desalination and wastewater treatment technology being used around the world,

- Or Carmanah's L-E-D and solar lighting being designed here in Victoria,
- Clean technology has the power to improve the way we live and modernize many of B.C.'s natural resource sectors,
- To create good jobs and ensure that the natural beauty surrounding us can be preserved for the next generation.

## **Conclusion**

- We know that B.C. and certainly Victoria, are known for their natural beauty, and people passionate about the environment, so it's fitting that clean tech should take off right here.
- I'd like to think that by supporting and collaborating with our clean tech sector and industry partners,
- We can all work together to make B.C. – and Canada – better known for the homegrown innovation that is helping protect what we often take for granted.
- Not only here, but around the world.

- I look forward to seeing our clean tech sector grow and evolve with Alacrity's help.
- Thank you very much.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**

**Minister Bruce Ralston**

**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Meeting with Guangdong Committee of China Council for the  
Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT Guangdong)

450 Huanshi Dong Street, Guangzhou (Headquarters of CCPIT  
Guangdong)

Monday, January 22, 2018

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Location:**

**VIP list:**

- B.C. Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, Bruce Ralston
- B.C. Minister of State for Trade, George Chow
- Deputy Minister for Jobs, Trade and Technology, Fazil Mihar
- Mr. Yao Xinmin (YOW – SHIN-Min), Vice President of CCPIT Guangdong

**Event description:**

This event has been organized by the BC- Guangdong Business Council to promote two-way trade and investment relationship between Guangdong and B.C.

**Event Roll-Out:**

Time	Details
09:30-09:45 am	Guangdong CCPIT Vice President YAO Xinmin welcomes and provides overview of Guangdong's trade and investment
09:45-10:00 am	Speech by Minister Bruce Ralston
10:00-10:10 am	Speech by Mr. Sui Ngai Lam, Co-Chair of the 9 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the World Guangdong Community Federation
10:10-10:20 am	Speech by Ms. Jeannie Cheng, President of BC-Guangdong Business Council
10:28-10:30 am	Gift exchange
10:30 am	End of the meeting

**Issue/Discussion:**

The meeting with CCPIT Guangdong is organised at the suggestion of the BC-Guangdong Business Council. About 40 representatives of Chinese business community in BC will participate in the meeting.

BC would like to continue to expand the bilateral trade and investment with Guangdong province which accounts for 1/4 of China's total trade volume and a major source for overseas investment. The Chinese business community in BC will play an important role in achieving this goal.

**Background:**

- Established in 1957, CCPIT Guangdong is a provincial branch of the national non-governmental organization for the promotion of foreign economy and trade. It has established close relations with over 300 overseas industrial and commercial organizations and foreign diplomatic and consular missions in China. It has also established 23 economic and trade representative offices around the world.
- In February 2009, BC set up an International Trade and Investment Office in Guangzhou. In September 2015, CCPIT Guangdong opened its first economic and trade representative office in Canada. The CCPIT Guangdong's economic and trade representative office is based in Vancouver.
- In September 2015, BC's then Ministry of International Trade signed a MOU with CCPIT Guangdong on the cooperation in promoting bilateral trade and investment.
- Minister Ralston wrote a letter to President Lin in October 2017 to congratulate the 60th anniversary of CCPIT Guangdong and reaffirm BC's commitment to further strengthen the economic ties between Guangdong and British Columbia.
- Guangdong became the world's 14th largest economy in 2016 with GDP of \$1.15 trillion, ranking just after Russia. Guangdong accounts for 1/4 of China's total trade volume and 11% of the national consumption. It is the richest province of China and contributes about 1/7 of China's fiscal revenue.

**Featured speakers:**

- B.C. Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, Bruce Ralston
- B.C. Minister of State for Trade, George Chow

**Attire:**

- Business

## Introduction

- Good morning. It's an honour and a pleasure to be here with you today.
- I would like to acknowledge that Mr. YAO Xinmin (SHIN-Min), the Vice President of CCPIT Guangdong is here with us today...
- And I would like to thank the B.C. – Guangdong Business Council and especially Ms. Jeannie Cheng, President of BC-Guangdong Business Council and Mr. Siu Ngai (Ne-GAI) Lam, President of Canada Chaoshan (CHOW-Shan) Business Association, for bringing us all together to speak about matters that are important to the Province of British Columbia, and to our relationship with Guangdong.
- I would also like to take a moment to introduce you to my colleague, Minister of State for Trade, George Chow.
- Minister Chow was born in China, not far from here, and he went to primary school in Hong Kong before his family immigrated to British Columbia in 1965.
- Now, as a member of British Columbia's large Chinese community, as a businessman and as a former municipal politician, Minister Chow has much knowledge of Chinese business, government and culture.

- And like many of you in this room today with strong ties to Guangdong, this understanding is helpful-- as we seek to foster a stronger working relationship with our partners here in Guangdong.

### **The importance of the B.C.-China Relationship**

- China and British Columbia have a long history of working together.
- From our mutual trade in goods and services, to technical cooperation, educational exchange and now booming tourism flows, our connections run deep.
- As the minister responsible for jobs, trade and technology) in a newly-elected government, this is my first visit to Asia in this capacity.
- We've travelled across the Pacific Ocean to get here, which is a really long way, but in reality, British Columbia and China are closely connected.
- Our shared history dates back to the 1800s, when Chinese migrants first made their way across the Pacific Ocean to B.C.
- And now, British Columbia is home to one of the largest Chinese communities in Canada, with relationships rooted deeply in

cultural and people-to-people ties, through family members on both sides of the ocean.

- This connection makes B.C. stand out as a great place to invest and do business because the Chinese business community in B.C. is knowledgeable about China's business and government culture.
- There is much that can draw on from each other in order to grow and strengthen our economic ties and create opportunities for both B.C. and Chinese companies.

#### **Guangdong Sister Province Relationship:**

- China is our province's second largest trading partner, with nearly \$6 billion in exports last year alone.
- At the heart of this important economic tie with China has been our 23-year long sister province relationship with Guangdong Province in southern China.
- Building on this long-standing sister province relationship, both provinces have also established the trade and investment representative offices in each other's territories.
- B.C. looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Committee of Chinese Councils for the Promotion of International Trade here in Guangdong to further strengthen these mutual and beneficial economic ties.

- Guangdong is an important trade and investment partner for BC.
- In fact, BC and Guangdong's economies are complementary and there is potential to advance greater collaboration in sectors such as agrifood, clean technology, environmental protection, forestry, liquefied natural gas (LNG), green building and tourism.
- I'd like to congratulate CCPIT Guangdong on its successes, including its 60th anniversary celebration last year.
- Over the past 60 years, the Council has contributed significantly to the promotion of trade and investment between Guangdong and the rest of the world.
- Many members of the BC-Guangdong Business Council Delegation joining today's meeting have their family roots traced back to Guangdong.
- And as I mentioned previously, the Chinese community in B.C. has contributed significantly to B.C.'s economic growth, and to the continuing friendship between the two provinces.

## **Goals:**

- In 2015 and 2016, B.C. and Guangdong signed two Memoranda of Understanding to advance collaboration on low carbon

development and on economic connectivity in support of the Belt and Road Initiative.

- Now, we're seeing more trade taking place in quickly growing sectors such as agrifoods, seafood, technology and clean energy.
- Today's meeting is both an important milestone in diplomatic relations and an opportunity for us to work together to identify additional business opportunities in Guangdong.
- We would like to continue to expand the bilateral trade and investment with Guangdong province which accounts for one-quarter of China's total trade volume and is a major source for overseas investment.
- We will do this by keeping in touch with the Guangdong Economic and Trade Representative Office in British Columbia, run by CCPIT and through our Trade and Investment Representative Office, led by our Managing Director, Cathy Yao, in Guangzhou.
- Together, these offices are helpful resources in promoting trade between our provinces.
- Being here today to meet with you is an important step in strengthening our relationship, and I look forward to hearing your ideas on what more we can do to support trade and investment between B.C. and China.

- Our trade relationships in China are vital, and we will work hard to develop our common prosperity through trade.
- The Chinese business community in B.C. will play an important role in achieving this goal.

## Conclusion

- I want to thank you all for coming today to hear about how much we value the well-established relationship between B.C. and Guangdong.
- As our business relationship with China is expected to grow, we know there's more work we can do together.
- I want to close by saying that Province of B.C. looks forward to keeping in touch with you and to continuing our close collaboration on projects that meet the needs of both B.C. and China.
- We encourage you to please stay in touch with our Guangzhou Trade and Investment Office.

*[Minister, you may point out our TIR staff]*

- We will continue to focus on strengthening our trade relationship with China because promoting bilateral trade and investment is

crucial to both of our economies, and to creating jobs that we can all depend on.

- Thank you again to everyone for joining us today.
- We look forward to hearing from you so we can learn more about how we can work together on future opportunities.

**-END-**

**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

B.C.—Guangdong Low-Carbon Economy Roundtable

Closing Remarks

Tao Tao Ting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

White Swan Hotel

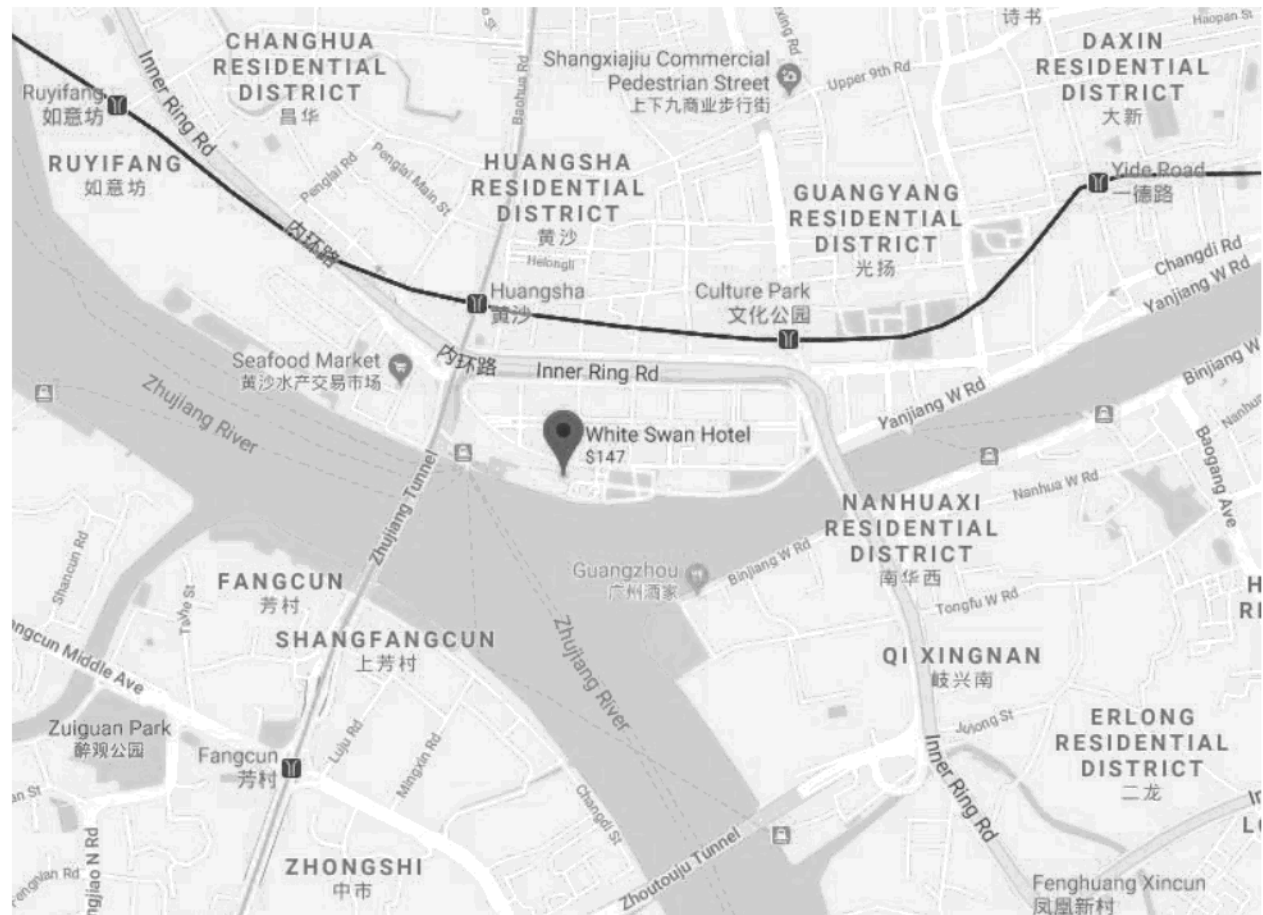
Shamian Island, Guangzhou

Monday, Jan. 22, 2018

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 5 mins at 3:25 p.m.

## Getting there:



**Event day contact:** Paul Irwin

## Audience:

B.C. and Guangdong low carbon companies and Guangdong officials. *See meeting note for complete list of attendees.*

## Itinerary

Time	Proceedings
1:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Guest registration.
2:00 – 2:05 p.m.	MC (Fazil Mihlar) announces commencement of the roundtable and introduces VIPs. MBR invites Premier John Horgan to speak.
2:05 – 2:10 p.m.	Premier Horgan speaks.
2:10 – 2:30 p.m.	Remarks by GDDRC DDG Huang Shumin: Overview of

	Guangdong Low-Carbon Development, Work Priorities and Potential Cooperation Areas with BC
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	PowerPoint Presentation: Overview of BC Low-Carbon Development and Technology Advantages (DM Fazil Mihlar)
2:45 – 3:10 p.m.	Speeches by B.C. companies: Experience-sharing and potential cooperation
3:10 – 3:25 p.m.	Q&A discussion
3:25 – 3:30 p.m.	Closing remarks by MBR. End of roundtable.

*See meeting note for final itinerary.*

#### **VIP List:**

- Rachel Bedlington, Consul General of Canada
- Mr. Li Jian, Deputy Director General of Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office
- Tom Cummings, Consul and senior trade commissioner

*See meeting note for full list.*

#### **Event description:**

This is an invitation-only event to explore ways to advance the MOU to Enhance Cooperation on Climate Change and Low Carbon Development between B.C. and Guangdong, signed in 2015.

Fazil Mihlar will take the role of MC. Minister Ralston will provide closing remarks.

**Note: Translation will be simultaneous.**

*See meeting note for guest list.*

#### **Background:**

*See meeting note.*

#### **Featured speakers include:**

- Premier John Horgan

- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- B.C. participants, TBC
- Guangdong participants, TBC

**Attire:**

Business

## Introduction

- Good afternoon. I want to thank the Guangdong Development and Reform Commission and all participating Guangdong and B.C. companies for your support for today's event.
- Special thanks as well to Rachael Bedlington, Consul General of Canada in Guangzhou, and Tom Cummings, Consul and senior trade commissioner, for your support and for joining us here today.
- It's been made clear that B.C. and Guangdong share more than a sister-province relationship. We also share a commitment to collaboration on climate change and low carbon development.
- Many sectors that have the potential to help with the transformation to low carbon development are represented here today, including:
  - Natural gas
  - Carbon capture
  - Power
  - Water management and treatment
  - Alternative energy
  - Transportation and transportation technology
  - Resource development
  - Manufacturing
  - And urban planning and design, to name just a few.

- It is said that with every obstacle comes opportunity.
- And while we've shared some obstacles, we've also identified many opportunities for greater partnerships and collaboration.
- Together, we learned...

*[Minister, please add a few examples here of what resonated with you during the roundtable Q&A]*

#### **Moving forward: collaboration and partnerships**

- As the largest province in China by GDP, Guangdong is known as an industrial and export powerhouse, as well as a growing centre for innovation.
- I understand that building a “beautiful China,” as your President pledged during the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress, while continuing to grow your economy is a challenge.

- Yet, your country is becoming a leader in renewable energy, while reducing its reliance on coal.
- Our government, too, is tackling the challenges of climate change, working to create a sustainable and prosperous future for British Columbians.
- As Premier Horgan noted earlier today, fighting climate change takes a network of strategic partnerships.
- There are opportunities for future cooperation as we build on the intentions in the Memorandum of Understanding:
  - To expand the use of clean, renewable energy resources,
  - Enable low carbon technologies and fuels, and
  - Construct energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

## Closing

- It's been a pleasure to participate in today's discussions.
- I hope you found today's roundtable as productive as I did.
- It's clear that B.C. and Guangdong have many opportunities for advancing our shared goals. We learned a lot from all participants today and I look forward to many future discussions and collaborations.
- Xie xie [**pronunciation:** Sh-yeh sh-yeh '**thank you**'].

-END-

**Speaking notes for**  
**Brian Krieger on behalf of Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

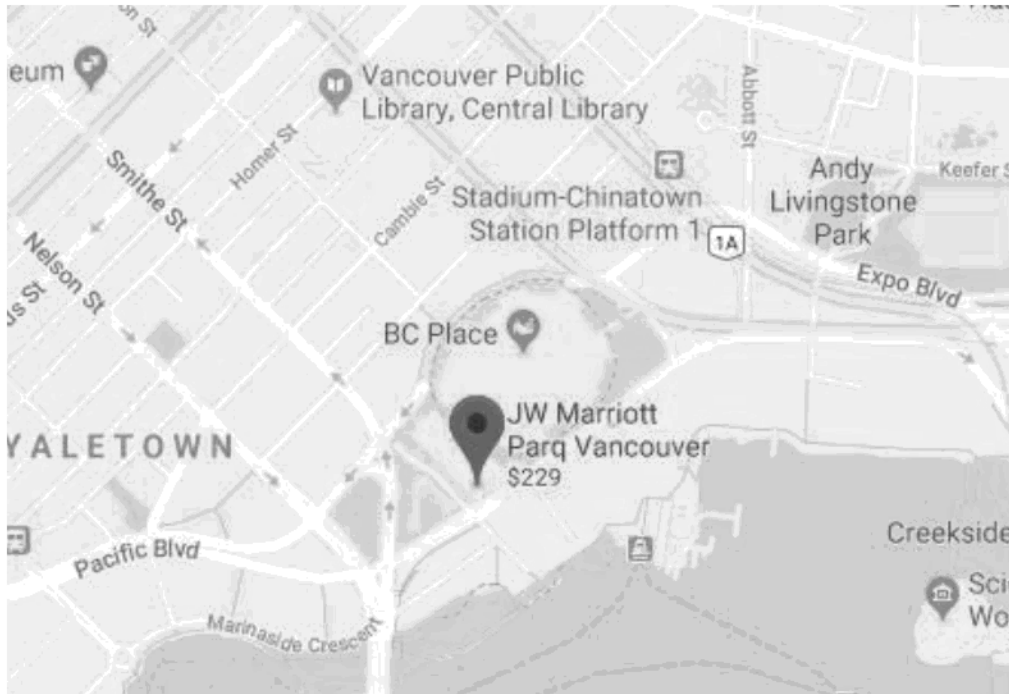
U-Bike HQ Opening  
JW Marriott Parq Vancouver  
Fairview Ballroom V & IV  
39 Smithe St.  
Vancouver

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018

3:30 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 4 mins at 4:41 p.m.

## Getting there:



## Event day contact:

Joy Shi – s.22

## Audience:

- Approximately 100 guests; media invited (10 estimated to attend).

## Itinerary

Time	Proceedings
3:15 p.m.	Registration opens
3:30 p.m.	Networking
4:30 p.m.	Welcome and introduction of U-Bicycle CEO (MC Linda Ching)
4:33 p.m.	Grace Min, CEO, U-Bicycle speaks
4:36 p.m.	Video presentation
4:40 p.m.	Introduction of Brian Krieger, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology Brian Krieger speaks
4:45 p.m.	Introduction of Owen Matthew, Chairman, Alacrity Owen Matthew speaks

4:51 p.m.	Additional VIPs take the stage
4:52 p.m.	Photo-op on stage with VIPs
5:06 p.m.	Toast and closing remarks
5:10 p.m.	U-Bicycle reveals new bike model
5:18 p.m.	Presentations conclude
5:20 p.m.	U-Bicycle app and bike demo
5:30 p.m.	Event ends

### **VIP List:**

- Grace Min, CEO, U-Bicycle North America
- Owen Matthew, Chairman, Alacrity Foundation and financing partner
- Mr. YU Yi, CEO and Founder of U-Bicycle China
- Alics Chen, COO, U-Bicycle China

### **Event description:**

This event celebrates the opening of U-Bicycle's North American headquarters in Vancouver.

### **Background:**

U-Bike is a North American bike-sharing service owned by U-Bicycle China. U-Bike launched its North American operations in Victoria on Sept. 18, 2017, generating positive media and public interest.

Following the successful soft launch, the company plans to expand into other cities across North America. It is currently in talks with the cities of Richmond and Burnaby, and will announce the grand opening of its North American headquarters in Vancouver on Jan. 23, 2018. They have operations in Victoria and operations offices in Richmond and Victoria. They did not receive a permit to operate in Vancouver.

Riders access the bikes through an app that unlocks the bikes at a cost of \$1 each 30 minutes. There are currently 180 U-Bike bicycles across Victoria, with plans to deploy others. Unlike other bicycle-sharing programs, U-Bikes do not require

dedicated racks; bikes can be parked in public areas and helmets are attached to the bikes.

U-Bike is a North American subsidiary of Shanghai-based U-Bicycle China, an urban bike-sharing service provider for short distance commuting. It has covered the whole industry chain, including R&D, supply chain logistics, market operation and big data services.

In September 2016, U-Bicycle received angel round financing from a consortium led by Shanghai Forever Co., Ltd, a well-established bicycle company founded in 1940. By the end of 2016, it had received A Round and A+ round financing, with a total venture capital investment over RMB 250 million (\$48M CDN). Its services have expended quickly into some 20 major and second-tier cities in China, including Tianjin, Shanghai and Beijing.

HQ Vancouver met the company through an introduction by the Shanghai Trade and Investment Office. HQ Vancouver introduced the company to the B.C. business environment; advised on market entry modes; connected them with professional service providers; and offered support for its grand opening event.

In September 2017, U-Bicycle announced a financing of USD \$10 million from Canadian entrepreneur Sir Terry Matthews for overseas markets expansion, starting with B.C. Alacrity Foundation is also a funding partner.

(Note: Alacrity Foundation Chair Owen Matthew is a speaker at this event. A news release announcing \$75,950 in provincial funding (and \$787,115 in federal funding) for Alacrity Foundation's Cleantech Scale Up program is slated to go out on Jan. 22, 2018.)

**Featured speakers include:**

- Grace Min, Ceo, U-Bicycle North America
- Brian Krieger, ADM, Technology & Innovation, Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Owen Matthew, Chairman, Alacrity Foundation

Congratulatory letters will also be read from:

- Alice Wong, MP, Richmond Centre
- John Yap, MLA
- Theresa Wat, MLA
- Chak Kwong Au, Councillor, City of Richmond

**Attire:**

Business

- Thank you Linda.
- Many thanks as well to Mr. Yi Yu [ee – YU], Alics Chen and Grace Min [Meen], and the event organizers and distinguished guests.
- I'm pleased to be with you here today to celebrate the official opening of U-Bicycle's North American head office here in Vancouver.
- On behalf of the Honourable Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations to U-Bicycle on this significant milestone.
- Minister Ralston would have wanted to be here today, but he is advancing B.C.'s interests in China to bring more Chinese companies like U-Bicycle to B.C.
- I would also like to thank our Shanghai trade and investment office and HQ Vancouver for providing their advice and support as U-Bicycle began exploring the expansion of their already successful Chinese operations into the North American market.

- We welcome mutually beneficial investments such as yours, which bring both innovative products and services to the market and create jobs for people here in B.C.
- Vancouver has become the Western's world's most connected city with China.
- Vancouver has the most mainland Chinese carriers of any airport in North America, South America and Europe. Each year, over 300,000 Chinese tourists visit B.C.
- B.C. has second-largest Chinese community in Canada.
- Our research infrastructure, natural environment and culturally diverse population are a magnet for tech talent from all over the world.
- In opening your offices here, you join over 10,000 companies that are helping to solidify B.C.'s reputation as one of the leading tech hubs in North America.

