

## ACKNOWLEDGE:

Rana Vig

Thank you.

Today we are all gathered in the brand new plaza of Surrey City Hall... A place designed to bring communities and citizens together.

As I look out at all the faces here today, I think the pioneers would be proud to see the fruits of all their struggles and sacrifice...

Because 100 years ago it would have been a different story.

They would have been struggling to stand in a place that represents government.

The BC we live in today was built by the ordinary men and women who came here in search of a better life...

Not just for them, but for their children and grandchildren.

It wasn't easy. Very few came here with much beyond the clothes they were wearing.

They fanned out across the province. They worked in mills, mines, and farms.

Many of them took up higher causes, like the right to vote. But a lot started with much humbler aspirations: a home for their family.

A stable income to provide for them.

Better opportunities for their children.

And when they had that, building a vibrant community of neighbours – where everyone was welcome.

Today, British Columbia is the envy of the world. You won't find a higher quality of life anywhere. That's the legacy of our multicultural past.

Last month, I had the honour of welcoming Prime Minister Modi to Vancouver. We had a lot to discuss – but I made sure he received a copy of 100 Year Journey.

Prime Minister Modi was really impressed, and touched by the story of BC's South Asian community – creating opportunities while upholding your dignity and pride.

We shouldn't take it for granted. Last year, we commemorated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Komagata Maru.

We promised never to forget the mistakes of the past... and never to repeat them.

But the South Asian community is not defined by one tragedy.

The story of those pioneers is still being written. By ordinary people, still working every day to build better lives and communities across BC.

That's the genius of the 100 Year Journey.

Preserving history – the good stories, and the bad – so that we understand where we came from.

And who we have to thank.

It's an honour to be invited here today.

To listen – and to learn.

Thank you.

Your Excellency, Ministers, Ambassadors ladies and gentlemen, dear Filipino friends....

Thank you.

It was an honour to meet His Excellency President Aquino today – and discuss our shared future.

We discussed our shared commitment to building the partnership between the Philippines and British Columbia.

As different as the Philippines and British Columbia are...  
We have a lot in common.

We share a common destiny as Pacific nations.

And both our futures depend on connecting people with opportunity.

We predict a million new job openings in British Columbia by 2022 – that's just seven years from now.

With the BC Jobs Plan and Skills for Jobs Blueprint, we're refocusing our efforts to train British Columbians for those jobs.

But even if every single British Columbian graduating from school, or looking for work lands the job they want...

There will still be jobs left unfilled.

This is nothing new for British Columbia. Everything we have achieved is because of immigration. It's our greatest strength.

Our history is defined by men and women who came here looking for opportunity – and willing to work hard to get it.

Every year, up to 6,000 Filipinos choose British Columbia. Thousands more come here every year to work.

We are better off because of their contributions.

That's why, today, we are removing some of the hurdles that still exist.

BC and the Philippines will work collaboratively with the Philippines on seven key areas, including:  
recognizing qualifications,  
sharing information,  
and promoting BC's labour market opportunities.

BC and the Philippines have strong ties – and today, they are even stronger.

## ACKNOWLEDGE:

Mike Morris

Minister John Rustad

Minister Shirley Bond (wanted to be here)

Thank you. I've just toured the fire in a safe distance, from the air.

It's humbling. The size of the fire is difficult to comprehend.

The resources here to fight this fire are impressive:

- including five helicopters
- 10 pieces of heavy equipment
- four amphibious air tankers.

But when you see the scope of the fire...

What's even more impressive are the 120 individual firefighters on the scene.



Each one of them risking their lives.

We are facing what is already an unusually warm, dry summer fire season...

With some parts of the province facing high or extreme fire danger ratings.

So as campers depart for the May long weekend...

Please be careful. Take extra care with your fires and barbecues.

Because you're not just risking a stand of trees.

You're putting people's jobs in danger.

You're putting people's homes in danger.

You're putting people's lives in danger.

Thank you, and have a great long weekend.

## ACKNOWLEDGE:

Hon. Teresa Wat

Hon. Suzanne Anton

Hon. Shirley Bond

Hon. Naomi Yamamoto

Thank you.

From the very beginning, this province has been built by energetic men and women.

Ordinary people, creating extraordinary things.

