

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 2:29 PM
To: Dawn Hemingway
Cc: Harrington, Molly SDSP:EX; Mable Elmore
Subject: Re: Connecting Wed Morning Prior to PR meeting

Why don't we aim to meet at 9 on Weds morning? That gives an hour to get set up and organized. The Minister has a 9 am meeting so won't be able to join us till just before 10 but we can run through things again before he arrives.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 12, 2017, at 4:39 PM, Dawn Hemingway <Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca> wrote:

Hi Mabel: Just checking about where and what time you'd like to meet on Wednesday morning to do a division of labour/final look at the agenda for the meeting.

Leah and Molly: Wasn't sure who to copy in re connecting for a final look at how we'll handle the meeting. I can't get to Vancouver until late into the evening so, unfortunately, it would have to be Wed morning just prior to the meeting start. I can be reached on/via my cell -s.22
s.22 Once in Van, I'll be staying at the s.15 , Have to be there for a Conference so just booked additional nights at gov rate.

Best Dawn

Dawn Hemingway
Associate Professor & Chair
UNBC School of Social Work
Leadership Team, Northern FIRE/
Women North Network
(250-960-5694)

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 2:28 PM
To: Mable Elmore
Subject: Fwd: Connecting Wed Morning Prior to PR meeting

Hi Mable

Just noticed Dawn sent this to your public account.

Leah

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dawn Hemingway <Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca>
Date: November 12, 2017 at 4:39:34 PM PST
To: "Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca" <Mable.Elmore.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: "Squance, Leah SDPR:EX" <Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>, "Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX" <Molly.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Connecting Wed Morning Prior to PR meeting

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Leadership Team, Northern FIRE/
Women North Network
(250-960-5694)

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2017 9:57 AM
To: 'Dawn Hemingway'; Elmore, Mable
Subject: RE: child care at Nov 15 meeting

I believe the child care problem has been addressed, which is great news. We can confirm on the call this afternoon.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn Hemingway [<mailto:Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2017 3:50 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Elmore, Mable
Subject: Re: child care at Nov 15 meeting

I'm not sure of our possibilities, but rather than having children attend (including the potential of additional parents wishing to bring children coupled with children having to sit through a long meeting which presumably wouldn't be enjoyable for them), could we provide some child-minding, if needed? Just my quick thoughts.

Dawn Hemingway
Associate Professor & Chair
UNBC School of Social Work
Leadership Team, Northern FIRE/
Women North Network
(250-960-5694)

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 5:54 PM
To: Elmore, Mable; Dawn Hemingway
Subject: child care at Nov 15 meeting

Hi co-chairs,

One of the committee members, s.22
She's asked the ministry if she can bring s.22 to the meeting. I can look into whether we can assist in finding s.22, but wanted to seek your input. I know it's not unusual at labour and other community meetings to have kids present, but wasn't sure how you'd feel about that in this instance.

Please let me know your thoughts and we'll respond accordingly.

Thanks!

Leah

Leah Squance
Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
C: 250-882-1445 W: 250-387-1428
E: leah.squance@gov.bc.ca<<mailto:leah.squance@gov.bc.ca>>

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 4:19 PM
To: 'Dawn Hemingway'; Elmore, Mable
Subject: FW: Materials for PRAF call tomorrow afternoon
Attachments: Advisory Forum Member Bios.docx; Agenda_Nov 15.docx; TOR_Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction FINAL.docx; Speaking Notes_Minister_Nov 15.docx; Speaking Notes_Co-Chairs_Nov15.docx

Hi both,

Some materials for our conference call tomorrow afternoon at 3:45.

Talk to you then.

Leah

From: Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 4:13 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Cc: McGaghey Jones, Stacey SDSI:EX; Borowko, Whitney SDSI:EX
Subject: Materials for PRAF call tomorrow afternoon

Hi Leah,



Here is stuff for the call tomorrow:

- Draft Speaking notes for the co-chairs and MSS
- Materials emailed out to Forum Members:
 - o Agenda (added welcome by First Nations Elder – I think we need this for at least the first meeting – MIRR is getting someone for us)
 - o TOR of the Advisory Forum
 - o Forum Member Bios

Thanks Molly

ADVISORY FORUM ON POVERTY REDUCTION

NAME	BIOGRAPHY
<p>Mable Elmore, MLA – co-chair Parliamentary Secretary</p> 	<p>Mable Elmore was first elected MLA for Vancouver-Kensington in 2009, when she made history by becoming the first MLA of Filipino heritage. She was re-elected in both 2013 and 2017. In July 2017, Premier John Horgan named Mable Elmore as the Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction.</p> <p>Elmore has long been an advocate for social causes. Since her high school years, she had helped organize campaigns regarding social justice issues and the peace movement. After university, she volunteered and then worked at the BC Philippine Women Centre. Throughout her life, she has worked tirelessly on a wide range of immigrant, social justice, and workers' rights issues. Mable is passionate about building community engagement and connecting British Columbians around important issues.</p> <p>In previous terms, she served as the Spokesperson for Temporary Foreign Workers and Immigration, as Official Opposition spokesperson for ICBC and was the Deputy Spokesperson for Finance.</p>
<p>Dawn Hemingway – co-chair</p> 	<p>Dawn Hemingway has decades of advocacy, research, and leadership experience focused on the issues of poverty. Among her many titles, she is the Chair of the University of Northern British Columbia's School of Social Work, where she is also an Associate Professor. Her teaching and research centre on poverty-related issues such as aging, disability, northern/remote health, community organizing, women's health and social policy development.</p> <p>Professor Hemingway brings a profound understanding of how poverty affects British Columbia's northern and remote communities. She works with more than a dozen organizations committed to helping vulnerable populations—experience that will serve her well as she helps shape the Poverty Reduction Strategy. She is the co-Chair of Prince George Community Partners Addressing Homelessness, a group that brings together more than 30 community agencies working with northerners who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. She also serves on the Council of Advisors to the BC Seniors' Advocate.</p> <p>In recognition of her work, Professor Hemingway has received the following awards: the Bridget Moran Advancement of Social Work in Northern Communities Award (2003); Today's Woman Forging Our Future with Education & Leader in Knowledge Advancement Awards (2006); the Canadian Association of Social Workers Distinguished Service Award (2009); and, the UNBC Excellence in Service Award (2015).</p>

<p>Neil Belanger</p> 	<p>Neil Belanger is the executive director of the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society or BCANDS, an award winning, Indigenous disability and health organization founded in 1991, and the only stand-alone Indigenous organization of its type in Canada. Neil is a member of the Lax Se el (Frog) Clan of the Gitxsan First Nation and has over 30 years of experience working with marginalized populations within both British Columbia and Saskatchewan.</p> <p>In addition to his position at BCANDS, Neil has and continues to serve in a variety of advisory roles to government and community-based organizations. Some of these relationships include: board member of Inclusion BC, member of the Disability without Poverty Network, member of the Minister's Council on Employment and Accessibility; member of the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) Action Group, member of the Assistant Deputy Minister's Supporting Increased Participation (SIP) Committee, member of the BC Parks Access and Persons with Disabilities Committees, and former chairperson of Community Living BC's Indigenous Advisory Committee. In April 2017, Neil presented on Indigenous disability issues to the United Nation's International Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Geneva, during Canada's first 5 year review since signing the Convention (CRPD).</p> <p>s.22</p>
<p>Natika Bock</p> 	<p>Taanishi. My name is Natika Bock and I am honoured to have been appointed to the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction. s.22</p> <p>s.22</p> <p>I am the Indigenous Youth Housing Manager at Lii Michif Otipemisiwak Family and Community Services (LMO), which is a delegated Métis Child Welfare Agency. I am the chair of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Community Advisory Board and co-chair of the HomeFree Housing and Supports Committee. I am currently leading "Kikékyelc: A Place of Belonging", which is a culturally safe, affordable, and supported 31 unit housing development for Indigenous Elders and youth (16 – 26 years) who are or who were previously associated with the provincial child welfare system. In BC, LMO is the first child service agency to develop and operate their own housing, and is one of few Indigenous housing projects to offer a continuum of housing for youth transitioning out of care. My work is dedicated to improving the outcomes for youth ageing out, as there is a strong correlation between child welfare services and homelessness, addictions, poor mental health, crime, incarceration and death. Maarsi poor toon taan.</p>

<p>Cheryl Casimer</p> 	<p>Cheryl Casimer was elected in June 2016 for a second consecutive three-year term on the First Nations Summit Task Group (political executive), which is mandated to carry out specific tasks related to Aboriginal Title and Rights negotiations with British Columbia and Canada and other issues of common concern to First Nations in British Columbia.</p> <p>Ms. Casimer is a citizen of the Ktunaxa Nation and is from the community of ʔaąam, located near Cranbrook in the southeastern corner of BC. Ms. Casimer has served in many leadership roles over the past two decades and is a longstanding advocate for First Nations title, rights and treaty rights, recognition and reconciliation, and closing the socio-economic gaps faced by Indigenous communities. She is committed to building better bridges of understanding between neighboring cultures.</p> <p>Ms. Casimer is a former Chief and Councillor of the ʔaąam First Nation. She was also previously employed as the Director of Treaty, Lands & Resources for the Ktunaxa Treaty Council. She has served on numerous boards and committees over the past 20 years, including one term as Co-Chair of the First Nations Summit (2002-2004) and one term as a board member of the BC Assembly of First Nations. She also previously served as a board member and President of the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Child and Family Services Society (KKCFSS).</p>
<p>Queenie Choo</p> 	<p>Queenie Choo was an immigrant 37 years ago to Canada. She was appointed as the first CEO to commission a culturally appropriate care home in Edmonton. In 2010 Queenie was appointed as the Executive Director responsible for redesigning the home and community care at Alberta Health Services. She has a deep understanding of poverty in community where most vulnerable people are facing and experience in developing strategies for poverty reduction.</p> <p>In 2012 Queenie was appointed as the CEO of S.U.C.C.E.S.S., the largest non-profit social service organization in B.C. She understands the hardship and challenges facing immigrants and vulnerable people. She has led the teams to develop many innovative programs in the area of skills and training, employment, settlement, language, family & youth for newcomers as well as seniors care and housing.</p> <p>Queenie is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal for her significant contributions to the community and the Excellence in Nursing Administration award. She is recognized as one of the 35 most influential women in BC, top 25 Canadian Immigrants and nominee for YWCA Women of Distinction Award. In 2016, Queenie was named as the 50 most powerful people in Vancouver by Vancouver Magazine.</p>
<p>Shelley Decoste</p> 	<p>Shelley DeCoste is a well-known leader in BC's Self Advocacy Movement. She started the DIVERSABILITY campaign in 2012 and now has followers across BC. Shelley says, "If you break down the word DISabled, you get not able. If you break down DIVERSABILITY, you get different, but able. To create a better understanding we can begin with something as simple as changing our language." Shelley is an inspirational speaker, trainer and mentor and has presented on Inclusive Employment and DiversAbility all over BC.</p>

Stephen D'Souza



Stephen D'Souza has been the Executive Director of [Burnaby Community Services](#) and [Burnaby Meals on Wheels](#) for over twelve years and also became the E.D. for [Burnaby Seniors Outreach](#) in 2016. He leads the strategic and daily operations of these three local charitable societies with a focus on supporting families living in poverty and seniors experiencing isolation.

