



SEP 15 2014

Reference: 184073

Linda Larson
Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility to the
Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation
Parliament Buildings E Annex
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Linda:

Congratulations on your appointment as Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility to the Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation.

Our government has made a commitment for British Columbia to be a leader in reducing barriers and increasing accessibility for people and families with disabilities. At the BC Accessibility Summit on June 16, 2014, our Premier released Accessibility 2024—a 10 year action plan to make BC the most progressive province in Canada by 2024.

The work you do will support me in successfully delivering on my mandate, which includes considering the findings of the disabilities public consultation process and making recommendations to Cabinet on ways to improve the lives of British Columbians living with a disability.

Your mandate as Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility is to work with me to align stakeholders to support the implementation of Accessibility 2024.

Your overall responsibilities will focus on:

- Working with local governments to promote awareness of Accessibility 2024 and encourage participation towards increasing accessibility in municipalities around British Columbia.
- Liaising with small business owners through the Small Business Roundtable to engage them around the work of the Presidents Group and in support Accessibility 2024 to improve employment and the customer experience for people with disabilities in British Columbia.

The Accessibility 2024 Building Blocks you will specifically focus on will include:

- Inclusive Communities.
- Accessible Build Environment.
- Employment—focussing on engagement with the business community. .../2

Ministry of Social Development and
Social Innovation

Office of the Minister

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Victoria BC V8V 1X4

The immediate tasks in 2014/15 will include:

- Supporting the success of Disability Employment Month in British Columbia by supporting me with a series of events with employers across the province and engagement with the Presidents Group and Ministers Council.
- Supporting a successful workshop on accessibility at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention on September 23, 2014.
- Supporting the development and issuance of accessible community guidelines in 2015 to support municipalities to self-access their relative state of inclusiveness for persons with disabilities.
- Assisting me to ensure that the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) filing season is a success in October 2014 by representing me in a range of community events supporting uptake of RDSPs and Community Living Month.
- Supporting the marketing and uptake of government's new accessible technology program to support businesses to hire more persons with disabilities.
- Supporting the ongoing development of BC's tourism product focused on accessible tourism including championing the upgrading of Visitor Centres and Rest Stops in BC to improve accessibility.

Support to the Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility will be provided by the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation through its Minister's office.

Thank you for your support of this important government priority to make British Columbia the most progressive disability jurisdiction in Canada, and your support and effort to help me fulfill this mandate.

Sincerely,



Don McRae
Minister