- Your business also supports another important part of our provincial mandate—to fight climate change while building a sustainable and prosperous future for people in B.C.
- Transportation represents about 39% of total carbon emissions in B.C.
- B.C. is working hard to promote cycling and expand cycling infrastructure.
- Our BikeBC program has funded over 100 cost-shared cycling infrastructure projects in B.C.
- Greening our transportation networks through innovative services such as yours is a key way of reducing emissions.
- Thank you for your investment in B.C.
- I wish you continued success in Vancouver and British Columbia—and we look forward to even greater achievements for U-Bike in the North America markets.
- Thank you.

**-END-**

**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister Bruce Ralston**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Investors' Roundtable – Opening Remarks

Suite 2323, South Tower, Kerry Centre

1 Guanghai Road

B.C. Trade and Investment Office

Chaoyang District, Beijing

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 5 mins at 3:25 p.m.

## Getting there:

s.15

**Event day contact:** Paul Irwin

### Audience:

Chinese investors who have interests in B.C. and who are interested in learning about the new government's position on trade and investment in China.

*See meeting note for complete list of attendees.*

### Itinerary

Time	Proceedings
3:25 p.m.	Ministers arrive and are greeted by B.C. Trade and Investment Office staff
3:28 p.m.	MC announces the commencement of the roundtable, introduces participating Chinese corporations and invites ministers to make

	remarks
3:30 p.m.	Remarks by Minister Bruce Ralston
3:45 p.m.	Short presentation by first Chinese company, followed by Q&A
3:55 p.m.	Short presentation by second Chinese company, followed by Q&A
4:05 p.m.	Short presentation by third Chinese company, followed by Q&A
4:15 p.m.	Short presentation by fourth Chinese company, followed by Q&A
4:25 p.m.	Short presentation by fifth Chinese company, followed by Q&A
4:35 p.m.	Concluding remarks from Minister of State George Chow.
4:45 p.m.	End of roundtable; group photo
4:55 p.m.	Ministers depart

### **VIP List:**

- Honourable Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Honourable George Chow, Minister of State for Trade
- Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office (Emcee)
- Chinese Participants
- LIU Hongzhu, Vice Director General, Qinhuangdao Economic and Technological Development Zone (QETDZ)

*See meeting note #139394 for full list.*

### **Event description:**

This is an invitation-only roundtable bringing together Ministers Ralston and Chow, the Beijing Trade and Investment Office and Chinese investors who have interests in B.C. and are interested in learning about the new government's position on trade and investment in China.

Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office, will take the role of MC. Minister Ralston will provide opening remarks and Minister Chow will close the session.

**Note: Translation will be consecutive.**

*See meeting note for guest list.*

**Background:**

*See meeting note.*

**Featured speakers include:**

- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Honourable George Chow, Minister of State for Trade
- Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office (Emcee)
- LIU Hongzhu, Vice Director General, Qinhuangdao Economic and Technological Development Zone (QETDZ)
- Chinese investors (TBC—*see meeting note for full list*)

**Attire:**

Business

## Introduction

- Thank you Kevin Tsui, North and East China Managing Director of our Trade and Investment offices, for facilitating this dialogue.
- And thank you all for taking the time today to participate in this important discussion.

[PAUSE for translation]

- We appreciate the warm welcome you have given us here in Beijing.
- We are here today to share information about why British Columbia is a great place to invest...
- ...and perhaps more importantly, to learn and listen as you share your positive experiences and successes, as well as your concerns and suggestions so we can support you better.

[PAUSE]

- As Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology in our newly-elected government, I am pleased to be here in China for the first time in my new role.
- I look forward to taking what we learn today and applying it in our ministry's work.
- I trust that today's roundtable will bring new ideas for strengthening our economic ties and creating opportunities both here in China and at home in B.C.

[PAUSE]

- And in the days that follow, Kevin and his colleagues will continue to provide information and lend assistance and support.

## Relationship B.C.-China

- China and B.C. have a long history of economic and cultural ties.
- This historic connection, forged over many generations, has provided a strong foundation for the cultural and economic ties we now enjoy.

[PAUSE]

- China is B.C.'s second-largest trading partner, with almost \$6 billion in exports last year.
- Our trade relationship brings economic growth and jobs, benefiting communities and families in both China and British Columbia.

[PAUSE]

- British Columbia's robust economy, abundant natural resources and stable business environment also offer excellent opportunities for Chinese investors.
- There are significant opportunities for China and B.C. to partner in:
  - Liquefied Natural Gas
  - Agrifoods
  - Forestry
  - Alternative energy and cleantech
  - Infrastructure and manufacturing
  - And technology, to name just a few.

[PAUSE]

- We recognize that cross-cultural business interactions require an understanding of each other's regulations, laws, business culture and other systems.
- Our global trade and investment offices have the staff and resources to assist you as investors.

[PAUSE]

- I look forward to today's discussions—to learn more about your goal of building a “beautiful China,” as your President pledged during the 19<sup>th</sup> Party Congress.
- Working together, our goal of creating a sustainable and prosperous future can be advanced by the discussions we have today and in the partnerships we form in future.
- Xie xie [**pronunciation:** Sh-yeh sh-yeh **‘thank you’**].

-END-

**Speaking notes for**  
**Minister George Chow**  
**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Investors' Roundtable – Closing Remarks

s.15

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 5 mins at 3:25 p.m.

## Getting there:

s.15

**Event day contact:** Paul Irwin

### Audience:

Chinese investors who have interests in B.C. and who are interested in learning about the new government's position on trade and investment in China.

*See meeting note for complete list of attendees.*

### Itinerary

Time	Proceedings
3:25 p.m.	Ministers arrive and are greeted by B.C. Trade and Investment Office staff
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4:25 p.m.	Short presentation by fifth Chinese company, followed by Q&A
4:35 p.m.	Concluding remarks from Minister of State George Chow
4:45 p.m.	End of roundtable; group photo
4:55 p.m.	Ministers depart

### **VIP List:**

- Honourable Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Honourable George Chow, Minister of State for Trade
- Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office (Emcee)
- Chinese Participants
- LIU Hongzhu, Vice Director General, Qinhuangdao Economic and Technological Development Zone (QETDZ)

*See meeting note #139394 for full list.*

### **Event description:**

This is an invitation-only roundtable bringing together Minister Ralston and Minister of State Chow, the Beijing Trade and Investment Office managing director and Chinese investors who have interests in B.C. and are interested in learning about the new government's position on trade and investment in China.

Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office, will take the role of MC. Minister Ralston will provide opening remarks and Minister of State Chow will close the session.

**Note: Translation will be consecutive.**

*See meeting note for guest list.*

**Background:**

*See meeting note.*

**Featured speakers include:**

- Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology
- Honourable George Chow, Minister of State for Trade
- Kevin Tsui, Managing Director, Beijing Trade and Investment Office (Emcee)
- LIU Hongzhu, Vice Director General, Qinhuangdao Economic and Technological Development Zone (QETDZ)
- Chinese investors (TBC—*see meeting note for full list*)

**Attire:**

Business

## Closing

- Our thanks again to Kevin and his team here at our Beijing Trade and Investment Office for facilitating this dialogue.
- We appreciate everyone's time and effort in attending this roundtable to share your ideas and thoughts with us on investment between B.C. and Beijing.

[PAUSE for Translation]

- While I was born in China and have been back many times, this is my first trip here in my role as British Columbia's Minister of State for Trade.
- In this role, one of my top priorities is to work with organizations such as yours to expand trade and investment between B.C. and China.

[PAUSE]

- I'm honoured to have this responsibility—and all the more so because of my personal roots in China.
- While I grew up in China and went to school in Hong Kong, I immigrated to B.C. in 1965.
- Growing up in two cultures—which was a challenge at times —is now an honour and an advantage.

[PAUSE]

- Because of our large Chinese community in B.C., which is about 10 percent of our total population, we are able to understand a lot about Chinese business, government and culture.
- Today, thanks to your participation in this investors' roundtable, we've learned a lot about your priorities, successes and challenges.

[PAUSE]

- We have talked broadly about competitiveness...
- ...and shared specific ideas on potential partnerships in infrastructure, forestry, agriculture, technology and liquefied natural gas.

*[Minister, you may want to add specifics about the discussion here.]*

- Minister Ralston and I are committed to building on our strong relationships in China to connect B.C. businesses with new markets such as yours and to promote B.C. as a stable and attractive place to invest.
- It's been a pleasure participating in today's exchange—and I hope you found today's roundtable as productive as I did.

[PAUSE]

- We look forward to advancing the ideas discussed today and learning more about how we can work together to increase investment between B.C. and China in the days to follow.
- I can assure you that Beijing, and China as a whole, have a new friend in our government, and we look forward to a future filled with continued success and prosperity.

[PAUSE]

- I look forward to many future discussions and collaborations.
- And I encourage you all to please stay in touch with our Beijing Trade and Investment Office.
- Xie xie. Thank you.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**

**Minister Bruce Ralston**

**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology**

Closing Remarks for the

International Policy Forum on Wood Construction and Green  
Building

Xiyuan Hotel, Beijing, China

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Location:**

s.15

Beijing, China

**VIP list:**

BC delegates:

- B.C. Premier John Horgan
- B.C. Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology Bruce Ralston
- B.C. Minister of State for Trade George Chow
- Deputy Minister for Jobs, Trade and Technology Fazil Mihlar
- Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Dave Nikolejsin
- Michael Loeth, CEO of Forestry Innovation Investment
- Susanna Laaksonen-Craig, B.C.'s Climate Action Secretariat (will provide an overview on low carbon construction with wood)
- Geoff Meggs, Chief of Staff to B.C. Premier John Horgan
- Sheena McConnell, Press Secretary to B.C. Premier John Horgan

Presenters:

- Dr. Gao Ying (GOW-Ying) from Beijing Forestry University - will discuss Japan's wood construction industry,
- Dr. David Fell from FP Innovations - will provide an overview of the low carbon benefit of wood construction,
- Ms. Helen Goodland, Managing Partner of Brantwood Consulting, a Vancouver-based green building business - will do a presentation on embodied carbon,
- Dr. Sun Lixin (LEE-Shin) from the China Architecture Design & Research Group for his case study on energy conservation of wood-frame construction.

**Event description:**

Given China's increasing focus on the environmental aspects of construction, Forestry Innovation Investment (FII) China, together with China's national Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD), will host a government policy forum focused on green building and the environmental benefits of wood building products.

**Event Format:**

- Premier Horgan will make opening remarks for the forum and then depart for another engagement.
- Minister Ralston will moderate the half-day forum on behalf of the provincial government.

**Background:**

FII China, operating as Canada Wood China, is organizing the event in partnership with China's Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development: The International Policy Forum on Wood Construction and Green Building

**FII - Mission**

FII China was established in 2004 as the Chinese subsidiary of FII to support market development efforts in mainland China. From offices in Shanghai, Beijing, Chengdu and Wuhan, FII China has employed an integrated marketing campaign that has included constructing demonstration projects, advancing building codes, delivering promotional activities, and building local partnerships with government.

FII China's efforts have involved transferring Canadian-developed wood-frame technology and demonstrating the results of Canadian technology through projects that architects, engineers, developers, government officials and consumers can see, touch and experience. These initiatives have led to increased

awareness around the flexibility of wood and the many beneficial qualities Canadian wood can bring to a structure.

FII China's first series of market research reports indicated that the largest potential for promoting higher grades of SPF was in the construction market. To that end, in addition to undertaking further market research, FII China devoted its first decade to supporting activities that would create both short-term increases in sales of Canadian lumber products, and provide a platform for long-term growth of the wood-frame construction industry. China is now the second-largest export market for B.C. forest products.

In 2015, FII China, in consultation the Government of B.C., Natural Resources Canada, industry associations and Chinese partners, revised its strategic focus to meet the changing realities of the China construction market. The strengthened cooperative model between FII China and Canada Wood China will continue to serve as the foundation upon which the Canadian lumber industry pursues its interests in China.

Under Canada Wood China, these entities will continue to work together closely in the planning and implementation of a coordinated suite of market development activities, drawing upon the strengths and resources of both organizations to achieve mutual objectives.

#### FII – Partnerships:

Since 2004, FII China has signed over 30 Memoranda of Understanding with Chinese government agencies to promote the use of wood-frame building systems in China. In addition, FII China and Canada Wood China have jointly hosted a series of annual visits and trade missions from delegates representing the Government of Canada, the Government of B.C. and industry executives.

Over the past 10 years, a number of high ranking Canadian officials including Prime Minister Stephen Harper, B.C. Premiers Christy Clark and Gordon Campbell, Natural Resources Canada Minister Joe Oliver and Christian Paradis, and former Governor General Michel Jean have visited FII China/Canada Wood China sponsored demonstration projects and events led by industry associations. FII

China has signed cooperation agreements with some of China's most forward thinking government agencies such as the Central Government's Ministry of Housing Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD), Hebei Provincial MOHURD, the Shanghai Housing Bureau, and the Sichuan Ministry of Civil Affairs, among others.

MOUs form the foundation by which FII China cooperates with Chinese government agencies. As governments at all levels in China are highly involved in the real estate sector, and therefore the construction industry, FII China works with these government organizations to develop an environmentally sustainable solution to the country's housing needs. The Chinese government has already taken an active role in reducing pollution and environmental degradation, and over the years, has become increasingly aware that wood-frame construction should be part of the equation.

**Featured speakers:**

- B.C. Premier John Horgan
- B.C. Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology, Bruce Ralston

**Attire:**

- Business

**Translation:**

- Simultaneous

**Agenda:**

Time	Details
08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:05	Opening remarks by Senior official, Mr. Chen Yiming (YEE-ming), the Chief Engineer at the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD)
09:05 - 09:10	Opening remarks by Honorable John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia (NOTE: Premier departs after remarks Minister Ralston and Minister Chow will remain at Forum)

THEME 1: INTERNATIONAL BEST PRACTICE ON WOOD CONSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT - POLICY & INDUSTRY	
09:10 - 09:35	<b>Presentation 1</b>  Introduction of China policy for wood construction development and outlook on domestic market by MOHURD  Speaker TBC, Center of Science and Technology & Industrialization Development
09:35 - 10:00	<b>Presentation 2</b>  Low carbon construction with wood: A Canadian perspective  Speaker: Susanna Laaksonen-Craig, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Climate Action Secretariat, Ministry of the Environment, British Columbia, Canada
10:00 - 10:25	<b>Presentation 3</b>  Wood construction industry policy evolution in Europe  Speaker: Liu Jie, Director Sino-Europe Wood Centre, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
10:25 - 10:50	<b>Presentation 4</b>  How Japan developed its wood construction  Speaker: Dr. Gao Ying, Associate Professor, Beijing Forestry University
THEME 2: GREEN BUILDING DEVELOPMENT	
10:50 - 11:15	<b>Presentation 5</b>  Carbon savings estimation: quantifying the low carbon benefit of wood construction  Speaker: Dr. David Fell, Research Leader, Markets, FPInnovations, Canada
11:15 - 11:35	<b>Presentation 6</b>  Introduction to embodied carbon and the life cycle of buildings Speaker: Ms. Helen Goodland, Managing Partner, Brantwood Consulting
11:35 - 11:55	<b>Presentation 7</b>  Embodied carbon of buildings and infrastructure: an international policy review  Speaker: Ms. Helen Goodland, Managing Partner, Brantwood Consulting
11:55 - 12:20	<b>Presentation 8</b>

	Case study - Energy conservation of WC Speaker: Dr. Sun Lixin, Engineer, China Architecture Design & Research Group
12:20 - 12:30	Q&A
12:30 - 12:35	Closing remarks by Minister Ralston
12:35 - 13:35	Working lunch

## Introduction

- Good morning. It's been an honour and pleasure to join you today.
- I would like to thank Mr. Chen Yiming (YEE-ming), the Chief Engineer at the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) and Canada Wood China, for bringing us together this morning to engage in this important dialogue.
- Thank you to Dave Murphy, Canada's Minister Commercial of the Canadian Embassy in Beijing, for being here today.
- I'd like to recognize Michael Loseth, the CEO of Forestry Innovation Investment and Eric Wong, Managing Director for Canada Wood China, who are co-hosting this event today with MOHURD.
- Thank you also to Premier Horgan for his remarks this morning.
- I'd like to acknowledge and thank today's presenters because the material presented and the various discussions we had were thoughtful and informative.
- Like other participants, I've come away better informed on both the challenges and the opportunities in expanding the role of wood in China's construction sector.

## **The importance of the B.C.-China Relationship**

- I'm in China this week in my role as British Columbia's Minister responsible for jobs, trade and technology, and as Minister responsible for our Crown agency, Forestry, Innovation Investment, which partners with the Government of Canada and industry in operating Canada Wood China.
- China is an increasingly important market for B.C. wood products.
- B.C.'s top exports to China in 2017 included \$1 billion worth of lumber, destined for China's growing wood construction industry.
- A few months ago, my colleague, B.C. Forest Minister Doug Donaldson led a trade mission to China specifically to showcase what forestry products British Columbia has to offer.
- And we've come to visit again to keep that dialogue going.
- As many of you will be aware, Canada Wood China has worked extensively with China's Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development to support the application of wood in the construction sector.
- This is one example of how China and B.C. have a long history of working together.

- From our mutual trade in goods and services, to technical cooperation, educational exchange and now booming tourism flows, our connections run deep.
- Our cooperation around wood products and construction has been equally extensive and long standing.
- For 15 years, our Canada Wood China team has been working with its counterparts in China to share best practices in wood construction and to promote the environmental benefits of wood as a building material and as a tool to help mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Coming from a province, and a country, built on forestry and wood products, the use of wood is something that we are passionate about.
- Today's Forum gave us a unique opportunity to come together and look at new ways of thinking about what and how we build.
- Our excellent list of speakers highlighted the exciting and innovative work underway in Canada, China and elsewhere to examine the role of wood in building greener communities:
  - We heard from the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development about best practices in wood construction,

- We learned about the new policy environment in China that is opening up opportunities for the use of wood in China's construction,
- We also heard about Japan's experience in wood construction and about the evolution of wood policy in Europe.
- And from our Canadian experts, we learned about:
  - Wood's role in low-carbon construction,
  - About quantifying the low-carbon benefits of wood construction,
  - About the use of new tool such as Life-Cycle Assessment,
  - And about best practices in embodied carbon policy.
- I want to thank all our speakers for being here today and for sharing their insights and expertise.
- And I want to acknowledge all our other participants from China and Canada who took the time to engage in this important dialogue.

## **Conclusion**

- The challenge of climate change is daunting, but we do have the ability to act now.
- This includes exploring ways to lessen our environmental footprint, including those that can reduce the carbon impact of construction.
- Wood and wood-based building systems can, and should, be part of the solution.
- As we heard during the sessions this morning, wood is not only one of the most beautiful, versatile and durable raw materials available in construction, but it is the only major building material that grows naturally, is renewable, and comes with third-party certification that verifies products come from sustainably managed forests—forests such as those in B.C.
- This matters. If we responsibly manage forests for the long term, can we ensure that our forest resource continues to provide a lower carbon solution for the built environment for years to come.
- I want to close by saying that the Province of B.C. looks forward to continuing our close collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development on projects that meet China's objectives for green building, prefabrication and reducing energy emissions.

- These are goals that we share and where we will continue to offer our support in technology transfer, education and training, policy development, marketing and promotion, and other activities that can help China achieve its green building objectives.
- We are also happy, through our Canada Wood China offices in Shanghai and here in Beijing, to provide ongoing information on the environmental benefits of building with wood, including its cost-effectiveness, energy efficiency and ability to store carbon.
- There are tremendous opportunities for innovation in the use of wood in across the spectrum of construction in China as well as in Canada.
- Thank you again to everyone for joining us today.
- We look forward to working together on future opportunities.

**-END-**



**Speaking notes for**

**Hon. Jinny Sims**

**Minister of Citizens' Services**

**On behalf of Hon. John Horgan**

**Premier of British Columbia**

India Republic Day Reception

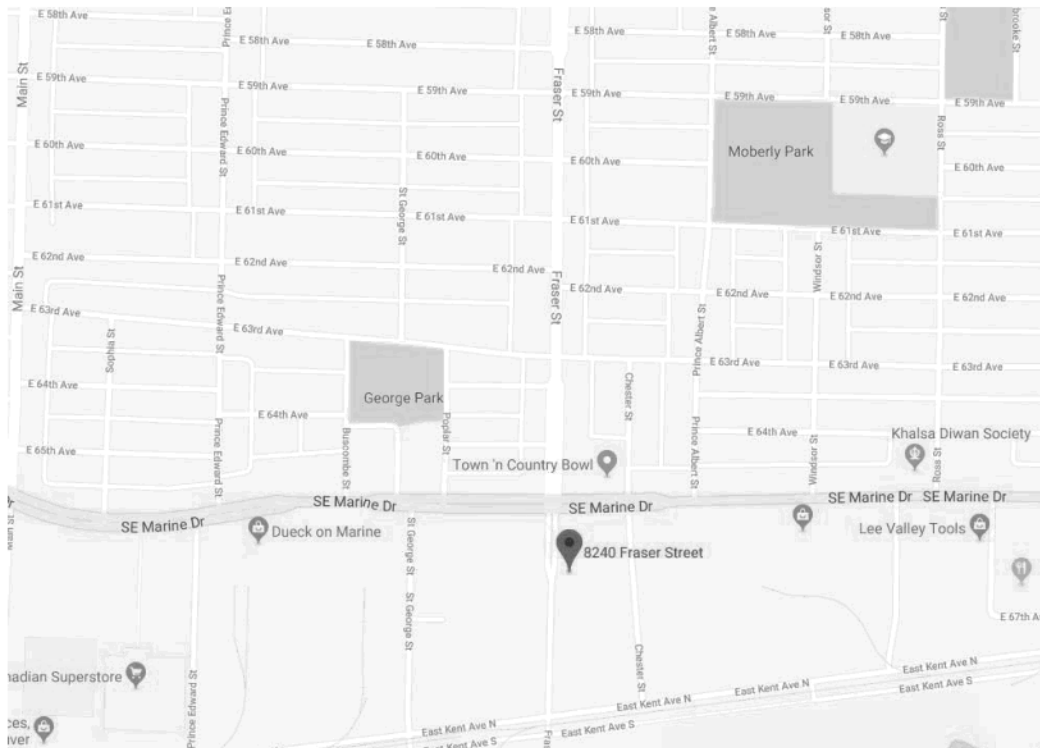
Fraserview Hall

8240 Fraser St., Vancouver

Friday, January 26, 2018

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 7:00 p.m., 3-5 mins.

**Location:****Parking:**

The Minister will have a dedicated parking space reserved for her beside the main entrance of the hall.

**On Site Contact:**

Dinesh Mehta, Vice Consul (cell: <sup>s.22</sup> ) or Amar Jit Singh,  
Consul (cell: <sup>s.22</sup> )

**Audience:**

The reception is expected to attract 300 guests made up of the consular corps, B.C. Ministers, local MLAs, Vancouver-area MPs, Vancouver-area mayors, members of the Indo-Canadian community, business community and media.

**Media:**

Local print and online media have been invited to attend.

**Itinerary:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>EVENT</b> <b>6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b>
<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reception begins</b>
<b>6:40 p.m.</b>	<b>Suggested time for Minister to arrive</b>
<b>6:45 p.m.</b>	<b>National Anthems of India and Canada</b>
<b>6:49 p.m.</b>	<b>Emcee Sharada Sankaran introduces Consul General</b>
<b>6:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Address by Consul General Abhilasha Joshi</b>
<b>6:59 p.m.</b>	<b>Emcee Sharada Sankaran introduces Minister Sims</b>
<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Address by Hon. Jinny Sims, Minister of Citizens’ Services</b>
<b>7:05 – 7:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Cultural Segments</b>
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Reception Concludes</b>

**VIP list:**

- Consul General Mrs. Abhilasha Joshi
- Consul General’s spouse, Mr. Nitin Joshi
- Hon. Jinny Sims, Minister of Citizens’ Services
- Other Consuls General (TBC)
- Other government reps including local mayors, MLAs, B.C. Ministers and MPs (TBC)

**Event description:**

Minister Sims will be speaking on behalf of the Premier at the reception to celebrate the 69th Republic Day of India. The event is hosted by Consul General Abhilasha Joshi and her spouse, Mr. Nitin Joshi.

**Background:**

The government of British Columbia was invited to send a representative to speak at the Republic Day celebrations in Vancouver, on the evening of January 26.

