



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

SECOND READING
***COMMUNITY CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING
AMENDMENTS ACT 2018***
(Bill #5)

Legislative Assembly

Check Against Delivery

- Mister Speaker, I rise today to support the *Community Care and Assisted Living Amendments Act*.
- As a mother and a grandmother, I know how important the safety of my family is.
- It's almost impossible to go about your day if you don't know that your kids are okay.
- I'm sure other parents in this House would say the same.
- But that's the situation that some parents in British Columbia are facing.
- As the child care crisis in B.C. has been building over the years, many parents have been forced to settle for their child-care provider....

-not because it's their first choice, but because it's the only provider with an opening, or the only one that they can afford.
- And many do not have the information they need in order to make an informed decision about whether they're leaving their kids in a safe place.
- Parents currently have no way to check on the history of a prospective unlicensed child-care provider if they are operating unlawfully with more than two children...
- ...and no way of knowing whether their provider had been investigated and found to be in contravention of the Act and the regulations before.
- The amendments to the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* will give parents another layer of information to help them make a decision about how to choose a prospective child-care provider.

- Starting in the fall, Health Authorities will post information on unlicensed providers that have been found to be operating illegally by caring for more children than they are allowed to.
- Parents will be able to see the addresses, names and substantiated findings of the investigations of unlawful providers who have been cited for illegal operations.
- If there haven't been any issues flagged for a particular unlicensed provider, they won't be listed online.
- It's important to note that day cares can legally operate without a community care facility licence as long as the operators are only caring for a maximum of two children – or a sibling group – in addition to their own.
- Any more than that and they're operating illegally.

- We want parents to know that they can call their local Health Authority if an unlicensed provider is caring for too many children – or if they have any other health and safety concerns.
- It's primarily through getting calls that we know if unlicensed providers are caring for more than two children, and that always needs to be investigated.
- The Health Authorities will also support parents by making it easier to find information on licensed facilities, including inspection reports, which are already available online.
- Under these amendments, investigation and inspection reports for licensed child-care facilities will be posted online for five years.
- It will help give B.C. parents more confidence that their provider is meeting the standards needed to take on such an important role.

- This legislation complements the steps we're taking, under *Budget 2018*, to strengthen the child care system in B.C.
- This includes building new licensed child-care spaces, encouraging unlicensed child-care providers to become licensed, and lowering the cost of licensed child-care for B.C. parents.
- I'm pleased to support the *Community Care and Assisted Living Amendments Act*.
- Thank you, Mister Speaker.

Commented [KLL1]: Is this the standard ending to this type of notes?



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

**SECOND READING
COMMUNITY CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING
AMENDMENTS ACT
(Bill #5)**

Legislative Assembly

Check Against Delivery

- Mister Speaker, I rise today to support the *Community Care and Assisted Living Amendments Act*.
- I'd like to speak about this legislation in the context of this government's broader commitment to B.C. parents.
- We're focused on creating accessible, affordable and quality child care for anyone who wants or needs it.
- Quality care isn't just about having qualified staff to look after our children.
- It also means having facilities that are safe, so that when parents wave goodbye to their kids in the morning, they know they're in good hands.
- This legislation will allow parents to see if there have been any substantiated complaints about the provider they have chosen...

- ... and see if these issues have been resolved before they choose to send their kids there.
- This is particularly important when it comes to unlicensed – or licence-not-required – child-care providers.
- These providers are only allowed to care for two children – or a sibling group – in addition to their own.
- However, they are operating illegally if they care for more children than that.
- The problem is that parents currently have no way to know if an unlicensed provider is breaking the law.
- This new legislation will mean that any substantiated complaints about unlicensed child-care providers will be available publicly.

- Making this information available to parents will enable them to consider their options, and choose the child-care provider who will offer the best care to their children.
- I know that these changes will help bring peace of mind to families across the province, and leave them feeling secure in the choices they have made for their little ones.
- To support the creation more than 22,000 new licensed child-care spaces over the next three years, the Ministry of Health will add more licensing officers.
- Licensing officers will:
 - Help unlicensed providers to become licensed if they want to;
 - Work with child-care providers to ensure new spaces meet health and safety standards;

- And be on hand to investigate should a local Health Authority get a complaint about a licensed or unlicensed facility.
- All of these changes will help better support B.C. families.
- Mister Speaker, I'm pleased to support the *Community Care and Assisted Living Amendments Act*.



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

**2 – 4 p.m.
March 9, 2018**

**Thi Lelum Smuneem,
475 Tenth Street, Nanaimo**

Event: Opening of new Thi Lelum Smuneem child-care centre

Time: 2 – 4 p.m. (speaking time approx. 2.35 p.m.)

Location: Thi Lelum Smuneem, 475 Tenth St, Nanaimo

Parking: The centre will reserve parking for the Minister

On-site Contact: Tammie Myles, t: 250 751-4256

Key Participants/Program:

- Grace Elliott Nielsen, Executive Director of TLAFC
- Bill McKay, Nanaimo City Mayor
- Tammie Myles, Project Manager
- Lise Haddock, Executive Director of Indigenous Strategies & Partnerships, RCY

Audience: Board members, staff

Speaking Time: 5 minutes

Background – Event:

The Thi Lelum Smuneem Child Care Centre received \$500,000 through the most recent Major Capital Funding intake to create 44 new licensed child-care spaces (24 for 3- to 5-year-olds, and 20 for school-aged children).

The centre will be run by the Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre, which began as a non-profit society in 1965. It was created to support Indigenous people moving into urban centres who no longer had access to their own First Nation after leaving the reserve.

The child-care centre is part of a larger hub that provides wrap-around services to local families, including medical and dental services, safe houses, affordable residence and more.

Itinerary (Timing Approximate):

2:00 p.m.	Welcoming address by Executive Director of TLAFC by Grace Elliott Nielsen
2:10 p.m.	Thank yous from Tammie Wylie
2:15 p.m.	A few words from the City Mayor – Bill McKay
2:20 p.m.	A few words from a representative from RCY
2:35 p.m.	MCFD minister Conroy
2:45 p.m.	Dance group
3:00-4:00 p.m.	Self-guided tour and networking

Commented [KLL1]: Shouldn't MKC speak earlier than this? I think she should speak before Mayor and RCY rep.

Traditional Territory: Snuneymuxw First Nation

- Good afternoon and thank you for inviting me to your big day.

[Thank organizers, acknowledge any Elders in the room, etc.]

- I'd like to acknowledge that we're on the territory of the Snuneymuxw [SUH-nay-moo] First Nation.
- It's wonderful to be here to help celebrate the opening of your new child-care spaces.
- Thanks to your hard work, families in your community will have more quality child-care options for their children.
- The new facility looks beautiful, and I know many children will have fun here – learning, growing, playing and making friends.

- This centre is particularly important as it will provide culturally safe and supportive care to local families, with wrap-around services for those who need them.
- I'd also like to acknowledge that this opening is taking place in Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre's 50th year.
- Congratulations on this exciting milestone!
- You've been supporting parents and families in the community for five decades now.
- I'm sure you've experienced many changes since you began as a coffee drop-in centre!
- You'll see even more changes as we move towards our vision of universal child care in B.C.

- Under our recent budget, we are committing more than \$1 billion to child care over the next three years.
- That's the biggest investment in child care in B.C.'s history.
- We'll be using this funding in a few ways.
- Most importantly, we want to make child care more affordable for parents.
- Starting April 1, child-care providers will be able to opt-in to our child care fee reduction initiative.
- Any parent with a licensed provider who has opted in to this initiative will see their fees reduced by up to \$350, depending on the type of child care.

- This will be supplemented by our new affordable child care benefit, which parents will see in September.
- This benefit replaces the current child care subsidy and provides several key improvements:
 - The maximum benefit will be higher for eligible families.
 - The income threshold is also higher, so families with pre-tax income of up to \$111,000 will receive some benefit.
 - It will support almost 60,000 more parents than the current subsidy does.
 - And finally, parents will be able to check how much they will receive and apply online.
- These financial supports will make a big difference to B.C. families and communities, including Indigenous families.

- However, we know we can't just provide more funding to parents – we need to increase the number of spaces, too.
- That's why we're committed to funding more than 22,000 new licensed child-care spaces across the province over the next few years.
- We've also recently signed a funding agreement with the Government of Canada for Early Learning and Child Care.
- We'll use this funding to boost several key programs, including \$30 million over the next few years to expand the number of Aboriginal Head Start programs in B.C.
- It's our hope that about 600 families will benefit from this boost.
- We'll announce more details about Aboriginal Head Start over the coming weeks, as I know your community has expressed interest in it as well.

- Child care in B.C. is changing, and it's great to have organizations like you at the forefront of this change.
- Once again, I'm honoured to be here with you today.
- You've made such a difference to local families, and this centre will give kids a great start for many years to come.
- A lot has changed since you first opened your doors. . . . and this expansion will help you to provide the best care to even more families for many generations to come.
- Congratulations, and I hope that you enjoy the rest of the festivities.
- Thank you.



SPEAKING NOTES

Honourable Katrine Conroy

Minister of Children and Family Development

(check against delivery)

Social Work Week

National Social Work Month

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

March 16, 2015

**Kamloops Alliance Church, 233 Fortune Drive
Kamloops, B.C.**

Event onsite contact:

- Michael Crawford, president, BC Association of Social Workers, cell: s.22
- Alternate: Dr. Jennifer Murphy, Chair School of Social Work, cell/text s.22

Event location, parking and access:

- Kamloops Alliance Church, 233 Fortune Drive
- Michael Crawford or Jennifer Murphy have offered to drive minister from TRU to the church
- Map to Kamloops Alliance Church - <https://goo.gl/maps/dWRdR>
**full directions from TRU to Church on next page

Itinerary

- 11:30 am - arrive and mingle
- 11:55 am - Welcome by Michael Crawford
- Noon - Light lunch and refreshments served
- 12:20 pm - Minister Conroy speaks, introduced by Michael
- 12:40 pm - Presentation of the Heart of the Grasslands Award to Maureen Doll who will speak for a few minutes (photo-op)
- 1:00 - adjournment

Audience:

- Approx. 50-60 community social workers and social work students

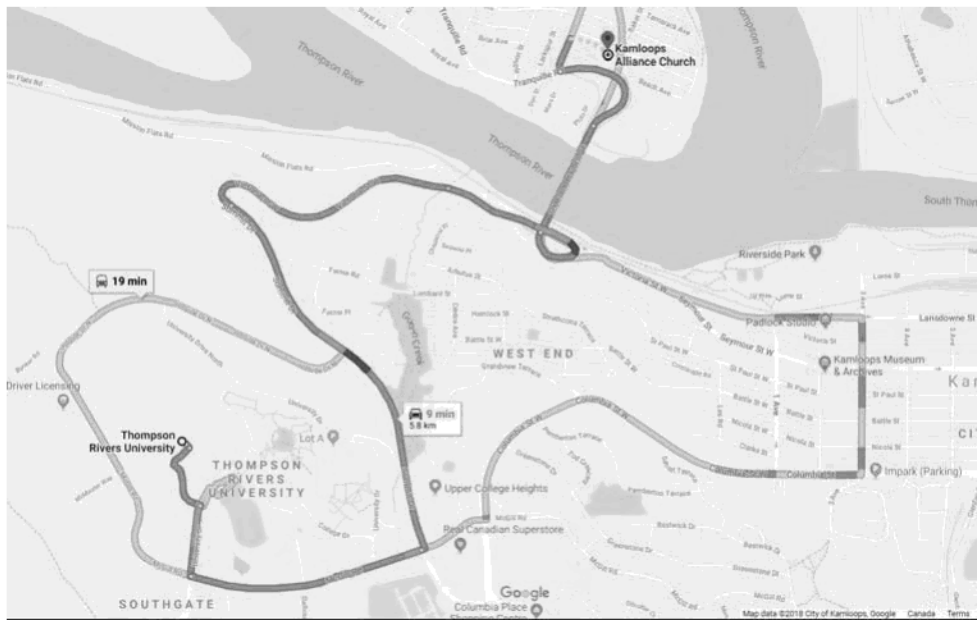
DIRECTIONS FROM TRU TO KAMLOOPS ALLIANCE CHURCH

A 900 McGill Rd, Kamloops, BC V2C 0C8, Canada

B 233 Fortune Dr, Kamloops, BC V2B 2H7, Canada

Route: **4.6 km, 7 min**

1. 900 McGill Rd, Kamloops,
2. Depart Dalhousie Dr toward McGill Rd 28 meters
3. Turn left onto McGill Rd 0.5 km
4. Turn left onto Summit Dr 1.7 km
5. Turn right onto Victoria St W 0.9 km
6. Keep right to stay on Victoria St W 0.5 km
7. Take ramp right toward North Shore 0.3 km
8. Keep straight onto Fortune Dr 0.7 km
9. Arrive at 233 Fortune Dr, Kamloops, BC V2B 2H7, Canada



The last intersection is Larch Ave
If you reach Baker St, you've gone too far

- Thank you, Michael, and hello everyone.
- I'd like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Stk'emplupsemc te Secwepemc [pronounced: **St-kum-loops-um TEH Shuh-kwep-um**].
- Thank you to the Thompson Nicola BC Association of Social Workers for inviting me...
- And I'd like to thank the Kamloops Alliance Church for hosting today's gathering.

(please acknowledge any others in the audience you have met as you arrived)

- It's my pleasure to join in this event that celebrates you – the thousands of social workers and other front-line practitioners across British Columbia who work tirelessly every day to make life better for others.

- It is only fitting that as we celebrate Social Work Week in B.C. and National Social Work Month, we take some time to turn the spotlight on you!
- Before I came here, I had the chance to speak with community social workers, social work students and faculty at Thompson Rivers University.
- In my conversations with them, I noticed the same sense of caring and concern for others and the same drive to make a positive difference that I see in the social workers in my ministry, and the ones I've have met in the communities and the agencies we work with.
- I know the work you do is often challenging – both physically and emotionally...
- But that sense of true commitment to improving lives has not faded – from the time many of you were social work students yourselves to now, as seasoned veterans in the field.

- It's incredible and a testament to your dedication, professionalism and compassion.
- We know that a social worker's day goes beyond a nine-to-five job.
- ...because caring doesn't stop when the work day ends or when the weekend begins.
- In other words, social work is more than a profession.
- It is a calling that goes beyond a career choice.
- It's about striving for the best possible outcomes and ensuring the safety and security of children and families.
- It's about providing the knowledge and expertise to inform families about their choices.
- It's about ensuring vulnerable British Columbians can get the supports and services to help them through difficult times.

- More often than not, it's about listening and understanding – without judgment.
- Practicing social work means understanding that not everyone starts off from the same place in life.
- Some people need a little extra help and guidance to get to where they need and want to be.
- To do that, they need problem-solvers, like yourselves, who can help find real solutions for real people.
- So that those who are struggling know they're not alone, and that there IS help.
- The decisions you make on a daily basis affect families for the long-term – and ultimately – for the rest of their lives.
- It's emotional and demanding, there is no denying that.

- But I have heard time and again that it is also the most gratifying.

Government's commitment

- My ministry is about people and I love working with a group that puts people at the heart of decision-making, right at the ground level.
- It's an approach that my government embraces and that I, as minister, want to bring to the work we do every day.
- Making a difference in the lives of children and families is at the heart of everything we do in the ministry and it's the reason many of us – myself included – come to work each day.
- Speaking of making real difference, I'm very proud of the recent changes we announced that involves some of your clients - youth leaving government care.

- I know that, for a social worker helping a young person in government care, the time leading up to their 19 birthday must be a challenging time.
- This is the point when they ‘age out’ of the system and are technically expected to function as adults on their own.
- It must be hard to, essentially, tell a young person “well, this is the end for us. Good luck with your future!”
- I know it’s hard because I have children myself and I know that at that age they were nowhere near ready to navigate life as adults.
- I have four grandchildren between the ages of 13 and 17, and, as much as I’m proud of their abilities, I know they will still need the help of their parents and extended family for a long time before they can be completely independent and successful in their own right.

- That's why I'm proud that only a few months after forming government, we announced free tuition at all 25 of B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions for young people leaving foster care.
- Between September last year and January this year, 229 youth who had spent time in government care signed up for, and had their tuition fees covered, at B.C. colleges and universities, compared to 189 in the entire school year last year.
- That is a 20 percent jump in just four months.
- These youth now have opportunities they didn't have before.
- I know social workers in my ministry are thrilled to deliver this good news to their clients.
- However, for youth who have been in government care, getting into post-secondary is only one of the challenges they face.

- So we are also expanding and improving the agreements with young adults program to provide better and longer financial support for youth as they transition to adulthood.
- Over the next three years, we will invest \$30 million toward the program.
- This will allow us to meet growing demand as more young people become eligible to participate.
- That's incredible news for the hundreds of youth who leave government care each year.

(pause)

- You may have also heard about our government's first steps towards an exciting, made-in-B.C. child care plan.

- My colleague, the Minister of State for Child Care, is responsible for implementing the \$1-billion plan over the next three years.
- The plan will:
 - reduce child care fees for thousands of families;
 - increase the number of licensed child care spaces;
 - train the early childhood educators B.C. needs to provide affordable quality child care for every family that needs it;
 - and help thousands of children and families get a better start.
- Making life more affordable for British Columbians is a commitment for our government and improving the child care system is a key step along the way.

- So the benefits of this biggest investment in child care history will have positive ripple effects for families and communities for generations.
- We are honouring a remarkable social worker this afternoon for her dedication to children and the early years among other areas.
- As social workers, I know you appreciate the values of strong child care as the foundation for lifelong success.

[pause]

- Another area of focus and commitment for me, my ministry and this government is Indigenous child welfare.
- Today is National '60s Scoop Survivors Solidarity Day.
- A reminder to us all, especially governments, of the shameful legacy of the past and the need for reconciliation and positive change.

- We are committed to moving beyond talk and into action when it comes to reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples on whose lands we are privileged and honoured to work, live and play.
- We committed to implement the UN declaration on the rights of Indigenous peoples and the call to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Tsilhqot'in [Chil-Co-Tin]decision.
- Moving beyond words, we are reviewing our policies, programs and legislation to bring the principles of the declaration into action.
- A fundamental shift like this will take time and require ongoing effort on our part.
- But we are taking action as quickly as we can.

- This spring, we will be proposing changes to the Child, Family and Community Services Act to allow Indigenous communities to be more involved in child-welfare decisions.
- These proposed changes reflect comments and concerns from Indigenous partners who are asking for a more collaborative approach to child welfare and improved information sharing.
- If approved, these changes will help us to involve Indigenous communities in planning before a child is removed.
- We see this as one of the keys to keeping children out of care.
- It's one small, but very important step we can take towards Reconciliation.

- There are a number of changes taking place in my ministry – both in policy and practice – and we are actively working with Indigenous leaders and communities to change outcomes for their people.
- I will not go into great detail about the many changes taking place, but I want to reiterate that our government is committed to working with Indigenous families, communities, and, hand-in-hand with social workers, to reform child welfare.
- There is a lot of work to do and we have the dedicated staff working with community social workers and agencies throughout the province.
- Our front-line workers have some of the hardest jobs in B.C.
- In a job where you must balance policy, with practice and standards, strong ethics are a basis for achieving success.

- As a social worker you know the complexities of your job all too well.
- And you know that things are not as black and white as they may sometimes appear.
- It can be disheartening to read some of the stories in the media, knowing they're missing facts, but feeling helpless to share them because of privacy legislation and the need to protect the families you serve.
- But you know the truth.
- You know those negative stories are far outweighed by the many positive outcomes you achieve with your clients every day.

(feel free to share a personal story or one you have heard about a social worker)

Conclusion

- Social work is not for the faint of heart.
- It truly is for people who are willing to be an advocate, a champion, and an ally - sometimes the only one - for many of society's most vulnerable people.
- I believe social workers are the true “unsung” heroes in B.C.
- So on behalf of myself, ministry staff, government officials and all British Columbians...
- ...Thank you for your compassion and tireless commitment to improving lives throughout this province.
- Thank you!



SPEAKING NOTES

Honourable Katrine Conroy

Minister of Children and Family Development

(check against delivery)

Social Work Week

10:30 – 11:20 a.m.

Friday, March 16, 2018

Alpine Room (CAC 130), Campus Activity Centre

Thompson Rivers University

Kamloops, B.C.

Event onsite contact:

- Dr. Jennifer Murphy, Chair School of Social Work, cell/text: s.22
- Alternate: Michael Crawford, retired professor, TRU Social Work, cell: s.22

Event location, parking and access:

- Thompson Rivers University – Campus Activity Centre, Kamloops
- A parking permit will be delivered to Best Western hotel for the minister on Feb. 15th
- Parking is recommended in Lot 'N' of the campus.
- Once parked, please call or text Jennifer Murphy who can guide you to the Arts and Education Building. Jennifer has also offered to drive out to the lot (it's a long walk in the snow) to meet the minister and drive her to the event location.

Event set-up:

- Intimate setting in a small room usually reserved for staff events.
- A podium and mike will be available for the minister.
- Minister will address the room and there will be time after for Q and As with the 3rd and 4th year students, faculty and community social workers (MCFD and DAAs received invitation and may be present)

Speakers:

- Dr. Jennifer Murphy will introduce the minister
- The Minister is the main speaker at this event and will have 30-40 minutes to speak

Audience:

- Approx. 50 students, including faculty and some MCFD and DAA staff (not confirmed)
- Audience would like to hear the Minister, give an aerial view of MCFD, problems with the system - disproportionate number of Indigenous kids in care, recruitment & retention issues, what she's going to do differently, Reconciliation, priorities as new minister and focus on recruitment and retention.

- Thank you Jennifer (and Michael) for organizing this gathering at your beautiful facility and hello everyone.

(acknowledge any other guests in the audience you may have met when you arrived)

- I'd like to begin by acknowledging

that we are gathered on the

TK'emlups te Secwepemc **St-kum-loops-um TEH Shuh-kwep-um]**
territory within the unceded traditional lands of
the Secwepemc **[Shuh-kwep-um]** Nation.

- And thanks to everyone here for sharing your time with me and giving me the opportunity to tell you about some of the work happening in my ministry.
- Normally, in a setting like this, I'd take a more conversational approach...

- But I want to cover a few important points, so please bear with me if I refer to my notes a little bit...
- ...and we can chat more informally during our Q & A session at the end.

(pause)

National Social Work Month & Social Work Week

- As you may know, March is National Social Work Month and this week we've been celebrating Social Work Week in B.C.
- ...so it's a special pleasure for me to have the chance to meet and talk with you.
- Since becoming minister, I have been so impressed with the social workers I have met...
- ...those who have had a long career in Children and Families, and also our newest staff

- And I am especially thrilled to meet *future* social workers
- By the end of our time together, I hope to convince as many of you as possible to consider joining the Ministry of Children and Family Development in your professional life.
- I use the word professional but I know that social work is more than a job...
- It is a vocation; a calling that goes beyond a career choice.
- The very fact that we celebrate social work week in B.C. speaks to the value of this role in our lives.
- ...because caring doesn't stop at the end of the work day.
- So, it's important for us as a society to recognize the too often "unsung" heroes who advocate, protect, empower and make a difference in lives every day.

- I'd like to share a story about a social worker in our ministry who did the kind of important creative work that I believe is what will really make a difference for families in our province
- There were a couple of children in rural B.C.
- Staff at their school called the Ministry of Children and Families because they thought the children were being neglected.
- When the social worker arrived at their house, she realized the family's water system had broken down and they couldn't afford to replace it.
- Clearly, the family was struggling.
- The social worker was able to see that at the root of this family's trouble was economic - it was poverty not neglect.
- The social worker committed to helping the family – not just from a child protection standpoint, but by looking at the whole family's well-being.

- The social worker, through the ministry, paid for a new water system and the family got the help that they needed to get back on their feet.
- This is the essence for me of what social work can be— a profession that gives people a sense of dignity, especially when they are at their most vulnerable, and works creatively to support families and lift them up.

(pause)

- Many of you in this room already possess the qualities of a good social worker.
- The fact that you're enrolled in the social work program means you want to help people and change things for better.
- As our workforce continues to age, we need more and more qualified, committed people like you to carry us forward.

- We have an excellent relationship with the Thompson Rivers University.
- I understand that each year about 20 practicum students from TRU are placed in my ministry.
- Many of them end up staying, and even go on to leadership positions within the ministry.
- In fact, one of my Assistant Deputy Ministers, Teresa Dobmeier, is a TRU alumni from 21 years ago.
- That is back when TRU was called University College of the Cariboo.
- Not sure if Teresa wanted me to share that little piece of history, but...
- The point is that a social work degree can take you in directions you may not have considered.

- I know many of you will choose to be community social workers – working in hospitals, or schools, or in not-for-profit agencies.
- Although it's difficult and emotional work, I'm sure social work is one of the most rewarding fields you will ever be a part of.
- I have worked with children and families for more than 20 years.
- First as an ECE, then at Selkirk College teaching Early Childhood Education...
- While also leading a multi-service agency that provided services to children, youth and families.
- So when I say it is rewarding work, I am speaking from experience.

Sasha story – experience with Social Worker, 4 kids, 9 grands....

One of our kids went “off the rail” so to speak.....Really tough time....

Love always don't like right now.....