Stephen has spent decades working collaboratively with local and regional partners to design innovative solutions to reducing poverty and isolation. He volunteers as a Director with the [Society to End Homelessness in Burnaby](#), recently became the co-chairperson for the [BC Poverty Reduction Coalition](#), and was a member of the 2010-11 Steering Committee that guided the development of [Burnaby's Social Sustainability Strategy](#).

Stephen completed an [Executive Program in Social Entrepreneurialism](#) from the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University in 2016 and the United Way of the Lower Mainland's [Public Policy Institute](#) in 2011. He is also a guest lecturer at Simon Fraser University for [Health Promotion in Practice: in the Canadian Context](#) (Master of Public Health program, Faculty of Health Sciences) and the [Health Change Lab](#) (a partnership between RADIUS Social Innovation Lab, The Beedie School of Business and Faculty of Health Sciences).

Jane Dyson



Jane Dyson has been the Executive Director of Disability Alliance BC (DABC) since 2009. Jane has been responsible for the management of many programs and projects designed to enable people with disabilities to live with dignity and independence in their communities. The broad focus of her work with DABC has been the alleviation of poverty for people with all disabilities through improved income supports and eligibility for poverty reducing programs such as the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP).

Jane has also played a leadership role in developing stakeholder partnerships to promote communication between the disability community, government and other decision-makers in order to promote positive change to public policy impacting the lives of people with disabilities.

She is a new Board member of the Community Legal Assistance Society (CLAS) and Plan Institute, a member of the Metro Vancouver Transit Police Chief's Community Council, and the Law Foundation of BC's Access to Justice Committee. She is a past Board member of the Nidus Personal Planning Resource Centre and Registry, and a past member of the Vancouver Foundation's Disability Supports for Employment Advisory Committee. Other advisory committees on which Jane has participated includes those established by TransLink, BC Hydro, and ICBC.

Jane has a Master's Degree in Political Science from Simon Fraser University.

In 2015 she was awarded the Order of BC for community leadership.

Viveca Ellis



A passionate advocate for reducing poverty, Viveca Ellis is a community organizer who has worked to bring the voices and experiences of parents and others living in poverty into the discussion of public policy solutions. A leader in challenging policy gaps and deficiencies that trap women and children in poverty, she co-founded the Single Mothers' Alliance BC in 2014 and created a grassroots network of mobilized women through-out BC devoted to reducing poverty for single mothers, impacting the campaign to end of the clawback of child support from single parents on welfare. She has partnered broadly with many organizations within the First Call and BC Poverty Reduction coalitions, and the BC CEDAW Group, reporting to the United Nations on women's equality in BC, among others. Her hands-on experience through organizing single mothers and designing a social enterprise have provided her with a clear understanding of the systemic barriers people face trying to climb out of poverty and local and provincial conditions that create poverty.

Viveca upholds a vision for a deeply integrated, cross-ministry poverty reduction strategy based on leading research on the social determinants of health and a gender equality lens, rooted in local community participation through deep engagement. Viveca is a project coordinator for First Call's early years campaigns and project designer of the new Community Action Network aimed at creating durable support for those living in poverty to engage with policy development at all levels. s.22

Trish Garner





Trish Garner is a passionate advocate for social justice. Having gained her experience working with Raise the Rates, an anti-poverty group based in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver, she has been the Community Organizer of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, a broad-based network of over 400 organizations throughout BC, since 2011.

She is the co-author of A Poverty Reduction Plan for BC (2008), which brought together research from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives' Economic Security Project, statistical evidence, international research on best practices within poverty reduction plans, and community consultations. In the last year alone, she has contributed to reports co-published with the CCPA (Working Poverty in BC; Long Overdue) and published a report in partnership with Citizens for Accessible Neighbourhoods drawing on extensive qualitative evidence of life on disability.

She has a PhD in gender, sexuality and women's studies from SFU and initiated one of the only research projects in Canada highlighting LGBTQ issues and poverty, in which she produced Under the Rainbow, an internationally acclaimed festival documentary.

She works with a wide variety of organizations within the Coalition but always strives to make sure those most marginalized have a voice at the table, working directly with many grassroots groups.

<p>Wes Hewitt</p> 	<p>s.22</p> <p>I currently am employed as the Executive Director of the Port Alberni Shelter Society and have been with the society since 2009. The Society provides emergency shelter, low barrier housing, supportive housing, a Sobering and Assessment Centre, an Overdose Prevention Site, food programs and Outreach services to our community. Through working with these programs I have been able to have the privilege of working alongside clients that poverty has a tremendous effect on their life.</p> <p>I am an active member of the community sitting as a member of the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network, Chair of the City of Port Alberni Advisory Planning Commission, Mental Health and Substance Use Steering Committee, the Housing Coalition and several others.</p> <p>I have enjoyed many sports during my life and I am currently an avid sailor when time permits. I am an active Free Mason and have just become a Shriner because of their commitment to helping sick or injured children. I feel serving my community to be a very rewarding.</p>
<p>Zahra Jimale</p> 	<p>Zahra H. Jimale is a lawyer and the Director of Law Reform at West Coast LEAF, an equality rights organization whose goal it is to end discrimination against women using litigation, law reform and public legal education. Prior to her current role at West Coast LEAF, Zahra was a family law lawyer and worked with families experiencing numerous challenges including economic insecurities and barriers to accessing justice and dispute resolution processes. Zahra brings to the discussion on poverty reduction an analysis of the gendered nature of poverty. She is committed to promoting the need for poverty reduction strategies to address the particular needs of women living in poverty, including Indigenous women, racialized women, women with disabilities, senior women and women parenting alone. Zahra is dedicated to the improvement of equality and social justice for all. She is passionate about effecting transformative change through research, innovation, education, and law reform.</p>

Murry Krause



Murry Krause has been engaged in community and social justice work for over 40 years. He is hard working, informed, outspoken, and a strong advocate.

Murry was elected to the Prince George City Council from 1996 to 1999 and again from 2002 to the present. He is a Director on the Regional District of Fraser Fort George, where he Chairs the Regional Hospital District Board and Cultural Advisory Committee.

Murry was elected to the UBCM Executive as a Director at Large in 2009, and is currently the UBCM Past President and Chair of the First Nations Relations Committee.

Murry was previously employed as the Executive Director of the Central Interior Native Health Society; a position he has held for 22 years. Prior to that, he was the Executive Director of the Prince George United Way and manager of several non-profit organizations.

Murry has been an active volunteer for local, regional, provincial and federal initiatives. He has been recognized for that involvement by being awarded a Governor General of Canada Commemorative medal; the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal; the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and Prince George's Citizen of the Year for 2000.

Catherine Ludgate





Catherine Ludgate is a manager of community investment at Vancity. She has accountability for the delivery of the credit union's microfinance programs as tools for poverty reduction and financial inclusion, including financial literacy and microcredit. She also supports staff working to develop co-operatives an alternative economic form, and to building reciprocal relationships with labour organizations.

She supports partnerships related to facing poverty in our communities, including the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition and the Living Wage for Families campaign and she spends a goodly amount of time talking to other employers about joining the Living Wage campaign.

She is the developer of the award-winning "Each One, Teach One" financial literacy program which has been shared with credit unions across Canada; 85+ credit unions are now using this platform to mobilize their own staff in support of community financial literacy.

Catherine works on a range of inclusive banking projects, from supports for refugees to banking services for community living members. She holds a masters degree in the management of co-ops and credit unions. She is appointed to the Federal Ministerial Advisory Committee on Poverty and works with the City of Vancouver to meet its goals around poverty reduction.

<p>Hilary Marks</p> 	<p>Hilary understands local and provincial conditions that contribute to poverty in B.C., and she is committed to reducing poverty so people don't have the same experience as her. She has lived experience with sex work, homelessness, and disability assistance. She uses her experiences to educate others about root causes of poverty and the changes that need to happen to make sure other people do not experience what she has experienced. Hilary has tremendous respect for people dealing with economic, health and addictions issues that keep them marginalized. She is a strong and informed champion of enhanced programs, policies and processes on issues of housing, social and clinical support services to individuals suffering from extreme economic marginalization and homelessness within the community. Hilary is a peer-support worker for the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, and a shelter worker at Our Place Society. She is past co-chair of the Social Inclusion Committee for the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness. She also volunteers with Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS) where she helps people access legal advocacy services. She also sits on the TAPS board of directors.</p>
<p>Jen Matthews</p>	<p>Jen Matthews works with Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS), the largest anti-poverty organization on Vancouver Island. She joined TAPS as a practicum student at the beginning of 2014 and was hired on as fulltime staff later that year. Jen is now the senior advocate in TAPS's Income Assistance Advocacy Project. As a Legal Advocate, she works with people throughout the Capital Regional District to ensure their full access to entitlements provided under provincial social assistance legislation. Central to Jen's role is pushing for broad reforms and systemic improvements to the provision of social assistance in BC, and she is committed to carrying out this work and building community in ways that respect individual dignity, promote social and economic equity, and ultimately advance the rights of people experiencing poverty in BC. She comes to this work with a master's degree in social work from the University of Victoria, and an undergraduate degree in political science from Carleton University in Ottawa.</p>
<p>Rosanna McGregor</p> 	<p>Rosanna McGregor is the Executive Director of the Cariboo Friendship Society in Williams Lake where she has worked for the past 26 years. Rosanna has had numerous years of experience with contract management and economic development with the programs that are run by the Friendship Center.</p> <p>Mrs. McGregor is participating in many community boards including the Social Planning Council, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Advisory Committee and participates on the Human Service Worker Advisory for Thompson Rivers University. She is the President of the Board of Aboriginal Housing Management Association and the chair for Williams Lake Social Housing Society. She was a member of the Sector Table for the Ministry for Children and Family Development. Rosanna has also been a member of the Board of Directors for Interior Health for 7 years with the responsibility for a variety of portfolio.</p> <p>Rosanna is a member of the Williams Lake Indian Band where she resides with her husband and 2 lovely daughters. One of her children and many family members are from Stswecem'c Xgat'tem.</p> <p>Knucwente kuc es yegweyegwt.s-kuc Help us be Strong.</p>