The invitation to speak at the event was sent from Abhilasha Joshi, who assumed the charge as the Consul General of India in Vancouver in August, 2017.

Republic Day honours the date on which the constitution of India came into effect on January 26, 1950, replacing the Government of India Act (1935) as the governing document of India, thus completing the country's transition from British Dominion to an independent republic.

The formal transition to independence started on January 26, 1930, when India's Declaration of Independence came into effect.

The Consulate General of India in Vancouver has consular jurisdiction over Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon Territory, and Northwest Territories. Alongside consular services, the office works to enhance economic, commercial, and cultural ties between India and Canada.

Prior to her current Vancouver posting, Abhilasha Joshi served as Consul General of India in Sao Paulo, Brazil from 2014 to 2017. She has one daughter and one son, and speaks Hindi, English and Portuguese.

**Also of note: there is a suggestion to include a personal story in the speech**

**Featured speakers:**

- Emcee Ms. Sharada Sankaran
- Consul General Mrs. Abhilasha Joshi
- Hon. Jinny Sims, Minister of Citizens' Services

**Attire:** Business or national dress (optional)

## Introduction

- Hello, and thank you Sharada for the warm introduction.
- Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the territory of the Coast Salish peoples.
- Please allow me to extend greetings from our Premier John Horgan, who is on a mission to East Asia this week and sends his regrets for not being here today.
- I would also like to thank Consul General Abhilasha Joshi for inviting me to be here tonight.
- It is wonderful to meet you and your spouse, Nitin.
- With this being your first Republic Day celebration serving as the Consul General in B.C., I hope you are enjoying the hospitality of our province and country just as much as I am enjoying the hospitality of India today.

- It is an honour to be here with all of you to celebrate the 69<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India.
- It was, of course, on this day in 1950 that, after years of struggle, India truly became a sovereign republic. As members of the Commonwealth, the relationship between India and Canada has only improved over the years.

### **Growing ties to India**

- Here in B.C., we are proud of our large and growing Indo-Canadian community.
- This is a community that is now woven into the fabric of B.C. After English, Punjabi is now the most common mother tongue spoken in the Province.
- India is also our second-largest source country for immigration, with 90-thousand newcomers settling in B.C. between the year 2000 and 2015.
- Almost a fifth of new immigrants that B.C. welcomes are from India, and there are now more than a quarter million people of Indian descent living in B.C.

- Make no mistake, B.C. is the most culturally diverse province in Canada, and we are proud to celebrate all the different cultures that make us who we are today.
- Our Indian cultural mosaic is one that British Columbians of all backgrounds can appreciate, whether it's a Bollywood production being filmed here – or simply the chance to revel with thousands for Diwali, Holi or Vaisakhi Celebrations each year.

***[Minister, this may be a good place to insert a brief anecdote about your personal story and the growing Indo-Canadian community]***

## **Trade with India**

- When people think of trade with B.C., they probably think of natural resources. And this is certainly true.
- India is B.C.'s fifth largest export market, and we saw substantial growth last year in commodity exports.

- As of November last year, our provincial exports to India jumped by nearly one-quarter, with total annual exports at close to one billion dollars.
- But our traditional export sectors are only one part of the story.
- Our strong cultural ties underpin countless economic opportunities and are helping stimulate innovation for the years ahead.
- Increasingly, we're seeing investments from India to our service economy.
- As I mentioned, "Bollywood North" is one such example: Indian collaborations and studios are investing in B.C., setting up shop to create original content right here.
- One of the most exciting developments is the recently announced establishment of a Vancouver headquarters for Zee Studios.

- This is the first Indian media company to put down roots in Vancouver where they will employ a local team to oversee the creation of a range of television content including crime dramas, sci-fi and sitcoms.
- It's just one example of how our shared connections are building relationships, growing trade, and creating jobs.
- B.C. is also in India and actively building new connections through our network of Trade and Investment Representative offices in Delhi, Mumbai and Chandigarh.
- Not only do our representatives assist B.C. companies wanting to do business in India, they help Indian companies like Zee Studios that are looking to invest in B.C.

## **Tech in B.C.**

- Opportunities for trade and investment are particularly evident when you look at the up-and-coming clean tech sector.

- India is modernizing its cities through Smart City initiatives that prioritize sustainable growth and place climate and environmental stewardship front and centre.
- There is an aggressive rollout of new transportation infrastructure and energy efficiency programs like the use of L-E-D street lights and electric vehicle charging networks in India.
- It is no surprise then, that B.C.'s clean tech companies, like so many others, now see India as a beacon of opportunity and a chance to make improvements that protect the environment and improve lives an ocean away.
- One clean tech product you may know of is Hydrogen Fuel Cell technology. These fuel cells generate energy, leaving only water behind as waste.
- Simon Fraser University has long partnered with Ballard Power Systems of Burnaby on this technology. Now SFU is partnering with the Indian Oil Corporation.

- The Indian Oil Corporation is bringing their own researchers to SFU to take hydrogen fuel cell technology to the next level – and help meet India’s growing demand for sustainable energy.

## **Conclusion**

- As we celebrate Republic Day, I am glad that B.C. and India can look ahead to a productive future led by cultural and trade exchange, innovation and forward-thinking ideas that create good-paying jobs and a better future for everyone.
- Thank you for your part in this beneficial partnership as we continue to strengthen our ties and grow together.
- Thank you for having me!

**-END-**



## SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Adrian Dix  
Health Minister

BC Continuing Care Collaborative

Sheraton Guildford Hotel  
15269 104 Ave  
Surrey, BC

January 26, 2018  
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

1:00 p.m. (speech)

## Event Profile:

The BC Care Providers Association (BCCPA), in partnership with the Ministry of Health, is hosting the Second Annual BC Continuing Care Collaborative, a day-long event to bring members of the seniors' care sector together to discuss this year's theme: "Help Wanted: Developing a Human Resource Strategy for Seniors Care."

## Audience:

The audience will include more than 120 stakeholders from across the continuing care sector – care providers, government and health authority representatives, labour unions, NGOs, research and policy institutions, universities and training colleges, and frontline workers. Seniors advocate Isobel Mackenzie will also be in attendance. Media are invited.

## What does the audience want to hear?

The BCCPA has suggested that Minister Dix address government's vision for continuing care; provide an update on the funding allocations for long term care and increasing direct care hours; updates on increasing home supports and home care visit times and relief for family

caregivers; the upcoming budget and any personal anecdotes similar to his talk at the BC Health Leaders event.

### Notable attendees:

Mike Bernier, MLA for Peace River South

Bob Breen, executive director, Catholic Health Association of BC

Sylvia Ceacero, CEO, BC Seniors Living Association

Tammy Leach, CEO, Alberta Continuing Care Association

Tracy Redies, MLA Surrey-White Rock, Opposition Critic for Finance and BC Hydro

### Event Details:

Minister Dix has approximately 15 minutes to deliver his keynote, followed by a question and answer session for 10 minutes.

### Event Contact:

Cathy Szmaus  
Director of Events, BC Care Providers Association  
s.22  
cathy@bccare.ca

Time	Itinerary
12:20 p.m	Minister Dix to report to AV tech for mic

12:30 p.m.	Minister Dix served lunch at VIP table. Guests will include BCCPA CEO Daniel Fontaine, BCCPA Board President Karen Baillie, McKesson Canada President Paula Keays and ministerial staff.
12:55 p.m.	Paula Keays, President, McKesson Canada, to introduce Minister
1:00 p.m.	Minister Dix to provide keynote
1:15 p.m.	Q & A with minister
1:25 p.m.	Paula Keays to provide closing remarks
1:30 p.m.	Event concludes

# Facts on Seniors in B.C.:

## Population

- Over one-fifth of B.C.'s population is over 65 years old and the number of seniors is expected to rise from 883,300 in 2017 to an estimated 1.4 million by 2032.

## Long-term Care

- There are approximately 28,000 seniors in British Columbia who live in licensed long-term care facilities. This is approximately 4% of the seniors' population.
- As of September 30, 2017, the total capacity of publicly subsidized long-term care beds in B.C. was 27,967.
- Of these 9,110 are health authority operated, 18,857 are privately operated.
- Close to 85% of long-term care homes are not meeting the 3.36 direct care hours per resident day.
- The per cent of long-term care clients admitted to a long-term care facility within 30 days of being approved for service has remained fairly consistent since 2010/11 with 61% of clients being admitted within 30 days in 2016/17.

## Assisted Living

- As of October 10, 2017, 219 assisted living residences for seniors (both publicly subsidized and private pay) have been registered with a total of 8,208 registered publicly subsidized and private pay units (54% of these are publicly subsidized).
- The total number of publicly subsidized assisted living units in B.C. as of October 10, 2017 was 4,418

## Home Support Services

- In 2016/17 almost 35,000 patients received home support services.
- The average time from date accepted for service to start of home support services was 3.9 days in 2015/16, up from 1.7 in 2012/13.

## Unpaid Caregivers

- The Office of the Seniors Advocate estimates that there are over one million unpaid caregivers in B.C.
- The seniors advocate notes that since her first review, the number of caregivers experiencing distress has risen to 31%.

## Office of the Seniors Advocate Monitoring Seniors Services – notable stats

- The average home support hours delivered per client per year decreased by 3% from last year, while the number of clients increased by 3.5%.
- 488 reported incidents of resident to resident aggression in long-term care facilities, up from 418.
- Since 2015/16, there has been an 8% decrease in the number of funded Adult Day Program days offered and a 4% decrease in clients.
- While there has been a 1.5% increase in funded long-term care beds since last year, the population aged 75+ increased by 3.5%.
- Staffing violations as a percent of licensing regulations violations have increased from 12.1% to 19.3%.
- 14.7% increase in clients registered with the Alzheimer Society of BC's First Link support program.
- 13% increase in new clients admitted to long-term care facilities.
- 6% increase in complaints about long-term care.
- 5.7% increase in clients receiving professional home care services.
- 23.5% increase in complaints about the home care sector.
- 750 people were on the waitlist for a subsidized registered assisted living unit, down from 918 in 2016.
- 19% decline in people waiting for placement in long-term care.
- The rate of antipsychotic use for B.C. residents without a diagnosis of psychosis decreased 2.1% from 28.0% to 25.9% though this is still higher than the national average.



**Karen Baillie** – Board President, BCCPA

Karen Baillie is the chief executive officer of Menno Place, a faith-based campus of care operated by the Mennonite Benevolent Society in Abbotsford. Ms Baillie has more than 35 years' experience in geriatric care including executive and senior management positions in administration, staffing, resident services and nursing.



**Daniel Fontaine** – Chief Executive Officer, BCCPA

Daniel Fontaine has an extensive background working in the non-profit and private sectors, as well as government. A graduate of the University of Manitoba in political science, Mr. Fontaine has worked closely with provincial cabinet ministers and was chief of staff to former Vancouver mayor Sam Sullivan.



**Paula Keays** – President, McKesson Canada

Paula Keays was appointed president of McKesson Canada in 2016. Ms. Keays is a chartered accountant and holds a Graduate Diploma in Public Accountancy from McGill University. She's held financial positions at both CTV Television and Lafarge Canada.

## INTRODUCTION

- Thank you, Paula [President McKesson Canada].
- Before we begin, I'd like to acknowledge with respect the history, customs and culture of the Coast Salish people, on whose territory and home we meet today.

[Minister to acknowledge other guests in attendance if desired.]

- I'd like to say a special hello to BC's seniors advocate, Isobel Mackenzie.
- Isobel and her team have been very busy lately – and in turn keeping us quite busy!
- The Office of the Seniors Advocate has released several reports recently that have been instrumental in informing the actions of government.

- Thank you for the work you do.
- I'd also like to thank the leadership of the BC Care Providers Association for your work in bringing this collaborative together.
- It's energizing to be surrounded by people working towards a common goal.
- And a goal we have indeed.
- More than one-fifth of BC's population is over 65, and the number of seniors is expected to rise from 883,300 in 2017 to 1.4 million by 2032.
- People are living longer than we ever have before.
- And the complexity of care needs has increased.

- Despite these growing pressures, health-care workers continue to provide extraordinary care here in BC – both in the community and in senior’s care homes.
- I saw this first-hand this summer during the wildfires when I was amazed with how quickly long-term care homes and staff were able to respond and keep their patients safe.

[Minister may wish to include a personal story about people he met during the wildfires.]

- But I’d also like to point out that often the challenges that come with an aging population is perceived as a burden.
- As our seniors’ population grows, it’s anticipated the rates of chronic diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and cancer will also rise.

- In fact, over the next ten years cancer cases in B.C. are expected to increase by 75%.
- And while I agree that we face real challenges – we also have an opportunity to do better and continue to improve the lives of seniors.
- Over the past 50 years, there have been some incredible achievements – the emergence of preventative drugs and better vaccines, surgical advances and organ transplants, and vast improvements in screening and diagnostics.
- And because of these breakthroughs, we are living longer, better lives.
- In 1967, the life expectancy for women was about 76 and 70 for men.

- Today, the life expectancy has increased by about 10 years as both women and men are expected to live into their 80s.
- We also owe this to some incredible innovations and to our publicly-funded health-care system, in which our whole population benefits equally from – regardless of social status, bank account or age.
- These advances mean many of us are blessed to still have our grandparents in our lives – and even great grand-parents – however, it does present us with some challenges.
- I know the ideas that come out of today will go a long way towards meeting the challenges of an aging population.

Current State

- On that - as you are aware - last March the previous provincial government announced \$500 million over the next four years to improve care for seniors in BC.
- The announcement was one that was well overdue...and the dollar figures looked really good in a news release...
- But unfortunately, having been briefed on the funding and strategy to achieve the goals, it has become all too clear to me that the previous government made commitments based assumptions on how they could use the federal funding.
- While the agreement was a combination of \$225 million of provincial funding and \$275 million of federal funding...

- We know now that the \$275 million in federal funding cannot be used for long-term care, its use for assisted living is limited and it does not include funding for an increase in staff.
- I'm disappointed and frustrated.
- Frustrated that work to strengthen senior's care was - in part - stalled because the previous government had not done its due diligence.
- In spite of that, my job is to meet our goals - that's what I'm committed to and what I intend to do.
- The good news is that the federal funds is still \$275 million and will go a long way to improving seniors' care, and I'd like to provide you with an update on that.

## Federal Agreement

- As part the agreement with Health Canada, \$26 million in federal funding is being put into the system this year...
- And a major priority of our agreement is to expand and strengthen services provided by professional home-care staff.
- It's less expensive to provide home care and community supports, and we know it's what people want.
- Most of the federal funding – approximately \$12 million will be for investments in increasing home support hours of care that can be provided.
- There will be a focus on supporting seniors to:

- avoid readmission following a hospital stay;
  - delay entry into long-term care;
  - and to better support adults with complex medical conditions to stay in their own homes.
- We also recognize we need to do a better job in supporting the many family members, friends, and neighbours who care for seniors.
  - Unpaid caregivers help seniors maintain their independence so they can live in their homes as long as possible.
  - Caregiving is not an easy job...

- As the Office of the Seniors Advocate's Caregiver Distress report shows the number of caregivers experiencing distress has risen to 31%.
- Over the remainder of this fiscal year, approximately \$1.6 million of the federal-provincial agreement will help strengthen supports for family and friends caring for loved ones by increasing the number of respite beds, expanding adult day programs and strengthening seniors' centres and other community-based services around the province.
- Because we know that supporting community-based seniors' services and unpaid caregivers are some of the most efficient ways to help seniors stay at home longer.

- We also know that we need to do a better job of ensuring people have access to good primary health care.
- Team-based care has great potential to help seniors – especially frail and medically complex seniors.
- By bringing teams of family doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers and other health-care professionals together we can better address everyday health issues and support long-term health needs like home care.
- The federal funds provide \$1.5 million to support this model of care.

- In addition, \$3.1 million is available for palliative care to increase staffing and hospice education and approximately \$5 million for professional services.

## Ministry Funding

- But we know that what you are most interested in is the ministry funding and how it will help you meet the very real challenges you face.
- I know that close to one third of care aides are over the age of 55 and approximately 50% of them are part-time or casual.
- Other than Northern Health, no other region has met the average of 3.36.

- To fill that gap we need to hire 900 net new care aides and that's not including the hires needed to cover attrition and retirement.
- Quite simply, we need more trained caregivers in the system.

## Staffing and Training

- Today, the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training funds 1,013 health-care assistant spots in 16 publicly-funded post-secondary institutions...
- Increasing that number is one thing we know we need to do to reach our goals.

- We also know there are ways we can make gains with existing staff by converting part-time and casual staff to full-time.
- We also know more staff are needed for assisted living and home care supports...
- And we need additional nurses, LPNs, allied health-care workers and other health-care professionals.
- It's clear we need more people in the system, and we want to work with you to ensure that BC is fully staffed to meet the needs of a growing aging population...
- Over the next week, you will see us begin to ramp up how we spend the ministry funding to help meet the goals that we all share...
- With the initial priority focused on conversion.

- Our government is committed to bringing care hours up to appropriate levels, and meeting the minimum of 3.36 direct care hours/day as an average by health authority.
- The Premier has given me the mandate to work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors to improve and strengthen services to ensure seniors receive dignified and quality care.
- And I take these commitments very seriously.

## CONCLUSION

- We're going to make sure seniors have a government that's working for them – one that helps them live

independently in their own home for as long as possible and if required, provides the best possible long-term care.

- In the coming months, you are going to see this funding fully distributed and being put to work.
- By helping seniors stay at home longer and by investing in quality long-term care, we reduce the demand on acute care and emergency beds and help provide much-needed relief to staff to ensure seniors get quality care.
- We know we cannot achieve any of these things without you...
- I am hopeful together we can improve what it means in BC to be a senior and the quality of life our health-care system provides these valuable members of society.

- Thank you again for having me today.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Adrian Dix**

Health Minister

## **BC Continuing Care Collaborative**

Sheraton Guildford Hotel  
15269 104 Ave  
Surrey, BC

January 26, 2018  
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**1:00 p.m. (speech)**

**Event Profile:**

The BC Care Providers Association (BCCPA), in partnership with the Ministry of Health, is hosting the Second Annual BC Continuing Care Collaborative, a day-long event to bring members of the seniors' care sector together to discuss this year's theme: "Help Wanted: Developing a Human Resource Strategy for Seniors Care."

**Audience:**

The audience will include more than 120 stakeholders from across the continuing care sector – care providers, government and health authority representatives, labour unions, NGOs, research and policy institutions, universities and training colleges, and frontline workers. Seniors advocate Isobel Mackenzie will also be in attendance. Media are invited.

**What does the audience want to hear?**

The BCCPA has suggested that Minister Dix address government's vision for continuing care; provide an update on the funding allocations for long term care and increasing direct care hours; updates on increasing home supports and home care visit times and relief for family caregivers; the upcoming budget and any personal anecdotes similar to his talk at the BC Health Leaders event.

**Notable attendees:**

Mike Bernier, MLA for Peace River South

Bob Breen, executive director, Catholic Health Association of BC

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**Event Details:**

Minister Dix has approximately 15 minutes to deliver his keynote, followed by a question and answer session for 10 minutes.

**Event Contact:**

Cathy Szmaus

Director of Events, BC Care Providers Association

s.22

[cathy@bccare.ca](mailto:cathy@bccare.ca)

Time	Itinerary
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1:00 p.m.	Minister Dix to provide keynote
1:15 p.m.	Q & A with minister
1:25 p.m.	Paula Keays to provide closing remarks
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## **Facts on Seniors in B.C.:**

### **Population**

- Over one-fifth of B.C.'s population is over 65 years old and the number of seniors is expected to rise from 883,300 in 2017 to an estimated 1.4 million by 2032.

### **Long-term Care**

- There are approximately 28,000 seniors in British Columbia who live in licensed long-term care facilities. This is approximately 4% of the seniors' population.
- As of September 30, 2017, the total capacity of publicly subsidized long-term care beds in B.C. was 27,967.
- Of these 9,110 are health authority operated, 18,857 are privately operated.
- Close to 85% of long-term care homes are not meeting the 3.36 direct care hours per resident day.
- The per cent of long-term care clients admitted to a long-term care facility within 30 days of being approved for service has remained fairly consistent since 2010/11 with 61% of clients being admitted within 30 days in 2016/17.

### **Assisted Living**

- As of October 10, 2017, 219 assisted living residences for seniors (both publicly subsidized and private pay) have been registered with a total of 8,208 registered publicly subsidized and private pay units (54% of these are publicly subsidized).
- The total number of publicly subsidized assisted living units in B.C. as of October 10, 2017 was 4,418

### **Home Support Services**

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- The average time from date accepted for service to start of home support services was 3.9 days in 2015/16, up from 1.7 in 2012/13.

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- The seniors advocate notes that since her first review, the number of caregivers experiencing distress has risen to 31%.

### **Office of the Seniors Advocate Monitoring Seniors Services – notable stats**

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- While there has been a 1.5% increase in funded long-term care beds since last year, the population aged 75+ increased by 3.5%.
- Staffing violations as a percent of licensing regulations violations have increased from 12.1% to 19.3%.
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- 13% increase in new clients admitted to long-term care facilities.

- 6% increase in complaints about long-term care.
- 5.7% increase in clients receiving professional home care services.
- 23.5% increase in complaints about the home care sector.
- 750 people were on the waitlist for a subsidized registered assisted living unit, down from 918 in 2016.
- 19% decline in people waiting for placement in long-term care.
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## PARTICIPANTS

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**Karen Baillie** – Board President, BCCPA

Karen Baillie is the chief executive officer of Menno Place, a faith-based campus of care operated by the Mennonite Benevolent Society in Abbotsford. Ms Baillie has more than 35 years' experience in geriatric care including executive and senior management positions in administration, staffing, resident services and nursing.



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## **INTRODUCTION**

- Thank you, Paula [**President McKesson Canada**].
- Before we begin, I'd like to acknowledge with respect the history, customs and culture of the Coast Salish people, on whose territory and home we meet today.

**[Minister to acknowledge other guests in attendance if desired.]**

- I'd like to say a special hello to BC's seniors advocate, Isobel Mackenzie.

- Isobel and her team have been very busy lately – and in turn keeping us quite busy!
- The Office of the Seniors Advocate has released several reports recently that have been instrumental in informing the actions of government.
- Thank you for the work you do.
- I'd also like to thank the leadership of the BC Care Providers Association for your work in bringing this collaborative together.
- It's energizing to be surrounded by people working towards a common goal.

- And a goal we have indeed.
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- People are living longer than we ever have before.
- And the complexity of care needs has increased.
- Despite these growing pressures, health-care workers continue to provide extraordinary care here in BC – both in the community and in senior's care homes.

- I saw this first-hand this summer during the wildfires when I was amazed with how quickly long-term care homes and staff were able to respond and keep their patients safe.

**[Minister may wish to include a personal story about people he met during the wildfires.]**

- But I'd also like to point out that often the challenges that come with an aging population is perceived as a burden.
- As our seniors' population grows, it's anticipated the rates of chronic diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes and cancer will also rise.

- In fact, over the next ten years cancer cases in B.C. are expected to increase by 75%.
- And while I agree that we face real challenges – we also have an opportunity to do better and continue to improve the lives of seniors.
- Over the past 50 years, there have been some incredible achievements – the emergence of preventative drugs and better vaccines, surgical advances and organ transplants, and vast improvements in screening and diagnostics.
- And because of these breakthroughs, we are living longer, better lives.

- In 1967, the life expectancy for women was about 76 and 70 for men.
- Today, the life expectancy has increased by about 10 years as both women and men are expected to live into their 80s.
- We also owe this to some incredible innovations and to our publicly-funded health-care system, in which our whole population benefits equally from – regardless of social status, bank account or age.
- These advances mean many of us are blessed to still have our grandparents in our lives – and even great grand-parents – however, it does present us with some challenges.

- I know the ideas that come out of today will go a long way towards meeting the challenges of an aging population.

### **Current State**

- On that - as you are aware - last March the previous provincial government announced \$500 million over the next four years to improve care for seniors in BC.
- The announcement was one that was well overdue...and the dollar figures looked really good in a news release...