That's true in every profession – from the trades to tourism and everywhere in between.

But I think we ask a little more of business leaders...

They take personal risks, putting their own hard-earned dollars on the line.

They create opportunity, and jobs that British Columbians depend on to raise families. That's especially true of small business – which employs over 1 million people in this province.

We depend on business, and the people who drive it.

We've worked hard to create a climate in BC where business has every opportunity to succeed:

- Low taxes ;
- A commitment to cutting red tape;
- Creating the Small Business Roundtable;
- And with the Skills for Jobs Blueprint, acting now to ensure businesses have access to a workforce with the skills training for in-demand jobs.

That's the role government can play. But we can't do it alone.

For 60 years, Junior Achievement BC has done an amazing job introducing young people to the world of business.

The possibilities it can offer...  
and what it takes to succeed.

That starts with the skills they need to make better financial decisions,  
start a company, and develop a career plan.

Thousands of businessmen and women got their start –  
and learned a few crucial lessons – thanks to their time in Junior Achievement.

That's why I'm pleased to announce \$1 million for Junior Achievement BC, and their education programs that promote entrepreneur and business skills for youth.

Like all smart investors, JABC will put this money to good use.

In just five years, they're going to double the reach of their programs... and later this year, pilot a new program for budding young entrepreneurs.

I'm looking forward to what the next batch of eager young entrepreneurs creates for this province.

Thank you.

Good morning.

I want to speak about the significance of this day...

How we got here...

And what it means for a strong, clean and diverse economy in British Columbia. What it means for BC families and jobs across our province.

We have established the path to a final investment decision with the agreements we signed today between the government of BC and Pacific NorthWest LNG.

The agreements set the stage for a potential US\$36-billion investment in northern B.C. that will be a key driver of jobs and economic activity in our province.

Over the coming weeks, the agreement will be subject to internal approvals by Pacific NorthWest LNG, Petronas and its partners.

Once that happens, the Government of BC intends to table the Project Development Agreement in the legislature as soon as possible.

We will introduce legislation to enable this agreement. It will be available for public scrutiny. It will be debated and be subject to approval...and will only take effect when this project reaches a positive final investment decision.

There's a lot of work in securing a \$36 Billion investment...and there's work ahead for this project: in building strong partnerships with First Nations...in working through the federal government's regulatory process for environmental approvals.

That work must be done, and we will help anywhere we can.

But I want to take a moment to talk about the work we've done... as the government of BC...to deliver on our commitments... to make sure our province is competitive on the global stage for LNG investments.

First we established a competitive tax rate, giving proponents like Pacific NorthWest incentive to invest, while giving British Columbians a fair return on the resource they own.

Second, the Skills for Jobs Blueprint is ensuring LNG proponents can draw on a skilled workforce right here in B.C.

Third, we established clear guidelines on how we'll achieve the cleanest LNG facilities in the world.

And fourth, we are working with First Nations to make them full partners in economic development, and sharing in the opportunity and the benefits.

Many First Nations are looking to see their communities benefit from LNG through revenue-sharing, good paying jobs and partnering with the Province on environmental stewardship projects.

This is why B.C. has been able to reach agreements with 28 nations along the proposed natural gas pipeline routes.



I want to thank our First Nations partners...for making progress with us.

I want to thank our federal minister James Moore, for the work of our federal government...especially for delivering on the capital cost allowance. For being such a strong partner in building a new opportunity for BC and for Canada.

Michael Culbert and his team at Pacific Northwest LNG.

And of course, our ministers...

Rich Coleman and Mike DeJong...and their teams.

Let me say one more thing before I close...

There are 19 LNG proposals in our province right now...and \$12 Billion invested by the private sector already.

Not all of them will get built. Some certainly will.

Today is further proof to our global investors... in BC, we mean what we say. We deliver on our promises. And we deliver on time.

Trust is important...to attract investment that can create a 100,000 jobs for families across our province.

And that's important to the 13,000 men and women currently working in the gas-fields of the Northeast...in an industry that needs to export to survive and to grow.

We will continue to work on their behalf...and on behalf of all British Columbians.

Thank you.

## ACKNOWLEDGE:

Hon. Andrew Wilkinson

Tom Sigurdson

Point Hope is the perfect place to talk about shipbuilding and ship repair.