<p>Debra McNaught</p>	<p>Born at VGH, I grew up in Vancouver, but it wasn't until late 2014 I arrived in the Downtown Eastside, completely traumatized and without resources. Even after completing a post-secondary degree (as a mature student), somehow my prospects failed to improve, and for the last decade I have struggled to cope with narrowing job options as an aging worker.</p> <p>So I got a room at a disgusting SRO, navigated the onerous and humiliating process of applying for Welfare, started to get to know my new community. In March 2015, I discovered CCAP (Carnegie Community Action Project) and from that point things began to look up. I learned what austerity, poor bashing, social injustice, poverty, gentrification and displacement really meant.</p> <p>I serve on the Carnegie Association Board (third term), and act as Chair of the Community Relations committee; through CCAP I began to work with Raise the Rates, Our Homes Can't Wait and Our Community Vision for Mental Health. I volunteer at the Carnegie, contribute to the Carnegie Newsletter, discovered I was a cartoonist, and am currently taking part in the CAN Leadership Training workshops.</p> <p>I am working on a book about what it's really like to live at Hastings and Main.</p>
<p>John Millar</p> 	<p>Born Dec, 14, 1941 in Vancouver. John graduated in medicine from UBC in 1967. He spent many years in developing countries where he did general surgery and administration as a hospital superintendent and Deputy Minister. This experience led to a deep appreciation for the power of prevention.</p> <p>In 1984 he returned to UBC for training in population and public health, and then became Medical Health Officer in rural BC.</p> <p>In 1992 John was appointed BC's first Provincial Health Officer where he developed health goals for the province which emphasized acting on the socioeconomic determinants of health (SDOH) including poverty reduction.</p> <p>In 1998 John was appointed Vice President for the Canadian Institute for Health Information where he led development in the use of 'big data' for improving health care and population health.</p> <p>In 2003 John took the position of Executive Director for Population and Public Health for the BC Provincial Health Services Authority from which he retired in 2011.</p> <p>Since retiring John has continued to teach population and public health as Clinical Professor Emeritus at UBC Medical School and to advocate for poverty reduction, action on homelessness and addressing the opioid overdose epidemic.</p>

Jan Morton



As Executive Director of the Skills Centre in Trail for the past 20 years, Jan Morton has direct and local knowledge of the complex factors that contribute to poverty. The varied employment and community development programs delivered by the Skills Centre have informed her involvement in poverty reduction.

The particular focus on poverty reduction began in 2012 with the development of the 20/20 Vision for Women in the Lower Columbia Region, a poverty reduction plan through a gender lens and, more recently, in the development of Thriving for All: Lower Columbia Poverty Reduction Plan. Her experience has included research, engaging stakeholders in collaborative planning and developing programs to address poverty.

Jan brings to her various roles in the community more than 40 years' experience in adult education, employment services, organizational leadership and community economic development. Her experience and perspective is well rounded and encompasses many sectors, including economic, education, social, and local government. As a long time active member of the Lower Columbia Community Development Society, she consistently brings a social perspective to economic development network. She has a particular passion for the role of affordable housing in poverty reduction, serving on several affordable housing society boards and committees.



Tabitha Naismith



Tabitha became an ACORN member back in February 2013, when she was visited by ACORN organizer, Marcos, who asked her about her concerns for her local community. When her local chapter launched in Newton in May 2013, she was elected as chair and hasn't looked back!

Tabitha has been involved in a number of campaigns, including fighting to end the child support clawback. She travelled to Victoria to have her story told in the legislature. The campaign resulted in a huge \$13million victory, as the policy was scrapped in B.C.

In 2016, Tabitha was elected as secretary on ACORN's national board, where she has had the opportunity to work with ACORN leaders across Canada. She recently participated in a call with the Ministry of Innovation about ACORN's Internet for All campaign, fighting for affordable, high speed home internet for low income earners. In 2017, Tabitha made a great impression at her first national convention as co-mc of the member speak out, confidently speaking to over 250 ACORN members. She credits the skills she developed at ACORN leadership school for this experience. Tabitha attended leadership school in Ottawa, building leadership skills, developing the ability to speak the media, and learning how to lead an action.

<p>Anne Peterson</p> 	<p>Anne Peterson's career spans over 25 years with an extensive record in developing and advocating for social policy. Peterson has worked tirelessly through community service in her previous role as a city councillor for the Corporation of Delta, and through many community organizations.</p> <p>She is the Policy & Research Manager of the Surrey Board of Trade, a position she has held for close to 3 years. Peterson manages 10 advocacy teams, and several research projects. Peterson's skills to analyze public policy, interpret legislation, develop advocacy statements and resolutions for the Surrey Board of Trade are unparalleled, leading the Surrey Board of Trade in their advocacy efforts to instigate change. In addition, Peterson publishes Surrey's only business publication, 'Surrey Business News'.</p> <p>Peterson's extensive educational background form the foundation to her public policy work with an MA (Anthropology, UBC 2006), a BA (Joint Anthropology/Sociology, SFU 2001), Applied Project Management Certificate from Langara College (2015) and a number of certificates including evaluation methodology, and leadership & conflict resolution, that add to her expertise in policy and research.</p>
<p>Lissa Dawn Smith</p> 	<p>Lissa Dawn Smith has been a member of the Metis Nation BC Board of Directors for the past ten years. Lissa is the elected Vice-President and also Métis Minister Responsible for Metis Rights, Justice and Metis Veterans. Previously, she has held the portfolios for Children and Families and Health.</p> <p>Lissa holds a Bachelor of Social Work Degree from the University of Victoria with an Indigenous Specialization and a Human Service Diploma from the Vancouver Island University.</p> <p>She has sat on the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Board of Directors in Victoria for the last two years. She is committed to reducing poverty and has been involved over the years as an advocate and tribunal nominee for clients on income assistance appealing decisions affecting their benefits. In the past, she has been employed as a Financial assistant worker for the Ministry of Human Resources giving her a real understanding of the social determinates that contribute to poverty.</p> <p>As a single mother in the past to two daughters for several years Lissa has lived the experience of poverty, and understands the need for resources and services for families struggling to make ends meet with low incomes.</p>

Stephanie Smith

Stephanie Smith is the first woman elected president of the BC Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU), representing 73,000 members at 550 different employers and B.C. government ministries.

Stephanie was elected BCGEU president at the union's convention in May 2014, and was re-elected for her second term in June 2017. She is from the non-government sector, reflecting the diversity of BCGEU's membership base. Stephanie has already made her mark on the union, meeting with members around the province and being consultative and connected with the union's elected officials, members and staff.

Prior to being elected BCGEU president, Stephanie served three years as BCGEU treasurer.

An early childhood educator by training, Stephanie began her involvement with the labour movement in 1981 – first in New Zealand, and then in British Columbia with the Children's Services Employees' Union, which merged with BCGEU in 1995/96.

Stephanie comes from the community social services sector (CSS), which represents community living services, youth-at-risk, child care, women services, Aboriginal services and many other members working with B.C.'s most vulnerable.

Stephanie served as first vice chair of BCGEU's community social services component for six years and has sat on the BCGEU provincial executive – the governing body of the union between conventions – since 2008.

A tireless advocate for worker rights, young workers, and equity groups, Stephanie has spoken at provincial, national and international conferences on behalf of BCGEU members.

s.22

Stacey Tyers

Stacey Tyers is a senior poverty law advocate from Terrace BC, located in beautiful Northwest BC. Stacey is a 2 term Terrace City Councillor, former chair of the Regional District Kitimat-Stikine. s.22

Stacey has an extensive background in poverty law, poverty reduction, poverty education and awareness. She has held a variety of roles in the field from Executive Director of Terrace Anti-Poverty, Poverty Law Advocate and Manager of Counselling and Support Services. Stacey has worked passionately on the front lines of poverty, systemic advocacy, and in decision and policy implementation positions such as city council.

In addition to her professional experience, Stacey has lived in and experienced poverty as a single mom. Her passion and work in the field comes directly from wanting to provide the respect, support and assistance to the people she serves. A sample of some of the Boards and Committees Stacey has been involved with; BC Access to Justice Committee, Community Legal Assistance Society, Povnet, Ministry of Social Development – Moving Forward Steering Committee, Ministry of Social Development – Regional Quality Service Control, Aspect BC and Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Social and Economic Committee.

Leslie Varley



Leslie Varley is a committed social justice advocate. A member of the Killer Whale clan of the Nisga'a Nation, she holds the name, T-an De'entkwhl Aluugigat (One who guides Indigenous people). She is the Executive Director of British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, an agency supporting the 25 centres in BC. Previously Leslie held the Indigenous health portfolio at Provincial Health Services Authority where she headed the development of San'yas Indigenous Cultural Safety Training. San'yas is a leading edge decolonizing anti-racism training developed to educate, build skills and tools that enable Canadians to actively address racism and discriminatory behaviour in the health and social justice sectors. Her advocacy has led to national and international presentation opportunities including the CBC's 8th Fire series.

Leslie has worked with federal, provincial and municipal governments, First Nations and Indigenous organizations. Her community work focuses on increasing Indigenous inclusion, and addressing structural racism and violence. She currently volunteers with as a board member at Central City Foundation in Vancouver and Victoria Cool Aid Society. Leslie holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Simon Fraser University. She resides as a guest on Lekwungen Territory in Victoria.

Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction
November 15, 2017
UBC Robson Square – s.15
s.15 Vancouver BC
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
(Lunch Provided)

Minister and Co-Chairs: Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Co-Chair Mable Elmore, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Development, and Co-Chair Dawn Hemingway, Chair of the University of Northern British Columbia's School of Social Work

Forum Members: Neil Belanger, Natika Bock, Cheryl Casimer, Queenie Choo, Shelley DeCoste, Stephen D'Souza, Jane Dyson, Viveca Ellis, Trish Garner, Wes Hewitt, Zahra H. Jimale, Murry Krause, Catherine Ludgate, Hilary Marks, Jennifer Matthews, Rosanna McGregor, Debra McNaught, John Millar, Janet Morton, Tabitha Naismith, Anne Peterson, Lissa Smith, Stephanie Smith, Stacey Tyers, Leslie Varley

Agenda Items

1. Welcome (Forum Co-Chairs)
2. Introduction of Members (All)
3. Minister's Mandate for the Forum (Minister Simpson)
- LUNCH
4. How the Forum will Work Together (Forum Co-Chairs)
5. Advice from the Forum on Barrier Free Consultation
6. Next Steps: (Forum Co-Chairs)

- A. Next meeting:
Date: Monday, December 4, 2017
Time: 10 am to 3 pm
Location: s.15

s.15

Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction

Terms of Reference

About the Advisory Forum

The Province of British Columbia is creating a Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction that will provide expertise and knowledge and share ideas to support B.C.'s Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The Advisory Forum will bring together experts from the not-for-profit sector, labour, business, academia, local government, the disability community, the mental health and addictions community, First Nations and Indigenous communities, and people with lived experience of poverty. Members of the Forum will share information, and engage in discussions on addressing poverty and affordability in B.C. The Forum will serve as sounding board for the development of the province's overall Poverty Reduction Strategy, as well as a range of poverty-related issues. The Forum will also support province-wide participation in the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

A public call for nominations was held October, 2017, for interested people who have experience with the issues and challenges of poverty and poverty reduction.