- But unfortunately, having been briefed on the funding and strategy to achieve the goals, it has become all too clear to me that the previous government made commitments based assumptions on how they could use the federal funding.
- While the agreement was a combination of \$225 million of provincial funding and \$275 million of federal funding...
- We know now that the \$275 million in federal funding cannot be used for long-term care, its use for assisted living is limited and it does not include funding for an increase in staff.

- I'm disappointed and frustrated.
- Frustrated that work to strengthen senior's care was - in part - stalled because the previous government had not done its due diligence.
- In spite that, my job is to meet our goals - that's what I'm committed to and what I intend to do.
- The good news is that the federal funds is still \$275 million and will go a long way to improving seniors' care, and I'd like to provide you with an update on that.

## **Federal Agreement**

- A major priority of our agreement is to expand and strengthen services provided by professional home-care staff.
- It's less expensive to provide home care and community supports, and we know it's what people want.
- Most of the federal funding will be for investments in increasing home support hours of care that can be provided.
- There will be a focus on supporting seniors to:

- avoid readmission following a hospital stay;
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- We also recognize we need to do a better job in supporting the many family members, friends, and neighbours who care for seniors.
  - Unpaid caregivers help seniors maintain their independence so they can live in their homes as long as possible.

- Caregiving is not an easy job...
- As the Office of the Seniors Advocate's Caregiver Distress report shows the number of caregivers experiencing distress has risen to 31%.
- Over the remainder of this fiscal year, funding from the federal-provincial agreement will help strengthen supports for family and friends caring for loved ones by increasing the number of respite beds, expanding adult day programs and strengthening seniors' centres and other community-based services around the province.

- Because we know that supporting community-based seniors' services and unpaid caregivers are some of the most efficient ways to help seniors stay at home longer.
- We also know that we need to do a better job of ensuring people have access to good primary health care.
- Team-based care has great potential to help seniors – especially frail and medically complex seniors.

- By bringing teams of family doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, social workers and other health-care professionals together we can better address everyday health issues and support long-term health needs like home care.
- The federal funds will also support this model of care.
- In addition, funding is available for palliative care to increase staffing and hospice education and for professional services.

## **Ministry Funding**

- But we know that what you are most interested in is the ministry funding and how it will help you meet the very real challenges you face.
- I know that close to one third of care aides are over the age of 55 and approximately 50% of them are part-time or casual.
- Other than Northern Health, no other region has met the average of 3.36.
- To fill that gap we need to hire 900 net new care aides and that's not including the hires needed to cover attrition and retirement.

- Quite simply, we need more trained caregivers in the system.

### **Staffing and Training**

- Today, the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training funds 1,013 health-care assistant spots in 16 publicly-funded post-secondary institutions...
- Increasing that number is one thing we know we need to do to reach our goals.

- We also know there are ways we can make gains with existing staff by converting part-time and casual staff to full-time.
- We also know more staff are needed for assisted living and home care supports...
- And we need additional nurses, LPNs, allied health-care workers and other health-care professionals.
- It's clear we need more people in the system, and we want to work with you to ensure that BC is fully staffed to meet the needs of a growing aging population...

- Over the next week, you will see us begin to ramp up how we spend the ministry funding to help meet the goals that we all share...
- With the initial priority focused on conversion.
- Our government is committed to bringing care hours up to appropriate levels, and meeting the minimum of 3.36 direct care hours/day as an average by health authority.
- The Premier has given me the mandate to work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors to improve and strengthen services to ensure seniors receive dignified and quality care.

- And I take these commitments very seriously.

## **CONCLUSION**

- We're going to make sure seniors have a government that's working for them – one that helps them live independently in their own home for as long as possible and if required, provides the best possible long-term care.
- In the coming months, you are going to see this funding fully distributed and being put to work.

- By helping seniors stay at home longer and by investing in quality long-term care, we reduce the demand on acute care and emergency beds and help provide much-needed relief to staff to ensure seniors get quality care.
- We know we cannot achieve any of these things without you...
- I am hopeful together we can improve what it means in BC to be a senior and the quality of life our health-care system provides these valuable members of society.
- Thank you again for having me today.

SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Adrian Dix**

Minister of Health

## **Health care in the Abbotsford**

Abbotsford General Hospital  
Conference room 1&2 in the Learning Centre  
Hospital Level 1, Fraser Wing

January 19, 2018  
12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

**Event Profile:**

Speech along with a Q&A session from Minister Dix on health care in the Abbotsford.

**Notable attendees:**

- Minister Adrian Dix
- Amanda Van Baarsen
- MLA Darryl Plecas

- Amber Born, assistant to MLA Plecas
- Alan Mullen
- Mayor Henry Braun
- Dr. Shavinder Gill, Internist
- Karen Ballie, CEO Menno Place and Board President, BCCPA  
(NB: Ms. Ballie will also be attending the Continuing Care Collaborative event on Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>)
- Rod Santiago, Executive Director of Abbotsford Community Services
- Shairose Jinnah, Director Counselling, Child, Youth and Family Services
- Neil Stark, Director Advocacy, Seniors and Community Living
- Manpreet Grewal, Director Multicultural Services
- Michael Marchbank, CEO of Fraser Health Authority
- Jim Sinclair, Chair, Fraser Health Authority Board member (unconfirmed)
- Markus Delves, Fraser Health Authority Board member
- Willie Charlie Fraser Health Authority Board member
- MP Ed Fast, Member of Parliament for Abbotsford (unconfirmed)

### **What does the audience want to hear?**

Those in Abbotsford community and health organizations would like to hear about the minister's vision for health care in the region.

### **Facts on health care in Abbotsford:**

- In Fraser Health, the Abbotsford local health area (LHA) ranked in the top five for number of unattached patients (30,194) and percentage of unattached patients (20%) in 2016/17.

- In B.C. overall, the Abbotsford LHA ranked fifth by number of unattached patients and eighth by percentage of unattached patients in 2016/17.
- Abbotsford emergency department ranked sixth in the province for number of ED visits and fourth for number of unattached patients with a Canadian Triage and Acuity Stage 4 or 5 visit.
- Abbotsford was identified second after Surrey for communities in Fraser requiring urgent care services. Planning is currently moving ahead in Surrey. The Ministry will be working with the Abbotsford Division of Family Practice to develop urgent care services in Abbotsford as part of the primary care network.
- In 2016/17 in Abbotsford, there were 146 general practitioners, 60% of whom are those who are considered to have a community-based practice and have an ongoing doctor-patient relationship for at least the past 12 months.
- Within the health authority, there are 1,608 general practitioners, of whom 66.7% have a similar community-based practice. At the provincial level, this percentage is 61.5%.
- Fraser Health is planning to replace the existing Cottage and Worthington Pavilions in Abbotsford with a new bed residential care facility. In addition, Fraser Health has plans to build a new Community Health Centre proposed for the old MSA site to serve the Abbotsford community.
- As of September 2017, based on a population of 10,000 for both residential care beds and assisted living units, Abbotsford has a higher number of beds than provincial standard. Abbotsford has 342 residential care beds and 64 assisted living units, per the 10,000 population aged 65+. The provincial number is 317 residential care beds and 50 assisted living units.
- The Ministry has provided \$15 million to Fraser Health to expand the emergency department and add a dedicated area for mental-health and substance-use care. Construction is anticipated to start late 2018 or early 2019.
- Capital investments underway include the Abbotsford Regional Hospital Emergency Department Expansion (\$15 million), Parking Lot Expansion (\$1.73

million), Integrated Plan of Care for the Emergency Department and Maternity (\$1.97 million), and Cardiac Services Integration (\$0.52 million).

- Future capital investment for the Abbotsford Complex Residential Care facility-budget to be confirmed when business plan is completed.
- Abbotsford Regional Hospital and Cancer Centre is a 300-bed Canadian health care facility in the City of Abbotsford, that houses the acute care Abbotsford Regional Hospital and the regional cancer facility (Abbotsford Centre) operated by the BC Cancer Agency.

**Other health initiatives in the City of Abbotsford: (information from Fraser Health):**

- Opioid Agonist Therapy at the Abbotsford Addiction Centre since September 2017
- Mental Health and Substance Use (MHSU) service enhanced nurse practitioner, social work and nurse supports
- Integrated Transition of Care Team for clients with MHSU need post discharge from acute care
- Added 24/7 psychiatric nurse and waiting room ambassador in emergency
- Nurse practitioner in ICU and cardiac care
- New and expanded: Gestational Diabetes Clinic, Sleep Lab, MS Clinic
- Nighttime renal dialysis
- MRI 24/7
- Expanded day program for older adults
- Expanded frail seniors program including rapid response nurse, case managers, pharmacist, social work and rehab staff

**Key Messages:**

- **Our government is committed to providing British Columbians with a publicly funded health-care system that is there for them when they need it – this includes patients and families in the Fraser Valley and here in Abbotsford.**
- **We will do that by providing better access to comprehensive health services**

when people need them, including care ‘after hours’ for non-life threatening illnesses or injuries...

- And, by creating access to urgent care services, and other flexible primary and community care options that meet specific local community needs.
- We also see team-based care as having great potential to help more people access care and this is one of our top priorities. By bringing teams of family doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses and other health-care professionals together we can better address everyday health issues and support long-term health needs like home care.
- The Premier has given me the mandate to work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors, MLA Anne Kang, to improve and strengthen services to ensure seniors receive dignified and quality care as we work to strengthen the services seniors receive at home, in the community and in residential care.
- Our government is committed to bringing care hours up to appropriate levels, and meeting an average of 3.36 direct care hours per resident day by health authority.
- We are also looking at strengthening accountability from providers to ensure staffing standards and levels are met and maintained, as well as the breadth and quality of quality of home support.
- Making life more affordable is also important – whether that is reducing the cost of prescription drugs, or supporting people when care is not available locally through funding or telehealth and other innovative services.

## SPEAKING NOTES

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### Introduction

- Thank you for inviting me to be here.

**[Should the Minister wish to acknowledge MLA Plecas, the mayor or others in the room and their contribution to Abbotsford, he could do so here]**

- I would also like to acknowledge with respect the history, customs and culture of the Sto:lo (staw-low) People, on whose territory we are gathered today.
- My whole day is focused on health care in the Fraser Valley, in particular Abbotsford, and listening to what is important to you and your communities.
- I have had the opportunity to speak with representatives from the South Asian and seniors community, along with SARA for Women, Kinghaven Treatment Centre and, the Fraser Valley Healthcare Foundation.

**[Should the Minister wish to speak about his meetings from this morning, he could further reference them here]**

- I believe it is important to speak with the people who are delivering health care on the front lines to truly hear what is working and what is not.
- There are some health-care challenges in this region, but there are just as many opportunities.

## **Mandate**

- Our government is committed to providing British Columbians with a publicly funded health-care system that is there for them when and where they need it.

- We are working to deliver timely, effective health services to people throughout this province ... services that they can count on every day.
- As people familiar with your community's needs and health-care services, you know what an impact this will also have on the strength and success of your region.
- We are working to ensure people will have better access to team-based primary health-care including teams at urgent family-care centres that will be established throughout the province.
- For our seniors who helped shape the system we rely on today, we will ensure they will receive dignified, quality care as we work to strengthen the services they receive at home, in the community and in residential care facilities.
- It will be easier for people to get the timely care they need with provincewide management and monitoring of waitlists, and as we expand on proven approaches to reducing wait times.
- And for those on the frontlines of health-care delivery, we are committed to building a strong, sustainable, and innovative sector that fosters the wellbeing of health-care professionals and supports them in providing the best possible care.

## **Primary Care**

- Increasing patient attachment, or the ongoing relationship between a doctor or nurse practitioner and patient, is a challenge throughout the province and across the country.

- In Abbotsford last year (2016/17) just over 30,000 residents did not have that ongoing relationship with a doctor or nurse practitioner.
- We know a that patient who has an ongoing relationship with a doctor, nurse practitioner or team-based care provider reduces hospitalizations and improves outcomes for patients with chronic diseases.
- Here in your community, the Abbotsford Division of Family Practice has worked to establish team-based care in the community.
- Some examples include:
  - With a significant number of patients in the community dealing with diet-related chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, the Abbotsford Division of Family Practice launched a pilot project that involved four part-time dietitians providing service to patients of more than 30 general practitioners. Results included patients achieving healthier weights, shorter wait times, and ongoing support for patients in setting realistic, achievable goals.
  - Vulnerable populations in Abbotsford have better access to health care thanks to a collaborative effort between the Abbotsford Division, Fraser Health, the Salvation Army, and community partners including Medical Towers Pharmacy. A clinic located in the Abbotsford Salvation Army – Centre of Hope offers

interdisciplinary medical care provided by general practitioners, a registered nurse, and a nurse practitioner. Patients are also connected with housing, transportation, and social support resources when needed.

- A review by Fraser Health and the Abbotsford Division found that patients using the clinic regularly have less frequent need for emergency room services and are better connected to follow-up services when they do have to visit the hospital.
- In addition to the benefits I just spoke about, team-based care also reduces duplication and streamlines care, increasing the efficiency and sustainability of the health system. And, it enhances the care experience for both patients and providers.
- It is work like this that we want to continue to support and strengthen.

### **Congestion at Abbotsford Regional Hospital**

- I think we have to acknowledge that while this work is underway people still use the emergency department at Abbotsford Regional Hospital for care.
- No one wants to spend hours waiting for care while their loved one is in pain and discomfort. We must do better.
- Through attachment to a primary care provider, team-based care and urgent care centre strategies we want to better support patients in accessing the most appropriate place for care.
- But we also know that people need to use our emergency departments and so the expansion of the emergency department, which is slated to get underway in 2019,

will also support better care for people using the emergency department.

## **Seniors**

- Seniors make up more than one-sixth of BC's population, and the number of seniors is expected to rise from approximately 850,000 in 2016 to 1.4 million over the next 15 years.
- Fraser Health has let us know that the current allotment of residential care beds does not meet the needs of the community, but that they have a plan to address this.
- Fraser Health is planning to replace the existing Cottage and Worthington Pavilions in Abbotsford with a new bed residential care facility. In addition, Fraser Health has plans to build a new Community Health Centre proposed for the old MSA site to serve the community.
- Over the past two years, Fraser Health has invested additional resources into supporting frail seniors to live in their own homes – this includes a rapid response nurse to avoid visits to emergency; increased capacity to send the most appropriate care professional to meet clients' needs; and more home support resources.
- One of the major goals for seniors that we are proceeding with is the commitment to bring care hours up to appropriate levels, and meet the minimum average of 3.36 direct care hours per resident day in each health authority.
- There is also a focus on strengthening accountability from providers to ensure staffing standards and levels are met and maintained, along with expanding the

breadth and quality of home support.

- Fraser Health is already taking steps to reach these goals including funding 18 new publicly subsidized beds at Langley Lodge and Fort Langley Care Centre; and 20 new publicly subsidized beds located at Cascade Lodge and Valleyhaven at 3.36 direct care hours per resident day.
- We also know that increasing the number of care providers will be a key part of increasing care for seniors and the Ministry of Health has developed a health and human resources strategy to educate, recruit and retain more health aides in British Columbia.

[Minister to expand on this commitment should he wish]

## **Conclusion**

- Health care is complex, challenging, deeply personal and rewarding – and I know there is no easy fix to problems that have developed over years.
- But I have no doubt about the commitment we share to address challenges and elevate health care in this province.
- We know we need to meet patient needs as well as the needs of physicians, nurses and other health-care professionals in order to attract the best and brightest to our province, as well as to move our vision for health care into the future to meet the needs of the aging population.

- I am confident our collaboration, plans and vision will result in a system that better meets the needs of people every day.
- Thank you for your time.

# **SPEAKING NOTES**

**HONOURABLE DOUG DONALDSON**

**MINISTER OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE  
OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

## **AME Roundup**

**Annual Government and Mineral Exploration &  
Development Industry Forum**

**Ballroom A, Vancouver Convention Centre West  
1055 Canada Place**

**Monday, January 22, 2018**

**2:00 – 4:15 p.m.**

***(check against delivery)***

## Event brief

Association for Mineral Exploration (AME) is the lead association for the mineral exploration and development industry based in British Columbia. Established in 1912, AME represents, advocates, protects and promotes the interests of thousands of members who are engaged in mineral exploration and development in B.C. and throughout the world. AME encourages a safe, economically strong and environmentally responsible industry by providing clear initiatives, policies, events and tools to support its membership.

The AME conference is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> year in 2018. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> government forum.

## AME ROUNDUP Agenda

2:00 p.m.	Introductions & Safety Moment	Edie Thome, President & CEO, AME
2:05 p.m.	Welcoming Remarks – Federal Government	Kim Rudd, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources
2:15 p.m.	Yukon Ministry of Energy, Mines and Resources	Deputy Premier & Minister Ranj Pilai
<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>BC Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development</b>	<b>Minister Doug Donaldson</b>
2:45 p.m.	BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation	Minister Scott Fraser
3:00 p.m.	BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy	Minister George Heyman
3:15 p.m.	Northwest Territories Ministry of Mines	Minister Wally Schumann
3:30 p.m.	Facilitated Question Period	Delegates/All Panelists
3:45 p.m.	Panelists Closing Remarks	All
4:05 p.m.	Thank You and Closing Remarks	Diane Nicholson, AME Chairperson (and President of Amarc Resources Ltd.)
4:15 p.m.	End	

**Speaking time and set up:** 15 minutes – at podium. Moderated Q&A after all panelists have spoken.

**Media are invited.**

- Thank you, Edie.
- Also thanks to Deputy Premier Ranj Pillai for his presentation.
- Traditional territory: Coast Salish Peoples
- I'm Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.
- Some of you might also remember me from my recent role as mining critic in opposition. I'm enjoying being in government
- I was asked to speak to you today about:
  - The modernization of land use planning,
  - Resource roads, and
  - Caribou conservation efforts.
- British Columbia is home to an incredible richness in communities, natural resources and biodiversity.
- British Columbians have a connection to the land – and it seems everyone has an opinion on how it should be managed.

- B.C.'s land base is 94% Crown land – which means it's owned by all British Columbians. Our role in government is to ensure that it is managed in the public interest – and again – for all British Columbians.
- From mining companies and other natural resource development industries, to Indigenous communities, to environmental groups, we need to consider all needs and interests.

## **LAND USE PLANNING**

- One of my tasks from Premier Horgan is to “Work with the Minister of Indigenous Relations, First Nations and communities to modernize land-use planning and sustainably manage B.C.'s ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth”.
- This direction – in conjunction with our commitment to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of

Indigenous People and Reconciliation – means a new approach to land use planning.

- An approach that recognizes that we need to work in partnership with First Nations.
- We have developed the following principles to help guide a new approach to land use planning:
  1. The Province and First Nation governments will work as partners to update strategic land use direction where needed and in doing so, we will also strengthen reconciliation.
  2. Community engagement
    - This is an essential component that includes local governments, industry, organizations, stakeholders and the public.
  3. Land use planning that is scalable

- In other words, we need to shape the approach to land use planning to the geography and complexity of issues.
- not all planning processes need to take years to complete. By using a scaled, focused planning approach we can address local needs.

#### 4. Ensure a balanced approach

- Outcomes will be based on consideration of all views, including social, environmental and economic objectives.

#### 5. Build efficiencies such as proper review and analysis of existing land use plans

- This means we need to confirm what is working and what isn't. Resources can then be directed to only

those areas that need an updated approach to land use planning.

- I know that land use planning is a topic of intense interest and sometimes controversial for your sector.
- Mineral resources are hidden, and a successful mining sector requires access across a large landbase to explore, and ultimately to find new mines that enhance our province.
- We also know that many mining projects in B.C. face land use controversies, and that land use uncertainty makes the permitting processes difficult.
- Ultimately, we want to have land use plans that confirm that access is available for exploration and development across a broad reach of B.C.'s rich mineral resources. So that when a company submits a proposal, the land use is clear and the proponent can focus on the important regulatory processes and meaningful engagement with Indigenous people.

- I invite your sector to work with us in making modernized land use planning successful.
- We want our approach to meaningfully address the real conflicts that are out there.
- We want to have the flexibility and tools to build the values of Indigenous people into land use direction. If done properly it can ensure clarity of access to the vast and important mineral resources in B.C..
- As we develop the approach over the next year we will ensure we remain connected with you.

## **RESOURCE ROADS**

- The province's extensive resource road infrastructure on crown land supports economic activity and provides safe road access to rural communities, residents and recreation areas for all British Columbians.

- Many of these roads provide access for mineral exploration and economic development based on the principle of “open” and “free” access.
- The previous government had attempted to consolidate the existing legislative regime into a single omnibus act – but this proved too costly and complex.
- We are currently exploring the merits of a simpler approach under the Resource Roads Project.
  - The goal is to improve safety for all road users and align resource road use rules across all industries.
- As a part of this new approach, we will be considering aligning road use rules under the ministry’s legislation and the *Oil and Gas Activities Act* that would standardize safety rules on over 95 per cent of provincial resource roads.
- The benefits of this proposed change to the mining and mineral exploration community include:

- Safer access to resource roads that lead to mine sites and exploration areas,
  - Continued open and free road access, and
  - A consistent regime for Special Use Permits.
- Again, stay tuned for more information on this potential new approach to the management of resource roads.

## **CARIBOU PLANNING**

- The first and foremost message I would like to share with everyone in the room is THANK YOU for recognizing and supporting the need for caribou recovery efforts in B.C.
- As you know, under the federal Species At Risk Act, all Woodland caribou populations in Canada have been identified as needing special management actions because of the caribou's declining population trends.
- Today there are about 19,000 caribou in the province compared to between 30 and 40 thousand in the early 1900s.

- Caribou are sensitive to habitat disturbance and increases in predation, which both have links to resource development.
- We know there isn't a single approach to save our caribou. It is a complex scenario with many stakeholders. Even the caribou themselves present unique challenges due to the number of different herds, their varying habitat use, and their differing geographic locations.
- But, with concentrated, collaborative efforts by the province with industry, First Nations and other community support,
  - we aim to STOP the caribou's receding population, and
  - recover caribou herds to sustainable populations
- Our commitment to caribou conservation includes a number of activities, including:
  - Restoring and protecting critical caribou habitat
  - Expanding on existing maternal penning projects

- Predator management
- Increased research and monitoring, and
- Increased compliance and enforcement
- Our government is working with Canada to develop a Conservation Agreement that is likely to reduce the risk of federal intervention on several mining properties while enabling caribou recovery.
- We will continue to work closely with the federal government and the mining sector to ensure officials are aware of:
  - the benefits of mine development in B.C.,
  - the potential impacts to investor confidence, and
  - the importance of access to minerals.
- The caribou is important to the history and landscape of this province and as a government, we will continue to manage this species at risk using a collaborative approach.

- I want to acknowledge the leadership that many mining companies are showing with respect to caribou conservation. Many projects have excellent mitigation practices, some have redesigned their footprints to avoid critical habitat, and some companies have recognized that a strategic approach is required where they assist in making sure some areas of critical habitat are not disturbed.
- These approaches have often helped demonstrate that projects can proceed. The recent approval by the federal government of the Murray River project is a good example of how proactive solutions can ensure projects proceed at the same time as protecting habitat for caribou.
- With that said, we are continuing the conversation with industry and the public so watch for more engagement opportunities coming up within the next few months.
- Thank you.