Social worker who helped...connected us with youth worker, to get the care and support she needed....it was life changing

Our daughter is now a incredible mom of 5.....does child care...nieces son, and after school care forspecial needs

(pause)

MCFD overview

- If you choose to work in my ministry, you can expect to work in one of the six service areas:
- The **early years**, where you are working with children under six years and their families.

- You could be working with **children and youth with special needs...**
- Or **child and youth mental health.**
- I'm sure you are all aware of the opioid crisis we are facing right now.
- In fact, our government recently created a new Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.
- Social workers in my ministry work closely with this new ministry so people have seamless access to services.
- You could be working in the **adoptions** area of the ministry.
- Another area of focus for my ministry is **youth justice**, and we have one of the most progressive and effective systems of youth justice services in the country.

- In fact, B.C. has had the lowest per capita rate of youth in custody in the country for the past several years.
- This is because we use community-based alternatives to custody, including intensive supervision and support, restorative justice, and community rehabilitative programs.
- Lastly, of course is area of **child safety, family support and children in care.**
- Many of you may choose to specialize in child welfare to work in this area of social work.
- You will of course be expected to recite the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*. Bane of my existence....
- Seriously though, if you decide to join the ministry, you will be part of 4,500 people, serving 157,000 children and families across B.C. and that is a big responsibility and invaluable service to the community.

(pause)

Different approach – AYA and child care

- Our ministry is about people and I love working with a group that puts people at the heart of decision-making, right at the ground level.
- Making a difference in these often vulnerable lives is – quite simply – at the centre of everything we do and the reason why many of us – myself included – come to work each day.
- One of the actions that I'm particularly proud of involves youth leaving government care.
- I'm not sure if you had the chance to hear about the Budget 2018 details our government released last month.
- If you haven't, I urge you to go the government website and either read or watch the video recording.

- It may not be riveting television, but as future social workers, I'm sure you will be pleased to learn about a budget that invests in people, to make life affordable, better and fairer for everyone.
- Only a few months after forming government, we announced free tuition at all 25 of B.C.'s public post-secondary institutions for young people leaving foster care. Premier, Minister Mark, two young women....
- We know this was the right thing to do, and the proof is in the numbers.
- Between September last year and January this year, 229 former youth in government care signed up at B.C. colleges and universities, compared to 189 in the entire school year last year...
- That is a 20 percent jump in four months.

- These youth now have opportunities they did not have before.
- Some of these youths will go on to become the leaders of tomorrow.
- I know social workers in my ministry who work with youth are very pleased to deliver this good news to their clients.
- However, for youth who have been in government care, getting into post-secondary is only one of the challenges they face.
- At 19, most young people are supported and guided by their parents and families and not left to fend for themselves.
- As parents to youth in care, our government feels the same responsibility to make sure these young adults have every opportunity to successfully transition to adulthood and independence.
- We take this responsibility seriously

- So in Budget 2018 we promised to expand and enhance the agreements with young adults program, which gives youth the financial support and services they need to finish secondary school, learn job and life skills, get a trade, attend college or university or complete a rehabilitative program.
- Over the next three years, we will invest \$30 million to enhance and expand the agreements with young adults program.
- This will allow us to meet growing demand as more young people become eligible to participate in the program.
- Starting April 1st, we will invest \$7.7 million to:
 - raise eligibility by another year, up to their 27th birthday, to align with the provincial tuition waiver program I mentioned earlier

- to increase the maximum monthly support rate from \$1,000 to \$1,250
- and to make supports available for the full calendar year for students enrolled in a multi-year educational or vocational program.
- That's incredible news for the hundreds of youth who leave government care each year.

Youth told us how they would be homeless ...couch surf....the 4 months they didn't go to school.

- Another major feature of Budget 2018 was our government's first steps towards an exciting, made-in-B.C. child care plan.
- The plan will:
 - reduce child care fees for thousands of families;
 - increase the number of licensed child care spaces;

- train the early childhood educators B.C. needs to provide affordable quality child care for every family that needs it;
- and help thousands of children and families get a better start.
- My colleague, the Minister of State for Child Care, Katrina Chen, asked the Premier what was he thinking....2 Katrines...e and her a...im Kat...
- Katrina has been incredible and together we are responsible for implementing the \$1-billion plan over the next three years.
- Making life more affordable for British Columbians is a commitment for our government and improving the child care system is a key step along the way.
- These are some of the promising changes taking place that make it a great time to be at the helm

of a ministry where we can see the positive results of this new approach.

(pause)

Indigenous Child Welfare

- Speaking of change and a new approach, there may not be any area of public policy where a new approach is more desperately needed than in Indigenous child welfare.
- Today is National '60s Scoop Survivors Solidarity Day.
- A reminder to us all, especially governments, of the shameful legacy of the past and the need for reconciliation and positive change.
- Our government is committed to moving beyond talk and into action when it comes to reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples on whose lands we are privileged and honoured to work, live and play.

- We committed to implement the United Nations declaration on the rights of Indigenous peoples and the call to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Tsilhqot'in decision.
- Moving beyond words, we are reviewing our policies, programs and legislation to bring the principles of the declaration into action.
- For my ministry, the importance of reconciliation means reducing the disproportionate number of Indigenous children in government care and working collaboratively and respectfully with Indigenous communities to make a difference for families.
- We all know the system has failed Indigenous people, and we all know it needs to change.

- This change needs to happen at a systemic level within my ministry, across different levels of governments, with our partners who deliver services to families and within communities.
- This is another area where our government is changing its approach to focus on prevention.
- We are actively implementing the 85 recommendations from Grand Chief Ed John's report on Indigenous child welfare. The report - Indigenous Resilience, Connections and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions....Required reading...for every SW student.
- We are shifting the focus to keeping Indigenous children at home, in communities and out of care wherever possible.
- Many Indigenous communities are served by delegated Aboriginal agencies; some of you may choose to work with those agencies.

- We have increased funding to DAAs so they can hire experienced and qualified staff, carry smaller caseloads and provide culturally appropriate services to the children and families they serve.
- In September, we launched a new \$6.4-million program to support 203 First Nations communities and seven Métis-serving agencies to keep Indigenous families together.
- So far, nearly 170 have successfully applied for the \$30,000 grant for programs that keep the family unit strong.
- In November, we took a big step forward on reconciliation with a new delegated Métis agency, the Lii Michif Otipemisiwak (Lee-Michif-Two-Pem-Shoe-Wok) Family and Community Services.
- Lii Michif now has our government support to take over full responsibility for 50 Métis children currently in government care in the Kamloops area.

- I also recognize that for meaningful change to happen, government policies, programs and services across the board must change to better reflect Indigenous beliefs and practices.
- A fundamental shift like this will take time and require ongoing, intentional effort on our part.
- But we are taking action where we can...
- This spring, we are proposing changes to the Child, Family and Community Services Act to allow increased involvement of Indigenous communities in child-welfare decisions.
- These proposed changes reflect comments and concerns from Indigenous partners who are asking for a more collaborative approach to child welfare and improved information sharing.
- If approved, these changes will help us to involve Indigenous communities with planning before a child is removed and this is one of the keys to keep their children out of care.

- This is one small, but very important step we can take towards Reconciliation.
- Speaking of steps, I want to commend TRU for your role in Reconciliation.
- I understand your university is the only one in the country where a social work degree includes two core Indigenous courses.
- You have three Indigenous faculty member and in fact an Indigenous Dean of Education and Social. That is impressive for the size of the program.
- As social workers at TRU, you are well-positioned to be part of the shift, working with Indigenous children, youth and families, either within MCFD or in the community.
- In the ministry, we're working to make our policies and programs culturally safe and trauma-informed.

- Our practices need to support and honour Indigenous peoples' cultural systems of sharing and caring for their children and families.
- We are also working to hire more Indigenous employees and training all ministry staff to improve their cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Without knowledge and understanding, we can't expect staff to provide culturally safe and effective services to Indigenous children, their families and communities.
- B.C. is slowly, but surely moving towards a respectful relationship with Indigenous communities that honours and supports their right to care for their children according to their traditions.
- Last year, the Wet'suwet'en Nation and the province of B.C. signed a landmark agreement for the Nation to reclaim jurisdiction for child welfare

services according to its traditional laws and governance systems.

- Our province is only one of three in Canada to have taken this step, Ontario and Quebec being the other two.
- We were also active in discussions with the Wet'suwet'en, Splat'sin (also a member of the Shukhwepum Nation) and Lake Babine Nations and the Métis Nation of B.C. to explore jurisdiction and different models of child welfare led by Indigenous communities.
- Through the tripartite First Nations children and families working group, we have been working with the federal government and First Nations leaders to explore fundamental and systemic changes to B.C.'s child welfare system, including Indigenous jurisdiction.

(pause)

Recruitment and retention

- There is lot of work to do in that area, but our ministry has the dedicated staff working throughout the province.
- I'm inspired by the women and men I have met...
- ... by their longtime service to the ministry...
- ...their excitement about the changes we are implementing together...
- ...and their commitment to make things better for children and families.
- As you can imagine, there is a lot of work to be done and we need a lot of people with the educational background and the commitment to help us do the work.
- The ministry has been hiring a large number of social workers over the past several years and we continue to need more every year.

- While the number of front-line workers is increasing, the number of children and youth in care is decreasing.
- Our hiring strategy targets high-need areas of the province – often rural and northern communities.
- We've got national and international recruitment efforts underway and hiring occurs through a quarterly posting and panel to ensure vacancies are filled as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- Our front-line workers have some of the hardest jobs in B.C. – that's why we continue to make improvements to help them.
- In April 2017, select front-line workers in 28 hard-to-recruit areas of B.C. received incentives of \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year through an agreement between government and the BC Government Employees' Union.
- Over the past several years, the ministry has changed the way it does business.

- We've made improvement to reduce the administrative burden on front-line workers focus their efforts on working directly with the children and the families they serve.
- We are making good progress....
- ...but recruitment and retention will always be an area of focus for us.

Conclusion

- In the end, I want to say that no matter which area of social work you choose to pursue, you will be making a difference and you will be changing lives.
- Social work is often described as “heart work,” because of the enormous emotional investment this profession demands...
- Your job will be to truly listen and understand someone's story...

- To be open to different viewpoint and cultures...
- ...Have strength at the end of a very long day;
- ... Care when no one else is able;
- And find and give hope in moments of despair.
- So, at the risk of sounding like this is a recruitment drive, I encourage you to look at the many practicum placement options within the ministry.
- You'll never be bored.
- And there are few opportunities that are as rich in hands-on learning.
- So why not spend some time with us and take advantage of the incredible training and development opportunities we offer?!

- While many of you may choose to work elsewhere, you will at some point interact with the ministry.
- All my experiences have taught me that life is about working collaboratively and making connections.
- The connections we make in life are pretty much EVERYTHING, and create our sense of belonging in the world!
- I hope the connections you make here at school, in the field as you apply your education and with the children, youth and families you help, give you the sense of belonging, of meaningful purpose and motivation.
- I look forward to hearing your thoughts and answering any questions you may have for me.
- Thank you!



SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Minister of Children and Family Development
KATRINE CONROY (MC)

10:30 a.m.
March 28, 2018

Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society
1250 Pinetree Way
Coquitlam

Event: Child care fee reduction launch

Time: **10:15 a.m.** (Pre-brief); **10:30 a.m.** (Event start)

Location: Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society
1250 Pinetree Way
Coquitlam

On-site Contact: Joleen Badger, Event Manager, 604 916-3551; Karen Johnston,
Communications Director, 250 812-0495

Key Participants/Program:

- Premier John Horgan
- Minister of Children and Family Development, Katrine Conroy
- Minister of State for Child Care, Katrina Chen
- Susan Hall-Ford, General Manager of the Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society
- Tracey Schaeffer, parent whose children attend the centre

Audience: Children, media, Douglas College staff

Speaking Time: Approx. 2-3 mins

Background - Event:

This event is to unveil the branding for Child Care BC and to celebrate the launch of our first affordability measure for child care. Starting in April 2018, B.C. parents using licensed care will see their child-care fees reduced by up to:

- \$350/month for group infant/toddler care
- \$200/month for family infant/toddler care
- \$100/month for group care for children aged 3-5
- \$60/month for family care for children aged 3-5

This reduction will be delivered through child-care providers, who will need to opt in to the initiative.

Itinerary (Timing Approximate):

10:15 a.m.	Pre-brief in Susan's office <i>Joleen to lead pre-brief with speakers</i>
10:30 a.m.	Premier Horgan arrives <i>Greeted by Susan Hall-Ford, General Manager</i>
10:31 a.m.	Premier is led to the announcement area <i>Children are set ready to play the parachute game in the playground</i>
10:32 a.m.	Susan takes Premier to play parachute game with kids
10:35 a.m.	Game ends, kids go play on playground
10:40 a.m.	Joleen sets Premier and speakers at podium
10:41 a.m.	MC Katrine Conroy welcomes everyone, introduces Premier Horgan
10:43 a.m.	Premier makes remarks
10:47 a.m.	Premier concludes remarks MC introduces Minister of State Chen
10:48 a.m.	MOS Chen's remarks
10:51 a.m.	MC introduces parent speaker Tracey Schaeffer's (parent speaker) remarks
10:52 a.m.	MC introduces Susan Hall-Ford Susan Hall-Ford's remarks
10:54 a.m.	MC invites Premier to podium for Q&A Q&A – Moderated by Sage
11:05 a.m.	Q&A ends
11:06am	Premier places decal on door with child
11:06 a.m.	Premier and Ministers meet and greet with parents
11:25 a.m.	Premier departs

- Good morning everybody, and thank you for being here!
- I'd like to acknowledge that we're on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples and the Kwikwetlem First Nation [kwee-kwet-lum].
- I'm Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development and I'll be your MC for today.
- It's really great to be here – I used to work as an Early Childhood Educator, so visiting a child-care centre always brings fond memories.
- I want to thank Douglas College and the Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society for hosting us today.
- This morning, we have Premier John Horgan joining us...

- ... along with Katrina Chen, the Minister of State for Child Care.
- They're here to talk about an important initiative that will support families across the province.
- We will hear from a parent, Tracey Schaeffer, whose children attend the child-care centre here.
- And we'll also hear from Susan Hall-Ford, the general manager for the Douglas College child-care programs, both here in Coquitlam and on the New Westminster campus.
- Thank you for hosting us!
- I'd now like to turn the mic over to Premier John Horgan to say a few words.

[Premier John Horgan speaks. When he concludes, please continue]

- Thank you, Premier.

- Now I'd like to invite Minister of State for Child Care Katrina Chen to speak.

[Minister Chen speaks. When she concludes, please continue]

- Thank you, Katrina.
- This initiative is a first step to fixing the child-care crisis in B.C...
- ... and I know that it will make a difference for many families.
- Here's Tracey Schaeffer to talk about how this initiative will help her family.

[Tracey speaks. When she concludes, please continue.]

- Thank you, Tracey.

- It's wonderful to hear just what this initiative means to you...
- ... and this is just the beginning.
- Last but not least, I'd like to invite Susan Hall-Ford to say a few words.

[Susan speaks. When she concludes, please continue.]

- Thank you, Susan.
- We're happy to partner with providers like you who are making such a difference in the lives of children and families every day.
- This initiative is just the first step of many this government will take to make life more affordable for families.

- We'll have more information on these and other budget commitments in the coming months.
- It's an exciting time for families in B.C.
- I'm looking forward to seeing the progress over the next few years as we take first steps towards our vision of universal child care in B.C.
- Thank you all for coming here, and for being patient with us!
- This concludes our formal remarks.
- We'll do a brief Q&A now, and after that, Premier Horgan and some little helpers will place a decal on the window to show everyone that their child care centre is helping their parents save money.
- Thank you.



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

**10:30 a.m.
March 28, 2018**

**Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society 1250
Pinetree Way
Coquitlam**

Check Against Delivery

Event: Child care fee reduction launch

Time: **10:15 a.m.** (Pre-brief); **10:30 a.m.** (Event start)

Location: Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society
1250 Pinetree Way
Coquitlam

On-site Contact: Joleen Badger, Event Manager, 604 916-3551; Karen Johnston,
Communications Director, 250 812-0495

Key Participants/Program:

- Premier John Horgan
- Minister of Children and Family Development, Katrine Conroy
- Minister of State for Child Care, Katrina Chen
- Susan Hall-Ford, General Manager of the Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society
- Tracey Schaeffer, parent whose children attend the centre

Audience: Children, media, Douglas College staff

Speaking Time: Approx. 2-3 mins

Background - Event:

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This reduction will be delivered through child-care providers, who will need to opt in to the initiative.

Itinerary (Timing Approximate):

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11:05 a.m.	Q&A ends
11:06 a.m.	Premier places decal on door with child
11:10 a.m.	Premier and Ministers meet and greet with parents, kids and staff
11:25 a.m.	Premier departs

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Coast Salish peoples and the Kwikwetlem First Nation [kwee-kwet-lum].

ATTENDEES TO ACKNOWLEDGE:

- Thank you, Katrine, and welcome everyone.
- Before I begin, I'd like to acknowledge that we're on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples and the Kwikwetlem First Nation [kwee-kwet-lum].
- Thank you to Susan Hall-Ford and the Douglas College Early Childhood Education Society for hosting us for this exciting announcement today...
- ... and thank you to the children, parents and everyone here for joining us.
- When we came into government, we committed to making life more affordable for B.C. families.

- This fee reduction is our first step to help parents with the cost of child care.
- It will save parents up to \$350 a month.
- For some families, that may be the difference between being able to buy groceries or having to pay for child care.
- We've had a very positive response from parents...
- ... some were on the verge of tears when they heard their child-care fees will be reduced.
- Hearing their stories has been very emotional, and it's wonderful to see the impact this reduction is making for families.

- Many providers have been excited to join the initiative, saying that it's a chance to give something back to the families in their communities.
- This initiative is the first of its kind in B.C. history, and is part of the biggest investment – and social policy change – in our history, too.
- Many providers have already signed up for the fee reduction, and momentum is building.
- We want to keep that momentum going, so even more parents can experience savings.
- We're going to work really hard to keep encouraging providers to participate.
- The fee reduction means more money for them, and more savings for the families they serve.

- I'm really excited to see what a difference this initiative makes in the coming months...
- ... and to hear more stories from parents and providers as this rolls out across the province.
- I'm honoured to be working with child-care professionals like the ones here at Douglas College to support B.C. families.
- Thank you.



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

**11:30 a.m.
Thursday March 29, 2018**

**2005 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver**

Event: City of Vancouver event: Kits Montessori child care grand opening

Time: 11:30 a.m., March 29, 2018

Location: 2005 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver

Parking: There are 7 spaces that can be accessed off the lane between Broadway and 10th Avenue, off Maple Street – the first two spaces for staff can be used for parking for event participants

On-site Contact: Lauren Stasila, t. 604.871.6119 m. s.22

Key Participants/Program:

- Andrea Reimer, Vancouver City Councillor
- Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care
- Jasmine Howes, Executive Director, Montessori Daycare Society

Audience:

Speaking Time: Approx. 3-4 mins

Background - Event:

Stats/Facts –Event:

- City of Vancouver has received major capital funding for four projects over the last two years.
- 2017: The City of Vancouver received a total of \$1.5 million for three projects that will create a total of 175 spaces, including:
 - \$500,000 to create 37 spaces – 12 for infants and toddlers and 25 for children aged three to five years – at Cordova Street Child Care.
 - \$500,000 to create 69 spaces – 24 infant and toddler spaces, 25 spaces for children aged three to five years, and 20 preschool spaces – co-located at Kensington Community Centre Childcare.
 - \$500,000 to create 69 spaces – 24 infant and toddler spaces, 25 spaces for children aged three to five years, and 20 preschool spaces – at Lord Tennyson Elementary school.
- 2016: The City of Vancouver is receiving \$500,000 to create 37 spaces – 12 for infants and toddlers and 25 for children aged three to five years – at the Water Street Child Care Centre to help serve the downtown central business district and the downtown eastside.

Itinerary (Timing Approximate):

Event Timing	Event Activity
11:00 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up: Podium/mic stand
11:15 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guests and speakers arrive Media arrive: greeted by COV communications staff
11:25 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event briefing: Lauren Stasila to brief speakers, provides a run-down of the event and settles any last-minute questions
11:30 a.m.	<p>11:30 a.m. (4 mins.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening: Clr. Reimer welcomes everyone and acts as MC of the event Clr. Reimer acknowledges that the event is taking place on unceded territory Clr. Reimer to speak about new child care space, including CAC/DCL contributions that made it possible Clr. Reimer invites <u>Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care to speak</u> <p>11:34 a.m. (4 mins.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care to speak about Province involvement in the space and commitment to investing in child care <p>11:38 a.m. (1 min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clr. Reimer thanks Katrina Chen and welcomes Jasmine Howes, Executive Director of Montessori Daycare Society <p>11:39 a.m. (2 mins.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jasmine Howes to share details of the space and the community it will serve <p>11:41 a.m. (1 min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clr. Reimer thanks all participants and opens it up for questions
11:45-11:50 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media Q&A
11:50-12:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jasmine to lead informal tour of facility - opportunity for media to get b-roll of the space (Jasmine on hand for any specific questions)
12:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrap-up & take down

- Thank you, Andrea, and good morning everyone.
- Before I begin, I'd like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh [sail-wha-tooth] and Squamish peoples.
- I'm really pleased to be here for the grand opening of this new child-care centre.
- One of the key elements of our Childcare BC plan is working in partnership with local governments and municipalities to help B.C. families who are struggling to find – or afford – child care.
- We know it's important that parents are struggling to find child care, particularly in urban centres.
- That's why we need to work with local government and municipalities to find innovative ways to create more child-care spaces.

- We have a great partnership with the City of Vancouver that is doing just that.
- Over the past two years, the ministry has provided capital funding for four other City of Vancouver child-care facilities.
- These centres, when open, will provide more than 200 new licensed spaces.
- They will be in addition the 22,000 new spaces that government has committed to create over the next three years.
- I know the Kits Montessori centre will be opting in to our new child care fee reduction initiative – that's great news for parents in your community!
- I hope that the other City of Vancouver centres also choose to join the initiative so that they can pass on savings to their parents.

- The fee reduction initiative marks the beginning of our path to universal child care...
- ... and there's more to come over the next few months as part of our goal of making life more affordable for B.C. families.
- With the help of forward-thinking municipalities like the City of Vancouver, we're helping to make this goal a reality.
- It's a new day for families in British Columbia.
- I'm looking forward to seeing the progress over the next few years as we take first steps towards universal child care in our province.
- Thank you.

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

AGRICULTURE BUDGET 2018
STAKEHOLDER CALL

s.15

Friday, March 2, 2018
Speaking Notes
11 AM for approx 8 minutes

Background:

Ministry of Agriculture organized a call with key stakeholders to discuss the Ministry's budget for 2018/19, as well as the three year look-ahead.

Stakeholders invited to participate are:

- shellfish growers
- seafood alliance
- BC Agriculture Council
- BC Food Processors Association
- BC Council of Marketing Boards
- BC Salmon Farmers Association
- BC Wine Institute
- BC Association of Farmers' Markets
- Small Scale Food Processor Association
- Business Council of BC
- Farm Folk City Folk
- First Nations Agricultural Association

Minister will provide an introduction and high level description of the budget (5-8 minutes), and will then open up the line to questions from stakeholders.

Introduction

- I want to thank all of you for taking time out of your schedules to connect with me today.
- I'm truly pleased to be able to share with you details about the first full budget our government has produced for the Ministry of Agriculture.
- It was only seven months ago that we were sworn in as a new government.
- I think what you will see with this budget is our commitment not only to you as members of B.C.'s agriculture industry, but also as the people of B.C.

Agri Budget

- The ministry's budget for 2018-2019 is over \$93 million...
- ...that's \$8 million more to help B.C. agriculture and seafood businesses grow than last year.
- This year's Ministry of Agriculture budget is the highest since the Lands portfolio was transferred to FLNRO in Budget 2011.
- The support for Agriculture is going to increase in the next three years, to over \$97 million by 2020/21
- That translates to an increased investment of \$29 million over the next three years.

- That 3-year, \$29 million dollar commitment will support the ministry's mandate commitments, including:
 - For Grow BC, incentives for new and young farmers to access land and support for the fruit and tree nut industry
 - Feed BC, serving more B.C. foods in government institutions and opening up opportunities for processors
 - An enhanced Buy BC program
 - Support for the creation of a Food Innovation Centre; and regional food hubs
 - A revitalized ALR
 - Climate Adaptation & Mitigation
- The funding will help our farmers, ranchers and processors succeed, generating good, well-paying jobs, economic activity and revenue in

communities along our coast, and throughout our province.

- It's clear that the budget is an investment in B.C. farming and ranching families, seafood and food producers and processors across our province, and will support growing the market for B.C. products here at home, and around the world.
- The projects that fall under our mandate pillars of Grow BC Feed BC and Buy BC are still being finalized, and when I am able to, I look forward to sharing the specifics around the funding with you, and including you in any relevant announcements.