About B.C.'s Provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy

Government has made a commitment to a poverty reduction strategy with targets and timelines so that British Columbians can have the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty.

In order to help understand and address the complex issues facing people in poverty, government is:

- Consulting with people throughout B.C. on their experiences with poverty and their ideas for poverty reduction; and,
- Establishing an Advisory Forum to draw on the experience and knowledge of a broad spectrum of individuals, sectors, and communities in B.C.;
- Developing targets and timelines that will provide genuine progress indicators for B.C.'s advancement in reducing poverty, and improving health, housing and employment.

One aspect of the Poverty Reduction Strategy will be to design and implement a basic income pilot to test whether giving people a basic income is an effective way to reduce poverty, and improve health, housing and employment.

Terms of Reference

Mandate

The Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, has a mandate to develop a Poverty Reduction Strategy with targets and timelines.

To support the design and implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Advisory Forum will contribute expertise, act as a forum for generating discussion and ideas, and be a sounding board for the

strategy and its indicators and measures. The group will also ensure full community participation across B.C. in all sectors.

Scope of work

Each member of the Advisory Forum brings their expertise and lived experiences with poverty to in-depth discussions on the issues facing British Columbians, as well as the causes and potential solutions for poverty. The Advisory Forum supports the Minister by:

- Identifying causes of poverty and suggesting innovative approaches to poverty reduction;
- Recommending priority actions and principles for the Poverty Reduction Strategy that governments and all sectors of society can collectively work on and support;
- Discussing ideas for poverty reduction generated via the greater consultation and engagement process;
- Offering expertise and advice on how best to implement the objectives of the Poverty Reduction Strategy in the context of other government priorities;
- Working within communities to encourage full participation in the Poverty Reduction Strategy; and
- Providing advice on legislation.

Duration

The Forum will meet for a period of two years. Members must be able to commit to participation throughout the duration of their appointment. Members may attend Forum meetings either in person, by teleconference or by online videoconference.

Membership

Membership in the Forum will include people from a range of backgrounds and emphasizes the experience of those living in poverty and those who advocate for poverty reduction. The Forum will include full Indigenous representation. Members of the Forum will be appointed by the Minister.

The Advisory Forum will be composed of:

- Representatives of non-profits and advocates directly involved in reducing poverty and helping people living in poverty;
- People currently living in poverty, or with past lived experience of poverty;
- Representatives of business and organized labour;
- Members of local governments;
- Academics; and,
- First Nations and Indigenous people.

The composition of the Advisory Forum will reflect the regional diversity of British Columbia, including both urban and rural regions. The composition will also reflect the diversity of people living in poverty, including people living with disabilities, First Nations and Indigenous People, people living with mental health conditions and addictions, single parents, seniors, new immigrants and refugees, LGBTQ2S etc.

Speaking Notes

Mable Elmore and Dawn Hemingway

Co-Chairs of the Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction

November 15, 2017

First Meeting of the

Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction

Elder's First Nations Blessing

Welcome and housekeeping items:

- Good morning everyone.

[Minister and co-chairs introduce themselves]

- We are honoured to be here with you today on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples.
- This is a very exciting day for all of us, and we can feel the positive energy in the room.
- We are thrilled to be embarking on this journey with all of you.
- In a few minutes we will proceed with introductions around the table, but I would like to get a few housekeeping items out of the way before we get started:
 - o Washrooms are located down the hall
 - o Refreshments are in the Sun Room next door

Overview of the day by the Co-Chairs:

- It is wonderful to be here at our first meeting.
- It's important to us as co-chairs that you know this is a safe space to share your ideas and have discussions about very important topics.
- We ask that any personal information shared around this table is kept confidential.
- In just a few minutes, we will go around the table so you have a chance to introduce yourself to your colleagues.
- After we complete the introductions, Minister Simpson will provide you with his expectations for the poverty reduction strategy and the important role the Forum will take in this long overdue work.
- We will then break for lunch, which will be served next door in the Sun Room
- After lunch, we will engage in a discussion about how the group will work together moving forward

- We will then have an opportunity to provide some advice to the ministry and the NGO that the ministry has hired to facilitate the consultations - SPARC BC - on how they can ensure a barrier free consultation experience for the people of BC over the next few months.
- Now, let's begin introductions – we will start to my [left/right].

[Member introductions]

- Thank you everyone. I think we can all agree that we have a rich and rewarding time ahead of us with the wonderful range of experience in the room.
- I would now like to ask Minister Simpson to provide us with his vision for this important work and our role as the Forum.

[Minister speaks]

- Thank you Minister. I think we can all agree that we now have a much better idea of the importance of the work of the Forum and your expectations of us.
- Lunch is now ready for us – please feel free to go to the Sunroom when you are ready to get some food. The Co-chairs and ministry staff person can also be available during lunch if you have any questions for us.

LUNCH

How the Forum will work together

- As the Minister has outlined, the next year will be very busy. The Forum will play a key role over the next year:
 - From now until March 31st the Forum will help to support consultation throughout the province. Specifically we will need your support in the town hall sessions in your community. We will have a good discussion on how to ensure this consultation is ‘barrier free’ in a few minutes.

- As the minister mentioned, the Forum will also be asked to provide overall advice on the elements to be included in poverty reduction legislation. We will focus on this in our next meeting in December.
 - Once the consultation is wrapped up at the end of March, we will receive a draft report on key points raised in the consultation – a ‘What we Heard Report’. We will want to hear from Forum members on this report to ensure the voice of people living in poverty is well reflected.
 - Finally and most importantly the Forum will provide advice on the first Poverty Reduction Plan for BC. We are planning to release a draft of the Plan in the Summer and finalize the Plan based on further public input by this time next year. The Forum’s advice throughout this time will be very important.
-
- Now that we know what work we have ahead of us, it is important to have a discussion among ourselves of how we will work together.
 - We have several key considerations that we feel will be important, but we want to hear from you so that we can understand your needs and vision for how we will work together.

- We think several things are important foundations of how we work together:
 - As we mentioned at the beginning of the meeting we need to respect each other's privacy – 'what's said in the room, stays in the room'. There will be times when we may choose to speak about our own personal experiences and stories – and that may be hard to speak about.
 - We are committed to facilitating our meetings in a way where everyone feels as safe as possible - if you feel you need more time, you will get that. If you haven't had a chance to speak – we will make sure you have a chance to.
 - Please feel that we want you to come talk to us one on one or as a small group if anything is not working for you and if you have suggestions for how things could work better.
- We may not get it right the first time but please know we are committed to making this work for you.

Advice from the Forum on Barrier Free Consultation

- As you all know, the ministry has hired SPARC BC – the Social Planning and Research Council of BC – to facilitate the consultation sessions throughout BC.
- We are very happy to have Lorraine Copas, the Executive Director of SPARC – who many of you know – here today to hear from you your advice on making sure these consultation sessions are ‘barrier free’ – especially for people living in poverty.
- Lorraine will also work with you as consultations are coming up in your area to directly involve you in the planning for your local session.
- I now hand the floor over to Lorraine.

Next Steps

- Thank you all for a wonderful meeting – I am so honoured to be your co-chair
- We are very excited about the next steps
- The next meeting on December 4th will provide us with an opportunity to discuss what the key elements of the legislation will be.

- It will also be an opportunity to have a debrief after the first consultation in Victoria – which is scheduled for November 27th – the Forum members from Victoria – Jen, Neil, Leslie, Lissa and Hilary – will provide us with their thoughts and considerations for the future sessions. We will also be inviting Lorraine from SPARC back so that she can listen to Forum members advice for the rest of the consultation.
- We will also have the opportunity to have a sense of what the key poverty reduction themes that are arising from both the online input from people and this first session.
- Thank you again very much and see you on December 4th.

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Elmore, Mable
Subject: labour councils

Good afternoon!

Can I ask for 10 minutes with you tomorrow to run through the upcoming labour council meetings in December/Jan/Feb to see if there are any you would be able to attend to talk about poverty reduction work? Let me know!

Thanks,
leah

Leah Squance
Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson
Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
C: 250-882-1445 W: 250-387-1428
E: leah.squance@gov.bc.ca

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2017 3:52 PM
To: 'Dawn Hemingway'; Elmore, Mable
Subject: RE: child care at Nov 15 meeting

Yes, that is an option I'm looking into.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn Hemingway [mailto:Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca]
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2017 3:50 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Elmore, Mable
Subject: Re: child care at Nov 15 meeting

I'm not sure of our possibilities, but rather than having children attend (including the potential of additional parents wishing to bring children coupled with children having to sit through a long meeting which presumably wouldn't be enjoyable for them), could we provide some child-minding, if needed? Just my quick thoughts.

Dawn Hemingway
Associate Professor & Chair
UNBC School of Social Work
Leadership Team, Northern FIRE/
Women North Network
(250-960-5694)

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 5:54 PM
To: Elmore, Mable; Dawn Hemingway
Subject: child care at Nov 15 meeting

Hi co-chairs,

One of the committee members, s.22

She's asked the ministry if she can bring s.22 to the meeting. I can look into whether we can assist in finding s.22, but wanted to seek your input. I know it's not unusual at labour and other community meetings to have kids present, but wasn't sure how you'd feel about that in this instance.

Please let me know your thoughts and we'll respond accordingly.

Thanks!

Leah

Leah Squance
Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
C: 250-882-1445 W: 250-387-1428
E: leah.squance@gov.bc.ca<<mailto:leah.squance@gov.bc.ca>>

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 5:31 PM
To: Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX; Elmore, Mable
Subject: FW: Meeting Note - Evelyn Forget
Attachments: 193726 - MN - Evelyn Forget.doc

FYI for Monday morning

From: Quigley, Shanna SDSI:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 5:10 PM
To: McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX
Cc: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX; Quigley, Shanna SDSI:EX
Subject: Meeting Note - Evelyn Forget

Hi Val,

Please find attached a meeting note in preparation for the Minister's meeting with Evelyn Forget.

Thank you,

Shanna Quigley

A/Senior Executive Assistant
to Deputy Minister Sheila Taylor
Ministry of Social Development and
Poverty Reduction
778-698-7600

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION

MEETING NOTE

DATE: November 2, 2017

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

MEETING DETAILS: Evelyn Forget

BACKGROUND:

Evelyn L. Forget is a professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba and Academic Director of the Manitoba Research Data Centre. She is an adjunct scientist with the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy and a research associate with the MB First Nations Centre for Aboriginal Health Research. Her current research focuses on the health and social consequences of antipoverty interventions and the cost-effectiveness of healthcare interventions.