# SPEAKING NOTES

## **The Honourable Doug Donaldson**

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
And Rural Development

### **Truck Loggers Association Convention and Trade Show 2018**

**Crystal Ballroom,  
Fairmont Empress Hotel  
Victoria, B.C.**

**Friday, Jan 19, 2018**

*(Check Against Delivery)*

7:30 a.m.  8:00am – 8:10am	<p><b>BREAKFAST Starts</b></p> <p><b>Mike Richardson (newly elected President)</b></p> <p>Welcome Guests and Students to Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Breakfast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce President of PLC: <b>Joe Miller</b> to give a few words regarding PLC for the coming year. (2-3 minutes)</li> <li>• Mike Richardson call Brenda Martin up to explain Pigeonhole and Audience Poll Test Questions</li> </ul> <p><b>Mike Richardson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduces Sponsor Inland Group and our Moderator of this session <b>Tracey Russell</b></li> </ul> <p>Bio: Tracey Russell is Vice President – Equipment Operations for the Inland group responsible for the 15 locations in BC &amp; Yukon. <sup>s.22</sup></p> <p>s.22</p>
8:10am – 8:40am	<p><b>Tracey Russell:</b> Invite Minister Donaldson to the podium. Minister Donaldson will give a 5-minute speech. Then, Minister Donaldson will take a seat beside Tracey Russell on stage; and Q&amp;A will begin.</p>
8:40am – 8:43am	<p><b>Mike Richardson</b></p> <p>Thank speakers and presents gifts</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite Dave MacNaught up to the stage to present scholarships</li> </ul>
8:43am – 9:00am	<p><b>Dave McNaught (TLA Board Member, with Seaspray Log Scaling Ltd.)</b></p> <p><b><u>Truck Loggers Association Awards at BCIT</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rand Reid</li> <li>• Megan Bose</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Truck Loggers Association Scholarships at UBC</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• William Bradley</li> <li>• Fraser Stewart-Barnett</li> <li>• Ruby Yee-Brooks</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Bert Welch TLA Scholarship in Forest Operations at UBC:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Andres</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dave Husby TLA Scholarship in Forest Operations at UBC:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alex Tang</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Truck Loggers Association Award for Forestry at VIU</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Birks</li> <li>• Catherine Fleury</li> <li>• Eric MacLean</li> <li>• Rianna Martindale</li> <li>• Derrick Stewart</li> <li>• Jeremy Strom</li> <li>• Alexandra Vallée</li> <li>• Darren Vandergrift</li> <li>• Eric Wilson</li> <li>• Stephanie Wilson</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Truck Loggers Association &amp; Chevron Award for Heavy Equipment Operator Technician at VIU</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S Mitchell Dixon</li> <li>• Tye Mckie</li> </ul> <p><b>Dave MacNaught then invites students and Minister to Library Room for photos.</b></p>

- Good morning
- Acknowledge territory of Lekwungen speaking people
- First, I would like to congratulate the TLA on its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary – that’s quite an accomplishment.
- And when I look around the room, it’s great to see so many more faces than were at the first convention in 1944.
- I’m pleased to be speaking to you this morning as the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.
- I had an interesting start in my new role – becoming the Minister in the midst of the province’s longest ever state of emergency and record-breaking wildfire season.
- I’m sure some of you here today were able to lend a hand. While the wildfires were an unprecedented natural disaster, they also brought out the best in British Columbians.
- We received over 1,600 nominations for peoples and groups to be recognized as part of the Above and Beyond Awards.
- And now, we’re in the midst of unprecedented recovery efforts – focused on helping people and communities that were impacted, as well as restoring our Interior forests and ecosystems.

- For those of you who don't know me, I come from Hazelton. It's a small town in the province's largest geographic riding.
- I'm quite familiar with the importance of forestry to rural economies. I know what happens when a mill closes down.
- Forestry is one of our founding industries and today directly supports more than 60,000 families in over 140 communities around the Province. In 2016, forest product exports totaled \$12.9 billion.
- Forestry provides important revenues to government that help fund health care and education.
- Forestry is not without its challenges. There's the mountain pine beetle, the spruce beetles, wildfires and the unfair, unwarranted and unjust duties imposed by the U.S. on Canadian softwood lumber products.
- There is also the new trade action against uncoated groundwood paper, which affects Catalyst Paper.
- In the short-term, lumber prices remain high – more than \$100 per board feet than the same time last year. Those high prices are helping to offset the impact of the softwood lumber duties.
- Canada has filed appealed with the World Trade Organization and NAFTA – we continue to work closely with

the federal government and B.C. industry to mount the best possible defence.

- We're confident that we'll win in litigation – but it is a lengthy process.
- In the meantime, there are bright spots and opportunities for improvement. We continue to diversify markets for B.C. wood products. I led a forestry trade mission to China and Japan in November (Clint Parcher from Coastland Industries, proudly shared "Forestry feeds my family" stickers with all mission delegates). and Premier Horgan is leading a broader sector trade mission to China, Japan and South Korea starting tomorrow.
- Market diversification also includes increasing domestic wood use.
- The Wood Innovation and Design Centre, here in Prince George, and the newly opened 18-storey Brock Commons student residence at UBC are two recent examples of how we can increase domestic use of wood.
- Our goal is to enhance B.C.'s leadership in advanced forest technologies and wood innovation.

- We want to show how our forest sector can, and does, contribute to a strong, resilient and forward-looking economy.
- In his mandate letter to me, Premier Horgan asked that I expand our innovative wood-products sector by addressing regulatory and capital barriers, and to work with my cabinet colleagues to ensure public projects prioritize the use of B.C. wood.
- Through research and the use of new, innovative products, we can support a diversified sector that provides benefits to all British Columbians.
- I've also been tasked to work with communities and industry to develop a fair, lasting strategy to create more jobs processing more logs in B.C. and to renew our forests by expanding investments in reforestation.
- We are interested in actions that create and support well-paying B.C. jobs.
- We're interested in a sustainable forest economy that works for all British Columbians.
- Yesterday, Premier Horgan talked about British Columbians and our connection to the land.

- In B.C., 94% of our land is Crown land – owned by the people of British Columbia.
- Our job as government is to ensure it is managed in the public interest.
- That is also why my colleague George Heyman has been tasked with reviewing the professional reliance regime.
- Yesterday Premier Horgan talked about the need to increase and renew the social licence for forestry and ensuring all British Columbians – especially those in rural communities – Indigenous and non-Indigenous – can share in the benefits derived from forestry activities.
- That means reviewing the outcomes of the professional reliance, and reviewing the outcomes from George Abbott’s logging contractor sustainability review.
- I’m expecting George’s report at the end of the month. And next steps will be determined after that.
- I’m also excited to be spearheaded a new rural development strategy – one that reflects the interests of rural communities.
- Rural communities and forestry as an industry are both resilient and we need to ensure we have the policies in place so both can flourish.

- I look forward to continued discussion on these topics over the next four years.
- Thank you.

[Q&A follows]

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### 1. International Trade

You recently returned from Asia where you and a delegation of BC producers were marketing BC forest products.

**Question:** Did you make any progress and from what you have seen, how do Asian customers view our coastal products in comparison to other suppliers? Are they only price driven or does our unique species and quality matter?

- In November, I was lucky to lead the largest-ever forest sector trade mission to Asia. Clint Parcher from Coastland and a TLA board member also participated.

### Japan

- B.C. is a leading supplier of wood products to Japan – with a 35% share.
- It's an established market in Japan – B.C. has had a presence there for over 40 years.
- Japan remains interested in high-quality wood products from B.C.'s coast.
- In Japan, we're looking to expand the use of wood into multi-family residential, mid-rise and public and institutional construction.
- While on the mission, we visited Doggy Island Resort, which is expanding its operations and using wood in a new building which will add 42 rooms.

### China

- In China, increased urbanization, the growing middle class and new focus on environmental concerns has created demand for wood products – and higher-value wood products.

- Our marketing efforts are focused on prefabrication in construction, such as use of wood in-fill walls, and increasing the uptake of wood frame construction in the tourism and resort sector.
- On the mission, one of the manufacturers we visited had a model of Brock Commons in its showroom.
- And, in Jiangsu Province, we signed an MOU with a resort developer who was interested in building with wood because of its beauty and benefits for the environment.
- One of their showcases there was a restaurant using heavy timber construction, designed by a B.C. architect.
- Accessing the growing opportunities in China's manufacturing sector is also a priority.

## **India**

- India also holds potential as a growth market for coastal products. My deputy minister is over there right now with a delegation to commemorate completion of several design workshops at the Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology in Ahmedabad.
- This is further to an MOU that was signed last year.
- The design workshops model sustainable architecture, and our hope is to inspire other builders, architects and consumers to experience the natural beauty of Canadian wood.
- By collaborating on demonstration projects and facilitating product trials with wood product manufacturers, we are increasing commercial sales for B.C. companies, as our lumber is now available in the timber markets of most major cities across India.

## **2. Softwood Lumber:**

It appears the 20% softwood lumber duties have had minimal impact so far and that it is "business as usual" given the buoyant

markets we have today. But we all know markets go up and down and that price drops are inevitable.

**Question:** Given we have been down this road many times before and we don't seem to ever get anywhere with the U.S. Coalition, what is your government planning to do to ensure that BC gets out from under US pressures or should we just do what we want and manage our resources for the benefit of British Columbians?

- We're committed to a sustainable economy that works for all British Columbians, and that includes forestry.
- We do need to continue to grow and expand our markets for B.C. wood products in Asia, but we also need to continue to grow and diversify B.C. markets for wood products.
- Our goal is to enhance B.C.'s leadership in advanced forest technologies and wood innovation. We want to show how our forest sector can, and does, contribute to a strong, resilient and forward-looking economy.
- In his mandate letter to me, Premier Horgan asked that I expand our innovative wood-products sector by addressing regulatory and capital barriers, and to work with my cabinet colleagues to ensure public projects prioritize the use of B.C. wood.
- Through research and the use of new, innovative products, we can support a diversified sector that provides benefits to all British Columbians.

### **1. Audience Poll for Contractors Only:**

With so many unknowns overshadowing your business, including the softwood lumber dispute, how do you view the outlook for your business for 2018?

- |  |
|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Positive</li><li>2. Neutral</li><li>3. Negative</li></ol> |
|--|

### **3. Protecting the Working Forest:**

Forestry is the backbone of rural BC, supporting fully 40 per cent of the province's regional economies. But the pressure to end logging is always ever present as we saw with the recent Sierra Club Island tour and their ongoing stop old-growth logging campaign.

**Question:** How do we work together to fend off the anti-logging lobby and what can be done to strike a balance between the needs of industry, environmentalists and communities for the long-term?

- It's not a matter of us and them. It's a matter of working together and having better conversations so each other's concerns are better understood and can be addressed – on all sides – communities, First Nations, environmentalists, loggers, wilderness tourism operators.
- We're lucky in B.C. to have such spectacular natural beauty and to have 37% of the province under some sort of conservation designation – ranging from old growth management areas and wildlife habitat areas to Class A parks.
- One of my mandate letter commitments is to work with the Minister of Indigenous Relations, First nations and communities to modernise land use planning and sustainably manage B.C.'s ecosystems.

- Our approach to land use planning encompasses five principles:
  - Province and First Nation government to work as partners to update strategic land use direction where needed
  - Engagement – with local governments, industry, stakeholders, the public
  - Scalable – take into account geography and complexity of issues that need to be addressed. Focus on local needs.
  - Balanced approach – consider all views.
  - Be efficient. Don't reinvent the wheel, and if it isn't broke, don't try to fix it. Focus on areas where updates are critical.
- You'll be hearing more about this in the months to come.

**2. Audience Poll: As rural residents, do you find support for the forest industry in your community.**

1. Strong support
2. Some Support
3. No Support

#### **4. Helicopter Emergency Medical System**

The TLA has recently had several editorials covering the issue of helicopter emergency evacuation support in this quarterly magazine. While there are many possible solutions to this issue, we believe that all workers should have the same right and access to emergency medical care, regardless of where they work

**Question:** What is your government's position of the issue of HEMS, especially for forest workers?

- At the end of the day, we all want the same thing. We want people who go to work, to be able to come home.
- There are challenges in forestry with safety issues – and over the last few years great progress has been made in reducing the number of fatalities and serious injuries.
- It's incumbent on employers to provide safe workplaces and the appropriate safety briefings.
- BC Timber Sales has been SAFE Certified for a number of years, and the Ministry now requires its contractors to be SAFE Certified.
- I'm stressing this, since prevention is always the best step to take.
- As well, WorkSafeBC legally requires that employers have a plan and are able to transport sick or injured people from a remote worksite to a safer area.
- Minister of Health Adrian Dix and BC Emergency Health Services have been looking at the recommendations of the BC Forest Safety Ombudsman, but have focused on pilot using fixed-wing aircraft in the northeast.

## **5. Log Exports**

The Premier has asked that you work with communities and industry to develop a fair, lasting strategy to create more jobs by processing more logs in B.C. and to renew our forests by expanding investments in reforestation. This sounds a lot like finding a way to end log exports? We believe that log exports play a role, but are they the real issues or the symptom of a larger issue?

**Question:** What are your thoughts on the issue of log exports and do you have a strategy that will balance all interests?

- As I mentioned earlier, we're interested in a sustainable economy that works for all British Columbians.
- We are committed to processing more logs in B.C. and getting more B.C. jobs from every tree harvested.
- We want to grow the value-added and innovative wood products sectors.
- As loggers, you are the backbone of the industry – harvesting logs and getting them to market.
- Log exports are part of an integrated Coastal forest economy. I do hope that some day we get to the point that they're not needed.

## **6. First Nations**

The Premier has asked that you work with the Minister of Indigenous Relations, First Nations and communities to modernize land use planning and sustainably manage B.C.'s ecosystems, rivers, lakes, watersheds, forests and old growth.

**Question:** How will your government balance the ever present need for maintaining business certainty and conditions attractive for investment for the forest industry, while implementing the Premier's commitment to embrace and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples otherwise known as UNDRIP?

- As I mentioned earlier, we're committed to a sustainable economy that works for all British Columbians.
- A lot of you in this room have partnerships, joint ventures or other close relationships with First Nations.

- Implementing UNDRIP and developing stronger relationships and partnerships with First Nations will help increase business certainty.

## **7. Recruitment and Training**

In a study completed by the TLA, it suggests that an aging workforce points to the need for as many as 4,700 new recruits in the forest industry on the coast alone over the next decade. The previous government had made a commitment to the TLA to provide a training tax credit in order to allow new recruits to the industry to get real working experience on a real logging crew.

**Question:** Given the difficulty contractors have in recruiting experienced people and the financial risks they face by investing in training, is this a concept that your government might consider?

- My colleague the Finance Minister is reviewing all taxes and programs in the lead up to Budget 2018 – expected on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- I am looking forward to the presentations to TLA scholarship winners after this session is over.
- My understanding is that the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training is currently looking at how to support in-house/on-the-job training under the new Workforce Development Agreement that is part of the Canada-BC Job Grant program, where third-party training is not an option.

### **3 Audience Poll:**

Would a training tax credit promote you to hire and train new recruits within your company?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I am uncertain

### **8. Professional Reliance**

Minister George Heyman is currently conducting a review of the professional reliance model and its application in BC. Obviously, the forest industry is heavily reliant on forest professionals and the review may have impacts on them?

**Question:** What are your thoughts on the review?

- The review is a good thing. It's important for the public to have confidence in how our forests and other natural resources are managed.
- We need to have a strong, transparent process in place that upholds the public interest and highest environmental standards.
- Today is the last day to submit your comments online at [engage.gov.bc.ca/professionalreliance](https://engage.gov.bc.ca/professionalreliance)
- You may also be interested in reading some of the submissions that have been posted, including one from the Association of BC Forest Professionals.

### **9. George Abbott Review**

The report from George Abbott who is investigating the root cause of contractor licensee relationships and the financial difficulty contractor's province-wide are having is hopefully coming later this month.

**Question:** Despite having inherited this review, when do you anticipate recommendations from George Abbott and is your government prepared to act on the recommendations made?

- I understand that George Abbott and Circle Square Solutions will be submitting their report at the end of the month.
- I look forward to receiving and reviewing the report.
- I am committed to recommendations that will support a sustainable forest sector – for all those who work in it.
- However, I'm not willing to commit to acting on any recommendations without knowing what they are.

**4 Audience Poll: Are you hoping that the George Abbott contractor sustainability review recommendations, if acted upon, will improve the prospects for your business in this industry.**

1. Yes
2. No
3. Maybe

## **10. Final Question:**

Are there any other topics you would like to address before our time is up?



**SPEAKING POINTS FOR**  
**HONOURABLE DOUG DONALDSON**  
**MINISTER OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE**  
**OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**BC Natural Resources Forum Ministers' Breakfast**

**Auditorium 102**  
**Prince George Conference and Civic Centre**  
**808 Canada Games Way, Prince George, BC**

**17 January 2018**

**6:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

Please check against delivery

**Event Profile:**

The BC Natural Resources Forum is one of the largest annual conferences held in Northern B.C., billing itself “a neutral, non-partisan and positive arena to discuss and learn first-hand the latest news, trends and opportunities linked to the resource sector.”

Over 850 leaders from industry, community, First Nations and (federal, provincial and municipal) government are expected to discuss natural resource issues, challenges and opportunities unfolding in the province. Topic areas include the following:

- Balancing socioeconomic, cultural and environmental values
- Forestry and forest products
- Minerals and mining
- Energy, oil and gas
- Finance and business
- International trade
- Employment, technology and innovation

**Attendees:**

Room seats 350 people for breakfast, and it is expected to be full.

Attendees represent a cross section of leaders and decision makers from industry, first nations and government.

Seated at headtable:

	NAME	TITLE	AFFILIATION
1	National Chief Perry Bellegarde		Assembly of First Nations
2	Hon Jim Carr	Minister	Natural Resources Canada
3	Hon. Doug Donaldson	Minister	Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development
4	Hon Scott Fraser	Minister	Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
5	Hon. George Heyman	Minister	Environment and Climate Change Strategy
6	Hon. Michelle Mungall	Minister	Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
7	Hon. Bruce Ralston	Minister	Jobs, Trade and Technology
8	John Thompson	Chair	Resources for Future Generations International Conference
9	Gareth Manderson	General Manager, BC Works	Rio Tinto (Patron sponsor)
10	Greg D'Avignon	President	Business Council of BC
11	Byng Giraud	Woodfibre LNG	Woodfibre LNG
12	Sarah Weber	Chief Operating Officer	C3 Alliance Corp.

**Speaking Time:**

Approximately 7:40 a.m. for 2 minutes. Minister Ralston to speak first. \*\*Note Minister Mungall no longer able to attend.

Moderated questions to follow panel presentations.

**Media:**

TBC – local and provincial media invited.

**Itinerary:**

Time	Notes
6:30 a.m.	Ministers gather in Auditorium 102 for briefing
6:45 a.m.	Doors open, ministers welcome attendees
7 a.m.	Attendees and ministers take seats, welcome and house-keeping by emcee Dan Jepsen
7:15 a.m.	Breakfast is served
7:35 a.m.	Panelists gathered to the stage and seated in comfortable armchairs
7:40 a.m.	Panelists will be introduced by the moderator, Byng Girard of Woodfibre LNG, each panelist is to speak for 2 minutes.
7:55-8:15 a.m.	Moderated questions for the panelists from the audience

**On site contact:**

Kathy Zimmerman, C3 Alliance Corp, 604 343-4847 x704

**Speaking Points:**

- Good morning.
- Being a northerner, I recognize and appreciate the importance of these forums for northern communities and residents.
- I'm pleased to be speaking to you this morning, not as an opposition critic, but as the Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.
- Forestry is one of our founding industries and today directly supports more than 60,000 families in over 140 communities around the Province.
- Forestry is not without its challenges. There's the mountain pine beetle, the spruce beetles, wildfires and the unfair, unwarranted and unjust duties imposed by the U.S. on Canadian softwood lumber products.
- In the short-term, lumber prices remain high – more than \$100 per board feet than the same time last year. Those high prices are helping to offset the impact of the softwood lumber duties.
- Canada has filed appealed with the World Trade Organization and NAFTA – we continue to work closely with the federal government and B.C. industry to mount the best possible defence.

- We're confident that we'll win in litigation – but it is a lengthy process.
- In the meantime, we continue to diversify markets for B.C. wood products. I led a forestry trade mission to China and Japan in November, and Premier Horgan is leading a broader sector trade mission to China, Japan and South Korea later this week.
- Market diversification also includes increasing domestic wood use.
- The Wood Innovation and Design Centre, here in Prince George, and the newly opened 18-storey Brock Commons student residence at UBC are two recent examples of how we can increase domestic use of wood.
- Our goal is to enhance B.C.'s leadership in advanced forest technologies and wood innovation. We want to show how our forest sector can, and does, contribute to a strong, resilient and forward-looking economy.
- In his mandate letter to me, Premier Horgan asked that I expand our innovative wood-products sector by addressing regulatory and capital barriers, and to work with my cabinet colleagues to ensure public projects prioritize the use of B.C. wood.

- Through research and the use of new, innovative products, we can support a diversified sector that provides benefits to all British Columbians.
- As Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, I'm looking forward to doing my part in building a sustainable economy that works for all British Columbians and for the environment.

**END**



**Speaking notes for  
Minister Doug Donaldson  
B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
and Rural Development**

#TrueNorth Business Development Forum

Coast Inn of the North

770 Brunswick St., Prince George

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

12:00 p.m.

Speaking time: Approximately 15 min.

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**11:45 a.m.** Lunch served

**12:00 p.m.** M.C. John Rustad introduces Joel MacKay of NDIT

**12:05 p.m.** Joel MacKay introduces Min. Ralston

**12:10 p.m.** Min. Ralston speaks (15 minutes)

**12:25 p.m.** Joel MacKay introduces Min. Donaldson

**12:30 p.m.** Min. Donaldson speaks (15 minutes)

**12:45 p.m.** Val Litwin - thanks Ministers and gives gifts

**12:47 p.m.** NDIT announcement on stage - Both Ministers and Joel McKay

**12:55 p.m.** Media scrum offstage

**1:00 p.m.** Economic Development Panel Begins

**Event Contact:** Kim Royle, Prince George Chamber of Commerce, Cell 5.22

## Background

The Prince George Chamber of Commerce and BC Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring the 2018 [#TrueNorth Business Development Forum](#) on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. The annual event, held for four years as the Business Development Forum, was rebranded this year.

The event takes place the day before the annual [BC Natural Resources Forum](#), which is expected to attract 850 delegates. Ministers Ralston and Donaldson are part of a Ministers' breakfast that kicks off this event on Jan. 17 along with Michelle Mungall, George Heyman and Scott Fraser. Premier John Horgan is the keynote speaker that day.

Delegates at the #TrueNorth Business Development Forum include small business entrepreneurs, industry leaders, mayors and municipal leaders, First Nations – anyone with a stake in economic development in the north. The goal is to give participants tools and strategies they can use to build their businesses and communities.

Ministers Donaldson and Ralston will give the luncheon keynote address, each speaking no more than 15 minutes. They will be introduced by Joel McKay, CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT).

(Mr.) Val Litman, CEO of the BC Chamber, recommends Minister Ralston begin with a macro view of government's vision, with Minister Donaldson reinforcing this by focusing on forestry and rural development. He invited the ministers to offer calls to action for the audience.

The lunch is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; the Ministers will speak as dessert and coffee are served. The Ministers will also participate in an announcement by NDIT for two new funding programs it is launching to support communities impacted by mountain pine beetle – the Northern Industries Innovation Fund (grants of up to \$50,000) and Strategic Initiatives Fund (up to \$900,000 total available through 2018).

Other speakers at the 2018 #TrueNorth Business Development Forum:

- Dr. Mark Colgate, professor of service excellence and associate dean at the University of Victoria Gustavson School of Business, will talk about the psychology that drives service and sales.
- Jim Allworth, an economist RBC-Dominion Securities, will provide an update on macro-economics, e.g. NAFTA, free trade with other countries.
- Marsha Walden, president and CEO, Destination British Columbia, will discuss the influence of the tourism industry.
- Economic Development Panel: Joel McKay will lead a panel with inspiring stories from northern entrepreneurs and leaders – Michael Lewis, Three Ranges Brewing, Valemount; Jody Mitchell, Filaprint, Logan Lake; Willie Sellars, Councillor, Williams Lake Indian Band; Melissa Barcellos, City of Prince George.

## **INTRODUCTION**

- Thanks Joel, and thanks Bruce for providing a great overview of our government's economic vision for the north, what we have achieved, and where we are headed.
- I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered on the territory of the Lheidli T'enneh [klate-lee ten-eh] peoples.
- I would also like to thank the Prince George and BC chambers for sponsoring this forum.
- As MLA for Stikine and a long-time resident of Hazelton, I know how important events like these are – they bring us together so we can share knowledge and common experiences.
- As Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, I appreciate the opportunity to meet with people like you who work so hard to develop businesses and strengthen communities in the north.
- I know how hard it is because I have walked in your shoes. I served four terms on Hazelton council, owned and operated businesses in the Rockies, and worked with non-profits and B.C. Indigenous organizations.
- I am truly honoured to be able to speak for the north in Cabinet.