Budget 2018-Services & Capital

- What I can share with you today are some of the commitments that our government has made for British Columbians, outside of our agricultural commitments.
- We're charting a path to a more affordable, balanced and hopeful vision for B.C.
- In terms of services, we are making some key enhancements that will benefit British Columbians, including the farming and ranching families that you represent. This includes:
- Supporting communities impacted by wildfires

- Investing in stronger conservation officer services
- Helping seniors live at home longer
- And creating 22,000 new licensed child care spaces throughout the province.
- We are also making some significant capital investments throughout the province, including in our province's rural regions. Some examples are:
 - An expanded Emergency Department at Nakusp's Arrow Lakes Hospital (\$2.1 M)
 - A new MRI unit for Vernon's Jubilee hospital (\$7.1M)

- Construction of a new Middle school in Lake Country with capacity for 600 students; (\$36.6 M) as well as
- Construction of new passing lanes both northbound and southbound on Highway 5 between Little Fort and Barriere (\$13M)
- These are just a few examples, you will be hearing more over the coming months as projects get underway.
- I'd like to open it up to you, to hear any questions that you may have.

(time for questions)

- If those are all of the questions, I'd like to reiterate how much I look forward to working with each of you as we move forward this fiscal year, and am excited

to cultivate opportunities and successes together for this province's agricultural sector.

- Thank you!

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

3RD ANNUAL BC POULTRY CONFERENCE
Gala Dinner
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
1088 Burrard Street
Vancouver

Friday, March 2, 2018
Speaking Notes
7 PM for approx 8 minutes

Background:

The BC Poultry Conference is a three-day event that brings together all four poultry sectors together in one conference.

The BC Poultry Conference is hosted by:

- BC Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Association
- BC Chicken Growers' Association
- BC Egg Marketing Board
- BC Turkey Association

Recognizing the need for the poultry industry to come together and represent our broad industry community, the BC Poultry Conference aims to benefit from increased exposure and attendance growth by hosting each commodity's AGM along with a unique trade show, education sessions, and an industry gala.

Minister Popham will speak during the gala dinner at approximately 7:30 p.m. The minister will speak after the gala sponsor, BMO representative Diane Murphy. Opposition Agriculture Critic Ian Paton will speak after Minister Popham.

Derek Janzen, vice chair, BC Chicken Marketing Board is the master of ceremonies and will introduce Minister Popham. The organizers would also like the minister to participate in a photo op with winners of the industry leadership awards around dessert.

Approximately 300 people will be in attendance including poultry producers, staff, and support people. The organizers have requested Minister Popham to speak for 8 minutes.

AGRI Poultry and Regulated Marketing Specialist Clayton Botkin suggests the following industry successes to highlight:

- A number of turkey producers completed their mandatory euthanasia training
- BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission has initiated a project to review the practice of spiking males and develop guidelines for biosecurity and managing risk.
- Industry has continued to show some of the strongest leadership in supporting emergency response and preparedness in Canada, with strong representation on the Rapid Response Teams, and preparedness activities.
- Continues to collaborate on Salmonella initiatives.
- Demonstrated continuous improvements in biosecurity, with new guidelines for specialty egg production and new standards for birds with access to the outdoors.

Organizer Contact:

Stephanie Nelson, Executive Director, BC Hatching Egg Commission,
stephanie@bcbhec.com, (604) 854-4487 office, s.22

Introduction

- Thank you for that introduction.
- It is great to be here this evening on the territory of the Coast Salish People including the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-waututh (sail-wha-tooth) First Nations.
- Before I begin I do want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- I'm truly excited to be joining you here at the 3rd annual BC Poultry Conference!
- There is a lot of work that goes into organizing such a big event.
- Congratulations and big thank you to the steering committee chaired by Dale Krahn for their hard work planning the conference.

- What a great setting this is for the province's four poultry commodity groups to get together and celebrate your accomplishments.
- In 2016, the total number of eggs produced in B.C. exceeded 1 billion for the first time in history!
- At the same time, B.C. poultry farmers raised and marketed almost 109 million chickens and nearly 2.6 million turkeys.
- The stats are impressive.
- However, as many of you know, I like to focus on people.
- I love the faces I see in this crowd.
- I love that I have had the honour to meet so many of you and I have your faces in my mind when I think about farming in our province.

- There is one thing that all of the hard working people that make up our province's Agriculture sector share, and that is – passion.
- People like Sharmain Bennie, a hatching egg producer from Chilliwack.
- I met Sharmain last November at B.C. Ag Day in Victoria where she spoke so eloquently about the sustainability of agriculture.
- It's people like Jennifer and Ian from Farmer Ben's Eggs, second generation farmers in the Cowichan Valley who I met on a recent tour.
- Or how about Dan Ireland, from Ireland Farms who I visited with while picking up my fresh B.C. Turkey before Christmas.

- And Chris Kloot. Together with his wife and sons, Chris owns and operates a poultry farm just outside of Chilliwack.
- Chris is also a member of the ALR revitalization committee and yes, he also starred in the “Chicken Squad!”
- Or Armstrong’s Mark & Shelley Bartel. Mark is the local chicken association president in Armstrong and I hope to make it up to their regional event this year.
- And Salmon Arm’s Farmcrest Foods operated by the Bell and Bird families.
- Thanks to all of them and all of you in this room...
- ...British Columbians and consumers around the world are served quality products that we are all proud of.

- That is passion – that is B.C. agriculture.
- And it is my honour to represent you as the new Minister of Agriculture.
- I was lucky enough to be raised on Quadra Island.
- From a young age, I learned the importance of growing your own food and raising animals.
- When I was older, I took those skills into operating my own business, the first certified organic vineyard on Vancouver Island.
- I entered into politics because of my love for agriculture and now I have my dream job.
- I could not be more grateful to be in the position to serve as your champion for agriculture in B.C.

Budget – Ministry of Agriculture

- I am also proud to represent you as Minister in a government that is working for all British Columbians.
- We are continuing to back up those words with action.
- Last week, our government announced the Ministry of Agriculture's budget for 2018-19 will be more than \$93 million.
- This will result in an increased investment of \$29 million over the next three years.
- The largest budget the Ministry of Agriculture has ever seen in this province!
- That is action for you – for British Columbia.
- The budget is an investment in B.C. agriculture producers and processors.

- We want you to succeed, and generate good, well-paying jobs, economic activity and revenue throughout B.C.
- Our combined efforts will help us build an even stronger agriculture sector in B.C.

ALR Revitalization

- I feel like the right way to get started on building a stronger sector is by protecting our agricultural land.
- Which is why I've asked an independent committee of agriculture-related individuals to consult with stakeholders and British Columbians on the revitalization of the ALR and the ALC.

- When the ALR was protected in the 1970's. We never could have imagined the types of pressures that we're seeing today.
- We want to ensure that we're revitalizing the ALR for the 21st Century.
- I encourage each of you attending to find the public survey through our Agri-Service website, and to fill it out.
- Now is the time to have your voice heard!

Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC

- I know a lot of you remember Corky Evans.
- He used to say with the ALR that we protected the farmland but forgot about the farmer.

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

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

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

Conclusion

- Thanks again for the invitation, enjoy the rest of your evening!

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

VITALUS NUTRITION – NEW PLANT OPENING

Vitalus Nutrition Inc.
3911 Mt. Lehman Road
Abbotsford

Friday, March 16, 2018

Speaking Notes
10 AM for approx 2 to 3 minutes

Background:

Vitalus Nutrition Inc. is a privately held specialty dairy ingredients company. The company has a long history of supplying global leaders with high quality dairy ingredients, including Milk Protein Concentrates and Isolates, as well as cream based products.

Recently, Vitalus Nutrition commenced the large scale production of VITAGOS™, a concentrated Galacto-Oligosaccharide (GOS) syrup at their upgraded facility in Abbotsford. The FSSC 22000 certified processing facilities have the highest standards in food safety management.

Galacto-oligosaccharides (GOS) are non-digestible carbohydrates produced from lactose (a component of milk) through an enzymatic process. GOS has a long history of use in countries such as the United States, Japan, The European Union, Australia and New Zealand

Minister Popham has been invited to the Vitalus Nutrition Open House event on March 16 to celebrate the facility expansion and the completion of the VITAGOS™ plant.

The minister has been asked to speak for two to three minutes during the opening ceremony.

9 a.m. – Event check-in

9:30 a.m. – Minister Popham arrives and has briefing by the BC Milk Marketing Board

9:50 a.m. – Short intro meeting of all speakers and review event agenda

10 a.m. – Speeches (videographer will capture)

10:20 a.m. – Still shots of Speakers and VIPs

10:35 a.m. – VIPs Tour

11:15 a.m. – VIPs regroup after tour

11:30 a.m. – VIPs depart

Organizer Contact:

Elena Middlemass, Manager, Corporate Services, Vitalus Nutrition Inc,
emiddlemass@vitalus.com, 604 857-4526

Introduction

- Thank you for that introduction. It is great to be here on the territory of the Sto:lo Nation.
- Before I begin I do want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- I'm truly excited to be joining you here this morning.
- Today, we are celebrating a company that has been a leader in our sector for 65 years.
- Vitalus Nutrition began as a small, family owned business.
- Imagine telling your founders that we would be here today celebrating the opening of your new GOS plant – the first of its kind in North America.

- As a company, I am sure you have learned a lot about innovation over the years.
- You have taken those lessons and built them into opportunities.
- Thanks to your leadership, Vitalus Nutrition is now a trusted supplier of specialty dairy ingredients for processors and brands here in B.C. and around the world.
- Your dedication to new, value-added opportunities is to be recognized and celebrated.
- Vitalus is a great example of how British Columbians are revitalizing the agriculture and food processing sectors.
- The B.C. government is honored to be there on your journey.

- Through the Canada-B.C. Growing Forward 2 program, Vitalus has received funding to help you on your path to success.
- GF2 supports innovation, competitiveness and market development in the B.C. agriculture and food-processing sector.
- The B.C. government is also supporting our sector through Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC.
- Grow BC will encourage new farmers and help young people access land and start farming.
- One of the barriers to farming is the cost of land in B.C. – we are going to be looking at co-op models and leasing systems as a way of getting people on the land.
- For Feed BC we want to explore opportunities for B.C. producers and processors.

- It is our hope that one day when you visit your loved one in the hospital or a long-term care facility...
- ...they will have B.C. food products on their plate.
- It is common sense – we have an incredible local food and beverage sector and they produce an amazing product. Let's get it into the hands of British Columbians!
- I would like to see our government facilities purchasing up to 30% on food grown and processed right here in B.C.
- Finally, Buy BC.
- We are bringing this popular marketing program back, and I know our sector is super excited!

- When a consumer picks up a product with the Buy BC logo at their local grocery store or farmers market, the message will be clear.
- The product they are purchasing was produced or processed by the passionate people in B.C.'s agriculture sector.
- People like you!
- I look forward to continuing to build on Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC with you this year.
- Thank you Vitalus Nutrition for your contribution to your community, your clients, and to British Columbia agriculture.
- Congratulations on your new GOS plant and I look forward to the tour.
- Thanks for the invite!

SPEAKING NOTES FOR
THE HONOURABLE LANA POPHAM
Minister of Agriculture

MCBRIDE FARMERS INSTITUTE ANNUAL GALA
McBride Community Centre
441 Columbia Street
McBride

Saturday, March 17, 2018
Speaking Notes
7 PM for approx 10 minutes

Background:

Minister Popham has been invited to speak for approximately 10 minutes at the McBride Farmers Institute Annual Gala.

The farmers institute executive is coordinating an informal meeting with members and the minister before the Gala.

Possible topics during the meeting include:

- Foreign land ownership
- ALR changes
- McBride Farmers Institute 2017 Side Road Resolution
- Feed BC program for use of local food in hospitals and other government facilities
- Update of progress appointing a superintendent for Farmers Institutes in the province and activities of other Farmers Institutes.

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Itinerary:

5 p.m. - Arrival at the McBride Community Centre - (441 Columbia St)

Informal meeting with Minister Popham and executive and members

6 p.m. - Dinner

7 p.m. - Keynote address by Hon. Lana Popham

7:30 p.m. - Music and Silent Auction

The evening emcee is Chris Robson. They are expecting 100 to 125 people in the audience.

Organizer Contact:

Chris Robson, Secretary Treasurer, McBride Farmers Institute, 250 569-4136

Introduction

- Thank you for that introduction and thank you to the McBride Farmers Institute for the invitation.
- It's a pleasure to see you here on the territory of the Secwepemc [She-whep-m] people and Lheidli T'enneh [clayt-clay ten-ay] Nation.
- Before I begin I do want to pass along greetings from Premier John Horgan.
- I'm truly excited to be joining you here at your annual gala!
- Your organization has such a long and proud history.
- Back in 1994, the Century Farm Award was created to mark the centennial of the Ministry of Agriculture.

- Your institute was presented the Century Farm Award in 2015.
- The award celebrates the rich heritage of B.C. farming and ranching families and organizations like yours.
- It is an honour to be here tonight with the agriculture leadership for McBride and the Robson Valley.
- I love the faces I see in this crowd.
- I love that I have met so many of you and I have your faces in my mind when I think about farming in our province.
- From a young age, I learned the importance of growing your own food and raising animals.
- I truly understand the passion that drives the farming sector forward.

- My love of farming is what prompted me to enter into politics.
- And I could not be more grateful to be in the position to serve as your champion for agriculture and food production in B.C.
- Thanks to our hard working sector including all of you in this room...
- ...British Columbians and consumers around the world are served quality products that we are all proud of.
- That is passion – that is B.C. agriculture.

Revitalization of the ALR

- As your Minister of Agriculture, I want to help create opportunities for B.C. farmers and food producers.

- This opportunity includes revitalizing our Agricultural Land Reserve.
- As many of you may know, the engagement process for the revitalization of the Agriculture Land Reserve is underway.
- I strongly encourage you to provide your input through the public engagement website.
- The committee needs to hear from you, and this is your opportunity to help shape the path to a sustainable food system future.
- Together, we are going to make B.C. better for you.

AGRI Budget

- While the revitalization of the ALR is about the farmland, as Corky Evans used to say, we also need to protect the farmer.

- I have other mandate commitments that support farmers, producers and processors specifically.
- Budget 2018 was announced in February, which saw a historic lift to the province's Agriculture budget.
- The ministry's budget for 2018-19 is over \$93 million.
- And that support is going up over the next three years, and will be an increased investment of \$29 million more dollars over the next three years
- That's \$29 million more to help B.C. agriculture businesses grow.
- The budget will support all of the items that are within my mandate letter.
- Like Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC.

Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC

- Grow BC will encourage new farmers and help young people access land and start farming.
- One of the barriers to farming is the cost of land in B.C. – we are going to be looking at co-op models and leasing systems as a way of getting people on the land.
- The previous government put a heavy focus on the export of our agricultural products.
- While it has been an important market to access, I feel they did so at the cost of the domestic market here in British Columbia, and our own food system security.
- That's where Feed BC comes in.
- It is our hope that one day when you visit your loved one in the hospital or a long-term care facility...

- ...they will have B.C. food products on their plate.
- It is common sense – we have an incredible local food and beverage sector producing amazing products. Let's get it into the hands of British Columbians!
- I would like to see our government facilities purchasing up to 30% on food grown and processed right here in B.C.
- Finally, Buy BC.
- We are bringing this popular marketing program back, and I know our sector is super excited!
- When a consumer picks up a product with the Buy BC logo at their local grocery store or farmers market, the message will be clear.

- The product they are purchasing was produced or processed by the passionate people in our B.C. agriculture sector.
- It presents an opportunity to connect producers with buyers and start a conversation about local products and where they come from.

Conclusion

- Our agriculture industry is seeing some exciting changes, but none of it would be possible without you.
- You work to bring agriculture to people in your community and all over B.C.
- The opportunity for an even greater industry is thanks to you, and I look forward to working with all of you.
- Thank you for the invitation, enjoy the rest of your evening!

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SPEAKING POINTS FOR
HON. LISA BEARE
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Arts Umbrella new location celebration event

Friday, March 23, 2018
11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Arrival: 11:15 a.m.

Location:
1400 Johnston St.
Granville Island

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Eric Lowe
Cell: s.22
Email: elowe@artsumbrella.com

Event summary:

- This is a joint federal/provincial event to announce funding for Vancouver's Arts Umbrella and to celebrate Arts Umbrella's new facility on Granville Island.
- The provincial government is providing a \$1.4 million grant towards operational costs of the new building. (TB CONFIRMED)
- Hon. Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage will also announce \$7 million in support from the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund for Arts Umbrella.
- The Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture and His Worship Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver will be in attendance and will provide remarks.
- Management and staff of Arts Umbrella will be invited to attend, as will the organization's Board of Directors, Arts Umbrella students and key supporters.
- Other event highlights: A question and answer section following the event. Media interviews will also take place following the Q&As.

Time: Minister speaks at approximately 11:54 a.m. – 11:58 a.m.

Parking: Parking spaces have been reserved for VIPs in a parkade. Access to the lot is available off of Old Bridge Street. (Please see map for details)

Logistics: Canadian Heritage has move the event to a large empty room on the third floor instead of the theatre. They have also requested that everyone be on-stage and standing during the event, seating will be provided off to the side should anyone feel the need to sit down. Setup: The back wall of the room will have a display of 13 pieces of student art work. The students will on the stage, standing behind the podium party.

- Podium and Mic
- Hand-held mic for Q&A session
- Front row seating for all speakers
- Green room with light refreshment

Audience: There will be approximately 200 people in the audience, consisting of Arts Umbrella board members and students. Media will be present.

Dress Code: Business

Key participants:

- Emcee: Jill Price, Arts Umbrella Board Chair
- Hon. Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage
- Hon. Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- His Worship Gregor Robertson, Mayor of Vancouver
- MP Hedy Fry.
- MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones **tentative**
- Arts Umbrella CEO Paul Larocque
- Student Presenter: Kaliq Pillai-Monsanto
- Student Presenter: David Gorodetsky
- Student Presenter: Samantha Aymong (introducing Minister Beare)
- Student Presenter: Charlie Caddick

Key Messages

- Thanks to Arts Umbrella, thousands of young British Columbians enjoy opportunities to learn and grow their skills in the arts.
- I'm happy to support Arts Umbrella's expansion in this new facility. It means that many more of B.C.'s young people will be empowered to take that first step on the journey towards a career in the creative arts.
- Working together, we will create the pathways for our emerging artists to be successful and ensure that B.C. will always be a thriving center for arts excellence.

Agenda:

Time	Event Itinerary
11:15 a.m.	VIPs ARRIVE at main entrance and greeted by Arts Umbrella personnel. Ministers BEARE and Joly ARRIVE at the main entrance and are GREETED by Paul Larocque, President and CEO, Arts Umbrella, and Heather Altas, Senior Director, Development and Building Campaign, Arts Umbrella.
11:20 a.m.	Ministers Beare and Joly ESCORTED to the green room.
11:35 a.m.	PRE-EVENT BRIEFING with the podium party led by Danielle Carr, Senior Communications Officer, Canadian Heritage – Western Region.
11:40 a.m.	Podium party DEPARTS green room and PROCEEDS to announcement space.
11:45 a.m.	EVENT BEGINS. OPENING REMARKS by Mistress of Ceremonies Jill Price, Board Chair Arts Umbrella.
11:46 a.m.	MC INTRODUCES Khelsilem, Councillor, Squamish Nation.
11:47 a.m.	WELCOME by Khelsilem.
11:48 a.m.	Kaliq Pillai-Monsanto, Arts Umbrella Student, INTRODUCES Minister Joly.
11:49 a.m.	REMARKS by Minister Joly.
11:53 a.m.	Samantha Aymong, Arts Umbrella Student, INTRODUCES Minister Beare.
11:54 a.m.	REMARKS by Minister Beare. (3 minutes).
11:58 a.m.	David Gorodetsky, Arts Umbrella Student, INTRODUCES Mayor Robertson.
11:59 a.m.	REMARKS by Mayor Robertson.
12:03 p.m.	Charlie Caddick, Arts Umbrella Student, INTRODUCES Paul Larocque.
12:04 p.m.	REMARKS by Mr. Larocque.
12:08 p.m.	MC THANKS Mr. Larocque and provides CLOSING REMARKS.

Time	Event Itinerary
12:09 p.m.	<p>MEDIA AVAILABILITY.</p> <p>Minister Joly, Minister Beare, Mayor Robertson and Mr. Larocque take questions from the podium, as required (two handheld microphones will be on standby for podium party for media availability, if required.)</p> <p>A microphone will be passed around to media, who will remain in their positions.</p>
12:14 p.m.	<p>PHOTO OPPORTUNITY</p> <p>Podium party remains on stage for group photo with all speakers and Arts Umbrella students. Podium party is then ESCORTED to stairwell.</p>
12:25 p.m.	EVENT ENDS.
12:30 p.m.	Minister Joly DEPARTS. Minister Beare may stay longer for further media questions, if she wishes.

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good morning.
- Thank you, Samantha for the kind introduction.
- I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the unceded traditional territories of the Squamish Musqueam, (mus-kwee-um) and Tsleil-waututh (sail-wha-tooth) First Nations.
- I'd also like to thank you, Khelsilem (Hull-SEE-Lem) for your welcome.
- It's a pleasure to be here with all of you today.
- As Minister for Tourism, Arts and Culture, I am honoured to bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the BC government.

- And I am pleased to join the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage as we celebrate the future of Arts Umbrella.

[PAUSE]

- Samantha – and thousands of young British Columbians like her – are the reason we are all here today.
- She is one of 400 dance students at Arts Umbrella this year.
- And one of 20-thousand students *each year* who learn visual art, theatre, animation, or any one of many other arts... through Arts Umbrella's programs.
- Samantha and other students are not only learning valuable skills that could set them on the path to a career in the arts.
- They are also learning discipline, teamwork, and creativity.
- >>possible aside<< Paul Larocque tells me Samantha is a great dancer. But I hear her lifelong dream is to be an astronaut and go to Mars.
- And I know the skills Samantha has learnt over the past 9 years of training with Arts Umbrella will help her achieve her dreams.

- My government believes in the arts and the vital role it plays in building vibrant and thriving communities.
- Arts Umbrella believes that all young people should experience the excitement of learning – and loving - art.
- That's why it offers high quality art education to children and youth who may not be able to afford it.
- 16-thousand kids benefited from this last year!
- I appreciate great contribution Arts Umbrella is making to a better future for *all* B.C.'s children – regardless of circumstance.

B.C. SUPPORT

- British Columbia has a strong creative economy.
- And our government supports young people who want to be a part of it.

- That's why we invest in programs that help British Columbians to achieve education in the arts and to build a better future for themselves.
- We are happy to join the federal government in supporting the expansion of Arts Umbrella's work.
- This new building means more of B.C.'s young people will benefit from training with Arts Umbrella.
- I am thrilled to announce today that the province of British Columbia is granting \$1.4 million to assist Arts Umbrella with its transition to this new facility.

>>PAUSE FOR APPLAUSE<<

CONCLUSION

- As I look around this room, I see champions of arts and culture who have supported Arts Umbrella over the years.
- I want to thank you for your leadership, dedication and vision.
- Every one of us believes in B.C.'s creative future.

- Our government is committed to providing opportunities for B.C.'s next generation of artists.
- Working together, we will create pathways for young artists to be successful.
- And ensure that British Columbia will always be a thriving center for arts excellence.
- Thank you.

—30—

BACKGROUND: Arts Umbrella: New Building

On Nov. 17, 2017, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture announced that Arts Umbrella will be the new tenant of the South Building of the former Emily Carr University of Art + Design campus on Granville Island.

The main Emily Carr University of Art and Design (ECUAD) campus was accommodated in two buildings (North and South buildings) on Granville Island. These buildings will be fully vacated in late 2017.

The North Building and its land are leased from CMHC and will be returned to CMHC at the end of 2017. There is no renewal option.

Founded in 1979, Arts Umbrella provides arts education for children and youth aged two to 22 years in visual arts, theatre, applied arts, media arts and dance. The organization is currently housed in an approximately 1,300 net square-metre (14,000 net square-foot) space on Granville Island, with satellite facilities elsewhere in Vancouver and Surrey.

Arts Umbrella is fundraising to support the move to the new facility, and is expected to move to the South Building in 2019.

History:

Arts Umbrella occupies a smaller building on Granville Island. The non-profit group expressed interest in assignment of the lease along with Langara College who wanted to relocate their performing arts programming. UBC asked about using the building to house their design and community planning programs.

On March 23, 2017, the provincial government wrote to Arts Umbrella saying it would proceed with Arts Umbrella so long as it confirmed receipt of a federal grant from the Ministry of Canadian Heritage. In addition to supporting an assignment of the lease of the South Building to Arts Umbrella for the 26 year balance of the lease term, the Ministry was to provide a \$1.4 million grant.

Canadian Heritage offered Arts Umbrella a conditional \$7 million for renovations subject to Arts Umbrella securing a lease for the building.

About the Arts Umbrella Program

Arts Umbrella is a nationally renowned not-for-profit arts education centre dedicated to children and youth, aged 2 – 22. The organization provides programming in all areas of the arts, including visual arts, music, theatre, dance and media arts. In partnership with Vancouver Community College, Arts Umbrella provides an accredited post-secondary dance diploma program.

Tuition revenues cover 44% of the organization's annual operating budget. The remaining 56% comes from fundraising events, corporate support, government funding, and individual donations.