She is an advocate of a basic income for Canada. In 2011, she published a report estimating the health impacts of the basic income experiment in Dauphin, Manitoba (MINCOME) in the 1970s. Her results indicated that MINCOME reduced health care interactions by 8 percent, especially for mental health conditions. This work has been frequently cited by supporters as evidence for the need for a basic income.

She was invited to participate in the ministry's basic income discussion panel in early October, but was unable to attend.

ISSUES:

Evelyn L. Forget is a supporter of a basic income. In 2011, she released a report on the positive health impacts of the Dauphin MINCOME experiment. This report is frequently used by supporters of basic incomes to argue for the full implementation of a basic income.

Her findings:

- Hospitalization rates and contact with physicians declined significantly in Dauphin, relative to the comparison group.
- There was a considerable decrease in hospitalization and physician contact for mental health diagnoses, as well as a decrease for accidents and injuries.
- No increase in fertility, but weak evidence of delayed childbirth.
- No change in birth outcomes (based on birth weight and rate of perinatal deaths).
- No evidence of increased divorce.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION MEETING NOTE

It is important to note that the MINCOME experiment never collected information on health outcomes, and she did not have access to individual records of the participants. Rather, she compared individual health records of all people in Dauphin to a comparison group made up of similar people in Manitoba not participating in MINCOME. However, the hospitalization rate of the people in Dauphin was much higher than the comparison group before MINCOME, and dropped to about the same level after MINCOME - both Dauphin and the control site saw a decline at the same time. This could be indicative of some other issue in Dauphin or the control site that was corrected over time, and coincidentally at the same time as MINCOME.

She has been critical of “spreadsheet economists” who predict that a full-scale implementation of a basic income for Canada would be financially prohibitive. Her estimate is that implementing Ontario’s model for all of Canada would cost \$15 billion per year in addition to current expenditures on income assistance. This estimate is substantially lower than the estimate for Ontario alone (excluding any healthcare savings).

Her recommendations for a basic income include:

- It should be targeted at low income and the benefit gradually reduced as income increased (i.e. not a universal demogrant).
- It should be targeted to adults 18 through 64, as similar programs already exist for children and seniors.
- It should not make anyone who currently depends on an income support program worse off.
- All costs of funding the program should be paid for by those who can most afford to pay for it, through increases in personal, corporate and sales taxes.
- Access to additional supports, such as Pharmacare, should be based on the level of a family’s income, not the source. This means people working and people on income support, with the same level of income, should have access to the same additional supports.
- It should not replace all existing social programs, for example employment programs, child care, and health care.

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- Thank you for your interest in the basic income pilot.
- We welcome all advice regarding how to properly design the basic income, and hope we can rely on your expert advice in the future as we finalize the pilot.

Prepared by:
Rob Bruce, ED
Research Branch
778-698-7694

Reviewing path:
Molly Harrington, ADM/RIPD; Sheila Taylor, DM/SDPR

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 4:46 PM
To: Elmore, Mable
Subject: Re: CLM Statement video clip - PS Elmore

Great thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 1, 2017, at 3:52 PM, Elmore, Mable <M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Leah fine with me.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 1, 2017, at 3:35 PM, Squance, Leah SDPR:EX <Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Mable

See request below – please let us know if you’re okay with this.

Thanks (and thanks for doing the statement too!)

Leah

From: Wormald, Carla GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX; Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Cc: Anderson, Maryann SDSI:EX
Subject: CLM Statement video clip - PS Elmore

Hi,

CLBC would like to ask PS Elmore if it is ok to share the video clip from TNO of her reading the Community Living Month Statement on their website. Would you mind checking is with her to see if she is ok with that?

Thanks
Carla

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 11:19 AM
To: Elmore, Mable
Subject: FW: Meeting invitation from the Co-Chairs to the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction
Attachments: expense reimbursement form.pdf; guidelines for expenses.pdf; TOR_Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction FINAL.pdf

Hi Mable,

Here's one of the emails to the committee members. I wasn't sure if you would want everyone having your private MLA email address so didn't have you cc'd this time. I won't forward all 25 of the emails unless you want me to!

Leah

From: McGaghey Jones, Stacey SDSI:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 11:16 AM
To: 'Neil Belanger'
Cc: 'Dawn Hemingway'
Subject: Meeting invitation from the Co-Chairs to the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction

Dear Neil:

As the Co-Chairs to the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction, and on behalf of Minister Simpson, we want to thank you for serving as a member of the Minister's Advisory Forum.

We are pleased to invite you to attend the first meeting of the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction on **Wednesday, November 15, 2017 from 10 am – 3 pm** in Vancouver. For this first meeting it would be ideal if you could attend in person to meet the other members of the Forum. If this is not possible we will be providing the option of attending by video conference or phone. An agenda for the meeting will be sent to you before the meeting with meeting location details.

For this first meeting, Minister Simpson will join us to meet everyone and share his expectations for the group. The meeting will also be an important opportunity to get your thoughts on the community meetings we will hold throughout the province and begin our conversation about creating a poverty reduction plan and the legislation to support this process. Terms of Reference for our advisory group are attached for you to have a look at. These Terms and other meeting materials can also be sent to you by regular mail if you'd like. Just let us know.

Government will reimburse you for your out of pocket travel expenses (the guidelines for eligible expenses is attached with an expense reimbursement form). Lunch will be provided at the meeting. **Please RSVP to Stacey McGaghey Jones (Stacey.McGagheyJones@gov.bc.ca) by November 8, 2017** about your availability for the meeting and with any questions you may have about travel or other matters.

If you have accessibility needs for the meeting or the meeting materials, or any other questions or concerns about being able to participate, please let Stacey know that too. We want to help all members of the Forum be fully involved in our work together.

We look forward to seeing you on the 15th and thank you again for your participation in this important work.

Sincerely,

Mable Elmore, MLA Vancouver Kensington and Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction, Co-Chair
Dawn Hemingway, Chair, School of Social Work, University of Northern British Columbia, Co-Chair

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 6:11 PM
To: 'Elmore, Mable'
Subject: RE: invite_advisory forum_Nov 15 meeting v2

Not yet – I'm going to sit down with Molly to talk about a few things on Thursday so hopefully she'll have some ideas by then about location.

From: Elmore, Mable [<mailto:M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 5:36 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Subject: RE: invite_advisory forum_Nov 15 meeting v2

Looks good Leah, do we have a location confirmed?

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX [<mailto:Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: October 31, 2017 5:31 PM
To: Dawn Hemingway <Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca>; Elmore, Mable <M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX <Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: invite_advisory forum_Nov 15 meeting v2

Hi Dawn & Mable,

Please see draft meeting invite attached. If you're comfortable with this, we'll send it out to all the Forum members tomorrow morning. I am conscious that some of the language might not be as plain and accessible as we might like, so if you have thoughts on that, I'd be happy for your feedback.

Cheers,
Leah

Leah Squance
Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson
Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
C: s.17 W: 250-387-1428
E: leah.squance@gov.bc.ca

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 10:53 AM
To: 'Dawn Hemingway'; 'Elmore, Mable'
Subject: RE: Planning for Nov 15th Advisory Forum meeting

Hi Dawn and Mable,

I think we need to consider this finalized to accommodate the Minister's and Parliamentary Secretary's schedules. However, we did tell the forum members when we first called that the co-chairs would be in touch about the first meeting so if you prefer us to send out the meeting date before you change your plans, we can certainly do that. We'll send the meeting notice out from the Minister's account but over your names, if that works for the two of you.

Please let me know what you prefer.

Leah

-----Original Message-----

From: Dawn Hemingway [<mailto:Dawn.Hemingway@unbc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2017 10:28 AM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Subject: Planning for Nov 15th Advisory Forum meeting

Hi Leah; I apologize for multiple messages, but I have to change some work and travel plans in order to make the Nov 15th Advisory Forum. However didn't want to do so until the meeting time is confirmed. I wasn't clear whether you were first checking with other Advisory Forum members before it was considered finalized. Thanks for any update/confirmation you can provide.

Best Dawn

Dawn Hemingway
Associate Professor & Chair
UNBC School of Social Work
Leadership Team, Northern FIRE/
Women North Network
(250-960-5694)

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 1:24 PM
To: 'Dawn Hemingway'; 'Elmore, Mable'
Cc: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX
Subject: FW: Removing barriers to participation on the Advisory Committee
Attachments: Removing Barriers to Participation.MSDPR Advisory Committee.2017.docx

Hi Dawn and Mable,

For your info, here's the info Trish Garner of the Poverty Reduction Coalition provided about barriers to participation.

Thanks for a positive announcement and a productive meeting this morning!

Leah

From: trish bcpovertyreduction [<mailto:trish@bcpovertyreduction.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 1:03 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX
Subject: Removing barriers to participation on the Advisory Committee

Hi Leah and Molly,

As you are working on finalizing the details of the Advisory Committee, I have attached a document that I mentioned earlier about removing barriers to participation for people in poverty to ensure their meaningful involvement. These are a collection of recommendations drawn from our previous experience and directly from community members facing these barriers.

Thanks,
Trish

Trish Garner / Community Organizer

BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
#810 - 815 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 1B4
Coast Salish Territories
tel: 604-877-4553

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Nov 1-7, 2017 Welfare Food Challenge



welfarefoodchallenge.org

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Removing Barriers to Participation

BC Poverty Reduction Coalition: Community Action Network

September 27th, 2017

Provide training to the Advisory Committee: Diversity, Inclusion and Reconciliation Workshop

Members of the Advisory Committee will be coming from and informed by different life experiences, identities, employment sectors, educational backgrounds, and knowledge of poverty and policy. This workshop would aim to provide a shared foundation to the understanding of the Advisory Committee to support all voices being respected and heard during deliberations. As such, it could provide an analysis of: power, privilege and oppression; intersectionality and the over-representation of marginalized groups in poverty; human rights obligations; and the root causes of poverty. This would ensure that the critical work of the committee has the most meaningful impact in the development of poverty reduction recommendations.

Provide access to the necessities of life: food, clothes

We know that those living on welfare and otherwise in poverty are hungry, ill-clothed and under-clothed, and likely lack the mobility to move freely about their cities and towns on public transport. As one person in poverty contributing to the creation of this document said, “people in poverty cannot be reimbursed, they have nothing to pay out, they can’t get from Point A to Point B without help beforehand, but this is often taken for granted.”

Spending time engaging in these meetings often means people have less time to access all the services they need to survive on a daily basis, such as daily hot meals provided by charities, food banks, and health clinics with long waiting lines.