## Wildfires

- When I became minister, my priority was pretty obvious.
- B.C. was in the midst of the worst wildfire season on record. We were two weeks into a province-wide state of emergency that did not end until September.
- The City of Prince George had just opened a volunteer centre and had close to 5,000 evacuees from Quesnel and Williams Lake registered at the College of New Caledonia. By the end of July, this number had doubled.
- I saw first-hand the tremendous efforts and professionalism by firefighters, emergency responders and volunteers. That's what kept everyone safe.
- We were so impressed by this effort that our government launched the *Above and Beyond Awards*.
- We invited B.C. residents to nominate friends, relatives, neighbours and colleagues for acts of selflessness and bravery in response to the fires and the spring floods.
- The nominations just closed (Jan 15), and I look forward to hearing the stories, and honouring those nominated for their efforts.
- A lot of experts say the increasing number of mega-fires is becoming the new normal in jurisdictions around the world.

- That's why we have asked former B.C. cabinet minister George Abbott and hereditary chief Maureen Chapman of Sq'ewá:lxw (Skawahlook) First Nation to review B.C.'s response to the floods and fires.
- We will have their recommendations by the end of April so they can inform our actions this year and in future years.
- While the wildfires were the worst in the Cariboo in 2017, we've previously had significant wildfire seasons in the Peace and the north.

### **Rural development**

- One of the ways we were able to help communities affected by the wildfires was through the BC Rural Dividend program. They received close to a quarter of the \$10.1 million we distributed in October.
- One-third of the funds from the May 2017 intake went to 41 projects located in the north – totalling close to \$3.5 million.
- Many of you are familiar with the Rural Dividend program, which is helping smaller communities, First Nations and not-for-profit organizations address unique challenges so rural areas can diversify beyond natural resources.
- Since it began, the Rural Dividend funded 19 projects submitted by chambers of commerce across the province, and another nine projects listed at least one chamber as a partner.

- One example is in Fort Nelson where the local chamber received \$10,000 to create an advisory committee and host facilitated workshops to assess business cases for projects that can promote sustainable economic development in the community.
- Across the province, successful applicants are building new and effective partnerships, finding ways to attract and retain youth, and using innovation to drive economic growth. We just closed the fourth intake last month, and expect to announce recipients in March.
- When I was appointed to Cabinet, I welcomed the fact that my portfolio included rural development as well as forests, lands and natural resource operations.
- I have always enjoyed working with community, business and First Nation leaders to strengthen and enhance our rural economic development, especially in the north.
- My vision for rural development is centred on five community economic development principles:
  - SUSTAINABILITY: Is this a long-term solution?
  - COMMUNITY-BASED: Does it serve the interests of the broader community?
  - PARTICIPATORY: Have a broad and diverse range of community members been involved?
  - ASSET-BASED: What are the community's resources and assets?

- SELF-RELIANCE: Does it reduce economic dependence?
- We are engaging with rural people, business owners and communities to inform a rural development strategy that will be enduring.

### **First Nations**

- Our government is also working closely with First Nations to build a true partnership, one based on rights, respect and reconciliation. We're committed to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Our approach is to engage First Nations and work collaboratively at the outset.

### **Forestry innovation**

- Bruce talked about the broader approach our government is taking to economic development, raising awareness about B.C.'s strengths in energy, low-carbon development, technology and innovation, as well as natural resources.
- While we certainly need to expand and diversify, we will never lose sight of importance of our traditional resource industries.
- Forestry alone supports more than 60,000 direct jobs in our province, including about one in four manufacturing jobs. In 2016, we exported forest products worth \$12.9 billion.

- Forestry is not without its challenges. We know that mid-term timber supply is going to be reduced because of the mountain pine beetle and the spruce beetle.
- At the same time, the forest sector of today is not the same as the forest sector of our grandparents. Forestry is a leading user of high-tech.
- Our goal is to enhance B.C.'s leadership in advanced forest technologies and wood innovation. We want to show how our forest sector can, and does, contribute to a strong, resilient and forward-looking economy.
- In his mandate letter to me, Premier Horgan asked that I expand our innovative wood-products sector by addressing regulatory and capital barriers, and to work with my cabinet colleagues to ensure public projects prioritize the use of B.C. wood.
- This goal was reinforced in the Speech from the Throne when we pledged to make B.C. a world leader in engineered wood products and grow our value-added sector.
- Through research and the use of new, innovative products, we can support a diversified and competitive sector that maximizes the value of our forests so it can yield well-paying jobs. This will deliver more economic and social benefits to communities and First Nations, and help to meet our climate targets.

## **B.C. bioenergy industry**

- One example of innovation is the growth of the bioenergy industry, that turns forest and sawmill residue into a green energy source.
- Last fall, I attended a reception at this hotel (Inn of the North) to recognize a partnership between Sumitomo Corporation, one of Japan's leading integrated trading companies, and Pacific BioEnergy Corporation.
- This long-term strategic partnership will lead to expanded operations that can meet the growing demand for wood pellets in Asian markets. Japan has increased its imports of Canadian pellets from 65,000 tonnes in 2012 to 350,000 tonnes in 2016.
- It will lead to more jobs and economic opportunities for communities and First Nations. And it lets us derive value from residuals and from the fibre of trees damaged by beetles and wildfire.
- Our government is working with manufacturers like Pacific BioEnergy to provide a range of tools so they can access fibre. We are looking at initiatives such as guidelines for handling residuals, new tenures to improve access to residual fibre, and pricing approaches that properly value stumpage for harvesting residuals.

### **Market diversification**

- Looking for more uses and higher-value products is just one half of the equation.

- I am working with cabinet colleagues like Bruce and Minister of State for Trade George Chow to expand efforts to market innovative wood products to world markets.
- In November, I saw for myself the many opportunities before us when I led a forest sector delegation of more than 30 senior executives of B.C. forest companies and associations to China and Japan.
- We met with customers and government officials, and looked for ways to raise the value of the products we export.
- In China, we explored ways B.C. can help that country meet ambitious goals related to prefabrication and green buildings, including new applications for higher-value engineered wood products.
- China is increasingly interested in greening its economy and is realizing that increased use of wood in construction is a significant way it can meet goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- In Japan, we saw growth opportunities for our wood products in the tourism sector, and for commercial and multi-family residential buildings.
- Finding and growing new markets is especially important in face of the ongoing softwood lumber dispute with the United States.

- These new markets also include increasing domestic wood use. The Wood Innovation and Design Centre, here in Prince George, and the newly opened 18-storey Brock Commons student residence at UBC are two recent examples of how we can increase domestic use of wood.

## **Conclusion**

- Our government has made it very clear that our goal is to create a sustainable economy that works for all British Columbians, and for the environment.
- As a northerner, I know the real knowledge is in rooms like this one. I'm looking forward to meeting with many of you this week so I can find out what we can do to support you, and remove roadblocks that may be in your way.
- Thank you for this opportunity.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Selina Robinson**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

***Surrey Modular Housing Announcement***

Friday, Jan. 12, 2018  
9:30 a.m.

Surrey City Hall  
13450 104 Ave.  
Surrey

Please check against delivery

Event contact on site:  
Samantha Cacnio, BC Housing Events  
Cell: 604 417-6316

**Event:** Surrey modular housing announcement.

**Time:** Event runs from 9:30 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.  
Minister speaks at approx. 9:40 a.m.

**Length of speech:** 3 minutes

**Location:** Surrey City Hall

**Parking:** **Stall 59** has been reserved for the Minister at City Hall.

**Contact:** Samantha Cacnio, BC Housing Events  
Cell: s.22

**Logistics:** Podium with microphone. A podium riser has been requested

**Dress Code:** Business Casual.

**Event summary:**

- The B.C. government, in partnership with the City of Surrey, will announce plans for three modular housing projects that will bring much-needed supportive housing for people who are homeless.
- To further assist people who are homeless in the community, Fraser Health will operate an Intensive Case Management (ICM) team out of one of the modular housing sites. The ICM team will conduct street outreach to connect those who are homeless with immediate, stable shelter – and then longer-term housing as appropriate.

**Background:**

- The B.C. government is allocating approximately \$13 million in capital funding and more than \$1 million in operating funding to create approximately 160 units of short-term modular housing.
- The temporary housing will be repurposed modular housing that is currently available from construction companies. This will allow BC Housing to expedite the delivery and installation of the homes.
- The housing will include individual units with private bathrooms, meal service, 24/7 staffing, counselling and medical offices and life and employment skills programming.
- Three sites have been identified for the placement of the short-term transitional homes that will be operated by Lookout Housing & Health Society. One of the sites is still TBC.
- A further 250 permanent modular homes with supports are also planned for the city. Provincial funding will be approximately \$36 million. Details will be announced once plans are finalized.
- **The 2017 Metro Vancouver Homeless Count found that Surrey had the second largest homeless population with 602 homeless people. Compared to the previous count in 2014, the number of homeless people in Surrey increased by almost 50%.**

**Key participants:**

- Emcee - Rachna Singh, MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers
- Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Linda Hepner, mayor, City of Surrey
- Fraser Health - Dr. Victoria Lee, Vice President for Population Health
- Lookout Housing & Health Society - Wes Everaars, Director of Development

**Key Messages:**

- There are far too many people are living on the streets or in shelters - we need to help them and the City of Surrey.
- Temporary and long-term modular housing offers a fast, effective response to the growing issue of homelessness in communities throughout the province.
- We're working on a total of 400 modular homes for Surrey, part of a \$291 million investment over two years to build 2,000 modular supportive homes throughout B.C. for people who are homeless.
- What makes the new program even stronger is that we are not simply housing people. Residents will have direct access to the support services they need.
- We're providing more than \$170 million over three years for 24/7 staffing and support services.
- This is one way we can begin to effectively make a difference in the lives of people struggling with homelessness.
- Work is underway across government to develop a Homelessness Action Plan and a Comprehensive Housing Strategy for B.C.

**Agenda**

9:30 a.m.	2 min	Event begins  Emcee Rachna Singh welcomes guests; introduces Minister Robinson
9:32 a.m.	8 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome Indigenous blessing and song Michael Gabriel and Kevin Kelly, Kwantlen First Nation</li></ul>
9:40 a.m.	3 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, provides remarks</li></ul>
9:43 a.m.	3 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Linda Hepner, mayor, City of Surrey, provides remarks</li></ul>
9:46 a.m.	3 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Victoria Lee, Fraser Health Vice President for Population Health, provides remarks</li></ul>
9:49 a.m.	3 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wes Everaars, Director of Development, Lookout Housing &amp; Health Society, provides remarks</li></ul>
9:52 a.m.	15 min	Photo opportunity Media q and a
10:07 a.m.		Event ends

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

Good morning.

Thank you so much for joining us today.

I would like to acknowledge the territory of the Coast  
Salish People including the Kwantlen First Nation.

Everyone here this morning knows how urgent the  
homelessness situation has become in Surrey, and across  
the province.

It was deeply concerning to see the numbers from the 2017 Metro Vancouver homeless count that revealed Surrey has the second largest homeless population in the region, with 602 homeless people.

That is an almost 50% increase from 2014 and tells us this is a significant problem that has been ignored for far too many years.

No one should be forced to live on the street without access to a safe and supportive environment.

Tackling this problem requires strong partnerships.

And that's why we are here today.

I am very pleased to join the City of Surrey, Fraser Health and Lookout Housing and Health Society to announce our strategy to quickly and effectively help those that need it most in Surrey.

Last September, we announced a \$291 million commitment to build 2,000 modular supportive housing units for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

And an important addition to that investment: we are also providing more than \$170 million over three years for 24/7 staffing and support services.

That means there will always be support staff on hand, making sure residents of these homes receive the vital services they need in a safe and secure environment.

When we made that announcement, we knew Surrey was on board with the program and was a priority community to receive modular housing.

We got to work immediately and we are working closely with the city to find suitable locations for 250 new, permanent modular homes that will provide a safe and supportive housing for people struggling with homelessness.

But as a first step – to make sure people in need have immediate access to housing – we are announcing today a \$13 million commitment to bring in approximately 160 temporary modular homes at three sites in the city.

This housing will include individual units with private bathrooms, meal service, counselling and medical offices, and life and employment skills programming.

We want the people in these homes to receive the support they need to help them get their life back on track.

Our expectation is that the housing will be up and running by this spring.

The homes will be operated 24/7 by Lookout Housing and Health Society.

As an added measure of support for people on the street, Fraser Health will be operating a new Intensive Case Management team.

And they will be up shortly to share more details.

Thank you again to the City of Surrey, Lookout Society and Fraser Health for partnering with us to help those who are homeless finally receive the care they need.

We know this is only a temporary solution. But it is an essential start in addressing the needs of homeless people in Surrey.

Thank you.

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Selina Robinson**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

***Four affordable rental housing projects in Downtown  
Eastside***

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018  
2:00PM

250 Powell St.  
Vancouver, BC

Please check against delivery

Event contact on site:  
Samantha Cacnio, BC Housing Events  
Cell: 604 417-6316  
Jarrett Hagglund, GCPE Events,  
Cell: 604 817-1458

**Event:** Four affordable rental housing projects in Downtown Eastside

**Time:** 1:50PM - Pre-Brief: Offices across the hall from the events room. GCPE Events Manager Jarrett Hagglund will lead the pre-brief

Event runs from 2:00PM – 2:43PM

Travis Angus Current Princess 40 to the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society (GVNCS) Al Houston, President of GVNCS perform a welcoming ceremony at 2:00PM

Minister speaks at approx. 2:12PM

**Length of speech:** 4-5 minutes

**Location:** The Bloom Group's housing project at 250 Powell St. Vancouver, BC. The event will be inside.

**Parking:** Paid parking at 205 Powell which is only a block away and 80 Powell which is only a block further.

**Contact:** Samantha Cacnio, BC Housing Events  
Cell: s.22, Jarrett Hagglund, GCPE Events, 604 817-1458

**Logistics:** Podium with microphone. A podium riser has been requested

**Dress Code:** Business Casual.

**Event summary:**

- Announcement celebrating four new affordable rental housing projects in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.
- These projects are part of the 1,700 new affordable rental housing units announced by the Province in the September Budget update.
  - **58 Hastings St W** will provide approximately 230 units of social housing for low and moderate-income households in Vancouver.
    - Partners include: City of Vancouver, Chinatown Foundation, Vancouver Coastal Health.
    - Construction is expected to begin in August 2018 and end in August 2020.
    - **Note: Project still in preliminary design stages, requires municipal approvals and rezoning. Property is owned by the city and is a vacant lot. For a number of years community groups have been demanding 100% social housing on the site. Has been the site of a couple of homeless camps.**
  - **301 Hastings St E** will provide approximately 75 units of housing.
    - Partners include: City of Vancouver, Vancouver Coastal Health
    - Construction is expected to begin in July 2018 and end in July 2020.
    - **Note: Project requires heritage approval, rezoning and development permit approval. No tenant issues. Site has an empty building (former**

### **Salvation Army building).**

- **Union Gospel Mission Women and Families Centre - 616 Cordova St E** will provide 63 units, including 36 family units at shelter rate and 27 treatment beds.
  - Partners include: City of Vancouver.
  - Construction is expected to begin in July 2018 and end in April 2020.
  - **Note: Currently 19 people need to be relocated – these are short term stay and will be emptied through attrition closer to the time of construction (9 single women and five moms and babies) – will be replaced with 27 treatment rooms and 36 transitional and permanent housing units.**
- **Stanley New Fountain Hotel - 23-51 Cordova St W** will provide 142 mixed units, including 80 units at shelter rate, 62 units at market rents and commercial units.
  - Partners include: City of Vancouver, Portland Hotel Society.
  - Construction is expected to begin in June 2018 and end in June 2020.
  - **Note: The project includes redeveloping the New Fountain Shelter and the Stanley Hotel (an SRO). SRO and shelter tenants have been relocated.**

### **Background:**

- Announcement is part of 1,700 affordable rental housing projects that were approved in the September 2017 budget update.
- The Province has committed to building 114,000 affordable housing units in BC through partnerships over the next 10 yrs.
- The new housing projects would be constructed and completed over the next two or three years.
- All three projects require rezoning approval.

### **Background on 58 Hastings and 301 Hastings:**

#### **58 West Hastings:**

- The City of Vancouver hosted an open house on October 25, 2017 to share plans for the new development at 58 West Hastings
- This purpose-built facility is a partnership between the City of Vancouver (the lead for the development) and the Chinatown Foundation
- VCH will lease approximately 48,000 square feet for a new Integrated Health Centre
- The proposal is for a ten-storey mixed-use building with seven floors of housing, including 222 social housing units, retail and health care office space and one level of underground parking
- The VCH CHC and related services will be located on the ground and second floors
- Once rezoning is approved, VCH will move forward with detailed designs, including clinical and functional planning
- The development process is expected to take three – five years
- Integrated Health Centres, like the one planned for 58 West Hastings, will provide a range of low barrier services in a safe and culturally welcoming environment

#### **301 East Hastings Street:**

- A former Buddhist Temple, this development partnership with BC Housing (which is the lead for the development) will create a mixed-use facility, including VCH clinical space on the main and second floor

- The development will include approximately 75 units of social housing, in addition to a purpose-built VCH Integrated Health Centre with a focus on Mental Health and Substance Use services
- The City of Vancouver approved the zoning amendment and held a development open house for the community in early August 2017
- The estimated timeline to start construction is fall 2018, with estimated completion by late 2020

#### **Key participants:**

- Minister Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Emcee
- Minister Selina Robinson, Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Gregor Robertson, Mayor, City of Vancouver
- Bonnie Wilson, Director, Inner City and Mental Health and Substance Use, Vancouver Community, Vancouver Coastal Health
- Barb Atkins, Manager, Union Gospel Mission Women and Families Centre
- Carol Lee, Chair of the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation

#### **KEY VALIDATORS & STAKEHOLDERS**

- City of Vancouver
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Portland Hotel Society

#### **Key Messages:**

- Affordability for British Columbians is our number one priority, and with the extreme lack of affordable rental units, people have very few safe, secure and functional options.
- Too many people right now can't afford to live in their communities.
- The housing needs of British Columbians are diverse, and our government's approach to tackling the housing crisis covers a broad spectrum of needs.
- These projects are expected to open up approximately 450 affordable rental homes in Vancouver as part of our commitment to build 1,700 new affordable homes for people in this province with a mix of housing for low to moderate income British Columbians.
- With these projects, we are providing opportunities for people with low to moderate income in the Downtown Eastside to stay in their community because mixed incomes build healthy and diverse communities.
- We are developing new and innovative partnerships with the non-profit and private sectors to provide housing solutions for people across the Province.

## Agenda

<b>1:50PM</b>	10 min	Pre-Brief: Offices across the hall from the events room. GCPE Events Manager Jarrett Hagglund with lead the pre-brief
<b>2:00PM</b>	1 Min	Event begins. Emcee Minister Judy Darcy introduces Travis Angus Current Princess 40 to the Greater Vancouver Native Cultural Society (GVNCS) and Al Houston, President of GVNCS to perform a welcome blessing.
<b>2:01PM</b>	10 Min	Travis Angus and Al Houston perform welcome blessing
<b>2:11PM</b>	1 Min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Travis Angus and Al Houston, introduces speakers and invites Minister Robinson to the podium
<b>2:12PM</b>	5 min	Minister Robinson delivers remarks
<b>2:17PM</b>	1 min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Minister Robinson and invites Gregor Robertson, Mayor, City of Vancouver, City of Vancouver to speak
<b>2:18PM</b>	2 min	Gregor Robertson provides remarks
<b>2:20PM</b>	1 min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Gregor Robertson and invites Bonnie Wilson, Director, Inner City and Mental Health and Substance Use, Vancouver Community, Vancouver Coastal Health to speak
<b>2:21PM</b>	2 min	Bonnie Wilson provides remarks
<b>2:23PM</b>	1 min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Bonnie Wilson and invites Barb Atkins, Manager, Union Gospel Mission Women and Families Centre to speak
<b>2:24PM</b>	2 min	Barb Atkins provides remarks
<b>2:26PM</b>	1 min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Barb Atkins and invites Carol Lee, Chair of the Vancouver Chinatown Foundation to speak
<b>2:27PM</b>	2 min	Carol Lee provides remarks
<b>2:29PM</b>	1 min	Emcee Minister Darcy thanks Carol Lee and all the speakers and invites them up for a photo opportunity.
<b>2:30PM</b>	8 min	Media QA
<b>2:38PM</b>	5 min	Photo Opportunity with speakers

## **SPEAKING NOTES**

Good afternoon.

Thank you so much for joining us today.

And thank you again Travis and Al for that wonderful blessing and starting us off well.

I would like to acknowledge the territory of the Coast Salish people, including the Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh (Sail-wa-tooth) Nation.

I am so pleased to be here and make this announcement today as we begin to see the plans our government laid out a few months ago come to life.

We know that housing is the foundation of healthy families and strong communities.

Without access to safe, affordable and functional homes, people can't live and work in our cities.

And with the extreme lack of affordable rental units in this region and throughout the province, people have very few options.

B.C.'s reputation as a place people can live and thrive, has taken a hit over the last few years because of the previous government's lack of action on the housing crisis we now face.

This crisis wasn't created in a day, and fixing it won't be simple, but our government is up to the challenge. I am up to this challenge, and so are our partners.

It is going to take a lot of work and we cannot do it alone.

Tackling this problem will require strong partnerships.

And that's why we are here today.

We are joined by all of these wonderful partners that my colleague, Minister Darcy, has recognized, to announce four new affordable rental housing projects in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Last September, we committed to fund 1,700 new affordable rental homes in B.C.

These projects include the first 450 new homes resulting from that commitment.

With these projects, we are providing opportunities for people with low to moderate incomes in the Downtown Eastside to find homes in their community.

The B.C. government is providing an investment of over \$82 million for these projects.

But it is our strong partnerships with the City of Vancouver, Vancouver Coastal Health and our non-profit partners that will help make these projects possible.

- Partnerships with the Chinatown Foundation and Vancouver Coastal Health will help ensure that the project at 58 West Hastings will provide approximately 230 units of social housing for low and moderate-income households as well as health services for the community.
- We are partnering with Vancouver Coastal Health again on the 301 East Hastings project for 75 units of affordable housing and community health services.

- The Union Gospel Mission Women and Family Recovery and Housing Facility on Cordova will provide 63 units of affordable housing including 36 much needed units for families, and 27 treatment beds.
- Also on Cordova, in partnership with the Portland Hotel Society, the Stanley New Fountain Hotel will be converted into 142 units of mixed housing including 80 units at shelter rates.

That is over 500 new homes for people in the community, including 450 homes with rents designed for people with low to moderate incomes.

Now, I know that there have been people who would like to see one of these projects in particular, 58 West Hastings, made up of 100% social housing.

I understand why that request is being made – in the past, the provincial government hasn't been there for the people who need it most for the past decade and a half. I

understand that fear. But our government is aware of the need and fiercely focused on making sure more people have opportunities to better their lives through access to housing.

And if you look closely, you'll see that we are providing more than 300 units of shelter-rate housing across these

four buildings – more than the 230 units that would have been possible at 58 West Hastings alone.

And the model we have chosen, mixed housing, will provide a better continuum of housing for those struggling to find homes here in the Downtown Eastside.

It will give people who are still in a place of having no income a safe and suitable home to live in with access to support services.

And it will also allow people who are transitioning into a better place, to continue to live in the community they've become rooted in as they build on that momentum. That

way, as they begin to bring in a bit more income, they don't need to leave the place they've made their home.

Diversity creates strong and resilient communities – ones where everyone can find the home they need.

That is why we are responding to an urgent and varied range of needs with a broad spectrum of housing solutions.

The housing and support services provided in these projects will make such a positive difference in the lives of

the people who call them home, as well as for the community as a whole.

For example, Vancouver Coastal Health plans to operate Community Health Centres at 58 West Hastings and 301 E. Hastings. These will be health care services available not just to residents of the building, but to the broader community as a whole.

I encourage you to find one of our non-profit partners here today and have a chat to get a sense of the incredible impact these projects will have for the people who call the downtown eastside home.

It's an honour to be here today in my capacity as the minister responsible for housing and I want you to know we continue to work diligently on a comprehensive housing strategy that – together with local efforts and investments by the federal government – will effectively improve housing affordability for all British Columbians...

...Those who are most vulnerable as well as middle-income British Columbians who are also struggling to find and maintain suitable housing.