One of the oldest shipyards in BC, it was built in 1873...

- 11 years after Esquimalt was designated a naval base,
- Two years after BC joined Confederation,
- And shortly after a man named Amor de Cosmos became Premier.

Back then, Point Hope was building ships using wood. Today, they still use wood – along with steel, aluminum, and fiberglass.

Some things haven't changed. Shipbuilding and repair industry in British Columbia is still an important part of a

diverse, growing and strong economy...  
And it's on the rise.

When Seaspan won the \$7.3 billion contract under the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy in 2011... It signaled a boom for the industry.

It hasn't looked back since, with approximately \$10 billion in investment expected over the next decade.

Point Hope Maritime is looking to invest in new equipment – possibly a graving dock to enable them to serve larger vessel like the new class of BC ferries.

That could mean 150 to 300 new jobs here in Victoria. Good jobs, the kind you can raise a family on.

That's why I'm happy to announce \$305,000 for shipbuilding and ship repair training programs at Camosun College and BCIT.

- \$150,000 for BCIT to support 32 students training in the Marine Fitter program.
- And \$155,000 for Camosun to support 28 students in their Shipbuilding and Repair Entry Level Training in cooperation with the Industrial Marine Training & Applied Research Centre

In 2012, a total of 4,627 direct and indirect jobs were supported by the B.C. shipbuilding and ship repair sector.

By 2020, it's estimated that more than 4,000 direct and indirect jobs will come open, primarily on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

And students who graduate from Camosun and BCIT will be first in line, because they'll be getting practical, hands-on experience.

The growing shipbuilding and repair industry in British Columbia is still an important part of a diverse, growing and strong economy.

Today, it's shipbuilding and repair.  
Tomorrow, it's tech. The next day, it's LNG.  
Agriculture and aquaculture.  
Forestry and Mining.

And speaking of other industries – I know many of you are interested in today's announcement about Site C.

I know Tom Sigurdson is here, and we'd be pleased to take your questions afterward.

Burt before that, I want to share what's important about today's news:

Site C is an enormously important project. For all British Columbians.

For it to be completed well, on time and on budget, we need labour stability.

I'm very glad buildings trades, CLAC, and BC Hydro have agreed to an open site, mixed workforce.

It means trades, independent contractors, First Nations contractors can all work side by side – as British Columbians, building this legacy for the whole province together.

As the economy grows – as we create more family-supporting jobs for people like the hardworking men and women here today...

The students who will be joining them...

And the thousands who will be working on Site C.

We're building a stronger economy – and a stronger province. Together.

-END-

MCs

Mike Bernier, Pat Pimm

ACKNOWLEDGE:

- Mayors, Chief Admin. Officers and Councillors
- Minister Coralee Oakes
- MLAs

Here in the Northeast, you're at the forefront of driving prosperity...

Prosperity that touches the entire province.

The reason they have social housing in Vancouver isn't because of socialism...

It's because of hardworking men and women literally extracting wealth from the ground.

The Northeast plays a fundamental role in growing B.C.'s diverse economy. It's only right you see the long-term benefits.



There are too many communities which contribute millions to the provincial economy...  
But which also struggle to maintain services for growing populations.

Since 1994, B.C.'s government has provided local governments with grants to ensure they can make critical investments in services and infrastructure.

The current grant agreement was signed in 2005. In 2013 – standing right here – I promised to discuss extending it.

Today I am pleased to announce we have negotiated a new agreement...  
One that over the next 20 years will bring over \$1.1 billion to the Northeast!  
Promise made, promise kept.

Effective next year, the new agreement provides \$50 million every year until 2019.

Starting in 2020, it will begin to grow by 2 per cent per year.

In addition, each local government signing the agreement will share a one-time special payment of \$3 million.

This agreement extends to at least 2035, with an option to extend it into the future.

What does this mean for the 58,000 plus British Columbians who live here?

It means financial stability. It means growth – and it means making sure they benefit from the industries like LNG that will create opportunity here – and in communities from here to the Pacific coast and US border.

I want to thank local leaders for their vision. Today, we have an agreement that works not only in the best interests of the Northeast...  
But all of British Columbia.

Thank You.

- END -