Support solution: A Living Stipend for those who do not have access to adequate food and water, appropriate clothes, shoes, toiletries, hair cuts, and the funds to launder their clothes.

The Living Stipend could cover the following:

- Food supplement support in the form of grocery store credit at a convenient location. It would be more convenient to ensure folks do not have to present a card or pre-paid card, as they can be lost or stolen. An existing account at their preferred local grocery store would work best.
- Clothes and toiletries stipend for 2-3 appropriate outfits plus toiletries at the start.
- On-going clothes and toiletries stipend for renewal of clothing over course of the year.
- Additional funds to cover the cost of weekly laundry for their required clothes. Laundry is expensive and not accessible at the frequency most take for granted.

Provide supports to the health impacts caused by poverty

As we know, poverty is a state of ill-health, and causes a multitude of health impacts on a daily and weekly basis. Those living in poverty are much more susceptible to frequent illness, infection, and their children in particular. Engaging directly with folks in poverty in anti-poverty advocacy, we have learned that frequent illness brought on by unsafe housing, lack of heat, malnutrition, stress and disease is one of the key barriers that interferes in people’s best laid plans and commitment to volunteer work.

Frequent infections, stomach flus and colds are the norm. In light of this, we recommend the

government acknowledge that the health impact of poverty is a barrier to participation, and cover necessary over-the-counter drugs that many take for granted.

Support solution: Provide a health supplement to the Living Stipend that includes funds for over-the-counter drugs on an as-needed basis.

Appoint a Community Engagement Liaison on the Committee

Another individual on the Committee can be assigned to a support role for those living in struggle who are on the committee. This person would ideally be someone who also has lived experience of poverty, but has the capacity now to function in a support role. In the words of one person who was homeless for a long time, now stable, housed, and recovered from addictions: “they [people in poverty on the committee] would need somebody to help guide them, such as a mentor or supporter, as trust is so big, they will need to have someone closer to them that they can trust as they go through the process, not just a sea of people on a committee.”

Covering Travel/Transportation Costs

Commonly, those of means spend their own funds and submit receipts etc. for reimbursement of travel expenses. For those in poverty, this will not be possible.

Support solution: Provide pre-paid transportation subsidies through account credit access with a taxi company for travel to/from the airport and other necessary travel.

(The Red Cross Lower Mainland has a unique and efficient system set up for landing refugees, and this model could easily be used here by the government: an individual simply gets in any cab of the company in the program, provides a code number and their name to the taxi company, the taxi driver delivers them to their destination and the taxi company bills the non-profit directly so no funds or receipts are required on the part of the taxi user.)

A system such as this would be much more durable and involve less risk, as ‘vouchers’ worth money, if they are distributed, can be stolen or lost, and this puts the burden of responsibility on the individual to keep track of vouchers over a period of time. For those in shifting and unstable housing situations, this would put them at risk of losing things or having them stolen, and then owing the government for what may be lost, which puts them at risk.

For regional and local travel to/from the office access space and for local work they may conduct for the committee, provide a full transit pass for their city or town for the duration of their time on the committee.

Access to ID: people may need assistance applying for the needed ID to fly around the province.

Literacy Awareness/Access to Technology

- Multi-level literacy learning needs can be taken into account and applied to all
- Necessity of plain language, no jargon, policy-speak put in plain language
- Technology literacy: use of the internet and internet access
- Free internet resources at libraries and community support hubs are never unlimited, and usually limited to one hour; reliance on free supports to access the internet are inadequate in terms of the need for access for committee members

Support solution: In partnership with a local charity or non-profit, or government office location, provide a secure location where the individuals in struggle can access the internet with unlimited time frames, printing facilities, clean drinking water and basic food while conducting 'at-home' work required for the committee, such as reading minutes, research, etc. The Living Stipend would include funds for meals during non-meeting work required for the Committee.

Access to technology and supplies should include:

- Long-distance phone calls: funds or phone cards to access conference calls
- Access to computers and printing costs
- Supplies and equipment including notebooks, pens, paper

Adaptive Communication Strategies

There are a multitude of variations in terms of the best forms of contact for those in poverty, and successful communication will require a tailored approach based on the each individuals unique situation. Some may be precariously housed with no land line, no internet access except limited public access use, yet they have a cell phone with unlimited or likely limited minutes. Others may have internet access at home, but no cell phone and no land-line. Many have neither a phone nor access to the internet.

- In order to keep in successful contact with each person, no one-size fits all form of communication will work. Some may always need to only be contacted by phone. Others will only be contactable via email. Certainly, there will be shifts in people's communication options, as phone cards run out, phones are lost or stolen with no funds to replace them, and internet access. Remaining in contact with each individual will require allocating time and resources to tailoring communication, including frequent phone calls, and phone reminders about upcoming meetings.

What happens after?

Temporary supports for food, transportation, clothes, and a living stipend is necessary for someone in poverty to fully participate, but the sudden withdrawal of supports when responsibilities end may cause stress and sudden hardship that can take a toll on mental and physical health. For parents on the committee raising children in poverty, this could have a disastrous impact on the whole family. For those who dedicate their time and energy to the development of the poverty reduction plan, the Community Engagement Liaison can ensure the individuals are connected, over the course of the work of the Committee, with the supports to map their next steps after their engagement with the Committee ends, including a plan regarding how to retain their new standard of living.

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 8:30 AM
To: 'Elmore, Mable'
Subject: RE: Draft bio

Thanks!

From: Elmore, Mable [<mailto:M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 8:29 AM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Subject: Re: Draft bio

Hi Leah, sure it's fine.

Thanks,
Mable

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 30, 2017, at 8:16 AM, Squance, Leah SDPR:EX <Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Good morning,

This bio was included in the package I sent out on Friday, so I had been under the impression it was one the GCPE staff worked on with you – but now I am not sure if it's one you've approved. Please take a look and let me know if you're okay with it or if you'd like changes.

Thanks!

Leah

<Bio_Mable Elmore.docx>

Mable Elmore, Parliamentary Secretary on Poverty Reduction

M.L.A., Vancouver-Kensington

Mable Elmore was first elected MLA for Vancouver-Kensington in 2009, when she made history by becoming the first MLA of Filipino heritage. She was re-elected in both 2013 and 2017. In July 2017, Premier John Horgan named Mable Elmore as the Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction.

Elmore has long been an advocate for social causes. Since her high school years, she had helped organize campaigns regarding social justice issues and the peace movement. After university, she volunteered and then worked at the BC Philippine Women Centre. Throughout her life, she has worked tirelessly on a wide range of immigrant, social justice, and workers' rights issues. Mable is passionate about building community engagement and connecting British Columbians around important issues.

In previous terms, she served as the Spokesperson for Temporary Foreign Workers and Immigration, as Official Opposition spokesperson for ICBC and was the Deputy Spokesperson for Finance.

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 8:30 AM
To: 'Elmore, Mable'
Subject: RE: QUOTE APPROVAL: Advisory Forum Announcement

Great, many thanks. See you soon.

From: Elmore, Mable [<mailto:M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 8:29 AM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Subject: Re: QUOTE APPROVAL: Advisory Forum Announcement

Yes looks good.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 30, 2017, at 8:05 AM, Squance, Leah SDPR:EX <Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Are you okay with the quote? If so, I'll let Maryann know she can send the news release out.

From: Elmore, Mable [<mailto:M.Elmore@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2017 8:28 PM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Subject: Re: QUOTE APPROVAL: Advisory Forum Announcement

Thanks Leah.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 29, 2017, at 4:56 PM, Squance, Leah SDPR:EX <Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi Mable,

Please see quote for your approval in the attached release.

Thanks
Leah

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Anderson, Maryann SDSI:EX"
<Maryann.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 29, 2017 at 4:10:11 PM PDT
To: "Squance, Leah SDPR:EX"
<Leah.Squance@gov.bc.ca>, "Ducker, Jayne"

SDPR:EX" <Jayne.Ducker@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fw: Advisory Forum Announcement

<NR - PRS Forum to MO.DOCX>

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
[release number]
October 30, 2017

Ministry of Social Development
and Poverty Reduction

Getting to work on B.C.'s first Poverty Reduction Strategy

VICTORIA – Minister Shane Simpson announced the members of his Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction today as he invited British Columbians to share their ideas to help shape the province's first Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The twenty-seven people appointed to the Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction bring a broad range of expertise to their roles and will provide their insights and guidance to the Minister as the Poverty Reduction Strategy is developed. The Forum members represent multiple sectors, including poverty advocates, people with lived experience, Indigenous People, academics and experts, along with the labour and business communities.

"Poverty affects too many people in our province. It's time to change that and today is where we start to pave a new path," said Shane Simpson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. "This group of advisors will support me as we work together to bring effective and permanent solutions that will lift people out of poverty and help them to build a better life."
(DRAFT)

The announcement also marks the beginning of the Poverty Reduction Strategy engagement process with a website where people can contribute their thoughts on how to reduce poverty. The Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia (SPARC BC) will also facilitate in-person engagement sessions in up to 20 communities across the province. The dates and locations for those sessions will be announced in the coming weeks.

"Poverty is a complex problem and finding solutions is a collective responsibility," said Mable Elmore, Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction and Co-Chair of the Advisory Forum. "This group of individuals have come together for a common purpose — to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to meet their potential and build a good life for themselves and their families."
(DRAFT)

"I am grateful to have the opportunity to champion the voices of British Columbians through my role as co-chair in this Advisory Committee," added Dawn Hemingway, Chair of the School of Social Work at UNBC, where she is also an Associate Professor. "We get much further when we work together and I look forward to working with the Minister and Advisory members in the coming months."
(APPROVED)

The Advisory Forum will support the Minister by:

- Identifying causes of poverty and innovative approaches to poverty reduction;
- Recommending priority actions and principles for the Poverty Reduction Strategy that governments and all sectors of society can collectively work on and support;

- Discussing ideas for poverty reduction generated through the consultation and engagement process;
- Offering expertise and advice on how best to implement the Poverty Reduction Strategy in the context of other government priorities;
- Working within communities to encourage full participation in the Poverty Reduction Strategy; and
- Providing advice on legislation, including targets and timelines.

“We want to hear from all British Columbians through the engagement process,” added Minister Shane Simpson. “Their thoughts and ideas will help shape the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the future of our province.” **(DRAFT)**

Quick Facts:

- B.C. has the highest poverty rate in the country, with 678,000 British Columbians living in poverty according to the Market Basket Measure.
- The Market Basket Measure of \$20,000 a year for singles and \$40,000 of disposable income for a family of four is considered necessary to provide the basic standard of living.
- 118,000 of B.C.’s poor are children living in low-income families, and about 64,000 are seniors.
- Approximately 40 percent of those living in poverty are the working poor—low-income adults earning below the poverty line.