Arts Umbrella reaches over 20,000 children and youth each year. About 72% participate in programs free-of-charge, through bursaries, scholarships and Arts Umbrella's community outreach programs. These community outreach programs particularly target First Nations and low-income children and young people. More than 16,000 young people benefitted from Arts Umbrella community outreach programs last year.

Founded in 1979, Arts Umbrella provides over 1000 classes per year, in four Metro Vancouver locations - Granville Island, Quebec & 7th, Surrey Centre and South Surrey.

Graduates are leading the way in B.C. industries like film, publishing and digital technology while making an ongoing contribution to British Columbia's creative economy; but more importantly, Arts Umbrella students have gone on to become creative and compassionate citizens in whatever path they choose.

About SAMANTHA AYMONG (pron: aye-MOH)

Samantha s.22 She has been a student at Arts Umbrella since 2009. She is currently enrolled in the Professional Dance Program. She is a member of the Arts Umbrella Sr. Dance Company. Samantha is keeping her options open s.22



SPEAKING POINTS FOR
Minister Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

Creative BC JUNO Nominee reception

Thursday, March 22, 2018
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Creative BC
7 West 6th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1K2 Canada

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Anita Reicheback
Cell: 604 736-7997

Event summary:

- This is Creative BC's JUNO nominee reception with BC nominees. Minister Beare will speak as part of a short program and announce the Amplify BC Fund. In addition, Mayor Robinson and Allan Reid, President and CEO of CARAs will be present

Time: Minister speaks at 6:15 p.m.

Directions and Parking:

Directions: The event is being held at Creative BC offices. Parking available in the parkade.

Logistics: Confirming

Audience: There will be approximately 100 people attending including BC JUNO nominees, VIPs from industry, including:

Band members of Mother Mother

Bruce Allen, Bruce Allen Agency

Branislav Henselman, exec dir of CoVancouver cultural services

Brenda Leadlay, BC Alliance for Arts and Culture

Patrick Aldous, Music BC

Peter Diemer, Live Nation

Tracy Herbert, First Peoples Cultural Council CEO

Rudy Buttignol, Knowledge Network

Marsha Walden, DBC

Peter Leitch

And many others.

Dress Code: Business attire

Key participants:

- Minister Lisa Beare
- Prem Gill (EMCEE)
- Elder Cecelia Point of the Musqueam Nation
- Mayor Gregor Robertson
- Allan Reid, President & CEO CARAS

Key Messages:

- Amount of funding: \$7.5M
- AMPLIFY BC is designed to strengthen British Columbia's diverse music industry, to ensure its continued growth and success.
- The fund helps young up-and-coming performers, in all musical genres, to reach their professional goals through direct support in four funding streams: sound recording, music companies, live music and industry initiatives.

- Based on industry advice, the new program targets investment to artists across the music ecosystem, placing BC talent into international markets and adding strategic value to the industry as a whole.
- AMPLIFY BC will be administered by Creative BC over the next year as we work together to develop the hard metrics we need to showcase the value of this investment in the sector.

Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
5:30 – 5:45 p.m.	Minister Beare arrives at the Creative BC offices. Prem will meet Minister Beare and walk her through the program
6:15 p.m.	Emcee (Prem) provides welcoming remarks and introduces the FN speaker
6:17 p.m.	FN greeting
6:20 p.m.	Emcee thanks Cecelia Point of the Musqueam Nation for the FN greeting and introduces Minister Beare
6:21 p.m.	Minister Beare provides remarks
6:25 p.m.	Emcee thanks Minister Beare and introduces Mayor Robertson
6:26 p.m.	Mayor Robertson provides remarks
6:30 p.m.	Emcee thanks Mayor Robertson and introduces Allan Reid
6:31 p.m.	Allan Reid provides remarks
6:35 p.m.	Emcee thanks guests for attending Speaking portion complete, speakers are free to mix and mingle.
7:30 p.m.	Event concludes.

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Thank you Prem, for the kind introduction
- I want to thank Cecelia Point for her greeting, and acknowledge that we are on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam.
- I'm honoured to be here tonight, and bring greetings on behalf of the government of British Columbia.
- It's exciting to welcome the JUNOs back to Vancouver!

[PAUSE]

- I know everyone in this room has contributed to the success of B.C.'s music industry.
- And it's because of your hard work that this week people from across the country are gathering to celebrate Canadian music once again in B.C.
- British Columbia is one of Canada's leading centres for music.

- Great musicians, producers, recording specialists and other music professionals have made our province home.
- Over the past, 2 years the BC Music Fund has supported the music sector in British Columbia.
- Through the work of our partners at Creative BC, this fund has attracted incredible talent to the BC music industry.
- Great musicians, such as *Mother, Mother* who have joined us this evening. The band benefitted through the Music Fund.
 - Their team received 2 JUNO nominations this year
 - 1 for Video of the Year and Producer of the Year
 - And on February 7th their song, “The Drugs” hit Number 1 on the alternative radio chart in Canada!
 - Their first #1 song. Congratulations!
- And also Ben Kaplan, who has been nominated for JUNO Producer of the Year
- and so many more...

NEW FUND – AMPLIFY BC

- Our government knows the importance of this sector in our province. That's why I am thrilled to announce the creation of the AMPLIFY BC. ..
- ..A \$7.5 MILLION fund which is designed to strengthen British Columbia's diverse music industry and ensure its continued growth and success.

>>PAUSE FOR APPLAUSE<<

- AMPLIFY BC will help musicians and music professionals to grow their talent and reach their goals through direct support in four areas:
 - Career development,
 - Music companies,
 - Live music,
 - and industry initiatives.
- Based on advice from industry leaders, the new program makes strategic investment to a diverse range of artists.

- Through AMPLIFY BC, our government is going to help BC musicians get into international markets.
- We're going to focus support in areas that you have all told us are important - like supporting start-ups, and nurturing key partnerships with Music BC and the First Nations Cultural Council.
- We will ensure our talented musicians have a competitive edge on the national and international stage with skills development and targeted market data.

Closing remarks

- Our government understands and appreciates the tremendous impact the music industry has in our province.
- We are proud to support British Columbia's thriving music industry.
- Which bolsters a sustainable creative economy, which works for everyone

[PAUSE]

- I am especially happy to make this announcement during JUNOs week.
- I'm looking forward to working together to amplify all our voices on the world stage
- Thank-you.

--30—

BACKGROUND

New B.C. Music Fund – AMPLIFY BC Overview

In February 2016, government provided \$15 million to Creative BC to launch the B.C. Music Fund, in support of strengthening B.C.'s music industry. As of January 2018, Creative BC had committed 97 percent of the funds and it is expected that 100 percent of the funds will be committed by March 31, 2018. A new program will be established, entitled **AMPLIFY BC**, and will have new criteria and a more strategic focus on sustainable industry growth. The proposal is subject to a report back to the Chair of Treasury Board in the fall of 2019 that describes program outcomes over the three fiscal years and seeks continued funding into future years.

The following provides an overview of the programs and partnerships under the new AMPLIFY BC music program.

	Programs		
1.	Career Development	Supporting: 1. Sound Recording 2. Marketing and Music Videos 3. Touring 4. Funding Streams for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Emerging ArtistsEstablished Artists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Combines Sound Recording, Careers of BC Artists and Signature programs into 1 programAllows applicants maximum flexibility in spendingSeparate funding streams manage applicant and industry expectationsSupports the creation of intellectual propertyServes the biggest funding gaps - providing support to those unable to access FACTOR and to established artists struggling to earn a livelihood in a smaller music market
2.	Live Music	Supporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Company GrowthBusiness Dev'tMusic TourismPerformance opportunitiesJob Creation/ Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highest demand of all BCMF programsWas effective in meeting the needs of regional music presentersApplication process was a steep learning curve - a similar program structure will assist applicantsCompanies articulate their own funding needs and plan for growth
3.	Music Company Development	Supporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Company Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Was effective in meeting the needs of companies

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Dev't • Creative Entrepreneurship • Job Creation/ Retention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application process was a steep learning curve - a similar program structure will assist applicants • Companies articulate their own funding needs and plan for growth
4.	Music Industry Initiatives	Supporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talent Development • Export Activities • Artist Showcases in New Markets • Research Projects • New Business Opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program is flexible to industry needs and addresses industry gaps • Supports training and professional development NEW: AMPLIFY BC Music Industry Internship Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports job placements for emerging industry professionals • Builds BC's talent base, develops skills and experience • Builds pathways for recent graduates into the workforce • Budget: \$400,000

Partnerships and Services	
Music BC	Music BC will continue to play a key role in supporting training and professional development and leading export and showcasing activities for B.C.'s music industry. In addition, Music BC's capacity will be increased to serve the regions of B.C. and to develop a new music industry internship program.
Indigenous Initiatives	Creative BC has partnered with the First Peoples' Cultural Council to deliver new programs supporting mentorship opportunities for music industry professionals and recording studios, as well as a new artist development training program for Indigenous artists. Creative BC will also increase outreach and awareness of its funding programs to Indigenous people, and will work with Indigenous partners to identify funding gaps, serve those in remote communities, and increase financial support for self-directed programs.
Research and Policy Support	Creative BC will provide support for data collection and analysis on B.C.'s music industry, and policy research to stay current with changing trends, copyright law, digital distribution, and other issues facing B.C.'s music industry. This will ensure that the Creative BC continues to improve the competitiveness of B.C. artists and companies in a landscape with rapidly changing business models and digital distribution methods.

SPEAKING NOTES
Revisions, March 7th.

INTRODUCTION

- Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen
- I would like to begin by recognizing that we are gathering on the territory of Indigenous peoples
- And to show my respect to their contributions to this province and our country

s.13

- I'm honoured to be here tonight and bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the government of British Columbia.
- It's exciting to welcome the JUNOs back to Vancouver!

- There is no better place to celebrate and recognize Canada's Music Industry than right here in B.C.!
- Our government knows the tremendous impact that the music industry has on our province, country and beyond.
- Which is why we are thrilled to support the CARAs and the 2018 Host Committee to put on this incredible event
- And proud to support British Columbia's thriving music industry through the BC Music Fund with our partner Creative BC

[PAUSE]

- To all of the JUNO nominees, congratulations
- The road you have travelled as part of your musical journey does not end tonight.
- It will live forever in the music that you have shared with all of us

- Thank-you.

--30—



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Minister Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

2018 Juno Gala Dinner & Awards

Saturday, March 24, 2018
6:10 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

Vancouver Convention Centre East
Ballroom
999 Canada Pl.

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Meg Clenchy, Event Manager
Cell: s.22

Event summary:

2018 JUNO Gala Dinner & Awards is an exclusive industry event that features the presentation of 35 JUNO Awards, the Walt Grealis Special Achievement Award and the Humanitarian Award. This affair is highlighted by 5 – 6 electrifying performances from this year's JUNO nominee.

Time: Minister speaks at 6:55 p.m.

Contacts:

Meg Clenchy, Event Manager is primary contact –s.22

Niklaas Dethmers, Event Coordinator is secondary contact –s.22

Directions and Parking:**Directions:**

Note: Minister arrival being arranged by Minister's Office.

Parking: Parking/arrival: Vancouver Convention Centre East; 999 Canada Pl., Vancouver.

**Logistics:**

Rehearsal covers logistics, including: health & safety review, venue walk throughs – green room, speaker stage, and overview of event. Practice speech on stage with teleprompter.

Audience: Music industry executives / industry professionals / VIPs, musicians, public, media.

Dress Code: Formal

Key participants:

- Michael Buble, Emcee
- Alan Reid, President CARAS / JUNO Awards
- Jackie Dean, COO CARAS / JUNO Awards

Key Messages:

- British Columbia has a wealth of incredible talent and a vibrant, music culture.
- Our government understands and appreciates the tremendous impact the music industry has on our province, our country and beyond.
- That's why we are thrilled to support the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and the 2018 Host Committee in producing this incredible event.
- And we are proud to support British Columbia's thriving music industry through Amplify BC, with our partner Creative BC.

Agenda

Time	Event Itinerary
1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Arrival at Vancouver Convention Centre East. Check in at the Performer/Presenter check-in table located inside Hall A of VCC East.
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	s.22 Location: Meeting Room 4, Level 2. Note: s.22 s.22
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Make-up Same location s.22
3:40 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Rehearsal Location: Vancouver Convention Centre East.
4:30 p.m. – 5:40 p.m.	Reception Location: Vancouver Convention Centre East Attendees: VIPs No program/no material required.
5:50 p.m.	Dinner begins Location: Ballroom
6:10 p.m.	Program begins
6:35 p.m.	Minister Beare walks to the green room with support team
6:55 p.m.	Speech: Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
9:12 p.m.	Program ends

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen.
- I would like to begin by recognizing that we are gathering on the territory of Indigenous peoples.
- And to show my respect to their contributions to this province and our country.
- I'm honoured to be here tonight, to bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the Government of British Columbia.
- It's exciting to welcome the JUNOs back to Vancouver!

[PAUSE]

- There is no better place to celebrate and recognize Canada's music industry than right here in B.C.!
- We have a wealth of incredible talent and a vibrant, music culture.
- Our government understands and appreciates the tremendous impact the music industry has on our province, our country and beyond.

- That's why we are thrilled to support the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and the 2018 Host Committee in producing this incredible event.
- And we are proud to support British Columbia's thriving music industry through Amplify BC, with our partner Creative BC.

[PAUSE]

- To all of the JUNO nominees, I'd like say CONGRATULATIONS!
- Tonight is a great night of celebration.
- And your gift to all of us goes well beyond this night.
- It will live forever in the music that you have shared with all of us.
- I wish you all a wonderful evening. THANK YOU!

--30--

[Background and schedule of presenters follows]

JUNO GALA DINNER & AWARDS Itinerary

JUNO GALA DINNER & AWARDS

Presented by
SOCAN

18:10	Introduction Video	19:43	Classical Composition of the Year
18:10	Performance: James Barker Band	19:46	Classical Album of the Year: Vocal or Choral
18:14	Speech: Allan Reid, President & CEO, CARAS, The JUNO Awards & MusiCounts	19:49	In Memoriam Performance: Terra Lightfoot
18:23	Speech: Eric Baptiste, SOCAN	19:54	World Music Album of the Year
18:27	Vocal Jazz Album of the Year	19:57	Recording Engineer of the Year
18:30	Adult Contemporary Album of the Year	20:00	Blues Album of the Year
18:34	Jack Richardson Producer of the Year	20:04	International Achievement Award - Arcade Fire
18:37	Group of the Year (Presented with Apple Music)	20:10	Adult Alternative Album of the Year
18:40	Classical Album of the Year: Large Ensemble	20:13	Children's Album of the Year
18:44	Humanitarian Award - Gary Slaight	20:17	Traditional Roots Album of the Year
18:54	Contemporary Roots Album of the Year	20:20	Jazz Album of the Year: Solo
18:56	Video of the Year (Sponsored by Stingray Music)	20:24	Performance: Iskwé
19:01	Performance: Clairmont The Second	20:28	Album Artwork of the Year
19:05	Speech: Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture	20:30	Jazz Album of the Year: Group
19:07	Reggae Recording of the Year	20:34	Electronic Album of the Year
19:10	International Album of the Year	20:36	Walt Grealis Special Achievement Award - Denise Donlon
19:13	Dance Recording of the Year	20:46	Alternative Album of the Year (Sponsored by Long & McQuade)
19:19	Breakthrough Group of the Year (Sponsored by FACTOR, The Government of Canada, Canada's Private Radio Broadcasters)	20:49	Indigenous Music Album of the Year (Sponsored by APTN)
19:23	Classical Album of the Year: Solo or Chamber	20:53	Francophone Album of the Year
19:25	Instrumental Album of the Year	20:56	Songwriter of the Year (Presented by SOCAN)
19:29	Comedy Album of the Year (Sponsored by SiriusXM Canada)	21:00	Performance: Caveboy
19:33	Contemporary Christian/Gospel Album of the Year	21:04	Single of the Year (Sponsored by Live Nation Canada)
19:36	Metal/Hard Music Album of the Year	21:06	Rock Album of the Year
19:39	MusiCounts Inspired Minds Ambassador Award - Jim Cuddy	21:09	Country Album of the Year
		21:12	Pop Album of the Year

*Times are subject to change

** All times are Pacific Time

Stream live at junotv.ca & cbcmusic.ca/JUNOS

JUNO TV

CBC MUSIC

BACKGROUND

What started as the RPM Gold Leaf Awards in 1964 by RPM editor and publisher Walt Grealis and record label executive Stan Klees, soon became The JUNO Awards in 1971. Named in tribute to Pierre Juneau, the first chairperson of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the JUNO Awards were founded to raise the public profile and recognition of musical artists in Canada.

CARAS

The Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS) was formed in 1975 to oversee the annual JUNO Awards ceremony. CARAS has since become the umbrella not-for-profit organization for The JUNO Awards, MusiCounts, Canada's music education charity, and the Canadian Music Hall of Fame. Before CARAS, the winners of the JUNO Awards were selected by RPM readers, but with the creation of the Academy, voting was now exclusive to CARAS members in the Canadian music industry. Within one year of its inception, CARAS boasted over six-hundred members and took over the administration of the awards system created by founders Grealis and Klees. CARAS has been an integral part of the Canadian music industry with a mandate to promote and celebrate Canadian music and artists.

In 1989, CARAS began awarding annual scholarships to exceptional graduates enrolled in post-secondary Music Industry Arts Programs. In 1997 CARAS instituted the Band Aid Grant program and soon the charitable arm of CARAS was known as MusiCounts. Since 1997, nearly \$8,000,000 will have been awarded to help support music education in Canada. These funds have impacted over 700 school communities from coast to coast, supported over 330 post-secondary music program graduates and honoured 10 extraordinary music teachers through the MusiCounts Teacher of the Year Award.

CARAS' dedication to the growth and enrichment of the Canadian music industry led to the development of The Allan Slaight JUNO Master Class. In 2015, CARAS teamed up with Slaight Music to create the premier artist development program in Canada. The Allan Slaight JUNO Master Class serves as a bridge between the two key pillars of CARAS: music education through MusiCounts and the celebration and promotion of excellence through The JUNO Awards. This program fills the gap between them by providing the crucial tools to help new and emerging artists become "JUNO-ready".

The JUNO Awards

The JUNO Awards were first broadcast in 1975 on CBC from The Queen Elizabeth Theatre in Toronto with Paul Anka as the host. In 1977, the awards show switched from a theatre setting to a dinner-show format at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. The Canadian Music Hall of Fame was created in 1978 and Oscar Peterson and Guy Lombardo (posthumously) were the first inductees to be honoured that year at the JUNO Awards. Each year boasted attendance by prominent Canadian figures such as Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Joni Mitchell, Anne Murray, and Alan Thicke. From 1984 to 1987, the JUNO Awards were switched from a spring date to the fall. In 1988 the Academy regrouped to switch the show back to the spring, consequently they decided to cancel the 1988 JUNO Awards. In 1995, the JUNO Awards were transformed from an industry function to a public ticketed event. The 1995 JUNOS were hosted in Hamilton at the Copps Coliseum and attracted over 10,000 people. In 2002, CTV became the new official broadcast partner of The JUNO Awards. That same year, CARAS took the show on the road, taking the event to cities all across the country. The JUNO Awards have evolved into a week-long festival with many public and private events leading up to the broadcast awards show.

Nominating and Voting Process

Determining the JUNO nominees and winners is a multi-step process which takes hundreds of experts and many months to complete. The first step requires a body of work to be submitted, each submission is then reviewed by JUNO Awards staff to ensure it meets the eligibility criteria. Once a submission is verified, the music in each category is listened to by the corresponding Music Advisory Committee to confirm it has been submitted in the correct genre. The nominees are then determined by using a variety of different metrics based on the category. These metrics include sales figures, streaming data, Next Big Sound statistics, judge votes and Academy Delegate votes. Once the five nominees are announced, the judges and Academy Delegates vote to determine the winners that are announced at the JUNO Gala Dinner & Awards and the JUNO Awards Broadcast. [Learn more about the JUNO Awards Submissions process.](#)



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Minister Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

2018 Juno Gala Dinner & Awards

Saturday, March 24, 2018
6:10 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.

Vancouver Convention Centre East
Ballroom
999 Canada Pl.

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Meg Clenchy, Event Manager
Cell: s.22

SPEAKING NOTES

INTRODUCTION

- Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen.
- I would like to begin by recognizing that we are gathering on the territory of Indigenous peoples.
- And to show my respect to their contributions to this province and our country.
- I'm honoured to be here tonight, to bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the Government of British Columbia.
- It's exciting to welcome the JUNOs back to Vancouver!

[PAUSE]

- There is no better place to celebrate and recognize Canada's music industry than right here in B.C.!
- We have a wealth of incredible talent and a vibrant music culture.
- Our government understands and appreciates the tremendous impact the music industry has on our province, our country and beyond.

- That's why we are thrilled to support the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences and the 2018 Host Committee in producing this incredible event.
- And we are proud to support British Columbia's thriving music industry through our new music fund, AMPLIFY BC.

[PAUSE]

- To all of the JUNO nominees, I'd like say CONGRATULATIONS!
- Tonight is a great night of celebration.
- And your gift to all of us goes well beyond this night.
- It will live forever in the music that you have shared with all of us.
- I wish you all a wonderful evening. THANK YOU!

--30--



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

52nd Athlete of the Year Awards

Mar. 28, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Pre-brief at 4:50 p.m.

Stanley Park Ballroom
Westin Bayshore
Vancouver, B.C.

Please check against delivery

Event contact onsite:

Christine Wong,
Cell: s.22

Event: **52nd Athlete of the Year Awards**

Time: **Pre-brief:** 4:50 p.m. Jonathan McCloud will meet Minister Beare in the lobby. Cell:s.22
Event: 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Minister speaks at 5:56 p.m. for Presidents' Awards and 7:00 p.m. for Athlete of the Year Awards.

Location: Westin Bayshore
Presidents' Awards - Stanley Park Ballroom
Athlete of the Year Awards – Bayshore Ballroom

Contact: Christine Wong, s.22

Logistics: Presidents' Awards: stand-up reception with the Minister on stage for the awards presentation.
Athlete of the Year Awards: seated tables for the dinner. Stage with podium.

Dress Code: Business

Event summary:

- Sport BC's 52nd Athlete of the Year Awards banquet.
- Banquet to be preceded by the Presidents' Award Reception. Award presented to volunteers who display dedication, energy and commitment that contributes to development of their sport or organization in B.C.
- Sport BC is the non-profit sport federation representing more than 60 Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) in British Columbia.
- Awards already announced through a news release from Sport Canada:
 - 2018 Presidents' Award Recipients - 38 recipients.
 - 2018 Best of BC Award Winner – James Paxton, Ladner, Baseball.
 - 2018 Daryl Thompson Award at the Athlete of the Year Award - Abdul Shaikh of Badminton BC.
 - Finalists announced for the 52nd Annual Athlete of the Year Awards.

Key participants:

- Presidents' Awards Emcee: Jordan Abney, ED BC School Sports.
- Athlete of the Year Emcee: Scott Russell, CBC Sportscaster.
- Hon. Lisa Beare, Tourism, Arts and Culture.
- Rob Newman, President & CEO, Sport BC.

Audience:

- Finalists, members of sport community, PSOs.
- About 500 attendees to the main awards and 100 to the Presidents' Awards.

Media: TBC media (usually Vancouver Sun, Province, Team 1040, community newspapers).

Key Messages:

- The Government of B.C. is proud to celebrate the 52nd Athlete of the Year Awards, presented by Sport BC.
- The Presidents' Awards celebrate the volunteers who help make sport successful in B.C., and I'd like to congratulate this year's award winners and thank them for their dedication and hard work.
- The Athlete of the Year Award recognizes athletic excellence, and we are proud of all our high performance athletes for their achievements.
- Our government supports B.C. athletes on their journey through the sport system – from the field to the podium and beyond.
- Tonight's finalists are inspirational leaders. Their accomplishments demonstrate that our sport system is working well for British Columbia athletes.

Agenda: TO BE UPDATED

Time	Event Itinerary
4:50 p.m.	Jonathan McLeod will meet Minister Beare in the lobby at the Westin Bayshore. His cell: s.22
5:00 p.m.	Presidents' Awards
5:00 p.m.	Presidents' Award Reception Meet and Greet. Award winners (38) and sport organization presidents socialize.
5:30 p.m.	Announcement - Presidents' Awards will be starting in 15 min.
5:55 p.m.	Emcee welcomes guests to the 23 rd Presidents' Awards and introduces Minister Beare.
5:56 p.m.	Minister Beare provides brief greetings (2-3 min).
6:00 p.m.	Awards show starts. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each recipient called on stage to receive awards.• Minister hands certificate to president who hands to the recipient.• Minister, president and recipient have photo-op on stage.
6:20 p.m.	Emcee closes the awards show. Minister and reception guests will be asked to make their way to the Bayshore Ballroom and take a seat. Minister to sit with Rob Newman.
6:30 p.m.	52nd Athlete of the Year Awards begins.
6:40 p.m.	Scott Russell welcomes everyone. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening video plays.• Mr. Russell invites Tewanee Joseph to provide First Nations welcome.• Cheerleader performance
6:44 p.m.	Mr. Russell thanks Tewanee and welcomes the President and award recipients to the stage.
6:50 p.m.	Everyone asked to stand for the National Anthem.
6:55 p.m.	Rob Newman provides welcome on behalf of Sport BC and introduces

	Minister Beare.
7:00 p.m.	Minister Beare provides opening remarks.
7:05 p.m.	Scott Russell to thank Minister Beare and asks that she stay on stage for the presentation of the 'Best of BC Award'. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emcee introduces video that describes what award is all about. • Emcee announces winner. • Minister hands recipient the award. Photo-op.
7:10 p.m.	Mr. Russell thanks sponsors and introduces first block of awards.
7:15 p.m.	Dinner is served.
7:45 p.m.	Participation video.
7:48 p.m.	Mr. Russell announces next presenter and presents block 2 awards.
7:50 p.m.	Dessert and coffee served (30 minutes).
8:46 p.m.	Mr. Russell announces next presenter and presents block 3 awards.
9:00 p.m.	American masters video.
9:10 p.m.	Mr. Russell announces next presenter and presents block 4 awards including the Master Athlete of the Year, Official of the Year, Team of the Year and University Athlete of the Year.
9:20 p.m.	Closing remarks and a moment of silence (10-15 seconds) in memoriam for those the sporting community has lost in 2017. A list of names is provided in the program.

