

Cooling, Karen LBR:EX

From: Cooling, Karen PREM:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:27 AM
To: Moran, Roseanne LASS:EX
Cc: Vasilev, Susan LASS:EX; Wall, Selina LASS:EX
Subject: FW: EMBARGO UNTIL 1230PM - Province names Fair Wages commission members - MLA PKG - Sept 25, 2017
Attachments: EMBARGO UNTIL 1230PM - Province names Fair Wages commission members - MLA PKG - Sept 25, 2017.docx; infographic.png

Hi Roseanne:

This is for all MLAs.

Could you please advise me of the distribution process?

Thanks

Karen

From: McCaffrey, Julianne GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:53 AM
To: Cooling, Karen PREM:EX
Subject: EMBARGO UNTIL 1230PM - Province names Fair Wages commission members - MLA PKG - Sept 25, 2017

For MLAs

MLA PACKAGE

FAIR WAGES COMMISSION

ANNOUNCEMENT ON THURS. OCT 5th @ 12:30 PM; PRESS THEATRE

Establishing a panel to review and report on how B.C. should increase minimum wage and how to close the gap between the minimum wage and livable wages in B.C.

Minister of Labour Harry Bains will officially launch the Fair Wages Commission naming three people who will develop recommendations on how to implement the \$15-per-hour minimum wage with regular, measured and predictable increases and how to close the gap between the minimum wage and living wages.

- Professor Marjorie Griffin Cohen will oversee the work of the Commission as chair, with Ken Peacock and Ivan Limpricht as members. These members bring a balance of experience and knowledge, representing both employer and worker interests on the independent commission.

The work of the Fair Wages Commission is part of the government's commitment to making life more affordable for people. It will immediately engage in consultations to gather feedback and undertake cross-jurisdictional research that will help inform the Commission's recommendations on how to implement the \$15/hr minimum wage and how to close the gap between the minimum wage and living wages.

The Province has budgeted \$490,000 over two years for the commission and its operations.

Establishing an at-arm's length Fair Wages Commission is part of the Confidence and Supply Agreement between the BC NDP and BC Green caucuses. The Commission will deliver its first report with recommendations within 90 days of its first meeting.

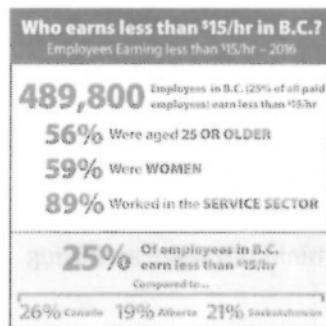
KEY MESSAGES

- We announced we would give B.C.'s lowest-paid workers a long overdue raise.
 - First by making good on an immediate 50 cent increase (Sept 15)
 - Furthering it with our own commitment to keep increasing it to a \$15/hr minimum wage
 - Cementing that promise by creating the Commission to determine how best to get there
- We welcome the Commission's leadership and guidance in providing the pathway to how and when we increase to a \$15/hr minimum wage.
 - Because British Columbia's lowest-paid workers are overdue for a raise
 - Because B.C.'s minimum wage remained stagnate (frozen 10 years during the Gordon Campbell era) while costs of living increased, which in turn left far too many British Columbians struggling to make ends meet

- Because adjusted for inflation, our minimum wage is barely higher than its value in 1980, yet over the same four decades, the average productivity of workers has increased dramatically
- The Commission's job will be to determine a pathway to a \$15/hour minimum wage.
 - Will consult with and receive submissions from stakeholders
 - eg. economists, trade unions, small business and youth workers
 - Will also explore other minimum wages, like liquor server and farm worker piece rates
 - Will also explore the discrepancy between the minimum wage and living wages
- This is an election platform promise and priority: make life more affordable for British Columbians.
- Increasing minimum wage is only one way we will help make life more affordable for families.

SOCIAL MEDIA

See attached infographic to increase twitter profile



Hashtags to monitor/use: #BCpoli, #BC, #MinimumWage, #fightfor15

Stakeholders @mentions to monitor/use:

- BC Chamber of Commerce @BCChamberofCom
- Federation of Labour @BCFed
- Restaurants Cda (Western) @RestaurantsCA
- Business Council of BC @BizCouncilBC

Tweet suggestions:

Fair Wages Commission starts work to set the path to \$15 #MinimumWage for BCers w/ chair & members now in place #BC #Economy <https://news.gov.bc.ca/15549>

Chair and members named to Fair Wages Commission, work starts today to put #BC on the path to \$15/hr #MinimumWage <https://news.gov.bc.ca/15549>

Thanks to Fair Wages Commission's new chair & members for work ahead to increase BC's #MinimumWage to \$15 <https://news.gov.bc.ca/15549>

Fair Wages Commission officially launched & at work to move #BC to a \$15 #MinimumWage
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/15549>

Who earns less than \$15/hr in B.C.?

Employees Earning less than \$15/hr – 2016

489,800 Employees in B.C. (25% of all paid employees) earn less than \$15/hr

56% Were aged **25 OR OLDER**

59% Were **WOMEN**

89% Worked in the **SERVICE SECTOR**

25% Of employees in B.C. earn less than \$15/hr

Compared to...

26% Canada	19% Alberta	21% Saskatchewan
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