Learn More:

- Join the conversation at www.engage.gov.bc.ca/BCPovertyReduction

Contact:

Maryann Anderson
Communications Director
Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
778.698.7595

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Sunday, October 29, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Mable Elmore
Cc: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX
Subject: Fwd: Advisory Forum Announcement
Attachments: QA - MAFPR -FINAL.docx; ATT00001.htm; ROLLOUT - MAFPR OCT27.docx; ATT00002.htm; SN_Dawn Hemingway -FINAL.docx; ATT00003.htm; SN_Mable Elmore FINAL.docx; ATT00004.htm; SN_MSS Advisory Forum OCT27 -FINAL.docx; ATT00005.htm; NR - PRS Forum to MO.DOCX; ATT00006.htm

And here are the rest of the documents, including the speaking notes.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Hi,

Here are the materials for Monday.

- QAs
- Rollout
- Speaking notes for MSS, PSME, and DH.

I've also attached the NR just so you have everything in one place.

Thanks

Maryann

Maryann Anderson

Communications Director

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

p: 778.698.7595 c: 250.507.1380

www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr

Mable Elmore, Parliamentary Secretary on Poverty Reduction

M.L.A., Vancouver-Kensington

Speaking Notes (approx. 1 minute)

- Thank you, Minister.
- I am honoured to have been named a co-chair of the Minister's Advisory Forum.
- The people gathered in this Forum bring a remarkable breadth of experience to their roles.
- This group of individuals have come together for a common purpose — to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to meet their potential and build a good life for themselves and their families.

(PS Elmore to provide a few sentences on her personal experience with addressing poverty in her community)

- Building a Poverty Reduction Strategy for B.C. has been a long time coming. I am delighted to be a part of this new direction, and delighted that we have such a diverse group at the table.
- I also echo the Minister's thoughts – and encourage all British Columbians to participate in the public engagement. Attend a community engagement session, go to the website and share your ideas. Talk with people in your community about what you can do to reduce poverty.
- Poverty is a complex problem and finding solutions is a collective responsibility.
- It is now my pleasure to introduce my co-chair, Dawn Hemingway.

Q & A
Minister's Advisory Forum on Poverty Reduction
October 30, 2017

FORUM

Why do you need such a large Advisory Forum?

The causes of poverty are diverse and we need to hear from a broad group to understand impacts across different regions, sectors, Indigenous people and groups, and people with lived experiences. The Advisors will provide their expertise and knowledge based on years of experience in various sectors and communities. The more voices at the table, the better.

Are they getting paid?

We will provide a stipend to those members who are living in low income, and we will cover travel costs as needed, but no the Advisory Forum members are not getting paid.

How were they chosen?

A call for nominations went out this month to organizations from a number of sectors – non-profits, advocacy groups, labour and business community. We received 89 applications.

What will the Forum members do?

They will:

- Share their expertise and insights;
- Help identify causes of poverty and solutions;
- Recommend actions for the Poverty Reduction Strategy;
- Support participation in the engagement process and discuss ideas we hear;
- Provide advice on legislation, including targets and timelines; and
- And they will be a sounding board as we develop the overall Strategy.

Financial

How much will the consultation and strategy cost?

We have \$1.2 million budgeted for the province-wide consultations. That will allow us to hold engagement sessions in up to 20 communities, gather feedback online, meet with different sectors and start to compile all the feedback into a report on What We Heard.

How can you justify spending \$1.2 million on a consultation process when that money could be used for housing or services?

It is important to hear from a wide group of people and that everyone has a voice. To do that we need to go to communities and speak with people.

And we aren't waiting for the strategy to be complete – we have already started to make investments. We have increased assistance rates by \$100 a month, announced a Transportation Supplement for people on disability assistance, launched a minimum wage commission, and provided funding for 2,000 new modular housing units.

Developing an effective strategy will help build effective solutions and that will help more people in the long-run.

How does the government plan to pay for a PRS?

We are just starting the engagement process. This is step one - listening to ideas around how we can start to address poverty in our province. We don't know what the proposed solutions will be yet so we haven't started to look at what investments will be made.

I would also point out that reducing poverty is not the sole responsibility of the provincial government. That's why the Advisory Forum represents a number of sectors – community groups, Indigenous people and groups, people with lived experience, labour and business as well as government. It will be a collaborative approach across sectors and that also means shared investments.

Consultations

Who is conducting the consultation process? What firm did you hire?

The Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia (SPARC BC) will conduct the community engagement sessions. The Ministry is managing the engagement overall.

There are a lot of poverty reduction strategy proposals from advocacy groups. What will consultations provide that you don't already know?

We will build on the good work that has already been done, and we want to hear directly from British Columbians as well.

The engagement process will let us hear from a wide group of people – those who access services, those who provide them. It will provide details, experiences and ideas on what specific actions we can take.

How long will this take?

The community engagement sessions will go from November to March 2018. From there we will compile the information and work with the Advisory Forum on a draft of the Strategy. We expect to release the final Poverty Reduction Strategy in Fall 2018.

Other

What have we learned from other provinces strategies?

The Advisory Forum and the Ministry will be looking at those to see what we can learn.

Have any of them reduced poverty? (If not, what makes you think it'll be any different here?)

Again, we will be looking at their results. Here in B.C., our social support programs have been eroded over the years. Any changes we make will have an impact and make life a little better for people.

What about the Federal Poverty Reduction Initiative?

We look forward to seeing what supports their initiatives will offer to the people of B.C.

An obvious solution to poverty is employment. How does your government justify a commitment to poverty reduction while it threatens to cancel job-creating projects like Site-C, the Massey tunnel replacement, or LNG projects?

The Premier has been very clear that we support development. We simply want to ensure all major projects are developed with the best interests of British Columbians in mind.

We also know that it isn't just about getting a job – 40 per cent of people living in low income are employed. Poverty is complex and there are no simple solutions. That's why we have a team of expert advisors to help.

What's happening with the status of the basic income pilot?

We are talking with experts on what approach we should take. We're going to test whether giving people a basic income is an effective way to reduce poverty (and improve health, housing and employment.)

We will be in a position to announce more on this in the coming months.

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2017 5:22 PM
To: Mable Elmore; dawn.hemingway@unbc.ca
Cc: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX
Subject: Fwd: Advisory Forum Member Bios
Attachments: A - Advisory Forum Member Bios.docx; ATT00001.htm

Hi Dawn and Mable,

Attached please find the bios for the Advisory Forum members.

We'll see you both Monday morning for the pre-brief before the media event. If anything comes up and you need to reach me, please feel free to call my cell - s.17

Have a great weekend.

Leah

Sent from my iPhone

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Saturday, October 14, 2017 3:22 PM
To: 'Elmore, Mable'
Cc: Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX
Subject: Monday's statement
Attachments: Statement-MLA_Elmore-Homelessness_Action_Week-FINAL.docx

Hi Mable,

Sorry for getting this to you so late. Here's a statement on Homelessness Action Week for you for Monday. Many thanks for doing this for us.

Leah

Leah Squance
Senior Ministerial Assistant to Hon. Shane Simpson Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
C: s.17 W: 250-387-1428
E: leah.squance@gov.bc.ca

Last week was Homelessness Action Week in British Columbia -- a time to raise awareness and keep those people who are homeless, or who are at risk of homelessness, top of mind.

Over the past few years, homelessness in our province has increased dramatically. In Metro Vancouver alone, 3,605 people were counted in the 2017 homeless count last March. And those were just those who allowed themselves to be counted. We know, the organizations who conduct the count know, that the real number is much bigger, that so many people are missed in the count. Thousands more people and families struggle to keep a roof over their head, barely getting by.

I am encouraged to see decisive action to address this growing problem. To start, we are working with local governments to build 2,000 new modular housing units for those that are homeless. The first of these units will roll out in Vancouver as soon as this winter, and other communities, including Surrey and Smithers, will be added soon. This is a first step in creating a homelessness action plan. We are working to make life better for all people in our province. Every person in B.C. deserves to have a place to call home.

Tomorrow is the United Nations' International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. British Columbia has one of the highest poverty rates in Canada. Nearly 700,000 British Columbians, including families with children, regularly struggle to obtain the food, shelter and clothing they need. We know that poverty and homelessness are connected. In a province as wealthy and vibrant as British Columbia, no one should have to live without their basic needs being met and a safe place to call home.

As Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction, I am pleased to be working with the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to develop B.C.'s first poverty reduction strategy and homelessness action plan. Our government is committed to bringing real and permanent solutions for the most vulnerable people in our province.

As part of this work, government will be asking all British Columbians to engage and share their thoughts and ideas on how to reduce poverty. I encourage everyone in the House, and everyone in communities throughout the province to share their thoughts and ideas during the consultations which will be starting before the end of the year.

Finding solutions to reduce poverty and homelessness for the people in our communities is a collective responsibility. I encourage all British Columbians, including everyone here in this House today, to ask ourselves what we can do as individuals -- and as a society -- to make life better for all British Columbians and how we can become part of the solution.

Thank you.

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah PREM:EX on behalf of Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Simpson, Shane PREM:EX
Cc: 'm.elmore@leg.bc.ca'
Subject: FW: notes from discussion
Attachments: Basic Income Questions--Pendakur.docx

More from yesterday.

-----Original Message-----

From: Krishna Pendakur [<mailto:pendakur@sfu.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 11:53 AM
To: Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX; Squance, Leah PREM:EX
Subject: re: notes from discussion

Hello Molly and Leah: Here are notes from today's discussion, as requested. krishna

Krishna Pendakur

Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University Burnaby, BC, Canada, V5A 1S6, web:
<http://www.sfu.ca/~pendakur/>

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: Squance, Leah PREM:EX on behalf of Squance, Leah SDPR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Simpson, Shane PREM:EX
Cc: 'm.elmore@leg.bc.ca'
Subject: FW: Discussion of basic income pilot
Attachments: BIG - CPP Final Draft.pdf; ATT00001.htm; 2013 INROADS GAI-BIG.pdf; ATT00002.htm; Publications_11_010_17 BIG.docx; ATT00003.htm

FYI

From: Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:07 AM
To: Squance, Leah SDPR:EX; Taylor, Sheila A SDSI:EX; Bruce, Robert SDSI:EX
Subject: Fwd: Discussion of basic income pilot

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "J. Rhys Kesselman" <kesselman@sfu.ca>
To: "Harrington, Molly SDSI:EX" <Molly.Harrington@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Discussion of basic income pilot

Dear Molly,

I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the group discussion concerning the BC basic income pilot project yesterday. I promised to send some relevant materials for the possible interest or you, your associates, and Minister Simpson.

The first attached document is my recent draft paper on proposals for a basic income in Canada; you are welcome to share this with your immediate colleagues, but please do not circulate it any further as it is under review with a journal. The second is a more lay-oriented piece that I wrote several years ago that may also be of interest.