SPEAKING NOTES

Presidents' Award Reception

- Good evening!
- Thank you Jordan for the kind introduction.
- I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh (sail-wha-tooth) and Squamish nations.
- Our government recognizes the benefits of sport to all British Columbians – and to the communities where they live.
- Each year, we invest \$50 million to support more than 70 provincial sport organizations and the 650,000 participants they represent.
- Funding is only part of sport's success story in B.C.

- Dedicated and hard-working volunteers are at the heart of what makes amateur sports thrive in British Columbia.
- Tonight we are honouring those volunteers for their tremendous contribution.
- I thank each one of you for enriching the lives of athletes and all British Columbians by volunteering your time.
- I'd also like to thank Sport BC for hosting this event recognizing this important group of volunteers.

[End of Presidents' Awards speaking points.]

52nd Athlete of the Year Awards

- Good evening and thank you, Scott, for the warm introduction.
- I would also like to thank Tewanee [*twa-nee*] Joseph from the Squamish First Nation for her welcoming words.
- I would also like to acknowledge that we are on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh (SAIL-WHA-TOOTH) and Squamish nations.
- What a great celebration!
- I'm excited to be with you this evening to honour some inspirational athletes.
- Since 1966, Sport BC has been recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of our sport heroes.

- That's more than 50 years of making this event happen.
- The BC Athlete of the Year awards are Canada's longest running sport awards.
- Let's take a moment to thank Rob, the board members, and staff of Sport BC.

[LEAD APPLAUSE]

Celebrating Athletes, Coaches and Officials

- We are honouring individuals who have achieved excellence in sport.
- Those with focus, determination and commitment.
- Those who inspire and motivate others to get involved in sport.
- And those who enrich our communities by bringing people together in sport.

- You show us how important sport is for all of us, for our communities and for British Columbia.
- You make us proud.

Recognizing support networks

- As I look around the ballroom, I see the athletes we are here to celebrate – and the extraordinary people who support them:
 - The volunteers and staff in our provincial and regional sport organizations.
 - The parents, families and friends who volunteer their time.
 - The coaches who not only train our athletes to REACH their best, but inspire them to KNOW they can do it.
 - And the sponsors who invest in sport.

- Thanks to ALL of you, British Columbia athletes are achieving their best, and sport is flourishing in B.C.
- I'm honoured to be here to take part in presenting these awards.
- Thank you for inviting me.

(Minister remains on stage to present the 'Best of BC Award' to representative once videos play. Photo-op).

- 30 -

Background info

JAMES PAXTON as recipient of the BEST OF BC AWARD

James is a locally born and raised B.C. athlete from Ladner. He attended Delta Secondary School where he helped win B.C.'s Best Tournament Championship as a junior and senior. He went 7-1 with 1.70 ERA with 65 strikeouts as a senior. He later pitched for the University of Kentucky from 2007 – 2009 and was 11-5 with 4.91 ERA (81 ER, 148.1 IP_ and 168 strikeouts in 55 games for the Wildcats. He went on to finish his junior season (2009) ranked 17th in the nation and 4th in the SEC with 115 strikeouts. He soon found himself selected by the Seattle Mariners in the 4th round of the 2010 MLB First-Year Player Draft and made his debut on September 7, 2014 versus Tampa Bay.

Fast forward to 2017, he was named Mariners Pitcher of the Year by Seattle chapter of Baseball Writers Association of America, set career bests in wins (12), starts (24), innings (136.0), strikeouts (156) and ERA (2.98). He also earned his 300th career strikeout in on May 31 vs. Colorado! James was later named as the American League Pitcher of the Month for July and became the first Mariners pitcher to win 6 games in a single month.



SPEAKING POINTS FOR

Hon. Lisa Beare

Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture

B.C. Tourism Industry Conference

Friday, March 9, 2018
12:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Location:
Delta Grand Okanagan, Grand Ballroom
1310 Water St., Kelowna, B.C.

Please check against delivery

Event Contact on site:
Nora Cummings, Event Consultant
Cell: s.22
Walt Judas, CEO
Cell: 778-953-0620

Event summary:

- Minister Beare has been invited to give the keynote speech at the 2018 BC Tourism Industry Conference closing luncheon in Kelowna, March 9th.
- The conference provides a forum for tourism businesses and stakeholders from around B.C. to come together to learn from experts and each other about key issues, challenges and best practices in the industry.
- Minister Beare's keynote speech will provide the occasion for two important announcements: \$150k for a marketing campaign for B.C. wine tourism, and creation of the new Minister's Tourism Engagement Council.
- The speech provides an opportunity to reflect upon MLB's achievements during her first 8 months, and speak directly to key stakeholders about hot button issues, including wildfire recovery, MRDT, Airbnb, the speculation tax etc.
- Following the speech, MLB hands out awards and has a photo opp.

Time: Minister speaks at 12:45pm approx.

Directions and Parking:

Directions: The event is being held in the Grand Ballroom at the Delta Grand Okanagan – 1310 Water St., Kelowna.

Parking: Hotel valet and underground parking

Logistics: Stage, podium, microphone

Audience: 400 tourism operators and tourism association reps. **Media has been invited.**

Dress Code: Business Casual

Sitting at Lunch with Minister:

- Walt Judas, Peter Armstrong, several of the TIABC Board

Key participants:

- Walt Judas, CEO Tourism Industry Association of B.C.
- Klaudia Van Emmerick, Global News (Emcee)
- Conference speakers

Key stakeholders / VIPs:

- Tracy Eyssens, CEO Aboriginal Tourism BC
- Miles Prodan, President & CEO, BC Wine Institute
- James Chase, President & CEO, British Columbia Hotel Association
- Christopher Nicolson, President & CEO, Canada West Ski Areas Association

- Joe Volk, Executive Director, Canadian Inbound Tourism Association
- Any Thacker, CEO, Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association
- Marsha Walden, CEO, Destination BC

Key Messages:

BC Wine Key Messages

- B.C. wineries are world-class.
- Our tourism marketing agency, Destination BC (DBC), works closely with regional partners and tourism operators to market British Columbia to domestic and international markets.
- Wine and culinary tourism is a key focus of DBC's marketing strategy.
- This spring, DBC's marketing campaigns will highlight opportunities for visitors and residents to sip and savour the best that B.C. wineries have to offer.
- DBC is launching a \$150,000 campaign to promote wine and food tourism, under its annual Explore BC banner.
- For BC Wine Month, \$75,000 is committed to campaigns that attract tourists to our world-class wineries and strengthen our local economies.
- And \$75,000 will be spent on marketing initiatives that encourage B.C. residents to add wine touring to their 2018 vacation plans.
- My Ministry will work closely with DBC and the Ministry of Agriculture to leverage these programs.
- Together we will protect – and further strengthen – our wine and culinary sectors, and create good jobs for British Columbians.

Wildfires Key Messages

- The 2017 wildfire season was unprecedented.
- The impact of the wildfires on some tourism businesses was significant.
- And my ministry is assisting the industry in affected areas.
- The province has provided \$1.1 million in new money to support tourism in areas affected by the wildfires.

- B.C.'s tourism sector matters to this government and I want to ensure that it does well in all corners of the province.
- I recognize there are many tourism businesses still hurting from the fires.
- These business owners have told me the best recovery support they could receive is a return of clients.
- We're working hard to drive tourists to impacted areas with marketing support through the spring.
- The provincial government's tourism marketing agency, Destination BC, is just wrapping up a \$400,000 campaign in 2018 to attract visitors to the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast region.
- The Thomson Okanagan Tourism Association and Kootenay Rockies Tourism have also partnered with Destination BC to attract more visitors in 2018 to their respective regions.
- All three regions will feature prominently in Destination BC's annual Explore BC campaign – encouraging British Columbians to travel throughout their province in the shoulder seasons.
- Kootenay Rockies Tourism has developed an economic impact survey to assess business bookings for 2018 and determine any long term impacts of the wildfires.
- The Province is also leading a province-wide, cross-sector economic impact assessment – available in July 2018 – which will provide a better sense of wildfire impacts on the tourism sector.

Asia Mission Key Messages

- We know that tourism from Asia – specifically from China – is growing exponentially.
- The purpose of this trip, for me, was to strengthen existing relationships and build new ones in order to:
 - Promote B.C. as a dynamic, year-round tourism destination;
 - Identify opportunities to promote tourism during the Canada-China Year of Tourism 2018; and
 - Increase the number and value of tourist visits to our province from Asia.

- Explore opportunities for continued cultural exchanges between B.C. and China.
- The Premier and I hosted two tourism luncheons:
 - In Guangzhou, we showcased a broad range of B.C.'s tourism opportunities, focused on supernatural, outdoor experiences; and
 - In Beijing, we focused on British Columbia's ski tourism opportunities, to appeal to increasing numbers of Chinese skiers.
- I also met with Guangdong's Tourism Administration to emphasize B.C.'s tourism advantages and to strengthen relations with Guangdong, our sister province.
- I met with the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA), which gave me an opportunity to build on my existing relationship with that organization and further promote tourism to B.C. from China.
- British Columbia has become the first tourism marketing location in Canada to sign a partnership with WeChat – one of the largest social media platforms in the world, with over 900 million daily users.
- This partnership allows Destination BC to open up to a wider audience, connecting directly with Chinese consumers.
- Tourism will be represented on all trade missions.

Tourism Key Messages

- Tourism is a diverse, innovative industry that embraces many specialties, including adventure, wine and culinary, indigenous, and land-and-water-based tourism.
- B.C.'s tourism industry is vital to the success of the province.
- Thousands of B.C. families rely on jobs in tourism.
- In fact, the sector provides over 133,000 British Columbians with jobs and supports nearly 19,000 tourism-related businesses around the province.
- Tourism generates \$17 billion in economic impact to British Columbia, and pays \$4.7 billion in wages and salaries.
- In 2017, International visitors to B.C. are up 16% over 2015.

- Over the past five years, international visitors to B.C. have increased by 7.1% each year.
- I am happy to share that we have worked successfully with our federal counterparts to bring additional funds of \$2.2 million to B.C. through Aboriginal Tourism BC.

Indigenous Key Messages

- B.C. is recognized as a world leader in Indigenous tourism.
- Visitors want authentic cultural experiences when they come to our province and B.C.'s Indigenous tourism sector offers those opportunities.
- B.C. has the best Indigenous tourism potential in Canada, thanks to the large number of First Nations, the diversity of their cultures and the natural beauty of their Territories.
- There are more than 300 Indigenous tourism businesses in B.C. with 2,900 direct full-time equivalent employees.
- Aboriginal Tourism BC estimates the Indigenous tourism sector generated \$50 million in revenue in 2015 – an increase of 25% from 2010.
- We are committed to addressing the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.
- In this Ministry, we do this (in part) by promoting the opportunity for Indigenous people in B.C. to share their landscapes, cultures, traditions and experiences with tourists.
- Through Destination BC, the Province supports Indigenous tourism by providing approximately \$1 million in funding per year to the Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC (AtBC).
- AtBC uses the funds to grow new tourism products, improve those which already exist and present them to world markets.
- Supporting Indigenous tourism growth is important because it allows Indigenous people to share their culture and gain economic prosperity.

Airbnb Key Messages

- The Province is proud to have negotiated a tax arrangement with Airbnb that will be beneficial for British Columbians.
- Airbnb will collect the 8% provincial sales tax (PST) and the up to 3% municipal and regional district tax (MRDT) on all of its accommodation in B.C., subject to legislative approval.
- The 8% PST will help the Province and local governments ease housing affordability – making life better for all people living in B.C. – including people in the tourism industry.
- This new agreement creates a level playing field for all short-term rentals and answers concerns expressed about Air BnB by the tourism sector.

MRDT Key Messages

- One of the many ways the Province supports local tourism economies is through the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) program.
- Municipalities, regional districts and approved eligible entities can request the Government to levy the up to 3% tax on their behalf.
- Resort communities have identified affordable housing for their workers as a key issue for them.
- The government has listened to their concerns – and as part of *Budget 2018* – the Province is giving communities the flexibility to use their MRDT revenue to fund affordable housing initiatives in their communities.
- This change gives communities the opportunity to build affordable housing for people working in the industry, and will help resort communities to attract much-needed workers.
- Budget 2018 strives to make life better for British Columbians in all regions of the province.
- There are 56 communities throughout B.C. that participate in the MRDT program.
- The Cariboo Chilcotin Coast region is the latest to be approved to participate in the MRDT program.

Speculation Tax Key Messages

- I know some tourism stakeholders have questions about the creation of a new tax that is targeting speculators in our province.
- I am working closely with Finance Minister Carole James, as taxes are finalized.
- Minister James and I have been meeting with tourism industry leaders to hear their concerns firsthand.
- Our government will continue to work on challenges in your sector, and continue to be strong supporters of the tourism sector and tourism operators in this province.

Tourism Strategy and New Council Key Messages

- As we plan to build an even better tourism industry, a new 3-year strategy for tourism is taking shape.
- We will build a sustainable tourism industry that benefits people all over the province.
- We will ensure that tourism continues to provide good jobs for people all over B.C.
- I will be unveiling the new tourism strategy later in the spring.
- I am delighted to announce the establishment of a new Tourism Advisory Council – to be called the Minister’s Tourism Engagement Council.
- It will be a broad-based advisory group representing a diverse range of industry experts.
- The new council will:
 - provide my ministry with expert advice on tourism policy
 - inform tourist strategy development and implementation
 - share data and research
 - identify opportunities for public, industry and community engagement by my ministry.
- The call for new members is open for one week, March 9 – 19.

Agenda : DETAILS TO COME RE: ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT & TRANSPORTATION

Time	Event Itinerary
12:00 p.m.	Arrive Location: Conference Centre at the Delta Grand Okanagan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check in at the conference registration desk.• Nora Cummings (Event Consultant) or Walt Judas will be there to meet the minister.
12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Sound check Location: Conference Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minister will be escorted to do a sound check.
12:30 p.m.	Lunch begins.
12:45 p.m.	TIABC CEO,Walt Judas introduces Minister Beare
12:45 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Minister Beare speaks.
1:00 p.m.	Walt Judas thanks Minister Beare for her remarks and introduces Klaudia Van Emmerick, Emcee for awards.
1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Presentation of BC Tourism Industry Awards
1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Event Concludes. Photo Opportunity. Media have been invited. Possible scrum.

SPEAKING NOTES

Revisions, March 7th.

INTRODUCTION

- Good Afternoon. Thank you Walt, for the kind introduction.
- I would like to begin by acknowledging that we are on the unceded traditional territories of the Westbank and Okanagan nations.
- I bring greetings on behalf of Premier John Horgan and the government of British Columbia.
- It's an honour and a pleasure to be here today as your Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture.
- I'd like to thank the organizers of the BC Tourism Industry Conference for this opportunity to meet and speak with you.
- I'd also like to thank all of *you* for being here today.
- As I look around the room I see the hard-working people who've made tourism the NUMBER ONE economic sector in the province...

- *Your businesses* grow the economy and support the families of British Columbia.
- Tourism matters to a thriving British Columbia.
- Your dedicated work has earned BC a global reputation as a top destination.
- And the numbers show that. In 2017, International visitors to B.C. were up 16% over 2015.
- This is amazing work and we know it hasn't always been easy.
- The positions taken recently by our neighbours in Alberta were directed at many people in this room.
- We saw the impact. And our government took action!
- I want you to know that I'm working hard with my fellow ministers to support and protect tourism in this province.
- Today I have some good news for you. And I want all of *you* in this room to be the first to know.

- I'm very pleased to announce that our government through the Ministry of Tourism is launching a NEW \$150,000 campaign to promote wine and food tourism this spring!
- Starting this month, a new marketing campaign by Destination BC will encourage B.C. residents to visit our province's wine country.
- And in May another campaign launches to attract tourists from outside of B.C. to our world-class wineries and restaurants all over the province.
- This is one of many initiatives that our government is undertaking to support B.C. wine and B.C. wine tourism.
- B.C.'s *tourism* industry will continue to thrive, B.C.'s *wine* industry will continue to thrive...
- And B.C. will continue to be a *pristine* beautiful destination for Canadians and for visitors from around the world.
- Our government *stands up for British Columbia*. And I'm happy to be your champion.

- Tourism crosses many other ministries.
- Look at transportation – road signs, rest areas and cycling routes are just some examples of development that can have a huge impact on tourism.
- Recently my colleague Minister Trevena announced work on Westside Road here in Kelowna that will improve safety for cyclists.
- That will be a huge help for cycling tourism businesses.
- Or look at internet connectivity – we know that tourism relies on online service.
- Over 50% of travels start with a Google search!
- We need to ensure every area of our province has high speed internet access – our visitors want that.
- So I've been working with Minister Sims of Citizens' Services to identify priorities for our sector.

- Just a few weeks ago, our government announced some new funding that will bring high speed internet to even more remote and rural communities. Through *Connecting British Columbia*, communities from Granisle on Babine Lake to Peachland are getting the internet connectivity they need.
- This is vital for every small B&B, large fishing lodge, and local restaurant in these rural areas.
- I am your voice at the table when those conversations are happening to ensure that your needs and concerns get heard.
- I know some of you in the room have questions about the changes to the MRDT in our province.
- Minister James and I have been meeting and speaking with industry leaders, to hear their support and concerns firsthand.
- One of the concerns we've heard from tourism communities and businesses is their struggle to recruit and retain workers due to the lack of available or affordable housing.
- Our government is making historic investments in both child care and housing to ensure that businesses can find the

workers they need and that employees are able to live and raise families in the communities where they work.

- Seasonal tourism workers in particular can't find a place to live.
- To help ensure that business in the tourism sector can find housing for their workers our governments 30 point housing plan includes changes to the MRDT giving regions the ability to address housing needs for the workers tourism operators count on.
- This will allow communities and the province to work with tourism operators, hotels, and other businesses to address the lack of affordable housing for tourism workers for some communities where it is joint priority.
- This permissive opportunity is about giving the tourism sector more options to ensure that you thrive.
- The majority of communities and tourism partners are content with their current agreements and will continue exactly as they have been operating. We don't expect huge change with this permissive opportunity.

- We will make sure there are checks and balances in place as we move along and make sure we are tracking any changes made in the sector.
- We will continue to work with the tourism sector to ensure the needs of tourism operators and their workers are met.
- Our government has already been listening to you taken steps to help your sector. We heard your concerns about Air BnB and we took action.
- We reached an agreement with Air BnB to collect PST and MRDT. We are helping level the playing field by making sure there is fairness.
- And thank you, Walt, for welcoming this as a “very positive step for the visitor economy.”
- We will continue to work on the challenges which concern you and I want you at the table with me, as we build an even better tourism industry.
- Over the past few months I’ve met with tourism industry leaders from all over the province.

- They've helped me to shape a new vision for how our government can support tourism and I'm excited about it!
- We are currently working on a new tourism strategy for the province and I look forward to sharing it with you later this spring.
- Over the coming years, we'll focus on building a sustainable tourism industry that benefits people all over the province.
- We're going to be *connecting people with the places* that make BC unique...
- And ensuring that tourism continues to provide good jobs for people all over British Columbia.
- Tourism is a broad umbrella. Not only tour operators and associations... but arts organizations, sport groups, film and television production, multicultural organizations and many others play a vital role in a thriving visitor economy.
- I want our tourism strategy to build on the richness of British Columbia in all of those areas.

- The new tourism strategy will focus on initiatives that integrate our strengths. It will:
 - Leverage sport, arts and cultural events to maximize tourism value.
 - Support Indigenous tourism development to create economic stability and share culture
 - And expand tourism businesses in communities outside of major centres
 - We are going to encourage more domestic travel... ensuring that community tourism is accessible and affordable for BC families.
- I want your input to help shape this vision and guide British Columbia's tourism sector to even greater success in the future.
- I am pleased to make another new announcement. We are establishing the Minister's Tourism Engagement Council...

- Which will be a broad-based advisory group. It will represent a diverse range of industry experts from all across the tourism sector.
- I want this council to have people from large tourism operators to family run B&B's, from guide outfitters to restaurant owners, from big cities to remote communities.
- The new council will provide me and my Ministry with expert advice on tourism policy and inform our tourism strategy development and implementation.
- We will identify opportunities for public, industry and community engagement by my Ministry.
- It's an exciting time to have impact on the future of tourism.
- For those who are interested in participating please put your name forward for consideration.
- The website to apply is live now. Go to our Ministry of Tourism page – the link for applications is on our homepage. This is an opportunity to have your say.

- BC is a world-class destination. Our attractions and natural beauty make us a top destination of choice. And I'm working hard to make sure that continues.
- Just a few weeks ago, I travelled to China as part of the Premier's Asia Mission. This year is the Canada China Year of Tourism – and I want to make the most of it.
- China is B.C.'s 2nd largest market for tourism. It has tripled since 2010...and it's still growing.
- Last year alone, tourism from China grew by nearly 20%.
- Our government is making sure that B.C. continues to be a top destination for Chinese tourists.
- And we're encouraging them to explore all parts of our province, not just the urban centres.
- In GuangZhou and Beijing...
- I met with top Chinese tourism officials, tour operators and media to promote BC as a destination.

- The Premier and I hosted luncheons where we featured our ski destinations, B.C. wine and food, and a wide range of attractions from all over the province.
- Our mission to China will increase visits which is great news for everyone in the travel industry...
- Our ministry is an innovative leader in its approach to marketing tourism.
- B.C. is the first tourism marketing destination in Canada and one of just a few in North America to sign a partnership deal with WeChat...China's largest social media platform.
- This agreement means we can market directly to nearly a BILLION monthly WeChat users! That's a LOT of people hearing about B.C.
- We will also continue to encourage growth in all areas of the province through the Tourism Events Program
- which will contribute more than \$1.8 million in 2018 to communities all over B.C. to host cultural or sporting events.

- The program funds a wide range of events which draw visitors to our communities.
- Everything from the paranordic ski championship in Prince George to the world-class Rugby 7's in Vancouver this weekend, to the Roots and Blues Festival in Salmon Arm.
- I'm proud my ministry supports events like these and we'll be continuing to supporting lots more.
- I know you have spent a lot of time at this conference talking about Indigenous Tourism.
- I'm looking forward to hearing more about the thoughts and reflections that were generated from your meetings.
- I truly believe that B.C. has something special to offer the world in this area.
- Visitors to British Columbia are looking for authentic cultural experiences.
- B.C. is recognized as a world leader in Indigenous Tourism...

- There are more than 300 Indigenous tourism businesses in British Columbia.
- Our government is committed to addressing the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.
- We know Indigenous Tourism is a growing area of international interest. I'm focussed on how we can do more to support this sector in the coming years through our work with ATBC and in my Ministry.
- Our province is an amazing place to live, work, create and explore.
- From Northern B.C
- To the Southern Gulf Islands.
- And from Haida Gwaii...
- To the stunning Kootenay Rockies.
- And every point of tourist interest in between!

- Tourism is a way of life for British Columbians.
- Our desire to live, play and explore this beautiful province inspires visitors all across the world.
- I look forward to working with all of you to protect our Super Natural British Columbia and to ensure our tourism businesses thrive.
- I'd like to thank the organizers and the sponsors of the BC Tourism Industry Conference for inviting me to speak to you today.
- And now...I'm sure there are a lot of people in the audience who are waiting for...
- The BC Tourism Industry Awards!
- On behalf of the Premier and government of British Columbia, congratulations to ALL of you who are nominated for excellence and innovation in our industry...
- And we wish you all good luck! Thank-you.

--30--

UPDATED: MARCH, 26 AT 1:15 P.M.

MINISTER – BRING YOUR SAFETY BOOTS

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

Trades and Tech Equipment

Northwest Community College
Automotive Bay of the Trades Building
5331 McConnell Avenue
Terrace, B.C.

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

11:30 a.m.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Rick Devereux, GCPE events, 250 812-1207.

Getting there and parking:

Minister to have a brief tour of the new trades facility prior to announcement.

Notable attendees:

NWCC president Ken Burt

Premier John Horgan

Event Description:

Premier Horgan will announce \$5.4 million to purchase trades and tech skills training equipment used by industries and employers in a range of in demand occupations. This includes \$310,000 for Northwest Community College.