We want to make sure no one is overlooked, no one is forgotten, and that all people can find the homes they need.

Thank you.

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Selina Robinson**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

***Announcement of Two Modular Housing Projects in  
Kamloops***

Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018  
1:30 p.m.

Horizon North  
450 Mount Paul Centre Way  
Kamloops

Please check against delivery

Event contact on site:  
Roberta Randall  
Manager, Community Relations, BC Housing  
604 992-3305 (cell)

**Event:** Announcement of two new modular housing projects for homeless people in Kamloops.

**Time:** Event runs from 1:30 – 2:40 p.m.  
Speeches 1:30 – 2:00 p.m., followed by media QA and tour of Horizon North  
Minister speaks at approximately 1:35 p.m.

**Length of speech:** 5 minutes

**Location:** Horizon North, 450 Mount Paul Centre Way.

**Parking:** There will be a reserved parking spot for the Minister.  
Roberta Randall, Manager of Community Relations for BC Housing, will meet the Minister at the event.

**Contact:** Roberta Randall, Manager, Community Relations, BC Housing  
604 992-3305 (cell)

**Logistics:** Podium with microphone. A podium riser will be provided.  
The event will be held indoors at the Horizon plant.  
Most of the plant will stop work during the announcement and then will continue when the tour starts.  
A hard hat will be provided

**Dress Code:** Business Casual.

**Event summary:**

- Minister Selina Robinson, in partnership with the City of Kamloops, will announce two new modular housing projects.
- There will be artist renderings of the Kamloops projects, as well as modular units that are being manufactured in the background (the modular homes they are doing for Vancouver).
- A tour of Horizon North, a local modular housing manufacturer, will take place after the announcement.
- Minister Robinson, along with event participants and local media, will take part in a tour (approx. 30 min.) of the plant to see how the modular units are constructed.
- Each project in Kamloops will provide up to 52 units of self-contained housing with supports.
- One of the projects will be on land where there is an existing year-round shelter (Emerald Centre), which has been operating since 2012.
- The Province is providing approximately \$16 million for the modular projects.

**Background:**

- In the September Budget Update, the Province announced \$291 million in new funding to support 2,000 new modular housing units and \$170 million to provide 24/7 staffing and support services.
- Kamloops is the ninth community where the Province is announcing details of modular projects.
- More than 1,200 modular-housing units are confirmed in communities throughout B.C.

**Key participants:**

- Emcee - Danalee Baker, Executive Director, United Way
- Minister Selina Robinson - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Mayor of Kamloops, Ken Christian
- Christa Mullaly, Executive Director, Canadian Mental Health Association - Kamloops branch (modular housing operator)
- Bob Hughes, Executive Director, ASK Wellness Society (modular housing operator)
- Rod Graham, President and CEO, Horizon North (modular housing manufacturer)

**Audience:**

- Approximately 40 guests are expected to attend. Guests will include representatives from the City of Kamloops, the Canadian Mental Health Association Kamloops Branch, ASK Wellness Society and Horizon North.

**Key Messages:**

- Far too many people are living on the streets or in shelters - we need to help them and the City of Kamloops.
- Modular housing offers a fast, effective response to the growing issue of homelessness in communities throughout the province.
- We're working on a total of approximately 100 modular homes for Kamloops, part of a \$291 million investment over two years to build 2,000 modular supportive homes throughout B.C. for people who are homeless.
- What makes the new program even stronger is that we are not simply housing people. Residents will have direct access to the support services they need.
- We're providing more than \$170 million over three years for 24/7 staffing and support services.
- This is one way we can begin to effectively make a difference in the lives of people struggling with homelessness.

## Agenda

1:30 p.m.	2 min	Event begins. Emcee Danalee Baker, Executive Director for United Way welcomes guests; introduces Minister Selina Robinson.
1:32 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome Indigenous blessing by Chief Seymour of the Tk'emlups <b>[Tay-come-loops]</b> Indian Band.</li></ul>
1:34 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minister Selina Robinson provides remarks</li></ul>
1:39 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City of Kamloops Mayor, Ken Christian, provides remarks</li></ul>
1:43 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Executive Director Christa Mullaly, provides remarks</li></ul>
1:47 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ASK Wellness Executive Director, Bob Hughes, provides remarks</li></ul>
1:52 p.m.	5 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Horizon North President and CEO Rod Graham, provides remarks</li></ul>
1:57p.m.	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Photo Opportunity with speakers</li><li>• Media QA</li></ul>
2:12 p.m.	30 min or less	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Horizon North tour with Minister Selina Robinson, City of Kamloops Mayor, Ken Christian, CMHA Executive Director Christa Mullaly, ASK Wellness Executive Director, Bob Hughes, Horizon North President and CEO Rod Graham and members of media.</li></ul>
2:42 p.m.		Event ends

## SPEAKING NOTES

Good afternoon, everyone.

Before we begin I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered today on the unceded lands of the Secwepemc [**Suh-kwhep-m**] peoples, home of the Tk'emlups [**Tay-come-loops**] Indian Band. Thank you Chief Seymour for the welcome blessing.

I am thankful to be here, and thankful everyone could join us today at Horizon North, where Kamloops workers are building solutions to homelessness.

Too many people across the province are struggling to find housing that meets their needs and the needs of their families.

That's why your new provincial government is working with companies like Horizon North on rapid action to address homelessness across the province.

Modular homes built right here in Kamloops are an important part of the solution – along with 24/7 services to help people put their lives on track.

Far too many people are living rough in Kamloops and throughout British Columbia – even one is too many.

We know there is an urgent need to help people who are experiencing homelessness and to help the communities that are grappling with how to respond.

In September, we announced your new government would build 2,000 new homes for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

A key part of helping people in critical housing need is having experienced support staff on hand to make sure residents are supported and able to succeed.

That's why we are providing 24/7 staffing and support services for every resident of these new homes.

The goal is to make sure people have successful tenancies and are given the support they need to rebuild their lives.

That brings us to today's announcement.

Homelessness is a problem across the province.

Northern communities, interior communities, Kootenay communities, island communities, urban communities – every corner of the province is feeling the housing crisis.

Kamloops is no exception. People in this community have been working hard on delivering rapid action on homelessness – and I know any solution will require the help of the provincial government too.

That's why our government is partnering with the City of Kamloops, the Canadian Mental Health Association and ASK Wellness to bring new, supportive housing to your community.

These homes will make sure that people in greatest need in Kamloops have access to safe and secure supportive housing.

Each project will provide up to 52 homes – self-contained, personal units with a kitchen and washroom.

The Province is providing approximately \$16 million for these two local projects.

Without our partners, these new homes would be not be possible.

I was very happy to see a local company, Horizon North, selected to build these Kamloops homes – as well as 600 homes in Vancouver.

I think there is great potential in the speed with which these modular homes – made-in-BC products – can be built, shipped and installed where they are needed. And I believe that as people see the potential of modular technology, interest in these products will grow across both the public and private sectors.

Using this modular technology, together we have created new jobs and new opportunities for people in Kamloops,

and together we will give local people a chance to build new lives in new homes.

Together, we're building prosperity by solving problems facing vulnerable people and facing the community.

Kamloops is the ninth community to benefit from your new government's rapid action on homelessness.

Since September we've begun development of more than 1,200 new modular homes for people in critical need across British Columbia.

Housing isn't just an issue for those in imminent threat of homelessness. Housing is a major financial stress on

families across the province. Too often, it is hard to find, expensive, and just doesn't meet people's needs.

We recognize that, and we are working to deliver housing affordability for everyone in British Columbia.

We have a lot of work to do.

It won't be quick and it won't be easy to undo a decade of denial of the scale and the scope of the housing problems facing ordinary people in British Columbia.

In the last six months we've taken major strides to address issues in housing, but we are no where near done yet.

I look forward to working with you all on next steps to improving housing affordability for all British Columbians.

Thank you.

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Selina Robinson**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

***Caledonia Nordic Ski Club Announcement  
(Community Gaming Grant and Tourism Events Program  
Funding)***

Friday, Jan. 19, 2018  
12:20 – 12:25 p.m.

Otway Nordic Centre  
8141 Otway Rd, Prince George

Please check against delivery

Event contact on site:  
Kevin Pettersen  
Cell number: 250 640-6234

**Event:** Caledonia Nordic Ski Club Announcement

**Time:** Event runs from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m.  
Minister speaks at 12:20 p.m.

**Length of speech:** Five minutes

**Location:** Main Lodge, Otway Nordic Centre, 8141 Otway Rd, Prince George

**Parking:** Ample parking available on site adjacent to the lodge.

**Contact:** Kevin Pettersen. Cell number: 250 640-6234

**Logistics:** Podium set up in front of windows facing the trails.

**Dress Code:** Business casual/sporty – outfit should be appropriate for going outdoors and trying a sit-ski.

**Event summary:**

- Minister Robinson celebrates a \$175,000 Capital Projects community gaming grant for the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club's snow-making system.
- On behalf of Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Lisa Beare, Minister Robinson also announces \$175,000 in Tourism Event Program funding for the ski club, supporting the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships.
- Following the announcement, the Minister tries out a sit-ski alongside school groups.

**Background:**

- The Otway Nordic Ski Centre is operated by the not-for-profit Caledonia Nordic Ski Club. Located minutes west of Prince George BC, the facility includes 55km of trails, a biathlon facility, a cross-country technical facility and a day lodge.
- On Dec. 20, the Province announced \$5 million in funding to 60 not-for-profit organizations through the Community Gaming Grants Capital Projects sector program. This is the first yearly intake of these grants, which go to not-for-profit organizations undertaking capital projects that provide a community benefit and are accessible to the public.
- The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club received \$175,000 through the program for a snow-making system for its cross-country and biathlon stadiums. This supports the creation of a community legacy from hosting the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships. (Note that the purpose of the community gaming grant is to support the community legacy, not the international event.)
- The organization has also received \$175,000 through TAC's Tourism Event Program and has also applied for funding through the Major Sport Event Hosting Program. A decision on the hosting program grant is not expected in time for this announcement event.
- The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is hosting the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships from Feb. 13 to 24, 2019, featuring cross-country skiing and biathlon.

**Key participants:**

- **Selina Robinson**, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- **John Huybers** [HIGH-burz], president, Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

- **Kevin Pettersen**, past president of Caledonia Nordic Ski Club and chair, Organizing Committee for the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships (EMCEE)
- **Susan Scott**, acting mayor, Prince George
- **Ron McIvor**, local para-athlete (visually impaired cross-country skier)

**Audience:**

- Para athletes
- Recreational skiers
- Media
- Approximate size: 25-50
- VIPs include:
  - MLA Mike Morris

*Note: School children will be using the facilities at the ski club and will be visible in the windows behind the podium.*

**Key Messages:**

- Our government is putting people first and improving the lives of British Columbians
- The new \$5-million Capital Projects Sector grants invests in exceptional not-for-profits that benefit families, seniors and children throughout B.C.
- The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is an example of community excellence offering fun and fitness for people in Prince George through its outstanding winter sports facilities.
- We are working hard to support and invest in programs that benefit all British Columbia through initiatives like our community gaming grants.
- The excitement of the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships will bring together residents and visitors alike in the celebration of top-notch athletic competition.
- The Capital Projects grants invest in a wide range of projects throughout the province—helping not-for-profit organizations invest in facilities, infrastructure and the well-being of people across B.C.
- The Province funds around 5,000 not-for-profit programs through \$140 million in community gaming grants each year.
- Gaming grants are available to a broad spectrum of organizations that make life better for British Columbians, representing arts and culture groups, sport, environment, public safety, human and social services and parent advisory councils.

## Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
9:45 a.m.	A/V arrives; Kevin Pettersen supervises setup
11:45 a.m.	Diversified Transportation bus arrives with Acting Mayor Susan Scott, Ron Mclvor, and other event attendees.
12:00 p.m.	Minister Robinson arrives.
12:00 p.m.	Pre-brief with event participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minister Selina Robinson</li> <li>• Acting Mayor Susan Scott</li> <li>• Ron Mclvor</li> </ul>
12:15 p.m.	Event begins
12:15 p.m.	Emcee Kevin Pettersen welcomes audience and introduces Minister Robinson
12:20 p.m.	<b>Minister Robinson speaks</b>
12:24 p.m.	Emcee thanks Minister Robinson and introduces Acting Mayor Susan Scott.
12:25 p.m.	<b>Acting Mayor Susan Scott speaks</b>
12:29 p.m.	Emcee thanks Acting Mayor Scott and introduces John Huybers.
12:30 p.m.	<b>John Huybers [HIGH-bers], Caledonia Nordic Ski Club president, speaks</b>
12:33 p.m.	Emcee thanks John Huybers and introduces Ron Mclvor.
12:33 p.m.	<b>Ron Mclvor, para athlete (vision-impaired cross-country skier), speaks</b>
12:36 p.m.	Emcee thanks participants and invites media to ask questions.
12:37 p.m.	<b>Media q and a</b>
12:42 p.m.	Emcee concludes event. Minister is escorted to the stadium.
12:45 p.m.	<b>Minister tries out sit-ski and interacts with school group. <i>PHOTO OP.</i></b>
1:00 p.m.	Event concludes and minister departs.

## **KEY CONTACTS**

- Kevin Pettersen, cell: 250 640-6234
- Daniela Gardea, cell: 778 677-4304
- Marlene Behrens (not on site), cell: 778 584-1253
- Photographer TBC

## INTRODUCTION

Thank you, John.

Good afternoon.

I would like to acknowledge the territory of the Lheidli  
T'enneh [clayt-clay ten-ay], and thank **Chief Dominic  
Frederick** *(if attending)* for joining us here today.

Before I continue, I'd like to acknowledge **MLA Mike Morris** and **MLA Shirley Bond** who are joining us today.

*(if attending)*

And a big thank you to **Diversified Transportation** and Nancy Harris from Spinal Cord Injury BC for making sure all of our guests were able to get up herefor this event.

\*\*\*\*\*

I'm excited to be here, and excited for this community.

I see the kids are having so much fun. I think I may join them later.

*[Brief personal remarks/connection to Prince George]*

Looking around the trails today, you can see what the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club means to people in this community.

From school children to active seniors, from beginners to competitive athletes, these outstanding winter sport

facilities offer fun and fitness for people of all ages, abilities and skill levels.

Our government believes in putting people first and improving the lives of British Columbians.

One of the ways we're doing that is by supporting superb examples of community excellence, like the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club.

\*\*\*\*\*

In December, we announced the 60 not-for-profit organizations throughout the province that are receiving

the first round of Capital Projects grants through the community gaming grants program.

Having come from a background in community building and the not-for-profit sector, I have witnessed first-hand the positive impact that these organizations have in the lives of the people they serve ...

It is important for the people of B.C. that we support these groups—and our government is committed to doing so.

The Province funds around 5,000 not-for-profit programs through \$140 million in community gaming grants each year.

The new \$5-million Capital Projects grants are going to a wide range of incredible projects throughout the province—helping not-for-profit organizations invest in facilities, infrastructure and the well-being of people across B.C.

Here in Prince George, the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is receiving \$175,000 through this program for a new snow-making system—supporting community access to the facilities you know and love.

That means even better conditions for school groups like the kids here today, for families, for seniors, and for recreational and competitive athletes.

A snow-making system will guarantee an extended season from November to April, offering more opportunity

for school children and community members to spend time outside skiing and staying active.

Sustainable snow-making also makes it possible for the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club to bid on national and international events commonly held in late March.

\*\*\*\*\*

And a world-class competition isn't too far off...

The excitement of the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships being hosted right here in Prince George will bring together residents and visitors alike for a top-notch athletic competition.

And the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club is set to be a fantastic host for athletes from around the world.

However, major events like the Skiing Championships have benefits that go well beyond the competition stadium.

The Para Nordic Skiing Championships are sure to boost tourism and the local economy, strengthen community spirit, inspire young athletes, and create lasting memories.

Building a better B.C. for people of all abilities is a priority for this government.

And I hope the spotlight on para Nordic cross-country skiing and biathlon garners appreciation for the unique aspects of these sports—I for one am looking forward to trying out sit-skiing!

\*\*\*\*\*

This facility is an example of how B.C. is moving forward to become a truly inclusive province by 2024.

By building facilities that are fully accessible, B.C. has the opportunity to host world class events, like the Para Nordic Championships.

And so, on behalf of Lisa Beare, the Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, I am pleased to announce that the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club will receive \$175,000 through the Tourism Events Program for the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships!

The Tourism Events Program supports events that raise awareness of B.C.'s natural beauty and invites Canadians and visitors from around the world to visit world-class events that are hosted in communities throughout the province, communities like Prince George.

This funding will go towards marketing and communications activities and will help broaden the profile of the Championships, Prince George and the province as a whole.

Events such as this one will help build Prince George's reputation for excellence in sport hosting and could lead to more exciting opportunities for the region in the future.

## **CONCLUSION**

Thank you to everyone for being here today.

I'd like to credit leadership of the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club and the City of Prince George for developing this place as a valuable and well-loved community asset—and for hosting the 2019 World Para Nordic Skiing Championships.

Thank you and happy skiing!

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR  
**Hon. Selina Robinson**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

***2018 LGLA Leadership Forum***

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018  
5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (TBC)

Main ballroom, 2nd floor Radisson Hotel  
8181 Cambie St., Richmond

Please check against delivery

Event contact on site:  
Errin Morrison, Program Manager  
Local Government Leadership Academy  
emorrison@lgl.ca | 778-800-9952 ( ext.101)

**Event:** 2018 Local Government Leadership Academy Leadership Forum

**Time:** Event runs from Jan. 31 – Feb 1.  
Minister speaks at 5:15 to 5:30 pm Jan. 31.

**Length of speech:** 10-15 minutes

**Location:** President Ballroom, Salon B&C  
Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport, 8181 Cambie Rd, Richmond

**Parking:** Free and also across from Aberdeen Skytrain Station

**Contact:** Errin Morrison, Program Manager  
Email: [emorrison@lgla.ca](mailto:emorrison@lgla.ca)  
Phone: 778.800.9952 (ext. 101)

**Logistics:** *\*foot-stool will be available behind the podium*

**Dress Code:** Business

**Event summary:**

- The 2018 LGLA Leadership Forum is a three day event featuring keynotes, panel discussions, interactive sessions and networking opportunities.
- Minister Robinson shares greetings and remarks.

**Background:**

- The Local Government Leadership Academy is a leadership development initiative developed by the Union of BC Municipalities to serve the needs of local governments, First Nations elected officials and senior administrators.
- The theme for this year's 3 day forum is, "**Leading to the Finish: Reflections on a Term in Office.**"

**Key participants:**

Councillor Arjun Singh, LGLA President, introduces Minister.

**Audience:**

- Up to 150 in attendance

VIPs will have already been introduced but include:

- Director Wendy Booth, UBCM President
- Gordon Ruth, Auditor General for Local Government
- George Abbott and Chief Maureen Chapman - Co-Chairs of the BC Flood & Wildfire Review (Chief Chapman will likely not be in attendance on opening day, but I think George Abbott will be)
- Councillor Chad Eliason, President of the Southern Interior Local Government Association

- Councillor Jason Lum, President of the Lower Mainland Local Government Association
- Chief Ann Louie, Williams Lake Indian Band

### **Key Messages:**

- We believe it's time to put people first and make life better for families everywhere in B.C.
- I want to assure you that, just like everyone in this room, John Horgan's government is working for people.
- Listening to your constituents, representing their concerns, and making wise decisions that will benefit the people in your communities now and in the long-term—it's important work, and I know it isn't always easy.
- The B.C. government is here to listen and partner on the concerns affecting the people you represent
- The B.C. government and its partners — including the Canadian Red Cross and the federal government — have been working hard to help people and communities in the areas affected by wildfires recover.
- Local governments have an important role to play, and your perspective is crucial to crafting effective policy around cannabis that will serve British Columbians.
- Affordable housing is the foundation of healthy families and strong communities.
- Solving the housing crisis won't be easy. We need to work together and build partnerships to create affordable homes for people, quickly.

### **Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event Itinerary</b>
5:15 p.m.	Councillor Arjun Singh, LGLA President, wraps up the day's events; introduces Minister.
5:15 p.m.	Minister speaks, provides greetings and remarks
5:30 p.m.	Speech ends, Minister Robinson presents LGLA certificates

## **INTRODUCTION**

Good afternoon.

Thank you for inviting me here today. It's great to see so many familiar faces!

I would like to acknowledge the territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

It is good to see so many communities represented. From Oliver to Fort St. James, it's important that leaders from across the province gather like this.

It is a great opportunity to connect and learn from one another and reflect on your last four years of service.

As local government and First Nations leaders and senior administrators, you are on the front lines of the issues facing your communities.

And just as you are committed to serving the people you represent, John Horgan's government is committed to working for people too!

Every decision our government makes is guided by the principles of putting people first and making life better for families across B.C.

I know that you make a difference to the people in your communities—and I want you to know that the Province recognizes and appreciates your hard work.

And we also recognize how important it is to work with local governments on pressing issues facing British Columbians, such as housing affordability, the overdose crisis, and emergency management.

I'm confident that together, we can tackle these challenges and build a better B.C.

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As a former city councillor in Coquitlam I have an understanding of the daily pressures you face and your passion for local government that brings us here today.

***[Opportunity for the minister to tell a brief personal story about her time in local government]***

\*\*\*\*\*

This year's theme of Reflections on a Term in Office presents a great opportunity to learn from each other's experiences and look ahead to some of the ways we can collectively tackle the issues facing this Province.

For many of you the opportunity to tackle these issues will extend beyond the elections in the fall.

On behalf of Premier John Horgan and the BC government I want to thank you for your service these last four years, and I'm excited to see what the next four years bring.

Your commitment to the people of BC will be instrumental in helping us address the challenges affecting seniors, children and families who have been left out in the cold for far too long.

The LGLA brings together many partners from across the province, and it's through these partnerships, working together, that we will begin to see tangible results that will improve the everyday lives of all British Columbians.

Just as you are relying on the Province, so we are relying on you to make sure we accomplish what we have set out to do.

\*\*\*\*

I want to talk about one of the most important issues facing British Columbians today – housing affordability.

Homelessness and the housing crisis present complex challenges.

So it is especially fitting that ‘overcoming challenges’ is one of the themes of this year’s forum.

The effects of homelessness and housing affordability touch us all and have a large impact on communities of all sizes. Each community requires distinct solutions which is why we are working with local governments.

Much of the discussion of the housing crisis has focussed on those who are homeless, vulnerable to homelessness, and in need of extra support services.

Our government is taking urgent action to support those most in need.

We are partnering with communities across the province to build 2,000 new modular homes with 24/7 support services.

As of today, we have over 1,000 modular homes confirmed for communities throughout the province.

That is more than halfway to our goal of 2,000!

And this is just the beginning. There is much more to come for those who are homeless and at risk of homelessness with our poverty reduction strategy and Homelessness Action Plan.

\*\*\*\*\*

But housing affordability doesn't just affect the most vulnerable.

Housing is the foundation of healthy families and strong communities.

Without access to safe, affordable and functional homes, people can't live and work in our communities.

Over the last decade housing has steadily become less and less affordable for the majority of British Columbians.

More than 3,200 units of affordable housing are currently in development or under construction for families throughout B.C. – helping us move closer to our goal of 114,000 affordable units.

We're making a choice to create diverse housing so everyone has a place to call home.

Seniors, families, students and those who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness will all benefit from the steps we have already taken.

We are working hard to improve housing affordability for all British Columbians...

...Those who are in most need as well as middle-income British Columbians who are also struggling to find and maintain suitable housing.

High housing costs don't just impact British Columbians of middle income or below. It affects job creation and business growth.

Businesses are telling us that high housing costs mean they can't attract and retain workers.

We have a lot of ideas about ways we can tackle housing affordability. And we're putting those solutions in place.

We made major investments in the September Budget Update to start to address B.C.'s housing crisis

We are excited to be announcing new initiatives in next month's budget – making life more affordable and improving the services people count on.

The scale and complexity of the problem means we cannot take a piecemeal approach.

Our plan looks at the big picture, and everything is on the table for Budget 2018.

The Premier has been clear that we will be looking at both supply and demand side measures.