I have also attached my publications record with items highlighted that are relevant to the areas of income security, basic income, guaranteed income, and the like. If any of these interest you or staff, and cannot be easily located, I shall be glad to send copies.

It is worth noting that the overwhelming majority of Canadian experts on social policy and income security who have studied the issue feel that basic income should NOT be the primary direction for future anti-poverty policy. I cite some of these studies and authorities in my recent draft paper.

In the group session I noted that I have been following and researching in this area for nearly 50 years. I checked my file and note that my first piece was published 49 years ago! I also served as an expert consultant to both the Mincome Manitoba project in the 1970s and the Self-Sufficiency project in the 1990s.

I would be pleased to respond to any specific questions that you or your associates might have in this general area of policy or to assist in any other way.

Best wishes, Rhys

Jonathan Rhys Kesselman, Professor
School of Public Policy
Simon Fraser University Vancouver
515 West Hastings Street, Room 3263
Vancouver, BC V6B 5K3
778-782-5035 (voice)
778-782-5288 (fax)
https://www.sfu.ca/mpp/faculty_and_associates/jonathan-kesselman.html
Canada Research Chair in Public Finance
<http://www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/chairholders-titulaires/profile-eng.aspx?profileId=1135>

Squance, Leah SDPR:EX

From: MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Squance, Leah PREM:EX; McKnight, Valerie SDSI:EX; Ducker, Jayne SDPR:EX
Cc: Quigley, Shanna SDSI:EX
Subject: 192980 Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits
Attachments: 192980 Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits.docx

Please find attached the formatted mandate letter for Parliamentary Secretary Elmore.

Karen MacMillan
Manager, Executive Operations
Deputy Minister's Office
Ministry of Social Development and
Poverty Reduction
250-387-2807



Ref: 192980

Mable Elmore, MLA
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Social Development
and Poverty Reduction
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Parliamentary Secretary Elmore:

Congratulations on your appointment as Parliamentary Secretary for Poverty Reduction. I look forward to our collaboration on this key government priority.

As Parliamentary Secretary your work will be guided and your priorities shaped from day-to-day by the government commitments and general expectations set out by Premier Horgan in my Mandate Letter (enclosed).

With respect to the specific ministerial objectives assigned in my Mandate Letter, it will be your responsibility to support me in the development of a province-wide poverty-reduction strategy, starting with the oversight of a basic-income pilot for British Columbia (the Pilot) to test whether giving people a basic income is an effective way to reduce poverty, improve health, housing and employment.

Working with me, your specific objectives and deliverables are to:

- Provide a submission to Cabinet before the end of September 2017:
 - Explaining what a basic income scheme is; and
 - Proposing an approach to consultation on the Pilot for approval.
- Compile and review as a basis for the development of options for the Pilot:
 - The evidence and research regarding basic income schemes; and
 - Information on current and proposed basic income pilots.

.../2

- Seek advice from the Poverty Reduction Advisory Group on the preferred option for the Pilot and undertake other consultations on the Pilot as approved by Cabinet.
- Provide options and recommendations for approval by Cabinet before the end of April 2018, with respect to:
 - The Pilot;
 - Timelines for the Pilot; and
 - An evidence-based evaluation and monitoring framework for the Pilot to assess the impact of a basic income on poverty, health, housing and employment outcomes.
- Design and initiate the Cabinet approved options for the Pilot and for the evidence based evaluation and monitoring framework within the Cabinet approved timelines.
- Prepare an annual report on the Pilot that I will present to the Legislative Assembly starting in 2019/20.
- Carry out other duties and responsibilities in relation to poverty reduction on my behalf as I may assign.

You will be aware that the Pilot is a commitment under the *Confidence and Supply Agreement* that government has set up with the B.C. Green caucus. The principles of “good faith and no surprises” set out in that document should also guide your work going forward.

You are responsible to coordinate through the Confidence and Supply Agreement Secretariat in the Premier’s Office to ensure that members of the B.C. Green caucus are appropriately consulted on the Pilot. The secretariat is charged with ensuring that members of the B.C. Green caucus are provided access to key documents and officials as set out in the agreement. This consultation and information sharing will occur in accordance with protocols established jointly by government and the B.C. Green caucus, and in accordance with relevant legislation. Please keep me fully and regularly informed on the progress of consultations with the B.C. Green Caucus.

– 3 –

Ministry staff will provide you with support in this work. Your principal contact will be Molly Harrington, Assistant Deputy Minister, Research, Innovation and Policy Division.

I appreciate having your support and look forward to working together to achieve the priorities set out in this letter.

Sincerely,

Shane Simpson
Minister

cc: Sheila Taylor, Deputy Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Molly Harrington, Assistant Deputy Minister, Research, Innovation and Policy
Division

McGaghey Jones, Stacey SDPR:EX

From: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Cc: Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX
Subject: RE: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits
Attachments: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits.docx

Hi Mark - we will get this uploaded to eApps and have it formatted as a letter and have the mandate letter uploaded to be included as an enclosure as requested.

Alison – please create a CLIFF log and eApprovals item for this draft. It can go to Leya to be formatted as a letter and to upload the mandate letter as an attachment. The approval path should be me, Mark, Karen and Sheila.

Thanks!

From: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 2:20 PM
To: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Subject: RE: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits

Hi Adrianna – I fixed a couple of my own typos in the attached. Let's include the Mandate Letter as an enclosure. That way we shouldn't be covered no matter which way the letter gets sent? Could you please upload this to e-approvals with path of me/Karen/Sheila, or is it more correct for me to ask Kyla? I'm good either way. Thanks for your help with this! Mark

From: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 2:07 PM
To: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Subject: RE: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits

Hi Mark – we include the mandate letter as an enclosure or we can spell out the link. Please let us know whatever the preference is and we will make it happen.

Thanks!

From: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 2:06 PM
To: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Subject: RE: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits

Thanks Adrianna and good catch – I don't know how it will be sent but will check. If sent as letter will we append the mandate letter or just spell out the link to they can type it into their browser?

From: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 1:59 PM
To: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Subject: Re: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits

Hi Mark – I see that there is a hyperlink in this letter. Will it be sent in letter form or as an email?

From: Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 1:00 PM
To: Di Castri, Adriana SDSI:EX
Subject: Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits

Hi Adrianna — Please see new version with Sheila's edits..I don't have the skills to preserve this in the right format so could you please have your team help out again? Very much appreciated. Thanks Mark



MY ITEMS	MY ASSIGNEE'S ITEMS	WATCHED ITEMS	CREATE	SUPPORT	SETTINGS	SUPER USER
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ITEM HISTORY

Enter one of the Item Numbers for the history you want to view and then hit Enter on your keyboard.

Item Number

Cliff Number

Other Number

Selected Item

Date Completed	ID	Cliff Number	Other Number	Subject
10/17/2017	4763	192980	efile	Parliamentary Secretary Mandate Letter

Approvals

Date Approved	User	Title
8/22/2017 12:12 PM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	Item Approved
8/25/2017 11:13 AM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	Item Approved

Comments

Comment Date	User	Title
10/17/2017 12:06 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	efiled at CU
9/18/2017 12:36 PM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	CLOSE and FILE
9/15/2017 1:39 PM	Quigley, Shanna SDSI:EX	Has been finalized by MO. Back to correspondence to close log.
9/14/2017 2:01 PM	MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX	Minister's office has finalized. Please close log
9/12/2017 2:01 PM	Rehner-May, Loya SDSI:EX	Placed on letterhead
9/12/2017 1:50 PM	MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX	Please put on Minister's letterhead ASAP and return to me. Thank you
8/27/2017 12:12 PM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	I didn't receive 192924 so had this one set up. Edits completed Fri, formatted and returned to me in eApprovals this morning. Minor changes and now approved. MM
8/22/2017 12:11 PM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	I didn't receive 192924 so had this one set up. Edits completed Fri, formatted and returned to me in eApprovals this morning. Approved. MM
8/22/2017 12:06 PM	D'Argis, Julie SDSI:EX	Putting form Sheila as per Mark M. Mark to make minor changes and run through approval process
8/22/2017 11:13 AM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	Direct to Sheila given delay
8/22/2017 9:52 AM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	formatted. To Mark for review and approval.
8/22/2017 8:44 AM	Rehner-May, Loya SDSI:EX	Hyperlink removed, mandate letter uploaded
8/21/2017 9:35 AM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	As this is a letter please remove hyperlink and upload mandate letter for enclosure.
8/18/2017 3:25 PM	Rehner-May, Loya SDSI:EX	To Ad for review and approval.
8/18/2017 2:54 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Ad: To Loya to be formatted as a letter and to upload the mandate letter as an attachment.

Path

Path Date	User	Title
10/17/2017 12:06 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Item completed with the reason Completed.
9/18/2017 12:06 PM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Coordinator.
9/15/2017 1:39 PM	Quigley, Shanna SDSI:EX	Item sent to Di Castro, Adriana.
9/14/2017 2:01 PM	MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX	Item sent to Quigley, Shanna.
9/12/2017 2:01 PM	Rehner-May, Loya SDSI:EX	Item sent to MacMillan, Karen.
9/12/2017 1:50 PM	MacMillan, Karen SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Sr Analyst.
9/11/2017 4:03 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Item sent to MacMillan, Karen.
8/22/2017 12:12 PM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	Item sent to MacMillan, Karen.
8/22/2017 12:06 PM	D'Argis, Julie SDSI:EX	Item sent to Medgyesi, Mark.
8/17/2017 11:13 AM	Medgyesi, Mark S SDSI:EX	Item sent to Taylor, Sheila

8/22/2017 8:37 AM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	Item sent to Medgyesi, Mark.
8/22/2017 8:04 AM	Rennert-May, Laya SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Manager.
8/21/2017 7:38 AM	Di Castro, Adriana SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Sr Analyst.
8/16/2017 3:25 PM	Rennert-May, Laya SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Manager.
8/16/2017 2:54 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Item sent to Correspondence Sr Analyst
8/16/2017 2:54 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Item Created.

DocumentPath

Upload Date	User	Title
8/22/2017 12:39 PM	MacNiven, Karen SDSI:EX	Document [Parliamentary Secretary Mandate Letter and Qs and As (2)] Uploaded.
8/22/2017 8:02 AM	Rennert-May, Laya SDSI:EX	Document [NSD - Mandate Letter] Uploaded.
8/16/2017 3:22 PM	Rennert-May, Laya SDSI:EX	Document [Parliamentary Sec Mandate Letter FORMATTED with ST Edits] Uploaded
8/14/2017 2:54 PM	Collins, Alison J SDSI:EX	Document [1929RC Medgyesi Branch Initiated Request] Uploaded.



For support, email SDSI.ExecutiveCorrespondenceServices@pov.bc.ca.