The funding allowed 15 public post-secondary institutions to replace obsolete equipment and acquire the latest technology to respond to industry changes and curriculum requirements for the benefit of students and employers.

Examples range from a Mac computer lab set for a digital media technology program and 3D printers through to industry standard cooking equipment and hot water boilers and furnaces for plumbing and gas fitting programs.

Northwest Community College purchased a table saw with a unique safety feature to protect students from cuts and severe injury, a used Prius for its automotive program and a new industrial stove for its professional cook program.

New trades equipment also supports trades students in the new Northwest Community College trades building once the \$18.4 renewal project is completed later this year.

Background:

The \$5.4 million investment will help students succeed and thrive in a whole variety of jobs in different sectors – from carpentry to computing and from automotive technician to web design.

We expect 917,000 job openings by 2027. About 8 out of every 10 jobs will require some level of post-secondary education.

Trades and tech are government priorities as there are thousands of in demand jobs expected in these areas.

New tech equipment also helps to support our province-wide expansion of tech spaces. By 2023, we expect to add 2,900 additional tech spaces.

- Good morning everyone.
- I'd like to invite Sharon Bryant to provide us with a greeting.

[FIRST NATIONS WELCOME FROM SHARON BRYANT]

- Thank you, Sharon.
- My name is Melanie Mark.
- I'm the Minister for Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant.
- I'd like to begin by acknowledging we're gathered on the territory of the Tsimshian [**Sim-SHE-an**] people.
- Also, I'd like to acknowledge the Elders and other First Nations in the room.
- Our speakers today include:
 - Premier **John Horgan**.
 - Northwest Community College **Ken Burt**.

- **Lucas Hnidan [NEE-DEN]**, a student with the automotive service technician program.
- To tell us more about today's exciting announcement, please welcome Premier Horgan.

[PREMIER HORGAN SPEAKS]

- Thank you, Premier.
- This is great news, right!
- Ensuring our students have the latest technology is critical to ensuring their success.
- The \$5.4 million for new trades and tech equipment will support students at 15 public post-secondary institutions.
- To explain how Northwest Community College has invested their \$310,000, please welcome Ken Burt.

[KEN BURT SPEAKS]

- Thank you, Ken.
- Hands-on learning is really important in trades.
- It's critical that students get their training on the same type of equipment that industry uses.
- It's all about preparing our students for success.
- These students are our future builders, smashers, creators and bakers.
- I'm thrilled to invite Lucas Hnidan **[NEEDEN]** to tell us what it means to him as a student.

[LUCAS SPEAKS

- Thank you, Lucas.
- New equipment helps students succeed and thrive in a whole variety of jobs in different sectors.
- From carpentry to computing and from automotive technician to web design, we need it all.

- Thank you everyone for attending.
- This wraps up the announcement.
- The Premier will now take questions from the media.
- Please direct your questions through Sage Aaron.

- ends -

UPDATED: MARCH 28, 2:05 P.M.

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

**UFV's Aboriginal Gathering Place
45190 Caen Ave., Chilliwack**

Thursday, May 29

1:00 p.m.

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Tricia Townsend – Cell: 604-617-9026

Getting there and parking:

There will be reserved stalls in LOT 5 on campus for the Minister and staff. Parking pass provided by UFV must be displayed on dashboard.

Dr. Joanne MacLean and Dr. Eric Davis will meet the Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister when they arrive for the campus tour that preceded the announcement.

Notable attendees:

- Madame President Clara Morin-Dal Col – President, Métis Nation BC
- Colleen Hodgson - Métis Nation BC, Director, Ministry of Education
- Colette Trudeau - Métis Nation BC - Director, Ministry of Youth, ORAAP Program Director
- Dawn Johnson - President, Fraser Valley Métis Association
- Jackie Hogan - President, University of the Fraser Valley
- Joanna MacLean - Incoming President, University of the Fraser Valley
- Marie Bercier – Métis Elder
- John Pankratz - Chair, UFV Board of Governors
- Mark Point – Chair, UFV Indigenization Committee of Senate
- Elaine Malloway - Indigenous Student Centre - University of the Fraser Valley

Event description:

This is a proactive event announcing the Métis Nation BC and UFV's partnership for Métis-specific Community Support Worker program.

The program is delivered in community and the funding is from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training's Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program.

The Community support worker program is expected to start in April/May. Enrolment is currently open.

Background:

The Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships Program provides \$21.1 million over three years to support the delivery of in-community education programs.

Funds are provided by the Ministry and the Canada-BC Job Fund Agreement.

Training must be delivered in the community and must provide participants with credits towards a portable and transferable credential and/or allow participants to complete their Adult Graduation Diploma.

Framework

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good afternoon. I'm Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- Acknowledge the territory of the Sto:lo people.
- Acknowledge representatives from Métis Nation BC.
- Acknowledge representative from University of the Fraser Valley.

Métis Nation Announcement:

- Announce \$691,000 in funding over three years for the delivery of the Métis Community Support Worker program.
- This program is delivered by the Métis Nation BC in partnership with the University of the Fraser Valley.
- It will be delivered in the community so 16 Métis students can stay and learn close to home, close to their families and supports.
- The program includes a full range of educational and wrap-around services – including cultural elements and Elder support.

Aboriginal Community-Based Partnerships Training Announcement:

- The Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program delivers in-community training.
- More than 40 communities will benefit from in-community training as a result of a \$21.1 million investment over three years.
- For the first time, Indigenous communities can enter directly into contracts with the Ministry to manage program funding if their proposals are successful.
- We are committed to increasing access to education in Indigenous communities, and to implementing UNDRIP and the TRC's calls to action.

Conclusion:

- In closing our gov't is committed to working with you.
- Take the first step to an academic journey that will keep rewarding you for the rest of your life.
- When we work together we can achieve positive change.
- We are committed to helping you and your community thrive and succeed!

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good afternoon.
- I'm Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- I'd like to acknowledge we're gathered on the territory of the Sto:lo [staw-low] people.
- I would also like to acknowledge representatives who are with us today.
- From Métis Nation BC:
 - Madame President Clara Morin-Dal Col – President, Métis Nation BC
 - Colleen Hodgson - Métis Nation BC, Director, Ministry of Education
 - Colette Trudeau - Métis Nation BC - Director, Ministry of Youth, ORAAP Program Director
- From the Fraser Valley Métis Association,
 - President Dawn Johnson
- Métis Elder - Marie Bercier
- And from University of the Fraser Valley.
 - Jackie Hogan - President, University of the Fraser Valley
 - Joanna MacLean - Incoming President, University of the Fraser Valley
 - John Pankratz - Chair, UFV Board of Governors
 - Mark Point – Chair, UFV Indigenization Committee of Senate
 - Elaine Malloway - Indigenous Student Centre - University of the Fraser Valley
- Education has the power to transform lives, families and communities.

Métis Nation Announcement:

- I'm happy to announce \$691,000 in funding over three years for the delivery of the Métis Community Support Worker program.
- This program is delivered by the Métis Nation BC in partnership with the University of the Fraser Valley.
- It will be delivered in the community so 16 Métis students can stay and learn close to home, close to their families and supports.
- The program includes a full range of educational and wrap-around services – including cultural elements and Elder support.
- Our goal is to help Métis learners in Chilliwack make a difference in the lives of others and create a brighter future for themselves and their community.

Aboriginal Community-Based Partnerships Training Announcement:

- The Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program delivers in-community training.
- More than 40 communities will benefit from in-community training as a result of a \$21.1 million investment over three years.
- The program is designed to provide Indigenous learners with the post-secondary education and training they need to further their education and obtain sustainable employment.
- For the first time since the program started in 2012, Indigenous communities can enter directly into contracts with the Ministry to manage program funding.
- Programs range from Indigenous tourism and culinary arts to business management and public safety.
- We are working with partners like UFV and any other post-secondary institutions that want to advance success.
- When we work together we can achieve positive change.
- We are committed to increasing access to education in Indigenous communities.
- Our government is also working to implement UNDRIP and the TRC's calls to action.
- Today's announcement is about reconciliation in action.

Conclusion:

- In closing, our government is committed to working for you.
- I encourage people to take the first step to an academic journey that will keep rewarding you for the rest of your life.
- We are committed to helping you and your community thrive and succeed!

UPDATED: MARCH 27, 3:35 P.M.

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

**Songhees Wellness Centre
1100 Admirals Rd., Victoria**

Wednesday, May 28

10:30 a.m.

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Rick Devereux, GCPE events, 250 812-1207

Getting there and parking:

The site has ample free parking.

Notable attendees:

- MLA for Esquimalt-Metchosin Mitzi Dean (Emcee)
- Songhees Nation Council members
 - Garry Albany
 - Karen Tunkara
 - Jackie Albany
 - Garry Sam (also a speaker)
 - Don Albany
- Christina Clarke, Executive Director, Songhees Nation
- Chef Dave Roger, Chef & Professional Cook Co-Instructor, Songhees Nation
- Ron Rice – Board Chair, Camosun College Board of Governors
- John Boraas – Vice President, Education
- Geoff Wilmhurst – Vice President, Partnerships (also a speaker)
- Joan Yates – Vice President, Student Experience
- Camosun project team:
 - Steve Walker-Duncan - Chef & Professional Cook Co-Instructor/ Chair, Culinary Arts
 - Carl Everitt - Chair, Tourism & Hospitality Management
 - Olaf Nielsen - Co-Program Manager / Chair, Trades Training & Special Projects

Event description:

Minister will witness the signing ceremony between the Songhees Nation and Camosun College for their partnership in delivering the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program.

The community-based program is delivered in community and funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

This program will serve a total of 24 students (two cohorts of 12). Learners in the program will get Professional Cook level 1 training (an Industry Training Authority trades designation) and work placement upon completion.

The majority of the program will be taught on-site at the Wellness Centre.

Before the signing ceremony, Minister Mark to announce the Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program funding for Vancouver Island (\$7.8 million over 3 years) and overall funding for the province (\$21.1 million over 3 years).

Background:

Funding is from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training's Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program.

Funds are provided by the Ministry and the Canada-BC Job Fund Agreement.

Training must be delivered in the community and must provide participants with credits towards a portable and transferable credential and/or allow participants to complete their Adult Graduation Diploma.

The education and skills training program delivered at the Songhees Wellness Centre is specifically tailored to address the needs of the Songhees Nation. It will help the community reach its short- and medium-term goals in this area including: creation of a café in the Songhees

Wellness Centre; operation of its new smokehouse; expansion of current aboriginal tourism activities including canoe and kayak tours which may include food preparation elements; creating a rooftop garden and growing, harvesting and processing fruits and vegetables for use in culinary operations.

Framework

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- I'm Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- Acknowledge the Lekwungen people - including the Songhees Nation.
- Acknowledge representatives from Songhees Nation.
- Acknowledge representatives from Camosun.

Songhees Nation Announcement:

- Announcing \$655,000 in funding over 2 years to the Songhees Nation.
- This funding is for the delivery of the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program.
- The program will be delivered in the community by Camosun College so students can stay and learn close to home, where their families and supports are.
- The program includes a full range of educational and wrap-around services – including cultural elements and Elder support.

Aboriginal Community-Based Partnerships Training Announcement:

- The Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program delivers in-community training.
- More than 40 communities throughout B.C. will benefit from in-community training as a result of a \$21.1 million investment over three years.
- For the first, Indigenous communities can enter directly into contracts with the Ministry to manage program funding if their proposals are successful.
- We are committed to increasing access to education and to implementing UNDRIP and the TRC's calls to action.

Conclusion:

- Education levels the playing field and creates positive change.
- We are committed to helping you and your community thrive and succeed!

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good morning.
- I'm Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- I'd like to acknowledge we're gathered on the territory of the Lekwungen speaking people - including the Songhees Nation.
- I would like to acknowledge representatives from Songhees Nation here with us today:
 - Songhees Nation Council members
 - Garry Albany
 - Karen Tunkara
 - Jackie Albany
 - Garry Sam
 - Don Albany
 - Executive Director, Songhees Nation Christina Clarke,
 - Chef & Professional Cook Co-Instructor, Songhees Nation, Chef Dave Roger
- I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge Camosun's VP of Partnerships, Geoff Wilmshurst, and the many Camosun College faculty, staff and administration here today who have helped make this program possible including:
 - Chair of the Camosun College Board, Ron Rice,
 - Vice President of Partnerships, Geoff Wilmshurst,
 - Chair, Culinary Arts program, Steve Walker Duncan – who helped develop the program, and
 - Chair, Tourism & Hospitality program, Carl Everitt – who also helped develop the program.

Songhees Nation Announcement:

- I'm pleased to be here today to announce \$655,000 in funding over 2 years to the Songhees Nation.
- This funding is for the delivery of the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program.
- The program will be delivered in the community by Camosun College so students can stay and learn close to home, where their families and supports are.
- Songhees Nation has partnered with Camosun College to develop the program and tailor it to the specific needs of its community.
- The program includes a full range of educational and wrap-around services – including cultural elements and Elder support.

Aboriginal Community-Based Partnerships Training Announcement:

- The Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program delivers in-community training.
- More than 40 communities throughout B.C. will benefit from in-community training as a result of a \$21.1 million investment over 3 years.
- The program is designed to provide Indigenous learners with the post-secondary education and training they need to further their education and obtain sustainable employment.
- For the first time since the Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships Program started in 2012, Indigenous communities can enter directly into contracts with the Ministry to manage program funding if their proposals are successful.
- In the past, only the public post-secondary institution partner could be the contract holder.
- Songhees Nation will be managing the contract for this program.
- This change is a step towards self-determination as it gives the community more control.
- We are committed to increasing access to education in Indigenous communities.
- Our government is also working to implement UNDRIP and the TRC's calls to action.

Conclusion:

- We know that education levels the playing field and creates positive change.
- Take the first step of an academic journey that will keep rewarding you for the rest of your life.
- Our government has got your back.
- We are committed to helping you and your community thrive and succeed!

UPDATED: MARCH 27, 12:50 P.M.

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

Construction & Skilled Trades Month in B.C.

Contractor's Breakfast

BCIT Burnaby Campus
High Performance Building Lab
NW3 – 3700 – 3700 Willingdon Avenue

Tuesday, April 3

Time 7:30 a.m.

Speaking Time: 3 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

BCIT – Marita Luk s.22

BCIT – Kelly Friday s.22

BCCA – Lisa Stevens 250 580-2927

Getting there and parking:

Parking spots are available in lot 20 beside NW3

Notable attendees:

Kathy Kinloch, president of BCIT

Jack Davidson, chair, BCIT board of governors

Wayne Hand, Dean of BCIT's School of Construction and the Environment

Chris Atchison, president of BC Construction Association

Gary Herman, ITA CEO

Event description:

A kick-off breakfast co-hosted by BCIT and BCCA to launch Construction & Skilled Trades Month in B.C. This is the first of 7 contractors' breakfasts that are taking place during Construction & Skilled Trades Month in B.C.

Background:

The British Columbia Construction Association and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills, and Training are raising awareness about careers in construction throughout April.

The audience consists mainly of contractors' in the construction industry.

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- Good morning. My name is Melanie Mark.
- I'm the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- We're gathered on the territory of the Coast Salish Nations of **Musqueam**, **Tsleil-Waututh** [**SAIL-WHA-TOOTH**] and **Squamish**.
- I'd also like to acknowledge BCIT president **Kathy Kinloch**, BC Construction Association president **Chris Atchison** and ITA CEO **Gary Herman**.
- Throughout April, we're celebrating over 229,000 people who work in our construction industry and the 24,000 employers who support them.
- More than 59,000 jobs in the building trades are expected by 2027.
- In demand construction trades include:
 - Carpenters.
 - Heavy equipment operators and mechanics.
 - Floor layers.
 - Plumbers.

- Our gov't is committed to making skilled trades training affordable and available to everyone who wants a career in construction.
- We're investing \$1.8 million to recruit, retain and advance women in the construction trades.
- As employers, I'd like to thank you for taking on apprentices.
- Apprenticeships are essential to our future workforce, that's why we're:
 - Increasing opportunities for apprentices to gain on the job experience and complete their training.
 - Making sure women, Indigenous groups have a fair opportunity.
 - Promoting local hiring for gov't projects.
- We're working with industry and employers to determine an **effective apprenticeship ratio** for gov't construction projects.
- We will maximize our \$15.8 billion investment in public infrastructure to train future construction workers.

- We're in the final stage of launching a more flexible **Workforce Development Agreement** worth \$685 million.
- These new programs will ensure **employers** benefit from investments in skills training, while **workers** get the support and training needed for good-paying jobs.
- In closing, Construction and Skilled Trades Month is about celebrating the hard work done by construction workers year-round in B.C.
- We want to encourage more people to consider the rewarding careers available in construction.
- Thank you so much for helping us build and maintain the best B.C.

UPDATED: MARCH 27 AT 2:45 P.M.

EMCEE SPEAKING NOTES FOR

MLA MITZI DEAN

Songhees Signing Ceremony and
Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships

Songhees Wellness Centre

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

10:30 p.m.

Speaking Time: 2 minutes

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

- Rick Devereux, GCPE events, 250 812-1207

Audience:

- Students and parents
- Post-secondary faculty and staff
- Media

Notable attendees:

- Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training
- Songhees Nation Council members
 - Garry Albany
 - Karen Tunkara
 - Jackie Albany
 - Garry Sam (also a speaker)
 - Don Albany
- Christina Clarke, Executive Director, Songhees Nation
- Chef Dave Roger, Chef & Professional Cook Co-Instructor, Songhees Nation
- Ron Rice – Board Chair, Camosun College Board of Governors
- John Boraas – Vice President, Education
- Geoff Wilmhurst – Vice President, Partnerships (also a speaker)
- Joan Yates – Vice President, Student Experience
- Camosun project team:
 - Steve Walker-Duncan - Chef & Professional Cook Co-Instructor/ Chair, Culinary Arts
 - Carl Everitt - Chair, Tourism & Hospitality Management
 - Olaf Nielsen - Co-Program Manager / Chair, Trades Training & Special Projects

Event description:

The event is to witness the signing ceremony between the Songhees Nation and Camosun College for their partnership in delivering the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program.

The community-based program is delivered in community and funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training

This program will serve a total of 24 students (two cohorts of 12). Learners in the program will get Professional Cook level 1 training (an Industry Training Authority trades designation) and work placement upon completion.

The majority of the program will be taught on-site at the Wellness Centre.

Before the signing ceremony, Minister Mark to announce the Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program funding for Vancouver Island (\$7.8 million over 3 years) and overall funding for the province (\$21.1 million over 3 years).

Background:

Funding is from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training's Aboriginal Community-Based Training Partnerships program.

Funds are provided by the Ministry and the Canada-BC Job Fund Agreement. Training must be delivered in the community and must provide participants with credits towards a portable and transferable credential and/or allow participants to complete their Adult Graduation Diploma.

The education and skills training program delivered at the Songhees Wellness Centre is specifically tailored to address the needs of the Songhees Nation. It will help the community reach its short- and medium-term goals in this area including: creation of a café in the Songhees Wellness Centre; operation of its new smokehouse; expansion of current aboriginal tourism activities including canoe and kayak tours which may include food preparation elements; creating a rooftop garden and growing, harvesting and processing fruits and vegetables for use in culinary operations.

Itinerary/agenda:

Date: Wednesday March 28

Time: 10:30 AM

Event Summary	
Time	Event Itinerary
9:00 AM	Tech crew arrives on site for set up. Rick Devereux is on site/nearby as event lead, cell: 250-812-1207
9:45 AM	Minister Mark arrives for a tour of the Wellness Centre
10:00 AM	Speakers other than the Minister arrive. These are: Mitzi Dean, Songhees Nation Councillor Gary Sam, Camosun College Vice President of Partnerships Geoff Wilmshurst, and student speaker Sam Charlie.
10:15 AM	Minister Mark proceeds to pre-brief room, just off the lobby through the glass doors into the health centre.
10:20 AM	Pre-Brief with speakers takes place, with Rick Devereux
10:30 AM	EVENT BEGINS – Minister Mark, Mitzi Dean, and the three other speakers enter the lobby and walk to the podium, with Mitzi Dean in the centre at the podium, the other three flanking tightly beside.
10:30 AM	Mitzi Dean introduces Songhees Nation Councillor Gary Sam to provide a greeting
10:31 AM	Songhees Nation Councillor Gary Sam gives greeting (3 minutes)
10:34 AM	Mitzi Dean speaks, welcoming everyone and introduces Minister Mark
10:35 AM	Minister Mark speaks (3 minutes)
10:38 AM	Mitzi Dean introduces Songhees Nation Councillor Gary Sam
10:39 AM	Songhees Nation Councillor Gary Sam speaks (3 minutes)
10:42 AM	Mitzi Dean introduces Geoff Wilmshurst, Camosun College Vice President of Partnerships
10:43 AM	Geoff Wilmshurst speaks (3 minutes)
10:46 AM	Mitzi Dean introduces Sam Charlie, student speaker
10:47 AM	Sam Charlie (student) speaks (3 minutes)
10:50 AM	Mitzi Dean thanks everyone and says that Minister Mark and the Songhees Representative will now move to a table next to the podium to sign the agreement. Minister Mark and the Songhees Representative sit at the table and sign the agreement, and pose for photos.
10:52 AM	Mitzi Dean encourages Geoff Wilmshurst of Camosun to replace Minister Mark at the table to sign the agreement with the Songhees Representative. They sign and take photos.
10:54 AM	Everyone gathers at the table for photos. Could also take photos standing all together at the podium.
10:57 AM	Event concludes

- Good afternoon everyone. Welcome to the Songhees Wellness Centre.
- I want to acknowledge we're on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen people [**La-kwung-en**], including the Songhees First Nation.
- My name is Mitzi Dean. I am the MLA for Esquimalt-Metchosin and Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity
- Please allow me to introduce our stage guests:
 - Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, **Melanie Mark**,
 - Songhees Nation Councillor and Director of Songhees Seafood and Steam, **Gary Sam**,
 - Camosun College's Vice President of Partnerships, **Geoff Wilmshurst**, and
 - Student in the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program **Sam Charlie**.
- I would now like to invite Songhees Nation Councillor and Director of Songhees Seafood and Steam **Gary Sam** to the podium for a traditional greeting.

[Councillor Sam gives greeting]

- Thank you Councillor Sam.
- Please welcome the **Minister of Advanced Education Skills and Training Melanie Mark**, to the podium.

[Minister Mark speaks]

- Thank you, **Minister Mark**.
- Please welcome Camosun College`s Vice President of Partnerships, **Geoff Wilmshurst**.

[Geoff Wilmshurst speaks]

- Thank you, **Geoff**.
- Our next speaker today is Songhees Nation Councillor and Director of Songhees Seafood and Steam, **Gary Sam**.

[Gary Sam speaks]

- Thank you Councillor **Sam**.
- Our final speaker today will be **Sam Charlie**, a student who has been accepted into the Aboriginal Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism Management program here at the Songhees Wellness Centre.

[Sam Charlie speaks]

- Thank you, **Sam**.
- At this time, I would like to invite Songhees Nation Councillor and Director of Songhees Seafood and Steam **Gary Sam** and Minister **Melanie Mark** to the table to sign the agreement.

[Minister Mark and Councillor Sam sign agreement and pose for photos]

- Thank you.
- And now, I invite Camosun College Vice President of Partnerships, **Geoff Wilmhurst** to come to the table and sign the agreement with Songhees Nation Councillor and Director of Songhees Seafood and Steam **Gary Sam**.

[Geoff Wilmhurst and Councillor Sam sign agreement and pose for photos]

- Thank you to everyone for coming today and participating in this special announcement.
- I would now like to invite our stage guests for a group photo before we proceed to the light refreshments generously provided by the Songhees Wellness Centre.

[Podium party gathers for photo.]

UPDATED: MARCH 7, 12PM

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

Support for Women in the Construction Trades

Front steps of the Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.

Thursday, March 8, 2018

1 p.m.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

Joleen Badger (604) 916-3551

Audience:

Press gallery

Women in the building trades

Employers in the construction industry

Notable attendees:

Premier John Horgan

Lisa Langevin with BC Tradeswomen Society

Amy Carr, sheet metal journey person

Chris Atchison, president of the BC Construction Association

Dave Holmes, president of BC Building Trades

About 30 women who have their ticket in the construction trades

Event description:

Announce a \$1.8 million suite of pilot programs, delivered over two years, led by the BC Construction Association and BC Federation of Labour to address systemic issues facing women in the building trades.

Fixing the system will support women already in the workforce, while encouraging more women to consider the construction trades.

The event also marks International Women's Day with government funding of progressive initiatives to increase women's participation in construction and skilled trades.

Demonstrate government support for investment in the next generation of skilled B.C. workers and the construction industry in B.C. and women in trades.

Acknowledgements:

- Good afternoon everyone – and thank you for coming to this announcement on International Women’s Day.
- It is a pleasure to be here with you today, on the territories of the Lekwungen speaking people, including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- I’m Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training and I’m your emcee.
- I would like to introduce our speakers:
 - Our Premier, **John Horgan**,
 - **Lisa Langevin**, assistant business manager and journey electrician, IBEW 213,
 - **Amy Carr**, a sheet metal journey person who got her red seal three weeks ago.
- I’d like to acknowledge representatives from our partners on today’s event:

- **Dave Holmes** president of BC Building Trades, and
- **Chris Atchison** with the BC Construction Association.
- Unfortunately, **Irene Lanzinger** with the BC Federation of Labour is unable to join us.
- I'd also like to acknowledge all the elected officials joining us.
- Including Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equality **Mitzi Dean**.
- Also Jobs, Tech and Tourism Minister **Bruce Ralston**.
- We're here to make an important announcement that will support women in the construction trades, while encouraging more women to consider it as a career.
- Please welcome our Premier, John Horgan.