We will:

- work with strategic partners in our communities to build rental supply
- invest in the right mix of market, social, cooperative and not-for-profit housing
- collaborate with local elected officials, developers and community leaders to find ways to speed up approvals
- take action on tax fraud and close real estate speculation loopholes to make the real estate market more fair for British Columbians

\*\*\*\*\*

Even though our government is working relentlessly to tackle affordability, this is a massive problem, and it will take key partnerships and innovative ideas from people and industries all over B.C.

That's where you come in.

We're hoping to spark new discussions and new approaches with local governments – all aimed at addressing housing affordability in B.C.

We all have a stake in this. How we move forward today will shape the future of our families and our communities.

We want local governments and Indigenous leaders to understand the Province will work in respectful partnership on housing solutions as we all work to unlock our resources – land, funding, local expertise and regulatory frameworks.

For our part - we can offer greater leadership and support, a willingness to partner, and the possibility of more resources and tools.

If there are ways the Province can empower your community to increase housing affordability, we want to hear about it.

If I've learned anything thus far it is that the most meaningful changes come when we listen to each other.

Together we can make a real difference in the lives of the people in our communities.

\*\*\*\*\*

Housing isn't the only issue our government is tackling.

We believe that people should be at the heart of our politics – not just those with deep pockets.

And we heard loud and clear from the UBCM that you wanted people at the heart of politics too.

That is why our government took action to level the playing field in time for the 2018 general local elections by introducing the Local Elections Campaign Financing Amendment Act this past fall.

The legislation bans corporate and union donations, puts reasonable limits on individual contributions, and bans out-of-province donations at the local level.

We understand that factors such as population and type of local government may affect what is considered an appropriate contribution limit.

That is why the legislation includes flexibility for contribution limits for future local elections to be set by provincial regulation—a regulation which could take into account community differences.

The experience of the 2018 general local elections, as well as the feedback of local governments through the UBCM, will help us understand whether future changes are needed.

I look forward to hearing about your experiences.

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Looking ahead to this coming year, something that I know is very important to all levels of government is the imminent legalization of cannabis.

I know this will affect many areas within municipalities and we are committed to working with local governments on this complex issue.

Our priorities for British Columbians are:

- protecting children and youth;
- prioritizing the health and wellness of British Columbians
- keeping the criminal element out of cannabis and ensuring consumers get safe product they can trust; and
- educating drivers and supporting the enforcement of drug-impaired driving laws that keep roads safe.

Local governments have an important role to play, and your perspective is crucial to crafting effective policy that will serve British Columbians.

Along with UBCM, we have put together a working group to support the development of a regulatory framework.

We are currently working with the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation to review its recommendations, and we will share updates as soon as we can.

We know you are concerned about the potential for additional administrative and by-law enforcement costs.

In December, B.C. finalized the cannabis tax revenue-sharing agreement with the federal government. That had to be done before we could consider revenue sharing with municipalities.

We will be working with local authorities to understand both the up-front and longer-term costs, along with any cost savings associated with legalization.

\*\*\*\*\*

I want to thank you once again for your service to the people of BC over these last four years and you should be proud of your many achievements.

I look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship with local governments and elected officials through this year and beyond the 2018 local elections.

Congratulations on your terms in office, the progress you've made and the relationships you've built.

I wish you success in the year ahead.

Just before we break for the networking reception, Councillor Arjun Singh is going to join me to introduce two LGLA delegates who will be coming up to receive their Certificates in Local Government Leadership.

It is my pleasure to end your opening day with these presentations.

**[Minister Robinson moves to the side of the podium - Councillor Singh comes up to the podium and introduces the two recipients and asks them - one at a time - to come to the stage to receive their certificate.]**

**[Minister presents certificates to Councillor Al Siebring, photo with Minister; Councillor Siebring exits stage.]**

**[Minister presents certificate to Director Popoff, photo with Minister, Director Popoff exits stage.]**

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## **INTRO**

- Thank you and good evening.
- It's an honour to be here tonight with you all.
- I would like to acknowledge that we are on the territory of the Coast Salish Peoples.
- As I look around the room, I see the hard-working people of B.C.
- I see passionate people dedicated to improving working conditions for their colleagues...
- Dedicated people focused on serving the public...
- And engaged learners seeking to know and do more.

- Personally, I'm back in familiar territory.
- You may know that I spent several years as the national president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees - and as the secretary business manager for the Hospital Employees Union here in British Columbia.
- Tonight, I am very proud to be here with you as B.C.'s first Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.
- My ministry is the first of its kind in Canada, possibly in North America.

- I want to tell you about what we're doing:
  - To improve mental health and addictions care for everyone in this province, and
  - Our efforts to date to combat the devastating overdose crisis.
- This crisis is causing families and friends to grieve needlessly – and it's taking a toll on first responders, front line workers and their families and loved ones.

## **MMHA - WHAT WE'RE DOING**

- Our government created the new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions because we recognized that more needs to be done.
- We're working on a broad strategy to improve the whole system of care for mental health and addictions...
- Working toward building a seamless and coordinated system that supports people who need help.
- But our first and most urgent focus has been to take immediate action to combat this devastating overdose crisis and save lives.

- People in British Columbia continue to die at alarming rates – leaving families, friends, loved ones in unimaginable pain.
- We cannot allow that to continue.
- We need to use all the tools in our toolbox to stem this terrible tide.
- Our Budget 2017 Update included \$322 million in additional funding over the next three years for actions to save lives, end stigma and improve access to services for people struggling with addiction.

- In December, we escalated our response to the overdose crisis by launching the provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre.
- A core team of experts and dedicated, full-time staff at the provincial centre are closely monitoring overdose data, risk factors and emerging trends in real time.
- This information will allow us to intervene quickly in communities to save lives – and to put services in place to better support people on a path to treatment and recovery.
- We're increasing the number of overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites.

- We are making naloxone more widely available...including at B.C. pharmacies.
- And we are expanding access to treatment and recovery options.
- As part of our work to save lives, we're working with the health authorities to urgently increase access to an additional opioid agonist therapy – injectable hydromorphone – across the province.
- Methadone and Suboxone don't work for everyone...
- So having another treatment option at our disposal gives us yet another tool to help people stabilize their lives and potentially move toward recovery.

- We also introduced fentanyl testing strips into all overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites across the province.

## **LONGER TERM**

- The broader strategy we're developing to improve mental health and addictions care system-wide will be focused on prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery.
- This is a cross-government strategy, with ministries like Housing, Education, Children and Families, and Poverty Reduction all at the table.
- We're also working across all sectors – with First Nations, partners in business and labour, first responders and law enforcement officers, municipalities and community agencies.

- This isn't an issue any one ministry or organization can tackle alone.
- We need to work together across government and throughout the social sector to better support people in B.C.

## **OD FRONTLINE WORKER SUPPORT**

- These supports also include the people working on the frontlines of this overdose crisis.
- Over the past six months - I have heard over and over again from frontline responders about the incredible toll this crisis is taking on them every day.
- I've heard from paramedics, firefighters, police and RCMP...
- From doctors and nurses.
- From people working at and volunteering with community agencies and organizations.

- In order to better support these committed and hardworking heroes, our government has allocated sustainable annual funding to support the work of the Mobile Response Team.
- The team provides training, education and crisis response to support the mental, emotional and physical health of staff and volunteers of community-based organizations responding to multiple overdoses...
- It helps them deal with the impact this ongoing crisis is having on them personally.

- In less than six months, the mobile response team has provided supports to more than 200 agencies and almost 2,000 people on the frontlines of the crisis across the province.
- I know there are effective support programs in place – like the Provincial Health Services Authority’s Critical Incident Stress program that provides peer support and counselling for paramedics and dispatch staff.
- But not everyone has access to supports like this.
- And as I said – we know we need to do more.

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO**

- In that vein - I'd like to enlist your help.
- We know that stigma around mental health and addictions can prevent people from asking for help.
- Many people suffer in a dark silence – alone and isolated.
- This is unacceptable and we all need to work together to end that stigma by talking about it.
- I challenge you – as labour leaders – as representatives of and role models within your organizations – to have these courageous conversations.

- To create a healthier workplace by talking openly and honestly about (mental health and) addiction.
- To encourage others to open their minds and hearts to colleagues – to peers – to loved ones - so that people struggling with (mental illness or) addiction can find their way to a better life.
- So they can get on a pathway to recovery and hope.
- So they can take part in building a healthier workplace – and a better B.C.

## **CONCLUSION**

- Despite all the excellent work that's going on in this province
  - all the dedicated people – all the talented workers who spend their days saving lives and caring for others – the system is broken.
  - It's fragmented.
  - It's uncoordinated.
- And we need to do more to make sure that those dedicated people – talented workers – caregivers – have the tools they need to continue to do their jobs.
- We can have a seamless and coordinated system of care in this province where people can ask for help once, and get help fast.

- Where the best tools are available to help health care workers and first responders do the best job they possibly can.
- We are working across government to identify the actions and strategies that need to be in place to create that system.
- I'm confident that by working together – we will succeed.
- Thank you again for inviting me to join you.
- Thank you again for your dedication and service.
- Thank you for working in your own ways to help build a better B.C.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

**Judy Darcy**

Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

## **Canucks Partnership Event**

Canucks Press Room  
Rogers Arena  
800 Griffiths Way  
Vancouver, B.C.

Monday, January 29, 2018

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

**12:45 p.m. (arrival time)**

**1:21 p.m. (speech)**

- Thank you Minister Simpson. Hello everybody.
- It's wonderful to be here with all of you for this exciting announcement.
- And to see the Canucks take to the ice for practice!
- I'd like to recognize all the frontline workers, community volunteers, people with lived experience, and first responders joining us today.
- Your dedication and care for people in our province in combatting this unprecedented crisis has been absolutely incredible!
- On behalf of all British Columbians, I thank you for everything you do each and every day.
- I'd like to offer my heartfelt gratitude to Stephanie McCune for being here today to share your story.
- I would also like to thank the Vancouver Canucks organization for hosting us – and for their partnership on today's announcement that calls on us all to Get Informed, Get Involved and Get Help, so that we can save more lives from overdose.

## **The overdose crisis**

- We are in the midst of the most serious and devastating public health emergency this province has faced in decades.
- In the first 10 months of 2017, 1,200 British Columbian families suffered the loss of a loved one due to an overdose.
- That's 4 people a day who are dying.
- The numbers alone are staggering. The human impact is unspeakable.
- Today, I'm thinking of those families, and each and every person affected by this devastating crisis...
- We are all here because we know we must do more to stop this cycle of heartbreak.
- I want everyone to know that our government's commitment to combatting this crisis is unwavering.
- This is a public health emergency – and we are taking bold and innovative action to stem the tide.
- In December, we escalated our response through the launch of a new provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre.

- The centre is operating as an emergency command centre at the provincial level... with a core team of addictions experts, emergency management experts, First Nations representatives, people with lived experience, and other dedicated staff – headed by Dr. Patricia Daly.
- At the same time – based on real-time analysis of overdose data – we are organizing action on the ground through regional and community action teams in all the communities hardest hit by overdoses – to identify people at risk of overdose before it's too late, and provide the support and services they need.
- The goal: to save lives AND to connect people to treatment and recovery as soon as possible.
- The overdose crisis is complex and there isn't one simple solution.
- Different people need different pathways to hope.
- That's why we are increasing the number of overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites across the province.
- We're connecting people more quickly to treatment and medications.
- We've made drug testing more widely available.

- Naloxone kits are now available at over 1,000 locations, including hundreds of pharmacies in every corner of B.C.
- We are also working to provide social supports like housing.
- At the same time, we are taking an all-of-province approach to developing a better system for mental health and addictions care.
- One that will focus on prevention and early intervention with children and youth, on treatment and recovery, and on poverty reduction.
- All of this is critical to creating pathways to hope...
- But we know there is still more to be done.
- The reality is we all know someone who is living with addiction.
- Many turn to substance as a solution to the pain or trauma of the past – to help to numb the pain.
- Pain and trauma affect people from all walks of life.
- Addiction affects people from all walks of life.
- We can't stereotype people affected by addiction – people all around us are struggling.

- It could be your mother or father, your boss or your colleague, your spouse or your brother or sister who is struggling with addiction.
- To make things worse, they also have to deal with fear.
- Fear of speaking out and saying they have a problem, because of stigma.
- So they struggle in silence.
- We want to knock down those walls of silence so that people are not afraid to talk about substance use issues.
- So they aren't ashamed to reach out for help, because of stigma.
- We want to stop people from feeling isolated and alone.
- And, we want them to know there are people who love them and want to help them find a pathway to recovery and healing.
- I've spoken with so many grieving family members, friends, and colleagues who have lost someone to overdose.
- And what I hear over and over again is "I didn't know," or "I didn't know how to help."

- But, the truth is we can all help.
- Each and every one of us can help stop overdose.
- Today, we are announcing a new public awareness campaign aimed at combatting stigma and encouraging courageous conversations.
- This campaign will challenge false stereotypes by showing that people from all walks of life are affected by addiction.
- It's a call to action for all of us to stop seeing addiction as a moral failing, and start seeing it as the health issue it is.
- So that people living with addictions receive the same dignity, respect and quality of care as people with any other physical illness.
- Through this campaign, we want to empower people to start open, judgement-free conversations about addiction.
- We want to knock down the walls of silence – and create a safer space – so that people who are struggling in silence – can reach out for help and begin the recovery process.
- The campaign will be supported with a new website....

- StopOverdoseBC.ca – where people can get information about how to start conversations about addiction with your loved ones, how to stay safe and where to reach out for support.
- And we are so excited that the Vancouver Canucks have joined us to champion this life-saving campaign.
- Thanks to our partnership with the Canucks, the thought-provoking campaign ads and posters will be showcased throughout Rogers Arena at all events including Canucks home games.
- Over the next few months, you will also see the campaign on television, online and social media.
- I'd like to ask Stephanie McCune and Kirk McLean of the Vancouver Canucks to join me to share the ads and posters you will see right here at Rogers Arena.

[unveil the TV screens]

- This campaign is meant to leave an impression...
- ...to make you think about a loved one that may be struggling...

- ...and to help you help the people in your life who may be suffering in silence.
- I encourage you all to visit the website and learn about how you can help those you love.
- Because turning the tide on this overdose crisis will take all of us.
- So join us, the Vancouver Canucks, our frontline responders and all the change-makers who have worked tirelessly to save lives in this crisis by taking a stand against stigma.
- And help us to create a stigma-free British Columbia.
- Thank you.

PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM  
**HONOURABLE JUDY DARCY**  
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

NORTHERN MAYORS ROUNDTABLE

Jan. 19, 2018

- My colleague, Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, unfortunately was unable to be here today.
- She has asked me to send her regrets and share some remarks on her behalf.
- Minister Darcy wanted you all to know that she recognizes the critical importance of these meetings, as they provide a platform to talk about the issues affecting our communities...
- ...urgent issues – like the overdose crisis – a tragedy that continues to unfold, and one that you are all too familiar with.
- Last year alone, more than 1,200 families suffered the loss of a loved one to overdose and people continue to die at alarming rates.

PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM  
**HONOURABLE JUDY DARCY**  
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

NORTHERN MAYORS ROUNDTABLE  
Jan. 19, 2018

- The overdose crisis has had a profound impact on communities across the province, and we know that Indigenous People are disproportionately affected by the crisis.
- That's why we've invested \$322 million over the next three years, including \$20 million as it affects Indigenous People, to tackle the overdose crisis.
- This includes the new provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre that was created to take urgent action to save lives.
- We are putting this new Emergency Response Centre in place to fuel urgent local action, and rapidly implement locally driven solutions on-the-ground...
- Actions to prevent overdose deaths...
- Actions to support people toward treatment and recovery.

PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM  
**HONOURABLE JUDY DARCY**  
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

NORTHERN MAYORS ROUNDTABLE  
Jan. 19, 2018

- The centre includes a team of experts and dedicated staff, including First Nations who closely monitor overdose data in real time so we can intervene quickly in communities.
- Harm reduction is a primary area of focus, and we continue to increase the number of overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites
- We have also made fentanyl drug testing and naloxone more widely available, with naloxone kits now being available at more than 1,000 locations around B.C., including participating pharmacies.
- As the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions moves forward, we will also give much needed attention to the stigma that is attached to mental health and substance use challenges.

PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM  
**HONOURABLE JUDY DARCY**  
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

NORTHERN MAYORS ROUNDTABLE  
Jan. 19, 2018

- This is critical to ensuring that people are accessing the support they need.
- As we work to combat stigma and the overdose crisis – we are also working on a broader – system-wide strategy of mental health and addictions care.
- To achieve this, we are working with all B.C. ministries, partners across all sectors, Indigenous People and community stakeholders, to develop the strategy.
- The strategy will form the building blocks for a seamless and coordinated mental health and addictions system focused on prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery for all British Columbians.
- A key focus will be working with Indigenous People to provide culturally-appropriate care in a culturally-safe manner.

PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM  
HONOURABLE JUDY DARCY  
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

NORTHERN MAYORS ROUNDTABLE

Jan. 19, 2018

- We'll consider all the social factors that can influence mental health and addictions issues...
- ...including poverty, housing, education, and support for families, intergenerational trauma and criminal justice.
- Together, we'll continue to march forward to take bold, innovative action to build a mental health and addictions system of care that works for everyone, how, when and where they need it.
- And most importantly, we will work **together** to end this crisis, end stigma, and save lives.
- Thank you.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

## **Northern Mayors Roundtable**

B.C. Civic Centre (Auditorium)  
808 Canada Games Way  
Prince George

Friday, January 19, 2018  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 a.m.

|

**Event Profile:**

Mayors, regional directors, chair and chief administrator officers from 100 Mile House to the Yukon Border to Haida Gwaii to Alberta and First Nations will participate in a daylong roundtable event.

The purpose of this event is to identify and focus on the priorities and perspectives of all local governments in the region, specifically:

- Identify common challenges and highlight opportunities where information sharing and/ or cooperation within the region would be mutually beneficial.
- Produce a summary of conclusions of the meeting to share with all relevant stakeholders and North Central Local Government Association members (NCLGA).

Minister Selina Robinson will speak about housing affordability at the event and Parliamentary Secretary Rice will speak about emergency preparedness.

**Event Format:**

Between 60 and 80 delegates will attend the event. Delegates will sit around a hollow square table with microphones to share their priorities and perspectives. It will be a closed door event.

This meeting will be co-chaired by the President of the NCLGA, Shaely Wilbur, and Prince George mayor, Lyn Hall.

The roundtable will be divided into four main sessions: economic development, social responsibility, environmental stewardship and next steps.

During each session, local government representatives will have an opportunity to discuss specific priorities and perspectives as they relate to the session title.

**Event Participants:**

- Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Selina Robinson
- Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness, Jennifer Rice
- Chief Terry Teegee (Assembly of First Nations (BC))
- Chief Dominic Frederick and the Lheidli T'enneh Nation – receives gift

**Audience:**

Mayors, regional directors, chair and chief administrator officers from 100 Mile House to the Yukon Border to Haida Gwaii to Alberta and First Nations.

**What does the audience want to hear?**

What is government doing to end the opioid crisis and improve supports and services in First Nations and other communities for people with mental health and addiction issues.

**Event Contact:**

Kaila Nielsen - NCLGA Communications Coordinator - 250-564-6585  
knielsen@nclga.ca

**Top Message:**

- The overdose crisis continues to have a profound impact on people from all walks of life throughout B.C., including First Nations communities.

**Secondary (Pivot) Messages:**

- We are working to combat this crisis on all fronts with the launch of the new provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre, focused on local action to save lives and better support for people toward recovery.
- We will continue our work to expand harm reduction sites, treatment and medications, access to naloxone, providing support for front line workers and working with Indigenous people and communities to find culturally appropriate solutions.
- We are working with other ministries, community agencies, families and all levels of government to develop a comprehensive mental health and addictions strategy to improve services that are focused on better prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery.

## **Introduction**

- Good morning.
- It's an honour to be here with all of you today on behalf of Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Judy Darcy.
- Unfortunately, she is unable to be here, but she asked me to pass along her greetings and well wishes for a productive and successful gathering.
- I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the territory of Lheidli T'enneh (clayt-clay ten-ay).
- [Acknowledge anyone else you may want to]

## **Overview Overdose Emergency**

- Meetings of this nature are critically important, as they give us the opportunity to talk about the issues affecting our communities...
- ...issues of urgency – like the overdose crisis – a tragedy that continues to unfold, and one that we are all too familiar with.
- Last year alone, more than 1,200 families suffered the loss of a loved one to overdose.
- Indigenous people are disproportionately affected by the crisis, with 10% of all overdose deaths and 14% of all overdose events in B.C. involving First Nations...

- Despite the tremendous effort made across the system and in each of your communities to combat this crisis, people continue to die at alarming rates.
- We have taken immediate action with an investment of \$322 million over the next three years for actions that will save lives, end stigma and improve access to services for people struggling with addiction.
- In December, we escalated our response to the overdose crisis by launching the provincial Overdose Emergency Response Centre.
- A core team of experts and dedicated staff at the provincial centre are closely monitoring overdose data, risk factors and emerging trends in real time.

- This information will allow us to intervene quickly in communities to save lives...
- ...and put services in place to better support people on a path to treatment and recovery.
- Recognizing that Indigenous and First Nations communities are highly impacted by the crisis, the First Nations Health Authority is providing a full-time staff member in the centre.
- There will also be Indigenous representatives on the regional and community action teams, to better support a culturally appropriate response.
- We're also working to combat the crisis by increasing the number of overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites.

- Harm reduction plays an integral role in keeping people safe.
- We've taken the innovative step to make fentanyl testing strips available at all overdose prevention and supervised consumption sites across the province.
- We've also made naloxone more widely available...including at community pharmacies across the province.
- Outside of harm reduction, treatment and recovery is imperative to those impacted by substance use challenges...
- ...and we recognize that Methadone and Suboxone don't work for everyone.
- That's why we are working with the health authorities to urgently increase access to an additional opioid agonist therapy – injectable hydromorphone – across the province.

## **Mental Health and Addictions Actions/First Nations**

- In the face of the overdose crisis, nothing is more important than saving lives.
- And through innovative measures, and the support of many in the community, we are working to do just that.
- But, we must also pay attention to another element impacting this crisis – stigma.
- Stigma about mental health and substance use can force people to hide their use, and prevent people from seeking the support they need, whether it be visiting an overdose prevention or supervised consumption service location, or accessing treatment when they are ready.

- This means many people use substances alone, without the possibility for intervention if an overdose occurs. This population is large and at high risk of overdose.
- So while we work to reach people who use drugs alone, we are taking action to end the stigma around mental health and addiction.
- Addiction is most often a response to emotional or physical pain or trauma, and shame and criminalization only serves to make the pain worse.
- For some communities, that pain runs very, very deep indeed.
- You experience it in your own communities – pain as the result of intergenerational trauma caused by colonization, racism and residential schools.

- This has led to many Indigenous people, including youth, turning to alcohol and other drugs to numb their pain.
- We have to reach these people earlier – before they reach the crisis point. They need our help.
- I'm very proud that we've committed \$20 million over three years to tackle the overdose crisis as it affects Indigenous people.

## **Strategy**

- As we work to combat the overdose crisis – we are also working on a broader, system-wide strategy of mental health and addictions care.

- To achieve this, we are working with all B.C. ministries, partners across all sectors, Indigenous and community stakeholders, to develop the strategy.
- Through this work, we are creating the building blocks for a seamless, coordinated mental health and addictions system focused on prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery for all British Columbians.
- A key focus will be working with Indigenous people to provide culturally-appropriate care in a culturally-safe manner.
- The other key areas of focus will be to make sure we have a comprehensive system in place for mental health and addictions care for youth and children...

- ...and intervening earlier to support people so their condition doesn't get worse.
- We'll look at all the social factors that can influence mental health and addictions issues...
- ...including poverty, housing, education, and support for families, intergenerational trauma and criminal justice.
- This isn't an issue any one ministry, organization or community can tackle alone.

## **Conclusion**

- Everyone has a role to play in combatting the overdose crisis ending stigma and supporting those who are struggling with mental health and addiction problems.
- Together, we'll continue to march forward to take bold, innovative action to build a mental health and addictions system of care that works for everyone, how, when and where they need it.
- And most importantly, we will work **together** to end this crisis, end stigma, and save lives.
- Thank you.