[PREMIER HORGAN SPEAKS]

- Thank you, Premier.
- Given the chance, women excel in the construction industry.
- And, we're going to invest in their success.
- To speak more about this, please welcome Lisa Langevin.

[LISA LANGEVIN SPEAKS]

- Thanks, Lisa.
- Our next speaker has had her red seal in sheet metal work for about a month.
- Please welcome Amy to the podium.

[AMY CARR SPEAKS]

- Thank you, Amy.
- I'd like to give a shout to all the construction workers who are driving our economy.

- Thank you to all of our wonderful guests for joining us today.
- In closing, I would just like to say that our government is marking International Women's Day with many actions this year.
- Removing barriers to women's participation in the trades is part of achieving gender parity.
- An inclusive workforce is about building a better B.C. and meeting labour market demand.
- I'd like to invite Premier Horgan to the podium to answer questions from media in the room.
- Following the questions and answers, I'd like to ask our guests for quick group photo.

[MODERATED Q&A WITH MEDIA]

[EVENT CONCLUDES]

UPDATED: MARCH 2, 3 P.M.

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

Find Your Fit reaches the B.C. Legislature

Rotunda and Reception Hall
501 Belleville St,
Victoria, BC

Thursday, March 8, 2018

12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Speaking Time: 3 mins

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Contact at the event:

- GCPE Events lead – Rick Devereux 250-812-1207
- Jennifer Fernandes, AEST GCPE – 250 889.8370
- Find Your Fit event lead: Sean O’Keefe: s.22
- Davin Greenwell, AEST Manager of Client Engagement and Marketing – 778 676-2540

Audience:

Local grade 8 students from Monterey Middle School and members of the legislative assembly

Notable attendees:

Minister Melanie Mark

Minister Rob Fleming

Event description:

An opportunity for local kids and B.C. representatives to interact with WorkBC’s Find Your Fit event.

Background:

- WorkBC’s Find Your Fit is a hands-on opportunity that allows participants to explore high-demand jobs, throughout B.C. and regionally.
- Occupations that will be featured at this event include:
 - Tech Zone
 - Computer and information systems managers
 - Information systems analysts and consultants
 - Software engineers and designers
 - Web designers and developers
 - Computer network technicians
 - Electrical and electronics engineers
 - Electronics Technician/Technologist
 - Health Care Zone (Mini Version)
 - General Practitioner/Family Physician
 - Nurse and Nurse Aides
 - Psychiatrist
 - Auto Service Technician
 - Air Pilot
 - 4 Labour Market Information Kiosks for access to WorkBC.ca
- The tour also highlights WorkBC.ca and key tools that include: digital resources:
 - WorkBC.ca’s Job board
 - Over 100 Career Trek videos
 - WorkBC Parent Guide
 - Career Compass quiz
 - 500 Career profiles with skills, training and education information

- Information about education and training options in B.C.
- Career building toolkit
- This year, the tour will have more than 70 stops in communities throughout B.C., from when the tour began in November, 2017 and when it ends in March 2018.

Itinerary/agenda:

9:00am - 12:00pm Find Your Fit staff load materials and set up the event

12:15pm – Student group A to arrive

12:30pm - Minister Mark speaks

TBC (Potential student speaker)

12:35pm - Minister Fleming speaks

12:40pm - Ministers join students in checking out activity stations

1:00pm - Ministers leave for other meeting

1:00pm – 1:20pm Students engaging with FYF activities

1:20pm – 1:30pm Student group A returns to school as Student group B arrives

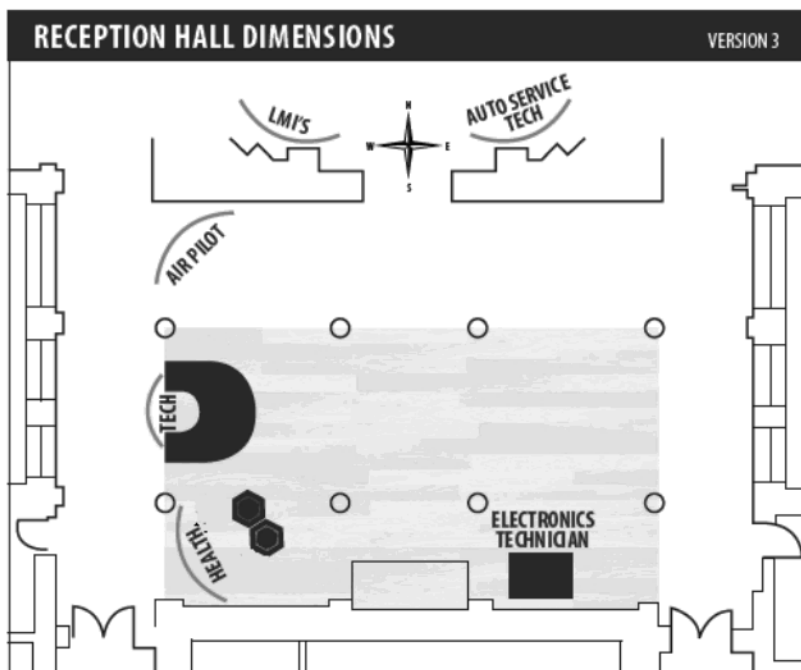
1:30pm – 2:20pm Student group B engages with FYF activities

2:20pm – 2:30pm Student group B returns to school

2:20pm – 3:00pm FYF remains open to the public

3:00pm – 5:00pm Find Your Fit staff unload materials and take down the event.

Layout:



- Hello and welcome! A big shout out to all the students and teachers visiting today.
- I'd like to acknowledge we are on the territory of the Lekwungen speaking people, including the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- For most of us, it's really hard to figure out what career to go into once high school is finished.
- It's great you are all here today taking the time to explore and learn about yourself – your interests, skills, passions.
- Whether you love taking things apart and rebuilding them, or you could spend all day with computers, or you get that fuzzy feeling when you help someone – there is a career for you out there.
- WorkBC's Find your Fit tour will help you find a career that's just right for you, but also one that is expected to have lots of job openings in the future.
- Find your Fit has been to 70 communities in B.C. helping thousands of students and adults find a career.
- Know that our government has your back.
- We want to see you thrive and succeed!
- **And now, Minister of Education, Rob Fleming, will come up to say a few words.**

UPDATED: MARCH 13, 5 P.M.

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

Gathering Our Voices 2018
Youth in Care Honouring Feast

UBC Boathouse
7277 River Road
Richmond, B.C. V6X 1X5

Wednesday, March 21

5:15 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Speaking Time: 10 minutes (6:17 p.m. – 6:27 p.m.)

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

MINISTER, REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR EAGLE FEATHER

Contact at the event:

BCAAFC Executive Director Leslie Varley will greet the Minister at 5:15 p.m.
Leslie Varley: Cell s.22

Getting there and parking:

There is parking onsite.

Notable attendees:

Gathering Our Voices 2018 co-hosts are: Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society and Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association.

There will be about 100 current youth in care aged 14-18 in attendance, along with 40 youth supporters and former youth in care.

Event description:

Gathering Our Voices is the premier youth leadership training conference in the country. The goal for leadership training is to provide Indigenous youth with the tools to work towards a better tomorrow by improving themselves and the world in which they live.

The conference takes place over four days with participants from across Canada.

Youth take part in workshops on leadership, wellness and education.

At the Honouring Feast, there will be a Master of Ceremonies, a prayer by an Elder, short entertainment, the feast and a gift that will be given to honour the youth currently in care.

Background:

The purpose of the Youth in Care Honouring Feast is to acknowledge the large number of Indigenous youth in care who attend the conference.

The Honouring Feast has become an integral part of the conference as it unites many unique people from different walks of life through a shared experience and encourages youth to learn and grow through the sharing of stories and insightful conversation.

The Honouring Feast is an opportunity to hold current youth in care up in the highest regard and gift them in a way that helps to keep them connected to Indigenous peoples and Indigenous ways of being.

What does the audience want to hear?

- How the Minister has been an advocate for children and youth that have been in care?
- Any uplifting messages that are relatable to the current youth in care?
- Messages of support, care and love to let the youth know they are valued.
- The audience are particularly interested in the Minister's past experience of being an Indigenous youth in the city and her experience with seeking ways to remain connected with other Indigenous youth and her culture.

Framework

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good evening. I'm the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver Mount Pleasant.
- Acknowledge the territory of the Musqueam people.
- Volunteering has played an important role in my career.
- About 40% of former youth in care graduate from high school, and fewer go on to post-secondary education or training.
- Education is important in the transition to independent living.

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program:

- Indigenous youth are overrepresented among former youth in care.
- Premier Horgan launched the tuition-waiver program on September 1st 2017.
- It applies to all 25 of our public post-secondary schools.
- 318 former youth in care are now supported by the program.
- We want you to help us build the best B.C.

Conclusion:

- I stayed connected with my culture and family.
- Our government has got your back.
- Education levels the playing field and can change all our futures.
- Know that you are loved, needed and valued.
- You are a new generation of hope and inspiration.
- Keep shooting for the stars.

Introduction and Acknowledgements:

- Good evening. I'd like to acknowledge we're on the territory of the Musqueam people.
- My name is Melanie Mark. I'm the Minister for Advanced Education, Skills and Training, and MLA for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant.
- Previously, I travelled throughout BC, while working at the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth.
- I've also spent a lot of my adult life as a volunteer.
- Growing up in the projects of East Vancouver, I've had to overcome adversity.
- I know what it's like to live in care and to have family in care.
- This has shaped my personal beliefs and my career.

[MINISTER, SPEAK ABOUT YOUR OWN JOURNEY]

- Only about 40% of former youth in care graduate from high school. Even fewer go on to post-secondary education.
- Education is critical to help transition to independent living.

Provincial Tuition Waiver Program:

- About 7,500 children and youth are in the care of the Province.
- Indigenous youth makes up over 60% of youth in government care compared to 10% of the child population.
- We also know we can do more to help former youth in care realize post-secondary education.
- On September 1st last year, Premier John Horgan announced the expansion of the tuition waiver program for former youth in care to all 25 universities and colleges.
- Youth all over the province – whether in Vancouver or Prince George or Vancouver Island or the Okanagan – now face one less barrier.
- 318 former youth in care are now getting their tuition and fees paid for them.
- I want to see YOU take advantage of this program.

Conclusion:

- It's important for us to stay connected to our Indigenous culture and our family.
- I stayed connected with my mom even when she was a drug addict.
- I stayed connected with my brother while he was in care.
- The one thing I want to give you today – if nothing else – is my word that we've got your back.
- Know that you are loved, needed and valued.
- As future leaders, you are a new generation of hope and inspiration.
- Keep shooting for the stars.
- Know that I will be cheering for you every step of the way.

UPDATED: MARCH 13, 5 P.M.

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

Gathering Our Voices 2018
Opening Ceremonies

Musqueam Territory
Richmond B.C.
Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel

Tuesday, March 20

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Speaking Time: 10 minutes (7:25 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.)

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR EAGLE FEATHER

Contact at the event:

Greg Forsberg – cell: 778-679-5515

Getting there and parking:

Minister can arrive at 7 p.m. (or before to watch the opening ceremonies) and will be met in the hotel lobby. Parking is on site.

Audience:

Over 1,000 Indigenous youth will be attending in addition to representatives from the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and its Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council.

Notable attendees:

Gathering Our Voices 2018 co-hosts: Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society and Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association.

Event description:

The event is the premier youth leadership training conference in the country. The goal for leadership training is to provide Indigenous youth with the tools to work towards a better tomorrow by improving themselves and the world in which they live.

The conference takes place over four days with participants from across Canada.

Youth take part in workshops on leadership, wellness and education.

Background:

The message this year is 'Strengthening Our Voices'

For the first time in 16 years, the event Gathering Our Voices Indigenous Youth Leadership Training sold out in a single day. Youth aged 14-24 are eligible to attend the event.

Itinerary/agenda:

5:00 p.m. Doors Open

6:00 p.m. Drum Song

6:12 p.m. Welcome/Opening Prayer

6:17 p.m. Premier's awards

7:18 p.m. ISPARC

7:30 p.m. Minister Melanie Mark

7:42 p.m. 3 c Challenge

8:05 p.m. Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council

8:17 p.m. Summer-Rain Anti-Violence

8:27 p.m. Warren Hooley Ice Breaker

9:00 p.m. close

Framework

Introduction and Acknowledgements

- Acknowledge the territory of the Musqueam people.
- Acknowledge BC Association of Aboriginal friendship Centres as event organizers.
- Thrilled to be able to speak with you.

[MINISTER, SPEAK ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL BACKGROUND]

Keynote Address:

- My call to action is to honour our grandparents by thriving.
- As Minister, I want to see you take advantage of education.
- I want to see you in the boardroom, the classroom, the courtroom, the worksite and wherever else you want to go.

More Indigenous Teachers:

- K-12 can be a make it or break it experience.
- 11% of students in public schools are Indigenous, while fewer than 4% of teachers are Indigenous.
- Becoming a teacher is an opportunity to help future leaders.

Conclusion:

- As a proud Nisga'a woman of the Eagle Clan, I want to see you soar.
- Determination, perseverance and drive are important values.
- Key to success is never taking no for an answer.
- We're counting on you.

Acknowledgements and Introduction:

- Good evening everybody. My name is Melanie Mark.
- I'd like to acknowledge we're on the territory of the Musqueam people.
- I'd also like to thank the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and its Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council for all the hard work they put into creating this conference.
- I'm thrilled to be here with you tonight.
- You're here because someone believes in YOU!
- Allow me to introduce myself.
- I'm B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training and the MLA for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant.
- I'm Nisga'a, Gitksan, Cree and Ojibway as well as the proud mom of two girls – Maya and Makayla.
- I am also the first woman First Nations MLA elected to the provincial legislature in British Columbia as well as a Cabinet Minister.

[MINISTER, THIS IS A CHANCE FOR YOU TO TALK ABOUT YOUR JOURNEY]

Keynote Address:

- My call to action tonight is for you to honour our grandparents.
- Many of our grandparents went through residential school.
- It's their wish for us to thrive, lead healthy lives and succeed.
- Our grandparents don't want us to be caught up in the web of addiction or spend our lives in poverty.
- It's time to change up the narrative!
- As the Minister responsible for post-secondary education and training, I want to see you in the jobs we need.
- I want to see you in the boardrooms, the courtrooms, the worksites, the classrooms, the research labs – leading the way.
- Every young person in this room can reach the stars.
- In the class, on the ball court or at home.
- You are the future of our province.

Post-Secondary Education:

- Post-secondary education can be a bit scary, but you can do it.
- As a student, I didn't do well at first.
- But I kept at it.
- My takeaway from post-secondary education was about the importance of human, rights and social justice.
- Your opportunity in the post-secondary education system is waiting for you.
- We know B.C. expects 917,000 job openings by 2027.
- 80% of these jobs will require some level of post-secondary education or training.
- I want you to be prepared for these opportunities.
- From tech to trades from health to business and from aviation to animation we need it all.
- Don't be afraid to reach out and ask for help.
- Take advantage of events like Gathering Our Voices.

More Indigenous Teachers:

- K-12 can make you or break you.
- We've all had that special teacher who helped us.
- Do you know we need more Indigenous teachers?
- About 11% of students in public schools are Indigenous.
- But fewer than 4% of teachers in the public education system are Indigenous.
- You can be part of the change by choosing to become a teacher.
- You can make high school a much different experience for future generations of Indigenous learners.
- Look back at your own experiences.
- What did you enjoy about school? What made you cringe? What inspired you to be here today?
- As teachers, you can give back and shape our future leaders.

Conclusion:

- As a proud Nisga'a woman of the Eagle Clan, I want to see you soar.
- I want to remind you of the values of determination, perseverance and pushing for your goals.
- What do you envision for yourself?
- For me, it was never going back.
- I don't want my daughters to experience what I did.
- The key to success is not settling.
- Never give up.
- Never take no for an answer.
- You have a place as we build the best British Columbia.
- We're counting on you.
- Thank you.

Speaking Points

Lucas Hnidan

Hello everyone, thank you for having me here today. I am Lucas Hnidan. I am Gitxsan, and a member of the Lax'sel(frog) clan from Hazelton.

I've come to NWCC terrace campus for the automotive service tech foundations course after which I hope to pass to my level 1 apprentice, and build up my hours so I may continue on in my career.

I wanted to get into this trade because I feel like it will set me up for a stable career and it allows me to use my time and energy in a constructive and fulfilling way.

I enjoy learning about and working on vehicles.

Figuring out how they work and then being able to fix them provides me with a sense of pride and strength, enabling me to grow in confidence and experience.

This program is a really great way to learn and get hands in education.

What with all the equipment that you would find, and use, in the real world.

Such as lifts, jacks, tire machines, scan tools, impact guns, and torches. The course gives us real world experiences as well.

As a student just starting on my career it's an essential stepping stone to get comfortable with tools and procedure and equipment used in shops, so that you can be efficient and effective with your work.

It's fantastic to see all the new equipment and tools arriving in the shop that we, and future students, will be able to learn about and use.

This past week, we students have been sent out to local auto shops to shadow the red seal technicians.

It really is a great time to be able to watch how they work, help when needed and pick their brains about the vehicles they work on and all the knowledge they have accumulated over the years they've worked in the trade.

Going to these shops has only really been possible because of how locally orientated NWCC really is.

It's part of the community as well as all other campuses throughout the northwest.

It's made accessing education incredibly easy for anyone who wants to learn, just by the fact that it is locally operated and full of supportive staff who want to see you succeed.

Having NWCC here really is an incredible opportunity for so many people to start their career in the trades, and I believe that it has helped me start my journey, to becoming a journeyman.

Thank you, and have a nice day.



Speaking Notes
for

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

First Peoples Cultural Council Funding

**Royal BC Museum
Our Living Languages Exhibit
675 Belleville Street
Victoria
March 16, 2018
TIME: 11:15 a.m.**

Pre-brief: 11:00 a.m.

Information for Minister

Event Summary:

- Minister Fraser offers remarks at a celebratory event to highlight government's commitment to supporting the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages in B.C.
- B.C. is providing First Peoples' Cultural Council with a \$50M three-year funding grant, announced in Budget 2018.
- The First Peoples' Cultural Council is a First Nations-run Crown Corporation with a mandate to support the revitalization of Indigenous languages, arts, culture and heritage in British Columbia.
- In British Columbia, 203 First Nations communities have 34 languages, more than any other province in Canada, and over 90 dialects.

Action/Visual: Minister Fraser and Minister James with representatives of the First Peoples' Cultural Council and community language champions.

Venue: Royal BC Museum, Our Living Languages exhibit (third floor)

Audience: Indigenous language champions, members of First Peoples' Cultural Council Board, language partners, community members

Podium/microphone: Yes

Event Start Time: 11:15 a.m. (Pre-brief at 11:00 a.m.)

Length of speech: 3 minutes

Attire: Business

Emcee: Minister James

Media attendance: Media will be invited.

Other speakers:

- Elder Butch Dick, Songhees Nation
- Minister James, emcee
- Cynthia Callison, Chair First Peoples' Cultural Council
- Ray Harris, First Nations Summit
- Tracey Herbert, CEO First Peoples' Cultural Council
- Giselle Martin, youth language champion
- STOLꞤEL [Stol-quit] John Elliott, Tsartlip First Nation

Logistics:

- A registration desk will be set up in the museum lobby.
- Pre-brief will take place in the Newcombe Conference Hall (ground floor) at 11.00 am.
- A drum group – ANSWER (All Nations Strong Women for Education and Reconciliation) will play in the third floor lobby prior to the event starting.

Emergency contact: Events Director, Rick Devereux # (250) 812-1207

Key messages:

- The Province is providing \$50 million to the First Peoples' Cultural Council, and is working with the First Peoples on a plan to manage and allocate that funding in ways to make significant strides to revitalize B.C.'s Indigenous languages.
- Canada's colonial history had devastating outcomes for Indigenous communities across the province.
- If you take away someone's language, you take away their voice.

Time	Draft Event Itinerary
11:00 a.m.	<p>Pre-brief with dignitaries: Newcombe Conference Hall</p> <p>Drummers will be performing in lobby outside event space</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p>Drummers stop their performance</p> <p>Dignitaries assemble in the Our Living Languages exhibit</p>
11:15 a.m.	<p>Emcee: Minister James opens proceedings, introduces Elder Butch Dick, Songhees Nation: Offers welcome to territory and opening prayer (English/Lekwungn)</p>
11:25 a.m.	<p>Emcee Minister James thanks Butch Dick, offers brief remarks and introduces speakers</p> <p>Remarks by dignitaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister Fraser offers remarks (3 mins) Note: Minister Fraser's remarks to include acknowledgement of Minister Fleming Cynthia Callison, Chair, First Peoples' Cultural Council (1mins) Ray Harris, First Nations Summit (3 mins) Tracey Herbert, CEO First Peoples Cultural Council (3 mins) Giselle Martin, youth speaker – English/Nuu-cha-nulth (3 mins) Video message from National Chief Perry Bellegarde (2 mins) STOLØEŁ John Elliott, Tsartlip Nation – language song
11:45 a.m.	<p>Emcee Minister James thanks dignitaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photo op <p>Media avail Dial in available</p>
12:00 p.m.	<p>Event breaks for lunch – dignitaries and guests move to Newcombe Conference Hall</p> <p>Ministers depart if needed</p>
12:10 p.m.	<p>Lunch: Newcombe Conference Hall</p> <p>Cultural Performance during lunch</p>
1:10 p.m.	<p>Close</p>

SPEAKING NOTES:

- Good morning
- I'm delighted to be here on the territory of the Lekwungen [Lakwung-en] people and the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.
- Thank you to Elder, Butch Dick for your welcome to this wonderful territory and to this magnificent museum.
- Thank you to Tracey and Cynthia and all the representatives of the First Peoples' Cultural Council for being here today...
- And to the elected and hereditary chiefs, Elders and youth.
- I am honoured to be in your company this morning.
- I bring greetings from Premier Horgan and my colleague Minister Mark, who are unable to be here.
- I'd also like to acknowledge Rob Fleming, Minister of Education, who has joined us today for this important event.

- We're here today to highlight our commitment to Indigenous languages – through our recent \$50 million commitment to the First Peoples' Cultural Council.
- It's a significant investment.
- I'll add my voice to Carole's...
- I'm proud to be part of a government that recognizes that Indigenous languages have been under-funded for far too long.
- I'm very happy we are taking steps to address that.
- And I'm proud to work in partnership with the First Peoples' Cultural Council...
- Because partnership and collaboration is the best way to move forward to ensure the needed supports are there.
- This funding will build on the current work of the Council – which you'll hear more about shortly – and other parts of government.

- Like the work of the Ministry of Education and the First Nations Education Steering Committee.
- They are developing an Indigenous Learning policy for K-12, and curriculum for First Nations languages.
- 17 First Nations languages now have an approved curriculum for being taught in B.C. schools.
- And six more are in development.
- There's also great work going on at the post-secondary level.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training is currently working with academic and Indigenous partners to develop an Indigenous Language Fluency Degree.
- But more importantly, I want to talk about the 'why' of this new funding...
- Why this funding is so critical.

- Our colonial history tells us that when settlers arrived, there were calculated, state-sponsored attacks on Indigenous peoples and their cultures.
- It was done through government, the residential school system and the Indian Act.
- Language and culture were suppressed.
- Children were removed from their homes and lands.
- There were severe punishments – physical and mental – for Indigenous children and adults who tried to stay connected with their heritage...
- **All of these actions had devastating outcomes for Indigenous communities.**
- **If you take away someone's language, you take away their voice.**
- Many Indigenous languages have words that cannot be expressed in the English language.

- And when you take away a person's ability to express concepts, you take away their identity.
- Many years ago, I learned an important phrase from Ahousaht Hereditary Chief Earl Maquinna George.
- He passed a few years ago, but this teaching has never left me.
- 'Hishuk ish tsawalk' – 'all things are one – everything is connected.'
- This phrase has shaped my world view.
- But I am aware that it is a translation into my own vocabulary.
- It is constrained by the English language.
- My words cannot express the richness of the original phrase.
- It is a phrase that speaks to the depth of interconnection known to Ahousaht chiefs – whose people have lived on the land for millennia.
- 'Isaak' is another example.

- It is the Nuu-chah-nulth word for respect, but its meaning is so much deeper.
- “Respect” in English is the closest we can come.
- We are committed to supporting communities to ensure their languages thrive.
- They are too important to lose.
- Indigenous languages are a cause for celebration and pride – never for shame.
- **By investing in culture, in identity and pride, communities can begin to heal together...**
- **To address the fundamental social issues stemming from Canada’s history of colonization, residential schools and cultural extermination..**
- There’s a reason both the TRC’s Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples highlight the importance of language.

- If we want to pursue true reconciliation, this happens through strong partnerships with Indigenous communities...
- So that communities themselves are leaders in finding solutions to language preservation – to taking their languages back.
- This is powerful work and I look forward to working with the First Peoples' Cultural Council and with communities on this.
- 'Hishuk ish tsawalk.'
- It's an honour to be with you all today. Thank you for listening.
- Klecko, klecko.

-End-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

Nicola Watershed MOU

**Nicola Valley Institute of Technology – Front Foyer (TBC)
4155 Belshaw Street
Merritt, B.C.**

**Friday, March 23, 2018
1:00 – 3:00 pm (TBC)**

Word count: xxx

Information for Minister

Event: Signing of MOU with Nicola Valley First Nations

- Minister Fraser and the five Nicola Valley First Nations will sign the Nicola Valley Watershed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
- The MOU is an agreement to explore opportunities to engage governments and stakeholders in the management of the water resources in the Nicola Watershed.
- This includes a pilot project to collaboratively explore different watershed management approaches, governance structures and models of decision making.
- Minister Fraser will also present a gift from the Province of BC to Grand Chief Percy Joe in recognition of his recent retirement from 47 years of leading the Shackan First Nation.

LOCATION DIRECTIONS (from Kamloops Airport):

- From Kamloops Airport follow Tranquille Rd to Fortune Drive. Follow Fortune Drive until you cross Overlanders Bridge.
- After the Overlanders Bridge, turn right onto Victoria St West, followed by Summit Drive
- From Summit Drive, turn right onto Columbia Street W.
- Follow Columbia Street W onto Trans-Canada Highway/BC 5 South
- Follow TCH/BC-5 S to Merritt, exit 290 onto Voight Street
- From Voight Street turn right onto Belshaw Street.
- Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, 4155 Belshaw Street

Audience:

- Approximately 50 people (TBD)
- Chief, councils and staff from the five Nicola Valley First Nations
- Provincial government staff
- Local government, local associations
- Council of Forest Industries
- BC Cattlemen's Association
- BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative (co-funding the project)
- First Nations participants:
 - **Grand Chief Percy Joe** - Shackan Indian Band (newly retired)
 - **Chief Aaron Sumexheltza** (Shoe-ma-het-sah) - Lower Nicola Indian Band
 - **Chief Jordon Joe** - Shackan Indian Band (newly elected)
 - **Chief (Terrance) Lee Spahan** - Coldwater Indian Band
 - **Chief Harvey McLeod** - Upper Nicola Indian Band
 - **Chief Marcel Shackelly** - Nooaitch Indian Band

Media: Kamloops and Merritt media invited. Joint news release to be issued.

Merritt territory acknowledgement:

- Nlaka'pamux Nation (Ent-la-cap-um) and Upper Nicola Band

Elections:

- Shackan Indian Band held an election on March 16 and swore in their new council on March 20, 2018. Jordon Joe is the new Chief of Shackan.
- Grand Chief Percy Joe retired after 47 years as Chief of Shackan Indian Band.
- Lower Nicola Indian Band – election in 2019
- Nooaitch Indian Band – election in 2020
- Upper Nicola Band – election in 2020
- Coldwater Indian Band – election in 2021

MLAs proximate to the Nicola Valley/Merritt:

- Jackie Tegart, Fraser Nicola
- Linda Larson, Boundary-Similkameen

Event details and format (all TBC):

- Minister, First Nations leaders and guests to assemble in main foyer of the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology.
- Minister and Nicola First Nations leaders and Chiefs are seated at head tables.
- Prayer and drum ceremony open the event.
- Minister and five Chiefs sign 6 copies of the Nicola Watershed MOU.
- Minister and five Chiefs each say a few words regarding the MOU from the table. Wireless microphone available.
- Chiefs and Minister exchange gifts. One gift to the minister; minister presents one gift to each of the five Chiefs (cedar boxes).
- Minister reads letter of appreciation from Premier and presents gift (silver eagle pendant) on behalf of the Province to Grand Chief Percy Joe.
- Closing drum performance.

Speech theme:

- British Columbia's support for working in partnership with First Nations on water resource stewardship.

What does audience want to hear?

- B.C. is committed to working in partnership with the Nicola Valley First Nations on improving the health of the watershed.
- Nicola Valley First Nations are valued partners and have deep traditional knowledge of the watershed.
- This is a long-term undertaking, for which the active participation of stakeholders and other levels of government will be essential to success.
- This is another way B.C. is actively demonstrating its commitment to true, lasting reconciliation with First Nations in B.C.

DRAFT Agenda - Friday, March 23, 2018

		Emcee: John Chenoweth, NVIT associate vice-president
1:00 pm		Event start Emcee welcomes attendees to Nicola Watershed MOU signing and introduces the Elder for an opening prayer.
1:00-1:10	10 minutes	Opening prayer by Elder
1:10 pm		Emcee announces signing of Watershed MOU by Chiefs and Minister.
1:10-1:25	15 minutes	Signing of MOU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiefs and Minister each sign 6 copies of the MOU. • Photo opportunity during signings.
1:25 pm		Emcee invites Chiefs and Minister to say a few words about MOU. Wireless microphone available.
1:25 – 2:00	35 minutes	Speeches celebrating watershed MOU Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Harvey McLeod - Upper Nicola Indian Band • Chief Lee Spahan - Coldwater Indian Band • Chief Marcel Shackelly - Nooaitch Indian Band • Chief Jordan Joe - Shackan Indian Band • Chief Aaron Sumexheltza - Lower Nicola Indian Band • Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
2:00 – 2:10	10 minutes	Photo opportunity – group photo with signed MOUs
2:10 pm		Emcee thanks speakers and announces gift exchange.
2:10-2:25	15 minutes	Gift exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiefs present gift to Minister Fraser. • Minister Fraser presents gifts to each Chief on behalf of British Columbia.
2:25 – 2:55	30 minutes	Recognition of Grand Chief Percy Joe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister Fraser presents gift to Grand Chief Percy Joe on behalf of Province, and reads a letter from the Premier. • Five Chiefs will present a gift to Grand Chief Joe • Remarks from Grand Chief Percy Joe. • Drumming performance in recognition of Grand Chief Joe by his sons Len and Paul. <p>Photo opportunity.</p>
2:55 pm		Emcee thanks participants and offers closing remarks.
2:55 pm		Media interviews, as appropriate
2:55 –		Snacks and refreshments.

Site contact:

- Chris Walder 250-378-8403, watershed project lead, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, based in Merritt
- Alexandra Banford, MIRR chief negotiator, s.22
- Sheila Whittaker NVIT events - 250-378-3324, swhittaker@nvit.bc.ca
- Chief Aaron Sumexheltza (Shoe-ma-het-sah) – 250-315-7563

Background

- The Nicola Watershed Pilot Memorandum of Understanding between the Province of B.C. and the Nicola Bands is an agreement to explore opportunities to engage governments and stakeholders in the management of water resources in the Nicola Watershed.
- Parts of the watershed have experienced impacts to water quantity (e.g. recurring drought, and flooding), changes in water quality and impacts to the aquatic ecosystem in recent years.
- The provincial government has initiated discussions with the Nicola Bands to co-lead a Water Sustainability Act (WSA) project in the Nicola Watershed to identify actions that will address priority water problems.
- The pilot will provide the opportunity for the Province and First Nations to collaboratively explore different management approaches, governance structures and models of decision making.
- The pilot will build on the work that has been ongoing in the watershed by communities and individuals for a number of years.

Key messages:

- **Co-leadership with First Nations is essential to help ensure the health of the Nicola Watershed.**
- **We know changes are happening in the Nicola Watershed and we need to develop solutions together.**
- **Better governance will lead to sustainable management and improved health of the Nicola Watershed.**
- **Improving the health of the watershed is a long-term undertaking that will be built on a robust collaborative partnership with First Nations and with strong participation of stakeholders within the watershed.**
- **The MOU demonstrates the government of B.C.'s commitment to true, lasting reconciliation, and to fully adopting the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**

Nicola Watershed MOU

- Thank you for inviting me to your community and the territory of Ent-la-cap-um First Nation and Upper Nicola Band.
- I'd like to acknowledge Elders and matriarchs who are with us today.
- It's wonderful to be here with the leaders of the Nicola Valley communities:
 - Grand Chief Percy Joe
 - Chief Aaron Sumexheltza (Shoe-ma-het-sah)
 - Chief Lee Spahan
 - Chief Harvey McLeod
 - Chief Marcel Shackelly
 - Chief Jordan Joe
- I am pleased that a number of Provincial government staff have joined us for today's celebration...

- I know the Chiefs, their staff and our provincial government staff from a number of Ministries have worked hard to see this agreement become reality.
- Thank you for your commitment.
- I want to thank the BC Freshwater Legacy Initiative for being our funding partners.
- I'd also like to thank the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology for agreeing to host this event.
- They've been a tremendous help and I thank them for that.
- *[Also acknowledge Mayor Neil Menard and MLA Jackie Tegart if in attendance.]*
- I also bring greetings from Premier Horgan, from Environment Minister George Heyman, and from Forests and Lands Minister Doug Donaldson.
- It has been a great honour for me to be here today to sign this MOU on behalf of the Province.
- We know changes have been happening in the Nicola Watershed.

- In recent years, parts of the watershed have seen drought and flooding... changes in water quality... and declining health of the watershed overall.
- This is gravely concerning for all of us.
- There is no doubt about the urgent need to come up with solutions together.
- Working in partnership with the Nicola Valley First Nations is essential to improving the long-term health of the watershed.
- Our agreement opens the door to collaborate and explore different approaches and ways to make decisions together.
- It acknowledges the valuable traditional knowledge that First Nations have of their watershed, lands and environment.
- This knowledge will ground how we restore the health of the watershed for future generations.
- Ours is a commitment to work as partners, government-to-government.

- We are taking an exciting and important step forward today – as we begin to build a reconciliation pathway.
- This MOU allows us to learn together...
- To develop shared understanding of water – which is such a fundamental element of life.
- We know there is a deep interest from First Nations in doing things differently, and we have been listening.
- I'm proud to say, our government is focused on a new relationship with First Nations and all Indigenous peoples...
- ... One built on partnership, respect, and recognition of the inherent rights of Indigenous communities.
- Our work must live up to the values of the United Nations Declaration... the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls-to-action... and the Tsilhqot'in decision.
- Through this new project, we will take action together to address problems in the watershed.
- I understand that a lot of great work has been going on in the watershed already.

- A number of communities and people have been working hard to improve the health of the watershed.
- Through this agreement, we want to build on this past work...
- To move forward from this foundation.
- Together, we'll explore ways to engage other governments and stakeholders...
- To figure out our approaches for managing water resources in the watershed together.
- Those of you here today from stakeholder groups and local government...
- Your ideas and active involvement will be essential to good solutions – to the success of the project.
- The Nicola Stock Breeders and BC Cattlemens' Association will be important partners.
- There are opportunities to build on the past engagement with the Nicola Community Watershed Round Table...

- And of course the ongoing collaborative work within the watershed that is being coordinated thru the Fraser Basin Council.
- The focus of our government is building a true and lasting vision of reconciliation, in partnership with all Indigenous peoples.
- That is what we have here today...
- ...and that is what we have committed to, through our strong government-to-government partnership.
- Again, I want to thank you for inviting me to this celebration.
- It's a great privilege and honour.
- Thank you.

-END-

Turn page

[After the gift exchange]

Honouring Grand Chief Percy Joe

- I'd like to take a moment to recognize and honour Grand Chief Percy Joe.
- The Grand Chief lives by the idea that a Chief must serve and protect the people.
- This approach is reflected in his many years in the Canadian army...
- Before coming home in 1971 – on his father's request – to serve as Chief.
- 47 years of guidance and wisdom has benefited the entire Nicola Valley.
- A leader by example...
- A knowledge keeper of his peoples' traditions and language...

- A man with a great passion for education and learning.
- The Grand Chief makes sure the children of his community are grounded in their heritage as they go out into the world.
- He recognizes the strength in partnerships, in working together.
- The Grand Chief was a founding member of what would become the Nicola Tribal Association – a powerful advocate for protecting Indigenous rights and culture.
- One of his proudest achievements – Grand Chief Joe is one of the five original leaders who founded this college where we are standing now.
- His legacy is astounding and an inspiration to all.
- I understand from his son Lennard that the Grand Chief thinks of the Nicola Valley as his house...
- ...and there are lots of guests that come to the house.
- He lets the guests know they're welcome, and he takes care of his guests ...

- ... but he also lets them know they're not allowed to move around the furniture.
- I know the Grand Chief has retired, but I suspect his community will continue to benefit from his energy and wisdom.
- In recognition of your years of service to your community, I'd like to read this message from the Premier, and present you with a gift on behalf of the people of British Columbia.

-END-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**Qualicum First Nation Afterschool Care Centre – Ground
Breaking Ceremony**

**Qualicum Beach
303 Salish Way, Qualicum First Nation**

**March 9, 2018
11 am to 12:30 pm**

Information for Minister

Event: Ground breaking of new Qualicum First Nation new Afterschool Care Centre.

Audience:

- Qualicum First Nation Chief and Council
 - Chief Michael Recalma
 - Councillor, Tanna Weir
 - Councillor, Donna Kennedy
 - Qualicum First Nation Band Members and Elders
- Michelle Stilwell MLA, Parksville Qualicum Beach
- Members of School District 69
 - Rollie Koop, Superintendent SD 69
 - Barry Kurland, Bowser Elementary School Trustee SD 69
 - Rosie McLeod-Shannon, District Principal Indigenous Education SD 69
 - Brian Worthen, Vice-Principal Bowser Elementary School SD 69

Judy Malcolm, Manager of Building Learning Together Parksville

Sue Luoma, ECEBC Representative Nanaimo Branch

Scott Beam, Executive Director Pacificare Child Care Resource and Referral

Bill Veenhof, Director Electoral Area H Regional District of Nanaimo

Betsy Poole, President Lighthouse Business Association

- Nanoose (Snaw-naw-as) First Nation Chief and Council
 - Chief Brent Edwards
 - Councillor, Lawrence Mitchell
 - Councillor, Gordon Edwards
 - Councillor, Chris Bob
- Cindy Anderberg, Licensing Officer Child Care Licensing
- Bill Yoachim, Director Kw'umut Lelum Child and Family Services
- Alan Macdonald, Associate Executive Director Kw'umut Lelum Child and Family Services
- Bruce Underwood, Executive Director Coast Salish Employment and Training Society
- Wayne Besler, Project Manager
- Jeff Kizuk, Director of Operations, Ministry of Children and Family Development- Parksville
- Paula Thomas, Family Services Team Leader, Ministry of Children and Family Development – Parksville
- Ian Hay, Intake and Resources Team Leaders, Ministry of Children and Family Development - Parksville

Media:

- CHEK TV News
- CTV
- Parksville Qualicum News
- Eyes on BC Magazine
- The Beach Radio Station

Speech theme:

- Funding and increased child care spaces

Agenda:

Time	Details
11:00	Welcome address by Chief Michael Recalma who will introduce Minister Fraser
	Minister Fraser speaks (5 min)
	Emcee ... XXX
	Pam Moore, ECE Manager (thank you's)
	Blessing of the ground ceremony by Band Members and Elders
	Ground breaking photo op
	Lunch will follow at the Qualicum First Nation Band Hall

Site contact: Pam Moore, 250 757-8092

Qualicum First Nation Afterschool Care – Ground Breaking Ceremony

Introduction

- Thank you Chief Michael Recalma, of Qualicum First Nation.
- I'd like to acknowledge the Elders, Snaw-naw-as Chief and Council and all community members who have joined us here today.
- I am grateful to be here today, in the territory of the Qualicum First Nation, to help break ground on this new afterschool care centre.
- Our kids are the future of our province – they will be our leaders, our entrepreneurs, and those who care for and build our communities.
- The care we give our kids in their early years will have deep and lasting effects.
- By creating more quality, licensed child-care spaces everyone benefits.
- It's about peace of mind for parents and access to safe, quality and affordable child care.
- I am thrilled to see shovels in the ground.
- Once completed, this afterschool care centre will help a lot of families.
- Parents can go back to work, without having to worry about child care for their young children.

- It will allow children to get the best start and an opportunity to succeed.
- This investment today is part of our government's commitment to help families with thousands of new licensed child-care spaces throughout B.C.
- It is part of the province's Child Care Major Capital Funding program.
- Families in 52 communities throughout B.C. are benefiting from 103 projects that will create more than 3,800 licensed child-care spaces.
- This funding focuses on an area of great need:
 - Infant and toddler spaces;
 - spaces co-located on school grounds or in a community hub; and,
 - Inclusive spaces in child-development centres.
- More than half of these spaces are being delivered by non-profit organizations...
- And 20% are from Indigenous child-care providers like the Qualicum Child Care Centre.
- Our government has committed to build 22,000 new licensed child-care spaces in the next three years, including more than ever before for Indigenous communities.
- By doing so, we are committing to one of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action...

- ... To develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Indigenous families.
- By promoting and supporting Indigenous culture we help produce a stronger generation, this is especially important to children.
- If children know where they are from and are rooted in their culture, they will be successful.
- I look forward to seeing the progress on the building of this new afterschool care centre.
- I know the children who attend will enjoy the new environment where they can play, discover and learn.
- Thank you.

-END-



**Speaking Notes
for**

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

**Ideafest Signature Event
The role of the sacred in Indigenous law and
reconciliation**

**Alix Goolden Hall
907 Pandora Ave.,
Victoria B.C.**

**March 8, 2018
7 – 9 pm**

Word count: 689

Information for Minister

Event: Ideafest Signature Event | The role of the sacred in Indigenous law and reconciliation

Ideafest is UVic's week-long festival of research, art and innovation, running from March 5–10, 2018. This year's festival features over 40 outstanding events on topics ranging from climate change and chamber music to Indigenous law and antibiotic resistance. All events are free and open to the public.

Audience:

- Members of the public
- James Papadopolous, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training
- Jessica Wood, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
- Elder Dr. Skip Dick, Tsartlip First Nation
- Elder Christine Welsh, Métis
- Jeremy Webber, Dean of Law
- John Borrows, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law, Faculty of Law (speaker)
- Val Napoleon, Law Foundation Professor of Aboriginal Justice and Governance, Faculty of Law (speaker)

Media:

- TBC

Speech theme:

- Opening remarks at Ideafest Signature Event: The role of the sacred in Indigenous law and reconciliation.

It is often said that Indigenous peoples' relationship to the land—and Indigenous peoples' law—is sacred. What does "sacred" mean in this context? What should it convey to non-Indigenous Canadians when they engage with Indigenous peoples? How can you understand another person's sense of the sacred?

Two of UVic's leading Indigenous scholars, John Borrows and Val Napoleon, will discuss the sacred in Indigenous law and reconciliation. They are key figures in UVic's proposed dual-degree program in Canadian law and Indigenous law. In this conversation, they will explore the nature of Indigenous law and pose important—and challenging—questions about the role of the sacred.

Agenda:

Time	Details
7:00 pm	Dean of Law, Jeremy Webber calls the room to attention and invites Elder Dr. Skip Dick to provide a welcome to the territory.
7:05 pm	Skip Dick provides welcome
7:10 pm	Dean Webber thanks Skip for his welcome and provides opening remarks. Dean Webber will speak to our gratitude to the Government of BC for their funding of the Indigenous Law Program, which has been developed by John Borrows and Val Napoleon, the featured speakers at the event.
7:15 pm	Dean Webber calls upon Minister Fraser to provide his remarks
7:20 pm	Dean Webber thanks Minister Fraser for his remarks and turns the discussion over to John Borrows and Val Napoleon.

Site contact: Jennifer Vornbrock cell: 250 812-6175

Introduction

- Hello and thank you Dean Webber for the introduction...
- And thank you Elder Dr. Skip Dick of the Tsartlip First Nation for the welcoming message.
- I deeply appreciate being able to be here with you tonight.
- I too would like to acknowledge that we are gathered in the territory of the Legwunken people – the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- As a society and country, we have a lot of work to do to transform the colonial legacy present in the policies and practices in our shared legal system.
- I believe this work is critical if we are to create conditions of justice and equality for Indigenous peoples – which I am sure we can all agree is long overdue.

- I am deeply moved that tonight's focus is to explore and contemplate the spiritual dimensions of this work.
- This is an aspect of legal knowledge and transformation that this field is ready for – is in need of.
- Many years ago, I learned an important phrase from Ahousaht First Nation Ha'wiih' [ha-wii-ah] Hereditary Chief Earl Maquinna George.
- 'Hishuk ish tsawalk' – 'all things are one' – everything is connected.'
- This teaching has been passed to the Ha'wilth [haw-will-th] – Hereditary Chief's in Nuuchah-nulth territory where I serve the constituency of the Mid Island-Pacific Rim.
- It's just one teaching of many, from a rich and dynamic peoples, that have such deep meaning and application.
- In Nuuchah-nulth territory I am humbled with how the Maa-nulth nations came to an agreement with the province...

- And now have their hereditary leaders governing their ha'houlthee [ha-who-th-ee], their traditional territories, once again.
- Many of you will know words for unique Indigenous concepts and knowledge within your own language and territory that do not exist in English or French.
- For example, the word “iisaak” – shared with me in Nuu chah nulth – very broadly means respect.
- Or rather, “respect with caring.”
- But I also came to learn that the word “issaak” has a meaning even deeper than that.
- Like many words and phrases Indigenous language speakers have shared with me – they are teachings with a deeper and expansive meaning.
- The words that exist without singular translation – in the many languages of B.C.’s first peoples – provide important tools and wisdom, as we build a shared vision of reconciliation.

- That's why in our first budget, released last month, our government committed \$50 million to help revitalize Indigenous languages.
- As I have spoken with Indigenous people from all around this province, I have heard over and over how important language is to the wellbeing of Indigenous peoples and communities...
- How knowing your own language strengthens the culture and health of a community...
- How it helps connect children to their heritage, community values and – importantly – the lands they come from.
- Our government is committed to reconciliation on all fronts...
- To building true government-to-government relationships with Indigenous peoples...
- Relationships based on respect and recognition.
- And there is optimism that we are embarking on real change in B.C. to substantially improve the lives of Indigenous people.

- We are at a unique moment in our political history, where we are strongly aligned with the federal government in our commitments to reconciliation.
- I have heard extensively of the hope this has stirred among Indigenous leaders – from hereditary chiefs and matriarchs, elected leaders, Métis peoples and Indigenous peoples living in urban communities.
- I have also heard the skepticism and caution.
- Which I acknowledge and understand.
- Look at the past 10 years... 50 years... 150 years of history.
- Look at what's happened in the last month with recent court decisions.
- We recognize, that as a province, there is a long way to go to build trust.

- Part of the way is working with Indigenous people on how to integrate the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People in ways that are seen and felt, and not just heard.
- We're building a reconciliation framework that will start to address this issue.
- The transformation we're looking for also requires significant investments across the board.
- That's what you see in our budget.
- Affordable housing...languages...child care...mental health and addictions...reducing poverty...improving access to justice...and revitalizing the environmental assessment process...
- More than \$250 million over the next three years invested in Indigenous priorities, and reconciliation...
- In collaboration and consultation with Indigenous peoples.
- An important part of reconciliation is building understanding and respect for Indigenous culture and ways of knowing.

- Exploring the role of the sacred in Indigenous law, as we are tonight, will only help to strengthen that understanding.
- Our speakers tonight, John Burrows and Val Napoleon, are two key figures in the development of the new joint-degree Indigenous law program at UVIC.
- While I want to acknowledge that this program was also made possible as the result of a \$2-million investment in our recent budget...
- I mostly want to acknowledge John and Val for their tireless work to inspire not only school, or a Minister...
- But a discipline of law never before acknowledged, taught or affirmed in a school in this way before.
- It is truly ground breaking – the first in the world – and we are honoured to be supporting this inspired calling.
- The intensive study of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous law will allow people to work fluently across both realms.

- It is a vital part of rebuilding Indigenous law together to meet today's challenges.
- Increased education in Indigenous law can act as an agent for change.
- I expect many of you here tonight know first-hand how long and difficult the road to self-determination and justice has been for Indigenous people in Canada...
- And the legal system has been used to make that journey harder.
- In 1927, Canada amended the Indian Act to make it illegal to obtain funds or legal counsel to advance Aboriginal Title cases.
- And up until the 1950s, First Nations people were stripped of their Indian status, losing any supports they had, and the right to live with their communities on reserve, if they became a lawyer or obtained a university degree.
- I can't tell you how much I am looking forward to the day – in the not so far off future – when new Indigenous law degree graduates enter our judicial system.

- I look forward to the day when we see Indigenous law and non-Indigenous law co-exist in the legal landscape.
- And I look forward to the day when all British Columbians can understand the deep meaning of 'Hishuk ish tsawalk.'
- Slowly, but surely, we are seeing progress toward recognition and reconciliation of Indigenous issues in British Columbia.
- I am very interested to learn more on the role of the sacred in Indigenous law.
- We have tremendous Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars here to share perspectives on this topic.
- It should be an enlightening evening.
- Thank you so much for creating the evening, the new Indigenous law school, and most of all the incoming classes of lawyers who will help bring about a brighter and more just future.
- Thank you again for having me here – it's a great pleasure.

-END-